Message from the President

On October 4th I sat in on the NPCA Group Leaders Forum in San Francisco, via teleconference call. I’ve had a couple of people ask me if I thought it was worthwhile to pay attention to and be involved in that group’s activities. I would like to resoundingly say “yes!” and offer some thoughts on the matter.

First, the group has agreed overall that NPCA has sufficient value in the RPCV community that we want to offer 10% of our calendar earnings to them in the form of a grant for group-building activities. I do not know the history of that decision, but I think it is a wise one, and I think it is important that someone pay attention to the progress of the organization if we want to continue this support.

The obvious being said let me add that there is power in numbers. While NPCA is not a lobbying organization in the traditional Washingtonian sense of the word, it does offer an important group presence to debates and issues. I recently posted a message on our listserv pointing people to the testimony that was offered to Congress last year by a variety of Peace Corps, NPCA and RPCV members of the community, in response to Senator Dodd’s Peace Corps Volunteer Empowerment Act (S.732). I posted a significant portion of the testimony on our listserv, but also directed everyone to the NPCA site that has full testimony presented (www.rpcv.org/pages/sitepage.cfm?id=1784). I will add here that the NPCA testimony was far superior to that of Peace Corps admin support for the bill. This is the kind of work that can make a real difference to volunteers – where we were, and where we may return one day.

NPCA is constantly under pressure to respond to the question of what practical service it offers its members. I will extrapolate here from a listserv message posted to the Group Leaders Forum by Peter Hansen (Nigeria, 1966-68). Should it be like an American Legion that offers specific services to its members, or more like an Amnesty International that supports work in locations members came from? Should it be a strong advocate for Peace Corps and work to increase budget and volunteers, or is PC too full of bloat and bureaucracy? Should it be an advocate for peace, or are there enough organizations addressing that issue? Should it focus strictly on the Third Goal, or is that too limiting? Should it be an alumni organization where RPCVs can re-live the good old days?

I suggest that NPCA is carving out its proper niche, as a liaison for us in Washington and as an organization that coordinates resources that groups need to grow and perform that critical Third Goal function. I encourage everyone to pay their annual NPCA dues with their membership dues this year.

And yes! Please pay your dues! (A registration form always appears on the last page of the newsletter.) There will be a re-vote on the Constitution amendment in January, but I will write more on that next month. You can’t vote if you don’t renew. You can get a quick preview by reading the meeting minutes for October. Keep reading!

Happy Fall everyone!

Kate Schachter
### RPCVs of WI – Madison Officers & Contacts

#### Elected Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Kate Schachter</td>
<td>234.1795</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kateschachter@yahoo.com">kateschachter@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Meghan Meeker</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:meghanmeeker@yahoo.com">meghanmeeker@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Ana Zambie</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member</td>
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<td>873.5257</td>
<td><a href="mailto:zeltner@chorus.net">zeltner@chorus.net</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:charkt@charter.net">charkt@charter.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Mary Ann Feutz</td>
<td>(262) 224.3753</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mafeutz@uwalumni.com">mafeutz@uwalumni.com</a></td>
</tr>
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#### Event Chairs

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Brunch</td>
<td>Clare Vogel</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:vogelclare@gmail.com">vogelclare@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeze for Food</td>
<td>Rick Lackey</td>
<td>213.8878</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter Joyce</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tabling Events</td>
<td>Troy Rutter</td>
<td>245.9964</td>
<td><a href="mailto:txrutter@att.net">txrutter@att.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Dinners</td>
<td>Tom Brodd</td>
<td>251.6193</td>
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<tr>
<td>50th Anniversary</td>
<td>Laura Buchs</td>
<td>(203) 918.8650</td>
<td><a href="mailto:buchsll@gmail.com">buchsll@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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#### Other Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calendar Coordinator</td>
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<td>Business Manager</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donation Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Newsletter Editor</td>
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<td>Peace Corps Recruiter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered Agent</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:terry.stark@yahoo.com">terry.stark@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Listserv

- RPCVs of WI – Madison: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rpcv_madison/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rpcv_madison/)

#### Websites

- RPCVs of WI – Madison: [http://www.rpcvmadison.org](http://www.rpcvmadison.org)
- International Calendar: [http://www.rpcvcalendar.org](http://www.rpcvcalendar.org)
- NPCA: [http://www.rpcv.org](http://www.rpcv.org)
- Peace Corps Online: [http://www.peacecorpsonline.org](http://www.peacecorpsonline.org)
- Peace Corps: [http://www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov)

PO Box 1012, Madison, WI 53701

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### Calendars for Sale

One of the benefits of membership in our group is the opportunity to purchase International Calendars for $5 each.

