WORLD ROOTS

Presidential Words

Sunny and 74 degrees, rain, tornado, snow, hail...what more could happen in one week. It seems like I always start my column with the weather but...well, er, uh...it was extremely strange this week. I don't think I have ever lived anywhere with such diverse weather patterns. Anyway, talking about the weather was, I guess, a skill that I developed as a Volunteer. It was easy to strike up a conversation with a stranger by saying "It's very cold" or "I can't believe this heat", and who could forget "When do you think it will rain?" or conversely "Will this rain ever stop?". Even when you were less than masterful in that second or third language, you could always talk about the weather, and everyone has an opinion on the weather. "Sakaric, tat. Sakaric. A utz uwich we tiempo? Utz, maitiox. Ja 'ey, tat. Nojim que la." Quiche for: Good morning, sir. Good morning. How is the weather. Good, thank you. Very well, sir. Have a safe journey.

This last week was a crazy one not only in the weather patterns but with Peace Corps events. Our Monday meeting was well attended with several recently returned Volunteers. It is good to see new faces mixed in with the regular attendees. I would like to thank Joan and Rich Bailey (Kazakhstan 96-99) for their wonderful presentation. They had many beautiful artifacts and photos. I would also like to thank Phil from the Iraq's Medical Supplies Project for informing us of the difficulties that Iraqi children face due to lack of medical supplies.

Tuesday, March 7th was Peace Corps Day. Mark Brands' East High School forum had 15 RPCVs who reached approximately 800 students. A big thank you to Mark for all of his hard work that went into making PC Day a success. If you presented at a school on PC Day, please let Mark Brand (608-255-1339) know so he can report it to DC so they have an idea of how many people we reached this year. A thank you to all of those who presented in the schools.

Due to PC Day, the Minneapolis recruitment team was in town. I had a meeting with Patrick Ganey, recruitment coordinator, who wanted the group to begin brainstorming about next years Peace Corps 40th anniversary. He suggested that Madison have the largest celebration in the nation, and suggested having a conference for three days. Patrick will try to be at the April meeting to discuss what ideas the group has. Please let me know if you have any ideas about this. He is hoping the director of Peace Corps and some other officials attend and would like to know how the group feels about supporting such a large event.

I would like to encourage all of those who are able to, to attend the April meeting. We will have Doug Larkin who has recently returned from Kenya talk about his experience. The date for the Cardinal Benefit has not been decided. It has been pushed back to early May. The next special event is the Family Brunch. I hope to see many of you there.

Have a great March,  Melissa Kaltenbach
Officers and Contacts

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

International Calendar Project
Coordinator
Rochelle Goedken (608) 243-0298
Calendar Order Hotline
(608) 829-2677

Events
Freeze for Food
Peter J. Joyce (608) 249-8573

Family Brunch
Sheila Przesmicki (608) 244-6454

Cardinal Benefit
Kathleen Quinlan (608) 249-6437

Finance
Rose Ann Scott (608) 241-0845

Global Education
Mark Brand (608) 255-1339

Membership
Membership Directory/Mailing Labels
Buck Trawicky(608)241-2392

Pre-Connect/ Re-Connect
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Newsletter Editor
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Eric Stonebaker (608) 262-1121
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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 #: (W)_______(H)____________________
E-mail:_______________________________________
Country of Service:____________________________
Service Dates:______________________________
PC Job:_____________________________________
Birth date: (Optional - M/D/Y)____________________

The RPCV's 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:
RPCV's of Wisconsin - Madison
P.O.Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701
Treasurers Report February 2000

Calendar balance 105,276.05
Calendar sale 2,746.29
Misc. sales 20.00
Interest 472.94
Postage -424.59
Shipping -33.02
Credit card fee -26.43
Production -73.38
Accountant fee -300.00
Transfer to projects -40,000.00
Ending balance 67,614.93

**
MN PC refund 169.12
Ending balance 1,416.66

**
Global Education 2,096.20

**
Giftaway -531.21
From calendar fund 10,000.00
From Annual Projects 531.21
Ending balance 10,000.00

Project Totals 124,352.00

Thanks to Peter Joyce for another successful Freeze and for bringing it in under budget. All startup money not spent will go to the Colombian Support Network.

