Greetings, I want to thank Sophia for allowing us to invade her home for our Christmas party. We all had a good time of food, drink and friendship. At the meeting we again voted to reunite with the national association. For all of you who signed up to distribute info on the Freeze for Food run just a reminder to please make sure to get the info out in a timely manner. Also anyone else interested in getting the word out contact Buck for the info and places that need to be covered. For those of you that signed up to help with the 40th PC celebration we will be in touch with you soon. Anyone else interested in helping with the celebration please contact either Melissa or I. We are also looking for original music from PC countries, to play at the celebration so if anyone has tapes that they brought back and are willing to lend them out, please contact Melissa or I. Also, we want to set up a table at the 40th celebration to depict all that the group has done over the years. So we need to get pictures of projects or events that the group has done if you have any please contact Melissa or I. Another reminder, you all should have received a letter from PC requesting a picture with two paragraphs on how your service affected you personally or professionally. Those need to be returned by January 5 if you want them to be included in the 40th celebration. Also if you DID NOT receive one you MAY NOT be on the mailing list of those to be invited to the celebration dinner please if this is the case, contact either Melissa or I to get your name on the invitation list. If you DID GET the letter from PC YOU ARE on the invitation list. At the January meeting I hope to discuss moving the meeting site from Union South to another more friendly location and also setting a regular monthly meeting date. I hope to the currently method of moving the date up and down the days of the week. Also at the next meeting I would like to discuss setting up a foundation, as I said in the last newsletter, a foundation would allow the group to expand the way it gives financial support in years to come and within a relatively short time the endowment would be quite large. Making it possible for the group to get involved in larger projects. This would be a good way for the group to expand and hedge its resources for donation monies for the future. As always bring you ideas to the meetings. Tom
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:juliadon@interalb.net

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

International Calendar Project
Coordinator        Rochelle Goodken (608) 243-0298
Customer Service Administrator
Julita Zolinik (608) 221-2238
jurysie@terracom.net

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

Events
Freeze for Food    Peter J. Joyce (608) 249-8573
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, (608) 242-9573
iambrad@chorus.net

Pre-Connect/ Re-Connect
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Visibility
Newsletter Editor  Theresa A. Jenkins
(608) 876-6649
rpcv_editor@brodnet.com

Campus Peace Corps Recruiter
Jonathan Simon (608) 262-1121
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: ________________________________
PCJob: ________________________________
Birth date: (Optional - M/D/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 November 2000

Calendar balance  72,385.27  Group balance  951.09  <<<<<<<<<
Dues  130.00  
Sales  23,644.44  NPCA rebate  82.50  Annual Projects  3414.76
Interest  397.23  NPCA dues  -82.50  >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
Donation  5.00  Ending balance  1081.09  >>>>
Credit card fee  -504.32  >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
Fed Express  -419.91  >>>>>
Phone  -52.18  >>>>>
Brochure mailing  -457.14  Giftaway  -1330.00  >>>>>
Brochure tabs  -32.50  <<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<
Customer services  -243.00  <<<<<<<<<<<<<<
Stamps  -19.80  Bank Checking  3,026.32
Supplies  -280.08  Global Education  2096.20  Bank Savings  96,876.09
Ending balance  94,443.01  Bank Total  99,902.41

<<<<<<<<<<<

Large Projects  197.35
<<<<<<<<<<<

Dues are due

Editor's Spot

Please note address change!

Well, I got my computer up and running (FINALLY, just two days ago 12/18). Kevin had to reformat the thing and then came the task of reinstalling all the software and the transfer of files...oh fun. All I want for Christmas is 64 RAM, 64 RAM, 64 RAM...

Seeing everyone at the Christmas party was a great treat for both of us! Now that we are closer, we are hoping to be a tad more active in events.

New Address  131 Edwards St., P.O.Box, Footville WI. 53537
Phone 608-876-6649, e-mail WILL STAY THE SAME :), so keep those articles a coming!
A call for articles from YOU..do you have an interesting story to share about your PC experience, or CHADS, your thoughts on Israel, or your solution to the forecasted energy crisis of 2001. If so please send them to me and get yourself in print.

