President's Message

Events Local...

Dues. There is no time to put it off any longer. Pay dues by the end of the month to maintain your membership. Here is the schedule of dues (add $10 for overseas address.)

RPCVs of Wisc. 1994 membership $15
with NPCA membership $35

RPCVs of Wis for 2 people at same address $20
with NPCA membership $47.50

General Meeting January 4. There is quite an agenda for this meeting because of the upcoming events including the Freeze for Food on Jan. 29, and the Winter Retreat and the Cardinal Bar Benefit in February. Also, a special task on the agenda will be to identify someone for the positions of committee chair for the Family Brunch and the Freeze for Food if these two events are to be continued in the future.

...and Events Far Away

I regret that I was not able to lead the first general meeting of my term and my thanks to Lori Merriam for taking the reins for me. The reason for my absence was a visit to Washington, D.C. to represent our group at the swearing-in ceremony of Carol Bellamy, the Director of Peace Corps. In addition to meeting director Bellamy I had the opportunity to visit with many other people at the Peace Corps headquarters and I wish to share with you some of the impressions I have of the new leadership of Peace Corps.

As many of you know, Carol Bellamy is the first RPCV to hold the position of Director. Donna Shalala, a former member of our group and long time friend of Carol, is said to have had significant input into her selection for the position. I’ve heard from many of you who attended the National Conference in Berkeley that you felt Carol showed an impressive sense of identity with RPCVs. I can reinforce that sentiment from my experience in Washington.

Many appointed staff in the upper ranks of the agency had the time and willingness to meet with me in person to accept our gift (a calendar, of course) and talk about how Returned Peace Corps Volunteers will be an integral part of the Peace Corps mission in the ’90s. I have included a page in this newsletter from the recent issue of Peace Corps Times that profiles the new leadership.

- continued on page 4 -
Editor's Corner
FREEZE FOR FOOD

As you will see in the Dates To Note, our big Winter event, the Freeze For Food Run, is Saturday, January 29th at Vilas Park with our post-race Chili Pig Out at Susan Mendrysa's house, 1425 Mound St. It's a fun time, everyone turns out, so don't miss the action!

LOGO CONTEST

Elsewhere in this issue you will find the entries for our Logo Contest. All of the entries are excellent and it will be difficult to pick the winner. We will vote on it at our January meeting. If you cannot attend but have a strong preference, give your Newsletter Editor a ring at 255-3261.

Other RPCV organizations have our permission to use any material of interest in this newsletter.

Newsletter Policy
Since we're always trying to get new members, We'll send three copies of our newsletter to anyone we think will be interested. After that, you have to pay to stay on our mailing list. Details can be found on the back page. ONE EXCEPTION: Contacts in other RPCV organizations can continue to receive our newsletter if they will send us theirs.
Dates to Note

Saturday, Jan. 1 - Wisconsin Badgers in the 80th Rose Bowl! and Happy New Calendar Year!

Tuesday, Jan. 4 - General Meeting at Union South, 127 N Randall Street. Check "Today in the Union" board for room number. Get agenda items to Jim Smith before noon at 262-1121.

Wednesday Jan. 5, 7PM - Calendar Committee Meeting at Gordon Malaise's, 1447 Spaight Street. If you have questions or need directions call Barbara Chatterjee at 271-2405.

Saturday, Jan. 29 - Freeze for Food 5K and 10K Run at Vilas Park Shelter. Set-up time is 10 AM, 5K race starts at Noon and 10 K race starts at 1 PM. All helpers welcome to the after-race party. Would anyone offer to host this party? OK, I'll do it. Party at Susan Mendrusa's - 1415 mould St., I'm looking for helpers with the chill so if you're interested, call 255-4869. Please don't bring meat, thanks.

Sunday Jan. 29 - Deadline to submit slides for the 1995 Calendar. Make submissions to Henry Nehls-Lowe, 1888 Briarwood Lane, Oregon, WI 53575.

Sunday, Feb. 6, 10AM - Calendar Committee Meeting at Barbara Chatterjee's 5102 Coney Weston Place, off of Odana Road. If you have questions or need directions call Barbara at 271-2405.