Its TAX TIME..... so here is our End of the Fiscal Year Report
September 1998 to August 1999

Calendar Income
1999 Sales 94,560.47
2000 Sales 15,145.80
Interest 3,222.81
Donations 419.00
Total 113,348.08

Calendar Expenses
Printing -47,758.28
Production -6,690.00
Shipping -6,517.76
Marketing -6,221.23
Phone -826.64
Labor -677.50
Storage -400.00
Misc. -601.38
Total -70,092.79

Group Income
Group dues 1,543.50
NPCA rebate 1,052.00
Speakers fee 446.00
Uncashed donations 1200.00
Total 4,241.50

Group Expenses
Newsletter printing -1,250.03
Newsletter postage -1,246.89
NPCA Affiliation & dues -839.00
State Charity Fee -15.00
Misc. -432.57
Total -3,783.49

Special Events Income
The Freeze 2,221.50
Cardinal Bar Benefit 510.00
Winter Retreat 590.25
Family Brunch 1,033.95
Summer Campout 34.00
Pig Roast 100.00
Total 4,489.70

The Freeze -733.81
Cardinal Bar Benefit 0.00
Winter Retreat -618.50
Family Brunch -1,058.25
Summer Campout -59.00
Pig Roast -235.82
Total -2,705.38

Total Gross Income 122,079.28
Total Expenses -76,581.66
Donations -39,325.36
Total Net Income 6,172.26

Beginning of Fiscal Year 35,155.79
Net income 1999 6,172.26
End of Fiscal Year 41,328.05

Thanks to everyone who helped me throughout the year by keeping good records, saving receipts, etc and yada, yada, yada.
January Calendar Committee Meeting

The calendar committee met Thursday evening, January 19th at the home of Prudence Barber. Prudence, Rochelle Goedken, Maj. Fischer, Rose Ann Scott, Buck Trawicky, Walt Zeltner, Alan Weiner and Rick and Lee Row attended. We discussed the potential need to print more calendars for 2001, since it will be Peace Corps' 40th anniversary. Requests for proposals have been sent to 6 area firms in an effort to control miscellaneous charges incurred, unexpectedly, this year, and to assure calendar quality will be maintained.

We discussed the amount of work necessary to get calendar orders out to people and concluded that currently a small number of people are doing a great deal of work. Two remedies were proposed. The first proposal was that groups other than our own process orders of three calendars and less, we would deal with larger orders only. The second proposal was that someone be hired, in a manner which would preserve our tax-exempt status, to process all the orders, as the volunteer group does now.

Should we adopt this proposal, we would want to offer an interesting enough monetary incentive to attract a responsible, detail-oriented person to do it. Rose Ann and Lee will examine the records to determine the number of hours required and the time period during which someone should be employed and Lee will write up a tentative ad. We will discuss this again at the next meeting. Anyone with strong feelings about this one way or the other, should speak with the calendar committee members or come to the next calendar committee meeting (Prudence 251-0852).

Anyone interested in the order-processing job should do the same.

February Calendar Committee Meeting

The calendar committee met Feb. 21st at the home of Prudence Barber. The committee voted to allocate $40,000 from proceeds of calendar sales to the project fund. Slide choice for future calendars was discussed. According to technical experts working with the calendar slides chosen, several of them would be problematic. The committee voted to present slides with runner-up status to the technicians as alternatives and to use the winning slides elsewhere in the calendar. The committee was told that Jim Good, the Photo Coordinator Guy, would contact the photographers with information on the decision. The committee members subsequently discussed various options for future slide choice. It has been proposed that the group as a whole choose more than 13 slides and allow the technical experts to make a final decision about which would be acceptable for the actual calendar.

The committee also discussed the printing of the calendar covers and brochures. Brochures are printed on waste space with the covers and we always have too many, although it costs no more to print them. It was agreed that groups that sell calendars be sent brochures to help them with their marketing efforts. The group discussed encouraging customers who buy less than three calendars to purchase them from other groups. This would reduce the amount of work RPCV WI members need to do and allow other groups to raise funds for their own projects. Rose Ann Scott will write groups who have purchased calendars in the past to get their feedback.
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Madison

