Funding Proposals and Elections on this months meeting agenda. Important meeting for ALL! Thurs. Oct. 1st Union South 7PM

Mensaje del Presidente

Well for those of you unfortunates that missed it, our September meeting was a good one. We had controversy! We could not reach a decision on any of the proposed Giftaway and have put off all of our Giftaway decisions until the October meeting. Giving money away is a difficult responsibility for all of us and one of the most trying tasks.

For those who plan on attending our October meeting, please study all the proposals before the meeting. If you have problems with the proposals try to address the issues before the meeting, if possible. If you have irreconcilable differences with the proposal, then it is your right to bring your opinion to the meetings. Remember that we need to try to discuss relevant issues on the proposals with the whole group if required. So be prepared to be brief and to listen to others. We are starting to reach the phase in our collective life where we have more proposals on the table than money to give away, so we may want to think of ways to reorganize or creatively make funding decisions. However, we will have to discuss the larger organizational issues at a future meeting, because we will just have to get through the basics at this meeting.

Also on the agenda will be to pick a co-sponsor for the Freeze for Food, as we discussed at the August meeting. Please read over the proposals that we have and let us know what your opinion is.

And as we go to press, we still do not have any applicants for the Presidential position. Any last minute submissions will be seriously considered. Call Kevin Jenkins at 608-966-1282.

Pete

HELLO RCPVS OF MADISON. THIS IS MY LAST AND ONLY OFFICIAL ACT AS VICE PRESIDENT. IT WAS A GREAT YEAR GETTING TO KNOW THE GROUP. THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE HAVE SAID THEY WOULD STEP UP AND (BY DEFAULT) TAKE POSITIONS AS OFFICERS: PRESIDENT, BUCK TRAWICKY; VICE PRESIDENT, RICK LACKY; TREASURER, TROY RUTTER. THE POSITION OF SECRETARY IS GOING TO BE POSSIBLY FILLED BY PETER JOYCE, TERRY STARK, KEVIN JENKINS (MYSELF), OR SOME COMBINATION OF US.

IF ANYONE HAS AN ENTHUSIASM FOR THE GROUP AND WANTS TO STEP FORWARD WE WOULD ALL BE HAPPY TO SEE THEM TAKE A POSITION. NEW NOMINATIONS OR IDEAS ARE MORE THAN WELCOME. REMEMBER TO ALWAYS VOTE EARLY AND OFTEN.

YOUR VICE PRESIDENT, KEVIN JENKINS
New officers need to come forward for the next year... You will never know how fun it is, till you try!
AUGUST REPORT:
In July, I received 2 checks (one for $15 for a membership renewal and one for $7 for a World Roots subscription), but I lost the names of these people. So, if you recently sent in some money, please drop me a note so I can properly credit your accounts. Thanks.

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Editors Column

The temperature is reflecting the time of year and the leaves are starting to fall. A beautiful time of year before the inevitable winter lurking around the corner! So enjoy the milder weather and hope the skies are clear for the Harvest moon!

We do have someone who is interested in helping out with the webmaster position. I am going to help him get started and when things are more concrete, I will fill all in with more details.

When submitting items for our newsletter, send, as much as possible, the articles, notices, announcements, etc. via E-mail. I do have Word and Word Perfect.

I also ask that information is sent ASAP to me by October 10. I do realize this is earlier than in the past, but I hope this will enable timely delivery to our members.

Articles etc. should be sent to

theresaj@tds.net

Or mail a disk to:

W 8407 Davis Rd.
Browntown, WI 53522

Thank you very much for your cooperation on putting "Our" newsletter together!

And, THANK YOU ALL who contributed articles for this month's World Roots!!

******************************************************************

Other RPCV organizations have permission to use any articles of interest within this newsletter
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
of Wisconsin/Madison
Minutes of the General Meeting of Sept. 2, 1998

We met at the Monona Terrace convention center. 21 were present. Peter Joyce's sister gave a slide show about her travels through Asia.

Treasurer's Report: see elsewhere.

