PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's Easter morning and Walt Zeltner answers the phone. "This is the Easter Bunny.", Says the voice on the line. "No it isn't!", Says Walt. (He sounds sure he is right, but the caller persists.) "What makes you think I'm not the Easter Bunny?", Counters the caller. "Due to the fact that the Easter Bunny happens to be sitting next to me right now.", Walt replies. "Here Hon, take the phone and find out how many colored eggs this guy wants."

Easter time heralds the rebirth of our natural world, a miracle we experience in our own lives. Soon it will be time for a visit to one of our state parks for our annual group camping trip. This year Doug Hemken is handling arrangements and we will be visiting Mirror Lake State Park on the weekend of June 22.

But to get back to things that are in the more immediate future, look over the descriptions of the various organizations which are proposed for funding from our calendar earnings. We will be voting on these at the next meeting. In addition, we will have a special guest, Kathryn Bush who will inform us about a successful grassroots development project in Bangladesh. Kathryn, the wife of Jeff Golden, has just returned from there. Speaking of Jeff Golden, his performance as Pablo Neruda in "Burning Patience" was brilliant.

Earlier this month I went to a training session for witnesses for non-violence. These people are attempting create a calming influence in the volatile Native American spear fishing controversy. I came away from that meeting convinced we needed an anti-harassment law to protect fishermen. Governor Thompson signed such a law just a few days later. I was impressed that there are people trying to find a peaceful solution by becoming involved in a dialog with all parties to promote calm and adjustment to changing conditions.

I wish to thank Donna Shalala for offering to host our June 1, potluck meeting. This will be the meeting at which we will be counting the ballots for the new constitution.

The proposed constitution will be sent out about a week after this newsletter. Please sign the card and send it card back as soon as you can.
EDITOR'S CORNER:

After last month's break, it's time to discuss MEMBERSHIP. Last month I published a directory of all paid-up members to that date. Several active members were not included, either because they had not yet paid their dues or because I had no record of their having paid their dues. I purposely did not include them so that I could get some response. Now that the dust has settled, I am publishing a membership update. Please enter this information on last month's membership directory to keep your membership records current.

Some apologies are also called for. First, to Marc Brand for not knowing that he had already paid. Either Kevin or I are to blame there. Second, to Meghan and Dean Hessler and Jerry Doll for not updating your membership info on the newsletter labels after you had sent in dues in December. I have to blame Buck for that one. He handed your letters to me at the March meeting. I think one other member got caught by that. Third, to Eric Hurley in Stevens Point. I have not yet checked with the National Council about the status of your membership with them. We should be receiving a notice from them of people who have recently affiliated with us through them; and, if they have finally processed your membership, your name should be on that list. Especially since you sent them $45 in Mid-September!

Moral: Those of us who handle membership in any way, both here and at the National Council, should be as careful as possible in our duties. Although mistakes will happen, let's try to keep them to a minimum. When we do screw up, PLEASE let us know, as Marc Brand did.

Some membership statistics: By my count on April 17, we have 127 members, with a few other renewals likely. 28 members with 1/90 expiration dates and 3 members with 3/90 expiration dates have not renewed. At least 8 of the 28 have moved out of Madison, and some of the others should renew once they get settled or may renew through the NC.

The deadline for submission of material for the next newsletter is Monday, May 14.

----------------------------- NEXT MEETING! -----------------------------

Next month's meeting will be Thursday, May 3 in Union South on the UW campus at 7 PM. Check the "Today in the Union" sheet on various bulletin boards in Union South for the room.

Future meetings are scheduled for:

Friday, June 1  (Potluck at Donna Shalala's - 130 N. Prospect on the near west side of Madison, starting 6 to 6:30. It promises to be an interesting evening!)
Monday, July 2
Tuesday, Aug. 7
DATES TO NOTE

APRIL
22 Sun  BRUNCH - 9 am-Noon - Lakefront Cafeteria, Mem. Union
Also Sun  EARTH DAY FAIR - Information Booth with Ace Recruiter
          Hank Drennon. 11 - 4 pm - Bascom Hill Mall
          To volunteer to help: Phone 238-3083 or 262-1121
29 Sun  BRUNCH - 9 am-Noon - Lakefront Cafeteria, Mem. Union
Also Sun  GLOBAL EDUCATION MEETING - 7 pm - Eagle Hghts. Comm. Ctr.
30 Mon  RESULTS - 7 pm - Memorial Union Re: Micro-Enterprises

MAY
3 Thu  GENERAL MEETING - 7 pm - Union South - 227 N. Randall

PRESENTATIONS FOR CHARITIES TO RECEIVE CALENDAR PROCEEDS
Program: Kathryn Bush of RESULTS will speak on:

The Micro Enterprise Credit System in Bangladesh
Is it a model for rural development?

