August 1997

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Directions: Hwy 14 out of Madison. Turn right on Hwy. 92. Follow Hwy. 92 three miles out of Brooklyn. We are on the left with a gray house and wrap around porch.

This will be the biggest roundest and most beautiful moon of the year. Come prepared to view this marvel. Dress warmly. We'll have a bonfire, make some music, and tell stories. This is a time of love, harvest, and abundance. A time to stay up late and bathe in the glow of the moon.

It is said about the FULL MOON:

If a woman is truly eager to bear a child, she should boil a bit of rhubarb in one cup of white wine. Then shall she place this mixture in a chalice of silver or glass, and partake of it under the light of the Full Moon. This shall make her womb ready to conceive.

Two handfuls of rose petals thrown into the air at the Full Moon will bring as many joys as there are petals that fall to the earth.

Those people who rise when the Moon rises in the east shall be blessed with psychic gifts and second sight.

Turning your back on the Moon in scorn of her influence will assure you of ill fortune.

It is a good omen to spot a wild rabbit on the night of the Full Moon.

Women should bear the image of the Moon on their person in some form to reap the greatest benefits and joys from their womanhood. Men, however, should avoid wearing a Moon image, lest their potency be damaged.

Speak your fears and troubles to the Waning Moon to have them allayed; speak your hopes and wishes to the Waxing Moon to have them realized.

Volume 17, Number 8

Upcoming Special Events

Summer Picnic / Pig Roast
August 23 & 24

At the Mike and Marcy Read farm near Arlington; camp out the night before and greet the Sunday arrivals. (608) 635-2161.

Directions: Take Hwy 51 north from Madison, past DeForest. Continue north to the junction of Hwy 51 and Hwy 22. Take Hwy 22 north, then turn east (right) on Hwy 60. Go one mile on Hwy 60 and turn left onto Harvey Road. The Read farm is 3/4 of a mile north from the intersection of Hwy 60 and Harvey Road. The house number is N1789. Enjoy!

HARVEST MOON CELEBRATION
By: Dan Ott

When: Saturday September 13, 1997
6pm Potluck

Where: Mary Grace and Dan Ott's
W971 Hwy. 92 Brooklyn, WI
455-1426

Bring: Musical Instruments and Food
Executive Committee 1996-1997

President  Deb Stapleton, 244-8609
            Email: staplda@dhhs.state.wi.us
Vice President  Melanie Brooks, 255-8131
Secretary  Buck Trawicky, 241-2392
Treasurer  Rose Ann Scott, 241-0845
            Email: scottr@gencas.com

Members-at-Large:
  Don Sauer -- in Pakistan (truly at-large)
            Email: sauer@dhsa.psw.erum.com.pk
  Rochelle Goedken, 243-0298

Registered Agent  Gordon Malaise, 255-3261

Community Projects  (your name here?)
International Calendar Project
Coordinator  Rochelle Goedken, 243-0289
Calendar Order Hotline  (608) 829-2677

Events
Freeze for Food  Dave & Deb Hamilton, 873-5437

Family Brunch  Sheila Przesmicki, 244-6454

Cardinal Benefit  Kathleen Quinlan, 249-6437

Finance
  Rose Ann Scott, 241-0845

Global Education  (your name here?)

Membership
Coordinator  Melanie Brooks, 257-8630

Membership Directory / Mailing Labels
  Susan Mendrysa, 255-7053
            Email: mendrysa@students.wisc.edu

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

Speakers’ Bureau  (your name here?)

Visibility
Newsletter Editor  Isabel Molina-Jefferson, 846-1736
            Email: imolina@inxpress.net

WebSite
  Dean Jefferson, 224-4787
            Email: wirpvc@execpc.com

Campus Peace Corps Recruiter  Erik Jensen, 262-1121

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RPCVs of Wisconsin — Membership Information

All RPCVs of Wisconsin-Madison receive a monthly newsletter, World Roots, on payment of annual dues shown below. To avoid record-keeping hassles, we prefer that members pay through December of the year of joining ($1.25 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 (NPCA) through us by paying an additional $20. We strongly encourage you to join the NPCA, which provides us a way to affect national issues.

