President's message

Sometimes the Veep has duties that involve more than sitting around basking in Limbo. This is one of those times. Our own beloved leader, Chris Purdy has decided to pursue higher learning at Ann Arbor, and is not going to be around much. Let's take the time we have left with him to show how much we appreciate his DYNAMITE leadership, humor, and patience this year!

RETREAT!! That, by the way, is actually an order to advance. Our group is big, it's busy, and it's important. We're also constantly changing. The Retreat is geared to help us define the direction we want to take as a group, explore the ways we keep members happy, and how to improve this. Because the ad-hoc discussions have led to so many ideas it's hard to keep them all straight, Earl Bricker has arranged for two objective facilitators to assist this process: Judy Wilcox is an RPCV and member of the county board, and Carol Lobes is the Director of the Wisconsin Clearinghouse. Both are experienced at helping groups to find an agenda, stick to it, and get good work done with a minimum amount of boredom or bloodshed. Now for your part: It is the responsibility of everyone who loves this group to help its growth and direction. PLEASE do what you can to attend this event. If you are a core member who attends every meeting, be there. If you come to some stuff, or use to come to RPCV events PLEASE be there. If you're a new RPCV and don't know much about what's going on, be there. And if you have an interest in how we can achieve the goals of the group as well as meet your own goals as a member, BE THERE.

Earl has arranged for a caterer, Out to Lunch, to furnish boxed lunches at about $5.00. These offer turkey or veggie sandwich, salad, and cookie. Please RSVP to Earl by August 6th. (244-0289).

The event will take place at the Wil-mar Center, 923 Jenifer Street, beginning at 9:00am sharp, ending about 4:30.

This is important.

Know what else is important? Fun, friends, food, and the Pig Roast. We're making an attempt to draw RPCVs from neighboring groups, as well as members who aren't around as much as they used to be (you know who you are, and we miss you!). And if you know any RPCVs who aren't affiliated with our group, offer them a special welcome.

Peace - Deb Stapleton
OFFICERS & COMMITTEES:

PRESIDENT
  Chris Purdy  278-7000
VICE PRESIDENT
  Deb Stapleton  244-8609
SECRETARY
  Buck Trawicky  241-2392
TREASURER
  Rose Ann Scott  241-0845
DEADWOOD
  Lori Merriam  257-2271
AGENT
  Gordon Malaise  255-3261
FREEZE FOR FOOD
  Dave Atkinson  246-4160
FAMILY BRUNCH
  Shelly Goedken  259-1125
SPEAKERS BUREAU
  Eric Jensen  259-9687
GLOBAL EDUCATION
  Dave Wakely  255-1339
INTERNAL EDUCATION
  ???your name here???

CALENDAR
  • HOTLINE  (608) 829-2677
  • PRODUCTION
    Jim Good  246-2818
  • GRAPHICS
    Julie Olsen  242-1355
  • DISTRIBUTION
    Kevin Nies  849-8364
    Dean Jefferson  223-1823
    Phyllis Noble  241-9569
  • STEERING COMMITTEE
    Barbara Chatterjee  271-2405
MEMBERSHIP
  Susan Mendrysa  259-1125
SOCIAL
  Sharon Lewandowski  241-2392
NEWSLETTER
  • EDITOR
    Gordon Malaise  255-3261
  • LABELS
    Susan Mendrysa  259-1125
PROPERTY LIBRARIAN
  ???your name here???
HISTORIAN
  ???your name here???
ADVENTURE
  Buck Trawicky  241-2392
CAMPUS PC RECRUITER
  Erik Jensen  262-1121

ROOM 240, Agriculture Hall
Tues. 9:00 am 12:00 pm
Wed. 1:00 pm 4:00 pm
Fri. 10:00 am 1:00 pm

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, August 7, 7:30 p.m.
Memorial Union, Langdon St.

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

Thursday September 5, 7:00 P.M.
Union South, 127 N. Randall St.

