President's Message

Last month's elections gave a big pat on the back to our current officers. Your votes put last year's stand-in/lame ducks Lori Merriam and Conrad Weifenbach back on two webbed feet as regularly elected president and vice president. Similar approval kept on Peter Joyce and Buck Trawicky as treasurer and secretary, and Mary Grace Ott and Helene Pesche as Board of Directors. Thank you for your support!

Calendar sales and distribution are falling nicely into place. Calendars have been delivered to, and should be soon available from, the following locations: Bookworks, Borders, Canterbury, Mimosa, Orange Tree Imports, Pauls Bookstore, Rainbow Books, Room of One's Own, and University Bookstores. This list will continue to grow and I will keep you updated. The calendar retails at $9.50. Watch for advertisements coming in the Holiday sections of Madison Newspapers and Isthmus.

I would like to encourage those of you who are sponsoring projects for funding to please be available at meetings, whenever possible. This may not always be possible due to distances and busy scheduling, but it's helpful. We need you to field questions and teach us more about the programs you feel are important. What has always been a special part of our Gift-Away has been the people-to-people connections we have made through financial sponsorship. For those unfamiliar with the group's sponsorship procedure, please note that we ask that a brief written proposal, sponsored by a group member, be included in the newsletter prior to the general meeting at which we can talk. At the general meeting we ask questions and discuss possibilities in order to reach consensus about funding. I was recently approached by a DC organization that wanted our officers to choose to fund their project. I found myself explaining that titles and offices did not authorize anyone to fund anything without discussion with the entire group. I doubt any of us would want it differently. So be there!

Lori
NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, November 1, 7:00 p.m.
Union South, 127 N. Randall St.

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

Wednesday, December 7, 7:00 p.m.
Union South, 127 N. Randall St.

Thursday, January 5, 7:00 p.m.
Union South, 127 N. Randall St.

Editor's Corner

- The United States represents 5% of the world's population, uses 25% of its energy, and is responsible for 22% of all CO2 emissions. In contrast, India has 16% of the world's population, uses 3% of its energy, and produces 3% of all CO2 emissions.

- Northern per capita CO2 emissions are on average 10 times higher than those of the South.

- All of Latin America consumes 10 times fewer paper products than the equivalent population found in the UK, US, France and former West Germany combined.

- US water consumption per capita is 115 times, and Canadian 75 times, that of most developing countries.

- A typical American meal travels 1,300 miles from farm field to dinner plate; in Africa it is generally a few hundred meters.

- The resource requirements of microwave-ready foods are about 10 times higher than those for preparing meals from scratch.

- It takes 94 times the amount of energy to obtain an out-of-season piece of fruit or vegetable from a foreign locale, and 30 times from a local greenhouse, than if obtained in-season and locally produced.

- Per capita, Americans generate over 12 times the municipal waste of Europeans. Source: WWF

Newsletter Policy
Since we're always trying to get new members, We'll send three copies of our newsletter to anyone we think will be interested. After that, 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.
Dates To Note

Saturday, October 29, Halloween Party at Deb Stapleton's home, 2406 Sommers Ave. Come as your favorite country/western singer, or whatever other costume gets you stompin'. 244-8609.

Tuesday, November 1, 7:00 p.m. General Meeting at Union South. Check Today in the Union for location. And Please get agenda items to Lori Merriam Before the weekend! 257-2271.

Sunday, November 13, 10:00 Calendar Committee Meeting. NEW Meeting Venue! As Barbara will be out of time, we would like to convene at Memorial Union's Lakefront Cafeteria. Whoever gets there first should hoard tables!

Wednesday, December 7, 7:00 p.m. General Meeting at Union South. Agenda items to Lori before Monday. 257-2271.

HALLOWEEN HOOLIGANISMS

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 29
7:00-lish
WHERE: Deb Stapleton's
2406 Sommers Ave 244-8609

Bring your own beverages and snacks
Everyone who's anyone dresses up—
(your favorite country-western star,
perhaps?) Coffin will be provided.
Kids welcome, of course!

POLAR ADVENTURES

January 1, 1995, the brave and not so brave will take the traditional plunge into the brisk waters of Lake Michigan with the Sheboygan Polar Bear Club. OK, it's not a tradition for the RPCVs yet, but this being the second annual... Susan, Buck, Sharon, Lori (yes, the Grand Poobah herself), Deb, Dave A. all showed their insanity verve last year. If you don't want to actually get wet, supporters are welcome, and it is a great party! Call Deb Stapleton or any of the above for details, car pooling, etc. Anyone interested in getting a group T-shirt for this event?
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
of Wisconsin/Madison
Friday, 9 Sept. 1994.