(check all the following that apply)

- I want to join RPCVW, Inc. and am enclosing $__
- Individual - $15 for one year (or $1.25 per month to next January)
- Joint - $20 (two people receiving one newsletter)
- Overseas Individual - $24
- Overseas Joint - $29
- I am also enclosing $20 for NPCA membership. ($27.50 for joint membership - two people with the same address)
- I do not want to join, but I would like to receive World Roots and am enclosing $7 ($15 for overseas) to cover the costs.
- I am moving! Please change my mailing address on your records.

Name: ____________________________

Country of Service: ____________________________

Address: ______________________________________

____________________________________

Service Dates: ____________________________

PC Job: ____________________________

Telephone(s): __________(H) __________(W)

Email address: ____________________________

Birthdate: (optional — month & day) __________

The RPCVs of Wisconsin-Madison are an active bunch, and there’s always a need for new blood. If you’re willing to be called to help out, make your mark:

- I might be interested in doing something, but
  I’d like to get more information. Call me.

Send completed form & check to: RPCVs of Wisconsin - Madison, P.O. Box 1012, Madison, WI 53701
The Afghans around Peshawar are very high in altitude so they do not get as hot as we do. The average temperature in Peshawar is about 90°F in the summer, and it never drops below 60°F at night. It is very dry, and the humidity is low, which makes it feel much hotter than it actually is. The city is surrounded by desert, and the wind is constant, which helps to cool the air. The city is located on a hill, which helps to keep it cool as well. The city is also surrounded by mountains, which provide a natural barrier against the hot winds from the south.

The city is very dusty, and the wind is constant, which helps to carry dust and sand. The dust is very fine and can penetrate deep into the skin and eyes. The city is very dry, and the humidity is low, which means that the dust is very thick and can get into your nose and throat easily. The city is located in a very dry area, and the water supply is limited. The water is very hard, and it is not safe to drink. The city is also located in a very dry area, and the air is very dry. The city is very dusty, and the wind is constant, which helps to carry dust and sand. The dust is very fine and can penetrate deep into the skin and eyes. The city is very dry, and the humidity is low, which means that the dust is very thick and can get into your nose and throat easily. The city is located in a very dry area, and the water supply is limited. The water is very hard, and it is not safe to drink. The city is also located in a very dry area, and the air is very dry.
Oddly enough, the Pakistanis are avid billiards players and there is some talk of pressing to have billiards become an Olympic sport so they have a better chance to win a medal. They already do well at Field Hockey and Squash. Cricket is also a very popular sport here but it seems unlikely that Cricket will make it into the Olympic pantheon anytime soon. It is, to the uninitiated, much more boring than baseball. I once watched a championship match for an hour. The same two guys batted the whole time. The same team was on the field the whole time. The pitcher or "spinner" as he is called in Cricket looked so discouraged. And only occasionally did anybody ever run fast. And the scores are things like 358 to 46. It gets quite ridiculous sometimes.

If all goes well I will be going to Herat next week. My purpose will be to review a whole series of projects for our sister NGO who will be facing an evaluation by their European donor agency this fall. My job is to look at the projects with a western set of eyes and ask the staff the questions that the evaluators will probably ask. That way they can be somewhat prepared when the real thing comes around. We will also be doing surveys and needs assessments for a whole new set of project proposals that will be put together between now and the end of the year. Sounds kind of like being a bureaucrat doesn't it. Oh well at least I will be doing it in Herat.

In the mid 70s Herat was declared a "World Cultural Site" by the UN and was supposedly put off limits to warfare. Ah, idealism. Herat does have a very important cultural history. It has been a center of population and a stop on primary trading routes for something like 3000 years. It has been ruled by Jenghiz Khan, Timurlane, Persian Kings, the Ghaznavids and one of the centers of education of the ancient world was located in Herat. It was founded by a Ghaznavid queen (a rarity in itself) and was known in contemporary Europe as well as the Islamic world. There are ancient mosques that rival those in Isfahan and Meshed in Iran. There are ancient baths that were the pleasure domes of long ago royalty. It is a center of carpet weaving, honey production and has a tradition of being one of the most cosmopolitan and erudite places in Afghanistan. Currently it is ruled by the Taliban who frown from under their black turbans at anything that smacks of pleasure or erudition but it is to be hoped that the traditional Herati spirit will again assert itself before too many more years pass.

I was there for about 4 days almost 30 years ago so what I have told you is second hand info at best. Perhaps by my next dispatch I will have some eyewitness accounts to share.