6 Sun  BRUNCH - 9 am-Noon - Lakefront Cafeteria, Mem. Union
9 Wed  Milwaukee Meeting 7 pm 1756 N. Prospect - 271-9950
13 Sun  BRUNCH - 9 am-Noon - Lakefront Cafeteria, Mem. Union
Also Sun  GLOBAL EDUCATION MEETING - 7 pm - Eagle Hghts. Comm. Ctr.
15 Tue  NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
20 Sun  BRUNCH - 9 am-Noon - Lakefront Cafeteria, Mem. Union
27 Sun  BRUNCH - 9 am-Noon - Lakefront Cafeteria, Mem. Union
Also Sun  GLOBAL EDUCATION MEETING - 7 pm - Eagle Hghts. Comm. Ctr.
28 Mon  Memorial Day National Holiday - USA - A day to honor the
        dead and to visit burial sites.
29 Tue  Peace Corps Founders Day - John F. Kennedy's Birthday
29 Tue  RESULTS - 7 pm - Memorial Union

JUNE
1 Fri  POTLUCK MEETING - 6 PM - At the home of Donna Shalala
      - Bring a dish to pass - Brief business meeting - NEW CONSTITUTION VOTE COUNT
3 Sun  BRUNCH - 9 am-Noon - Lakefront Cafeteria, Mem. Union
10 Sun  BRUNCH - 9 am-Noon - Lakefront Cafeteria, Mem. Union
Also Sun  GLOBAL EDUCATION MEETING - 7 pm - Eagle Hghts. Comm. Ctr.
13 Wed  Milwaukee Meeting - 7 pm - 1756 N. Prospect - 271-9950
15 Fri  NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
22-24 FSS  FAMILY CAMP-OUT - Mirror Lake State Park - $ 2.00/nite/ea
          Many Activities - Potluck Saturday eve.

BRUNCH on Sunday is where the discussion of our group business occurs
between meetings, plus spirited chatter. Nice days (+50) on terrace.
NEAR EAST SIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER. $200 FOR PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR EXPANSION INTO THE SOUTH MADISON NEIGHBORHOOD. NO PERSON IS DENIED CARE DUE TO INABILITY TO PAY.

Rox Ann Scott

CAC Garden Program Request: $300.00

The Garden Program for Refugee families will continue at Rimrock Road this year and could use the support of our group. Last year eight families gardened intensively on our little plot of land, thanks to our benevolence and help in purchasing, as well as installing a fence to minimize crop damage due to the flourishing rabbit population. This year, due to the flourishing population of children who come to garden with their parents, we would like to provide a picnic table, and some play equipment for these little ones. Other sites need similar resources if these desperately needed garden plots are to become sources of community building as well as providing food for hungry people. Four tables at a cost of $50 ea., and the remainder into play equipment would help get this off the ground. CAC would also like to have us help with an "Awareness Table" at the farmers market, and perhaps with a one day labor intensive project at one of the garden sites. This is a very good use of our resources right here in the Madison Area. Call Meredith if you have questions. 271-0998.

REQUEST FOR FUNDS FOR PIÑA PALMERA

Piña Palmera is a school and care facility for handicapped children on the Oaxacan coast. It is run by a Swedish woman, with mostly local staff. It is the only facility in that area of Mexico that provides any specialized care for handicapped children. The center gets funds from various groups in the United States and Europe and appears to exist almost entirely on donations.

When I sent off our last donation to Oaxaca, I requested some specific suggestions for help that we might be able to provide in the future. Anna Johansson, the director, wrote back to me last last month. She listed several items that the school needed to purchase and suggested that we might wish to contribute money specifically for such items. (I had also received a newsletter in February, which I will summarize for our next newsletter. It provided some additional suggestions for in-kind contributions.)

Anna's list was as follows: Scale with height measure (Approx. $200); I.V. stand ($30); Stethoscope ($20); Children's bloodpressure meter ($60); Adult's bloodpressure meter ($60); Electric sterilizer ($250); Diagnostic equipment ($150); Table, chair and a bed & shelves (locally made, $150); and an Aspirator ($300). I would propose that we contribute up to $500.00 from our calendar funds. If there is any interest in doing so, I would be willing to help organize a Cardinal Bar fund-raiser for any additional contributions.