Calendar Report: the main upcoming event is a Packing Party, on Sept. 18, at Alan Weiner's warehouse. (We hope you didn't miss it.)

The Freeze For Food: Peter will definitely be honcho. We must discuss which local group to ally ourselves with. We'll discuss this at the October meeting.

Nominations for the October Elections: see elsewhere.

Donations Proposals: There were 9 proposals, totalling about $9900. (See the Sept. and Aug. Newsletters.) There was not enough time to properly discuss them, and they were laid over until the October meeting.

Rochelle's proposal, to provide $3000 for equipment expenses for the group documenting the history of the Badger Ammunition Plant grounds, engendered much discussion, and no meeting of minds. (She brought 2 guests to amplify the proposal, and answer questions.) Several of the most interested people agreed to meet at Sophia's house to further discuss this proposal, and to return to the larger question of "Where Should Our Donations Go?"

Next Meeting: Thursday, Oct. 1, 7:00 pm, Union South. We had to vacate the room by 9 pm, and we did so.

—Buck Trawicky

... (cont. from page one)... Peace, Economic Development, (Global) Education, Health, Cross-Cultural Exchange, Environment, and Other. "Other" has included some (rare) acts of Charity and educational support for individuals.

Proposals can be for projects overseas (especially in Peace Corps countries), in the US, or in Wisconsin and Madison. (Some members think all donations should go to overseas projects.)

Donation proposals must be sponsored by a member of our group, who will attend meetings to answer questions about the proposal.

There should be a financial accounting of how moneys were spent, and, later, a report of how successful the project was. Large Donations ($1000 or more) should not directly benefit a member of our group, and should not pay for education or travel. And the standards of financial accountability are higher than for small donations.

None of these are rigid rules (we are not bureaucrats), but guidelines. However, if a proposal is outside of the guidelines, this is a warning that we should consider it with extra vigilance.

And nothing we fund counts as an automatic precedent for the future. We evolve, our understanding of our wants develops, we contain multitudes.

At this Meeting:

Sharon has long argued that we should consider all this more deeply. We need an expression of our collective values, to help us in making judgments. For example: We should fund proposals that will help the poor and disenfranchised.

Specific Suggestions by Individuals: We should consider formally setting aside a certain amount annually (perhaps $1000 or more), for 3-6 specific local charities which we formally pick, donate to annually, and don't change unless we decide on a better destination for this money.

Peace Corps Partnerships are good things. Avoid funding groups with other sources of funding.

All of us present resolved to meet again, several times, to see how much clarity we can find. Everyone interested in this should call Sophia (233-7886) or Sharon (241-2392) to learn when we'll meet again.

ROCHELLE's PROPOSAL

We reached no consensus. The 5 of us fell into 3 camps!

(1) Do not fund this proposal:

(a) The Badger Ammunition Plant was an egregious local example of the Vietnam War effort, and was shameful. It pushes too many buttons. We shouldn't fund anything to do with War.

(b) We shouldn't be funding Research, Documentation, or History Projects.

(2) Fund this proposal, but with a small amount of money (in the hundreds of dollars, not thousands). And the project should be drawing on a wider range of funding sources. The project is worthy, but it's well outside the kind of thing we normally fund, so shouldn't get a lot of money.

(3) Fund this proposal, with a lot of money, but not the full $3000. Give $1500, which is enough to buy the video camera. And, perhaps, plan on getting the camera back, in fairly good condition, after approximately 2 years, so the camera can then be donated to a similar project in Chalpas or elsewhere overseas.

The project is worthy. The Badger area is a precious piece of habitat, helping to protect the Baraboo Hills, and it shouldn't be given away to industrial interests. Moreover, the Army's seizure of the farmers' lands back in the 1940s engendered much bitterness which still hasn't healed. This project will help heal and protect, and is worthy on these grounds alone.

(And as a footnote, the fact that Rochelle is actively involved in this project is an assurance that whatever we donate won't be used unwisely.)
Members present: Rose Ann Scott (RAS), Prudence Barber (PB), Rochelle Goedken (RG).