Wednesday, Feb. 2 - General Meeting Location to be determined. There is a basketball game at the Field House so Union South is impractical for parking reasons. Agenda items to Jim Smith before noon at 262-1121.

Saturday, Feb. 5 - Slide Viewing Potluck location to be announced. We will be making preliminary selections for the 1995 calendar. Slides should be submitted by Jan. 29 to Henry Nehls-Lowe. Call either Henry or Barbara Chatterjee.

Saturday, Feb. 12, 5PM - Cardinal Bar Benefit to benefit flood victims in the midwest and in Nepal. RPCVs bring a dish for buffet. Get Nepali recipe if possible. $5 admission at the door, bring your friends. Contact: Walt Zeltner, 873-5257.

February 26, 27 - Winter Retreat This annual event has proven to be quite a refreshing weekend in previous years. Winter sports, hiking, review slides for 1995 calendar. Contact: Liesl Spielman, (414) 673-6567.

April 17 - Family Brunch at Tripp Commons of Memorial Union. This is an annual event where we host the families of currently serving volunteers. We provide a meal (at cost), a brief program, and the opportunity for families to talk with us about our experiences. If this annual event is going to survive beyond 1994, it is crucial that someone step forward to work with Helene. She is unable to do it for 1995. Contact: Helene at 238-2792.

Weekly Event

Wednesdays, 7 PM - Calendar Packing Parties at Gordon Malaise's place, 1447 Spaight Street. These last for an hour or so and have proven to be a good venue to get other committee work done as well. Have a beer, lick some stamps, have another beer.
One of the new people I spoke with is Chris Hedrick, the head of Returned Volunteer Services. He had several interesting things to say that directly relate to our group. First, Peace Corps is finding ways to include RPCV groups around the nation to participate in some functions of the agency's operation. Our recent contract with Peace Corps to contribute to the recruitment of Volunteers from the Madison community is one example. Another example is 5 contracts which will be made with RPCV groups to provide re-entry services to recently returned volunteers. Atlanta will get one contract and the others will be distributed throughout the United States. We can vie for one of these contracts through the National Peace Corps Association when the details become available.

The second item that effects our group is Chris's idea to send several of our calendars to every Peace Corps country. I informed him of our past contracts to provide calendars at cost to the families of currently serving volunteers in Minnesota and Wisconsin. If Chris's idea becomes reality, we would get the calendar in view of all 7000 serving volunteers by 1995.

Another office I visited was the office of Peace Corps Partnership Programs. This is the office which matches Peace Corps Volunteers in need of development funds with donors. They currently have about two dozen projects which are in need of funds. Two of the PCVs requesting funding are from Wisconsin. As our ability to provide funding from calendar proceeds grows I think we should consider the PC Partnership Program as a possible recipient of these funds. Most contributors are currently corporate entities. What a great precedent we could set by funding an appropriate development project through calendar proceeds. This could mean that we contribute to the very countries that are featured in the great calendar photos.

As the Peace Corps agency turns an eye toward Returned Volunteers our group is bound to see some exciting opportunities to fulfill that third goal of Peace Corps. That warm reception I received in Washington, D.C. is a tribute to all members of our group who have contributed to the activities which makes our group a model of many in the country.

Jim Smith
CARDINAL BAR BENEFIT

I want to be sure all our local members and prospective members understand how we organize these events. Basically, we borrow the Cardinal Bar for an early Saturday evening (5-8 PM). We cook various and assorted wonderful dishes (no reimbursement for the costs), bring them to the Cardinal, set up a great potluck, charge one and all (including ourselves) $5 apiece to partake, then enjoy the best meal in town that evening. We do have to clean up, but we finish by 8 PM so that the night’s entertainment at the bar can go on. All proceeds from admission are donated to a worthwhile cause. We publicize the event to some extent to increase community participation. Ricardo, the owner, approves of these benefits, partly for philosophical reasons and partly because he sells drinks to us thirsty people at regular price. We’ve done enough of these that many people in the community happily anticipate each benefit.

