

October 2005



# Friends of Sierra Leone

## **President's Message** **Peggy Murrah**

Some three years ago, Mike O'Neill asked me if I would be willing to serve on the Board of Directors for Friends of Sierra Leone (FoSL). I explained to him that I wouldn't be able to travel to Washington on a regular basis for meetings and other duties. He explained to me that I didn't need to because of the ease of conference calls and email. Thus began a whole new chapter in that part of my life that has been so deeply influenced by Sierra Leone and her citizens.

Now, I am speaking to you as the President of Friends of Sierra Leone, and I am honored to have that position. I feel that even now I get more from Sierra Leone than I ever gave. Being part of this organization has allowed me to address that part of my life that insists on looking beyond the city limits, county boundaries and state lines of my daily life. The same drive that sent me to Sierra Leone in the first place is once again working, and it feels good.

Until Mike convinced me to join the Board, I didn't realize how much all of us could still contribute toward Sierra Leone's future. Now, even more than when we lived there, the need is great.

We will be calling on as many of you as possible to join us in our current efforts to have the Peace Corps return to Sierra Leone. The US Ambassador to Sierra Leone was a volunteer in Sierra Leone, as was his wife. This is a first. Ambassador Hull gave me his support for the return of Peace Corps. Several Board members met with Peace Corps to discuss this issue last April. Peace Corps assured us they also want a return, but the money will have to be budgeted for that to happen. Thomas N. Hull, US Ambassador to Sierra Leone, has written a letter in support of the return of Peace Corps volunteers to Sierra Leone.

I know when I was in Sierra Leone a year ago that I felt a strong desire to go to work at several of the places we visited. Sierra Leone promises amazing placements for Peace Corps Volunteers. VSO returned earlier this year and is currently at work although I have not yet learned in what capacity. You can help get the Peace Corps back to Sierra Leone, and we invite you to join us in advocating for this to happen sooner rather than later. Contact our Advocacy Chair, Judy Figi (at salonesix@aol.com), to become a part of this drive.

I encourage all of you to get involved at some level in FoSL-related activities. Look at the web site to see what other members are doing. Cindy Nofziger is involved in building a school. Anthony McMillon is working on information technology. The students in my school system, Social Circle City Schools, are sending 16 students to school with the goal of funding them to their graduation. You don't have to be there to help. You don't have to be in Washington DC to get involved. We need as many of you as are willing to work with us on advocacy and projects. We need your ideas and your input.

Whether you are a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Sierra Leonean ex-pat, or just a concerned person, we invite you to get involved. Please join with us in making the next two years as meaningful as the two years most of us spent in Sierra Leone were. After all, those were two, or more, of the best years of our lives.

**Friends of Sierra Leone  
Board of Officers and Committee Chairs**

**Elected**

	President	Peggy Murrah, Social Circle, GA	
Vice President	Aiah Fanday, Silver Spring, MD	At Large	Gary Schulze, New York, NY
Treasurer	Mark Hager, San Antonio, TX	At Large	Tim Curley, Silver Spring, MD
Secretary	Bob Heavner, Berkeley, CA	At Large, Projects	Cindy Nofziger, Seattle, WA
Public Relations, PC	Jim Sheahan, Atlanta, GA	At Large	Dave O'Neill, Alexandria, VA
Public Relations, SL	Adjai Robinson, Baltimore, MD	At Large	Anthony McMillon, Fort Washington, MD

**Appointed**

Webmaster	Jamie Brown, Juneau, AK	Advocacy Chair	Judy Figi, Janesville, WI
Member Database	Mike Diliberti, Falls Church, VA	Fundraising Chair	Patty Bruzek, Lombard, IL
Newsletter Editor	Carl Onken, Central Valley, NY	Education Chair	Open

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**FoSL Member and Returned VSO Dr. Gail Haddock's Book for Sale**

Dr. Gail Haddock was a VSO doctor at Serabu during the early 1990s and was there when Peace Corps, VSO and other volunteer groups were evacuated because of the war. She has written a book about her experiences and has dedicated all profits to benefit medical relief and projects in Sierra Leone.