This will be my third trip into Afghanistan since I came and it is the best part of my job. Getting around in Afghanistan is a major undertaking but the interest I feel in this part of the world has not diminished. Still my travels and conversations with Afghans lead me to feel like more of a foolish wanderer each time I go. The situation seems more complex. I feel less sure of my perceptions. And I end up not knowing whether hope is realistic or simply the only mental attitude which can support sanity in a situation with so many negative factors involved.

Sorry I missed the campout in June. I hear a good time was had. In case anybody sent anything I have not yet received it. Mike Mc? said something about some notes he was supposed to send. Hope it didn't get waylaid. Hello to all back there. Be good to one another. Thanks for your love and support.

Don Sauer
**Treasurer's Report**  
*By: Rose Ann Scott, Treasurer*  
06/01/97 to 06/30/97

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**Where does the $ Go...**  
*By: Sheila Przemicki*

Where Does the Money Go?  
(Sometimes, Right Into Our Ears)

RPCV's are some of the many sponsors of Wisconsin Public Radio (WPR) - probably because we know where to get news (that we can't seem to get otherwise) of our long lost host countries-among other things. There's also good music and great, informational programming. (Okay, so I'm giving some free advertising.)

The RPCV's of WI have also supported WPR financially as a group during the past few years - probably more, though MY history of the money does not go back that far.

In April, 1996, we approved a contribution of $150 to WPR. In August of that year, we received a little more than the standard "Amount received...Thank you for your contribution."

Sue Cleary, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Public Radio Association, wrote us a more personal note.
"The gift from the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of $150 was a delightful surprise. By now you should have received the official "thank you" receipt, but I asked for a copy of your letter so I could thank you more personally.

"Since my daughter Beth is now serving as a PCV (a "fishhead") in Cameroun, Africa, I take a very special interest in your group and hope she will someday be a member. I bought 10 of the classy calendars for Christmas giving last year and look forward to the 1997 edition. If part of the proceeds are coming back to Wisconsin Public Radio, maybe I'll buy 15 this year! (PLEASE NOTE: WE DID ALSO APPROVE A DONATION IN THE '97 GIVEAWAY.)

"You asked for a description of how your gift is spent: the contributions all go for programming in one way or another, either for CDs in the music library or for salaries for people like Tom Clark, Bill Lutes, or Jean Feraca. I honestly can't pinpoint just where your $150 went, but I assure you it was needed and used to maintain the quality of the broadcasting you apparently value.

"Beth's dad and I have agreed to be the "parents who went to visit" speakers at the RPCV brunch. (DOES ANYONE KNOW IF THEY SPOKE THIS PAST APRIL?) If you are there, please come and introduce yourself. In the meantime, please convey the gratitude of the WPR staff to your group."

Minutes from the General Meeting of 7/8/97
By: Terry Stark, Volunteer Scribe

"So, how many of us are there? somebody asked as we wondered out loud if our numbers constituted a quorum. Eight voting members and four guests, was the answer, and then Melanie Brooks arrived to ensure a quorum.

As is customary, we introduced ourselves. Among the visitors to the meeting were Tanya Droessler and her parents. Tanya will be well on her way to settling in with a Panamanian host family and going through training, by the time we all read these minutes. July 14 she will have left to begin her three month PCV training period in Panama! Wow! Congratulations to you, Tanya! I am sure your parents are very proud of you, and we all wish you the best.

Ken started things off with a follow-up to Don Sauer's request, in his letter in the July newsletter. Don had asked Ken to investigate the possibility of obtaining and sending a Computer Aided Design (CAD) software program, to help the Civil Engineers in the agency where he works. Without delay, Ken investigated the matter of shipping the program and fat software manuals all the way to Pakistan, in order to present the cost as a project proposal. Ken agreed to put the proposal in the August newsletter. (author's note: since the meeting I have learned that the agency where Don works already has obtained the CAD software program. Therefore Ken will not be making this proposal).

Deb, our president, passed around a copy of the '98 calendar. It is printed now, and very nice. At Ken's suggestion, we all decided to "regalarse a Tanya" (give it to Tanya), so that she can take it with her to Panama. Excellent idea, Ken!