Looking forward to some feedback from you, our members. - Theresa
November 15 WASHINGTON--The countdown has started for thousands of returned Peace Corps Volunteers planning to commemorate 40 years of volunteer service next year in Washington, D.C. Today, National Peace Corps Association President Dane Smith announced that NPCA's 2001 national conference will be held from Sept. 20-23 on the Mall, in the shadow of the Washington Monument. The event will be hosted by the NPCA and the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Washington D.C. "By holding the event in September, we will be able to invite District of Columbia school children down to the Mall to participate in cultural activities planned by country-of-service groups," said Smith. "And to assist educators, NPCA's Global TeachNet will be holding a teacher in-service workshop on bringing the world into the classroom."

The National Park Service has confirmed the use of several sites on the Mall and the use of the Memorial Bridge for a march to President John F. Kennedy's gravesite during the weekend's activities. Coordination meetings with the D.C. government have been on-going, and plans are being finalized for an important community-service project to take place locally during the conference. An Advocacy Day planned during the weekend will bring the concerns of the former volunteer community to members of Congress.

The National Peace Corps Association is the non-profit alumni organization for returned Peace Corps volunteers, former staff, and friends of the Peace Corps. Since 1961, more than 155,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps volunteers in 134 countries. The association has more than 130 affiliated groups of RPCVs around the country, organized at the regional level and by country of service, who continue to serve in their home communities. NPCA is dedicated to promoting President Kennedy's third goal for Peace Corps, "bringing the world back home," by teaching Americans about other cultures and sharing the international experiences of its members.

To commemorate the 4 years of volunteer service--overseas and at home--of its members, NPCA is planning a year of activities in 2001. These include a National Volunteer Week in March, a Kennedy Center black-tie gala in May, and the national conference in Washington, D.C., in September. Many other activities will be taking place around the country, organized by the regional and country-of-service RPCV organizations. For more information on the Internet about the National Peace Corps Association, visit http://www.rpcv.org
Web Site
Dean Jefferson has put together a great site; please check it out! The site currently features the International Calendar, a page containing officers and contacts and another page people can print out and mail in to renew their membership. Folks with MS Windows PC's can download a bitmap file of the 2001 Calendar cover to use as wallpaper. The URL is http://www.geocities.com/wirpcv

The Editor and Dean are working on putting an electronic copy of the newsletter on the web site. There will be links to previous editions so one can check on giftaways and the like.

Freeze for Food
Remember the annual fundraiser scheduled this month. A sign up sheet was present at the Dec. meeting but you can still join the fun. Dress warm and let us hope the skies are clear that day!! For more information please contact Peter Joyce at 249-8573.
Can anybody get Dean some photos from previous Freeze for Food runs in electronic format? He prefers JPEG (*.JPG) or bitmap (*.BMP) format. He would like to get a page announcing the Freeze for Food up on our web site ASAP. Thanks in advance and don't forget to check it out at: http://www.geocities.com/wirpcv

Camp Lucerne
February 24th and 25th are the dates for the next outing to Camp Lucerne. This annual event should be great this year with all the snow and the activities to play in it. We have 2 heated cabins Oak and Pine and the Retreat Center. It is about 1 1/2 hours north of Madison on Lake Lucerne. One charge will include a bed, Breakfast and lunch. Saturday night we will have a potluck. Reservations. Rate system has changed this year.

Adult $30.12
Youth $17.84
Family Rate $71.70.
new this year Saturday noon and Sunday morning lunches need to be ordered two weeks in advance: by the February meeting Tues. the 6th so PLEASE call Rose Ann at 241-0345. So mark your calendar for a weekend of winter fun. ===== Rose Ann Scott 608-241-0345, 2714 Oakridge Ave, Madison WI 53704-5749

Calendar Exposure
An article appeared in the Capital Times on Friday December 22. If you haven't seen it check it out!

Slide Selection - First round
Will happen at the February meeting Tuesday the 6th Be there!
It's after CHRISTMAS BUT YOU CAN GET MORE CALENDARS

- FOR ALL THE PEOPLE YOU DIDN'T THINK OF THE FIRST TIME AROUND!

