PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

More words from on high.
Greetings and a big thanks to Walt and all those who helped with the large donation requests. We had a large turnout and a good discussion of how to give out the large donations and it was made harder by having requests for more funds than we had to give out. So a big thanks to those that came to the May meeting for their input into how to disburse the funds.

We also thought that it would be a good idea to go back and review our applications process for our calendar funds. The thinking is to start this review at our September meeting. Start thinking now on how we should be doing our applications for our funds both small and large amounts.

The calendar committee decided to rebid the printing cost for the calendar, because the process has not been bid out for a few years and the printer that we have been using has merged with another printer and is moving its operations to Waunakee. Anyone interested in helping with this should contact either Rochelle or I to get yourself on the committee.

The July meeting WILL BE HELD AT MEMORIAL UNION not at Union South on Tuesday, July 3. This is because of Independence Day holiday Union South will be closed on the day of the meeting. The thinking at the June meeting was, weather permitting, to hold the meeting on the terrace instead of a meeting room.

Plan for the August meeting as that will be held on Saturday, August 4. This will be a special meeting as the 2002 calendar will be unveiled and you be able to buy your calendars for the special price of $4 each on this day only. Also this will able you to dazzle our taste buds with your cooking skills and enjoy the friendship of your fellow RPCVs and to compare your calendar sales with everyone else. Space may become available at the Red Gym for us to hold our monthly meetings there instead of at Union South. We will be discussing the merits of this move at our upcoming meetings. — Tom
Officers and Contacts

Executive Committee

President  Tom Brod (608) 280-8945
twbrod@aol.com
Vice President  Lee Row 232-9065
leerow@chorus.net
Secretary   Buck Trawicky (608) 241-2392
Treasurer  Troy Rutter  (608) 245-9964

Members at Large  Don Sauer - abroad
Email:juliadon@interalb.net

Registered Agent  Terry Stark (608) 233-9140
Community Projects  (your name here?)

International Calendar Project

Coordinator  Rochelle Goedken (608) 243-0298
Customer Service Administrator  Julita Zolnik (608) 221-2238
jurystejjerracom.net

Calendar Order Hotline  (608) 829-2677
Calendar Email: calendarmail@yahoo.com

Events

Freeze for Food  (Need a volunteer here)
Family Brunch  (Need a volunteer here)
Cardinal Benefit  Kathleen Quinlan (608) 249-6437
Finance  Rose Ann Scott (608) 241-0845
Global Education  Marc Brand (608) 255-1339

Membership

Membership Directory/Mailing Labels  Brad Hinkfuss, 217 Corry St.,
Madison, 53704, (b)242.9573
iambrad@chorus.net

Pre-Connect/ Re-Connect  Sharon Lewandowski 241-2392

Visibility

Newsletter Editor  Theresa Jenkins (608) 876-6649
rpcveditor@jvnet.com
Website  www.geocities.com/wirpcv

Campus Peace Corps Recruiter  Jonathan Simon (608) 262-1121
jdsimon2@students.wisc.edu

Membership Information

All RPCV of Wisconsin-Madison receive a monthly Newsletter, World Roots, on payment of annual dues shown below. To avoid record-keeping hassles, we prefer members pay through December of the year joining, 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 Peace Corps Association (NPCA) through us by paying an additional $25. We strongly encourage you to join the NPCA, which provides us a way to affect national issues.

(Please check all that apply)

___ I want to Join RPCV of WI, Inc.
___ Individual  $15 for one year
___ Joint  $20 (Two people receiving one newsletter)
___ Overseas Individual  $24
___ Overseas Joint  $29
___ I am also enclosing $25 for NPCA membership ($32.50 for joint membership - two people with the same address)
___ 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

Name:__________________________________________
Address:________________________________________
Telephone #s  (H)  (W)
E-mail Address:________________________________
Country of Service:______________________________
Service Dates:___________________________________
PC Job:________________________________________
Birth date: (Optional - MD/Y)

The RPCVs of Wisconsin are an active group, and there’s always a need for helpful hands. If you are willing to lend a hand, please let us know:

___ I am interested in doing something: call me.

Send completed form & check to:
RPCVs of Wisconsin - Madison
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701
### Treasurers Report May 2001

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### Editor's Spot

Please remember the permanent deadline date AND E-MAIL ADDRESS!

