President's Message

As we marry make our way through the holiday season, reflect upon the passing year, and peek into the face a new one, our group continues to do incredible things - a few of which I shall mention. Calendar sales continue to be very strong. The orders are smaller in quantity now, but continue to pour in. The calendar committee and all the folks who help with this endeavor have done a marvelous job. Many, many thanks to everyone who has helped with the project. (Note that soon we will begin the process for selecting next year's images (Feb. 6th Gen. Mtg.))

We have met and begun the process of planning the 35th Anniversary Blowout scheduled for Friday March 1st. (See Buck's notes) The committees have been formed and are working on their respective tasks. If you want to help, please call one of the following people: Earl Bricker, Rose Ann Scott, Sharon Lewandowski/Buck Trawicky, Dave Wakely or Susan Mendrysa. Your efforts and input will be much appreciated.

Thanks also to Sophie for hosting the Christmas party again this year. Though I was unable to attend, I understand that a pleasant time was had by all.

Looking for something new this year? Take a deep breath and welcome the new year with a dip in the icy waters of Lake Michigan. What better way to bond with friends and loved ones, and reaffirm that in cold water, we are all indeed created equal? See "Dates to Note" for details.

And finally, hearty thanks to Dave Atkinson, our own perennial and fearless mastermind of the Freeze for Food Run to be held Jan. 27th. Dave deserves much credit for his hard work in organizing this event. The race preparations will begin at 10:30 am. He tells me we need 35+ volunteers to help with everything from securing food and beverage prior to the race, to helping to mark the route and greet runners. If you plan to volunteer, please, please call Dave @ (873-5437) before the event so that he knows how many volunteers there will be.

Dave has challenged me to run, so I am dusting off my green Pioneer tennis shoes and plan to run the 10K. With that, I would like to issue a little challenge to our group to see who can raise the most money to fight hunger. Let's get out there, see our friends, and have some fun.

<Note: Dave also says that he has spoken to the great ONE, and has been assured that the weather will be much less harsh than it was for the Jingle Bell Run.>

Have a safe and happy holiday season. See you down the trail.

CP
Income Statement  
11/10/95 to 12/15/95

REVENUES
Calendar 17,330.25
ret'd check - 14.75
Dues 307.50
Global Ed 25.00
Total Rev 17,648.00

EXPENSES
Cal Printing 5,000.00
Phone 14.17
Advertising 581.30
UPS 408.19
Postage 160.13
Newsltr print 83.49
Freeze For Food 600.00
Tibet child home 350.00
Global Ed 50.83
Total Expense 7,248.11

Net Income 10,339.89

CASH ON HAND
Checking 6,318.31
MarkAct 5.3% 25,571.25
Total 31,889.56

Other RPCV organizations have our permission to use any material of interest in this newsletter.

Newsletter Policy: Since we are always trying to get new members, we will send three copies of our newsletter to anyone we think will be interested. After that, you have to pay to stay on our mailing list. Details can be found on the back page. One Exception: Contacts in other RPCV organizations can continue to receive our newsletter if they will send us theirs.
Dates to Note:


* Mon. Jan. 8th, 7:00 pm. General Meeting at the Union South

* Sun. Jan. 21st, 10:00-12:00. Calendar meeting to be held at Barbara Chaterjee’s house. (5102 Coney Weston Place)

* Sat. Jan. 27th, 10:30 am. Freeze for Food. The 5K race starts at noon and the 10k race at 1:00. Call Dave Atkinson (873-5437) if you would like to volunteer.

* Feb. 2nd is the deadline for slide submission for the 1997 calendar. Contact Jim Good.

* Tue. Feb. 6th, after the general meeting (Union South), will be the first round of slide selecting for the 97 calendar.

* Sun. Feb 11th, 10:00-12:00. Calendar meeting at Barbara Chaterjee’s house.

* Fri. Mar. 1st is the 35th Anniversary Blowout at the Memorial Union. See future newsletters for details of the start time.