If you would like to buy a copy of her book, *Green Oranges on Lion Mountain*, contact Peggy Murrah at [info@fosalone.org](mailto:info@fosalone.org). Books are \$15 plus shipping. So far Dr. Haddock has contributed toward Paguma Hospital and FoSL member Tom Johnson's surgical projects. All money from the sale of these books is sent directly to a health project in Sierra Leone.

**Prosthetics Outreach Foundation**

The Prosthetics Outreach Foundation (based in Seattle) has opened a joint office (with the Single Leg Amputee Sports Club) in Freetown and is planning to open a rehabilitation center in Makeni. To learn more about the foundation and its projects or to make a donation, look at these websites:

<http://www.pofsea.org>

or

(specifically about Sierra Leone) <http://www.pofsea.org/sierraleone.htm>

Prosthetics Outreach Foundation

400 East Pine Street, Suite 225, Seattle, WA 98122

Phone: (206) 726-1636

Fax: (206) 726-1637

E-mail: [info@pofsea.org](mailto:info@pofsea.org)

## ADVOCACY REPORT

### Judy Figi

In March several board members visited Peace Corps headquarters and met with Henry McKoy, Regional Director for Africa. The purpose of our meeting was to urge the return of Peace Corps to Sierra Leone. We were told that Salone is one of the countries being considered. In August Judy Figi and Jim Sheahan met with Country Desk Officer, Paul Johnson, on the same issue. Judy was in Sierra Leone in July and brought back several letters from school officials and other Sierra Leoneans asking for the return of Peace Corps. She gave all the letters to Johnson who advised us to "keep the pressure on."

We need your help. Please call, fax or e-mail your two Senators and your Congressional Representative. Ask them to contact Peace Corps and request that they return to Salone. Snail mail takes a long time to reach anyone in D.C., but can be sent to their city or state local offices. The best contact of all is a personal visit, either in Washington or when they are at home in their local office. If you are in Washington, D.C., you can call your Congressman's or Senator's office for an appointment.

We would like the Peace Corps Office to be flooded with letters about Sierra Leone. We all have moving stories about our experiences there and we need to share them. The Peace Corps Director is Gaddi Vasquez and his telephone number is 202-692-2109. Henry McKoy's phone number is 202-692-2306; his fax number is 202-692-2399; or you can e-mail him at: [mckoy@peacecorps.gov](mailto:mckoy@peacecorps.gov). The street address for Peace Corps Headquarters is: 1111 20th St., Washington, D.C. 20526.

Our second advocacy issue is obtaining TPS (Temporary Protective Status) or DED for Sierra Leoneans who came here during the war. All of them are responsible, tax-paying citizens who have lost their TPS status and are no longer in this country legally. Many are losing their jobs, and thus, their ability to support not only their families in the U.S., but also families in Sierra Leone. The economy of Sierra Leone still makes earning a living difficult. There are few jobs or few opportunities right now for these people to earn a living and support their families in Sierra Leone. We are asking that TPS be reinstated for them, as it has been for Liberians. If not TPS, we ask that DED (Deferred Enforced Departure) be granted, allowing them to remain here for a year to get their affairs in order.

DED can only be granted by Executive Order of the President and has to come from The White House. The FoSL Board sent a detailed letter to the President on this issue and is awaiting a reply. In the meantime, we need Senators and Representatives to exert pressure, too. Please, contact your Congressional delegation and ask them to contact the Executive Branch on this issue. We need both Democrats and Republicans to join in this non-partisan effort to help Sierra Leoneans.

The FoSL webpage ([www.fosalone.org](http://www.fosalone.org)) has an Advocacy link. On it you can find the names of members of the FoSL Advocacy Committee, the Senate Sub-Committee on African Affairs, and the House Sub-Committee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations. You can also find information on how to contact your Senator and Representatives there.