That’s the background. In this case the theme will be flood relief in the Midwest and in Nepal. The event will be held Saturday evening, Feb. 12. Proceeds will likely go to the American Red Cross and Oxfam unless someone can suggest more appropriate organizations. Right now I need people who will agree to bring food to the benefit, preferably in rather large amounts. What type of food? American-Nepali, what else. A selection of curries, both meat and vegetarian, and side dishes such as lentils would satisfy the Nepali part. If I can get it together, I’ll try to come up with a selection of Nepali and/or curry recipes for people to use if they need them. If you have a favorite curry, let me know what you plan to bring. However, we Americans are used to salads and desserts as part of dinner. So I am hoping that a few people will volunteer to bring either salads (make sure they go with curries) or desserts (I’m partial to anything chocolate). We also need bread, preferably Indian. Please tell me what you plan to bring so that I can assure that we’ll have a wide variety of dishes for all tastes.

Even better, call me for a recipe!

Why do we go to all this trouble? Because we have a great time, we eat great food, and our money goes to a great cause. See you there! Remember, though, to let me know what you plan to bring or if you need a recipe. Do this in early January when I’m back in town. Call Walt at 873-5257 (if I’m not there, talk to Chris as she will be helping to organize the food) or 262-1321 (if I’m not there, leave a message on my voice mail or call back if my Chinese office mate answers – he’s a nice guy but his English is probably not up to handling these messages.) Help with publicity would also be appreciated as I don’t expect to do more than the basics.

I read this story in the Dec. 1993 issue of "Habitat World" (a publication of Habitat for Humanity Int’l.) and thought all you RPCVs would enjoy it, especially at this time of the year. It was contributed by Paul and Pat Fenner, Habitat workers in the Dominican Republic.

- Walt

The Boy With One Shirt

Kip Sheidler (a fellow Habitat worker) had a young friend in town named Etin. When he wore any shirt at all, it was the same dirty and tattered one. One time a departing work camp [a work party of other Habitat volunteers] left behind a box of used clothes, and Kip was able to find two shirts that were in good shape and about Etin’s size. The next day when he saw Etin, Kip called him over and gave them both to him. Etin’s eyes lit up as he excitedly received them and ran home.

A few days later, Kip saw another boy wearing one of the shirts. Kip realized what had happened, and when he saw Etin, he explained that both shirts were meant for him. Etin just looked up at Kip and said, "But Kip, you gave me two!"
LOGO CONTEST

ENTRY NO. 1 (Current Logo)

WORLD ROOTS

Newsletter of the Returned Peace Corps
Volunteers of Wisconsin - Madison Chapter

ENTRY NO. 2

ENTRY NO. 3

WORLD ROOTS

RETURN PEACE CORPS
VOLUNTEERS OF WISC. MADISON
New Faces Not Necessarily New
At Peace Corps/Washington

by Chris Davis, Public Affairs Specialist

In the Winter edition of *Peace Corps Times*, an article addressed the possible impact of the presidential transition on the Peace Corps. At that point it was speculated that there would be no significant differences in country programming or Volunteer assignments—nothing negative which would affect Volunteers in the field. Well, Volunteers may be interested to know that high level appointments at Peace Corps headquarters in Washington are made up of many Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and former Peace Corps staff. These include Associate Directors, Regional Directors, and department heads. Some have been in place at the Peace Corps headquarters since January while others are just joining the Peace Corps team.

Carol Bellamy is the first Returned Peace Corps Volunteer to be nominated by a President to serve as Peace Corps Director. Bellamy, the first woman elected president of the New York City Council, was a community development Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala (1963-65).

Charles Baquet has been nominated by the President to be the Peace Corps Deputy Director. Baquet is a career foreign service officer who is currently the United States Ambassador to Djibouti. He has also served in the State Department in South Africa, France and Lebanon. He taught high school social studies as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Somalia (1965-67). Prior to joining the State Department, Baquet worked at the Office of Economic Opportunity with VISTA in Washington D.C.