WESTSIDE - From Lee, 5217 Pepin Place (off Southhill), 232-9065
EASTSIDE - From Rochelle, 243-0298; Prudence, 1050 Jenifer St., 251-0852

Wisconsin Democracy Campaign

Just thought you might be interested to hear about a local non-profit that is run by an RPCV. And because of the tradition of activism and civic-mindedness at RPCVs of WI-Madison, perhaps your membership would like to hear about it, too.

The Wisconsin Democracy Campaign is a five-year-old nonpartisan watchdog group that tracks money in state politics and advocates for campaign finance reform. The WDC's executive director is Mike McCabe, a returned Peace Corps volunteer who served in the West African country of Mali from 1989 to 1991. The Democracy Campaign has called attention to dozens of campaign finance abuses and makes its research available to the public free of charge on the Internet. The group's web site, www.wisdc.org, features a searchable database with nearly 160,000 records of campaign contributions to candidates for state office. It's the only database of its kind in Wisconsin - not even the State Elections Board makes such a tool available to the public.

To restore sanity to Wisconsin's campaign finance system and to sever the connection between special interest money and public policymaking, the WDC is leading a 34-group coalition that is promoting a comprehensive campaign reform initiative called "Voters First." More information about this proposal is available on the web site at www.wisdc.org.

And, the Democracy Campaign is leading a 16-group coalition called the Alliance for Better Campaigns-Wisconsin that is pressuring local television stations in Wisconsin to meet their public service obligations by meaningfully covering election campaigns. The Alliance has called attention to the extent to which TV stations are profiteering on democracy through the sale of political ads and has monitored election coverage to show how little time is devoted to serious political journalism. As a remedy, the Alliance is calling on local TV stations to devote five minutes a night to candidates talking about issues in the 30 days before elections. More information about the Alliance for Better Campaigns also can be found on the WDC's web site.

Hope you'll pass this e-mail along to friends and associates and fellow RPCVs, and consider including a brief article in the RPCV newsletter about the WDC. We're a small grassroots operation and can use all the help we can get in bringing our work to the attention of interested folks.

Thanks,

Wisconsin Democracy Campaign
16 N. Carroll Street, #420
Madison, WI 53703
608/255-4260
www.wisdc.org
Cuba -- Parte 3 -- 1 October 2000 -Jim Oakley

Here finally is a day-by-day account of my Cuban experience. I have split it into 2 sections: <Parte 3> includes Aug, 5-11. <Parte 4> finishes the rest of the day-by-day report, Aug. 12-19. Happy reading! I should stress that this was not like any previous trips I have taken in Europe and Latin America. I went through only one museum and only one church, although I passed by several of each. And I never went to a beach, never even went swimming in a pool, although there was one near our hotel which I could have used. Schools were on vacation, so I went to no schools. But I went to a concert or a club almost every day, and I was constantly surrounded by music and by great people. Sat. 5 Aug. 2000-- I flew from Chicago to Miami yesterday. I spent last night with my aunt & uncle and with my cousin Paul. It was good to see them again after several years. I suspect that my aunt did not recognize me at first, since I have grown a beard. My flight this morning from Miami to Cancun was routine. I could see Cuba down below on the way. In Cancun I picked up my Cubana air ticket & visa, checked in, and met several other Global Exchange participants while waiting. We arrived in Havana on schedule. Some confusion and waiting at the airport, but the buses arranged by Global Exchange got us to the Hotel El Bosque by 4 p.m. On the way I saw the first 50s US cars as we passed blocks of apartments and many small homes. Good roads. The hotel (3-star, in the Reparto Kohly, close to the Calle 23 bridge over the Rio Almendares. At the hotel we were treated to rum & cokes, and got an itinerary of the Global Exchange program for the 2 weeks. At 6 p.m. we had an orientation meeting in the hotel, with time for lots of questions & answers. The agenda looks well-planned and is much more flexible than I had expected. Our Global Exchange group is large and diverse, age 17 to 60+, mostly from Calif. and east coast, several of us midwesterners, over half the group educators & students, some Cuban-Americans and other hispanics. At least 2 Cuban-Americans are the first from their families to come back to visit Cuba since their parents/ grand-parents emigrated. About half the participants are fluent in Spanish. There are 38 of us in the "Cuban Rhythms" program for dance & percussion, and another 50-some for the language program which has classes at the Univ. of Havana. All of us are staying in the Hotel El Bosque. There is no organized bike rental as we had been told. Instead there is daily bus service to take us to classes and to most of the other planned events. Our supper at the restaurant across the street from the hotel was pork and rice & beans. I had my first Cuban beer. (I eventually tasted several kinds of Cuban beer -- all good.) After 8:30 we all took a bus to the Malecon for Carnaval, similar to carnival in Trinidad, with lots of bands and dancers, elaborate costumes and a very festive, crowded scene. The walk back to the bus through the crowds was difficult for some in our group (jostling, groping, pickpocket attempts), but for me it was OK; I could see over the crowd. I have never been in such a large, intense crowd before. We got back to our hotel after midnight.