If you would like to join our Advocacy Committee please contact Judy Figi at [salonesix@aol.com](mailto:salonesix@aol.com). Also, please let us know the names of those you contact and the responses you receive.

In August massive flooding struck many villages in the Pujehun District, destroying hundreds of homes and leaving several thousand homeless. Information about the devastation is difficult to find, but you can read more on the FoSL website [[www.fosalone.org](http://www.fosalone.org)] or try the ACT (Action by Churches Coming Together) website:

[http://www.act-intl.org/appeals/appeals\\_2005/RRFPayments/RRF07AFSL.html](http://www.act-intl.org/appeals/appeals_2005/RRFPayments/RRF07AFSL.html)

or

[http://www.act-intl.org/donations/donations\\_title.html](http://www.act-intl.org/donations/donations_title.html)

## Summary of 2005 FoSL Annual Meeting, Sapelo Island, Georgia

FoSL President Mike Diliberti called the meeting to order at 1:10 P. M., June 27, 2005, and introduced the recently elected new board members. Before turning over the chair to new President Peggy Murrah, Mike went over the report from Ambassador Tom Hull on the current state of affairs in Sierra Leone and ideas for collaboration between the Embassy and FoSL. Advocacy projects were discussed with several ideas being shared. Currently FoSL is involved with two:

- 1) the return of Peace Corps to Sierra Leone, and
- 2) trying to get DED (Deferred Enforced Departure) for Sierra Leoneans in the US who had been given TPS (Temporary Protective Status).

Membership issues were then discussed and it was agreed that a central person would field requests for re-connecting between individuals seeking others. Mike Diliberti spoke of issues existing at the time he became President, stressing the need for more collaboration with Sierra Leoneans in the US and organizations working incountry. He further expressed appreciation and pride for our having pulled off the 2004 meeting in Freetown.

With Peggy Murrah now chairing the meeting, discussion included how to pull more from the expertise within the organization and not becoming administratively top heavy, as well as becoming more effective at information and referral and disbursing logistical and travel facts. There were also ideas shared regarding improvement/updating of the website and it was unanimously agreed to continue mailing our newsletter and doing so in a more timely and efficient manner. There was also the suggestion to mail welcoming postcards to new members. There were recommendations about linking members to advocacy projects in different parts of the country. Finally, fiscal matters were discussed including the annual financial report and agreement was reached on holding a Board retreat which has since been scheduled.

### Reflections on Sapelo Island, Georgia.

By Faith Sorenson

**6/26/2005** – We were strangers but only for a moment. Every person who boarded the ferry for Sapelo Island quickly bonded as we compared notes on who was where, when, in Sierra Leone as Peace Corps Volunteers. We ranged from the first PC group to enter Salone in 1961 to the last group in 1993.

#### **6/27 – Tour of Sapelo Island, Georgia**

Our guide explained the history of the Gullah people and demonstrated the casting of a fishing net as a part of our tour. He told us about the Geechee language, still spoken by the old folks as well as customs of burying people with feet to the east, toward the motherland—Africa. The Gullah or Geechee people are descendants of slaves who were specifically selected for Sapelo Island because they came from Sierra Leone and were expert rice farmers, resistant to malaria and other diseases found in the Deep South. Many customs of the Gullah people are similar to those of Sierra Leone, such as the method of casting fishing nets.

#### **6/28 – Tour of Harris Neck, Georgia**

The bus tour, guided by Wilson Moran, emphasized the cultural heritage and the historical details surrounding the development of the population of African Americans and *[continued on page 7]*

# A New FoSL Project Needs Your Support

Dear FOSL Members and Supporters,

I am pleased to announce the launching of a fundraising effort in support of Distance Teacher Training in Sierra Leone.

Working through the good offices of Talking Drum Studio, a part of Search for Common Ground, we are attempting to raise \$2,500 - \$3,000 to support the Ministry of Education Science and Technology's effort to provide training opportunities to teachers throughout the Western Area.