Distribution: The additional weight associated with this years larger calendar and subsequent additional postage prompted a discussion of the possible need to increase the cost of the calendar next year. Calendar Packing: The majority of the meeting was spent discussing/finalizing details for the packing party which will be calendar history by the time anyone reads these minutes.

Marketing: PB reported that many of the book stores that she has spoken with would like to see a suggested retail price (ending in $0.95 or $0.98) and a bar code on the calendars. We will consider these changes for next year. We also discussed rates for wholesalers and decided that we could sell to this group at a discounted rate: 10-299 calendars for $5.00 each (shipping included). PB received the go ahead to place an ad in the newsletter 3161, which is a newsletter for RPCV group leaders. International Holiday Festival: Last year a group of volunteers sold calendars at this event and we’ve been invited back this year. We need someone to step forward to organize the volunteers for this one day event, which will be held on Sunday, November 15 from 11:00am to 5:00pm at the Madison Civic Center. Please call Rochelle at 243-0298 if you can take charge of this marketing event.

Post Cards and Bookmarks: We discussed the possibility of marketing these at the RPCV National Conference to be held in Minneapolis/St. Paul next summer. We already have a booth to sell calendars and we could send letters to other RPCV groups alerting them to special purchase prices for large quantities of post cards and bookmarks, which they could then sell to raise funds for their group activities. We reviewed the flier submitted by Alan Weiner and thought this might be a good way to let other groups know about this opportunity.

Other: 1) A thank you card from Barbara Chatterjee was passed around and RAS will submit the text of the card to the newsletter for all to read.

2) Data Entry Volunteers are needed to help us keep pace with the orders we receive at this time of year. Please call RAS (241-0845) to let her know when you can help. This would be a great opportunity for you to show your support for the calendar project. Many hands do make light work. The biggest need is October-December. The schedule can be flexible (once/week preferable, once/month is good too). You do not have to be a computer whiz kid to enter the order information into the data base. It’s really pretty easy. RAS will give you a free lesson.

The next calendar meeting will be held on Monday, October 5 at 7:00pm at the home of Prudence Barber, 1050 Jenifer St., Madison (251-0852)

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**Harvest Moon Celebration**

When: Saturday October 3, 1998, 6:00 pm

Where: Mary Grace and Dan Ott’s, W971 Hwy. 92, Brooklyn, WI 455-1426

Bring: Musical Instruments, a dish to pass, and something to drink

Directions: Hwy. 14 out of Madison, Turn right on Hwy. 92, Follow Hwy. 92 three miles out of Brooklyn

We are on the left with a gray house and wrap around porch

This will be the biggest roundest and most beautiful moon of the year. Come prepared to view this marvel. Dress warmly. We’ll have a bonfire, make some music, and tell stories. This is a time of love, harvest, and abundance. A time to stay up late and bathe in the glow of the moon.
If Wisconsin Coordinating Council on Nicaragua were chosen to co-sponsor the Freeze For Food, the money raised would go to support our alternative lending program in Nicaragua, the Nicaraguan Credit Alternatives Fund (NICA Fund) for both equity funds that serve to leverage money on loan in Nicaragua and operating support. In a country where unemployment ranges between 80% to 90%, projects like the NICA Fund provide much needed access to credit for Nicaraguans to expand or begin businesses that benefit not just themselves, but their families, and their communities as well.

Nicaraguans increasingly face challenges to their ability to feed their families. The cost of the "market basket" of basic food items for a family of six is approximately US$140. The average Nicaraguan monthly salary is the equivalent of approximately US$50. Obviously not enough to sufficiently feed a family, let alone provide for other necessities like education for the children, which is no longer free in Nicaragua.

WCCN believes that projects like the NICA Fund are a crucial approach to alleviating poverty in Nicaragua. While not a panacea, alternative credit sources provides Nicaraguans with the opportunity to work in partnership with North Americans instead of being the recipients of charity. While charity has its place, long-term change demands a new model of solidarity.

