Calendar of Upcoming Events

November
Wed, Nov 27  Calendar Packing Party, 1447 Spaight Street (basement); 7 pm; 233-9031 for info

December
Tue, Dec 3  General Membership Meeting, Union South, 227 N. Randall, Madison; 7 pm
Wed, Dec 4,11,18  Calendar Packing Party, 1447 Spaight Street (basement); 7 pm; 233-9031 for info
Mon, Dec 9  Calendar Steering Committee, 2714 Oakridge Avenue, Madison; 7 pm; 241-0845 for info -- Everyone is welcome to attend!
Sat, Dec 14  Annual RPCV Holiday Party; (see details below)
Fri, Dec 20  Deadline for the January issue of World Roots: 244-0289 for info

January
Sat, Jan 4  Going Away Party for Don Sauer, Afghanistan-bound, at Deb Stapleton’s, 2406 Sommers Avenue; 7 pm; 244-8609 for info
Sat, Jan 25  16th Annual Freeze for Food, Vilas Park Shelter; 873-5437 for info

March
Sat, Mar 1  Cardinal Bar Benefit; 5-7 pm (Will you volunteer to coordinate this???)

July
July 10-13  National Peace Corps Association Conference, San Diego

Once again there will be a holiday gathering, graciously hosted by Sophie Zermuehlen at 317 Bordner Drive in Madison. It will occur on Saturday, December 14, potluck beginning at 6 p.m. All RPCVs, their families and friends, are welcome to become part of the festive crowd.

You bring: a dish to pass, table settings and a "cheap" gift to exchange
(Note 1: Past gift exchanges have seen some of the whitest elephants known to man.)
Please mark kids' gifts as kid-appropriate.

You get: camaraderie, a chance to see folks you see only rarely (and perhaps the chance to make new friends), and great food.

Directions: Take University Avenue past Hilldale; get in the right-hand lane because you need to take the Old Middleton Road exit. Go down Old Middleton for a bit and take a left on Rosa Road (if you come to Old Sauk Road, you’ve gone too far), and then take an immediate right turn onto Bordner Drive.
Officers and Contacts

Executive Committee, 1996-1997
President
Deb Stapleton, 244-8609 (home)
e-mail: staplda@dhs.state.wi.us
Vice President
Melanie Brooks, 257-8630 (home)
Secretary
Buck Trawicky, 241-2392 (home)
Treasurer
Rose Ann Scott, 241-0845 (home)
Members-at-Large:
Don Sauer, 244-0289 (home)
Rochelle Goedken, 243-0298 (home)
Registered Agent
Gordon Malaise, 255-3261 (home)

Project Contacts
Adventure
Buck Trawicky, 241-2392 (home)
International Calendar Project
Barbara Chatterjee, 271-2405 (home)
Calendar Order Hotline, 608-829-2677

Events
Freeze for Food
Dave & Deb Hamilton, 873-5437 (home)
e-mail: davesdime@aol.com
Family Brunch
Rochelle Goedken, 243-0298 (home)
Cardinal Benefit
(your name here?)

Finance
Rose Ann Scott, 241-0845 (home)

Global Education
(your name here?)

Speakers' Bureau
Erik Jensen, 262-1121 (office)
e-mail: enjensen@students.wisc.edu

Membership
Membership Directory / Mailing Labels
Susan Mendrysa, 255-7053 (home)
e-mail: mendrysa@staff.wisc.edu
Pre-Connect / Re-Connect
Sharon Lewandowski, 241-2392 (home)

Visibility
Newsletter
Earl Bricker, 244-0289 (home)
e-mail: dbricker@facstaff.wisc.edu
Website
Dean Jefferson, 224-4787 (office)
e-mail: wirpcv@execpc.com

Campus Peace Corps Recruiter
Erik Jensen, 262-1121 (office)
e-mail: enjensen@students.wisc.edu

Treasurer's Report

10/15/95 to 10/31/95

Calendar Bal Fwd 13,484.52
Calendar Sales +1,540.75
Interest + 267.41
Newsletter Postage + 108.79
World View Ad - .10
UPS - 694.66
Calendar Balance 14,706.71

Group Bal Fwd 399.14
Dues + 20.00
NPCA Rebates + 60.00
Stamps - 32.00
Newsletter Postage - 108.79
Group Balance 338.35

Global Education 2,096.20
Large Projects 7,414.00
Giftaway 0.00
Annual Projects 2,675.04

Account Balances
Checking 3,545.59
Market @ 4.79% 20,754.09
Calvert @ 4.70% 2,921.62
Total 27,230.30

Calendar Inventory
Purchased 20,350
On Hand 7,624
Ordered 10,223
Sold 500
Consignment 422
Marketing 106
Production 488
Vendors 236
Informants 99
Donations 652
20,350

Last fiscal year's financial statements have been turned over to the accountant and she is working on the taxes. Also please turn the group's money and checks over to me within the first week of receiving them. This is to ensure timely processing of checks and appropriate handling of groups funds.

