FROM THE PRESIDENT

A leader is best
When people barely know that he exists,
Not so good when people obey and acclaim him,
Worst when they despise him.
'Fail to honor people,
They fail to honor you,'
But of a good leader, who talks little,
When his work is done, his aim fulfilled,
They will all say, 'We did this ourselves.'

The Way of Life according to
Lao Tzu

With this timeless wisdom in mind I assume my post as President for the coming year. It is quite an honor to be entrusted with this responsibility by such a quality group of people as ourselves. Thank you for your support. I will do my best to help carry on the good work and good fun that has made RPCV-Madison the worthwhile organization that it is today.

I look forward to a good year. The new administration has hit the ground running with a 4 hour Board of Directors meeting in which we brainstormed goals, and ways of achieving them, for the coming year. Guided by the wisdom of senior members Buck, Walt, Kevin, Ken and Rose Ann and energized by new ideas and insights from our newest officers, Nancy and myself, we focused in on a few areas where we would like to see ourselves do even better than we have in the past.

These areas include recruiting and retaining new members, spicing up the Newsletter and the meetings and beefing up the calendar of events. We want new members to feel involved from the start. Think of the friendships you've made in the group and the pride you feel in our accomplishments and share this enthusiasm with the new members who represent the future vitality of the group. Similarly, the Newsletter is limited only by our own creativity (and the US Postal Service's weight limits). Features from the past such as Thorn Tree (a Kenyan bulletin board) and Loose Lips (if no one gets offended) should be resurrected, but will be only if people submit things. Don't be shy--news about your life, creative writing, clippings, cartoons all are welcome.

Meetings, the Board agreed, should be both business and pleasure. We have things to get done, for sure, but there is time enough in 1½ to 2 hours for laughter. Finally, the Board agreed that the calendar of events should include at least one party or other event, other than the meeting, per month. Ideas include, in addition to our usual mega-events, slide shows, regional theme parties, movie nights and, for sure, a Cardinal Bar Benefit. So, let's do it! I know we will.

Love, [Name]
EDITOR'S CORNER:

1. NEWSLETTER - To start, I apologize for not having this month’s calendar of events in this newsletter. It was a victim of our annual changing of the guard. Look for it again next month. As far as I know, the only major event scheduled in the next month is the November meeting/potluck (details can be found herein elsewhere). The various committee meetings are usually not scheduled far enough in advance to be included in the calendar. Sunday brunches at the Memorial Union Cafeteria (10 AM on) seem to be occurring again. You should also make a note that our annual Christmas Party at Sophie Zermuehlen’s has been scheduled for Saturday, December 15.

The back page Newsletter Subscription Info has also been revised to incorporate higher fees for the National Council (see below). ALSO, some of our members would like us to keep track of the Peace Corps job assignment each of us had as well as our present work area. I’ve included space on the form for this info if you are willing to provide it. We’ll also try passing around yellow sheets at meetings.

2. NATIONAL COUNCIL - They have changed some policies. The two changes which most affect us are in the areas of dues and local group affiliation. Dues have been raised to $20 for individual memberships for a year ($27.50 for a joint membership for two people with the same mailing address). More controversial is a requirement that local groups pay a fee to affiliate with the NC, said fee to be $1 for each member of the local group (it would be $125 to $140 for us). The NC justifies this affiliation fee as being necessary to help cover the costs of the services which they provide for local groups. (Actually that last sentence is hearsay, based on Ken Coffeen’s interpretation of some statements made at the last annual meeting in Eugene, OR. NC claims to have sent us a letter in August which supposedly explains all of this, but no one here has ever seen it. A copy of this letter is being sent out now, but it hasn’t gotten here yet. You’ll get the details once the letter reaches us.)

Although we don’t know the details, we do know that the affiliation fee exists. Now the question is whether or not we want to pay it, or, stated another way, do we want to remain affiliated with the NC? This question will have to be answered by our membership at a future meeting. It may be discussed briefly at the Potluck, but the question is serious enough to require a fairly lengthy block of time for discussion. Thus, it will be deferred until the December meeting, when we should have much better information.

