20th Annual FFF Final Report

First, a big huge thank you to all of the volunteers that helped out again with the FFF. It is amazing to me that we pulled it off again. This year was a big success again in terms of fundraising. We raised over $3338.19 for the people of San Jose de Apartado. CSN will take down the monies as part of their delegation down there. This was our second highest fundraising effort to date, only being surpassed by 1998 when we raised $3544. Frankly, I think the good weather was a contributing factor as we had a classic freeze day: sunny, cold and no snow on the ground.

Its great to see the mixture of new RPCV's, experienced RPCV's and the CSN volunteers. I overheard two RPCV's say to each other, "Hey, last time I saw you we were playing Risk in Ghana ...."

This year I figure I put in 25 hours of work, and had an average of 4 hours help from 35 volunteers. That is a total of 165 volunteer hours. We had revenues of $3338, but had expenses of $600, which was covered by calendar funds. So overall we had income of $2738 on 165 hours of time, which is about $17 per hour. For me, that's a reasonable return for charitable time.

Due to growing family responsibilities, I will not be able to coordinate the Freeze next year, so the position is officially open. It's been fun for me, and I'd like to come back to it in the future, but 2002 will not be possible. From my point of view, the Freeze practically runs itself. Most of the volunteers know what to do just from experience, and so do our contacts in City Hall, the Police Dept, and the Arboretum. We've got a list of over 500 runners from the previous years in our database, and very nice brochure (designed by our own Lee Row) with our bulk mailing permit. We have to pick a date soon, for all those runners that plan out their lives 10 months in advance. Most of the coordinator's time is very flexible time, so it is not onerous. So I'd like to encourage anyone who has been thinking about coordinating the Freeze, to contact Tom, our esteemed president, or myself.

- - Peter J. Joyce 249-8573 ptrjoyce@aol.com
Officers and Contacts

Executive Committee
President  Tom Brodd (608) 280-8945
twbrodd@aol.com
Vice President  Lee Row 232-9065
leerow@chorus.net
Secretary  Buck Trawicky (608) 241-2392
Treasurer  Troy Rutter  (608) 245-9964

Members at Large  Don Sauer - abroad
Email: julidadon@interalb.net

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

International Calendar Project
Coordinator  Rochelle Goedken (608) 243-0298
Customer Service Administrator  Julita Zolnik (608) 221-2238
Email: jurysie@terra.com.net

Calendar Order Hotline  (608) 829-2677
Calendar E-mail: calendarmail@yahoo.com

Events
Freeze for Food  (Need a volunteer here)
Family Brunch  (Need a volunteer here)
Cardinal Benefit  Kathleen Quinlan (608) 249-6437
Finance  Rose Ann Scott (608) 241-0845
Global Education  Marc Brand  (608) 255-1339

Membership
Membership Directory/Mailing Labels
Brad Hinkfuss, 217 Corry St.,
Madison, 53704, (h)242-9573
Email: tambrad@chorus.net

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

Visibility
Newsletter Editor  Theresa Jenkins (608) 876-6649
Email: rpcveditor@jvnet.com
Website  www.geocities.com/wirpcv

Campus Peace Corps Recruiter
Jonathan Simon  (608) 262-1121
Email: jdsimon2@students.wisc.edu

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 #’s (H) (W)

E-mail Address: __________________________________

Country of Service: _______________________________

Service Dates: ________________________________

PC Job: ________________________________________

Birth date: (Optional - MD/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 January 2001

Calendar balance 122,669.77  World Roots postage -101.49
2001 Sales 2,995.00  Ending balance 1,117.95
2000 Sales 49.30
Interest 518.59
2001 refunds -92.00  Global Education 2,096.20
Customer services -243.50
Fed Ex -139.34
Credit card fee -3.45  Annual Projects 5,748.76
Phone -59.50  The FREEZE 404.19
Ending balance 125,654.87  Ending balance 6,152.95

Group balance 660.44  Giftaway -1,330.00
Group dues 589.00
NPCA dues -240.00  Large Projects 197.35

Thanks to Peter Joyce for another great FREEZE. This year we collected $3338.19 for the Colombian Support Network.

Editor’s Spot

Please note E-MAIL address change!

Short and sweet...it is spring officially, and the yardwork has begun. Started putting the Newsletter up on the web for all to see. The format of course is a little different and some tweaking will need to be done but all in all, it’s there!

The 40th Anniversary gathering was GREAT! Over 250 people were in attendance for dinner and more arrived afterwards. Kevin and I had a great time and met some wonderful people including one young gentleman going into service the week afterwards. Good luck to you and all the 20+ new recruits that were in attendance.

A call for articles for the newsletter: Please send in articles of interest to our group, or important announcements. I will be glad to include them into OUR newsletter.