Calendars are available from:

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<th>West</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rose Ann Scott</td>
<td>Troy Rutter</td>
<td>Sophia Zermuehlin</td>
<td>Lee Row</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2714 Oakwood Ave.</td>
<td>3926 Anchor Dr.</td>
<td>317 Bordner Dr.</td>
<td>5217 Pepin Pl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>241.0845</td>
<td>245.9964</td>
<td>233.7886</td>
<td>232.9065</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2008

Attendance
Members: Kenneth Coffeen, Heather Gomez, Meghan Meeker, Helene Pesche, Lee Row, Kate Schachter, Judy Stadler, Char Thompson, Ana Zambie, and Walt Zeltner
Guests: Amy O’Shea and John Sheffy

Call to Order
President Kate Schachter called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM in the Red Gym on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus.

Approval of 10/15/08 Meeting Agenda
The assembled group reviewed the agenda for this meeting. Kate requested that we make a minor change and invite Amy O’Shea to speak first about the archival project.

Archival Project
Amy O’Shea has volunteered to organize our group’s records. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a Masters in Library and Information Studies, with an Archival Studies certificate. Amy will sort through the records and design an appropriate filing system. She will work with our group to develop a budget for the necessary filing supplies and determine which records can safely be disposed of. After Amy completes the archival project, our records will be stored in the Peace Corps Campus Representative’s office.

Approval of 9/14/08 Meeting Minutes
Kate requested that the minutes from the September 14th meeting be revised to include two additional agenda points about the Poster Project and constitutional amendment. Secretary Meghan Meeker read aloud the proposed additions and solicited the group’s feedback. Char Thompson made a motion to approve the revised minutes, which had been modified slightly by the group. Ana seconded the motion, and it was then approved unanimously.

Poster Project
Char answered questions about the “Poster Project,” a collection of educational posters that would feature photos from the International Calendar and be accompanied by a booklet of discussion questions and stories about the photos. Char and other members of the “Poster Committee” (including Stephanie Motz, Rochelle Goedken, and Phyllis Noble) will present a business plan to the whole group at the January meeting. They propose funding the Poster Project by reallocating the $7,400 reserved for—and unclaimed by—the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA). Char requested that this money be held in full until after the group has voted on the Poster Project. Besides earning a profit, Char noted that the Poster Project will support the third goal of Peace Corps’ mission: “Helping promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.” In response to member concerns over reallocating NPCA funds without precedent, Kate suggested that, in the next meeting, we develop a procedure for properly disposing of unclaimed grant money.

New Peace Corps Campus Representative
John Sheffy has recently replaced Greg Pepping as the Peace Corps Campus Representative for UW-Madison. As an RPCV-Togo and PhD student in the Nelson Institute Environment and Resources Program, John works with small business projects and organic agriculture in Mexico, Kenya, and Central Wisconsin. John requested our involvement—as RPCVs—in recruiting events, like the General Information Meetings. Kate invited him to post a request on the group’s listserv. Several RPCVs then asked that he secure university sponsorship for our group. John will explore the possibility of departmental sponsorship through the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences International Program. In addition, Treasurer Ana Zambie expressed the group’s desire that John attend monthly business meetings and report on his activities.

Millennium Promise
Dennis Haraszko, Operations Manager for Central and West Africa with the Millennium Promise will be speaking at two upcoming UW classes: John Sheffy’s agro-ecology seminar on October 23rd and Professor Alice Kang’s development seminar on the following day. Kate and Laura Buchs are arranging a RPCV dinner on October 23rd to discuss the Millennium Project with Dennis.

Announcements
Vice President Lee Row reported that Neil Ross—a RPCV leader with the NPCA and founder of the Friends of the Dominican Republic group—has responded to her note about our group’s grant offer to NPCA. Kate will arrange a dinner meeting, during which members are invited to discuss this further with him.