General Meeting of Monday, March 6, 2000
We met at Union South, at 7:00 p.m. 26 were present. We introduced ourselves, with a story of a memorable transportation experience.
Sharon Lewandowski wants us to dedicate our next Cardinal Bar Benefit to medical aid for Iraqi children; and to inform us of a trustworthy and effective program, she had invited Phil Kerhloff to speak. Phil is administering a memorial fund set up in the name of his partner, Eileen Cyncor, who died of leukemia, and who wished to aid Iraqi children suffering from this painful disease. Leukemia is rife in Iraq, in great part because of the widespread US use of depleted uranium in armor-piercing artillery shells, during the Gulf War. Since the Gulf War, 1-2 million Iraqi children have died of preventable causes. Phil intends to work through "Life for Relief and Development," of Southfield, Michigan, an organization which specializes in humanitarian relief for Iraqi civilians, and scrupulously conforms to all US and Iraqi permit requirements. This organization will find the proper hospital to aid, one set up to care for children with leukemia; once arrangements have been made, Phil will dispatch the memorial funds money. Saddam Hussein won't get a penny of it.
After discussion, Sharon made this MOTION: Our group shall host a Cardinal Bar Benefit, on a date to be determined. Proceeds shall be for the Iraqi Children's Leukemia Fund, to aid Iraqi children suffering from leukemia. The money shall be turned over to the Fund after arrangements for its effective legal use have been completed. Unanimously approved. Sharon will help organize the Benefit. We passed around a sign-up sheet of people intending to come, with tasty food. The Benefit will be on **. (See elsewhere for additional info.)

Freeze For Food: The money we raised was delivered to our sister city, Apartado, in Colombia, but the joy of this was dashed several days later when Apartado was attacked by rightwing paramilitary, who massacred 5.

Peace Corps Day was the next day (Tues., 7 March); a host of us were to speak in various schools. Remember the Family Brunch, Sunday, April 9.
Remember to get your Donation Proposals in SOON. We'll discuss and vote on them at our May meeting (June meeting for Large Donation proposals), so they need to be published in the May newsletter, which effectively means they have to be handed in by the end of the April general meeting. Deadline is the same if e-mailed or mailed to Walt Zeltner (fax, 262-0454; e-mail, zeltner@engr.wisc.edu; phones are 873-5257(h) and 262-1321(w)). We also need an ad-hoc review committee to read over the proposals, and make recommendations to the group. Walt Zeltner will be honcho; phone him to volunteer (262-1321). Thus ended our business, and we could play.
Joan and Rich Bailey, PC/Kazakhstan, 97-99, gave a presentation on their country, which they so recently left. (I alas, had to get a daughter home to bed, and missed the fun.) Buck Trawicky
DISTRIBUTION OF CALENDAR PROCEEDS

It's time to start the process for distributing the proceeds of the 2000 Calendar. All requests for donations must come from currently paid up members. Giftaway and other small donation requests must be submitted on one of our donation request forms. If you do not have the form from last month's newsletter, contact me (Walt Zeltner, 393 Lake Kegonsa Road, Oregon, WI 53575; Home: 608/873-5257; Work: 608/262-1321; FAX: 608/262-0454; Email: zeltner@engr.wisc.edu). Please try to get all forms to me by the end of the April group meeting.

I will send a special mailing to all members that lists all requests that have been received. At the April meeting we'll form a committee to consider the requests. This committee will recommend projects to be funded and the amount of funding for each project. Handling Giftaway requests is much easier for us if an ad-hoc committee meets before the May meeting to recommend whether particular projects should be funded and, if so, how much funding they should receive.

Ideally, this meeting will occur a week or so after the April meeting but before the newsletter is printed. Anyone interested in participating should contact me to be included. I would like to have more people involved than the 3 we had last year. Generally, I publish the recommendations of this committee in the newsletter you receive at the end of April, so that the funding requests can be voted on at the May meeting of the group. If this can't be done for some reason, the recommendations will be available at the May meeting. Two more points. 1) If you are requesting a donation to be sent overseas, you MUST provide us with a reasonable means of getting the money to the recipient. We won't fund a project unless we feel confident that the money will get where it is needed. 2) If you request a donation, you should also consider how the people who conduct the project can provide information to us about the way that they used our donation. I collect the feedback we get and pass it on to Sheila Przesmicki, who ensures that we publish it in the newsletter.

MOTION:

I move that 20% of the moneys designated for donations from the sale of calendars be given to the Peace Corps Partnership Program. That this be done at the time of transfer of the money from the calendar to the donation account and that it be done automatically every year hence.

