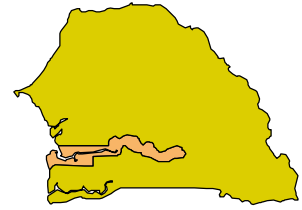


The Tam-Tam
*The Newsletter of the Friends of
Senegal and The Gambia*



Winter/Spring 2003.

Volume 3, Number 1

Special: Double Issue! It has been a while since the last Tam-Tam and once again, I apologize for the delay, so in order not to appear too lame I declare this to be a special double issue!

As promised I have included a list/directory of Senegalese/The Gambian restaurants throughout the USA. If you missed your chance to submit a restaurant, please send me the address and your review and I will include it in the next Tam-Tam. Everyone benefits.

We have a new officer, Marcella Hahn; Ngayene Sebah, Senegal, 1990-2 and Dakar, Senegal, 92-3; has volunteered to serve as Fundraising Coordinator.

Thank you to Kurt Foote and Cindy Salo for your stories and Erica Burman for your submissions and your article about the 40+1 conference.

I have included an advertisement for the Casamance Fund, a fundraising effort by Allegra Troiano; Oussouye, Senegal, 1980-82; and the Milwaukee Peace Corps Association to benefit the families of the Le Joola Disaster. Susanna Badgley Place (Bignona, Senegal, 1975-76 and Banjul, The Gambia, 1976-77) interviewed Allegra. One hundred

percent of the money will go directly to families who lost loved ones on the Joola, concentrating on victims who have not received aid from other sources and those who lost their primary breadwinner.

Sixty percent will go for basic foodstuffs for the families of the victims: flour, rice, sugar, milk, soap, and oil. The remaining 40% will go toward scholarships for the 2003-4 school year. The Casamance Fund has a volunteer in Senegal helping with distribution. The Fund includes scholarships because other aid agencies have not budgeted any money for scholarships. The Fund has motivated a group of Senegalese in Milwaukee to establish The Casamance Renaissance Foundation. Allegra has promised to tell us about this Foundation and how it came to be in the next Tam-Tam. Thank you for your work Allegra.


Also included is a letter from the Ambassador of The Gambia His Excellency Essa Bokarr Sey thanking you for your service and inviting you (too late thanks to the slow Tam-Tam) to a celebration of The Gambia's 38th Independence Day. This event was part of the National Peace Corps Association's Embassies Program, which was to highlight the Gambia with a lecture by

Anthropologist Joseph Opala (Sierra Leone 74-77). Unfortunately, due to extreme weather conditions and government closures at the time, this event had to be cancelled, but it is hoped to be rescheduled in the future. Thanks to NPCA Embassies Program Coordinator Lisa Martin (Estonia 96-98) for having organized what would have been a great Gambian celebration. For more info on the NPCA Embassies Program, visit www.rpcv.org.

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Finally the new bylaws are included at the end of this newsletter. They are open for comment until the annual meeting in August at which time we will vote on adopting them.

Which brings up my final comment, please think about attending the Annual General Meeting for The National Peace Corps Association in Portland, Oregon. The meetings are August 1-3, 2003. Information is on the NPCA website: www.rpcv.org. We will also hold the FOSG annual meeting at the same time. I promise to organize an outing to the Columbia River Gorge for FOSG members who come. 

This newsletter still **needs submissions**. Almost any articles are welcome: stories, photos, news-items, poems, reviews, cartoons, and reprints; articles from your life in Senegal and The Gambia or from your life after West Africa. Send these to me pip@courbois.org.

Along with your feature items, we will include a rumor page and a bulletin board. The rumor page is where you can update everyone with your exciting lives or someone else's, if you dare meddle, and the bulletin board is for advertisements, personals, and the like. Looking for someone?

FOSG website

Please visit the FOSG website <http://erslah.com/attaya/fosg.asp>.


Lycia and Eric Shaffner (94-96) maintain it. The site is impressive; it includes pictures, music, a chat board, and news from West Africa. It also has a great page of Senegal and The Gambia links.