Financial Report
Ana reported the group’s financial assets as of September 31st: $66,522 in bank accounts, $46,500 in calendar balance (reflecting $17,500 in calendar sales during September), and $2,582 in group funds. After difficulties within several organizations, Ana expects all of the 2008 grant recipients to have cashed their checks shortly. Also, the $76,000 check to Peace Corps Partnerships has cleared. Only the Colombia Support Network continues to delay collection of its funds, which were raised during the Freeze for Food event. In addition to coordinating these financial transactions, Ana is writing a procedural manual to document the Treasurer’s activities. Ken Coffeen reported there are 10,117 calendars in stock and available for sale.

NPCA Group Leaders Forum
Kate reported on her participation by telephone in the NPCA Group Leaders Forum, which was held in San Francisco on October 4th. Our group helped to fund this forum,
and was recognized at the event with a round of applause. There was a report on earlier NPCA events in Atlanta and Seattle, whose value was most demonstrated in the networking and sharing of ideas between RPCV groups. The NPCA also received a matching grant challenge for work on the Virtual Community, but only attained 5% of the total challenge. Kate suggested that our group consider a matching grant challenge to encourage other RPCV groups to support the work of NPCA. During the forum report on MorePeaceCorps, the recommendation was made to invite Congressional members and/or staff to attend RPCV groups’ social events. Our group will explore this possibility, considering our strategic location in the state capital.  

Constitutional Amendment  
The proposed constitutional amendment failed to pass in the balloting that ended on September 14th. Heather Hempel Gomez, Membership Coordinator, stated that there were 148 RPCV members in good standing. She hopes to resolve ambiguities in the membership database, which complicated her tallying of RPCV members with voting rights versus the associate (non-RPCVs) members who cannot vote. Judy Stadler reported that 81 of those RPCV members returned ballots prior to the deadline, which corresponds to only 54% of all voting members. Kate proposed that we schedule a second vote, noting that the Constitution gives unpaid members a 4-month grace period (from their date of renewal) during which they remain in “good standing” and can exercise the right to vote. Judy motioned to mail out new ballots in January with a yet-to-be-determined response deadline. Kate suggested changing the ballot’s format to reduce confusion and increase the likelihood of the amendment’s passage by considering each proposal separately. Furthermore, Heather suggested voting electronically via the listserv, website, or an online application like Survey Monkey. Char seconded this motion, and the group approved it unanimously. Kate and Judy will prepare a plan to coordinate the second round of voting, and present it at the next meeting.  

Membership Renewal  
After some discussion, the group clarified the procedure for assigning membership dues to new members who have recently returned from Peace Corps service. These new members receive 12-months of membership without charge. Following that 12-month period, the new member will be charged a pro-rated amount based on the number of months remaining until the end of the fiscal year.  

There was a discussion as to when new RPCVs’ free year of membership begins and ends. Our group has not created a formal policy governing this question, instead leaving it up to the Membership Coordinator. We agreed that new RPCVs should get 12 months free. If the free year passes into next fiscal year, they will pay a prorated fee to finish out that fiscal year. Heather prefers to use our current membership renewal form, and she will call people if their situation is unclear.  

Strategic Planning Progress  
Kate distributed copies of the RPCV-Madison Strategic Goals and Related Actions. Judy suggested that, due to insufficient time, we review them during the next meeting.  

Volunteer Needs  
Kate tabled this point due to the lack of time.  

Holiday Parties  
Based on dates suggested by Sophie Zermuehlen, the group proposed holding the holiday party on December 6th, in order to coordinate with the Fair Trade Holiday Festival occurring that same day at the Monona Terrace. Also, the Milwaukee Peace Corps Association invites us to attend its Winter Potluck on December 13th from 6-10 PM at Gordon Park Lodge, 2828 N. Humboldt Avenue, Milwaukee.  

MorePeaceCorps Campaign  
Kate reported that Rajeev Goyal, the More Peace Corps coordinator, has requested funding from our group. Walt Zeltner suggested that this request be included in the NPCA grant proposal for fiscal year 2008-09. Kate will share this with Rajeev, stressing that the proposed grant project should focus on group-building.  

Dan Rosenthal’s Membership  
Walt motioned to give Dan Rosenthal, RPCV-Dominican Republic, a free year of membership in consideration of his illness. Char seconded the motion, and the group approved it unanimously.  