The Partnership program is an ideal fit with calendar donations. The program supports current Peace Corps Volunteer's projects in their country of service. The calendar is purchased mainly by RPCV's, Peace Corps and the NPCA. Rose Anne Scott

Two comments from Walt Zeltner about the above motion. (Those of you who thought it would be simple to approve it haven't been in this group long enough!) First, if we agree to it, we will send $8,000 to PC Partnership (PCP). No problem for me, just something I thought you should know. Second, and actually a clarification that I need for dealing with funding requests. If we agree to the motion in the form stated, would we also be willing to fund requests that are submitted directly from PCVs outside of the Partnership program? If we do fund these requests, (cont. on pg. 7)
Calendar Donations
At its February meeting, the Calendar Steering Committee determined that $40,000 from sales of the 2000 calendar are available to the RPCV's - Madison for distribution to development and education projects.

MOTION: Upon acceptance of this motion, $40,000 will be transferred to the group. Consistent with our normal practice, the following partition is suggested:
Giftaway - $10,000 (current balance $0 after an internal transfer)
Annual Projects - $1,000 (current balance $3,500 after internal transfer)
Large Projects - $29,000 (current balance $1,200).

Submitted by Walt Zeltner
Note that much of this money has or may well be committed already. Last year we agreed to support an Ashoka fellow in Hungary for 2 years at $7,000 a year. We can make the second $7,000 payment as soon as the above motion is accepted. We also agreed that 10% of the calendar proceeds be given to the National Peace Corps Association to further their programs and in appreciation for their support of the calendar. That would be $4,000 this year. Finally, Rose Ann has a motion that appears elsewhere to donate 20% of the calendar proceeds to Peace Corps Partnership programs. If accepted, that would account for another $8,000. So $19,000 of the currently available $45,000 is likely to be accounted for. Another point: I would consider the amounts given above to be guidelines rather than hard and fast limits. If we do not spend all of the $10,000 to fund projects submitted to the Giftaway, the remaining money would be available to fund other projects that are submitted later in the year. And, after talking to our treasurer before the March meeting, I realized that he does not adhere to the above partition when he lists our project outlays. He handles these donations and expenses for recurring group events in a way that makes it easier for him to prepare our taxes. I'm not going to stand in his way.

(cont. from pg. 6) would that money be part of the 20% or in addition to the 20%? We are getting direct requests from PCVs. Apparently the Thailand director is having some of his volunteers send requests directly to Brice Lainberger of our group who then sponsors these requests. I also received a request from a PCV in Armenia who was referred to me by Gordon Malaise of our group.

I see three possible ways we can proceed: set aside 20% for both PCP and other PCV requests (requires an amended motion); set aside 20% for PCP only and fund other PCV requests with additional money; or set aside 20% for PCP only and not fund any other PCV requests. Option 1 has the advantage of getting money to PCVs faster than going through PCP but would be an organizational nightmare for me. Option 2 would also get money to selected PCVs faster than going through PCP with fewer problems for us. Option 3 would be the easiest for me. It would also assure us that the projects are considered do-able and worth doing. In addition, we would get reports from PCP on the outcome of the selected projects. The drawback is that PCVs would be forced to work through PCP to get money from us, which would take longer. I think it is clear that I like Option 3, but I feel that the issue needs to be decided by the group, especially those who have returned recently and have some familiarity with the PCP process.
FREEZE FOR FOOD REPORT BY PETER JOYCE

Well, we had another (19th) successful Freeze For Food again. As of the day after race day, we had $2504 in donations to send on to Colombian refugees. I expect that we will get another $100-400 more as the pledges trickle in. We had decent publicity again for the fundraiser including an ad in Isthmus, and race coverage by Channel 3 and 27. The internet was also useful in bringing in new runners (www.runningzone.com).

A big THANK YOU to all of the volunteers we had out there again. There were 36 volunteers in total, and obviously, we couldn't begin to attempt this race without so much people power. After going to two meetings and collecting names of 17 volunteers, I made the mistake of losing the list before I could call people up. For any other event, this mistake would have been fatal. Many regulars showed up and needed very little guidance, a blessing for me. Other RPCV's showed up in spite of my lack of instruction and bailed out my ---. The thank you letter from Marsha Cohen published in the State Journal is a tribute to our enthusiasm and effort that distinguishes us from many other races. Makes me proud to be part of the FFF. Gracias mil veces.