The Tam-Tam will be published and archived on the web page as well. If you have regular access to the web you can save us \$\$ and paper by not having a paper copy sent to you. Scott's news updates from Senegambia are also kept on the website and can be sent to you directly, to ask to be included on the mailing list email Scott Lewis.

2002 Recipient of the Sargent Shriver Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Service **Molly Melching, Executive Director, Tostan, RPCV Senegal.**

By Erica Burman

Molly Melching has dedicated her life to helping Senegalese villagers achieve independence and self-sufficiency through her non-formal, culture-based education programs. She is the founder and executive director of Tostan (www.tostan.org), an American non-profit organization that promotes social transformation through a non-formal education program including literacy, numeracy, human rights, problem-solving, leadership, health, democracy and management skills. Named for the Wolof word meaning "breakthrough," Tostan is aimed primarily at women in rural

villages. Tostan's teaching methods employ shared cultural practice and knowledge to impart information pertaining to hygiene, health, rights, management and leadership skills. Through education, women gain the knowledge, experience and confidence to speak up for their health and human rights. Tostan is widely hailed as the impetus behind the decision of 274 Senegalese villages to abandon the long-standing cultural tradition of female genital cutting. 

It's November 2002- Do You Know Where Your Memories Are?

By Kurt Foote

I can never tell what will take me back. Some random thought will trigger a cascade of streaming memories. And if I'm at peace and let the memories flow they will inspire one another down avenues of remembrance I haven't traveled for a decade. In some sense I'll be back, if only peripherally, back in my hut on a white heat hot African afternoon, laying on my woven mat after a meal of rice and dried fish or some such thing, sweating, batting at flies, and listening to the sounds of millet being pounded through the earth to my ears, or the braying of a goat, or the flutter of a bird from its perch overhead in my thatch roof.

Sometimes faces will come, frozen forever young, old,

laughing, smiling in my mind that has aged ten more years than they. How are you at this moment friends, protectors? My thirty-something self thanks you across the gulf of space and time for watching over and out for that twenty-something ghost who stepped from one land into another. It's passé here to say that I gained more than I gave in my Peace Corps experience, but how painfully it's true. I can only hope you are all well, with family, with rain and food, with a prospect for a better year. But I'm afraid that's not true. Forgive me for not doing more than coming and going. The brief time between that coming and leaving has sweetened my life immeasurably. I cannot repay that debt.

enjoy it, because this fish is *fresh* and my village "mom" can *cook*.

My darling, your skin is lustrous in the candlelight. Your eyes bewitch. The "jeli-jeli" around



FOSG Members gather for a reception at the Senegalese Ambassador's residence.

What you gave me, Senegal, was a chapter of my life distinct and treasured. I can still see the greens, tans, and browns of the African landscape passing me out the windows of a rusting, noisy, smelly, magnificent "alhumdulilaay". I can still feel the food in my hand, balled up and intimate with my body before it ever touches my mouth. The oil seeps through my fist and burns my skin. But it was worth the trip to the market, the friendly haggling, the obligatory stop at the "beer garden" for a Gazelle, Mister Cosmopolitan on my red motorcycle. But it's worth all the extra attention I draw, my ego has learned to live with it and even

When dusk falls the heat of the day breaks, and after a day spent beating back the Sahara one newly planted tree at a time, my happily bucket-bathed body lies in a hammock listening to the measured tones of the BBC coming through my precious short-wave. If I stand on my porch I can see the gorgeous savanna beyond the bustling village, silhouetted by occasional baobab and acacia, stretching into the horizon and becoming textured with the fading light. My God, the stars stand out in multitudes! Drumming pulsates in the distance, or is it echoing down through the millennia in this ancient land?

your middle entrances me even now through space and time like an unbroken spell. You were so kind and so cruel, and the third glass was not nearly your sweetest gift. You were ever patient with me, even in an argument waiting for me to find the words. But words were not what communicated in the end. In quiet moments do you think of me still?

