Musings From the Kent State Conference

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...I think somebody famous said that but it’s still a good line and most appropriate as I try to recapture for our readership the events of the National RPCV meeting just past.

The National Council is undergoing a leadership transition, as Katy Hansen has stepped down and Roger Landrum begins his term as President. Katy has done a commendable, at times even heroic, job of keeping this scattered and fiercely independent group of representatives on track as we suffer the growing pains that come with a rapidly expanding membership.

There are many significant changes that have occurred during her brief tenure and she deserves much credit for their accomplishment. We (as National Council members) have hired a full time executive director, began publishing The WorldView magazine, received the Beyond War Award for our contributions to world peace, commemorated the 25th anniversary of President Kennedy’s death and held the very first national celebration of his birth. The Peace Corps Archives were dedicated at the Kennedy Library in Boston and our Development Education programs are opening new doors to global awareness in communities across the country. But there have been less flashy if no less important personal changes in the organization as well. Our membership continues to expand beyond expectations and our strength lies in the diversity of each local grass roots affiliated group. Katy has worked closely with staff and board members to affect these changes and deserves much thanks for her efforts. We, in the Madison group, would like to express our appreciation and wish her well as she continues to support and participate on the National Board as treasurer.

It’s been a remarkable three years, Katy...thanks again.

RPCV’s of Wisconsin, Madison.
EDITOR'S CORNER:

1. The National Council of RPCVs recently sent a list of people who joined the NC, designating our group as their affiliated group. Five of the eight people listed for June had NC expiration dates of Feb. 1. Apparently they joined the National Council in January or February, but we have only received word of this now. I apologize sincerely to those people for not sending them the newsletters they were entitled to and in some cases expecting. Unfortunately, there is little we can do about such problems except hope that the NC is improving their membership record keeping so as to minimize such problems in the future.

One thing I have done is to give those people an August 90 expiration date for their membership in RPCVW-Madison. I realize that this will complicate their membership renewals, as their memberships in the two organizations will now expire half a year apart. A possibility might be for them to designate a country of service group as their affiliated group when they renew with the NC, and then renew directly with us. Or they might decide that it is not worth participating in organizations that have such record keeping problems. All of us who are active in RPCV organizations have to be aware of this possibility and do what we can to prevent such problems.

2. WARNING! Next month’s newsletter may arrive later than usual. I hope to take two weeks off in the middle of September and head East. If that happens, the newsletter committee will have to put out a full newsletter without me. The one problem may be that the timing gets messed up a bit. In any event, it will be good practice for December, when I'll be in Hawaii and New York while the newsletter goes out. I can't give a deadline for newsletter submissions for next month but would suggest having all materials in by Thursday, Sept. 14.

** NEXT MEETING! **

Next month's meeting will be Monday, Sept. 11 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:

Tuesday, Oct. 3
Wednesday, Nov. 1
Thursday, Dec. 7
August
20 Sun SPRING GREEN OUTING - 3 pm Picnic on APT grounds
6 pm King Lear - come for one or both - see inside

21 Mon POT LUCK for Dean & Hilda - 6:30 pm - Cowell's 231-1694
6126 Old Middleton Road - across from Rough Lee Park

27 Sun BRUNCH - 10-12 am - Lakefront Cafeteria - Memorial Union

September
3 Sun BRUNCH - 10-12 am - Lakefront Cafeteria - Memorial Union

4 Mon LABOR DAY

5 Tue SOUL VIBES - 5 pm - Memorial Union - Hurricane Benefit
Black Reggae Band from Bluefields Nicaragua - Duncan 257-3933