Talking Drum Studios (TDS) produces radio programs for distribution to over twenty local and international radio stations in all parts of Sierra Leone. The very fact that Sierra Leone has over twenty community based radio stations is remarkable and largely due to Talking Drums' efforts in supporting local control of radio programs in the country. TDS produces over three hundred minutes of programming every week that are broadcasted to all parts of the country.

According to listener surveys, 89% of the people in Sierra Leone listen regularly to TDS programs on issues of corruption, HIV/AIDS, elections, poverty, children, reintegration of ex-combatants, and education. TDS produces Sierra Leone's first "soap opera" *Atunda Ayenda* (Lost and Found), a radio drama series that addresses a range of social issues of particular concern to youth. These include corruption, HIV/AIDS, and their role in decision-making and life choices. Another popular program is *Common Ground News Feature*, which is a magazine program which features conflict issues from around the country. It focuses on identifying key issues and provides balanced information and opinions from all sectors of society through interviews of various people, institutions and groups. These and other programs can be heard in Krio at [www.talkingdrumstudio.org](http://www.talkingdrumstudio.org).

TDS has as one of its program priorities the development of quality education throughout the country. With support of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) the Sierra Leone Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MOEST) installed a 50-watt FM radio transmitter at their New England offices in Freetown.

MOEST launched, last July, a radio station targeting youth and children — both those in school and those who are not able to attend. The number of school age children in Sierra Leone who are not able to attend school, usually for economic reasons, is very high. It is especially high among girl children and increases greatly from early elementary school through secondary school.

This radio station also supports a distance-learning program aimed at supplementing teacher training formulated by Freetown Teacher Training College. This education program targets untrained and unqualified teachers who are now working in primary schools throughout the Western Area who will greatly benefit from any training they can receive. These radio broadcasts are in support of the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) level classes and senior secondary classes.

This programming is popular although it is limited by the National Power Authority's (NPA) ability to provide power in the Western Area. Although the NPA has made marked advances in its efforts to provide power in the capital region it still falls short of its goals. In-fact power is still unavailable in most parts of the city for much of every day.

FOSL wants to purchase a generator so that this Distance Education radio station will be able to operate for at least ten hours a day, independent of the all too unreliable NPA service. The estimated cost of a back-up six KVA generator is Le 4,100,000; at the current exchange rate this is approximately \$1,500 US. The cost of generator installation is \$500 US. Providing for a cushion for inflation, transport or other unexpected costs would increase the total expected cost to something less than \$2,500 US.

Talking Drum Studio has agreed to facilitate this project. This includes purchasing the generator, overseeing its installation and providing FOSL with updates on the radio station's operation. MOEST will construct the generator house and supply fuel for its operation. TDS will help distribute some of MOEST programs through the network of independent community radio stations which utilize its programming.

Although \$2,500 is a fair amount of money to be raised by such a small organization as FOSL, I do believe that our membership and supporters will be willing to support this Distance Education Project. This project has the potential to reach hundreds of teachers and thousands of school children on a daily basis. This project has an extremely high benefit to cost ratio.

As most of you know, radio access is readily available in all areas of the country. Even though not everyone has a radio, most do have radio access and it is very common for groups of people gather around anyone who has tuned onto an interesting program.

Distance Education has the ability to educate people who do not have either access or the ability to afford formal education or who cannot afford the time needed to pursue a two-year degree. Distance Education is best known for its efforts to provide elementary and secondary education to remote areas of Canada and Australia. One of its most successful applications was in post World War II Taiwan where it transformed agriculture on the island in a very short time.

I hope that you will join FOSL's Project Committee and the FOSL Board of Directors in supporting this effort to provide professional training to scores of unqualified teachers in Sierra Leone.

Next year will mark the fifteenth anniversary of FOSL's incorporation. During those fifteen years FOSL supported many projects and was able to provide hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of relief and development support to thousands of Sierra Leoneans. We were able to do this only through the generous support of our members.