If I had to vote on this question right now, I would probably vote NOT to affiliate. I have two reasons for this feeling. First, I’m definitely not satisfied with the quality of services which our group gets from the NC, as those of you who read this column are already aware. Second, I think this new requirement shows a growing arrogance of the governing board of the NC. I’ll try to expand on this paragraph in the next newsletter, but I’ll end this comment by making the statement that I don’t expect anyone from our group to ever serve on the NC board again, even though several of our members have served on the board in the past and we had a board member up to January of this year.

3. The following comes from p. 6 of the July/Aug 1990 issue of "Swarra", a magazine published for members of the East African Wild Life Society. "Thanks to the ban on the ivory trade the price of ivory has collapsed from about $900 a kilo a year ago to around $5 today, and with it has tumbled the rate of elephant poaching."

4. The deadline for submission of material for the next newsletter is Thursday, Nov. 15.
Next month's meeting will be a Potluck dinner hosted by Barbara & Henry Nehls-Lowe. Plan to arrive between 6 and 6:30, as we'd like to start serving dinner about 6:30 PM. Dinner will be followed by a short business meeting and entertainment (Henry's Kenya slides and some African rhythms). They live in the country south of Madison (about 10 minutes drive south of the Fish Hatchery Rd. - Beltline interchange), so you might want to allow a little extra time for getting lost. See the map below for directions.

Future meetings are scheduled for:

Monday, Dec. 3
Tuesday, Jan. 8
Wednesday, Feb. 6

Directions to my house are: From the Beltline, take Fish Hatchery road south to the first stop sign at County Trunk M. Turn left. Travel ½ mile to Barry Lane. Turn left on Barry Lane. Travel ½ mile till Barry Lane ends. Turn right on Stable View. Then turn left on Paddock. Then turn left on Briarwood. Follow Briarwood until it ends. We are the last house on Briarwood. The white house on the right.

Other RPCV organizations have our permission to use any material of interest in this newsletter.
28 were there, and all commented on topless bathing in our countries of choice. And we seem to have discussed the topic of girdles for men.

Jeff Golden spoke about the Candlelight Vigil for the World Summit for (and of) Children. Sunday 23 Sept, all over the world. For us, 5 pm on the Capitol steps (State St. side). It’ll be short, only 20 minutes or so. Jeff gave out posters for us to post, and asked us to enlist the support of other groups we’re in. He announced a Cardinal Bar benefit (it’s over). And he may ask us to donate some money to the project. We should definitely all read the Children’s Bill of Rights which will come out of all of this.

Money (Kevin via Buck): we have $5486 in our General Account; 1118 in checking, 5 in savings, and 4363 of the Global Ed grant.

Pig Roast Report (Don): The weather was rainy all weekend, but a lot came nonetheless (about 40 adults, 20 kids), and talked with much animation on Saturday night and all day Sunday. The pig was thoroughly cooked, to our great joy, though a tad Sandy. But once again, we had vastly too much meat; 150 pounds is entirely excessive, and expensive. Next year we get piglets, d(perhaps three little ones, or just part of a pig. (At this point, the chicken lovers clamored to be heard, but were gavelled down.) The Senegalese friend of Ken’s loved every bit of it. Total cost was approx. $260 (meat $175, 15; food 30; toilet 40); collection produced $160. We thus subsidized this event by $100, which is about the same as last year. We should definitely get less meat next year.

Calendar sales (Roseann): we’ve sold 1197, for an income of $5856. Expenses have been $13,421; so we’re still in the hole by $7565. Cash on hand is $1183. This night is the last to buy calendars for $4; thereafter it’s $5 to members, and $6.50 to the world. (Or $5 apiece in quantities of 25.) There is lots of national marketing being done, by our dedicated beavers, and by people in the National Council and the other local groups.

Towards Tax Exempt status (Gordon): it’s ongoing.

Global Ed (Hank): the Global Eders met in mid-August, and here’s what they said: we should consider publishing a resource directory of foreigners willing to speak in the classroom; we need to do a few test runs in the classroom to work the bugs out of the eventual Manual; Hank is trying to withdraw from the pinnacle, and wants a replacement (perhaps Jeff Cochrane); we must concentrate on doing a few things well in the Manual, and let breadth take care of itself.

Don is working as a baker (and is also still a Social Security man), at the Blue Plate Diner on Atwood. There’s a job there, if you’re interested.