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

The goals for the RPCVs of Wisconsin-Madison Chapter were introduced and discussed at the November General Membership Meeting. They came about from months of efforts at collecting information, including surveys and a day-long retreat. A group of people met numerous times to hash out and refine the pages and pages of information resulting from these efforts. The goals are:

1) Mobilize RPCVs to join, re-join and become involved to the extent they’re able or comfortable.

2) Maintain a variety of social and recreational activities that are designed to support traditions while reaching out.

3) Re-examine and re-define the organizational culture of the organization.

4) Provide philanthropy, education and community service.

5) Form and nurture relationships with other organizations, local and national, to further common goals.

6) Expand the visibility of the group in the various communities to which we belong.

7) Recognize the contributions of the Peace Corps community to the group and to the community.

As Don Sauer pointed out, we couldn’t have asked for a better group of people to be there at that time. The “old guard” was represented by Meredith Green and Bob and Gina Cowell, folks we don’t see at meetings very often, as well as Dean Mahon, Rose Ann Scott and Walt Zeltner. Pam Crutchfield and Marty Nott spoke eloquently on behalf of people just back or on the group’s periphery. In short, we heard from a representative group of folks, and the comments about the goals as presented were quite enlightening, definitely complementary to the mounds of information we’ve collected in the past few months. Future issues of World Roots will discuss these goals, going into more depth and informing you of how the various focus areas of the RPCV group (e.g., calendar, membership, etc.) will contribute to their realization.

Due to miscommunication (and seemingly mismatched technology), there is no inspirational message from our president, Deb Stapleton, this month. Her column will return in the January issue, stronger than ever from the respite!

Just Back.....

(Editor’s Note: The following comes from ReConnections, the newsletter of the West Cascade Peace Corps Association. I found it amusing, and I would certainly enjoy publishing the thoughts of those Wisconsin RPCVs who are just back. But until then, enjoy...) Rick Reece (Philippines, 1992-96), the new recruiter for the U of Oregon says.... “rather than bore you with specific details of my person, let me share my impression of Eugene, after just three weeks in the U.S.:

• There is more facial hair in Eugene than in all of Asia;
• Being stopped (and ticketed) by a policeman looking like a storm trooper in a cruiser for riding my bicycle through a red light scared the sh*t out of me;
• I often go to the supermarket, and after staring aimlessly for ten minutes, try all the free samples so I don’t have to cook dinner;
• I waste more water every day than many families in the village of Itbayat, Batanes (where I lived and worked) have for their use;
• It is really easy to get sucked right back into the quagmire of consumerism;
• There is more “ethnic” clothing worn in Eugene than in most ethnic places;
• “Rolfing” is one of the silliest words I have ever heard;
• My monthly bills now equal approximately 6 months of Peace Corps allowance;
• I really hate that I can’t walk outside and urinate;
• For the first time in years, people standing in front of me block my view, and so on.

Be alerted -- Rose Ann Scott intends to move the following at the December membership meeting:

Since 171 of our members are also members of the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA), since we received over $1,200 in member dues from the NPCA last year, since they have provided us with over $750 worth of software (a gift through Microsoft), I move that we pay the $1 per member annual renewal for the Group Affiliation with the NPCA.

Meredith Green, RPCV and former group president, and Betty Lynn Carlson invite you to their Holiday Art Sale -- Friday, Nov 22 (5 - 8 pm), Saturday, Nov 23 (10 am - 4 pm) and Sunday, Nov 24 (noon - 4 pm), all at 5543 Shamrock Lane in Fitchburg (Fish Hatchery south from the belite line for 4 miles; turn left on Shamrock Lane across from the Fitchburg City Hall).

There will be pottery, both functional and decorative, watercolors and weavings -- a variety of unique gifts that will be treasured and appreciated for their craftsmanship and beauty.

Since we’re always trying to get new members, we’ll send three copies of our Newsletter to anyone we think will be interested. After that, they have to join (or subscribe) to stay on the mailing list.