Funding proposals:
Mike Boehm, Revolving Loan Fund for Pho Khanh Village, Vietnam. It seems we are all familiar with this $2,000 proposal. Mike gave an informative slide presentation at our June meeting. (see July newsletter). A motion was made to approve, it was seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
Ralph Otte, PCV Bookaid, $800.00 (see July newsletter). Ralph is the president of a group called Friends of Peace Corps. Members of this group gather TEFL and other textbooks for free, but shipping costs money. This project ships books overseas to PCVs who request them. A motion was made and, after a pause, several people asked questions. Would someone be following up on this project? Who would be able to provide some sort of progress report? Of course, we are glad that Ralph, who lives in California, is a member of the RPCV of WI-Madison Chapter, and it was suggested that maybe someone could contact Ralph and touch base with him, in an effort to establish actual human contact. Or perhaps Ralph could contact one of the officers of the group to establish that contact. In light of the questions, a motion was made to table the proposal until further information could be obtained.

Buck Trawicky, Madison Youth Hostel, $500.00 (see July newsletter). Everyone seemed familiar with this proposal, a motion was made, another person seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

At this point one of our guests, Amy Whitish, briefly described her service in the Dominican Republic. Amy just returned in May from her Peace Corps service in Hato Mayor, D.R. where she taught primary school teachers, grades 1-8, how to prepare activities out of recycled items like cardboard boxes and Styrofoam plates. Amy, welcome back to the U.S.! And a warm welcome back also to Martin Temple, who accompanied Amy to our meeting. Martin also was in the D.R. and taught at an English Christian school, albeit not in the capacity of a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Finally, our esteemed President, Deb Stapleton, reminded everyone of the August potluck meeting at Sophia Zermuehlen's home. Thank you Sophia for graciously hosting this upcoming potluck. Take your own washable plates and silverware, and enjoy a delicious feast. Deb also gave a quick update on her trip to the National RPCV Conference in San Diego, to take place July 10 through the 13th. YAH! Deb and Susan Hundt-Bergan will represent the RPCV of WI-Madison chapter together at the conference. They plan to take 6 boxes of our new '98 calendars and, at the special conference price of $5.00 each, they hope to sell all 600 calendars. A sincere thank you to Deb and Susan for spending their time, effort and money to represent our group at this important event. Best wishes to you for a successful conference and an enjoyable trip. Less than 45 minutes had passed from the start of the meeting when we adjourned.

Calendar Steering Committee Minutes of Monday, July 14, 1997

By: Rochelle Goedken (RG)

Present: Rochelle Goedken (RG), Barbara Chatterjee (BC), Rose Ann Scott (RAS), Prudence Barber (PB), Walt Zeltner (WZ), and Buck Trawicky (BT).

Production 23,800 calendars were received. All have been labeled and stacked in Gordon's garage. Total cost was $33,213.00. A CD ROM file of photos from this year has been finished and will be available for future marketing.

Marketing - Dean Jefferson will update our website and will attend our next meeting on Wednesday, August 13th to discuss the changes that need to be made. BT stated that he put a new message on our answering machine. Deb Stapleton traveled to the NPCA conference in San Diego, RG will call her for details and report at next meeting. PB will send information to potential large chain calendar sellers. The ad for World View is due in September and BC is working on this. BC and RAS will investigate other potential ad placements, i.e. Friends of the United Nations and National Geographic. BC is working on a glossy brochure with photos and will report on its progress next month.
Distribution - RAS is working at programming our new computer, Volunteers will be needed to enter data for incoming orders and producing invoices. NPCA will have 3000 calendars (30 boxes) mailed via UPS in August. BT will arrange this. Volunteers will also be needed for packing parties. Sign up sheets for volunteers will be passed around at the next meeting (potluck). Remember next meeting is Wednesday, August 13 at Rose Ann Scott's home.

Other NPCA news: The group seems stronger than ever with membership steadily growing and the continued affiliation with Country of Service groups, Friends of...groups, etc. However, dues don't cover membership expenses, so the Board is reviewing a proposal to increase dues from $35.00 to $40.00(this includes local group dues). Let me know if you want to voice an opinion on this. Global teachnet is a new global ed program directed at teachers via the Web, and offering grants for sharing successful classroom programs. I have more inf. if you want it. The NPCA will pursue stronger emphasis on the Country of Service group activities at future conferences. The board will discuss scheduling conferences yearly, biannually, or every 5 years with regional conferences. Our group was approached as potential and able hosts of the next conference. I made an executive decision and declined—but I know who to contact if we decide to go for it in the future (seems like once per century is sufficient).