We met for a Friday potluck meeting at Ken Coffeen’s house on Rock Lake. Our food was displayed on tables in Ken’s garage, and we ate out in the dying sunshine. Delicious food, again, of course. Our meeting was indoors, so none of the neighbors could eavesdrop.

36 were present. We introduced ourselves, and each told her Worst Bug story. 2 cockroaches killed a mouse in Palau; one died inside a woman’s ear; rats in Nepal were addicted to Warfarin (their blood clotted up without it).

... The Pig Roast was a good success, better even than normal. The baby piglet was cute and delicious. We spent about $135 more than we collected, which is also normal.

Conrad, as VP, is heading up the Nominations Committee to recruit officers for the coming year.

We voted AYE to Don’s Motion to donate the $1000 our group was given with the Loret Ruppe Award, for our Calendar; the donation will go to a group helping alleviate the disaster in Rwanda. (See last Newsletter for text of Motion.)

We also voted AYE to Peter’s motion that we donate $400 to a peace project in Guatemala, which will try to bring together the different factions and voices in Guatemala in a civil dialog; this project is endorsed by the civil assembly, and by Rigoberta Menchú. (Again, see last Newsletter for text of Motion.)

And we voted AYE to Walt’s Motion to donate $250 to the Africa News Service (as per last Newsletter).

Sharon announced that the Train the Trainer workshop, for our Reconnect Project, will be the weekend of the Equinox, 23 Sept. Our group has volunteered to help returning PCVs re-integrate themselves into this culture. (Weird though it be.)

Gordon collected fellow table-sitters for our booth at the Willy St Fair.

Eric, as PC Recruiter, recruited helpers for talks etc. in the next month.

We’ll try to have a Thanksgiving and Praise of Ourselves Night, around Thanksgiving. Buck will organize.

And Pat Malone has joined the Jesuits!

Stunned and (some of us) pleased, we adjourned.

—Buck.
**RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF WISCONSIN--MADISON**

**MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 3, 1994**

**Introductions.** Twenty-one present. The question was what to bring or leave at home if you could do it over again.

**Special Guest.** John Thomas, a medical student representing SHIP (Students for the Health of International Populations) is looking for people, especially host country nationals, who can speak to their group on health issues in developing countries. If you can help, give John a call at 231-3759.

**The Mail Bag.** Lori received a letter from Jim Smith who is having a good time gallivanting around Europe. We received a letter from our favorite international photographer, Renee Moog, with a picture enclosed of the Senegalese gentleman who designed the fabric that is reproduced on the cover of our 1994 calendar proudly holding a copy of the calendar!

**Elections.** The slate of candidates whose names appeared on the ballot in the Newsletter were elected by a vote of 22-0. Officers for 1994-95 are Lori Merriam, President, Conrad Weiffenbach, Vice-President, Peter Joyce, Treasurer, Buck Trawicky, Secretary and Mary Grace Ott and Helene Pesche, At-Large Board Members.

**Recent Events.** Don reported on the Harvest Moon Party at Mary Grace and Dan's out in the country under the Harvest Moon. We had a little ceremony in which Mary Grace read some Eastern poems, then we ate, drank and talked around the bonfire. The food was the best in a long time and that's saying a lot as the food is always superb at our potlucks!

Rose Ann reported on the Train the Trainers workshop at which Nedra Hartzell from the National Council gave us tips on setting up a program to assist recently-returned PCV's. Thirteen of us were in attendance. We began by describing our feelings on first returning. They ranged from excited to lost. We ended with a brainstorming session to come up with resources in our group and the community to help recently-returned PCV's find jobs and make the psychological adjustment to life in the USA. We agreed to meet again on Wednesday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. at Gordy's to come up with a needs assessment instrument and otherwise get the project rolling. Sharon Lewandowski is the Chair of this Committee, so give her a call at 241-2392 if interested.

**Committee Reports.** Dave Atkinson spoke on Freeze For Food, our annual 10K run and 5K fun run/walk which this year will be held on Saturday, January 28th. Dave requested $400 in seed money for expenses and the motion was approved 22-0. Dave also advised that we will need 25-30 bodies there the day of the race and other helpers to
prepare in the weeks beforehand. Give Dave a call at 246-4160 if interested in pre-race preparations.

Don reports that the Calendar is going well. Five thousand have been shipped so far and now is the time to begin weekly packing parties. Give Kevin a call at 849-8364 if interested in packing and partying. Kevin will then call you when you are needed.