WCCN currently has a thirteen member board of directors, several student interns, and strong core of volunteers that would serve as a ready pool of labor for the day of the event. In addition, we would recruit people to participate in the planning process as well. WCCN also has a paid staff that would be able to coordinate or participate in many aspects of the pre-event preparations, including publicity. WCCN has successfully collaborated on projects with many other groups and organizations, including Potters for Peace, the Wisconsin Sesquicentennial Folklife Commission, Womonsong, and the Coalition for Labor Rights and Fair Trade.

Judith Siers  
Wisconsin Coordinating Council on Nicaragua (WCCN)  
http://www.execpc.com/~wccn
PO Box 1634
Madison, WI 53701  
(608) 257-7230  FAX (608) 257-7994  
EMAIL wccn@execpc.com

This letter is an application by COLOMBIA SUPPORT NETWORK to be the co-sponsor of the Madison RPCV’s January fund-raiser, “Freeze for Food.” We propose that the proceeds from the FFF be used to feed refugees from the Choco area who are in crowded camps in the Uraba region (where CSN has been working and where Madison’s sister-city, Apartado, is located).

Background . . . More than 10,000 Afro-Colombian subsistence farmers and their families in the Choco region have been bombed, shot at, and terrorized by military and para-military forces. It seems clear that they have been forced to abandon their homes and land to allow wealthy landowners and their allies to control an area of great mineral wealth, as well as to control the path of the proposed "dry canal" between the Caribbean and the Pacific. This greedy takeover has forced families into refugee camps in and around a number of cities and towns in the Uraba region, where they are dependent on the government and NGO’s to provide them with the majority of the food and medicines they need to survive. The government has proven to be ineffective in answering their needs, and the NGO’s are now being stretched beyond their capacity.

CSN currently has a volunteer, Tricia Smith, accompanying the refugees, reporting to the world on their situation, working to ensure their safety, and working to obtain the needed supplies. We expect at least another year to pass before the refugees might be able to return to their homes. Tricia is sponsored in Colombia by Justicia y Paz, which is led by Fr. Javier Giraldo (who has close ties to CSN). Proposal . . .

1) We propose that the funds raised in January be dedicated to buying food in the Uraba region to answer the immediate needs of the refugees. If land becomes available for growing vegetables, a part of the money would be used to purchase tools and seed. The funds would be passed through Justicia y Paz and its staff (including Tricia Smith) in Turbo; and

2) CSN makes the commitment to provide at least five people to work during the January race and walk, and at least one person to participate in the pre-race planning of the event.

John M. Hickman, CSN Treasurer
WISCONSIN INTERFAITH COMMITTEE ON LATIN AMERICA, INC
COLOMBIA SUPPORT NETWORK
PO Box 1605
Madison, WI 53701-1505
608/257-8753; FAX 608/255-6621
Note From Our Member at Large

-Don Sauer-

17/09/96

In mid July I went to Bamyan which is an ancient place high in the mountains of Central Afghanistan. At the time I went there it was controlled by forces opposed to the Taliban and was welcoming UN organisations and others to work to improve the overall living conditions there. The Taliban had put an economic blockade on all the roads leading into this remote region which, while leaky, was definitely a limiting factor in development and reconstruction work. The people there are mostly Hazara who are descended from the remnants of Jenghiz Khan's hordes of the 13th Century. They are mostly Muslims of the Shia observance and, as such, have been supported by Iran which is also Shia against the Taliban who are Sunni and Pashtun. The Pashtuns and the Hazara have enmities which go back to the days of the Great Khan and Shia and Sunni have been at each other's throats since shortly after the death of Muhammad. For most of the last 500 years there has been a rough accommodation between them but from time to time this enmity flares into open warfare with quarter neither offered nor taken. In the recent past Soviet occupation period this tendency toward enmity has been manipulated by various outside forces and by ambitious politicians inside Afghanistan. This has prolonged and exacerbated the agony of the Afghan people as warfare has raged across the countryside.

