World Roots News

July 2015

Let us know how we are doing in producing this newsletter. Anything you would like to see included that isn't here? Interested in contributing a story? Please contact: worldrootsnews@gmail.com. Thanks!
2016 International Calendar

The 2016 International Calendar "Sharing the World, Sharing the Wealth," was unveiled on June 27, 2015. This year's calendar includes features Namibia, Moldova, Jordan, Peru, Sierra Leone, Ecuador, Thailand, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Poland, Mexico, Turkey, Mozambique, Mongolia, and Kenya. Get yours today!

AFS-USA Exchange Program Opportunities

Last week, dozens of exchange students shared heartfelt goodbyes with their American host families. These students had been hosted in Madison and surrounding areas since August 2014, attending local high schools and sharing their cultures with new friends and family members. AFS-USA has been a trusted leader in intercultural high school student exchange for more than 65 years.

Wisconsin families have always had a strong commitment to AFS exchange students, and so we invite you to join our global community by hosting an AFS Exchange Student for the 2015-2016 school year. Hosting an international student means more than providing a bed and meals. As an AFS Host Family, you'll transform your own family and community while learning about a new culture. You'll also help a young person discover the US right from your home. Any kind of family can host, and you'll have local volunteers to support you throughout your experience. You can host for anywhere from 6-12 weeks to the full school year.

Currently we are seeking host families in Madison & surrounding areas for Zeana from Qatar, Khaled from Saudi Arabia, and Mohammad from the West Bank. These three students have been awarded the prestigious Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study scholarship, a merit-based award for students from countries with significant Muslim populations. You can learn more about these three scholars and others coming to Wisconsin by entering your zip code at the bottom of this webpage.
You can also contact Kelsey Anderson directly at: 646-751-2208 or kanderson@afsusa.org, or visit us on Facebook to get a better sense of what our community is like.


**Summer Kickball**

The Kickstarters is a team of RPCVMadison and St. Mary's nursing staff and friends, playing kickball this summer. Of the 5 games played so far, they've won ... zero. But you've never seen a happier bunch of losers! Come early. Linger late over BYOBrew.

There are two more games, so people should come out and cheer them on...or join in. No experience required, just a desire to have some fun. The game on 7/2/15 (when this photo was taken) only had 8 players, so they were short a catcher and an outfielder.
Anyone interested in playing, or with questions, should contact Rochelle Goedken <rochellyrae@gmail.com>.

**Who:** Kickstarters  
**Where:** Bowman Park field #3 (SE field), 1775 Fish Hatchery Rd.  
**When:** Thursday, July 9, 6:15pm - play Pitches be Crazy  
Thursday, July 16, 8:05pm - play Madtown Misfits (makeup for a rain date)

---

**RPCV-Honduras 75th Reunion**

Kristy Torres (Honduras 1984-'86) will be hosting an RPCV-Honduras #75 reunion at her farm outside Pardeeville.

RPCVs of WI-Madison with family and friends are invited to join them on the evening of July 18-19. If you would like to stay the entire evening (recommended), you may pitch a tent/put up a camper, etc. They are hoping to roast some pork, so bring a side dish/salad/dessert/beverage and lawn chairs, etc. If you spend the night, bring breakfast food to share as well. They anticipate 40-50 people, and there is room for more!

**ALSO,** they will be having a BARN DANCE in the evening, and have hired a cuer/caller. And, of course, a bonfire ... standard.
Some of the group intends to head over to Devil's Lake on Saturday, for some hiking/swimming.

If you'd like to join them, contact Kristy to RSVP and for directions to W6326 W Bush Rd., Pardeeville WI 53954. ProudHondurans@aol.com, 608-697-3786.

And don't forget your cowboy boots!

---

**RPCVs Gathering Stories**

The Peace Car is calling all RPCVs to gather, eat, drink, and be merry this summer!

Kera Halvorson and Brett Heimann from the Peace Corps Chicago office are driving the Peace Corps Car through Madison this summer! Gather to share stories, learn about Volunteer experiences, and celebrate service.

Saturday, July 25th 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Memorial Union Terrace, 800 Langdon St.
Sunday, July 26, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., Starbucks, 661 State St.
Sunday, August 2nd 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Memorial Union Terrace, 800 Langdon St.
Contact Kera Halvorson <khalvorson@peacecorps.gov> or Brett Heimann <bheimann@peacecorps.gov> with questions.

Wear your colors, so we can identify each other!

Sorry, folks, the RPCVs of WI-Madison are not participating in Atwood Fest this year because of the high cost of having a booth. No reason you can't enjoy this Madison summer tradition! Wear your Peace Corps t-shirts and swag and be a walking billboard of the Third Goal!