Now, imagine this: A general meeting of RPCVs, their commitment and energy renewed after three days of workshops and camaraderie, and African dance, gathering to approve the NPCA mission statement! (I can almost see you civil servants shuddering at the thought). A place in heaven has been allocated to the moderators who held that discussion to 20 minutes. The mission: "Continue to work for world peace, understanding, and well-being, with an emphasis on bringing the world back home".

On the homefront: Felicitaciones to Terry Stark and Guadalupe Torrentera who will marry Saturday, August 2 in Mexico's Distrito Federal.

See you at the August potluck at Sophia Zermuehlen's, 6:00pm, bring a dish to pass and your own eating utensils! Peace ☮

Mensaje de la Presidenta
By: Deb Stapleton, President

I wish there were a way to bottle and distribute the praise and warm fuzzies and appreciation we received at the National Peace Corps Association Conference in San Diego for the excellent 1998 International Calendar; everyone who has worked to produce this should share the wealth. It was so much FUN meeting people who look forward to this calendar each year! Many thanks to Susan Hundt-Bergan who set up the booth and helped sell out the 622 available calendars (619 in the first day!) We easily could have sold 100-200 more, but did take some orders. Thanks also to Ken Coffeen and Buck Trawicky for early legwork in preparation to go sell.

Big news! Our group was further honored by receiving the award for Best Newsletter (of a geographic group)—our own World Roots, Earl Bricker, Editor. It's nice to see that not only do we appreciate his efforts and those of the many contributors in the past year, so does the rest of the country!
I have always listened with admiration, if not envy, to the declarations of citizens who tell how they have lived for twenty or thirty years in the same section of town, or even the same house, and who have never been out of their native city.

Not to feel the torturing need to know and see for oneself what is there, beyond the mysterious blue wall of the horizon, not to find the arrangements of life monotonous and depressing, to look at the white road leading off into the unknown distance without feeling the imperious necessity of giving in to it and following it obediently across mountains and valleys! The cowardly belief that a man must stay in one place is too reminiscent of the unquestioning resignation of animals, beasts of burden stupefied by servitude and yet always willing to accept the slipping on of the harness.

There are limits to every domain, and laws to govern every organized power. But the vagrant owns the whole vast earth that ends only at the nonexistent horizon, and his empire is an intangible one, for his domination and enjoyment of it are things of the spirit."

Dave Stevens lives in Keizer, Oregon.

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**Wanderlust defined... some thoughts...**

Excerpted from The West Cascade Peace Corps Association in Oregon’s Southern Willamette Valley "ReConnections" issue of June 1997 by Dave Stevens (Botswana, 1989-91):

In her book The Oblivion Seekers, Isabelle Eberhardt, that eccentric North African traveler, wrote about the freedom to wander: "To have a home, a family, a property or a public function, to have a definite means of livelihood and to be a useful cog in the social machine, all these things seem necessary, even indispensable, to the vast majority of men, including intellectuals, and including even those who think of themselves as wholly liberated. And yet such things are only a different form of slavery that comes of contact with others, especially regulated and continued contact.
Coming Up...

August General Membership meeting
Is scheduled for Friday, August 1 at 6pm. It's a potluck at Sophie Zermuehlem's, 317 Bordner Drive, Madison. (608) 233-7886.

Directions: From downtown Madison take University Avenue west past Hilldale Mall, stay in the right lane because you will need to take the Old Middleton Road exit. Go down Old Middleton and take a left onto Rosa Rd. (if you come to Old Sauk Rd you missed your turn). From Rosa Rd. take an immediate right turn onto Bordner Dr. Enjoy!

Calendar Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 13 at Rose Ann Scott's home. (7:00 - 9:00 pm) 2714 Oakridge Avenue, Madison.

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
of Wisconsin-Madison
Isabel Molina-Jefferson, Editor
PO Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701-1012

Organizational member of the Wisconsin Network for Peace & Justice (WNPJ)

RPCV of WI Wade Dallagran left last July 9th with a group of local High School students for a three week educational mission to South Africa. We will talk to Wade upon his return to find out more about the trip.


The deadline for the September newsletter is Friday, August 22nd.