10 Sun BRUNCH - 10-12 am - Lakefront Cafeteria - Memorial Union

11 Mon GENERAL MEETING - 7:00 pm - Union South - 227 N Randall Ave

13 Wed Milwaukee Meeting - 7:00 pm 1756 N. Prospect - 271-9950

15 Fri Newsletter Deadline

15 Fri New Members Slide Show - call Laura for details 246-2838

17 Sun BRUNCH - 10-12 am - Lakefront Cafeteria - Memorial Union

17 Sun WILLY STREET FAIR

23-24 Sat Pig Roast at Mike Reed's Farm - see inside for details

24 Sun BRUNCH - 10-12 am - Lakefront Cafeteria - Memorial Union

25 Mon RESULTS - 7 pm - MEMORIAL UNION

October
1 Sun BRUNCH - 10-12 am - Lakefront Cafeteria - Memorial Union

3 Tue GENERAL MEETING & ELECTIONS - Union South 227 N Randall Ave

11 Wed Milwaukee Meeting - 7:00 pm 1756 N. Prospect - 271-9950

15 Sun BRUNCH - 10-12 am - Lakefront Cafeteria - Memorial Union

16 Mon Newsletter Deadline

21 Sat (Ropes Course - 9 am to 4 pm - Rogers Memorial Hosp - Oconomowoc

22 Sun BRUNCH - 10-12 am - Lakefront Cafeteria - Memorial Union

29 Sun BRUNCH - 10-12 am - Lakefront Cafeteria - Memorial Union

30 Mon RESULTS - 7 pm - MEMORIAL UNION

HALLOWEEN PARTY - WHOOOOOOOO will have it this year??

BRUNCH on Sunday is where the discussion our group business occurs between meetings, plus spirited chatter. Nice days - on terrace.
SEWING TEACHER NEEDED

The Allied Drive sewing class lost it's fearless leader when Lee Szabados left town. This wonderful group of South East Asian refugee women are a delight to work with, and are improving in their English skills as well as their sewing. If you've got some time once a week for a couple of hours, give Laura Good a call at 246-2818.

APOLOGIES TO JO THOMPSON !!!

Our wonderful 1990 calendar has a few flaws, one of which is the improper credit given for the cover photo. The beautiful picture of the bathers in Benares was the work of Jo, not John Ashbaugh, as stated. We're sorry and will try to do better with credits next year.

PIANO TUNER NEEDED

I now have two piano students in my household and a piano that hasn't been tuned since we moved in three years ago. Needless to say, I could use some help. Anyone with perfect pitch out there willing to give it a try? Call Meredith at 271-0998.

BENEFIT FOR SPWAPO

Madison Anti-Apartheid Coalition is holding a benefit for the election in Namibia on September 22, at the State Street Center. *Tar Babies will play* $3 advance, $4 at the door Help selling raffle tickets also needed. Call Duncan Chaplin 257-3933
This will be on Sat-Sun, Sept 23-24 at Mike Read's farm outside of Madison.

Bring about $5 each, less for kids.

As tradition dictates, we shall have on hand carcasses of happily deceased animals (goats, lambs, possums, mastadons complete with clovis points), which we shall cook in interesting ways. There will be much beer, and just enough juice, mineral water, and bosco. There will be croquet, volleyball, strip poker, and a hay ride. We can admire the forest we planted a few years ago.

The better class of people come on Saturday, and camp out. We make handsome fires, tell stories, and reveal our hidden natures. This is when the Peace Corps channelers come into their own. (And there is a huge pot of a chili-like substance).

Sunday is the main event. Bob the shows up with the New York Times, and we eat a large breakfast. We recover, and then the crowds straggle in. Heavy volleyball commences, and murderous croquet. Others gossip, or trade job news; no one mopes. The food is exhumed, and all the brought dishes are uncovered, and we eat for 3 hours, still talking, and then play more, and have a little lunch. We say goodbye when the sun is two hands high, and reach home safely, some hours later, after visiting a Chinese restaurant. It's a day we don't want to end.


Directions: Mike Read (635-2161)
Go north from Madison on Highway 51, to Highway 60. Turn right (east) and go one mile to the intersection with Harvey. Turn left on Harvey, and drive about a half mile: Mike's (newly painted) farm will be the only thing, and it's on the left.
LOOSE LIPS

Oh times are a changing. We are aging! Kent proved it. People whimpering out right and left. Except for Don, no wild and crazy dancing for all hours. But maybe (let's hope) it was enviromental. Low ceiling, hot room, humid, no King Mama. A lesson for Eugene, we need a big ballroom and we can and will move the banquet tables.

Fourteen of us, Rose Ann, Hank, Bob, Meredith, Don, Ken, Helene, Dave, Deb, Char, Earl, Paul, Julie, and Dean trekked to Kent.