I had never been to Bamyan in any of my trips to Afghanistan and DHSA has been working there for over four years so it was definitely time for me to see it and to learn about this fascinating part of Afghanistan. I loved it. It has 3000 years of history and legend. There are two giant Buddha's carved into the sandstone cliffs above the small city of Bamyan which serves as the administrative center of the region. There are several smaller Buddha's carved into the cliffs also. There is an ancient city called Shari Ghughala which means City of Whispers sitting in ruins above the present day bazaar. It used to be a magnificent city until it spawned someone who murdered a son or grandson of the Great Khan. When this happened the Great Khan decreed that the city and all the inhabitants of the five valleys surrounding it should be wiped from the face of the earth. The city was destroyed and all the inhabitants of the area were massacred. Now this once proud city sits brooding silently on its high conical hill with its ghostly inhabitants whispering tales of ancient horrors. It is definitely spooky.

The valleys of the region beautifully punctuate the arid steppes between the towering ranges of mountains that run along the flanks of these high plains. The region is sparsely populated with hardy folk who spend the bulk of the short summer season making trip after trip into the mountains to gather scrubby little piles of brush which will be the main source of fuel during the long winter. Summer, which to us privileged outsiders was beautifully cool and pleasant after steamy Peshawar, is mainly a time to gather enough food and fibre to make it through the harsh winter. People live on the edge of survival here.

I spent a week or so becoming oriented and meeting people who were working in the region to improve various infrastructure things like bridges and schools as well as struggling to provide immunization and basic health services to the region's inhabitants. The UN, which has found itself virtually unable to function in other parts of Afghanistan due to a variety of political and security concerns, had decided to make a concerted effort in the Hazarajat and was busy trying to pour lots of money into programs there. A meeting was scheduled to coordinate the activities of the UN and the NGOs, Afghan and international, who were working in the region. This meeting was one of the prime reasons I was there at the time I was.

The UN has a less than stellar reputation among Afghans generally because it is perceived as corrupt, which it sometimes is, and wasteful, which it always is. INGOS seem to wish they were the UN sometimes and the Afghan NGOs often are fighting among themselves in an intense and sometimes vicious competition for foreign assistance money with which to do their projects. In this less than edifying stew the local residents, "beneficiaries" in the parlance, are often overlooked. These entities have, with notable exceptions in all categories, been in the habit of doing development to the population rather than engaging the population in activities which enhance their own skills and abilities while improving the overall situation of the communities served." A small example will suffice to illustrate part of the problem.

In June of this year there was an intense rainfall which affected two of the five valleys which converge at Bamyan. There was significant damage to the irrigation canals which take water from the tops of the valleys and deliver it to villages and fields at the upper elevations near the mouths of the valleys. In one valley the two canals running above the river were cut in twelve places when the massive rainfall caused huge gouts of water to race down the denuded hillsides and overwhelm the canals ability to contain it. The canals ceased to function and the narrow bands of agricultural land below the canals and above the river were covered with stones and debris at the points where the canals were breached.

The UN, eager for an opportunity to show how their new initiative, Common Programming, could work, called a meeting of several UN agencies along with Afghan NGOs and International NGOs to determine what could be done in this "emergency." The plan of action called for two Afghan NGOs to survey the damaged canals and to propose permanent solutions to prevent such an occurrence in the future. My colleagues at DHSA were one of the NGOs assigned this task. Our engineers went to the scene and made measurements and came back and drew up plans and estimated costs. At about this time I arrived and was asked to write the proposal for this big project. I asked to go to the site to see it so I would know what I was writing about. This was about 3 weeks after the big flood.

To my surprise I found that the canals were already functioning again without any intervention on the part of any of the entities except some talk and measurement. In addition, I found that there had been no account taken or plans made to clear the covered agricultural land or to devise channels for future floodwaters to flow to the river. While I am not an engineer it appeared likely to me that if these canals were reinforced as the plans called for the next flood would destroy even more agricultural land because all the water would come rushing down over the protected canals and spread out across the unprotected fields. It seemed to me that only half the job had been accounted for.