One exception to that rule is that contacts in other RPCV organizations can continue to receive our newsletter, as long as they send us a copy of theirs.
General Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 4, 1996
Minutes
Rochelle Goedken, Volunteer Recorder

The Minutes of the October meeting were approved without changes or additions.

Freeze for Food -- Dave Hamilton presented the planning to date. The 16th Annual FFF will be held on Saturday, January 25. Donations will be given to Oxfam America. Many volunteers are needed. The following items were approved:
• Based on Hamilton’s detailed budget, $721 was identified as the necessary “seed money.”
• Each registrant will be given a calendar;
• Each business that helps with the FFF will be given a calendar.

Thrift Shop -- Earl Bricker presented a proposal to become a Non-Profit Partner in the Community Thrift Store (information was included in last month’s newsletter). The consensus decision was to hold off and perhaps join at a later date.

Garage Sale -- Earl Bricker proposed that the group organize a garage / yard sale for the purpose of raising funds for our own operating expenses. The date will be determined soon so people can begin setting aside their donations. Earl stated that while he might not ultimately be the coordinator (there are so many talented people out there), he “will make sure it gets done.”

Members / Potential Members -- Earl Bricker proposed that twice a year the newsletter will include the words “address correction requested” above the label. This way, if the person has moved and not provided us with a new address. There are costs involved: time and money ($6.4 per newsletter returned), but the benefits will be an accurate list of members and subscribers. There are many other needs related to maintaining and increasing membership -- you need to volunteer your time today!

Holiday Party -- Deb Stapleton will contact the usual host to see if she’s willing to continue the tradition. (Note: She is; see page 1 for details.

Calendar Talent Search -- Barbara Chatterjee reminded us that she’s stepping down from the position of Steering Committee Chair in February. Why haven’t YOU volunteered yet for the job??? Call Barbara for more details about all that is entailed (274-2405). (continued on next page)

Looking Back

Treats from Previous Newsletters
by Buck Trawicky

In the Newsletter One Year Ago This Month, December, 1995.....
We approved a Large Grant donation process. We refused to lend our membership list to anyone, even to the local Friends of the UN (the ones who put those cryptic marks on the back of highway signs). We made a donation to help start up a Panamanian Women’s Calendar, and to a Tibetan Children’s Home. We were about to have our Christmas Party at Sophie Zermuehlein’s, and we were getting ready for the Freeze For Food Run. We were planning to hold an International Film evening in February. We began planning for the 35th Anniversary Peace Corps Blowout in the spring.

In the Newsletter Five Years Ago This Month, December, 1991.....
We helped the Olson family, who had hastily fled their work in Zaire in the face of war; we gave some money ($500), and other help. Ken Coffeen started the “Slices of Life” column, to recount our Peace Corps experiences. Barb and Henry Nehls-Lowe had just had a baby, Amanda. We had had a Halloween Party at Laurie Lambert’s, with some very weird costumes; and then a second Halloween Party at the home of Deb Stapleton and Dave Atkinson. (Lena Quinlan loved being a devil.) We had had a New Members Slide Show, and a Thanksgiving Potluck on the Saturday. We were also planning an Asian Slideshow for ourselves. We were planning for our Christmas Party at Sophie Zermuehlein’s, the Freeze For Food, and the the Winter Retreat at Camp Lucerne. We had sold out all 5000 Calendars by November 1. Our Global Education Video with Teacher’s Manual was due out in January. We talked about helping organize a Midwest Regional RPCV Conference. At Don Sauer’s urging, we sent letters of thanks, with Calendars, to the Braves and the Twins, for putting on such a good World Series.

In the Newsletter Ten Years Ago This Month, December, 1986.....
We decided to print our first International Calendar (Jim and Laura Good were to be our editors). We were preparing for the January Freeze For Food Run, with Wade Dalla Grana as honcho. Don Sauer was warmly approved as our representative to replace Dean Mahon on the Board of the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (now the National Peace Corps Association). We were deep in planning our National Conference of RPCVs to be held here in Madison. Our Christmas Party was to be at Meredith Green’s. We were busy with quilting bees, sewing a quilt to raffle off to benefit of the Ashoka Society.