John P. Hogan, who was appointed by the White House to serve as Acting Peace Corps Director during the transition, will become the Associate Director of International Operations. Hogan has worked for the Peace Corps as an APCD in Colombia, Country Director in Burkina Faso, Chief of Operations in the Africa Region, and Acting Regional Director for Africa. He is an RPCV from Venezuela (1964-66).

Brian Sexton is the Peace Corps General Counsel, having come on board in May. He has an extensive background in international environmental law and has lectured on the subject at the University of Pennsylvania and Lecole Nationale Superieure du Petrol et des Moteurs in Paris. Sexton was Assistant Counsel to the President in the Office of Presidential Personnel and Assistant Counsel during the Clinton/Gore transition. In both positions he was involved in international and national security work.

Patricia Garamendi is the new Associate Director for Volunteer Recruitment and Selection. An RPCV from Ethiopia (1966-68), she returned to that country in 1985 to work on famine relief efforts, and has also worked with refugee children in Croatia. She has been a candidate for state and federal office in California and is active with NORCAL, the Northern California Returned Peace Corps Volunteer group.

Judy Harrington will be the Associate Director for Volunteer Services. She joined the Clinton Administration in January as the White House liaison to the ACTION Agency and helped draft the President’s National Service Initiative. An RPCV from Venezuela (1965-67), she was editor of the worldwide Peace Corps magazine after her return.

Stanley Suyat will be Associate Director for the Office of Management. Suyat was the Clinton Administration’s White House Liaison to the Equal Employment Opportunity Council, and later became Acting Chief of Staff there. He has extensive public and private management background and is an RPCV from the Philippines (1966-68).

Margaret Goodman will be the Regional Director for the Asia and Pacific Region. She is a former staff consultant to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. A Congressional expert on the Peace Corps, she helped to write the law that re-established Peace Corps as an independent agency.

Victor Johnson will be the Regional Director for the Inter-American Region. Johnson has worked as the chief Latin American policy advisor to the House of Representatives since 1981. He is an RPCV from Liberia (1963-65).

Fred O’Regan will serve as the Regional Director for the Eurasia Middle East Region. An RPCV from Swaziland (1969-72), he most recently served as director of the Aspen Institute. He has also worked for the World Bank and USAID on small and micro-development issues.

Sandra Robinson will be the Regional Director for the Africa Region. A former Philadelphia police officer, Robinson directed programs for the African Development Foundation in Western and Sub-saharan Africa. She was director of Peace Corps’ Regional Training and Resource Office in Togo (1982-86).

Christopher Hedrick, a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, will head the Office of Returned Volunteer Services. He has extensive public policy experience in Washington state government and on Capitol Hill. Hedrick was a development RPCV in Senegal (1988-90).

Joan Timoney, who was one of the first of the Clinton Administration’s transition staff at Peace Corps, is the Director of Congressional Relations. Timoney is an RPCV from Senegal (1978-80) and is a former Senate staffer.
Carol Bellamy On Life, Libraries, and Latin America

by Kristin Wennberg, Public Affairs Specialist

Carol Bellamy credits her decision to join the Peace Corps to being temporarily trapped in the Gettysburg College Library. Staying late one evening in the early 1960s, Carol found herself locked-in and stuck for a while. Attempting to be constructive in a bad situation, she found some reading material — literature on the Peace Corps — and her well-laid plans to attend graduate school were quickly replaced by thoughts of “wanting to save the world.”

Fresh out of college in 1963, Bellamy left the country with a band of fellow Peace Corps recruits known as “Guatemala III.” Working in community development in Guatemala’s El Peten region, she concentrated on school gardens and nutrition, but says her favorite Peace Corps project was a radio program she anchored a couple of times a week. Taking advantage of the few hours of electricity in her village each day, she targeted simple health care messages (“9,000 ways to use a banana,” she jokes) at mothers listening to their transistor radios.

Like many Peace Corps Volunteers, Bellamy says she had her share of “why am I here?” moments during her time in Guatemala. “It’s sometimes difficult to figure out what you’re supposed to be doing,” she explains. “But in time you get on your feet and you figure out what needs to be done.” It was her first experience serving others, and she credits those years with her decision to go into public service.