For those who don’t see this I will have the old account active for a while to check for incoming messages, but I will only check it once ON THE DEADLINE DATE (this stressed to those who are habitually late.)

New Address 131 Edward St., P.O.Box, Footville WI 53537
Phone 608-876-6649, e-mail is changed, rpcveditor@jvlnet.com (no space) so keep those articles a coming!

- Theresa
RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF MADISON

Minutes of the March 7, 2001 "Mini"-Meeting of the RPCVs of WI Madison

We had a "mini"-meeting because only 7 people were present. Several factors may have kept attendance low.
1) Many people may not have felt like attending another event so soon after the Peace Corps dinner on Friday evening.
2) Apparently our President had told many people that the next meeting was on Thursday. Tom was not present. We noted that this further supported Tom's apparent desire to change our meeting schedule to a specific day in the week rather than continue our present policy of rotating the meeting day. I stated my former feeling that the PCV selection process ensured that our members were intelligent enough to handle a rotating meeting schedule. I appear to be wrong.
3) The March newsletter had not yet come out, so people did not have any immediate reminder of the date of the meeting. The newsletter problem was associated with transferring upkeep of our membership database from Buck Trawicky to Brad Hinkfuss, which resulted in the mailing labels being ready a little later than usual. Brad then mailed the labels to Terry Stark, who prepares the newsletters for mailing, one week before the meeting. Terry had not received the labels by the time of the meeting. Brad provided Terry with another set of labels at the meeting.

Even though only a few people were present, the resulting discussions were interesting.

Foundation: Brad, Tom Brodd, and Bob Cowell have been discussing the idea of setting up a foundation in which we could deposit some of the proceeds from our calendar sales. By investing these funds wisely, we could build up the principal while still being able to donate to selected projects. I have always had several objections to this idea, one of which was that I did not think our group had the internal resources to effectively implement a foundation. For one, our treasurer is overworked as it is. Brad stated that their committee was investigating the idea of setting up a foundation that was independent of our group. We decided that it would be very helpful (in fact probably necessary) to bring in an outside expert to discuss the legal and financial ramifications of setting up a separate foundation. An advantage of such an entity would be that it could readily accept donations from other individuals and groups besides our group that wanted to support the continuation of the goals of Peace Corps. I selfishly suggested that we consider the possibility of placing all of the calendar proceeds in such a foundation. That way I would be relieved of the task of coordinating and tracking all of the donations that our group makes with these proceeds, which will be $50,000 this year. In addition, the group would no longer have to spend a lot of its time discussing these donations. One result of this discussion was that a newly returned PCV (whose name I did not catch) expressed interest in participating on this committee.

(cont. on pg. 5)
RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF MADISON

Minutes of the March 7, 2001  Continued...

Membership Directory: Our last member directory came out in 1997, so a new one is way overdue. We discussed this need with Brad and suggested that a directory with at least two separate sections - names and countries of service - would be most useful. The idea of phoning individual members to verify their contact information was raised but probably will not happen. Brad will consider preparing a directory once he enters the stack of member information given to him by Troy Rutter. I think you can expect some form of new directory to appear in your mail in the next month or two.

The above information is from my memory, as none of us felt the need to take notes on this meeting. Therefore, treat the above as a summary of the ideas that intrigued me rather than a full list of the points raised during our hour of discussion.

Respectfully submitted, Walt Zeltner

Motions Regarding Proceeds from Calendar Sales

At its February meeting, the Calendar Steering Committee determined that $50,000 from sales of the 2001 calendar would be made available to the RPCV's of Madison for distribution to development and education projects.

Motion 1 The RPCV of Madison accept the $50,000.

Comments: Based on earlier policy set by the RPCV's of Madison, once we accept this $50,000, 10% ($5,000) will be donated to the National Peace Corps Association to further their programs and 20% ($10,000) will be donated to selected Peace Corps Partnership (PCP) projects. Any members who know of PCP projects that deserve funding should contact either Walt Zeltner (873-5257) or Rose Ann Scott (241-0845). Otherwise, we will look through the latest listing of PCP projects and select several for funding. We will focus on projects sponsored by volunteers from Wisconsin but will try to avoid funding projects in just one area of the world.

Motion 2 Upon acceptance of Motion 1, the remaining $35,000 will be distributed as follows:

- Giftaway $10,000 (The current negative balance will be removed by transfer from the Annual Projects balance)
- Annual Projects $3,000 (The costs for the Freeze for Food run, about $700, are included here.)
- Large Projects $22,000 (Current balance of $200.)

Comments: I view the above amounts as guidelines rather than as hard and fast limits. Having these guidelines does make it easier to disperse some of the money, especially in the Giftaway.