FOSL is proud that 100% of the monies we raised for projects have been spent to support these efforts. FOSL has never spent a penny of project money on administrative costs. All of FOSL's administrative expenses and some of our projects costs have come from our member's annual dues.

I would like to encourage you not only to support this worthy Distance Learning Project but also to consider joining or renewing your FOSL membership today. Not only will your membership help cover our operating expenses but it will help transform FOSL into a credible organization able to effectively lobby Congress and opinion leaders in support of FOSL's advocacy, education and development efforts.

There are thousands of RPCVs, former CUSO volunteers and former VSOs who served in Sierra Leone. There are tens of thousands of Sierra Leoneans living in the US and the UK and throughout the world, and there are even thousands living in my hometown. By working together we have the potential to speak with one voice. --a very loud voice -- which if used can only benefit the people of Sierra Leone.

I want to challenge you to add your voice and your family's voices to this choir. I hope that you will now take a moment to write a tax-deductible check to FOSL in support of this Distance Learning Project and to renew your FOSL membership today. Remember the old Mende saying which roughly translates into: "From many drops of water a mighty river flows." With your support FOSL can become a "mighty river."

Peace and Rice,

Tim Curley  
Projects Committee Member

[continued from page 4] Caucasian Americans of Harris Neck. It filled in details I had always wondered about, i.e. the origins of African Americans' last names. Not always were they the slave owner's last name, inherited by the slave when freed. Often they were really the child's father's name, the child of a free or enslaved African and a Caucasian or Native American. Wilson Moran is the grandson of an Irish man and an African American woman. At his home he proudly displayed the Moran family crest. He told us that people of such heritage are usually characterized as proud, pro-active and sure of themselves.

#### **Mary Moran's Song – A Gullah Song In Mende**

Wilson's mother, Mary Moran, has sung this song to her children and grandchildren. She learned it from her grandmother, who had learned it from her grandmother. It has been passed down since the days when Sierra Leonean slaves came to Sapelo Island. When anthropologist Joe Opala heard the song in 1990, he recognized some words from the Mende language. Joe had studied Sierra Leonean culture since his days as a Peace Corp Volunteer in the mid-'70s. Thus the connection to Sierra Leone was made and the people of Harris Neck and Sapelo Island learned of their heritage.

Joe Opala searched Sierra Leone for a village in which someone remembered the song. When he located a Sierra Leonean woman who knew the song, he identified her village as the long-lost home to many Gullah people. Joe arranged a homecoming for Mary and her family to this village in Sierra Leone. The reunion was the subject of a documentary video, "The Language You Cry In."

After viewing the video, we visited Mary Moran in her home,. She sang the song and told us of how she came to know it. "It is about burying your loved ones. To cry over your dead, you always return to your mother tongue", Mary explained.

## Schools for Salone Update

It's done! Schools for Salone's first school building in Sierra Leone is finished! Construction on our very first school — in the little village of Simira, in the Northern Province of Sierra Leone — is done! The village has worked hard and spent the money we've raised wisely. Teachers are hired and they're ready to move into their new school. It's taken less than one year, from when we started to raise money last January. Through the sale of note cards with drawings done by the children of the village (which has raised nearly \$6,000) and, more recently, tax-deductible donations to War Child USA ([www.warchildusa.org](http://www.warchildusa.org)) and the Foundation for West Africa (27 Walnut Rd., Barrington, RI 02806), we've managed to raise nearly all of the \$10,000 needed for construction and first-year expenses. Now we figure that about \$2,000/year will cover ongoing salary, book and supply costs. Another \$10,000 should allow us to build yet another school in another needy village. So keep those donations coming and keep buying and sending out note cards. One by one, we can build more schools and help more kids build a future.