Sun. 6 Aug.-- I got up early and took a walk near the hotel. I thought I might walk around the block, but it turned out that would be an awful long way. The area near the hotel, along the Almendares River, is green and lush and quiet -- bosque tropical -- curtains of vines hanging from trees (celba, framboyan), saw a red squirrel, garzas (egrets), heard lots of other birds. A piece of rain forest right in the city. Folks on bikes passed -- and 2 military trucks. Good breakfast back in the hotel, lots of buffet choices -- fruit (mango, papaya, banana, watermelon, oranges); and cheese, cereal, juice, coffee, bread pudding, etc. I had a big breakfast there every morning and often skipped lunch. One of the hotel employees told me a bit about the hotel and the neighborhood. Several of the large buildings around were the mansions of wealthy Cubans who left in the 60s and were taken over by the government, including the restaurant where we have dinner and a nearby elementary school. Our hotel was built about 5 years ago with help from a Dutch company, and is part of Gaviota, a state-run corporation. We took a bus tour of
Havana, stopped at the Plaza de la Revolucion, had lunch in the Barrio Chino. A highlight of the day was a visit to the Maqueta de la Habana, a detailed scale model of the city, with a fascinating commentary by Miguel Coyula, an architect and city planner. The other highlight was the Callejon de Hamel (Hamel Alley), a neighborhood of homes and art shops, all decorated in murals. This afternoon it was crowded with street musicians, dancing, and lots of local people and tourists. The transformation of this neighborhood began with the artist, Salvador, then spread through the area, eventually becoming a local tourist attraction. It was really hot that day, as it was the whole 2 weeks. We went back to the hotel about 5, and after a shower I bought a phone card and began making my phone calls. I brought with me the names, phone numbers, and addresses of probably 20 people, and I was carrying gifts and letters for most of them, from folks in the U.S. who had met them on previous visits. I got several busy signals and phones no longer in service, and I left messages. I got in touch with the family in Pinar del Rio, and made plans to visit them the next weekend. I had my first "mojito" before dinner. It is a rum drink with mint, one of Ernest Hemingway's favorites. I had supper at the restaurant across the street with Heather B., one of the other participants. We tried some Cuban wine, "Saroa." Not so great. I'll stick to Cuban beer, rum, fruit juices, and "TuCola." Later in the evening I met the first of the people I had phoned, Maylin, who came to the hotel with her husband Pedro. We talked for a couple hours and I made the first in my series of deliveries from previous visitors. Mon. 7 Aug.-- Up early again, this time to wait in the lobby for Alexander, who I had talked with on the phone yesterday. I had breakfast and continued to wait for him. Then just as our bus was about to leave at 8:30, he arrived out of breath. I gave him his package from Margarita, and we talked briefly. I found out he works at the Callejon de Hamel. I'll look for him there later. Our bus took us to the Plaza de San Francisco in Habana Vieja. Then it was a 4-block walk to the Casa de Cultura where our classes were held. This was our routine each morning. The Casa de Cultura is in a former convent building (Convento de San Francisco) and is a center for classes in art, music, theatre & dance. It is a very old colonial building, typical of Old Havana, slightly shabby, but spacious, and really a house of culture. The first day we met the various instructors who explained the program of dance & percussion. To begin they made everyone form a circle and dance, and they selected out those they thought would be in the advanced dance class. For some of us, like me, with no ego invested in our dance skills, this separation of sheep and goats was no big deal, but several people who were not selected were disappointed. (Later through "self-selection" others were able to join the top group.) So we got an introduction to dancing salsa, and later to the various percussion instruments we would be using, but there were not enough instruments, and it seemed that the instructors had not expected such a large group (36). But after about 3 days, we sorted ourselves out into various levels of dance and percussion, according to our abilities & interests. In the afternoon Heather & I went to the Callejon again. She had folks she wanted to talk with there, and I was hoping to find Alexander. He was not there, but we spent a few hours at Salvador's art gallery/home, talking with Harold, Elias, and others about Salvador & his art, about Santeria, Afro-Cuban dance & music, etc. I bought a poster of Salvador posing in the Callejon. Back at the hotel we had a presentation/discussion about the Cuban economic situation. We are beginning to understand ironies and compromises of the "periodo especial" (the difficult economic period since the fall of the Soviet Union) the dual economy, dollar stores, etc. Later in the evening, after supper, I met Miriam and her 2 daughters. (Later I would meet her husband, Miguel.) They are a family who had met a friend (Bonnie A.) from West Bend when she visited Cuba 5 years ago. Bonnie sent some gifts with me for the family. I could understand right away that they had made very positive impressions on each other. They invited me to come to their home on Wednesday, Tue. 8 Aug.-- At the Casa de Cultura today, there were more instruments available, we had another salsa lesson, and we began dividing into various classes for dance & percussion. My group spent a lot of time on congas, along with basic clave rhythms (clave de son, clave de rumba). "Clave" means "key," and also refers to the small round wooden sticks used to mark the rhythm. Most days we could take a return bus from the Plaza de San francisco back to the hotel about 1 p.m., or we could do whatever we wanted and return on our own. Today I had the bus drop me off near the Habana Libre (Hilton Hotel before the revol.) There I arranged my bus trip to Pinar del Rio for Saturday. I bought a package tour to Vinales and Pinar del Rio, with the plan that the tour would leave me there before they return to Habana. I also patronized some dollar stores, bought a couple guayaberas (shirt-jackets), a blue and a white ($15 each), a bottle of cooking oil to take as a gift tomorrow, and a bottle of rum. Back at the hotel, we had a showing of a classic Cuban cartoon feature, "Vampiros en la Habana." I dozed off in the stuffy room where it was shown on a tiny TV, and I had a hard time understanding the humor. So much humor is cultural, even native Spanish-speakers from other parts of the hispanic world would have trouble. I would like to see it again some time, under better conditions. After supper, I delivered 2 more packages from Margarita, when Evelio & Hector came to the hotel. Then our bus took us to the Casa de la Amistad in Vedado, an outdoor club with dancing and live music, 2 excellent bands. We had a chance to test our salsa skills--and to watch the experts! Later some of us walked back to the hotel fairly cool at night, but still sweaty, about a 30-minute walk. Wed. 9 Aug.-- Today's dance class was probably my last. I think I have reached the max of my dancing potential, and the room was so hot today, with little air circulation, but the percussion class has settled to about 10 of us. Several more congas and other instruments are available now. A vendor has begun to bring homemade fruit juices to sell to us. Lots of good stuff I haven't tasted since my Peace Corps years in Grenada: guanabana (soursop), guayaba (guava), mango. Today is really hot; it must be over 100
Fahrenheit. I took the bus straight back to the hotel for a shower & siesta. Then I took a taxi to the home of Miguel & Miriam in Vedado about 3:30. I met Miguel and we chatted about tourism, music, the economy, our common friend Bonnie, food, religion, schools... Miguel is the "producer" (agent, manager?) for a salsa/rock group, "3 de la Habana," which includes his sister (Ana), her husband (David), and the husband's brother (Ari). He played a tape of their music and invited me to come to 3 of their performances. (I later went to 2 of them.) Miguel is a few months older than I am, Miriam a few years younger. She is a physician whose specialty is nutrition and public health. She works at a hospital in Havana and is on vacation for the month of August. Their daughters are Maite (8) & Miriam (11). I really enjoyed getting to know this family. We had a snack of fried "boniata" (a yam-like vegetable) --very delicious, then they took me on a walk through the neighborhood. I met some of their friends & relatives, and they gave me a short tour of the cemetery (Necropolis de Colon) about 5 blocks from their home. It is an enormous cemetery, centuries-old, like a small city, with