**ANNUAL POLAR BEAR SWIM**

Tired of the oppressive heat of forced air? Longing for the exhilaration of a fresh breeze against your tingling skin? JOIN US!!! The members of the RPCV Adventurous Committed are once again heading to the exotic beaches of Sheboygan to partake in the annual Polar Bear dip into Lake Michigan. Meet at Deb Stapleton’s (2406 Sommers Av. Madison) between 8:00-9:00 on the morning of January 1st. Bring your hangovers, bring your friends, bring donuts. I’ll have coffee and juice. We will carpool from my house, leaving at 9:00 SHARP to make the 1:00 dip. Yes, most of us do really jump into the lake, but we don’t make fun of those several weenies who choose to watch. Suggested swimwear: any clothing with spandex or elastic that allows you to get out of them FAST when wet (ask Lori M. about frozen jean shorts). Shoes, NO SOCKS. Sandals may fall off ("Shoe-less Dean" is going back to look for his). Bring something warm and cozy and easy to change into. Afterward, the Sheboygan KCs offer us a warm gym, good music, cheap burgers and beer, and the opportunity to buy a Tshirt so that you too can impress your less daring friends. Call Deb S (244-8609) for info. THIS IS NOT A JOKE.
We met at Earl and Don's; jillions were present (c.40). Business was, as usual for a potluck meeting, quite curt.

The minutes for the Nov. meeting were approved. The Treasurer's Report (p. 23) was published in the Dec. NL.

Calendar: We've done a 2nd print-run, and taken receipt of an additional 25 calcs. We expect to at least break even on the 2nd print-run; plenty to give to schools etc., and earn a dandy profit to donate. Sales remain hot. Linor Gbedey (244-5844) is onto donations for calendars to schools, and has made a dandy offer. I'm sure you're busy, but maybe more. And the Wednesday Packing Parties at Gordon's are a weekly pleasure. Too bad they're almost over. (Say soon.)

Re-Connect (Sharon): Our project to be of help to freshly-back RPCVs continues to firm up. We've sent out a stamped postcard to our WI members, urging them to sign up. (At this moment, c.45 have come back, which is a sorta good response. And Buck-as-near is tickled to be using his WP database for all this.) In the spring, on Apr 13, Jefferson's B'dy, we'll have a S-Connect Party at a west-side Pizza Hut with a movie room; we'll show short war movies (Rocky and Bullwinkle in Hindi, etc.), eat pizza, and guff with newcomers. A MOTION to permit expenses of up to $150 for this event was approved, AYE.

Our Mailing List: Buck relayed 2 requests to use our mailing list by the Dane Co. UN Association, and by the Nat'l PC Assoc. Both requests were rejected. (We never give out our mailing list to anyone.) However, we're willing to include a flyer from the UN in an issue of our NL; ditto for the NPCA, prob. Buck said he'd relay these answers. (The UN folks said "Dandy! postage! Thank you!"

The NPCA said "OK; however, we'll send you our database anyway, on disk.

Meetings in Jan. and Feb.: UN events will prevent us from meeting at our regular times. We voted AYE to accept Walt's proposals (see the Calendar of events, elsewhere). And high thanks to Walt for being on top of the future.

35th anniversary Peace Corps Birthday Party: Chris is hoonch; committees in full swing; a total meeting will be held at the Packing Party on Wed, 6 (which happened. The PR guys with Earl were the most impressively spaced.) Things are on track. There are lots of interesting work for all to do; all chairs (278-7000) if you want to have a piece.

3 Donations: We voted AYE to give money to the 3 destinations described in the last 2 Ns: The Tibetan hospital, the Tibetan school, and the Panamanian Calendar.

Freeze For Food: Sat, Jan 27. Call Dave Atkinson (873-5437) to help. It's a hoot.

Tutoring: Cindy White: it's very rewarding, and all the youths are there in their own desire. Call her, 255-3365, for details.

---Buck, 16 Dec 95

CALENDAR STEERING COMMITTEE
Meeting of Sun 10 Dec 95
Minutes: short version

We met at Barbara Chatterjee's, from 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., and got lots done with good judgment and laudable dispatch. Present were Barbara, Jim Good, Kevin Neis, Elinor Gbedey, Dean Jefferson, and that Buck.