Okay this is going to be short also. It seems that the warm weather is getting our contributors busy thus our short NL. I hope that everyone is having a good summer! We had a great trip to Seattle and my Father is coming into town. Trips up north are planned, as well as days in the backyard enjoying our new garden.

The best to you all!

**Address:** 131 Edward St., P.O.Box, Footville WI. 53537  
Phone 608-876-6649, e-mail rpcveditor@vinsel.com (no space) so keep those articles a coming!

- Theresa
The Calendar Committee met Thursday, May 31st at Prudence Barber's house, 1050 Jenifer St. Pat Halpin, Rose Ann Scott, Rick & Lee Row, Troy Rutter, Rochelle Goedken, Tom Brodd, Margot, Jo Thomson, Prudence Barber, and Buck Trawicky attended.

We've gotten a lot of comments during the past year about the difficulty people are having writing on the calendar. Sue Kummer and Rochelle have discussed this with the printer, Straus, and have specified that we don't want a treatment that may have been applied to the calendar paper. They will do their best to assure that the 2002 calendar is writer friendly.

Straus, our printer for a number of years, is merging with Sutter Press and moving out of town. We will need to find a new printer for next year's calendar. Last year we asked a number of firms to bid on the calendar project, so several good printers know our project and we will form a committee to request a bid and choose a printer early enough to get the right one.

We will put together marketing materials in June. Lee is working on a press kit for calendar advertising. Prudence and Pat are working on advertising materials and ideas. Anyone interested in helping or who has good marketing ideas should call Prudence (251.0852). We will have to wait a month or so to see if TNT, the calendar wholesaler, has sold any of our calendars this year.

Kristi Torres is putting together a calendar page for the newsletter - so if you have news about the calendar or projects calendar funds have supported, please get in touch with her.

The brochure design is nearly completed and the calendar proofs are circulating for proofing. The "Henna Hands" photograph was selected to be printed as a postcard in the waste area of paper used for calendar covers. All final corrections for calendar and brochure need to be made by June 10th.

September 15th is the date of the gala calendar packing party, a must-do annual event for all serious RPCVs of WI. The 2002 calendar will be unveiled at the August 4th General Meeting at Tom Brodd's house, 1527 Jefferson St. From then until the September meeting at Union South, the calendars will be available to members for $4 each. After the September meeting the calendars will cost members $5 each, EXCEPT at the packing party when the price will be rolled back to $4 for one night only!
LETTER & INVITATION

Hi,
My name is Jim Toner (RPCV Sri Lanka, 1988-1990), and I've written a book entitled Serendib that the publisher, University of Georgia Press, released about a month ago. Briefly, it is a story of Sri Lanka and of the Peace Corps—that's why I'm writing to you—but primarily it is about a month-long visit paid to me by my father, an old Catholic judge from Cleveland, Ohio. I had never been alone with him in my life (I'm the last of seven children), and now suddenly I was face to face with this man in a dangerous and glorious country, a country whose habits and hygiene terrified him. In the course of this month, things slowly happen to my father—deep things, sacred things—that involve his connection with this country, with himself, and with me. In the end, Serendib really is just another love story—though this time an unusual love story between a father and a son in the unusual land of Sri Lanka. (You can get more of an idea of the book from amazon.com and from the Univ. of Georgia Press's website.)

This summer my wife and I plan on touring the country to promote the book. The idea is to visit those cities with RPCV groups that might like to come out to a bookstore in your area for a reading and a signing.

I've finally settled all the places I'll be visiting this summer as part of a tour to promote my book. The particular date that involves Madison is Thursday, July 26th, at 7:30; I'll be appearing at Canterbury Booksellers (315 West Gorham St; 608-256-9911) for a reading and a signing, and I hope that a few RPCVs can come out for it. I'll also be appearing the night before in Milwaukee at Harry Schwartz (2559 Downer Ave; 414-270-3434).

Thanks for doing whatever you can do to spread the word. My wife and I are looking forward to spending a few days in Wisconsin this summer.

Best, Jim

"ACCOMMODATIONS FOR RPCV CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER"

Fellow RPCVs of Wisconsin Members  From: Jim Smith, Member-at-Large

Greetings from the Capitol Beltway! I can see from club newsletters that the club is as fun and vibrant as ever. My wife and I would like to offer accommodations and hospitality to some of you who will come out for the NPCA National Conference September 20-23 in Washington, DC. We have at least one "stranger room" available, maybe two.