We dutifully took our estimates to the UN offices that had asked for them because we did not want to be seen as unable to fulfill a task that we had undertaken. But we did not present a full scale proposal because we had come to believe that the project was ill conceived and should not be implemented without a lot more thought going into the process. We owe up meetings were planned to make more definite and concrete plans which were to lead to distinct funding proposals to be submitted by groups of NGOs pooling their resources and expertise rather than just making a group of unrelated proposals which had no connection to one another and did not have any kind of overall strategy attached. I found myself in a leadership position of the group working on infrastructure and we were to make a survey of the needs regarding roads into and around this isolated area. We were to meet again on August 20. But the war intervened, again.

On August 13 after carrying out a bunch of preliminary surveys in the region with my DHSA colleagues, (continued on next page)
a task that others were also carrying out in other parts of the region, the Taliban made life in Bamin distinctly uncomfortable. For the second time in less than one year I found myself on a plane fleeing from the scene where I had found work which was important and which could be done in a good fashion with the resources at hand assisted by UN expertise and funding. You could say it was depressing and you would be right. The August 20 meeting was off and another year of bad roads getting worse is the fate of the Hazarajat.

I came back to Peshawar and was feeling really bummed out about the whole situation. I had begun to feel like the albatross of Ancient Mariner fame. And then on the evening of August 20 the US attacked the agreed bases of Osama bin Laden in the Sudan and Afghanistan in retaliation for the bombings in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam. Suddenly being an American in Peshawar which has an Afghan refugee population of over 1 million became distinctly uncomfortable. On Friday August 21 there were large anti American demonstrations in Peshawar and 5 Afghans were killed by Pakistani police. Things appeared to be getting out of hand. I quickly made plans to get myself out of town and head for Europe.

I went to Europe instead of coming back to the US. First it is much closer to Pakistan and therefore the return would be less expensive.

But it was a weird time. I was slightly off the rails after being run out of two countries in about 10 days. My mental state was less than ideal.

**

I took the train from Zagreb, a beautiful and cosmopolitan city in what is now Croatia, in a state of gloom and doom. I was headed for Paris to meet a French fellow that had been in Bamin with us before the war found us. Misadventures abounded. I bought the ticket in Zagreb and the final destination was Paris (Lyon) which meant the Gare du Lyon in Paris. However, I got off in the city of Lyon which is about 2 hours away by the fast French train. So I had to buy another ticket. Dumb.

Finally I arrived in Paris which is beautiful but I was in a black mood. In practically any other circumstances I would have loved it and it did do a lot for me because it is a great city for walking. Even in the rain and the clouds it is beautiful. I walked and rested in parks and sat in sidewalk cafes and walked some more and sipped strong tasty coffee from those tiny little cups. It helped but my mood was still black.

Finally on September 13 I got on a flight bound for Pakistan and returned because I had been gone for about 3 weeks and things seemed to have settled down in Pakistan. However when I returned I found that the reports of calm were somewhat exaggerated. It is still unclear whether I will be able to stay here and work effectively or not. As I write this my employers and I are trying to gather information about the situation that will let us make a good decision which makes the most sense for everybody.

Thanks again for all your help with the carpet and the money. I'm back on the rails again although things are still a little dicey. When I know what is happening I will let you know. My Iwai net address is apparently working again so you can reply to that address.

Best wishes to you, Liliana and the boys. And spread good words of cheer around for me and say hello to all the folks at the Harvest Moon shindig.

Be Well
Don Sauer
Dear Madison RPCVs - Friends All,
Thank you for more things than I could begin to list - beginning with your many friendships that kept me anchored in Madison and connected in meaningful ways with the rest of the world. Your warm comaradery at the party was just the most recent wonderful shared moment. Also thank you for making me custodian of the gifts the group received from one of the projects the calendar has supported. It will hang in an honored place to remind me and tell all comers of the caring work of the RPCVs in Wisconsin.