SALES: We're in excellent shape. We've received our 2nd Print-Run of 3100; we have c.5200 in Gordon's garage, will probably sell another 2000-2500 by year's end, and more thereafter. We'll make a good profit for the year, and have enough to give to schools etc.

DATA Note: We're getting better and better data, and in near-real time. Dean and Rose Ann are on the job (building on their predecessors' work). So, for instance, we'll (finally) produce a budget in advance of the events it describes.

LOCAL SALES: Phyllis Noble has done a dandy job (building on Lori's work): lots of local stores are stocking the Calendar, and some keep running out (which will teach them). And University Bookstore doesn't sell many because they hide them.

GIFT-CAALS TO SCHOOLS and to the susceptible: We have 2000 calendars (maybe more) to give to schools, and we need everyone's help in finding good destinations. Be Santa Claus! (Say our cats.) If you have good ideas, call Elinor (244-5844; 246-4400). Our filter is this: Active Effort (a letter etc.) is required from the teacher (or else a member-sponsor). Elinor has sent out a boilerplate letter to all the public schools describing our offer; the public schools are next. (And we've received a few requests from serving PCV schoolteachers, too!) Note that we'll pay the postage for mailing. Mary Grace and Dan are handling Brooklyn WI; Henry is doing Oregon. And Buck does Binbee and Atlanta.

SVCAL: PHOTO SELECTION: We'll use a less rancorous method for the 97Cal, and get excellent results (we hope). Jim Good's "3 Jewels" essay on the proposed method of slide-selection has been accepted by the group at large (despite carping from a few, who nonetheless say "try it for a year; if it doesn't work well enough, we can tinker again next year").

Photo Selection schedule: Deadline for slides in Feb 2. (Send them to our PO Box, or direct to Jim Good, c/o Interworks, 116 N. Few, Madison WI 53703; 251-9045.)

1st Viewing is at our general meeting, Tues 6 Feb 96 at Union South.

2nd Viewing is on Sun 18 Feb 96, 2 p.m., at Jim and Laura Good's house, 3235 Willard St, Madison WI 53704. In both viewings, we'll look at every slide submitted, and vote on each (by a rapid painless accurate method). Lobbying is allowed, in short speeches at start, but not during the actual view.

Results View: date unknown, again open to all. All ballots tallied, and the resulting heavy vote-getters examined. Final winnowing to eliminate duplicate countries, etc. Ideally (or inevitably) the process gives us 15 dandy slides to use, with delightful variety.

PHONE: Re. our Hot-Line number: the phone company's central exchange can offer a voice-mail service, keeping the same number, for c.516/mo. Nifty. (Rose Ann and Jim Good will follow up.) And we've got a new and cheaper phone-card service.

Future MEETINGS: at Barbara Chatterjee's, Sunday 10:00; Jan 21st and Feb 11th.

PRINTERS' DAY: on Ben Franklin's B'dy, Jan 17. Buck and Barbara will get a nice present to Straus Printing, who do our Calendar--perhaps a nice basket of fruit.

Buck has drawn up a RESEARCH BUDGET, and we can discuss it in Jan.
15th Annual FREEZE FOR FOOD Official Sponsor Sheet
To Benefit Oxfam America -- Change, not charity: Long-term solutions to poverty and hunger

Your Name: __________________________ Phone: ______________________
Address: __________________________ City: __________ State: ______ Zip: ______

Make Checks Payable To: RPCVs of Wisconsin - Madison

Sponsor's Name Address Phone Amount

Participant's Signature: __________________________ Total: __________

Everyone collecting $50 or more in donations will receive a $10 gift certificate to Wonders Pub & Restaurant
Turn in $10 or more in donations on or before 1/27 for a chance to win a $50 gift certificate to Moving Shoes
Hint: Collect the pledge money at the time you ask for it; that way you don't have to follow up later!