Third Goal Opportunities  
Our group has received multiple invitations to share our RPCV experiences. This includes writing stories for the Colony Magazine/Globono Portal and speaking to the classes of Mary Ann Feutz (middle school, Madison), Kelly Blair (high school, Appleton), and Monica LaBonte (University Lake School, Hartland). These speaking opportunities and others are announced through the group’s listserv.  

Adjournment  
Following a full agenda, Kate adjourned the meeting at 9:09 PM.
Calendar News

Calendar Committee Minutes for September

Website: The website is up and running, but not yet finalized. There was discussion on how to draw attention to order information so that people who have a local group can order the calendar through that group. We are more interested in selling large numbers of calendars to groups than to individual customers. We also discussed how to display the lists of projects which the calendar money has helped.

Sales and production: To date around 25,000 calendars have been sold and we have around 10,900 left in stock.

Marketing: We are looking for people to market the calendar to the Madison market. It was recommended that Phyllis and Teresa be contacted to see if they would be interested. If neither is able to do this, a message should be sent to the list serve to see if other members would be interested.

Extra photos: The theme for the 2010 calendar has yet to be decided, so of the current extra photos in stock, none have yet been chosen.

Day block: It was agreed that the members of the committee think of ideas for themes for the 2010 calendar. If a member comes up with a theme, they need to do the basic research on where the information will come from for the day blocks.

Tasks: Each member of the group needs to write up a list of tasks they do for calendar production.

Job descriptions: Each member of the committee needs to write up a job description. The descriptions will be put together to give new committee members information on how the calendar is created.

Other: It was decided that the group should not renew our bulk postage stamp and use the one of the printer that does our order form/postcard if the cost is not greater than the current mailing expense.

COMMITTEE HOMEWORK

Due by October meeting:
Theme for day blocks
Your task list
Your job description


Announcements

From the Archives

Rose Ann Scott unearthed a copy of World Roots from 2002 when we made changes to our donation structure. Here's the Calendar column from April 2002:

Donation Daze!

It's official. The bulk of money raised from International Calendar sales will be donated to the Peace Corps Partnership Program. We will continue to support the NPCA with 10 percent of donation money (later maxed at $10,000) and we'll also set aside $10,000 (later changed to $15,000) for projects sponsored by RPCVs of WI-Madison members. A vote taken at the March 1st general meeting was overwhelmingly in favor of this arrangement.

This year the Calendar Committee voted to make $60,000 available for donations. That will bring our lifetime total to somewhere around $300,000. What that means for this is that $6,000 will go to the National Council, $10,000 is available for member-sponsored projects, and $44,000 will be available for Peace Corps Partnership projects.

The PCP was chosen as a beneficiary for a number of reasons. Among them:

• Peace Corps, Volunteers & RPCVs are some of our biggest customers.
• PCP requires that PCVs work with their communities to define needs and make plans to address them.
• Peace Corps administers the program and requires the projects to develop detailed budgets and project reports.
• PCP ensures that we place funds where they are truly needed and are responsibly spent.

The program will allow us to donate to specific projects we select, to donate to an area of need like HIV/AIDS education and prevention or technology, or to send funds to where they're most urgently needed. You can read more about Peace Corps Partnerships at www.PeaceCorps.gov/contribute/index.cfm#. Read about projects that need funding at www.peacecorps.gov/contribute/projects/index.cfm to see if there's something you'd like to support. We also expect to circulate project descriptions at general meetings.

Departed Members

We have some sad news this month. We have lost two of our members.

Dan Rosenthal
Daniel M. Rosenthal, 59, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2008 in Madison.

Dan was born on May 31, 1949 in New York City.

He graduated from the University of Minnesota-Duluth with a degree in Environmental Engineering. He used that degree while working for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, where he was a vigorous enforcer of clean air standards. Dan was devoted to his sons, and to the cause of worker justice. He used his skills as a volunteer translator at the Worker Rights Center; and spent two years in the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic building water systems. Earlier this year, he volunteered with Jewish World Ser-
vice in Oaxaca developing water capture systems. Dan enjoyed camping, the outdoors, biking, and traveling with his sons and his fiancée. Latin America was an especially meaningful destination.