Elections Committee (Buck, for Deb): tonight’s your last chance to nominate anyone for office. About 10 names have come in so far (though a number have declined to stand for election). Nice; we’ll have a rich ticket this year.

Deb and Dave announced the Latin American night (slides and potluck) at their house, to celebrate Independence from Spain Day, Sept. 15.

Walt’s Amendment, regarding donations (none without prior notification in Newsletter, with some exceptions: see the last two Newsletters) was approved; all AYE

We must register as a student organization, in order to use the University’s facilities. Hank will take care of this.

Therese Ahlers was present to speak about the Recreation Resource Center. This teaches recreation skills to adults with disabilities. The County proposes cutting its funding. Please write Phelps, Dane Co. supervisor, in support.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 6 Oct, in Union South, 7pm.

The November meeting will be a potluck at the home of Henry and Barb Nehls-Lowe, 1888 Briarwood Lane, Oregon.

Food at 6; meeting at about 7:30.
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin/Madison and elsewhere Minutes for Thurs. 4 Oct. 90

We introduced ourselves, all new and glisteny, the 33 of us. And we each retailed a telling military farce from our country. My favorite was Ken’s from Ecuador: 2 naval vessels in heavy fog mistook each other for enemies, and shelled the bejesus out of each other for hours. Neither was scratched.

Buck announced that we are in danger of becoming poops and tedia, and need more frivolity at meetings. He passed out beers, and demanded money.

Deb&Dave’s regional potluck, on Latin American Independence Day (from Spain, not from us), was a success. Oodles came, and brought good slides to view. Definitely do it for your continent of choice. (Asia wants to do it on the Dalai Lama’s birthday, and invite all the local Chinese.)

Tax Status moves along (they’re still tinkering with the prose.)

Calendars are selling well. We need people to hustle them with local stores. (Call Roseann, 241-0845). And anytime you’re in the University bookstore, move our calendars from their position on the bottom rack, up onto a favored position at eye level. The store staff mistakenly thinks they belong down with the slow sellers, like Poodles of Wisconsin. We wanna be next to Pickups of Wisconsin.

Hank (238-3027) and Jeff Cochrane (251-4067) discussed the Global Ed project of preparing a Teachers’ Manual, to accompany the Calendar. Everything has now been broken down into small manageable tasks, and you are urged to take one. Many need no more than a few hours to accomplish; some can be done in bed. Help us. And come to the next Global Ed Sunday brunch, on Oct. 21 at the Memorial Union caf. at 10-12.

Buck suggested that our next Adventure Committee outing be something less strenuous than the High Ropes experience; he proposes miniature golf. "Nude miniature golf," shouted an enthusiast in back. Yes, in November.

Our next meeting is at the home of Henry and Barbara Nehls-Lowe, on Friday November 2. 1888 Briarwood Lane, Oregon. 835-5976. Potluck at 5 or 6.30, meeting at 7.30, jubilations at 8.30. This is also our Halloween Evening, so wear costume. (Buck wants to be the Pope.) Henry will present his superb (he says) Kenya slide show. Walt will tell us if it really is.

We then held elections. Officers for the next year are:

President: Gordon Malaise
Vice-President: Nancy Westbrook
Treasurer: Kevin Nies
Secretary: Buck Trawicky

Gordon announced that this had been our last election; he was now President For Life.

NEWSLETTER POLICY:
Since we’re always trying to get new members, I’ll send three copies of our newsletter to anyone we think will be interested. After that, you have to pay to stay on our mailing list. Details can be found on the back page. ONE EXCEPTION: contacts in other RPCV organizations can continue to receive our newsletter if they will send us theirs.
Meeting of the President-For-Life
with his sycophantic Cabinet

Our traditions and by-laws call for a yearly meeting of the 4 Officers, the newsletter Editor, and the Deadwood Committee (all past-presidents), to gather soon after elections and discuss long-range issues of the up-coming year. Kathleen Quinlan started this, and it has served us well.

Gordon called us to order at his house, put beers in our hands (one per hand), and proposed to work us through the group's business, going by committees. We said this was a fine idea, as an outline, but we should not think that committees are how everything actually gets done. Some committees don't exist; other work is handled fine by one or two people.