streets and traffic, stop signs and speed limits, fancy tombs like small buildings, statues, and filled with history and legends. The parents of Jose Marti are buried there, as is Miguel's father. We visited the grave of "La Milagrosa." The legend is that many years ago a woman who died in childbirth was buried with the baby at her feet. Then years later when the grave was opened, she was found holding the child at her chest. Now people go there to pray and to seek guidance or their own miracles. Back at their home we listened to the 2 girls play the piano. I taped some of it. Their cousin Eduardo, a college student, joined us for supper: rice & beans, sausage, avocado, squash, boniata, and lots of water with lime. I left them about 9:30. Miguel walked with me part of the way back to the hotel, showing me all the shortcuts. He lit up a cigar as soon as we got out of the house, and we stopped for a few beers on the way. Thu. 10 Aug.—No dancing --all percussion this morning, basic conga rhythms. I made a few more purchases today -- a CD ($15), some small posters, postcards, & 2 t-shirts ($5 each). Before supper we had a presentation on Cuba's public health system. Later I met Alfredo, who rents bicycles, another of the folks I carried messages for. Nice evening talking with him, and with Heather and other Global participants. Heather rented a bike from him. Fri. 11 Aug.—Music classes are settling into a routine, starting to "captor" the basic rhythms --clave de son (clave cubano), clave de rumba & basic strokes --abieto, cerrado, tapado, manoteo. I had time to take a few pictures around Habana Vieja. We visited the Atenas community project, a neighborhood development effort. In the evening most of us went to the first public concert in Havana of the Buena Vista Social Club -- a great event, attended by a mix of locals & visitors --tourists paying more, of course --class system in action, at the Teatro Carlos Marx. I walked back to the hotel afterwards, about a half-hour walk at midnight. The Associated Press wrote a review of the concert. My aunt in Florida sent me a copy from the Miami Herald. Then as I was skimming through local newspapers piled up in my absence, I found the same article in the West Bend Daily News! Here is part of it: August 12, 2000. HA\NA (AP) -- As his gnarled hands pounded the keys of the Russian-made piano in the Karl Marx theater, octogenarian Ruben Gonzalez flashed a wide smile. Gonzalez and the rest of the mostly elderly Buena Vista Social Club said they were delighted to be back home to share their music with their compatriots after playing to sold-out concerts in the US and Europe, "In your own land, one always feels better," said Gonzalez, a smallish man with white hair and a bright orange guayabera who gave his age as "83 or 84." The Buena Vista Group is made up of once nearly-forgotten musicians. Their forte is the "son" --traditional Afro-Cuban music heavy in brass and percussion. They also play the more romantic bolero and the danzón. The Buena Vista Social Club performed on the island twice last year to small audiences, but had never held a concert for the general Cuban public. Tickets went on sale at 50 cents for Cubans and $10 for foreigners. The group will continue touring on Monday, when it leaves for its first visit to Japan, said singer Ibrahim Ferrer, 73, one of the group's top names. Later this year they will travel to South America for the first time. "But I am really happy now to be able to play in my own country," Ferrer said. Here ends <Parte 3>. <Parte 4> will cover my second week.

For more info or a complete selection of the saga, contact the editor or Jim Oakley
January 2001
Volume 21, Issue 1

Calendar of Events

Jan 8, Mon General Meeting, Union South, 7:00 (Dayton & Randall St., Madison)
WARNING: this is 2nd (not 1st) Mon. in Jan.; and, Union South's being open
is not yet confirmed.

Jan 12, Fri TGIF for RPCV's: 5:00-7:00; Memorial Union, in the Rathskeller

Jan 20, Sat Freeze For Food Run.

February 24th and 25th outing to Camp Lucerne Call Rose Ann for more info

Mar 1-4 2001: local Peace Corps Conference, at UW--Madison

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

Parking Information For Meetings at Union South: Apart from city parking me-
ters,many UW parking lots are free to the public after 5:30 p.m. One is near Union
South: 2 lots, plus city meters, in the triangle west of Charter and north of Johnson,
across Johnson from Union South; enter from Charter or University.