Dan is survived by his two sons, Joe and Alex Rosenthal; sister, Susan Rosenthal; brother-in-law, Howie Perlin; nephew, David Perlin; fiancée, Kim Scott; and friend Mary Foster Rosenthal.

Memorial Service: 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30, 2008 a with a visitation beginning at 3 p.m. until the time of service in Cress Funeral Home, 3610 Speedway Road, Madison. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to the Worker Rights Center in Madison.

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**Matt Zillig**

Matthew “Matt” C. Zillig, 58

The world has lost a most wonderful and remarkable man. Matt’s journey on this earth ended at his home on Sept. 17, 2008, surrounded by love.

Mat was born in Milwaukee on Oct. 9, 1949, the eagerly awaited first-born of Gloria and the late Quentin Zillig.

He grew up in Greenfield, attending Alverno Elementary School, Don Bosco High School, and Georgetown University, from which he graduated in 1971 with a B.A. in history.

During the following two years, he had several seasonal jobs and traveled around Europe.

January of 1973 found him in a remote area of Zambia teaching geography and mathematics at a girls’ secondary boarding school of 660 pupils.

After nearly three years he returned to Milwaukee where in the spring of 1976, he met Marisue Sanhuber, a former Peace Corps volunteer and kindred spirit who became his life-long love. They were married on Oct. 16 of that same year.

Matt then continued his studies at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, earning his master’s of science in curriculum and instruction in 1977, followed by a master’s of arts in political science in 1978 from the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

He was then awarded a fellowship to remain at Madison as a Ph.D. candidate. However, a phone call from Zambia in the fall of 1979 changed everything.

The school where Matt had taught was very short of qualified teachers. Could Matt return? It seemed time for another adventure, so Matt and Marisue sold their home in Milwaukee and in early 1980, headed for Zambia where they both taught until the spring of 1972.

After returning to Milwaukee, Matt pursued certification in mathematics at UWM and became involved with computers for which he showed much affinity.

He worked for a while at what was then Computerland and before long, embarked on a career as a computer instructor, consultant and program developer serving Industry and academia in southeastern Wisconsin.

He taught at various University of Wisconsin campuses and provided training at numerous private businesses.

Matt and Marisue move to West Bend in 1974, settling into their present home in 1985.

Matt continued teaching and became involved in many community programs and activities such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Moraine Chorus, Musical Masquers (Who can forget Matt as the Pirate King in “The Pirates of Penzance” and the King of Siam in “The King and I”?) and the UW Alumni Club of Washington County, in which he served as chairperson of the scholarship committee for many years. He was honored as the club’s 2007 Badger of the Year.

Matt also served for several years on the advisory board of the Museum of Wisconsin Art and had recently joined the University Council at the University of Wisconsin-Washington County.

He was instrumental in forming the Sharp-Zillig Foundation, which gives support to local and international nonprofit groups and served as its executive director since its incorporation in 2004.

Matt’s interests were many. In addition to music and the theater, he was a voracious reader and an enthusiastic (and pretty good) golfer. He joined the YMCA each winter to keep in shape for the golf season.

He loved the outdoors and travel was always a great passion. Over the years, he and Marisue camped and hiked their way throughout the U.S. and had innumerable adventures in many countries all over the world.

Matt is survived by his loving and devoted wife, Marisue; his wonderful mother, Gloria; his beloved sister, Jane, and her husband, Paul Ingalls; special sister, Annie; other relatives and countless friends, many of whom helped make it possible for Matt to remain at home during his illness.

The family will be forever grateful for all the loving support they received, including from the Aurora Visiting Nurse Association.

A gathering to celebrate Matt’s life will be held from 5 until 8:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 4, at the Museum of Wisconsin Art, 300 S. Sixth Ave. in West Bend.

Memorials to the Museum of Wisconsin Art, the UW Alumni Club of Washington County or the Sharp-Zillig Foundation would be greatly appreciated.

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**Thank Yous**

From a customer...

“Just to let you know - I began buying your calendars years ago. Now my daughter is a PCV in South Africa! Who knows what influence you’ve had! Thanks for the wonderful calendars,

Kathy Mallahin"
Not a “Thank you,” but perhaps of interest to our members is this announcement we received from one of our grantees:

**When you think of Holiday Shopping think of African Youth Outreach!!!!**

The holidays are here and everyone is looking for that special gift for that special someone. We can help you out!! AYO has a wide variety of wonderful Fair Trade gifts from Kenya, Ghana, Swaziland, and South Africa for your gift giving pleasure. Don’t forget our wonderful photos taken in South Africa that can be made into cards, or prints of any size. A donation in a friend’s honor is a great gift to the person who has everything, and is tax-deductible.