Bring your Sponsor Sheet & Money Collected to the Registration Table the Day of Event
Or Mail to: RPCVs of Wisconsin - Madison, P.O. Box 1012, Madison, WI 53701

Please turn in all pledge money by February 27, 1996

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

10K RACE
5K RUN/WALK

Saturday
January 27, 1996
Vilas Park Shelter
Madison

5K Run/Walk --- 12:00pm sharp
(Registration from 11:15 - 11:45)

10K Race --- 1:00pm sharp
(Registration from 11:45 - 12:45)

Accolades For Early Registration & Pledges
To benefit Oxfam America

Brought to you by
The Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin - Madison
REGISTRATION
15TH ANNUAL
FREEZE FOR FOOD
To Benefit Oxfam America
Saturday January 27, 1996
Vilas Park Shelter, Madison

Your pledges bring hope to thousands of the world's poorest people by making long-term solutions to poverty and hunger possible through cooperative self-help development projects.

Please register me for the:  
[ ] 10K Race  
[ ] 5K Run/Walk

Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City: _______ State: _______ Zip: _______
Phone: ________________________________  Age: _______

10K Race Runners Only Please Complete:
[ ] Female  [ ] Male
[ ] < 20  [ ] 20-29  [ ] 30-39  [ ] 40-49  [ ] 50+

Registration fee is $10 per participant.
I plan to raise at least $50 in pledges [ ] Yes [ ] No
(Everyone Collecting $50+ Receives a $10 Gift Cert.)
(Collect $10+ to enter the drawing for a $50 Gift Cert.)

Please make checks payable and send to:
RPCVs of Wisconsin - Madison
P.O. Box 1012, Madison, WI 53701

I hereby assume for myself all risk, harm, and injury which may occur in conjunction with this event. I will not hold the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin-Madison, Oxfam America, the City of Madison, the Town of Madison, or the University of Wisconsin - Madison liable for any loss, damage, injury, or harm and hereby waive any claim or liability of any kind arising out of my participation in this event.

Participant's Signature ____________________________ Date ________________

(Parent/guardian's signature if under age 18) Date ________________

YOUR INVITATION

The road less traveled deep into a Wisconsin Winter is the familiar Vilas Park 10K running route through our beautiful Arboretum. The Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of WI-Madison kindles a runner's spirit with camaraderie and infuses mid-winter enthusiasm by bringing this route to life each January for fun and fund raising to support grass roots humanitarian efforts.

So come out this January 27th to limber those winter legs while lending much needed and appreciated support for famine relief by joining in our annual Freeze For Food 10K Run and 5K Run/Walk. The route is sanded where needed and you'll be well guided by people power along the way. Finish times are posted. Prizes are awarded to pledge raisers and top finishers in both events. We provide food and drink for all in the warming shelter.

All money raised goes to Oxfam America and is used to combat hunger and famine at the village level. So please, take the time to talk to friends, family, and others who might sponsor you to make this event a big success. Come for the fun and leave behind your gift of hope.

OXFAM AMERICA
Change, not charity
That's what Oxfam America believes in

For more than 20 years Oxfam America has brought hope to thousands of the world's poorest people in Asia, Africa, the Americas, and the Caribbean. How? By working in partnership to get the seeds, tools, land, clean drinking water, and training they need to feed and support themselves; by seeking long-term solutions to poverty and hunger overseas and in the United States.

RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS
OF WISCONSIN - MADISON

The RPCVs of WI - Madison holds monthly meetings and sponsors community events (like this one) to help promote the goals of peace, understanding, and sharing within our global community.

10K RACE & 5K RUN/WALK DETAILS
Saturday January 27, 1996


PURPOSE: 100% of proceeds will be donated to Oxfam America in support of self-help development projects seeking long-term solutions to poverty and hunger.

PLEDGES: We organize this race so that you will gather pledges and help raise lots of money for Oxfam. Collect $50 or more to receive a $10 gift certificate to Wonders Pub & Restaurant. Collect at least $10 to enter the drawing and you might win a $50 Moving Shoes gift cert.

PRIZES: Prizes to the top three pledge raisers.
10K - First overall female and male finisher, first female and male finisher in each age class.
5K - Oldest and youngest participants First overall female and male finisher.

COURSE: 5K Run/Walk - Begin and end at the Vilas Park Shelter circling Vilas Zoo.
10K Race - Begin and end at the Vilas Park Shelter around Lake Wingra and through the Arboretum.