Hank and Bob get honors for their market style calendar selling.

Dean has not fully adjusted to driving on US interstate. He would drive 45 mph, 35 mph, even stop. Deb just couldn't believe his driving.

Meredith used her karate skills to get into her dorm room. Body blows did not open the door, it had to be a high kick. But once inside she could not get out, she had to call the desk for help—seems the humid weather swelled the door tight into the jamb.

And Timothy, shame on him, Dean furnished him the jokes with the understanding that monetary compensation would be waived if his name were mentioned. Did anyone hear Dean's name mentioned? Well Timothy, Madison RPCV's is his favorite charity!

Sad to see Lee leave. The Cambodian women from her sewing class, quietly sobbed during her farewell party. Thanks Lee for making a difference in these women's lives. And to Katya, we'll miss your escapades, like your chicken. Lee is assistant to the VP of the International Division of Experience International in DC. Since home is Rice Lake, we know you'll be back.

A big thanks to Meredith and Laura who have spent many hours teaching the Cambodians English and life skills.

Norm where are you?

Mike has issued a disclaimer about being an insurance agent.

Jerry is getting married next spring. No wonder he has slowed down on making us tax exempt.

Jeff has taken his prelims and is off to Mali for a month. He is going to try to measure development for Peace Corps.

Earl has taken on the task of heading up the AIDS Support Network.

Earl is starting Friends of Niger, Paul Friends of Brazil and Rose Ann Friends of Sierra Leone. Is it in the water?

Mark has finished his masters, sold all his stuff and is flying out of TX to DC to find a foreign job.

Tim and Janet have a baby girl, Laura. Tim has become a raptured father as he takes pleasure in every movement she makes.

Paul has gotten a much wanted job principal in the Mineral Point school system.

Walt has taken a second job, working on a method to extract awful stuff out of well water, so people can use their well water.

Bob has been actively looking for new birds for his list, because Diana is limiting the number of guests he can invite to the number of birds on his list.

Dean flew into town for his first meeting in 3 years. He is getting ready to head for India and Australia.

Helene held a small reception in her small house as a farewell to Marat. Meredith gave him a world citizen T-shirt, and Peace Corps pin. He also received one of our world famous calendars. Marat a herpetologist showed slides of his subjects posing in the spectacular Soviet countryside. All through the evening jokes were told as to how big things are in the Soviet Union.

Lorel is learning Norwegian, as she is the ambassadress to Norway.

Sympathies go out to Ruth for the death of her sister and to Chris and Wade for the stillbirth of their daughter, Leah.
Glasnost reveals USSR's environmental woes

By Tom Sinclair
Editor

Marat Khabibullov cannot say what prompted him to become an ecologist. He seemed to be born with an interest in the natural world.

As a young boy growing up in the Soviet city of Kazan, about 500 miles east of Moscow, he often explored the shores and broad waters of the Volga River near his home.

He also loved to read about zoology. One of his favorite authors was an Englishman named Gerald Durrell, whose light-hearted quest for animals in the African wilderness captured his imagination.

After graduating from high school, Khabibullov entered Kazan State University's Department of Nature Protection, the oldest in the Soviet Union. Five years later, with a bachelor's degree to his credit, he departed to work in a wildlife research laboratory in the Soviet republic of Turkmenia. He later returned to Kazan State to pursue a Ph.D. in reptile ecology.

At age 29, his doctorate virtually in hand, he now is a researcher in Kazan's Laboratory of Ecological Modeling and Education. He also coordinates his department's cooperative international programs. And still, he enjoys nothing more than to be outdoors, in the wild.

Along the way, says Khabibullov, his inspiration came from many sources, including Aldo Leopold's A Sand County Almanac. When he read the book in high school, the young Soviet did not imagine he would one day walk the paths of Leopold's rural Wisconsin refuge or visit the wooden shack where Leopold wrote so eloquently about humanity's relationship with the land. Wisconsin might as well have been on a different planet.

But remarkable changes in his homeland and a renaissance in Soviet-American relations have brought Khabibullov to Wisconsin this summer. Here, as a guest of IES and the Division of Summer Sessions and Inter-College Programs at UW-Madison, he has become the first Soviet to teach a course to American college students about the environment and environmentalism in the USSR.