Did I really sit on top of Goree at night and watch the lights of ships at sea? Did I ride through Niokola-koba and see an elephant emerge from riverbank vegetation to take a drink? Did I speak Serer over the national radio, splash in the shallows off the Iles des Oiseaux, fast in Touba at

Ramadan, and dance in a ‘disco hut’? Moments, some quiet, some raucous, some ordinary, others decidedly less so, crowd into a conglomerate whole that flash with the colors of lagos and batik, blare through bad speakers extraordinary beats and rhythms, rise in harmattan-driven dust clouds, explode in monsoonal downpours, stink like a Kaolack gare, taste as sweet as bagged bisap, salivate like Maggi cubes, sway like hips going to the well, sweat like taut skin pounding millet, sing like a bai-fal and screech like a muezzin, yield like an over-ripe mango, sleep like a hot, malarial nightmare, and dance with an exuberance born of pain and joy.

All this and more has imprinted itself upon my neurons and synaptic recesses. Rarely dwelled on in the busy, striving, equally important intervening years, these memories respond to the vagaries of stimuli and come surfacing ten years on since COS. While the details of events surely fade with time, what remains becomes all the more precious. I also think about my ‘compatriots’ (some of whom are involved, or have been involved, with this publication). They’ll forgive me if I picture them too as forever young, happy, and flush with the constant low-key adventure of being a Peace Corps Volunteer. I wish them all health and wealth of spirit on our 10th anniversary of leaving Senegal. I enjoyed sharing part of those intense and significant living years with you. Jamm soom ak jamm rekk...



The National Peace Corps Association 40th+1 Conference

By Erica Burman

The Friends of Senegal and The Gambia organized several events in conjunction with the National Peace Corps Association’s 40th+1 Conference, held on Friday, June 21 through Sunday, June 23 in Washington, DC.

On Friday evening, His Excellency Mamadou Mansour Seck, Ambassador of Senegal hosted a reception for Gambia and Senegal RPCVs at his residence. RPCVs were treated to a delicious buffet of chicken yassa, thiebou dieun and maffe that brought back many happy memories. Prior to the reception FOSG co-leader Scott Lewis circulated a soccer ball for everyone to sign with wishes for Senegalese success in the upcoming World Cup match. Later in the evening the ball was presented to the Ambassador as a token of thanks and appreciation. The Ambassador was very touched and spoke of the historic and continuing contributions of volunteers in his country. (Sadly, Senegal was eliminated in its next match.)

The following day RPCVs had to choose between attending a Country of Service briefing at George Washington University or a screening of the documentary *Return to Belaye: A Rite of Passage* by Amy Flannery



Senegalese Ambassador Mamadou Mansour Seck accepts a soccerball with signed FOSG wishes for success in honor of Senegal’s World Cup performance. He is joined by Mr. Paul Ndong, Cultural and Educational Counselor.

(Senegal ' 86 88) at the National Zoo auditorium as part of the conference’s ZooFest.

At the briefing Ambassador Seck and Mr. Tijan Ceesay, Information and Cultural Affairs Attaché, Embassy of The Gambia spoke about the state of development in their respective countries. Ambassador Seck was particularly proud of his country’s efforts in fighting HIV/AIDS. He also noted ongoing efforts to introduce Senegalese agricultural products to the U.S. market. In his remarks Mr. Ceesay noted Gambia’s progress in the area of health. The


infant mortality rate has dropped and the average life span continues to improve. Malaria, however, is an ongoing problem. He also stated that today 84% of girls are enrolled in school and recently the government launched an expense free education policy for girls. Both Ambassador Seck and Mr. Ceesay noted that relations between the two countries are good and spoke about areas in which the two governments have shared agendas.

The next speaker was Mr. Ralph Cherry, Peace Corps Desk Officer for Senegal and The Gambia, who provided an overview of the current Peace Corps programs. He noted that post-September 11, security of volunteers had become an even higher concern. Peace Corps is striving to find a balance between posting volunteers to remote areas (historically the places of greatest need), and being able to communicate with and evacuate those volunteers in a timely manner should the need arise.