Figuring that a law degree would give a woman in the 1960s an edge, she took the LSAT in Guatemala and started law school at New York University within a week of arriving back in the United States. Upon graduation she took a job with a law firm on Wall Street, not exactly the place to save the world. But, she still managed to help persuade senior members of the bar to join a group called Lawyers Against the War, and founded an organization that today still recruits Wall Street lawyers to do pro bono work for community groups.

In 1971, she broke into public service and served in succession as an assistant commissioner of mental health for New York City, a New York state senator and as president of the New York City Council. In 1985, she ran against Ed Koch for mayor of New York and came in second. “That’s the only positive way to describe getting blown out of the water,” she laughs. So it was back to Wall Street, where she worked in banking until recently when President Clinton stated his intention to nominate her as the next director of Peace Corps.

Today when she’s not working or involved with non-profit projects, Bellamy spends time in her garden or hiking with friends. She takes on the Appalachian Trail for weekend hikes, but has also travelled to Wyoming, Alaska, New Zealand and the Indian Himalayas in search of a good trail. She reads mostly magazines — from The Economist to People and everything in between — but says she likes southern women writers, especially Eudora Welty. She’s currently in the middle of David McCollough’s new book on Harry Truman.

Reflecting on her Peace Corps experience, Bellamy describes it as “such a broadening, stretching time. It takes you out of whatever life plan you have, and says always be open to interesting things. Peace Corps was one of the first things I did that made life fun, and I think people should have fun.”

And what advice would she give today’s Volunteers? “I’d advise them to try everything. If you fall down and bloody your nose, just get up, wipe your nose off and keep going. Experience it for all it’s worth, work hard, try to make a difference — and really enjoy it!”

RPCV Carol Bellamy, nominated by President Clinton to be the next director of the Peace Corps.
"Gathering of the People"

National Peace Corps Association

1994 National Conference

Atlanta, Georgia
July 28-31, 1994

Kahadineh
--Navajo for "gathering of the people"--reflects the theme of celebrating the unique heritage of our diverse American communities. The conference will provide an opportunity for exploring ways to promote positive cultural interaction, understanding and cooperation and a forum for sharing varied perspectives about issues confronting our communities. We will bring together examples of multicultural efforts in Atlanta with conference participants. By building on the cross-cultural strengths from our Peace Corps experience, we will stimulate ideas to apply to our own communities and lives.

The Conference
will provide a day and a half of plenary sessions, speakers, panels, and workshops, and ample scheduled time for Country of Service events and special issue meetings. Volunteer Day will offer such projects as building a house with Habitat for Humanity, creating a large World Map for display in Atlanta, and sponsoring a health fair. Other scheduled events include the Cultural Fair, Career Day, city tours, and activities connected with the 1994 National Black Arts Festival.

We have scheduled our conference to coincide with the 1994 National Black Arts Festival, the biennial cultural celebration which is the largest international exhibit of Afro-Centric visual and performing arts.

Atlanta
--a city of diversity--offers many opportunities for intercultural cooperation. It is home to the 1996 Olympics, the Atlanta Project, the Carter Center, and CNN, as well as the King Center for Social Change and the developing International Village.

The Omni International Hotel
--the conference site in downtown Atlanta--is easily accessible, located adjacent to the CNN Center, near Underground Atlanta, and within walking distance of the main downtown area.

The National Peace Corps Association
and the Atlanta Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers invite you to participate in this conference. We will gather together to celebrate the diversity among us, once more focusing our attention on the Third Goal of Peace Corps, Bringing the World Back Home.
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 joining ($1.25 per month for each month through December), then pay 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 (formerly the National Council of RPCVs) 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: ___________________________

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

RPCVs of Wisconsin, Inc. - Madison Chapter
P. O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

marked Attention Membership!

QUESTIONS? PROBLEMS? Call Sandy Moss at 608/246-9605 most evenings and weekends.
Or try 608/263-4340 weekdays and ask for Sandy.

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin
Madison Chapter
P. O. Box 1012
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Rose Ann Scott
2714 Oakridge
Madison, WI 53704

Exp. Date: 1/94