In the Newsletter Fifteen Years Ago This Month, December, 1981.....
We had a Thanksgiving International Potluck (on Sunday) at Eagle Heights, with a talent show and a Cuban salsa band.
Freeze For Food News

Mark your calendars and Make A Commitment to Help with the 16th Annual Freeze For Food 10K Race & 5K Run / Walk on Saturday January 25, 1997 at Vilas Park to benefit Oxfam America. The 5K Run/Walk at starts at 12:00 noon and the 10K Race at 1:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed about 11:00am, but no later than 11:30 -- 12:00 if you can only help with the 10K portion.

Yes, it’s time to gear up for the FREEZE FOR FOOD running race and pleasure walk, one of the longest standing projects of our RPCV group. This event affords us an opportunity to mingle and enjoy ourselves while pulling off an event in support of an agency which looks a lot like a non-government Peace Corps. Oxfam shares our values of development through teaching self-sufficiency and working for change through long-term solutions at the village level.

This year’s FFF Directors are Dave & Deb Hamilton. The task of organizing the Freeze is greatly simplified by knowing in advance who is willing to do what. On the day of the run / walk, we need the following:

- 27 people to direct runners.
- 4 vans to drop off these people and pick them up after runners pass each position.
- 6 people on the finish line to post runner’s finish times.

In addition, we need someone right away to follow up on letters which have been sent to businesses (asking for prize donations) to see if they have something waiting for us or are waiting for us to appear before they decide to donate. This is a task best divided among a dozen or more people so that no one feels overly burdened -- it’s a great way to help out with advance organizing. The Freeze is always fun and fulfilling, and afterwards the Chili Feed will warm your bones with great food and camaraderie.

So please, give us a call (873-5437), write us a note (1160 Washington Rd, Stoughton, WI 53589), or E-mail us (Davesdime@aol.com) to let us know what you’re willing to do. The Freeze is a great way to get involved!

November Meeting Minutes (continued)

Other announcements

- Earl Bricker announced he intends to propose affiliation with the WI Network for Peace and Justice in December. Details about this organization can be found on page 9.
- Dave Hamilton requested a donation of 100 calendars for his clients. The request was sent to the Calendar Steering Committee for evaluation and recommendation.

Presentation -- Deb Stapleton and Earl Bricker presented the recommendations of the ad hoc Post-Retreat Planning Group -- Seven Goals for 1997. (Note: Unfortunately, space doesn’t permit a detailed discussion of the goals here. They are listed on page 3, however, and more importantly, will be discussed one-by-one in future issues of World Roots, beginning next month. Comments offered in response to the presentation will be included in those articles.)

What are other RPCV groups doing?

Northern California (NorCal)

- 150 RPCVs and families started a SF Giants game with a flag ceremony, carrying the flags of 100 Peace Corps countries
- Painted containers for gathering food for the Second Harvest Food Bank’s fall food drive.
- Organizing RPCVs to speak in classrooms on Nov. 20 on World Wise Schools Day, scheduled during Geography Awareness Week.

Connecticut

- Organizing RPCVs to speak in local schools on World Wise Schools Day (note: almost all groups sponsored this activity).
- Held an annual meeting and potluck, featuring the sharing of 5 slides per person, raffles, and great food.

West Cascade (Eugene, Oregon)

- Things are shaping up for their 3rd Annual fundraising event, including dinner, dancing and auctions to support the construction of a school building in Lesotho.

Boston

- Sponsored an art exhibit celebrating PC in a local museum.
- In the 4th year of their “OneWorld” program of monthly programs in an elementary school. Once a month, an RPCV describes life in his or her country of service, from the perspective of young children.
- The group initiated an effort to get RPCV teachers retirement credit for their PCV service. While it was unsuccessful after 2 years of lobbying, they intend to forge on.

Chicago

- The CAPCA Global Awareness Program celebrated another successful year, working in an unprecedented eight schools.

Washington State

- They celebrated the 35th Anniversary by hosting a day-long conference and evening dinner with over 120 in attendance.

San Diego

- Gave away $2,000 in International Support Funds to PCVs.
- Starting to prepare for hosting the NPCA conference.
- Held a rummage sale to raise $ for group activities.

Greater New York

- Held their annual picnic in Central Park (last year Alec Baldwin showed up).
- Volunteer at various soup kitchens.

Gulf Coast Council (Houston/Galveston)

- 2nd Annual Grand & Glorious Garage Sale (it’s a trend)
- Maintains a lending library on PC or international issues.

Good Job!! Good Work!!

The 1996 Loret Miller Ruppe Award, for outstanding RPCV group, went to the Hill Country RPCVs of Austin, Texas, for their efforts in rebuilding El Tesoro, Mexico, following Hurricane Gilbert. The group built houses, restored a school, repaired water lines, and installed permanent soccer goals.