I will be traveling to Sierra Leone in early November for the opening ceremony of the school. Businesses have been very generous with their donations — including 150 t-shirts, toothbrushes and toothpaste for all (150) children, 10 soccer balls, books, school supplies from my son's kindergarten class and workbooks, teaching supplies and materials from Handwriting Without Tears (HWT) for all the students. I will be training the teachers in HWT's incredible, straightforward, developmental approach to teaching children how to write. With Charlotte Beall's (RPCV Sierra Leone and former director of the Seattle Children's Museum's exhibits and education) assistance, I have spent time in my son's kindergarten class teaching them about Sierra Leone - looking at pictures, playing musical instruments, dressing up in Sierra Leone clothes, "cooking" over a 3-stone "fire", pounding rice, carrying baskets on their heads - and putting together a class project that I will be carrying in Sierra Leone for the children there. Please take a look at our web site for more information and photos of the construction. Photos of the finished school are available at the following website:

<http://members.raincity.com/kenlans/schoolsforsalone/project.htm>

Thank you to all for purchasing note cards and for your generous donations! Note Schools for Salone is a sister project rather than a FoSL project.

**Cindy Nofziger**



Proceeds from the sale of these cards will be used to support a primary school in Simira, a small village in the Northern Province of Sierra Leone. Money will continue to be needed for teacher salaries and school supplies. Drawings on the cards were made by students at that school and sent to Seattle as part of a school-to-school exchange with students there. To order a set of 12 (different) cards, send \$15 + \$3 S&H (checks: "Schools for Salone") to 4240 NE 124th St., Seattle, WA 98125. [<http://members.raincity.com/kenlans/schoolsforsalone/project.htm>]

The **2006 International Calendar** produced by the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin is available through FoSL. In addition to volunteers' photographs from host countries around the world, the calendar includes historic days, holidays and holy days from many cultures. A portion of the proceeds will go toward FoSL activities. You can see a picture of the cover on the FoSL webpage. Use the order form below.

**Make your checks to Friends of Sierra Leone and send to:**

**Mary Onken  
74 Edgewood Drive  
Central Valley, NY 10917-3205**

**Telephone: (845) 928-2420  
Fax: (845) 928-3057  
e-mail: carlonken@aol.com**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_(Eve) \_\_\_\_\_(Day)

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of calendars \_\_\_\_ x \$ \_\_\_\_ /calendar = \$ \_\_\_\_

Shipping charge from price list \$ \_\_\_\_

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price/Calendar</u>	<u>Shipping</u>
1-5	\$12.00	included
6-24	\$ 7.00	\$ 8
25-49	\$ 6.00	\$10
50-74	\$ 5.50	\$15
75-99	\$ 5.50	\$20

**Six is a DEAL. Check it out!**

## Would you like to continue receiving the FoSL Newsletter?

If your membership is current, you will continue receiving the Newsletters. However, if your membership expires before the next Newsletter, this could be the last Newsletter you receive. FoSL has a goal of sending out two Newsletters per year -- one in the Spring and one in the Fall. In the past, we sent our Newsletters through the mail to all current and past members and donors. However, due to the increasing cost of postage and printing, the FoSL Board has voted to send hard copies of our Newsletters only to paid up members.

Please check your address label on this Newsletter to see if it is time for you to renew your membership. If the expiration date has passed, or if there is no expiration date on your address label, you are past due to renew your membership or to become a member. Please join or renew your membership today. You can use the membership/renewal form included in this Newsletter. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Why join FoSL? In addition to receiving our Newsletters, there are several reasons:

1. You will be associated with an organization that has an excellent reputation:
  - on Capitol Hill, the State Department, and Immigration Agencies as the premier lobby organization for issues relating to Sierra Leone
  - among journalists and authors as a source of candid non-political accurate information about Sierra Leone
  - in Sierra Leone as the leading American organization that focuses on Sierra Leone-specific issues
  - within the NPCA as a leading "Friends of" group on advocacy and relief efforts (FoSL received the Lorret Ruppee Award in 2002), and
  - among Sierra Leonean-American organizations (FoSL has received several awards and certificates of appreciation for our efforts on behalf of Sierra Leoneans, both here in the USA through our advocacy efforts and in Sierra Leone through our relief efforts and other projects).
  