We need a contact person for Winter Retreat. Rose Ann graciously volunteered to perform this task. Gordon mentioned that he received a message from the Minnesota group indicating that they would be interested in a joint winter activity. Will have to get back to them.

Money Requests. We agreed to put on hold the request for $1200 for a motorized wheelchair for a person from Turkmanistan inasmuch as Sandy, who knows the most about this, has returned to sunny California and the Milwaukee group, which initiated the request, is now defunct.

Other. Barbara C. is involved with the Madison Urban Ministry in putting on a conference on May 6-7 on multicultural diversity in the Madison area entitled "Community in Transition—Making Diversity Work". If interested in helping plan the conference, call Barbara at 271-2405.

Joe Mathers from the CAC (Community Action Coalition) has an opening for a half-time Youth Garden Coordinator to mentor adults who will be in charge of the youth gardens. The pay is $9 per hour and the duties include providing support, training and coordination and developing skills in and the enjoyment of gardening. If interested call Joe at the CAC 266-9730.

UNICEF has sent us a packet of global education materials suitable for elementary school students. If you want it for school or for other projects, call Lori at 257-2271.

Don't forget the Halloween party on Saturday, October 29th at Deb Stapleton's, 2406 Sommers Ave.

Finally, Jerry Butz advised us that October is Infant Loss Awareness Month and that a quilt is on display at Meriter Hospital containing a square that Jerry and Linda made for their daughter Elena. Jerry also advised that they are expecting again in April.

And so on that note we adjourned to the Red Oak Grill.

Love,

Gordo
Donation Proposal

11 October 1994 (Pre-Columbus Day)

Sharon Lewandowski, our friend, fellow-member, and past President (and my sweetie), is going to Haiti in November, as part of a delegation of members of Witness For Peace. The trip is 9 days long, and costs $1200. She’s paying much of it herself, and has already raised a portion of the rest.

Sharon has been very active for years in efforts to promote non-violent solutions to conflict in Central America, and in Central American refugee work. We gave her a donation in 1988 to help pay for language lesson expenses, when she went to Nicaragua for a year as a member there of the WFP Long-Term Team. (She did very good work, and impressed all who met her -- I’ve talked to them.)

This is a rapid-response delegation, of 8-10 hand-picked people from all over the country. Sharon was recruited a week ago, at a Conference she’d organized here.

The purpose of the Haiti trip is to meet with human-rights groups, to assess the current situation, to lay the groundwork for a long-term WFP presence, and to organize on return.

I propose this MOTION: That RPCVs of WI/Madison donate to Sharon Lewandowski the sum of $100 (one hundred) to help pay for her presence on a Witness For Peace delegation to Haiti in November 1994.

-- Buck Trawicky.

A CALL FOR RPCV INVOLVEMENT

For several months, as many of you already know, I have been working with a committee of the Madison Urban Ministry (MUM) in planning a conference on the growing cultural, racial and economic diversity in Madison and Dane County. This conference is an effort to find ways to deal with the diversity more effectively using positive perspectives. This event, called "A Community in Transition: Making Diversity Work." It will be held on the afternoons of May 6 and 7, 1995, at the Wisconsin Center.

The conference is being designed now with a format that includes 3 1-1/2 hour periods for workshops, 1-2 plenary sessions, and an action planning session [on the second day]. A keynote speaker to state the goals for the conference is being selected to open the event. Workshop sessions are being proposed now. At the end of the first day a social gathering with sharing of breads from many cultures is being suggested. Opportunities for children to participate and for artists to perform have been suggested and will, I think, also be developed.

I am coming to you, because I think their is a valuable reservoir of experience and skills within the Madison RPCVs that could be beneficial to the conference. It offers a different kind of avenue for bringing the world back home. Already we have committed $250 from the 1995 calendar Giftaway to support this project, and now that the date and place are set, we can deliver this tangible support. Equally important to me is to invite those of you who share this interest to consider bringing your ideas and energies to developing this conference. If this activity appeals to you, please call me soon at 271-2405. I hope to hear from many of us!

Barbara Chatterjee
September 19, 1994

Mr. Don Sauer
RPCV's of Madison
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

Dear Mr. Sauer:

I want to thank you and the other RPCV's of Madison, Wisconsin for your very generous contribution of $1,000.00 to benefit CARE's relief efforts in and around Rwanda.

In response to this epic tragedy, CARE is assisting close to one million people in Rwanda and the neighboring countries of Zaire, Tanzania and Uganda where large numbers of Rwandans have fled to escape the violence. In addition, CARE is working in central and southern Rwanda to conduct emergency and rehabilitation work.