Four other RPCV groups received honorable mention:
(1) Alaska for its cross-cultural exchange with Cameroon; (2) Chicago for sending high school students and teachers on field trips to Peace Corps countries; (3) Philadelphia for its cross-cultural manual for primary school grades; and (4) RPCV Writers for recognizing and promoting RPCV authors.
Editor's Corner

Tune in to WORT (89.9 FM) on Monday, December 23, from 7-8 p.m. I will be taking advantage of WORT's weekly access hour, using the time to "celebrate the joy of show music." This is a one-shot deal, but I have submitted a proposal to the WORT Program Committee to make this type of show a regular occurrence! Madison is clamoring for show tunes, can you hear it?!

Even if you’re not a fan of this musical genre, you can still listen. And then after listening you might consider making a call to WORT (256-2001) to register your pleasure (if not downright bliss) with what you heard (from 7-8 p.m. on Monday, December 23). You can call that night or the next day. (Is this subtle enough?) Calls like that go a long way when you're dealing with community radio.

And you, too, can host an hour-long radio show on WORT by taking advantage of this access hour opportunity. You can do anything you want -- make your own kind of music, sing your own kind of song (Mama Cass, R.I.P.); talk to a guest, talk to yourself. There are some federal rules that need to be followed (obscenity, and so on) but beyond that, you can create your own 15 (+45) minutes of fame. If you're interested, call the station (256-2001) and ask to be sent information about the access hour program. Or if you have e-mail, you can contact the producer, Jan Levine Thal, directly at thal@sswisc.edu.

That's all I have to share this issue. I tried to include some mention of what other RPCV groups are doing around the country. I guess I'm guilty of thinking that we're the 'pre-eminent' RPCV group in the country, but after reading all the other newsletters... well, there are a lot of good things happening out there. We're in good company, let's leave it at that. Lots of good ideas, too, should anyone be looking for something to do. Your comments, as always, are welcome and encouraged.

Earl Bricker

Peace Corps in Retreat

Budget Pinch Chips at Agency's 20-Year Peak
(excerpts from The Washington Post written by Gene Kramer, by way of the RPCVs of New Jersey newsletter)

"With some missions accomplished and its budget flat, the Peace Corps is withdrawing volunteers in the coming 18 months... The U.S. government service organization will decline slightly in size from last year's 20-year peak of 7,200 to 6,500.

"...we would like to stay, since most host countries want the Americans to remain and many needs are unmet... [but] to operate within expected finances, programs would be discontinued in a dozen countries... and reduced in six others... also 1997 closedowns in Uruguay and Hungary... and Thailand cut from 150 to 30... in August, the Peace Corps ended its program of 30 years in Tunisia... in September Sao Tome and Principe and in December, a 28-year presence in Swaziland [will end].

"More shutdowns are planned for the fiscal year ending in September 1998, with Botswana, Fiji, Costa Rica and Chile already selected."

Teachers, Take Note!

The Peace Corps World Wise Schools Program have completed two videos: To Touch the World, the Peace Corps Experience, and Destination: Paraguay. There will be free video programming via satellite beginning October 31, 1996. If you're interested, look up the Web page: http://www.peacecorps.gov. The programs will also include Lithuania, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and Senegal. To get the form, call 202-606-3911.

In addition, the NPCA invites you to join Global TeachNet, a network designed to share resources and support RPCV teachers in their efforts to bring the world back home and impart a more global perspective to the curriculum. To receive the newsletter, contact Susan Neyer at (510) 933-4490 or e-mail at: SusanNeyer@aol.com.

More thanks.... to those folks who have helped with the first round of Calendar Packing Parties: Dorothy Dumontier, Rose Ann Scott, Prudence Barber, Terry Stark, Troy Rutter, Gordon Malaise, Earl Bricker, Rochelle Goedken, Deb Stapleton, Marc Brand, Sheila Przemsicki, Buck Trawicky, and Alan Weiner (Coordinator). These low-stress, high-karma events take place on Wednesdays in the basement of 1447 Spaight, starting at 7 p.m. Call Alan at 233-9031 for information and to verify need.

On a similar note, thanks to those good souls who have helped the editorial transition by contributing articles (Deb Stapleton, Sheila Przemsicki, Buck Trawicky, and the various note-takers for meetings) and who have helped staple, label and "stamp" -- Rochelle Goedken, Sheila Przemsicki (notice how the same names appear again and again?), Gordon Malaise, Peter Quella and Terry Stark. The deadline for the January issue of World Roots is Friday, December 20. Because of the holidays, the mailing party has not yet been determined. Call Earl Bricker at 244-0289 if you can help.
Where Does the $ Go.....?