Membership: Walt and Karen are handling the directory just fine; don't mess with this. But it would be nice to start collecting Skills&Job info (both presently, and in PC), for a Book of Jobs. There isn't room in the directory, as presently published, for any of this information, but it could be on disk, and pulled out yearly for a massive printout. It would also be useful to any of us in our projects. (I.e., looking for a Nepal bridge-builder, or for those currently teaching.)

Attracting new members: a task for some one is to get monthly free public service ads in "Isthmus" etc, announcing our meetings. This is a straightforward task; let's recruit someone at the next meeting.

(The UW no longer has a club fair for grad students, so there's no venue for us to erect a table and tell grad students about ourselves. We need to change the University, through Donna Shalala. This is not something straightforward or simple, so we'd better recruit two people.)

Keeping new members: we discussed the Master Host concept, but rejected it; both Roseann and Don have done this in the past, to little effect. Rather, we must make our meetings themselves inviting to new members. We think our meetings are great fun, and new people are instantly welcome, but this is not the universal perspective. Therefore, we should all work on making new people feel welcome. Ken's question-of-the-night has been a good practice, because it gives details about each person's PC experience. Also good is having small tasks that new people can undertake, and immediately become prime movers, instead of visitors, trying to understand what's going on. And we should accept that the introductions each meeting will take about 20 minutes or more; it's time well-spent.

And it's time for another LifeStories Retreat; it's been years since the last one. We'll all go to the country on retreat, and spend the weekend listening to each one tell their stories (PC and later), with as much time as needed (about 10 or 15 minutes each). The one we did in the Dells about 6 years ago was especially fine; the record still makes engrossing reading, for those who know the people.

The Newsletter: we should revive some lapsed columns. The Thorntree (bulletin board of members' messages) was excellent, but has lapsed since Meredith stopped doing it. (Nancy volunteered for this.) And another News of Ourselves column, like Loose Lips, would be lovely.
The Social and Adventure Committees: nude miniature golf is not enough, though fine in its own way. We need to make sure we have at least one party each month. So we proceeded to work through the year's calendar.
Oct-Dec: Halloween (at Henry and Barbara's); Buck's Birthday Party, maybe; Oxfam Thanksgiving fast?; Christmas (Sophia's; Buck will confirm);
New Year's? Africa Party Dec. 1 (Sat): where?
Jan: Freez For Food (party at Kevin's)
Feb: Yamanja Day; winter retreat; Benefit? (try Carneval, 9 Feb, Sat);
March: Baron Bliss Sat, 9th (Kathleen?); New Members Slide Show;
April: Potluck meeting (where?); Parents' Brunch (Helene organizes?)
May: May1?/ May5? Parties. Imelda Day? Slide show?
Full Moon is Buddha's birthday a Tuesday: have a fire.
June: 1st Sat: Pacific Slide show. At end: campout
Aug: Pig roast
Sept: Shakespeare? Willy St Fair.

Internal Education: Nancy will work on this, and will talk with Laura Good about collaboration.
Lastly, by our Bylaws (rewritten as a favor to the IRS), we need another Board member. Who, we insist, should be warned that this organization has no real meaning, except once a year. Perhaps Deb? She can take a joke.

Buck

Jerry Magnani's wedding to Jo Thompson (this surprised me so)
was a fine success.
what he most appreciates, says lawyer Jerry, is its legitimacy.

WHEN: Saturday, Dec. 1
7:00 PM-ish
WHERE: Nancy Westbrook/
Tim Egan's da
225 Jackson Street
(3 blocks East of the
Barrimore Theatre)
Phone: 241-5332

Bring something to eat or drink - not necessarily African, but if you would like to try your African culinary skills and need a recipe, call Nancy.

African dress and Sangho, Kiswahili, Chewa, Lingala, etc. optional.
Bring music, photos, musical instruments, songs, etc...

IN HONOR OF:

A ZO KWE MA TENE
TI MBI -
PREMIER DECEMBRE/
AFRICAN REGION POTLUCK/
PARTY

A YEKE!