Thanks to Judy Smith, NPCA President Dane Smith's wife, and FOSG members who volunteered their time, Senegal had an ongoing presence at the conference's International Bazaar. Ms. Smith organized a booth to sell beaded jewelry on behalf of Ker Yaakaaru Jigeen Ni, a shelter she started in Dakar in 1998 while her husband was U.S. Ambassador. The girls make the jewelry to help support the shelter and to learn an income generating activity.

On Saturday evening a small group of FOSG members went out to dinner at Washington's only restaurant offering Sene-Gambian cuisine, Chez Auntie Libe. Following the Gala Reception the doors were thrown open for a dance party in the Omni Shoreham Ballroom. Many Senegal and Gambia RPCVs were on hand to catch the end of an electrifying performance by KanKouran (www.kankouran.org), a Washington, DC-based African dance company headed by Senegalese national Assane Konte. One intrepid Senegal RPCV joined the dancers and did us all proud with her Jola dancing; a Gambia RPCV jumped onto the stage to slap a bill on the sweaty forehead of one of the hardworking drummers. Both were met with thunderous cheers of approval from the crowd.

Those who didn't dance the night away turned up at the Lincoln Memorial early Sunday morning to join the procession of flags through Arlington Cemetery for the closing ceremony. Julie van Steenwyk (Senegal, Louga, 1989-1991) carried the Senegalese flag. Erica Burman (Gambia 87-89) carried the flag for The Gambia.

All in all the conference was a wonderful opportunity for Senegal and Gambia RPCVs spanning four decades to meet and exchange stories and experiences. 

Business Meeting

On Saturday, June 22 a short FOSG business meeting was held prior to the Country of Service briefing. Erica Burman (The Gambia 87-89), who organized FOSG events in conjunction with the Conference, agreed to serve as a co-leader for FOSG. Scott Lewis is resigning as co-leader in order to devote himself to developing a Friends of Swaziland group. He will, however, continue to function as FOSG treasurer.



Coming Home Again

By Cindy Salo, aka Aminata Deme. Senegal Agriculture, 1989-1991


Emaciated Peace Corps volunteers, dusty in flipflops and legos, met me the first time I arrived at Dakar Yoff Airport. We new trainees all assured ourselves that we were never going to look like that. Arriving this time as a Fulbrighter, a terribly professional chap from the U.S. Embassy Travel Office was holding a sign with my name on it. Even before I'd given my luggage up for late he had whisked me off to the lost luggage office where I tried to converse in Wolof for the first time in ten years. I heard a 33-rpm record played at 78; I can't imagine what they heard. Abdoulay, from the Travel Office, had my luggage back to me in just a couple of days. It's taking longer for my Wolof to return.

As a Peace Corps volunteer, learning Wolof was punctuated by sudden leaps to greater understanding. At each new level I found more doors open, revealing more of Senegalese life. I arrived in my village in mid October. As Christmas approached I was afraid that Santa Claus wouldn't be able to find me in Senegal. But shortly before the holiday I was finally able to keep up my end of a conversation; a neighbor said, "Aminata, you can talk now." Santa had given me the gift of conversation. Later, the day arrived when I understood everything everyone said to me. Even later, the day arrived that everyone understood everything I said to them.

Relearning Wolof ten years later, the first few weeks were punctuated by words popping into my head when I needed them. It was often the correct word. Yes, I yeg a car rapide. But oops, no, sorry, someone wasn't woying (singing) you, they were wooing (calling) you. The stampede of words soon stopped and at times, especially when I was tired, I seemed to lose ground. I had to relearn vocabulary and syntax. I was living Flowers for Algernon, able to remember what life was like when I could converse easily and painfully aware of my current limited ability.

After a month, my Wolof has returned to the extent that I'm taken aback by Dakar Wolof. In my Peace Corps village I greeted

everyone. In Dakar I feel silly greeting the stocker in the supermarket before I ask where the matches are. My village greetings are old fashioned in Dakar where people use the French "Ca va?" with even their elders.