Our Money Works for So Many.....
by Sheila Przesnicki

Small donations are the most common ones that we give, approved by the group around April of every year, and coming out of the Calendar proceeds.

In April 1996, we approved $400 for the Post Adoptive Resource Project (PARP). The PARP donation request was sponsored by Gordon Malaise, who submitted the following description:

The Post Adoptive Resource Project (PARP) provides peer support, advocacy and respite for families with adopted children with special needs. We would spend the money on two camping trips. One will involve children with serious emotional disturbances and their families. The second trip will involve adults with mental illness or developmental disabilities. A large group camping trip for families will provide support and camaraderie which is unfortunately often lacking for parents and siblings of children with emotional disturbances. Many adults with disabilities do not have the resources, specifically, transportation, money or ability, to simply get away for the weekend. Your financial support will defray the costs entailed. The many volunteers willing to help this endeavor would appreciate your assistance. Thank you!

In October 1996, we received the following letter from Therese Ahlers and Wendy Kilby:

Dear RPCVs;

We would like to thank you for the $400 donation we received to sponsor recreational activities for people with disabilities.

We will spend $200 on 2 family activities. All of these families have one or more children with serious emotional disturbances, SED. On November 23, a group of families will attend the children’s play, “The Amazing Adventures of Snow White in de Forest” at the Waisman Center. On November 26, another group of families will attend the Children’s Theatre production of “A Christmas Carol” at the Civic Center. Both activities will also involve pizza at the Discovery Zone. If needed, Family Ties (an advocacy agency for families with children with special needs) will also provide additional funds.

The other $200 will help finance a camping trip in June for adults with mental illness or developmental disabilities. It is very difficult for some adults with disabilities to get away for the weekend. It is also difficult for families with children with SED to experience “normal” community recreation. Your contribution will help a great deal..... will benefit many folks.

Loret’s Last Words.....

The entire Peace Corps family has lost one of our most beloved leaders and dearest friends, Loret Miller Ruppe. Loret led the Peace Corps brilliantly, enthusiastically and heroically for eight years -- longer than any other director in the agency’s thirty-five years. Loret remained devoted to the agency, to its mission and to the community or returned volunteers. On March 1, 1996, the 35th anniversary of the Peace Corps, Loret made the following statement.

Peace, that beautiful five-letter word we all say we crave and pray for, is up for grabs in the 90’s. A question must be answered above and beyond this special forum: Is peace simply the absence of war? Or is it the absence of the conditions that bring on war, the conditions of hunger, poverty, disease, illiteracy and despair?

When 50 percent of the children die in a village before they are five; when women walk miles for water and then search for wood to cook by; when farmers leave their villages because there are no jobs to flock to cities where there are no jobs; when neighbors ethnically cleanse their neighbors, then let’s face it, America, the world is not at peace.

And here at home, when 50 percent of our children live below the poverty level in many of our cities, when the homeless abound on our streets, when our nation’s capital is bankrupt and our schools require metal detectors, racial tensions abound and immigrant bashing and downsizing terrorizes loyal workers, then, let’s face it, America, we are not at peace.

The Peace Corps family must respond again to ‘Ask not what your country can do for you, rather ask what you can do for your country.’ And today, in our world, it is, as President Kennedy said, the ‘towering task.’ We can do it!

Thanks to Loret’s own generous spirit, love, commitment and leadership, we can do it, and we must.

(The preceding was originally printed in many RPCV newsletters but credit here goes to the NPCA and its Annual Report.)

Bye-Bye, Don Sauer Long-time member and former President of the RPCVs of WI-Madison, Don Sauer, will be leaving us in January to return to Afghanistan and a new leg of his journey. With daughter Jessica in Namibia as a PCV and son Nathan a college freshman in Eau Claire, Don decided the time was right to fulfill his dream. He’ll be sharing his thoughts about this dramatic life change with us in a future newsletter, but before he goes... we need to have a party and properly send him off! Saturday, January 4, at Deb Stapleton’s (2406 Sommers Avenue) at 7 p.m. Call Deb for more information: 244-8609.
International Calendar Steering Committee
MINUTES
2714 Oakridge, Madison WI; Monday, November 11, 1996

Present: Walt Zeltner (WZ); Alan Weiner (AW); Rose Ann Scott (RAS); Dorothy Dumontier (DD); Prudence Barber (PB); Rochelle Goedken (RG).