- Submitted by Walt Zeltner
WILL YOU HELP INTRODUCE THE INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR TO BOOKSTORES OUTSIDE OF WISCONSIN?

We all have done a marvelous job of getting the calendar out and about the country, including into some stores. Now that it’s time to be marketing the 2002 to stores, I’m wondering if we should try to get it into a few more stores in other parts of the country.

For small calendar producers like us, a distributor named TNT Media Services sells calendars to the big bookstore chains. TNT got our cover art and info for 2002, and started marketing to stores in February. Bookstores usually want to know about the calendar early.

WHAT WOULD YOU THINK OF TRYING TO GET THE CALENDAR INTO -
A -some independent college bookstores?
B -more individual stores of the big bookstore chains?

To try this, we need to keep in mind that the calendar really sells in areas with an international outlook, such as where lots of Peace Corps Volunteers come and go and there are international studies, etc. Following is a list (from PC stats) to give an idea of possible places to talk to stores:

**COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES & CITIES THAT HAVE SENT THE MOST PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS:**


IF YOU HAVE POSSIBLE CONNECTIONS, TALK TO THE LOCAL CALENDAR BUYERS:

A - INDEPENDENT COLLEGE BOOKSTORES
B - BARNES & NOBLE or BORDERS CHAINS -
ASK - Can you sell them some calendars locally? (There may be dollar restrictions on local purchases.)
OR - Would they want to encourage their national buyer to get them some of our calendars?
C - Local Gift Shoppes
D-THE PRICE IS $5 (Min.order = 10)

TELL ME, AND HERE'S WHAT I CAN DO -
1 - Send YOU a marketing packet with a samples of 2001 and a fine picture of the 2002 cover art.
2 - Send DIRECTLY to their calendar buyer.
3 - In July, we can deliver the 2002 calendar.

Please contact Prudence Barber, prudence@ittis.com 608-251-0852
1050 Jenifer St., Madison, WI 53703
RPCV News

Friends of Swaziland Resurgence  RPCV group and the group's new Web presence.

Thanks to past Friends of Swaziland President, Mark Pierzchala, SD-RPCV Jon von Reyn and others, the Friends of Swaziland RPCV group has been revitalized.

A Friends of Swaziland / SD-RPCV group has also been established and is "intended to foster communication between Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and others from Swaziland, to announce group-related events, and to contribute to worthy causes in support of Swaziland."

Interested parties should see the group's new web site accessible via: http://pages.prodigy.net/vonreyn/index.htm Individuals interested in subscribing should send a request to join to sdrcvEmailParent-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or to sdrcvEmailParent-owner@yahoogroups.com.

Please feel free to share this announcement with other groups and individuals who may be interested in participating in Friends of Swaziland. Thanks! Salani Kahle,

---Jack Conrad /sdrcvEmailParent moderator Swaziland (1984-87) Togo (1987-89)
---Past President, Minnesota RPCVs, St. Paul, Minnesota USA JackGConrad@EarthLink.Net

Jubilee 2000-Madison has been working for two years to publicize the issue of debt relief and mobilize letters and calls to representatives to support legislation calling for debt relief. If you are interested in joining the effort to reduce the debt of developing countries and in helping with this campaign, contact Cynthia White at 286-1924 or Dan Geisler at 831-6675.

by-Cynthia White (Burkina Faso '84-'86)

NEWSLETTER NEWS

The Electronic Newsletter is now up and running see it here at www.geocities.com/wirpcv

Cardinal Bar Benefit Saturday April 28th

Come join us at the Cardinal Bar 418 E. Wilson St, Madison 4/28. Potluck featuring African dishes. Monies collected to benefit Sierra Leone Refugees Fund. Please arrive at 5, food to be served at 5:30. Again Ricardo Gonzalez, the Cardinal's owner, is offering space in his bar for this yearly benefit. Thank you.

YOU CAN Still GET MORE CALENDARS

WESTSIDE - From Lee, 5217 Pepin Place (off Southhill), 232-9065
-From Sophie, 317 Bordner Dr., 233-7886

EASTSIDE - From Rochelle, 243-0298; Prudence, 1050 Jenifer St., 251-0852
DISTRIBUTION OF CALENDAR PROCEEDS

It's time to start the process for distributing the proceeds of the 2001 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 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 or in hosting this meeting should contact me to be included. My thanks to the 9 people who participated 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.
CUBA REPORT cont. of parte 4

Sun. 13 Aug.-- In the afternoon Frank & Chela took me into the city of Pinar del Rio. (Edelys was still resting.) We took a taxi, a horse-drawn wagon. At the bus station I bought a ticket for my return to Havana. They gave me a tour around downtown, the cathedral & parks, and Chela pointed out all the dollar stores ("divisa"), and the few sparsely stocked peso stores.