TREASURER'S REPORT

6/15/95 TO 7/15/95

CALENDAR BUDGET
  Bal Fwd  38,541.98
  97 Calendar Sales  +  19.50
  Interest  +  107.09
  Newsletter Postage  +  
  Phone  -  134.28
  State of Wisconsin  -  15.00
  Straus Printing  -10,913.94
  Artifax  -  3,091.00
  Calendar Balance  24,514.35

GROUP BUDGET
  Bal Fwd  177.49
  Membership  +  8.75
  Newsletter Print  +  88.17
  Newsletter Postage  -  
  Nomination Party  +  96.34
  Nomination Party  -  96.34
  Group Balance  98.07

*** GETTING LOW ***

GLOBAL EDUCATION  2,096.20
LARGE PROJECTS  7,414.00
GIFTAWAY  392.09
ANNUAL PROJECTS  3,032.95

ACCOUNT BALANCES
  Checking  1,592.37
  Market @ 4.75%  13,488.77
  Calvert @ 4.75%  22,466.52
  Total  37,547.66

CALENDAR INVENTORY
  Purchased  20,350
  On Hand  18,836

  Sales  1,050
  Schools  4
  Unaccounted for  0
  Informants  5
  Marketing  3
  Consignment  459

NEWSLETTER POLICY: Since we are always trying to get new members, we will 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

Wednesday, August 7: General Meeting MEMORIAL UNION, 7:30!! Longdon St.

Saturday, August 10: RETREAT Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. 9am - 4:30pm. RSVP to Earl, 244-0289, for boxed lunch.

Friday - Sunday, August 16 - 18: National Peace Corps Association General Meeting and conference, Shawnee, PA. Call Don, 244-0283 for details.

Saturday, Sunday, August 17, 18: Canoe Trip Spring Green to Muscoda. Call John or Mary Frantz, 608-325-3242.

Saturday-Sunday, August 24, 25: PIG ROAST Mike and Marcy Read's farm. See Pig.

FOR MEMBERS ONLY:

You may purchase the 1997 calendar for $4 each if the money is received on or before the September Meeting. Send your money now to:
RPCV, Box 1012, Madison, WI 53701
to assure your order.

-------------------------A Fund Raising Motion-------------------------

In order to raise funds for our depleted treasury, I move that our group purchase the above $4.00 calendars at cost ($2.25 each) and sell them to members. For each calendar sold our group would make $1.75.

[Signature]

Other RPCV organizations have our permission to use any material of interest in this newsletter.
MINUTES OF THE 7/3/96 MEETING...

...that many of you missed, which is unfortunate because it was pretty interesting. So here's the scoop: We dispensed with the intros (it being a small, intimate group) and OKd the minutes in one fell swoop. Our treasurer RoseAnn Scott gave the report that our general funds are pretty meager for now. The group applauded the Treasurer's Report format she put together for the newsletter (see elsewhere). She also announced that she and her family are developing software that will keep our calendar accounting on the straight and narrow, and promises that it will be beginner-friendly. Other news on the techno-front: We have a homepage, and Dean Jefferson is keeping it up. To get there: http://www.execpc.com/~wirpcv Barbara Chatterjee brought in a brand new 1997 calendar and it is truly beautiful! A brochure featuring the calendar and ordering information is in process of being developed. The whens, wherefors of the canoe trip were discussed, but only to the point of realization that no one present had any information. (Note: A later sunny encounter with John and Mary Franz confirmed that they've got the reins--check elsewhere in the newsletter for info.) Mike and Marcie Read are again graciously hosting the Pig Roast, set for August 24th, 25th. A SPECIAL INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO OUR NEIGHBORING RPCVS AND TO OUR OWN WHOM We DON'T SEE MUCH OF! By now you will possibly have noticed the really swell swine offered by Lori Merriam to lead new members to the Read Farm. Meeting-goers loved it. By virtue of having at least three identified UW students, we get to retain our student group status and the benefits attached to it. Pres. Chris is renewing this. Don Sauer, Deb Stapleton, and anyone else interested (my car will fit two more) are attending the National Peace Corps Association conference in Pennsylvania on August 16 - 18th, (leaving Thursday, return Monday). This is a scaled down version of recent quinquennial years' productions, and appears to offer some interesting workshops, as well as the NPCA general meeting and the mighty Poconos. Call Don at 244-0289 for info.