RG volunteered to take minutes. The Minutes of the 10/14 meeting were approved.

Marketing & distribution status
a) Don Sauer located lumber for sawhorses and dropped it all off in Gordon Malaise’s basement (a.k.a. the distribution center). Once the sawhorses are set up, there will be more table space for packing and a place for the computer.

b) Money has been approved and set aside for a computer purchase. We need a committee to meet separately from the Steering Committee to recommend the best software to buy for our needs (e.g., accounting and marketing) and what computer to buy, as well. RAS will set up the committee which so far includes RAS, AW and Dean Jefferson. We need you to join this committee if you have any knowledge of PCs, software, accounting or marketing, programming, or even if you don’t know much about computers but are interested in learning and helping to keep track of accounts and marketing sales.

c) There’s been one packing party at 1447 Spaight so far, and plans are for them to occur every Wednesday from now until orders slow down.

d) Local Marketing Progress -- PB reported that sales are about the same as last year. There was a discussion about the possibility of having some calendars shrink-wrapped for displays and in-store sales. PB will check with Don Sauer about this because he looked into shrink-wrapping at some point in the last couple of years. The big bookstore chains have stated that the best time to market our calendar to them is in January of the preceding year. Since our calendar isn’t produced until June, we’ve never tapped into this market.

e) An ad will appear in both the upcoming WorldView and the Friends of the United Nations publication (cost = $300).

f) 2,000 calendars were set aside for donations to schools, and so far 645 have been so donated. In the past, Elinor Ogbey has been the contact for calendar donations, but as she didn’t distribute those 645, some questions (Who did?, Where did they go?, and Who approved it?) are yet to be answered. We need you to be part of a group to decide when to donate calendars, how to decide who shall receive them, and when they’ll be distributed. DD suggested that all requests be entered on a form like is done for orders so there will be a written record which is easier to track. She also suggested that donations be deferred until January to see how many are left. Someone needs to contact Elinor. Dave Hamilton’s request made at the November meeting for a donation of 100 calendars to his office staff and clients was tabled until January.

Calendar Financial Status
a) RAS gave a detailed report. Invoices and order records status needs an improved record-keeping system. Hopefully the computer committee will be able to help. The need for procedures continues to be present.

b) The Steering Committee had in the past unanimously decided that only brochures shall be sent to people requesting information about the calendar and that no calendars shall be sent out until money is received. This has not been happening, resulting in accounts receivable which is extremely time-consuming. This needs to stop.

Inventory status -- see Treasurer’s Report on page 2.

Committee Staff Needs
There continues to be a need for someone to step in as Steering Committee Chair when Barbara Chatterjee leaves the job in January. Don’t be shy!

Submitted by Rochelle Goedken, Note-Taker of the Month

Still want some calendars? Sales are proceeding briskly, as always, so it’s wise to get them ASAP. You can order directly by sending your order to:
International Calendar Project, RPCVs of Wisconsin - Madison, P.O. Box 1012, Madison 53701. Costs are as follows:

1-5..... $6.75 each
6-24... $6.25 each (and so on)

Shipping & handling costs are as follows:
1......... add $2.25
2-5..... add $3.50
6-24... add $7.00

If you want information about larger quantities, check out the web site -- http://www.execpc.com/~wirpcv.
Or, call the Calendar Hotline: (608) 829-2677.

As a possible alternative, if you live in the Madison area, you will find that the hard work of the Calendar Steering Committee has resulted in the International Calendar being placed in most local bookstores. It is especially beautiful this year, for some reason, and it reflects well on all of us.

Want to become involved? Have questions or comments on specific issues? Any great ideas for events? Check out the Officers & Contacts List on page 2 and call any of them directly -- this is your organization, and it is what you make it!
The Wisconsin Network for Peace & Justice (WNJP) was founded as a coalition of activist groups and citizens of conscience within Wisconsin. The purpose of WNJP is to facilitate activities, cooperation and communication among Wisconsin organizations and individuals working toward the creation of a world free from violence and injustice.