REGISTRATION:
Registration fee is $10 by mail or day of event. Call for group discount.
5K Registration: 11:15am - 11:45am
10K Registration: 11:45am - 12:45pm

START: 5K Run/Walk - 12:00 pm sharp!
10K Race - 1:00 pm sharp!

10K SPLITS: Times at 1-mile, 1/2 way, and finish.

QUESTIONS: Call Dave Atkinson or Deb Hamilton at (608) 873-5437.

* We still need a host for the Chili Pot Luck - Someone near the Vilas Park area - How about you! (call)
LAKE LUCERNE Camp & Retreat Center

The Winter Retreat on Saturday and Sunday, February 24 and 24, 1996

As Conrad says "Come at noon for lunch on Saturday", so we can see who all is there and get a start good start on the weekend. We have 2 cabins Pine and Elm and the Ridgewood Lodge. There are 24 single beds, 2 per room, with sheets, pillows, and towels. After the first 24, mattresses will be put on the floor, you must provide your own sleeping bag, etc, and you must pay the bed rate!

DINNER
On Saturday night February 25th we have a pot luck in the lodge. Bring something yummy for that.

LUNCH Sat at noon, BREAKFAST Sun at 8:00 am
If you want the meal prepared by the camp, RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE by February 17 by calling 241-0845, ELSE provide your own.

adults 3-12 yrs under 3 Bring sleds, x-country skis,
LUNCH $5.00 $2.50 free games, photos, slides, projector,
BED 16.00 9.50 free ice skates, senses of humor,
BREAKFAST 3.75 2.00 free warm clothing and boots.

Camp Lucerne is 4 miles south of Wautoma on County Road YY just east off State Route 73. Watch for the Camp Lucerne sign on 73.
The slide selecting season approaches, so get ready. This year we will be trying a new selection process for the 1997 calendar slides. The process described below - The Triple Crown - will begin with the First Jewel at the February general RPCV-Madison meeting at Union South on Tuesday, February 6. This will begin after the general business has finished and will constitute the second half of the meeting. The Second Jewel will be held on Sunday, February 15, at 2:00 at Jim and Laura Good's House. The date of the Third Jewel will be published in the February Newsletter. Please come and be a part of the process. Thanks to all those who gave their input, both critical and supportive.

Picking Photos for the 1997 RPCV-Madison Calendar
How it's done.
Every year, a Madison-based group of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and friends put together a beautiful and interesting International Calendar now popular among the smart set. This group solicits photos for the calendar, and then sits around trying to figure out which are winners and which, although also very good, must sit on the sidelines till another year or another purpose. So some of you are probably asking yourselves, "How can they do that? Isn't it awfully hard to choose just a few out of so many?" Well, yes, it is hard. But we do what we have to do. We call it "The Triple Crown of Photo Kiltilzing," and here's how it works:

1. First Jewel
At the February general monthly meeting each year, all of the photos received are shown. Everyone that at this meeting gets to vote (quickly) on each slide. The voting is done by putting the hand up to signify "Yes! That's a nice one, I wouldn't mind seeing that on my calendar for a month." Hands down, on the table, or folded across the lap indicates "no, actually very nice, this one just doesn't do anything for me" vote. At the end of the viewing, a tally is made of the total votes for each slide which is preserved by the meeting secretary and published as a special handout for the interested made available to everyone who asks.

2. Second Jewel
Also in February, but always in a different week and on a different day of the week than the RPCV meeting, a purely slide-selection-oriented meeting is held in Madison in the photo-coordinator's living room (this location is made known and announced in the January RPCV newsletter). Anyone may come, and everyone may vote, including kids and visitors. The tallying of votes is the same as at the RPCV meeting i.e. hands up, hands down and all votes are tallied at the end of the viewing.