Independence Day -
Tanzania (UK, Dec. 9, 1962)
Kenya (UK, Dec. 12, 1963)
Niger (France, Dec. 18, 1960)

And, of course, the most important of them all:
Central African Republic
(France, Dec. 1, 1958)

And: Swaziland's Incwala
and Malawi's Tree Planting Day (both Dec. 21)

And: RPCV's who served in Africa, African nationals,
people who have been to Africa,
people who wish they'd been to Africa, and anyone who enjoys parties!
RPCVs of WISCONSIN MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

NEW MEMBERS:

BOYLES, Cathie 2233 Luann Lane #6, Madison, WI 53713.
   Home: 273-2043   Work: Columbia 1975-79
   (exp. date: 1/91)

CARTER, Robert A. RR 1, Box 30, Mineral Point, WI 53565.
   Home: 608/987-2500   Work:  
   (exp. date: 10/91)

ROBINSON, Harrison 4829 Sheboygan Ave. #304, Madison, WI 53705.
   Home: 271-7317   Work:  
   (exp. date: 10/91)

WOLFE, Maureen 433 S. Webster Ave. #116, Green Bay, WI 54301.
   (exp. date: 1/91)

ADDRESS CHANGES

NEUMAN, Martha 836 Jenifer St., Madison, WI 53703.

OAKLEY, James M. 801 Villa Park Dr., West Bend, WI 53095.

WAKELEY, Dave 6653 Forest Park Dr., DeForest, WI 53532.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT
1 JUNE 90 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 90

BALANCE Brought FORWARD $ 5923.52

EXPENSES

NEWSLETTER PRINTING $ 293.85
NEWSLETTER POSTAGE $ 165.13
PIG ROAST $ 150.00
P.O. BOX: RENT $ 28.00
NATIONAL COUNCIL DUES $ 135.00

REVENUES

DUES $190.00
NATIONAL COUNCIL REFUND $ 37.50
DEPOSIT DIVIDEND $ 93.67

CASH ON HAND $ 5923.52
TOTAL REVENUE $ 321.17
TOTAL EXPENSES $ 771.98

CASH ON HAND AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 90 $ 5472.71

SUBMITTED BY:

Kevin Nies
KEVIN NIES
TREASURER
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[ ] 2 FOR $14.50  [ ] 5 FOR $35.00
[ ] 3 FOR $21.00  [ ] 6 FOR $41.50

Name

Address

Please send check and order form to: Rose Ann Scott, RPCVs of WI
2714 Oakridge, Madison, Wisconsin 53704. Tel. (608) 241-0845.
NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

All RPCVW, Inc. members receive the newsletter on payment of annual dues shown below. To avoid record-keeping hassles, we would prefer that our members pay through December of the year of joining ($1 a month for each month to December), then pay for a full year membership at that time. Reduced rates are available for those in extreme financial circumstances. You can also join the National Council of RPCVs through us by paying a further $20. We strongly encourage all members to join the National Council, which provides us a way to affect national issues.

[ ] I want to join RPCVW, Inc. and am enclosing $____.
   --- Individual - $12 for one year (or $1 per month to next January)
   --- Joint - $17 (Two people receiving one newsletter)
   --- Overseas Individual - $20
   --- Overseas Joint - $25

[ ] I am also enclosing $20 for National Council membership ($27.50 for joint membership).

[ ] I do not want to join, but I would like to receive the newsletter and am enclosing $7 ($15 for overseas) to cover the costs.

[ ] I'M MOVING! Please change my mailing address on your records.

NAME: ___________________________ COUNTRY OF SERVICE: ___________________________
ADDRESS: ___________________________ SERVICE DATES: ___________________________
PRESENT JOB: ___________________________ TELEPHONE: ___________________________
PC JOB: ___________________________

Please make checks payable to RPCVs of Wisconsin, Inc. and send to:

RPCVs OF WISCONSIN, INC. - Madison Chapter
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53703

marked ATT'N: MEMBERSHIP!

QUESTIONS? PROBLEMS? Call me at 608/835-3083 most evenings and weekends.
Or try 608/262-2470 weekdays and ask for me - Walt.

RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF WISCONSIN
MADISON CHAPTER

Walt Zeltner, Editor
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

Rose Ann
2714 Oakridge
Madison, WI 53704
Scott
Exa Date
1/91