If you are in need of shampoo, lotions, etc and would like to find a way to help AYO at the same time, we can help you! Go to [www.africanyouthoutreach.myarbonne.com](http://www.africanyouthoutreach.myarbonne.com) and check out the pure, safe, and beneficial products of Arbonne. Great things for you, your family, and friends at prices that you can afford. You can get 35%-50% off retail prices and still raise money for AYO. It is a win-win!!

There are many ways you can get your hands on these wonderful gifts. We are out and about at many functions this season so you can stop by and see us.

The AYO African Photo Show will be at Glass Nickel December and January. Make sure to stop in for pizza and check it out.

For more information, go to their website: [www.africanyouthoutreach.org](http://www.africanyouthoutreach.org)

**NPCA News**

*From the Fall issue of World View, by then Senator Barack Obama:*

Congratulations to Peace Corps Volunteers of the 20th century. Congratulations, too, to the National Peace Corps Association and to current Volunteers and staff in this first decade of our new century. You are setting the pace and pointing the way to a 21st century Peace Corps that will be bigger, better, and bolder.

In this presidential campaign, I’ve set forth a comprehensive plan for a large expansion of voluntary citizen service, at home and abroad. An integral part of that plan is the growth of the Peace Corps in quality and quantity -- a quantum leap. We recall that President Kennedy hoped the Peace Corps would grow to 100,000 volunteers, but the program peaked at 16,000 in 1966. Today there are about 8,000. If Kennedy’s vision had been fulfilled, there would have been more than two million returned Volunteers with first-hand experience in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe, with a commitment to help America play a more constructive role in the world.

To restore America’s standing, I will call on our greatest resource - our people. We will double the size of the Peace Corps by its 50th anniversary in 2011. And, we’ll reach out to other nations to engage their young people in similar programs, so that we work side by side to take on the common challenges that confront all humanity. The Peace Corps has been a key part of meeting those challenges such as overcoming poverty, combating diseases like HIV/AIDS and malaria, and reducing the global education deficit. This will not be a call issued in one speech or one program. This will be an important and enduring commitment of my presidency.

To resume the Peace Corps’ growth, we will push Congress to fully fund the expansion to 16,000 by 2011. I will work with former Peace Corps Volunteer Senator
Chris Dodd and the other returned Peace Corps Volunteers in Congress, Republicans and Democrats, and with the National Association of Returned Volunteers to bring this about.

One of the Peace Corps' founders, Harris Wofford told me how the petition to Senator John Kennedy by nearly 1,000 University of Michigan students who pledged their support of his proposed volunteer corps was the trigger that caused him to give his major address proposing a Peace Corps at the Cow Palace in San Francisco. Generations of Peace Corps Volunteers, as active-duty citizens, have turned Kennedy's call to service into reality.

Almost half a century later, I am not just asking for your vote as a candidate. If I am elected President, I will ask for your continued service and your active citizenship in the years to come. With the Peace Corps' present emphasis on recruiting Volunteers age Fifty Plus, an expanded Corps will open new opportunities for service to young and old, and help move America closer to the day when voluntary service, at home or abroad, in some form, at some stage of life, becomes the common expectation and experience of all Americans.

To sign the following petition to President-elect Obama, please go to www.rpcv.org.

To: President-elect Obama
We congratulate you on your election victory.

We are inspired by your call to U.S. citizens to serve the nation, and are especially excited by your often repeated pledge to double the Peace Corps by the 50th anniversary in 2011.

We sign this petition to express our strong support for a bigger, better and bolder Peace Corps. The Peace Corps can and should be at the foundation of your administration's renewed commitment to reach out to other nations in the very best traditions of the American people - cooperation, friendship, cross-cultural understanding and positive engagement designed to improve the human condition for millions of individuals around the world.