As I still have trouble with French numbers, I ask for prices in Wolof, where amounts are expressed as the number of derems, or 5 cfa units. Many young people in Dakar are more familiar with prices in French than in Wolof. The young man selling tickets on the bus the other day didn't understand when I asked for a ticket for 'fanweer', literally 'days in a month' = 30 derems, or 150 cfa. I told him again and he said in English, "Oh, you're trying to speak Wolof." He went on to say "Il faut dem au village pour jang Wolof." (You need to go to the village to learn Wolof). Five of the eight words in his sentence were French. 

Restaurant reviews

I did not get a huge response to my inquiries, however if you know of Senegalese or The Gambian restaurants in your area and did not include them in time for this Tam-Tam please send a review and I will include it in the next edition (sometime in 2012). Thanks to Fredrick Davis (NY), Dana Stangel (LA) and myself (Seattle).

New-York

Chez Gnagna Koty's, 530 Ninth Avenue (between 39th and 40th Streets). Nice atmosphere, the service is a little slow but the proprietress will keep you amused, and gets a kick out of folks who speak Wolof. Good cheb, which is often sold out by mid-evening. No license, but you can get beer and wine across Ninth Avenue. Frequented by Senegalese taxi-drivers, among others.

Keur N' Deye, 737 Fulton Street, Brooklyn (very near Brooklyn Academy of Music). Less attractive surrounding that Gnagna Koty's, but the service is quick and the food excellent. Keur N' Deye has no license as well but there are plenty of places to BYO in the neighborhood.

Los Angeles

Bistro 4040 - 4040 Martin Luther King Blvd., Los Angeles, CA View Map

This new little eatery, located in the Crenshaw District, will carry you to a different world. Bistro 4040 is a small and intimate place, decorated African style with pinewood, white walls covered with African paintings, posters and arts. The menu is small, but will take you for a cultural ride in a very African, Soul, and California style with Big mama fried chicken, Senegalese "Yassa Ginaar" (grilled marinated chicken), Blackened turkey

meatloaf, pastels (Senegalese fish patties), and collard greens. They also have soulfood sides like yams, greens and plantains, traditional drinks and desserts. Feel free to bring your own bottle of wine or try their (non-alcoholic) pineapple ginger or bissap juice.


They have daily specials- much like real Senegalese restaurants- one day it' s ceebujeen, one day it' s mafe, one day it' s yassa, etc.

YUMMY! (hope this one lasts- Los Angeles has gone through 3 west African restaurants in the past 5 years- that I know of...)

Seattle

Afrikando 2904 1st Ave. at Broad street, just north of Bell Town.

This fantastic Senegalese restaurant has all the primary

dishes we learned to love (at stage): Excellent maffe, cheb-u-geen or ginard-u-geen, and of course, Yassa. 

Bulletin Board


My name is Cheikh Thiaré and I am from Senegal.

I am trying to keep track of Mr Donald William Patrice a former peace corps volunteer who used to be my teacher of English and Spanish in Dakar (Senegal) from 1964 to 1965.

I am very keen on getting his home address, telephone number or e-mail address, in order to pay due tribute to his dedication and care and also keep him informed of some of his former students' whereabouts and news.