CARE sincerely appreciates your contribution, as well as the generosity of the other volunteers attending the Peace Corps conference. To date, over $7,000 has been raised from RPCV members and chapters for CARE's relief efforts in Rwanda.

On behalf of the Rwandan people, thank you for your generosity and support.

Sincerely,

Katharine Day Bremer
Volunteer with Centro Hispano

Centro Hispano’s youth programs need people who are interested in making a difference for Middle School or High School Students. Tutors serve as role models and work one on one with students to complete homework and participate in recreational and educational activities. For more information call 255-3018. The ability to speak Spanish is welcome but not required.

Donors honored at Prairies Jubilee

Progress in restoring the largest tallgrass prairie ecosystem in the state at Goose Pond was celebrated at Prairies Jubilee. A plaque next to the Goose Pond information board lists Acre Makers; bricks are engraved with names of donors of $250 to $999. MAS president Don Hanon announced contributions total over $216,000, $57,000 of which came from the state DNR Stewardship Fund. Two recent bequests and other donations have pushed the total still higher.

Negotiations are now underway to add 40 more acres to the 174-acre sanctuary. The donors listed below help continue this progress, and also help Madison Audubon achieve its many other goals. A very big thank you to all.

The following gifts were received prior to the newsletter deadline.

ACRE MAKER
In memory of Amy B. Wood
Ken and Levi Wood
HALF-ACRE MAKER
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin (addition to previous donation)

Doyle learned a lesson abroad
Cites a diversity of experience

By Cary Segall
Wisconsin State Journal

Jim Doyle says he learned his most important lessons in life in Tunisia struggling to survive on tough, old camel meat.

It was 1967 and Doyle and Jessica Laird were newly married and had just joined the Peace Corps. They had stars in their eyes and were out to change the world, but quickly learned they were the ones about to be dramatically changed.

Doyle says he and Laird were sent to teach English to students in Tozeur, a Tunisian oasis on the edge of the Sahara Desert.

“I learned the most important lessons of my life within two weeks of arriving, that they have lived there for 2,000 years and they had a lot more to teach me about living in the desert than I could teach them,” Doyle says.

“It was two of the most valuable years we could have spent.

“How I looked at life today would have been very different if I hadn’t gone through it. We simply had to learn what it meant to survive.”

And that meant, Doyle says, just getting enough food to eat every day.

“There was a market where we would eat camel meat,” he says, “and when I say camel meat, I don’t mean the nice young camel, I mean the tough old camel that was no longer of an use.”

Overall, he says, the experience has helped him deal with wide variety of people throughout his career as an Indian legs services lawyer, Dane County district attorney, lawyer in private practice and, for the last four years, Democratic state attorney general.

“It taught me to value the variety of life in the world and taught me how to be patient and how to work with people from very different backgrounds, Doyle says.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Spacious, light, airy 2 BR apartment on Spaight St. $225/month plus 1/2 utilities. Call Sue at 251-2130.

DARLING LITTLE KITTIES soon will need homes. Little Miss Muffet is due any day now and in a couple of months her kittens will be big enough to leave their mother. Call Gordon at 255-3261 or Susan or Shelley at 259-1125.
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 ($1.25 per month for each month through 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 Peace Corps Association through us by paying a further $20.00. We strongly encourage all members to join the National Association, which provides us a way to affect national issues.

☐ I want to join RPCVW, Inc. and am enclosing $__________________
  ___ Individual - $15.00 for one year (or $1.25 per month to next January)
  ___ Joint - $20.00 (Two people receiving one newsletter)
  ___ Overseas Individual - $24.00
  ___ Overseas Joint - $29.00

☐ I am also enclosing $20.00 for membership in the National Peace Corps Association. ($27.50 for joint membership - two people with the same address)

☐ I do not want to join, but would like to receive the newsletter and am enclosing $7.00 ($15.00 for overseas) to cover the costs.

☐ I'm Moving!  Please change my mailing address on your records.

Name: ____________________________  Country of Service: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________  Service Dates: ____________________________
                               ____________________________  Home Telephone: ____________________________
PC Job: ____________________________  Work Telephone: ____________________________

Please make checks payable to RPCV's of Wisconsin, Inc. and send to:
RPCV's of Wisconsin, Inc. - Madison Chapter
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

marked Attention Membership!

QUESTIONS? PROBLEMS?  Call Susan Mendrysa at 608/259-1125 most evenings and weekends.
Or try 608/263-9596 weekdays and ask for Susan.

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin
Madison Chapter
Gordon Malaise, Editor
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

Rose Ann Scott
2714 Oakridge
Madison, WI 53704  Exp. Date: 1/95