Kathleen Quinnan
Contributing to the fight against AIDS and HIV infection is a logical endeavor for RPCV's. There are few people these days who are not personally acquainted with someone affected by HIV, be it a family member, a friend, or a friend of a friend. In response to the epidemic in Wisconsin, non-profit AIDS Service Organizations have grown to exist. The Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) is one such organization, serving 13 counties in south central Wisconsin.

MASN's services focus on two areas: 1) prevention education and risk reduction; and 2) direct service to people affected by HIV. These programs, although supported by paid staff, rely upon volunteers to a large degree.

A contribution by the RPCV's of WI-Madison would be applied toward support of a new recreational program for members of HIV+ support groups.

Submitted by,
Earl Bricker
Executive Director
Niger 1978-81

TRICKLE-UP PROGRAM

Begun by a couple (sorry, no name is available to me) who believe in grassroots development where large grants rarely are an option, Trickle-up targets the individual who, with just a bit of seed-money, could begin a viable and independent business. The initial amount of the grant is 25.00, and upon initiation of the project another $25.00 is awarded. In my village, for example, a woman used that apparently tiny amount of money to build a mud oven and materials to start selling bread door-to-door. With the additional money she expanded her recipes and truly became self-sufficient in supporting her family. I suggest our group donates $100.00, enough to fund two projects. --Deb Stapleton

IMPENETRABLE FOREST, UGANDA - $200
A rainforest containing one of the richest floral and faunal communities in Africa. It contains 200 of the 500 remaining mountain gorillas in the world. Poaching and lumbering threaten their existence. Money will be used for conservation actions. - Row Ann Scott

CAMEROON BOYS HOME - $200.00
VALENTINE YOUNG FARMER'S CLUB:
Although in effect an orphanage, the word orphan is outlawed. The boys in the club are encouraged to think of themselves from the outset as members of a family and as farmers. Sixty-eight boys have grown up through the Banso Club since 1963. At present there are 20 boys, all of them boarders, four of whom came to Col. Valentine from the Lake Nyos disaster. Age range: 9 - 18 yr. The club now owns the house and farm buildings and animals. But there is no running water on the site. Expenses have been met from the Colonel's pension and donations. He has died; and emphasis on finances is crucial for the Club to survive.

Sponsoring RPCV: Helene Pesche

Ashoka

Public Service Entrepreneurs are the backbone of Ashoka. They combine the energy, creativity and positive outlook of the entrepreneur with a deep commitment to the betterment of life in their homelands. They are PCV's. Ashoka Fellows not only help people who are in dire straits but they also seek to alter the conditions which place people in dire straits in the first place. I wish to request $500 to be sent to Ashoka because $500 spent to support those altering conditions is worth many thousands of dollars spent picking up the pieces afterwards. - Don Sauer
Peace Corps may go to Panama

WASHINGTON — A Peace Corps official says the agency may send volunteers to Panama to help that country rebuild from the December U.S. invasion and nearly three years of economic sanctions.

"Discussions are going on" with the Panama government, Jody Olsen, chief of staff for the agency, said Thursday night.

"We are assessing ... the possibility of sending in a few volunteers" to work in rural areas with other aid specialists as part of an overall Panama aid package, she said.

A Peace Corps team will visit Panama next week to study logistics of how many volunteers could be used, where they might work and what they might do, said Olsen.

The Bush administration has asked Congress for $500 million in aid for Panama this fiscal year and $300 million for Nicaragua, two countries in Central America making the transition to democracy.

The December U.S. invasion that overthrew Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega in Panama was succeeded by the U.S.-backed installation of Guillermo Endara, who has expressed interest in Peace Corps volunteers.

FRIENDS OF MALAWI

MONI BAMBO NDI AMAI! MUMAKHALA KUTI?

We, the Friends of Malawi, are trying to find you. If you are not already a member, or you know of Malawi RPCVs, would you 1) pass the word to them or 2) send us your (others') name(s) and address(es) so that we may include you/them on our mailing list. Send any information to me C/O the Friends of Malawi, 11880 Duley Station Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 or call 301-868-3730. We are doing our best to do worthwhile projects to assist development in Malawi and promote awareness at home. Becoming a member and receiving our newsletter will get you reconnected and help keep you informed. And, if you don't want any part of that, we would still appreciate having your name, the title of the PC project you were part of and the years you spent as a PCV in Malawi. It seems noone has a cumulative record—not even PC Washington—and we are trying to create one. Why? Because it's history, it's interesting; and we have nothing better to do. (Just kidding.) PLEASE HELP!!