Regards
Cheikh Thiaré


tel (33)6 15 88 67 86 / (377)93 10 88 33

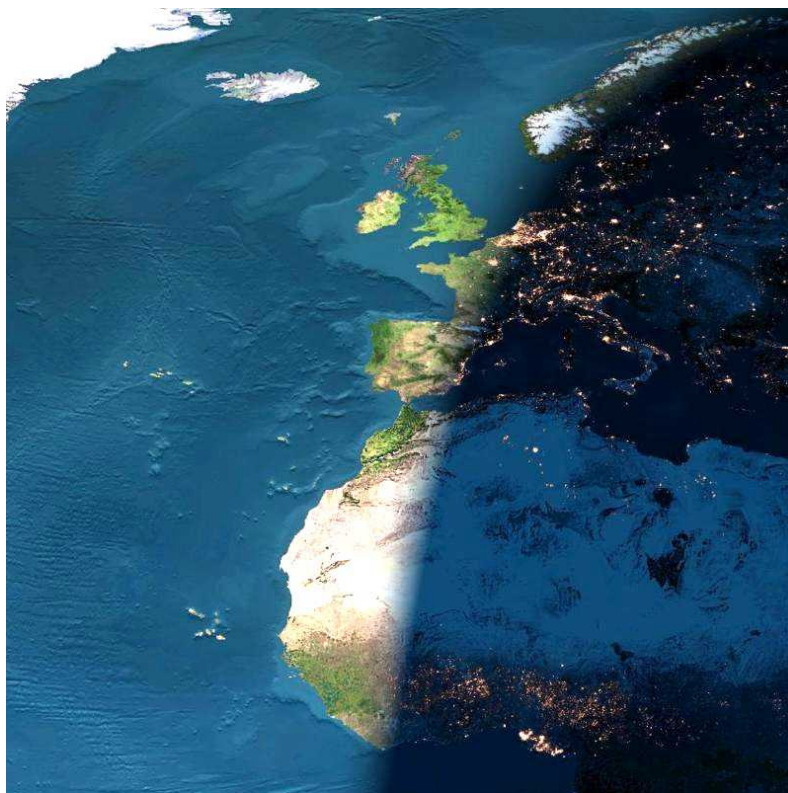
e-mail: cheikh.thiare@iaaf.org or chthiare@hotmail.com or bouyanar@sentoo.sn (when I am in Senegal) The best thing to do is send your letter to one of these addresses with copies to the other two. 

Treasurer's Update

By Scott Lewis

Cash on hand as of April 14, 2003: \$10,503.07.

Thus far in 2003 FOSG has received targeted donations for the SENEGAD fund totaling \$1060. This money has been forwarded to Senegal. NPCA Rebates for the Jan-March 2003 period total \$352.50. 



The Casamance Fund

Aid to Families of Le Joola Disaster

The Casamance Fund provides financial assistance to the families of those who died in the tragic wreck of Le Joola on September 26, 2002.



Of the estimated 1,340 people who died, the majority were children and 971 were from Ziguinchor. Some families lost nine or more relatives. Many families lost their sole financial provider.



The Casamance Fund is administered by Allegra K. Troiano, returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Senegal (The Casamance) 1980-82, and sponsored by the Milwaukee Peace Corps Association.

All donations will go directly to the families that lost loved ones on the Joola. All donations are tax-deductible.

Donations can be sent to:
Casamance Renaissance Foundation
C/O The Casamance Fund
P.O. Box 100784
Milwaukee, WI 53210

Please indicate if you need a receipt.

For any questions call or email Allegra at (414) 258-8535 or akt@wi.rr.com

Letter from H.E. Essa Bokarr Sey, Ambassador, Washington, D.C. Mission Republic of The Gambia:

Dear Returned Peace Corps Volunteers:

The Peace Corps has been active around the world since 1961 in over 130 countries, and it is my good fortune to have had Peace Corps Volunteers as part of my earliest memories in my village in The Gambia. I can speak first hand to the way in which they became part of our community and part of our everyday lives. Even as a small boy I recognized them to be warm, caring, hard working individuals. Some of the names I can remember are Anne McCormick, Mary Reinhold, and Shawn or Samba Khan. These are nice characters who served the community in my village, Kuntaya. They dug pit latrines with us, gave us books and cookies, and smiled for us!



On February 18th The Gambia celebrates its 38th Independence Day, and it is again my good fortune to be involved with the Peace Corps as the National Peace Corps Association joins the Gambian community in Washington, D.C. for an evening of learning and social interaction. It is wonderful that the distinguished anthropologist, Joseph Opala, is willing to share information with a lecture ‘Family Across the Sea: the Gambia - Gullah Connection’ with Gambians, former Peace Corps Volunteers, and friends in the area.*

For those of you who are not able to join us at the National Peace Corps Association’s Embassies Program, I extend to you my warmest greetings. I express my admiration for the work of the Peace Corps, and look forward to a fruitful relationship in the future. I am sincerely appreciative of your dedication to the development of a better global community for all of us to enjoy.