2. You can participate in our Annual Meetings. These meetings are either scheduled at the same time and place as the Annual NPCA Conference or at places that have special meaning for Sierra Leone-American cultural and/or historical ties. Some recent meetings:
  - 1998 at the Penn Center on St. Helena Island, South Carolina to celebrate the cultural ties between the Gullah Community and Sierra Leone,
  - 2000 at the Amistad Memorial in Mystic, Connecticut to celebrate the historical ties between the Sierra Leonean men and women of the Amistad and the landmark Supreme Court decision that helped to limit slavery in the USA,
  - 2004 in Sierra Leone where almost thirty of us went back as a group to Freetown and then individually and in pairs to our upcountry sites to reconnect with our Sierra Leonean co-workers, friends and families, and
  - 2005 on Sapelo Island, Georgia to celebrate the cultural ties between the Geechee Community in Georgia and Sierra Leone.
  - Our 2006 Annual Meeting will take place in Washington, DC during September 22-24, 2006. We hope to have a large RPCV-SL reunion.
  - Our 2007 Annual Meeting will be held in California – place and date not yet determined. If you have suggestions, let us know.
  
3. You can participate in nominating and electing officers and Board members, and participate in our Board meetings and committees – Advocacy, Education, Fundraising, Membership, Newsletter/Communications, and Projects. We really do need your help as we never have enough people to do everything we need to do. If you want to participate in any of these committees, let us know.

**Check the date on the address label. Is it time to renew? If there's no date, or if the date is sometime in the past, it's time to join!**

**FRIENDS OF SIERRA LEONE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name (include maiden) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP+4 code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to SL (e.g., Sierra Leonean, PC, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Sierra Leone Home \_\_\_\_\_ Years \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Membership:</b>	Individual	\$20	<b>Contributions:</b>	FoSL Circle	\$1000 and up
	Household	\$35		Supporter	\$500 to \$999
				Sponsor	\$100 to \$499
				Friend	\$50 to \$99

  

Membership	\$ _____
Contribution	\$ _____
Overseas Mail add \$10.00	\$ _____
Membership in <i>National Peace Corps Association</i> (Add \$35.00 individual, \$42.50 family)	\$ _____
<b>Total Remitted</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

**Thank you for your support! Please return this form with a check payable to Friends of Sierra Leone to the address at the right.**

**FoSL needs your participation. Circle your areas of interest:**

- Advocacy
- Education
- Membership
- Projects
- Events

Would you be willing to be part of a network to receive information and contact your members of Congress at important times? (Please include e-mail address, if available.)

Yes



P. O. Box 15875  
Washington, DC  
20003-0875

The United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) peacekeepers are preparing to leave Sierra Leone and are celebrating with the Sierra Leone people that the war is over and peace has come (*War Don Don. Peace Don Com*). The Sierra Leone Peace Festival, November 22 to 26, will include performances at several locations throughout the country and, in addition to Sierra Leonean artists, is expected to feature Youssou N'Dour (Senegal), Kojo Antwi (Ghana), Sinead O'Connor (Ireland), Sly and Robbie (Jamaica) and many others. The celebration is largely funded by external commercial sponsorship, but they are still some \$200,000 short and are seeking individuals or organizations, commercial or charitable, which might be interested in contributing towards this event. Anyone who wishes to learn more or discuss funding is urged to contact Lieutenant Colonel D. M. Warner, Chief of Operations, UNAMSIL by telephone at 011 232 76 800554 or e-mail at [coof@un.org](mailto:coof@un.org).

FoSL  
P. O. Box 15875  
Washington, DC 20003-0875

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Permit 50279

Web: [www.fosalone.org](http://www.fosalone.org)

**Address Service Requested**



## **Membership Renewals**

**Please renew your membership or join FoSL today. It's tax deductible!**

**See why it is important on Page 10!**

**Don't delay! There's a membership form on Page 11.**

## **2006 Calendars**

**Order your 2006 International Calendars! See the order form on Page 9!**