Khabibullov is outspoken about the need for more and better environmental protection in his own country. He says the Soviet environment is in dismal shape because of uncontrolled air and water pollution, careless resource management, and inefficient technology.

The most blatant example, according to Khabibullov, is the Aral Sea region of Soviet central Asia, where ill-conceived agricultural development has created a full-scale environmental catastrophe.
Glasnost

Once home to tigers, leopards, deer, and birds, much of the densely forested land was cleared to grow cotton, and many animals disappeared for lack of habitat. Intense irrigation eventually increased the salinity of the soil so much that farmers were forced to abandon the land. Now it is barren and virtually useless.

That's just part of the problem.

Khabibullov says the two major rivers that fed the Aral Sea were diverted to irrigate the cotton crop. As a result, the sea, actually a saltwater lake once larger than Lake Michigan, has shrunk to a fraction of its original size. The remaining water has itself become so salty that most of the fish species and subspecies that used to inhabit the Aral Sea have died off.

Worse still, the diverted rivers, a major source of drinking water for the region, have become so polluted with agricultural fertilizers and pesticides that the death rate among children aged one year or less has climbed to 118 per 1,000. That's the highest in the Soviet Union, says Khabibullov, and possibly one of the highest in the world.

"The rivers are like poison," he says, "and people are drinking this poison. They became accustomed to it, and many have died."

Until two or three years ago, the Soviet government did not acknowledge the nation's environmental problems, says Khabibullov, and the Soviet public had no way of knowing how serious they had become. But political fallout from the highly visible nuclear accident at Chernobyl and Mikhail Gorbachev’s policies of glasnost and perestroika have begun to yield dramatic changes.

"We are getting more and more information about the real state of the environment. Before glasnost it was impossible. We didn't know anything about the environmental situation in our country," says Khabibullov.

"Also, glasnost and perestroika woke up public and social activity and social movements. It's a great thing because before Gorbachev we couldn't really express our opinions, express our will. Now we have more possibilities, and more and more people are involved in this political process to influence the bureaucracy to do something to solve Soviet environmental problems. It's a new trend in our country, before this, everything was governed from above."

Eager to attack their country's environmental problems but uncertain where to begin, Soviet scientists are looking to countries with more experience in environmental protection for ideas. Thus Khabibullov has a dual mission at IES this summer.

"I myself would like to know what we have to do because we really need answers. I came here not only to teach, but also to learn," he explains.

"I hope I will give the students not just an impression of the system we have for nature protection in the Soviet Union, but a chance to compare the American and Soviet systems. We have to take into strong consideration the differences between the two economic and political systems. But by collaborating, perhaps we can extract good things from the Soviet system and good things from the American system and come up with a kind of ideal system."

A simple transfer of successful methods and technology from the United States to the USSR is not an option, according to Khabibullov.

"We have more hierarchy, more centralized planning; it's absolutely different," he says. "So many things that work here will not work in the Soviet Union. Not just methods for, say, water pollution control, but even technical equipment. If you take technical equipment from here to the Soviet Union, most of the time it doesn't work or it works at just 10 percent of its capability, and that's not very good."

Although he hopes his country can turn its environmental misfortunes around, the Soviet ecologist says, with a frankness uncommon before glasnost, it is an uphill battle.

"I have a strong doubt about whether it is really possible to make changes in the environment if we do not also make changes in the Soviet economic system and, of course, the political system," he says. "It's now happening, but it's very hard because the resistance is very strong, and the outcome is unpredictable.*
Laura Manning Turner
July 28, 1989
10:49 p.m.
7 pounds 11 ounces
21 inches

Tim and Janet Turner

August 11, 1989

RECEIPT OF EMERGENCY FUNDS

This is to acknowledge receipt of $70.00 from Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Madison, WI, and RoseAnn Scott, President of the RPCV Madison Chapter. These emergency funds will be used to purchase staples for 17 migrant workers, who were discovered to be in desperate need.

Thank you,

Kristine S. Torres
Employment and Training Specialist

ELS International is a private, for profit, franchise company with English language centers worldwide. Since 1978 ELSI has licensed 20 schools in Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and Europe. With an annual enrollment of over 20,000 students, we are always looking for qualified ESL/EFL teachers to staff our overseas centers.