TSALANI BWINO, Linda Millette, Membership Coordinator
March 6, 1990

11880 Duley Station Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772, U.S.A. Telephone 301-868-3730
Dear RPCV Group Members:

On March 1, I began my duties as the new Executive Director of the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, replacing Timothy Carroll. Recently returned from overseas, I was attracted to this position by past Council events, such as the 25th Anniversary celebration and the Journals of Peace, which had evoked deep feelings as I read of them from afar. I doubt that any of us realized when we entered Peace Corps to what extent that experience would stay with us and become a part of us. The response of RPCV's from everywhere to the call of these and other National Council events revealed the universality of the "Peace Corps effect" on each of our lives. It also gave us a first glimpse at the power we could wield as a united force.

During my service in three Peace Corps countries a common refrain of disappointment has been, "But I'm receiving so much more here than I'm giving." The answer of course is that the opportunity to give, to serve, will be there the rest of our lives, and that our Peace Corps experience was the training ground for our life's service. And the National Council has carried that answer further, at least for me, by showing the value of and beginning the process of bringing us together.

Thus the challenge I accept with this job is to further the building of a cohesive body from this assortment of open-minded, idealistic and informed people. The coordination of National Council goals and activities to meet the interests and needs of the RPCV groups is therefore essential to me. The National Council is committed to the development of a functioning network of groups around the country which can share ideas and strategies for an increased impact on global awareness and national policy. The Council strives to strengthen the capacities of existing RPCV groups and to encourage the development of new groups. Indeed, the National Council is the groups--that is, it is the representation of group interests at a national level. To the extent that this is not yet happening, I will try to improve our communications and make it happen better.

Below is a brief summary of some the National Council activities which I think are of special interest to group members. The Board of Directors and I would like your feedback on them.

DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION (BRINGING THE WORLD BACK HOME): With financial support from the Carnegie Corporation, the Ford Foundation, A.I.D. and Peace Corps, the National Council has distributed $76,000 to 18 RPCV groups in the last two years for projects to develop speakers' bureaus, video tapes, slide shows, training manuals, workshops and case studies targeted at school principals and teachers, museum docents, librarians, community groups, and the general public. We conducted 10 workshops around the country last year and mailed 10 resource packets on different development education topics to each of the 150 RPCV groups.

GOVERNMENT POLICY: Last year the National Council worked in support of the Global Poverty Reduction Act, and was invited by Congressman John Porter of Illinois to introduce with him at a national press conference the Tropical Rainforest Preservation Act. Both were passed. In addition we testified on behalf of a larger Peace Corps budget, and were successful.

Bringing The World Back Home
MEMBERS AND DUES: The Council distributed $42,000 to affiliated RPCV groups under our joint dues arrangement. We have developed a computer data bank of 39,000 current addresses of Peace Corps alumni and are drawing up a comprehensive 3-year membership development plan which should bring more RPCV's into the fold of active participants at the local as well as national level. As you are certainly aware, we went through a terrible period when a borrowed computer was removed from our office and data lost. We have recovered now, and you should start seeing the resulting joint member lists soon.

PUBLICATIONS: WorldView Magazine's 13,000 readers include the 6,500 PCV's now in the field and is therefore a means of continually attracting new members. It has had stories cited or reprinted by the Miami Herald, Christian Science Monitor, Washington Post and several others. A new publication, the RPCV, is being designed with a focus on what RPCV's are doing now. The Development Education Exchange has focused on development education activities and resources. The Group Leaders Digest is received by all RPCV group leaders quarterly.

ANNUAL CONFERENCES: The yearly conferences, which alternate on each side of the Mississippi, are organized jointly with a local RPCV group and are tremendously successful as a means of reconnecting with lost contacts and country-specific issues as well as focusing on our continuing commitment. The West Cascade RPCV's have planned a great conference for this July in Eugene, Oregon, and Washington, D.C. will be the site of the 30th anniversary celebration in 1991.

"TO SERVE AGAIN": The Board of Directors has voted to become a partner with Ploughshares, an RPCV group in Seattle, in its project to support a short-term U.S.-Soviet Volunteer Corps in Ethiopia, and a task force is exploring other opportunities and means for volunteer service overseas.

GROUP LIAISON: The Council's Group Liaison Committee has just completed its analysis of the RPCV groups survey in which many of you participated last year, and you will receive your copy soon. Also staff and Board members will be at the March 31 meeting of the "Friends of" group representatives to take part in an organizational strategic planning process they are developing and which can possibly be useful to other RPCV groups.

I think I've inherited an impressive array of programs. We are still severely limited by funding constraints, but I believe we can improve our communication and management of resources so that more people will be drawn to supporting our work. As members of RPCV groups you are crucial in helping me improve communication. I promise to write a bi-monthly letter, and would appreciate your responses so I can be sure we're on the right track. We can only do it with your help.