Earl Bricker gave an update on the RETREAT. Confirmed for August 10th; please do read the information found elsewhere in the newsletter. The group brainstormed ideas for the survey Earl plans to launch before the Retreat. Please send in your responses! Discussion of the Retreat and survey spurred a flurry of ideas and conjecture about What Our Group Is All About, and how to make it even better for everyone. The group talked about the future of the calendar; how to retain new members' interest; where have all our long lost members gone?; changes we've seen in meetings: less social, less of an international focus; where should we publicize our meetings? (Earl will set something up with the isthmus); making the front page of the newsletter more visually interesting, perhaps with a different format/location for the Pres. Message; encouraging editorials in the newsletter; and, a call for the return of Loose Lips. The group had good energy going, but decided to save any real action for the Retreat, especially since we were at Memorial Union, it was near sunset, and the Terrace beckoned.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Stapleton
PIG ROAST and POTLUCK
August 24th and 25th

hosted by Mike and Marcy Read on the farm, N1789 Harvey Rd
Arlington, Wisconsin

Join the RPCVs of Wisconsin, our families, and friends for the annual pig roast and potluck. Camp out under the stars at the farm on Saturday night. Enjoy a chili dinner, a crackling fire, and the warm camaraderie of friends. Or come early on Sunday for breakfast, the NY Times, llamas, volleyball, and hay rides. The meat will be ready around 1 pm. We will dine on a luscious spread of home-grown vegetables and salads from our gardens, homemade breads from our hearths, and desserts from the gods. Bring your favorite food to share so we may offer a jolly feast for herbivours, carnivours, and omnivours! A $3.00 collection will be taken for large appetites, a $2.50 for smaller ones. Don’t miss this August gathering. Call Earl at 244-0289 for more information or carpool options.

SPONSORED BY THE RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF WI-MADISO
International Calendar Steering Committee (ICSC) MINUTES
2714 Oakridge, Madison WI

Monday, July 15, 1996

PRESENT: Walt Zeltner, Rose Ann Scott, Alan Weiner, Dean Jefferson, Buck Trawicky, Barbara Chatterjee
Meeting Started: 7:15 pm

Inventory: 20,350 calendars were received from the printer. Rose Ann and Buck need to reconcile numbers on hand.

Finances: Bill from Strauss received: First payment of $10,913.95 paid; balance will be paid in two equal installments over total period of 90 days. Artifax bill of $3100 for layout has been paid in full. Complete accounting will be in newsletter.

Distribution management: Discussed flow of orders and distribution system. At present Dean Jefferson's computer has main account management and invoice generating program. Rose Ann, Alan and Dean will look into alternative systems so that there is assistance for Dean and back-up capacity. We continue to revisit the issue of the best computer program for the work of the calendar and arranging access to one or more computers with the bookkeeping program on it. Rose Ann will talk with Gordon Malaise re access to his computer for calendar use.

Shipping and handling (S&H) rates: We set new rates to cover this expense for all calendar quantities so they can be published. S & H for postcards will now be included in their price rather than as a separate item. Calendar buyers will now be able to figure their entire bill (product plus S& H); and we hope this will bring more prepaid orders and cut down on the time needed to follow-up on receivables. Barbara will complete the sales brochure with this new information.

Marketing: Ken Coffeen will go to the regional RPCV meeting in Chicago (7/19-21) and take 300 calendars to sell and the sales brochure. Buck will follow-up with Prudence Barber re contacting other RPCV groups to order calendars. Don Sauer and Deb Stapleton are going to the national RPCV leadership meeting in August in the Poconos. Alan had called several groups with international interests re sales opportunities for the Calendar; further discussion needed. Jim Good and Buck will return original photographs all who submitted pictures for the 1997 calendar along with a cover letter and 25 calendars for each photograph that was used, or one calendar if pictures were not selected.

Calendar needs Staff:

Calendar needs 1-3 persons to help with logging in calendar orders and generating invoices. Person taking this task would assist Dean.

Local (Madison) Sales Manager needed to work with local merchants to sell calendars.