WNJP has existed since 1991, when 350 people representing more than 60 communities in the state responded to a call from State Rep. Frank Boyle (D-Superior) and crowded into the State Capitol's Assembly Chambers to gather strength from one another in their frustration and concern about the Gulf War. Since that time, WNJP has been quite active, among other things sponsoring an annual conference. This year's conference was entitled *Peacing the Puzzle*, and it focused on the increasing concentration of wealth and its impact on efforts toward justice and peace - personally, organizationally and nationally. Workshops included discussions on Corporate Welfare and Our Taxes, Military Spending and the Arms Race, Economic Conversion, The State of Working Wisconsin, and more. Unfortunately, this conference was only last month -- hopefully next year we'll be able to share information in advance for the sake of any RPCV wishing to attend.

Membership of WNJP has grown to include some 50 organizations and more than 200 individuals, welcoming new members because “it’s the collective voices for peace and justice that will amplify the work of each of us.”

(Editor's Note: At the November 4 meeting, I shared more detailed information about WNJP with others in attendance. At the December 3 meeting, I intend to make a motion that the RPCVs of WI-Madison Chapter become an organizational member of WNJP at an annual fee of $40 per year. It was pointed out that such a move would set a precedent, and members should be informed in case they want to attend and support or oppose this affiliation beyond the Peace Corps boundaries. This is that notice.....)

Bayview Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit corporation that owns and operates Bayview Townhouses and Community Center. Bayview facilities are located on the corner of Regent and West Washington in Madison.

Bayview Foundation’s guiding purpose is to facilitate families as they meet their needs, realize their dreams and make contributions to the community. Together, Bayview Foundation and Bayview residents have created a people proven model of successful, dynamic cooperation that works. The mission of Bayview Foundation is to provide housing, human service, arts appreciation and cultural awareness. Bayview is a place where cultures meet. Sacred earth to local indigenous peoples from the ancient Mound Builders to the Winnebago Nation, the isthmus is soil to many roots. Forty years ago, the site for Bayview Foundation facilities was the Greenbush Neighborhood, an ethnic community of Albanian, Black, Greek, Italian, Jewish and Sicilian families. Today Bayview is called the International Neighborhood; 86% of its households are headed by adults who were born outside the U.S. Their roots are: Cambodian, Nigerian, Vietnamese, Nicaraguan, Mexican, Liberian, Laotian, Hmong, Colombian, and Chinese. Another 10% of current families are African American. Bayview is committed to respecting and sharing this rich, changing tapestry of traditions. Ounla and May Thongsavanh own both Vientiane Palace Lao-Thai restaurants in Madison and are former Bayview residents. Says Ounla, “Bayview is my hometown.”

Bayview sponsors regular enrichment programs for residents, including: preschool, tutoring, youth recreation, home ownership, the arts, small business ownership, English and a second language classes, health and nutrition and adult education. There are many opportunities for volunteers at Bayview. In addition, Bayview Foundation is the founder of the annual Ethnic Fest, a celebration of Madison’s many cultures that takes place in late summer... an ideal spot for the RPCVs of WI-Madison to have a visibility table.

For more information about Bayview Foundation, its programs and how you can help, call 256-7808.

David Wakeley has asked RPCV group members to be part of a Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center project helping families who need assistance obtain gifts for their children. As you do your holiday shopping, please consider buying an extra gift for a child at the Center; there are dozens of gifts under $10 that kids will love. Bring any such gifts to the Holiday Party at Sophie’s house. Call David (244-0405, home; 257-1576, work) for pick-up or if you have questions.
Thanks to the following folks for kindnesses rendered:

- **Deb Stapleton**, for again opening her house to people wearing masks.
- **Don Sauer, Deb Stapleton, Walt Zeltner, Earl Bricker, Barbara Chatterjee, Rochelle Goedken, Rose Ann Scott, Buck Trawicky, & Mike McQuestion** for adding to their meeting schedules by volunteering to serve as an *ad hoc* committee to make some recommendations for group planning based on survey and retreat data. Rumor has it that some of the above are wandering aimlessly since their work is now done...
- **Calendar Steering Committee** for once again making us all look so very good. **Prudence Barber** was recognized at the last meeting for her efforts in making sure all local book stores carry the calendar.
- **Anonymous Donor** has increased the treasury by $105 - thanks!

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**The next General Membership Meeting is:**

**Tuesday, December 3**

**7 p.m.**

**Union South, 227 N. Randall Avenue, Madison**

There will be a program starting at 7 pm. Representatives of the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice have been invited to speak about WNPJ and how the RPCVs of Wisconsin might fit in.

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**Returned Peace Corps Volunteers**

**of Wisconsin - Madison**

Earl Bricker, Editor

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Exp. Date:

1/97