We sat at an outdoor cafe, having some beers, waiting for my bus, when a friend of theirs happened by and offered me a ride back to Havana with him. So I cashed in my ticket, and we spent a few more hours with Jose & his family. He is from Pinar, but now lives and works in Havana --for the ministry of fisheries. We went to his mother's house and drank rum. Eventually we dropped Chela & Frank back at their house, visited a few more of his friends. We had more rum and I also tasted some good stewed "langosta" (a type of lobster), and some really good strong coffee. Local rum costs about a dollar a bottle.

Soon after 4:30 we were on the highway to Havana in his pickup truck. He dropped me off at my hotel by 7 p.m. I went to bed early, after making arrangements to meet Evelio tomorrow.

Mon. 14 Aug.-- A really hot day --muggy at 7:30 a.m. After classes I met Evelio at 12:30 and we walked through Habana Vieja to Centro Habana, stopping at his mother's house, his brother Hector's, and then his house. I met his wife & many other relatives, several of whom are teachers. We drank coffee, and rum, and talked about what teachers talk about everywhere: class sizes, curriculum, vacations, teaching/learning conditions. His wife's younger sister showed me her school papers & report cards. Typical classes at all levels are 40+ students. I took lots of pictures of Evelio & his family. Unfortunately none of them turned out well. I am kicking myself for not realizing the camera trouble I was having. I had to throw out almost half of the photos I shot in Cuba.

Evelio took me to a "tienda divisa" with good (dollar) prices for coffee & rum which I bought to bring home with me. I took a "coco taxi" back to the hotel. It is a relatively cheap taxi, with a small yellow body, shaped like a coconut, built on a motor scooter.

After supper we went to a hotel downtown to see a documentary film about Fidel Castro by Estela Bravo, who has done documentaries for the BBC & PBS. It is fairly balanced, not overly laudatory or critical. She was there for discussion afterwards and asked for our feedback & suggestions for when she does a revised version.

Tue. 15 Aug.-- I left class early today, after buying a guiro (percussion gourd instrument that makes a scraping sound) from Juan Carlos, one of our instructors. I went to the open air market of Habana Vieja and a few other shops, bought a small blue plate for my mother, some art prints, and a chequere (a shaker gourd instrument). Also had some good Cuban ice cream.

About 4 p.m. I went to the Teatro Nacional to hear "3 de la Habana," at the Cafe Cantante. Miguel had invited me. I sat with him and listened to the opening acts, a young salsa/rock group and a comedian/musician who offered some mildly daring political humor. ¿Qué crece en Cuba? ... Lo que crece en Cuba es el verde ($$$). Quien quiere viajar? ... Quien quiere viajar a Florida? ... Vamos a Florida. Vamos a Florida, un bello pueblo de Etiopia.> (Who wants to travel to Florida? Let's go to Florida, a beautiful town in Ethiopia.)

I met the members of "3 de la Habana," Miguel's relatives, along with their 4 back-up musicians. When they took the stage the crowd erupted in cheers and the dance floor was packed, seemingly unusual at 6 p.m. on a weekday. They really are an impressive group. I bought their CD from a few years ago, but they are even better now, and I am looking forward to their next recording. They deserve to be heard as much as the Buena Vista Social Club. Miguel walked me back to the hotel. I got there just in time for our bus to take us to the "canonazo," the reenactment of the Spanish colonial era at the Castillo fort. It was packed with local folks & visitors, very well-done with period costumes & instruments. We got back to the hotel about 10 p.m.

Today was the first day I have felt a bit sick, but it is my own fault. With my chasings all over I haven't had a real meal since breakfast --only ice cream, rum, beer, peanuts, rum, popcorn -- and rum.

(more next month ...looking at adding whole text to web site also)
Calendar of Events

Apr 5, Th General Meeting, 7 PM, Union South
Apr. 6, TGIF at the Union? Inquire at meeting or call Tom
Apr. 13, Deadline for Newsletter
Apr.28, Cardinal Bar Benefit. African Dishes; Be there at 5, Eat at 5:30

Apr.28-May 4, Bowl for Kids Sake  Big Brother/Sisters 661-5437. (see march NL)
May 4, Fri Potluck General Meeting, ... (or on Sat.)

May 6, Madison Friends of International Students w Madison Freindship Force is having a FRIENDRAISER potluck 4 to 6 at the 1st Baptist Church,518 N.Franklin; a gathering of people/volunteers interested in international affairs to meet and network. Please RSVP to Tom at twbrodd@aol.com or 608-280-8945

June 23, 2001 Sat. Summer Campout, Group tent site D, Hickory Ridge, Governor Dodge State Park, Reservation # 1-201666 (call Terry Stark 4 more info 233-9140)

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

April Showers Bring May Flowers...