We look forward to working with you in achieving your goals for the Peace Corps.
Sincerely,
The Undersigned

Click Here to Sign Petition

2009 Inauguration Weekend - RPCV Events
The National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) and Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Washington, D.C. (RPCVw) submitted a joint application to the Presidential Inauguration Committee to represent The Peace Corps Community in the Inaugural Parade. A decision will not be made until December so we encourage you to watch for an announcement from NPCA and RPCVw to learn if our group has been chosen. If our group is chosen to participate, about 300 marchers will be selected by a lottery system for which you can submit your name from December 10-20, 2008. Only members of NPCA may submit their name in the lottery. Security protocol will be followed.

Regardless of whether or not we are chosen to march in the Parade, RPCVw plans to assign special "viewing areas" for RPCVs who want to watch the Parade together. The RPCVw website will publish these details in January.

Other fun events are being planned for RPCVs during Inauguration Weekend!! These include (more details to come):
• Volunteer Service Event
• Community Happy Hour
• Connect information for RPCVs

Check the NPCA website at www.npca.org to see if there will be a Peace Corps contingent in the inaugural parade and how you may be able to participate.

President Clinton's inauguration, 1993
January 20, 2009 is also the launch date for PEACE CORPS CONNECT, a platform developed by NPCA to help us connect with RPCVs and even host country families. More news on this soon!
Book Club
The Book Club meets on the 4th Sunday of the month at 2 PM. Contact Mary Ann (mafeutz@uwalumni.com) if you would like to be included in the Book Club e-mails. Feel free to join any or all of the book discussions!

November
A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier, Ishmael Beah

December
La Doctora, Linnea Smith

January
*Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China, Jung Chang

February
*The God of Small Things, Arundhati Roy

March
Malaria Dreams: An African Adventure, Stuart Stevens

* denotes books that are part of the Madison Public Library's Book Club collection. There will be multiple copies of these books at the previous month's meetings for people to borrow.

Resources

Millennium Promise [www.millenniumpromise.org]
A recent visitor brought the Millennium Promise Project to our attention. Explore the extensive website to reveal a wealth of development information. Pay special attention to the Millennium development goals.

Nabur [www.nabur.com]
A global neighbors network that connects people by computers. Connected through Nabuur.com, Neighbours and local communities learn about each other, share ideas and find solutions to local issues.

Clark University International Development Graduate Program [www.clarku.edu/departments/idce/academicsGradCDP.cfm]
Students in the Community Development and Planning Program learn alternative ways of thinking and transforming communities to achieve greater equity and social justice.

The Shriver Center [www.shrivercenter.org/peaceworker]
The Shriver Peaceworker Fellows Program was founded by Sargent Shriver's family to continue his remarkable legacy of service leadership—and deeply institutionalize the 3rd Goal! Each year 8-10 RPCVs are selected for the graduate service-learning program and supported with full graduate assistantship packages for two years (package includes: tuition, stipend, health benefits valued at over $25,000/yr).
All RPCV of Wisconsin - Madison members receive a monthly Newsletter, World Roots, on payment of annual dues shown below. To avoid record-keeping hassles, we prefer members pay for a full year membership in September. Members who join between September and December should pay $15; members who join between January and April should pay $10; members who join between May and August should pay $5. Reduced rates are available for those in extreme financial circumstances. You can also join the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) through us by paying an additional $35. We encourage you to join the NPCA, which provides us a way to affect national issues. **New RPCVs receive a complimentary year's membership.**

Please note that overseas rates do not include NPCA membership. See above for calculations.

___ Individual - $15/$10/$5  ___ Overseas Individual - $24/$16/$8
___ Joint - $20/$14/$7 (Two people receiving one newsletter)  ___ Overseas Joint - $29/$20/$10
___ I am also enclosing $35 for each NPCA membership
___ I do not want to join, but would like to receive World Roots and am enclosing $7 ($15 for overseas) to cover costs.
___ I'm Moving! Please change my mailing address.

$____________ TOTAL ENCLOSED

I would like to receive my Newsletter     ___ on paper, by mail     ___ electronically, by e-mail

Name: ________________________________ Date: ______________________
Address: ______________________________
Phone #s (H) ____________________ (W) ________________ E-mail: ______________________
Country of Service: __________________________ Service Dates: ______________________
PC Job: ____________________________ Birth date: (Optional - M/D/Y) ______________

Send completed form & check to: RPCV's of Wisconsin - Madison, P.O.Box 1012, Madison, WI 53701