KOREA

ESL TEACHERS needed for ELS International English Language School in Seoul. Applicants should have a 4-year college degree and one year ESL experience. Total compensation packet approximately $22,000. For more information, send resume and inquiry to: Recruitment Officer, 5761 Buckingham Parkway, Culver City, CA 90230.
TRICKLE UP PROGRAM, INC.
The TUP Decade 1979-1989

August 1, 1989
Rose Ann Scott
Returned Peace Corps
Volunteers of Wisconsin
2714 Oakridge Avenue
Madison, WI 53704

Dear Ms. Scott,

We would like to thank you and the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin for your support of the Trickle Up Program and your generous contribution of $100.

We are deeply grateful for your willingness to join us in the search for ways to help the poor lift themselves out of poverty and hopelessness.

As we enter our second decade, your support will help TUP continue to help the poor help themselves into a better life. You are playing a vital role in the work we are doing to demonstrate to people that they can successfully create their own jobs and their own capital through their own ideas. As TUP entrepreneurs they learn the skills and gain the self-confidence needed to pave the way towards a brighter future.

On behalf of the Trickle Up Volunteers worldwide, we again thank you for your generous support.

Sincerely,

Mildred Robbins Last
Co-Director

Enc.: Film Brochure

LORET RUPPE AWARD
CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

This Second Prize certificate is awarded to
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
of Wisconsin - Madison

for participation in an outstanding Third Goal Project for the year 1988

Presented by

The National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
RPCVs of WISCONSIN MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

NEW MEMBERS:

COFFIN, Robert 159 River Dr., Appleton, WI 54915.

COTHROLL, Edward 210 Frederick Ave., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538.

DANIELSON, Linda 324 Norris Ct. #3, Madison, WI 53703.
Home: 256-7773 Work: 262-8181 Spain 1986-88

DYER, Helen L. 5712 Monona Dr. #1, Madison, WI 53716.

FEDJE, Cheryl 1408 Heatherton Lane, Plover, WI 54467.

HEMKEN, Douglas 1237 E. Johnson St. #2, Madison, WI 53703.

HOWARD, Roger & Laura 1421 Rae Lane, Madison, WI 53711.
Liberia 1964-66

LUETT, June 926 Reddin Ave., Neenah, WI 54956.

MOHR, Bill 2621 4th St. South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494.
Home: 715/421-4238 Work: Thailand 1972-74

NEWTON, Bruce & Judy 890 Woodrow St., Madison, WI 53711.
Home: 231-1860 Work: 266-6563 Colombia 1966-68
Panama 1969-71

NIES, Kevin 1425 Mound St., Madison, WI 53711.
Home: 256-2748 Work: Philippines

SCHUBERT, Grace P.O. Box 223, Madison, WI 53701.
Home: 256-6286 Work:

SICKEL, James 122 W. Mission Rd., Green Bay, WI 54301.
Home: Work: Colombia 1968-70

YARROCH, Bill 621 Lake St., Hancock, MI 49930.
(address changes on back of this page)

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

ADDRESS CHANGES

ASTONE, Nan
   6807-D Blenheim Rd., Baltimore, MD 21212.
   Home: 244-5844  Work: 262-1082  Philippines 1978-80
   (ext. 1170)

CSETE, Joanne
   311 Forest St. #2B, Madison, WI 53705.

GBEDEY, Elinor
   2314 E. Johnson, Madison, WI 53704.
   Home: 244-5844  Work: 274-4330  Togo 1965-67
   Sierra Leone 1982-84

KING, Karen
   1032 Fiedler Lane, Madison, WI 53713.
   Home: 256-2141  Work: 274-4330  Sierra Leone 1982-84

ROMENESKO, Katy
   1314 Biscayne Dr., Little Chute, WI 54140.
   Sierra Leone 1983-85

SZABADOS, Linda (Lee)
   6322 Old Chesterbrook Rd., McLean, VA 22101.

VISOCKY, Mark
   13429 Marble Rock Dr., Chantilly, VA 22021.
   Belize 1978-80