3. Third Jewel
The third jewel of the photo-kiltilzing crown is rather smaller, and less brilliant than the other two, but is equally important in the process. This occurs at a specially called meeting (sometime in March) of the Calendar Committee, comprised for the purpose of this specific meeting to verify the voting already accomplished and to rank the slides in the order of their preference by the voters. This is done by adding the two vote counts together and producing a master list of all slides and the total number of votes registered from both meetings for each slide. The preference list is established the slides are selected for the calendar in order of popularity. The slide with the most votes becomes the cover photo. There are only two additional criteria:

1. Each country will be represented only once in the calendar in any one year, except for the case of the cover photo which may be from the same country as on of the monthly photos. This is to say that there are a minimum of thirteen slides chosen from a minimum of 12 different countries. The committee's task is to rank the slides, resolve issues of ties or voting irregularity, and to arrive at a prioritized list of "the winners".

2. Winning slides are judged for technical acceptability i.e. serious smudges, scratches, or other physical problems will remove slides from the list. If at any point a slide is found to be technically unacceptable, the next prioritized slide from the list will replace it.

So, that's how it's done. Yes, you can do all three of the Jewels to increase your influence on the process. It's not perfect, but that's OK. See you there.

Nick Voichick and I are requesting funding for a small development project in Southern Zaire. Kaponda Chumwe lives in the Lubumbashi region of Zaire. He and his family own some land which has been in the family for several generations. Kaponda wants to raise sunflowers, soybeans, lima beans and corn on his land. He needs money for seed, fertilizer and some tools. He and his family would provide the labor necessary to make a go of it. This seed money would allow them to produce agricultural products for which there is demand. The sunflowers are a cash crop from which Kaponda expects to gross about $3000 per ton. There is a processing plant in his region and some other farmers are growing sunflowers successfully already.

Kaponda Chumwe was an exchange student in my family's home when I was a freshman in high school. He went on to get a degree here in the United States and then returned to Zaire and has been there ever since. I saw him again about three years ago when he made a trip to the United States. At that time I told him that our group might be able to help him if he made a detailed proposal to us. I was somewhat hesitant to present this to the group without some more knowledgeable consultation. Nick Voichick and I have reviewed his proposals and sent him letters seeking clarification which we have received. Nick has a feel for Zaire and I know Kaponda Chumwe. Nick and I believe this project provides important seed money for a project which will stimulate the local economy, provide employment and better the lives of some people in a difficult situation. Best of all it appears that this project is likely to become self-sustaining and to generate more income enhancing activity.

I move that $300 be approved for funding this farming project. A Project Application Form has been submitted as documentation of this request.

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Holiday Treats from the Research Department
St. Lucia, Radio Day, and Ben Franklin's Birthday
Our Saint: December 13 is the feastday of St. Lucia. She's the Patron St. of the island (sighted by Columbus and named, 13 Dec 1492 or 1502; a public holiday). But she's also invoked in cases of gastro-intestinal illness. Thus, she is the ideal Patron St. for serving PCVs. (And why did no one tell me this in Training? It's infuriating to think that if I'd only lit some candles while in Nepal, I could have walked upright and sedately for 2 years.) I urge all PC groups to declare her the P.St of serving PCVs, and then we'll notify the Curia. (Iceland did this, with St. Thorlax, Dec 23.)

Radio Day: Jan 13. On this day in 1910 Lee De Forest transmitted the world's first radio broadcast, in New York City; receivers heard the singing of Enrico Caruso. And by (deliberate?) coincidence, on this day in 1922 was the official birth of public radio station WHA, in Madison, WI. "The oldest station in the nation" began in 1917, as station 9MH.

Ben Franklin's Birthday is Jan 17. If only these radio guys could have held off for 4 days, they could have had the Father of Electricity as their (secular) Patron Saint! Jan 17 is also Printers Day (of course); we're gonna do something nice for Straus Printers, who print our Calendar.
In 1961 John F. Kennedy has established United States Peace Corps. Since then many Americans have served across the globe to fulfill three basic goals:

1. To bring a technical expertise to the Country where they served and where help was needed.
2. To share American values to different cultures.
3. To bring the cultural riches back to the United States after the service.

While the experience of each volunteer depended often on internal motivation and the ability to adapt to particular circumstances, the third goal of Peace Corps can be accomplish only if Americans are interested in listening to the stories of volunteers that served overseas. Such an opportunity is revealing itself to the members of our parish as well as to all guest who will be able to come to a presentation of adventures that happen to one of the volunteers that served in Poland.