We live in Olney, MD which is a 15-minute drive to either end of the Metro Red line. I'll be pleased to drive my guests to and from the metro on days that I am not able to attend the conference activities and we are connected to the metro lines by bus as well.

Additionally, if it works out with your schedules, we would like to host a party for ALL those coming from the group even if you are staying elsewhere.

Please call me at (301) 519-5280 day or (301) 774-5908 before 9 p.m. to arrange your stay.
Washington Cites Shortage of Linguists for Key Security Jobs
By DIANA JEAN SCHENO (sent by Jim Oakley)

As a band of trained terrorists plotted to blow up the World Trade Center, clues to the devastation ahead lay under the nose of law enforcement officials.

The F.B.I. held videotapes, manuals and notebooks on bomb making that had been seized from Ahmad Ajaj, a Palestinian serving time in federal prison for passport fraud. There were phone calls the prison had taped, in which Mr. Ajaj guardedly told another terrorist how to build the bomb.

There was one problem: they were in Arabic. Nobody who understood Arabic listened to them until after the explosion at the Trade Center on Feb. 26, 1993, which killed six people and injured more than a thousand.

The tale is but one illustration of what intelligence and law enforcement officials describe as an increasingly dire lack of foreign language expertise that is undermining national security.

In the post-Soviet world, where threats are more diffuse and scattered over the map, military, diplomatic and intelligence officials are warning of critical shortages in their ability to understand the languages of other nations, and so unravel their secrets.

The reasons are many. With English increasingly becoming the world's lingua franca, the study of foreign languages has suffered. Taxpayer pressure on school districts to cut budgets and focus on the basics of reading and math has shortchanged language courses, and districts that are interested in teaching foreign languages report a shortage of qualified teachers.

At the same time, the need for language proficiency has grown as security threats have fragmented and the ability to eavesdrop has expanded.

But government layoffs and employee buyouts have trimmed foreign language expertise drastically, said Theodore Crump, who is updating a book cataloging the federal government's foreign language needs. These days, most agencies can only hope to catch up with, rather than anticipate, their needs.

"Back in 1985 the terrorist thing didn't really come up," he said of the year he first prepared the book. "Now, when you have the possibility of someone coming in with a weapon of mass destruction in a suitcase, it changes the whole picture."

While the cold war's end has brought waves of immigrants with knowledge of obscure languages to the United States, law enforcement and intelligence agencies have been reluctant to hire great numbers of them, citing a weakness in English and, frequently, difficulties in gaining security clearances for them.

According to testimony last September before a Senate subcommittee, roughly half of the State Department's diplomatic postings are filled by people lacking necessary foreign language skills.

The F.B.I. must translate a million pages and untold hours of intercepted conversations a year and faces a mounting backlog that undermines its ability to prevent some crimes and investigate others.

Intelligence agencies say they are frequently caught short in times of crisis, lacking a sufficient pool of agents and analysts with needed languages, from Arabic to Korean and Thousands of scientific and technical papers also go untranslated, depriving analysts and policy makers of vital information about
the state of foreign research in a range of areas, the Senate heard.

Robert O. Slater is director of the National Security Education Program run by the Defense Department, which offers grants to promote the study of foreign languages and cultures. Mr. Slater said that in the last decade, the linguistic shortfalls had gone from an episodic to a chronic problem. "It's now affecting the ability of federal agencies to address their missions," he said.

A sobering illustration came in 1998, with the nuclear tests in Pakistan and India, said Richard D. Brecht, who runs the University of Maryland's National Foreign Language Center. Official documents on the failure of United States intelligence to translate information that could have warned policy makers of the explosions "remain classified, but you can rest assured that those surprised people," Mr. Brecht said. The explosions, he added, "should not have been surprises."

According to government figures, American colleges and universities graduated only nine students who majored in Arabic last year. Only about 140 students graduated with degrees in Chinese, and only a handful in Korean.

These days, only 8.2 percent of American college and university students enroll in foreign language courses That figure, she said, has remained essentially unchanged since 1976. But the demand for language speakers has ballooned.

Many of the lapses in essential translation skills remain invisible to the average citizen, who seldom learns of the linguistic flubs and risks that could have been avoided. But sometimes they spill into the public realm.

In November the publicly accessible version of the C.I.A.'s Foreign Broadcast Information Service, its roundup of foreign news reports, translated an article in a Palestinian newspaper accusing Israel of using weapons containing "phlebotomized uranium." "If such a wild mistranslation by F.B.I.S. is not a private joke, then it is an embarrassing sign of incompetence," said a report on the slip-up in the Secrecy News, an electronic newsletter put out by the American Federation of Scientists.