Peace,

Linda H. Gray
Executive Director

**********NCRPCV NATIONAL CONFERENCE**********
*-----------------------------------------------*
*Time is growing short. Don Sauer is your contact for the National Conference, July 20-22. The Conference will be held in beautiful Eugene, Oregon at the height of summer, the best time of year. I have brochures of the Conference Program. I have applications and information about the Job Fair and the connected Resume Book. You can also ask me about the Peace Train. 266-7133 days and 255-0192 evenings. Call anytime. Do it NOW!**********

NEWSLETTER POLICY: Since we're always trying to get new members, I'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.
NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS

BRAND, Marc 1326 E. Dayton, Madison, WI 53703.
  Palau 1973-75

BUTZ, Gerry 702 W. Wingra Dr., Madison, WI 53715.

DRENNON, Hank 202J Eagle Heights, Madison, WI 53705.
  Home: 238-3027 Work: Swaziland 1974-77

GOOD, James & Laura 2325 Willard, Madison, WI 53704.
  Home: 246-2818 Work: 283-3034 (Jim)
  Philippines 1982-84

JEFFERSON, Dean 106 Village Green Ln. East, Madison, WI 53704.
  Home: 249-6094 Work: 266-9565
  El Salvador 1974-76
  Costa Rica 1976-77

LA FLEUR, Dawn 2209 Kendall Ave., Madison, WI 53705.
  Home: 238-7999 Work: Burkina Faso 1985-87

MOLINA, Isabel 106 Village Green Ln. East, Madison, WI 53704.
  Home: 249-6094 Work:

OLSEN, Julie 322 Marston, Madison, WI 53703.

QUINLAN, Kathleen 1858 Jenifer St., Madison, WI 53704.
  Home: 249-8437 Work: Guinea 1965-66
  Somalia 1986-87

SMITH, Margaret 4283 County Trunk P, Cross Plains, WI 53528.
  Home: 798-4249 Work: Swaziland 1984-86

TRAWICKY, Buck 1250 Jenifer St., Madison, WI 53703.
  Home: 256-7868 Work: Nepal 1968-71

WAKELEY, Dave Beloit College, Beloit, WI 53511.

  Home: 258-9635 Work: Burkina Faso 1984-86

Please add to your membership directory:
Michael Shulevitz worked in Nepal from 1984 to 1988;
Dirk Vander Wal and Leigh Klein also worked in Nepal from 1986 to 1988;
Norm Gaffney worked in the Philippines, but I don't know his years of
service. Thanks!

A couple of phone number changes, courtesy of Rose Ann:
  Ross Royster: Home: 873-8737


All numbers are in the 608 area code. Please note these changes on your
phone tree and contact me if you know of any other changes.

JOB OPPORTUNITY - Courtesy Mike Read

Don't pay a tanning salon or build your body at a gym... Kaltenberg’s Seed
Farm will pay you well for exercise in our sunny fields. (Don’t Laugh - You
can make $100-200/day; full or part time). Contact Mike Read at 251-5880 (9
AM to 4 PM) for more info. Most work will be in June and July.

Although this opportunity is available for anyone, such as cash-short RPCVs,
Mike is particularly interested in reaching minority communities. If you can
help with this aspect, Mike would also like to talk to you.
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 a month for each month to 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 Council of RPCVs through us by paying a further $15. We strongly encourage all members to join the National Council, which provides us a way to affect national issues.

☐ I want to join RPCVW, Inc. and am enclosing $____.
   _____ Individual - $12 for one year (or $1 per month to next January)
   _____ Joint - $17 (Two people receiving one newsletter)
   _____ Overseas Individual - $20
   _____ Overseas Joint - $25

☐ I am also enclosing $15 for National Council membership.

☐ I do not want to join, but I would like to receive the newsletter and am enclosing $7 ($15 for overseas) to cover the costs.

☐ I'M MOVING! Please change my mailing address on your records.

NAME: ____________________________ COUNTRY OF SERVICE: ________________
ADDRESS: ___________________________ SERVICE DATES: ________________
_________________________________ TELEPHONE: ________________

Please make checks payable to RPCVs of Wisconsin, Inc. and send to:

RPCVs OF WISCONSIN, INC. - Madison Chapter
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53703

marked ATT’N: MEMBERSHIP!

QUESTIONS? PROBLEMS? Call me at 608/835-3083 most evenings and weekends.
Or try 608/262-2470 weekdays and ask for me - Walt.

RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF WISCONSIN
MADISON CHAPTER

Walt Zeltner, Editor
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

Rose Ann
2714 Oakridge
Madison, WI 53704

Scott
Exp. Date
1/91