

Les Petites Nouvelles

August 21, 1999

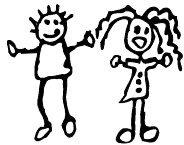
A Brief Update from *Friends of Côte d'Ivoire* (FOCI)

4th Annual Meeting



Tax-Exempt Status

You are cordially invited to attend the
Fourth Annual Meeting
of Friends of Côte d'Ivoire
Saturday, October 16, 1999
in Washington, DC



Mark your calendars! It's once again time to meet as a group to discuss the future of Friends of Côte d'Ivoire, enjoy the camaraderie of other members, prospective members, and Ivorians, as well as enjoy wonderful food (we plan to have Ivorian food again)!

We're still working on the exact time and place, but the date is set. We expect to have either an afternoon or evening event, perhaps even both. There will be more detailed information in the upcoming issue of *Les Nouvelles*, expected to be published in mid-September.

So, please mark your calendars and make travel arrangements, if necessary. If you're coming from out of town and would like to stay at someone's home, let us know and we'll help you find a bed or two.

To express your interest in attending and to get more information, please contact Jerry Withers by phone at 301 585 9126 or by e-mail at witersjd@state.gov, or contact Jeanette Mesite Frem by phone at 617 566 6338, by fax at 617 566 7974, or e-mail her at dave@bfci.com.

Board of Directors

Chairperson: Jeanette Mesite Frem, '92-94
Vice Chair: Jerry Withers, '76-79
Secretary: Robert Handloff, '65-68
Treasurer: Anne (Blakely) Hammer, '92-94
At-Large: Jim Robinson, '64-66
At-Large: Suzanne Wilcock Russin, '68-70
At-Large: John Pielemeier, '66-68
At-Large: Susan Greenhalgh Widmayer, '65-67
At-Large: Rachel Herr, '95-97

<http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/Cabana/7996>

Friends of Côte d'Ivoire
P.O. Box 1107
Boylston, MA 01505-1807

Friends of Côte d'Ivoire
is happy to announce
that it has been awarded
501(c)(3) tax-exempt status
by the IRS



The Internal Revenue Service has evaluated FOCI's application for exemption and granted FOCI 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status!

What does this mean?

- FOCI is exempt from federal income tax
- Donors may deduct contributions such as bequests, transfers, or gifts if they meet the applicable provisions (i.e. not all of the \$35 membership fee is deductible because the cost of the newsletter must be subtracted, but straight donations for project grants are deductible)
- FOCI is not required to file federal income tax returns unless it is subject to the tax on unrelated business income
- FOCI can now apply for bulk mail rates for mailings over 250 pieces
- FOCI can now apply to states for exemption from state sales taxes
- FOCI can now make requests to corporate donors and private donors for large contributions
- FOCI now needs an accountant (pro bono) with knowledge of the regulations for 501(c)(3) organizations

The FOCI Board of Directors is very excited about our new status. We hope our new status will enable FOCI grow and to provide even more and perhaps larger grants for humanitarian projects in our beloved country of Côte d'Ivoire, such as those we have funded for girls' scholarships to high school, latrine and sheep park construction, as well as a holiday party for orphans. Additionally, we expect it will help to ensure FOCI's sustainability as an organization dedicated to CI!

*Interested in joining
or renewing your membership?*

Send in the membership form
on the reverse side!

Note: Recipients of this little note include members, prospective members, and other interested parties living in the US and abroad.