Please be assured of my continued highest regards,

Essa Bokarr Sey
Ambassador, Washington, D.C. Mission
Republic of The Gambia

* Due to extreme weather conditions and government closures, the NPCA Embassies Program featuring The Gambia had to be cancelled. The presenter who was scheduled for this event, Anthropologist Joseph Opala will give a lecture on Bunce Island: A British Slave Castle in Sierra Leone, which includes some historical data relating to Senegal and The Gambia. For details, visit the NPCA’s website at www.rpcv.org.



Judy Smith (left), wife of NPCA President Dane Smith, and a Senegal RPCV sell beaded jewelry at the conference's International Bazaar in support of Ker Yaakaaru Jigeen Ni, a girls shelter Smith started in Dakar in 1998 while her husband was U.S. Ambassador.



FOSG members join the Procession of Flags across Memorial Bridge and through Arlington Cemetery.

Constitution of the Friends of Senegal and The Gambia

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the organization shall be ‘Friends of Senegal and The Gambia.’

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the organization is to 1) provide a communication network 2) to organize and promote projects to aid Senegal and The Gambia and citizens thereof 3) to promote the third goal of the Peace Corps with emphasis on Senegal and The Gambia.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of the these articles, the organization is organized exclusively for the purposes as specified above which are in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under IRC 501(c)(3) or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax law.

No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation except as provided by IRC 501 (h) and does not participate in, or intervene in (including the publication and distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidates for public office.

ARTICLE III. AFFILIATION

‘Friends of Senegal and The Gambia’ is an affiliated group of the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Membership in Friends of Senegal and The Gambia is open to anyone with significant interest in Senegal or The Gambia without regard to group affiliation or nationality.

4.2 Annual membership dues are \$15.00.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS

5.1 The officers of the organization shall be: Co-Leaders, Newsletter Editor, Membership Chairperson, Treasurer and Projects Chairperson.

5.2 The officers of the organization shall be members.

5.3 Officers shall serve a term of two years commencing from September 1 of the year elected.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

6.1 The Annual Meeting will be held at the NPCA National Conference and NPCA Annual General Meeting.

6.2 Regional Meetings will be held when possible.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

7.1 Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by any member in person or in writing at the Annual Meeting. Amendments approved at the Annual Meeting will be voted on by the membership through the mail.

7.2 Amendments to the constitution shall be approved by a 2/3 vote of responding members.

ARTICLE VIII. RATIFICATION

Ratification by 2/3 vote of responding members shall be sufficient to establish this constitution.

BY-LAWS OF THE FRIENDS OF SENEGAL AND THE GAMBIA.

SECTION 1. OFFICERS

1(1) The co-leaders shall be the executive officers of the organization. The co-leader will preside over the annual meeting and represent the group at official functions.

1(2) The Newsletter Editor will be responsible for compiling and editing the group newsletter, The Tam-Tam.

1(3) The Membership Chairperson/Treasurer is responsible for maintaining contact with members and aiding the Membership Chair in locating lost members.

1(4) The Projects Chairperson is responsible for initiating group projects and reporting such activities via the newsletter.

SECTION 2. ELECTIONS

2(1) Nominations for all offices will be held at the annual meeting.

2(2) Elections will be held via mail. Ballots will appear in the Summer Issue of the "Tam-Tam."

2(3) Results of the elections will be announced in the fall issue of the "Tam-Tam."

SECTION 3. COMMITTEES

3(1) Committees may be established by approval of the officers and shall perform such duties as defined in their establishment.

SECTION 4. REVENUE

4(1) Membership dues of \$15.00 per person shall be paid to the treasurer.

4(2) Revenue from other sources may be raised as determined by agreement of the officers.

4(3) Disbursement of revenue shall be made with the approval of the officers.

4(4) The Treasurer shall be responsible for the accountability of revenue and will submit finance report to the newsletter editor for publication.

4(5) No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director, officer of the organization, or any private individual (except that reasonable

compensation may be for services rendered to or for the organization), and no member or officer shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the organizations assets on dissolution of the organization.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENTS OF THE BY-LAWS

5(1) Amendments to the by-laws may be proposed by any member in person or in writing at the Annual Meeting. Amendments approved at the meeting will be voted on by the membership through the mail.