Over the last seven or so years you have also afforded me a unique, invaluable learning experience - really a whole set of them - through the calendar. I have gained skills in working with people, designing products on paper and working with printers - an apprenticeship that was priceless. Now is time for others to rally to and be nurtured in that excellent project of which we are justly proud. All the best to each of you - do keep in touch. I'll be showing and probably selling the calendar down here.

Affectionately, Barbara

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Greetings to friends in Wisconsin! I'm writing in hopes of working with someone in the Madison chapter on a gift- away project. Although it's been a while since I've been living in Madison and active with the RPCV chapter, I do read the newsletter with avid interest every month and enjoy hearing about what you all are up to. I'm currently living in Nashville, TN and working for TIRN, a non-profit coalition of labor, religious and community groups that works around economic justice issues in Tennessee. In our work around trade issues, TIRN has sponsored several "worker exchanges", bringing workers from TN to visit maquiladora regions in Mexico, and then bringing Mexican workers to TN to talk about the impact of NAFTA and other trade agreements on social and economic conditions on both sides of the border. Our goal is to increase cross-border understanding and solidarity. TIRN just returned from a trip this summer to Juarez. As part of the trip, we visited a settlement of indigenous Mexicans, the Tarahumara. The Tarahumara have been displaced from the interior due to their inability to continue their traditional agrarian/herding way of life. Despite their desperate circumstances, the Tarahumara are creative and determined to prosper. They have turned to the manufacture and distribution of high quality traditional crafts (mostly clothing and pottery) as a source of income. There is a kindergarten teacher, able to speak both Tarahumara and Spanish, acting as a community organizer that is mobilizing this effort. They even made a presentation of their work to the Smithsonian.

The Tarahumara have two basic needs to ensure this project is a success. One is the provision of materials and tools to make their crafts. The other is expanded outlets in the United States (or elsewhere) that would be interested in marketing the crafts while returning the majority of profits after expenses to the Tarahumara. They currently are quite successful at the Juarez annual fair, but increasing production and having year-round income is essential for sustainability. I was impressed with the potential this project has to be a gift away success. I would like to help the Tarahumara prepare a proposal for the January, 1999 gift away. Although through TIRN I have good contacts with an organizer with the FAT that is working with the Tarahumara, he does not speak English (and I do not speak Spanish). I was hoping someone from the Wisconsin chapter could help us out and become familiar with the project to help ensure that the proposal is sound and there is an advocate at the gift away meeting able to answer questions and encourage its acceptance. My contact with the FAT, Alejandro, has reliable access to email.

- Is there anyone out there that:
  - would have the interest in a project like this
  - can translate Spanish to English and vice versa
  - has e-mail access and
  - a little bit of time over the fall to help with this project.

I can probably find someone in TN to do this, but I think it would be better to get someone in Madison involved from the start. Please email me at: smoss1@usi.net if you are interested. Also, any suggestions as to additional retail outlets for the Tarahumara's crafts would be welcome.

Thanks!
Sandy Moss 615/874-3559 work, 615/329-1882 home

Sandy was member of RPCVs of Madison/WI for about six years or so. Lived in Madison from Fall, 1992 to Summer of 1994 and was membership secretary for most of that time.
Announcements

For the Friday, November 6 meeting date, Central Reservations could not find room in Union South so they assigned us a room in Engineering Hall, 1415 Engineering Dr., Room 2349. (Just across Randall Ave from Union South. Big aluminum building)

There is metered parking right in front of building.

+October 1st, Thurs. - Monthly Meeting at the Union South 7PM
+October 3rd, 1998 - HARVEST MOON! Brooklyn, WI 6 till ??
+October 2-4th - CENTERFEST in Richland Center, WI 53581
  Call the organizers at: (608) 647 6161
+October 5th, Mon. 7:00pm. - Next Calendar Steering Committee Meeting at the home of Prudence Barber. Call 243-0298
+October 10th - Deadline for articles for Newsletter
+October 15, 1998 - Thursday 8-10 PM at the Cardinal Bar 418 East Wilson, 'Mad City'!
+November 6th - Monthly meeting in Engineering Hall Room 2349

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
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Exp. Date:
3-99