The next Calendar Committee meeting will be Monday, August 9, at Rose Ann Scott's house, 2714 Oakridge (on Madison's east side). Discussion will include closing the 1996 financial records, the web page and other marketing and distribution matters, and staffing needs.

Adjourned: 9:00 pm

Submitted by: Barbara Chatterjee

cal96.mnl
35 years later, volunteers find Peace Corps unforgettable

They are known as Ghana Ones, all 24 of them. Thirty-five years ago this summer, they came as Peace Corps volunteers to the Rose Garden for a White House farewell ceremony with President Kennedy and Sargent Shriver, the program’s first director.

Hours later, they were on a Pan Am four-engine prop jet for an 18-hour trip to Ghana. They were the first Peace Corps volunteers traveling to the first host country.

On June 19, on an afternoon as tropically hot as Accra at midday, 24 men and women out of the original 52 volunteers were back at the Rose Garden to mark the program’s 35th anniversary. With them were 39 freshly trained Ghana-bound volunteers — including 1991 Madison East High grad Mandy Johnson — to be dispatched by President Clinton and Mark Gearun, the current director.

The president, speaking much the same inspirational language used by Kennedy in 1961, asked the Ghana Ones to stand and be recognized by the audience of 100 that included six members of Congress — three Democrats, three Republicans — who once served in the Peace Corps.

In 1961, a Washington Post story described the Rose Garden scene: “The young men in the group bound for Ghana had a crisp Ivy League look, while the women wore gay summer dresses. Almost every volunteer had a camera.” Not much has changed in 35 years.

America might as well get used to it. Every five years, the Peace Corps celebrates an anniversary. It began with the 20th in 1981 with a convening of what are called RPCVs — Returned Peace Corps Volunteers — and every five years since thousands come back for reunions. More than 140,000 have served in some 100 countries, with 7,200 in the field now.

If all these anniversary celebrations seem excessive, ask two questions: What American program has been as steady an exporter of personalized peace-making? And what program has been as corruption-free, so honestly and apologetically run that what Barry Goldwater said in 1961 — the Peace Corps is “the core of America” — is as true of Lyndon Johnson’s assessment the same year: “I think this is the greatest idea I ever heard of.”

Nearly all the Ghana Ones served as teachers. President Kwame Nkrumah, a man of the left and the first leader of the newly independent West African nation, was rushing to expand the school system. Education was the key to post-colonial advancement.

Only a few of the volunteers sent to Nkrumah had teaching experience. They knew a few words of Twi, the main language of Ghana, and had eight weeks of training at Berkeley on local customs and culture. That was about it.

One of the learn-as-you-go teachers was Laura Damon, 22 and a 1960 graduate of Smith College. In Ghana, she was assigned to teach English at a boys Catholic boarding school upcountry in Kumasi, 120 miles northwest of Accra and near Lake Bosumtwi.

“It changed my life,” Damon recalled in the Rose Garden, with Clinton, Shriver and Gearun working the crowd a few feet away. “I had never considered teaching as a profession. Who wanted to teach? You had to wear glasses, you got grey hair and you corrected papers. I ended up loving it!”

After her two years, Damon went to Yale for a master’s in education. She has been in classrooms since. Not yet wearing glasses and with only a strand or two of grey hair, she is an English professor at Niagara County Community College in Sanborn, N.Y.

Few in the Rose Garden gathering had a more experiential tie to the Peace Corps than Ekwow Spio-Garbrah, Ghana’s ambassador to the United States. As a student in 1960 at the Achimota School, he was taught by a volunteer.

“He was a young man, very smart and sharp in science and mathematics,” Spio-Garbrah reminisced. “He was the best teacher in the whole school. Bill Love was his name. I remember him well.”

In “What You Can Do For Your Country: An Oral History of the Peace Corps” by Karen Schwarz, a member of the 1961 group, Tom Livingston, writes: “The Ghanaians were very warm and welcoming. We were the first white people they had seen and they even offered us their car ride. The Ghanaians give us with character.”

If so, they became characters with character.

Colman McCarthy is a columnist for the Washington Post.
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: ____________________________
__________________________ ____________________________
PC Job: ____________________________ Home Telephone: ____________________________
__________________________ ____________________________
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: 1/97