Mr. Brecht, co-author with William P. Rivers of "Language and National Security in the 21st Century," likened the current period, with its recognition of foreign language deficiencies, to the late 1950's, when the Soviet launching of Sputnik triggered a nationwide mission to raise the level of science and mathematics training.

This time it is the end of the cold war that is spurring the sense of crisis. The Soviet Union required knowledge of one language, Russian, for analysts and diplomats. Its map has broken up into a linguistic jigsaw puzzle of 15 official languages, from Armenian to Ukrainian to Kazakh to Belarusian, and more than 100 ethnic enclaves. The State Department has had to provide staff for 22 new posts in republics of the former Soviet Union, a region once covered with Russian speakers in Moscow. The linguistic fragmentation is reflected on the political and military fronts as well.

"It's not that the Department of Defense or anyone else has been neglectful," Mr. Brecht said. "It's just that requirements have exploded and budgeting for language is not the easiest thing to do."

There is no single solution.
A number of government agencies, including the Defense Department, are using computers to take a first pass at reducing the load of material for translation.

The Justice Department is exploring the use of a pool of translators with security clearance who could work for a number of agencies. The State Department increased language training for junior officers ninefold between 1997 and 1999.

The Defense and State Departments run the largest factories for training foreign language speakers in the country. Ray Clifford, provost of the Defense Language Training Institute, notes that the languages the military considers critical are not those generally taught in universities, so the military for the most part does its own training.

"The largest number of enrollments in the school system is Spanish," Dr. Clifford said. "Our No. 1 enrollment is in Arabic." The military has more students learning Arabic, Chinese, Korean and Russian than it does Spanish, he said.

Compared with the nine students majoring in Arabic last year in colleges, his institute graduated 409. It graduated 120 students in Farsi. Dr. Clifford said he could not even find figures on Farsi among colleges and universities.

For the first time, the military is planning to set quotas for the recruitment of so-called heritage speakers. Advances in technology have multiplied the ability to eavesdrop and, consequently, the material requiring translation, Mr. Crump said.

Margaret R. Gulotta, the F.B.I.'s section chief for language services, said court-sanctioned wiretaps have to be translated as conversations take place. The expertise needed is high, with suspects frequently using coded language.

And in investigating the bombing of the American Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998, the bureau came across a tape recording in an esoteric language. Eventually, the bureau was able to identify the language, but found nobody with the required security clearance who could translate it.

As long as we have some space here, I’ll quickly update you on the status of our donations. At the June meeting, we voted on funding the requests for large donations. Results of that vote follow:

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<td>Ross Royster</td>
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At the end of the meeting, Rich Brooks, Ken, Ross, and Dorothy obtained checks from Troy to send on to their projects. I have not had a chance to meet with Troy since then to get checks for the remaining projects. **And a reminder to those who are not recorded as paying their dues for 2001.** No checks will be written or sent to your projects until you square things with Troy. You can call either Troy or myself to check on your status. **Warning:** If dues are not settled in the next month or two, I will submit a motion that the awards to these projects be revoked, thus freeing up money for additional projects submitted by people who are willing to abide by our rules.

That’s as much time as I have right now.

Walt Zeltner

**THIS SPACE FOR RENT**
Calendar of Events

Jul 3, Tue General Meeting, 7 p.m., Memorial Union

Aug 4, Sat Potluck Gen'l Meeting, and 2002 Calendar unveiling, 6 p.m. (Tom Brodd's house; 1527 Jefferson St., Madison; 280-8945.)

Aug 17, Pig Roast
Aug 17 to 19 Camp Vista with the Chicago RPCV group in the Kettle Moraine. Call Rose Ann (241-0845) for more info. Details in Next NL

Sep 22, Sat RPCV National Conference, Washington DC (Thurs-Sun.)
Sep 14, Fri Calendar Packing Party, 6 p.m. Alan Weiner's warehouse, 7182 US Highway 14, Middleton; 831-3554(w)

NEWSLETTER NEWS
The Electronic Newsletter is now up and running see it here at www.geocities.com/wirpcv

May your Summer be warm and healthy! Remember while you are basking in the sun the deadline July 10.

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Madison
Theresa Jenkins - Editor
P O Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

Rose Ann Scott - (3/1/02)
2714 Oakridge
Madison, WI 53704-5749