The presentation will include slide presentation and an open discussion about the country and culture of Poland as seen by Ryszard Zolnik, a returned Peace Corps Volunteer and Julita Zolnik, who experiences United States since February 1995.

If you want to see the presentation and participate in the discussion, please come to St. Joseph Church Library, 1905 West Beltline in Madison on January 6, 1996 at 6.15 PM.

James A. Smith
7507 Mandan Road #301
Greenbelt, MD 20770-2122
(301) 474-5530

November 18, 1995

International Calendar Committee
RPCVs of Wisconsin - Madison
PO Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

Dear Calendar Committee:

Greetings from out east. I want to write to all of you to thank you for sending the calendars. I also want to let you know the strong sentiment for the International Calendar that exists out here. The International Calendar is very well received by organizations who serve other countries and by those who improve the awareness of Americans about other cultures.

This past weekend I had the privilege to sit in on the board meeting of the Friends of Liberia, another RPCV group of which I am a member. Three times the International Calendar was brought up during the course of business. Once, to acknowledge the generous cash gift received for the Communities Nurturing Children project (to be carried out in Liberia this year); a second time to announce the group's intention to include sales of the International Calendar as a part of its own holiday gift sales campaign; and finally, as a source to confirm the date of the Liberian holiday to be celebrated in March.

The International Calendar is a great tool for building the RPCV network and it is very gratifying for me to see the fruit of RPCV groups' mutual support and interdependence. I have witnessed the Friends of Liberia as they recently leveraged a $300 Million foreign aid package to civil war-torn Liberia. A tremendous accomplishment considering aid to this seemingly hopeless cause would be an easy "cut" in the current rash of foreign aid cuts. By mobilizing its 800 members in a letter writing campaign and lobbying efforts with the help of the NPCA, the funding for this worthy cause in Africa has been saved. Local RPCV groups and country of service groups are really starting to become a collective force. The cumulative effect of all our experiences overseas is being applied in very tangible ways and the NPCA is helping as a conduit for inter-group program development.

The strength of the Madison RPCVs, and the success of the International Calendar, is a tremendous inspiration to other RPCV groups. I will continue to promote the distribution of the calendar in any way I can as an active, although absent, member of the group. I encourage you to keep up the excellent work you are doing in the production and distribution of the world’s best holiday gift.

Sincerely,

James A. Smith
Newsletter Subscription Information

All RPCVW, Inc. members receive the newsletter on payment of annual dues shown below. To avoid record-keeping hassles, we would prefer that our members pay through December of the year of joining ($1.25 per month for each month through December), then pay for a full year membership at that time. Reduced rates are available for those in extreme financial circumstances.

You can also join the National Peace Corps Association through us by paying a further $20.00. We strongly encourage all members to join the National Association, which provides us a way to affect national issues.

☐ I want to join RPCVW, Inc. and am enclosing $ ____________.
  ___ Individual - $15.00 for one year (or $1.25 per month to next January)
  ___ Joint - $20.00 (Two people receiving one newsletter)
  ___ Overseas Individual - $24.00
  ___ Overseas Joint - $29.00

☐ I am also enclosing $20.00 for membership in the National Peace Corps Association.
  ($27.50 for joint membership - two people with the same address)

☐ I do not want to join, but would like to receive the newsletter and am enclosing $7.00
  ($15.00 for overseas) to cover the costs.

☐ I'm Moving! Please change my mailing address on your records.

Name: ____________________________  Country of Service: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________  Service Dates: ____________________________

____________________________________  Home Telephone: ______________________

PC Job: ____________________________  Work Telephone: ______________________

Please make checks payable to RPCV's of Wisconsin, Inc. and send to:

RPCV's of Wisconsin, Inc. - Madison Chapter
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

marked Attention Membership!

QUESTIONS? PROBLEMS? Call Susan Mendrysa at 608/259-1125 most evenings and weekends.
Or try 608/263-9596 weekdays and ask for Susan.

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin
Madison Chapter
Gordon Malaise, Editor
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

Rose Ann Scott
2714 Oakridge
Madison, WI 53704

Exp. Date:
1/96