

Friends of Nigeria President's Report 2016

The year of the New Website

Washington Organizing Committee

- Steve Clapp
- Chris Clarkson
- Mac Destler
- Marty Gleason
- Mary-Ann Palmieri
- Mel Schnapper
- Blue Wooldridge

FON Board

- 2 New Board members elected last year
 - One resigned, deciding he could not devote time to FON
- A number of Board meetings, all by conference call or Zoom
 - Zoom adds video, but the real benefit is better selection of who is speaking
- Generally the business was adopting budgets + voting contributions

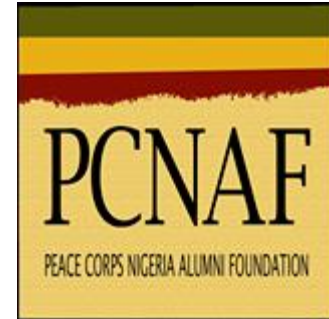
African Community Health Initiative

- \$5,008 for a bathroom at Amakohia medical center



PCNAF/ FON AUN Scholarship

- \$500



VSO

- \$1,492
institutional
support



AUN Refugee Relief

- \$3,000 for Feed & Read
- (Roughly 30 students for 6 months)



Fantsuam Foundation

- Remote village
ICT Training
\$2,840
- Emergency
crops
\$3,000



Website Redesign

- Good Committee
 - Jim Clark, Mike Goodkind, Peter Hansen, Dick Holmquist, Greg Jones, Warren Keller, Jim Ludden, & Andy Philpot
- Initially going through a process to specify our requirements in anticipation of hiring a consultant to implement them

Someone steered us to Wild Apricot

- A Good Fit
- Membership software, membership database
- Web page creation like document creation
- Bulk email capability
- Interactive features (forums, direct database updates, blogs, comments, ...)
- Event management
- Financial record keeping



Then simply implemented

- Free trial in August/September
- Replicated existing website
- Tried out new features
- Started paying in October
- Loaded Database
 - Small sample database
 - Evolved design
 - Did extract, conversion, & load in November/December
 - Parallel run December/January
- Invited Google Group to be early adopters in February

Goals of Website Redo

- **Minimal goal:**
Replicate what Peter Hansen was able to do with FoxPro
- Minimal goal is in hand.
 - FoxPro data has been replicated
 - Record keeping appears to be equivalent to Peter's
- **Higher goal:**
Be the backbone of an active, involved community
- **Higher goal depends upon YOU**
- Share information on Nigeria – new or old
- React to what others have contributed
- Renew membership, maintain your own information, participate in forums, sign up for events, ...

Status

- Website in use
 - How many registered online for this meeting?
 - How many paid online?
 - Some had trouble (most because of expired membership) & used Contact Us
- Email blasts used to publicize this meeting
 - Email is “free” – but 35-40% of any blast goes unopened
 - Email address is essential to contact members, but many emails invalid
- Hope to increase usage of interactive features
 - Forums need traffic
 - Newsletter articles need reactions
 - Records of meetings meaningless if nobody reads them

Website Needs Volunteers

- Home page Slide Show refresh
- Research bad emails
- Weed out old postings
- Maintain directories
- Implement Google Analytics

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Friends of Nigeria website. The top navigation bar is green with white text for 'HOME', 'INFO', 'ACTIONS', 'NEWS', 'CONTACT US', 'FAQ', and 'MEMBERS ONLY'. On the right of this bar is a user profile for 'Gregory D Jones'. Below the navigation bar is a secondary bar with 'FON News', 'Nigeria News', 'Join or Renew', and 'Donate' links. The main content area has a green background. On the left is the FON logo, a stylized 'F' and 'N' in a circle. To the right of the logo is the text: 'An association of Nigeria Peace Corps alumni and other friends of Nigeria who support the interests of the Nigerian people.' Below this is a large text block: 'Friends of Nigeria, Inc. (FON), an affiliate of the National Peace Corps Association, is a community of almost 2000 expatriates who served in Nigeria. Most of our members are returned Peace Corps volunteers and staff, as well as those who served in other organizations from around the world. FON, formed in 1996, has 501(c)(3) non-profit status. With approximately 500 dues-paying members, FON welcomes all who support our Mission Statement.' Below the text is another paragraph: 'At right are various pictures from the archives. If you have pictures that would go well here, please use the [Contact Us](#) page to let us know.' To the right of the text is a gallery of four images of gourd bowls and spoons. The top-left image is labeled 'Bowl Outside' and 'Houses, Palam, 1963'. The top-right image is labeled 'Bowl Inside'. The bottom-right image shows two spoons. The gallery has navigation arrows on the left and right sides.

1-on-1 Website Tours

- No boring tour of the website during this presentation
- Instead, website redesign committee members will walk you through it one-on-one.
 - Mike Goodkind, Warren Keller, Greg Jones
 - You will drive the tour, not the guide, as only the person clicking the keys actually learns
- Identify when you will be free over the next 2 days, schedule a tour guide, and find a secluded spot
 - Use your PC or Mac if you have it
 - Each of the tour guides can provide a laptop, if you don't have a machine

FON Leadership

- An opportunity, if you would like to get involved
- Board election next year
- By next year I will have been in office 6 years
 - Well past sell-by date
 - My original role was website support. New website about all you are going to get from me that is new
 - Time for a new leader