5(2) Amendments to the by-laws shall be approved by a 2/3 vote of responding members.

SECTION 6. DISSOLUTION

6(1) In the event of dissolution, all of the remaining assets and property of the organization shall after payment of necessary expenses thereof be distributed to such organizations as shall qualify under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

We attest that the attached By-Laws and Constitutions are the official organizing documents of the Friends of Senegal and The Gambia.

Erica Burman
Group Co-Leader and Board Member

Pip Courbois
Group Co-Leader and Board Member

Scott. J. Lewis
Treasurer and Board Member

These are open for comment until August 1, 2003 when at our annual meeting we will adopt them conditional on the comments we receive. Please email all comments to Erica Burman (eburman@us.net).

Friends of Senegal and The Gambia needs your support!

Membership in Friends of Senegal and The Gambia (FOSG) brings you, in addition to all issues of our Newsletter, special mailings announcing the annual meeting, reunions. Membership also brings you the satisfaction of contributing to the goals and aims of Friends of Senegal and The Gambia. To join, complete this form and return it with your check.

You can also join the National Peace Corps Association and FOSG at the same time (joint membership) NPCA members receive the quarterly magazine *World view*, the newsletter *3/1/61*, the National Convention, credit cards, Congressional representation, and other benefits. NPCA dues and contributions can be tax deductible. FOSG dues are not currently tax deductible. We encourage you to join via the NPCA website, if you do so please fill out this form anyway simply indicate below that you joined via the website.

Name		Today's Date
Street		Home Phone
City	State	Zip
Current Occupation		Email
Experience in Senegal or The Gambia: (PCVs list Peace Corps job; Academics: list field and research topics: list profession or field of study)		
Years in Senegal or The Gambia	Site/Hometown/Country	Job Assignment (math teacher, etc.)

We like to keep an update on our members. Please answer the following questions (use the back if needed)..

1. Briefly, What have you done since leaving Peace Corps? What are you doing now?
2. What projects or programs would you like to see FOSG involved in (either in the U.S. or Senegambia)? Can you help?
3. What news features would or do you like in the FOSG newsletter?

Areas of Interest: Check potential FOSG Activities in which you would be most interested:

- Newsletter Reunions/Gatherings Trips to Senegal or The Gambia
 FOSG Officer/staff position Fund raising Other: _____

JOINT MEMBERSHIP IN FRIENDS OF SENEGAL AND THE GAMBIA AND NPCA Individual FOSG & NPCA membership \$50.00 _____ Dual FOSG & NPCA Memberships (two persons, one address) \$65.00 _____	Easy method: Join from NPCA Website www.rpcv.org Otherwise send to FOSG at address below.
MEMBERSHIP IN FRIENDS OF SENEGAL AND THE GAMBIA ONLY Individual Friends of Senegal and the Gambia membership \$15.00 _____ Dual FOSG Membership (two persons, one address) \$20.00 _____ Additional money* to Friends of Senegal and The Gambia. Thank you!! \$ _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____ (payable to Friends of Senegal and The Gambia)	Send to: <i>Friends of Senegal and The Gambia</i> <i>c/o Scott Lewis</i> <i>1276 N. Wayne St., Apt.425</i> <i>Arlington, VA 22201-58551</i>

The information collected on this form will be used by FOSG and will be made available only to those organizations whose purposes are consistent with the aims of FOSG. It will not be sold or traded for commercial purposes. The information may be used in the FOSG Directory unless you request otherwise.

The Tam-Tam

The Tam Tam is the newsletter for the Friends of Senegal and The Gambia affiliate group from the Returned Peace Corps Volunteer Association of America.

This newsletter can also be found on line at

erslah.com/senegal/

We ask those, who have access to and can read the TamTam on line, do not ask for a paper subscription to save on our costs and use of paper.

Permission is granted to reprint any portion of this newsletter, if credit is given.

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