The expenses for this year were slightly lower than last year, about $620 instead of $720. Most of the savings over last year was in the bulk mailing that I cobbled together. I now have a bulk mailing stamp for the group if anyone wants to use it in the future. I also understand better how the bulk mailing system works and should be able to use it more effectively next year. There are other expenses I feel that can be trimmed next year to bring the budget down maybe to $500.

The question of "Is it worth it financially?" always rings in the back of my head. I put in less time this year, being more aside as to what needed to be done. Maybe 25 hours. Each volunteer probably put in at least 3 hours for a total of 148 hours, or roughly our volunteer efforts were worth ($2500/150 hours) $16/hour. If we take away our group's $720 donation, volunteer efforts are worth $12/hour. Maybe worth it, certainly better than the wages in Colombia.

Postscript:
There was another massacre in San Jose de Apartado, the Peace Community, just two days after our money was delivered down there by Colombia Support Network. Five men were shot and killed by what looked like 20 armed paramilitaries. CSN had talked to the army the day before, mentioning threats to these people. Peace Brigades International also had two volunteers in town that witnessed the paramilitaries in the community.
Where Does The $$$ Goes  by Sheila Przesmicki

Since I have two more items on 1998 seems so long ago, now that we’re in the 2000 and I do not have any for 1999 yet, I’ll finish up with those that we may not all be familiar with. The variety shows what an open-minded group we are.

Barbara Snell, Executive Director of the Madison Community Health Center, sent us a brief thank-you in June of that year. We donated $600 for bilingual stations, a much-needed resource in a community of growing multi-lingualism. Rose Ann Scott, the project sponsor, wrote:

The Madison Community Health Center has struggled for 25 years to provide for those who cannot obtain health care else where. Many of their clients to not speak English.

The Center needs to purchase equipment for a phone station to allow a bilingual receptionist to talk on the phone and enter into a computer at the same time. They are in the process of hiring a bilingual receptionist and acquiring a separate phone line. Currently when a Spanish-speaking person calls, they have to go and find a Spanish-speaking person. Two phone sets are needed at $275 each.

In addition to a thank-you note, Ms. Snell sent a copy of the pamphlet from the Centers annual meeting, which summarizes some of the goals of the Center.

The initial goal was to blend Mifflin Street Community Health Centers experience of providing health education and community outreach with the Eastside community Health Centers history of providing direct patient care. Today, Madison Community Health Center continues to achieve both of these goals and has expanded the scope and vision of the original clinic.

MCHC employs a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, RNs and Medical Assistants, social services staff, lab technicians, reception staff, medical records clerk, billing clerk, a business manager, a clinical manager and an executive director for a total of 16 FTEs. These are just a few of the facts about the Center. In 1997 alone, they had approximately 2,640 hours of donated volunteer time from various health care providers such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, registered dietitians, translators and nursing and medical students. Our donation is a small, but much-appreciated part of what helps run this facility for so many people who could not otherwise afford good health care.

A THANK YOU

I had to leave the January RPCV meeting before the vote (consensus?) was concluded are the Malawi Children’s Villages support, but I see in the February newsletter that it went through. Will you please thank the group for its help.

Sherry Caves, Malawi ’69-’71

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SENT IN YOUR PROPOSAL TO THE EDITOR, IT HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO WALT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROMPTITUDE.
Calendar of Events

Apr 4, Tues General Meeting, Union South, 7:00. (Dayton & Randall St.)

It’s time to submit your donation proposals

Apr 9, Sun Family Brunch, at Jingles by the Coliseum.
Apr 12, Wed Poker at Deb Stapleton's, 2406 Sommers Ave., Madison, 244-8609;
7:00 Apr. 14, Fri DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER

Apr. ? Calendar Steering Committee Meeting

May 3, Wed General Meeting, Union South, 7:00. (Dayton & Randall St.)
A major topic will be the annual Giftaway donations
Jun 10 Sat Camping Trip, Sat.-Sun., Wyalusing State Park. (contact Terry Stark)
Jul .. Sat Canoe Trip? (Sat.-Sun.)
Aug .. Sun Pig Roast (Sat.-Sun.)

♥ A pair of reading glasses was left at Laura and Jim Good’s house after the slide viewing on January 30. Someone must be missing their glasses! Call Laura or Jim to retrieve them at 246-2818.

♥ Editor’s column will return next month

Sat May 13 - Cardinal Axe

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

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2714 Oakridge
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