Message from the President

Today I had a rare opportunity to be at home in the middle of the day - free from school, work, and responsibilities to anyone other than myself. The day has been one of those perfect fall days - yes, the second day of fall (my RPCV calendar tells me the equinox fell on Monday, September 22, at 15:45 UT - which makes it 10:45 CST) - and I used part of it to enjoy my back porch with a book in the cooling night air. It is a good night for reflection.

In the last year and a half of my return from Ghana, and diving right into the group, I have been amazed at the great work that this group does. While it's true that there is a core group of people, new faces do come in and out of meetings and events, and offer their services on different projects. We range from retired to thick-in-the-middle-of-worklife members, from Ghana ’61 to Ghana ’07 RPCVs, from students to teachers, from lawyers to non-profit administrators. We vary in our political ideas, but feel passionate about the value of our Peace Corps experience, and its impact on our lives.

I'm not going to try to name all the people who have taught me about the group in the last year, because I know I'd forget someone. You all know who you are. And I thank the entire group for trusting me in the role of President. I plan to call on some of you for help, to make sure I stay on track.

House For Rent

Let’s return for a moment to that lovely afternoon on my porch. A few weeks ago I put out a listserv message indicating I was looking for a housemate. That is still true, so if you know someone who is looking for a place to rent, please send them my way. The house is on Irish Lane in Fitchburg, seven miles from the Capitol, but across the street is farmland (Stoneman’s Super Sweet Corn can be had during season, and I have flower and vegetable gardens in the backyard), and an oak woods (with owls, sand hill cranes, deer, coyote, fox and more). There’s no convenient public transport, but it’s an easy bike ride or short car ride to most places in Madison. Inquiries invited!

Group Archival Project

Judith Stadler and Char Thompson have been paying attention to one of our initiatives: to archive our records. Please take a look at Judy’s article later in this issue, consider if you have anything at all to donate to the archival process, and give her a call. Judy is going out of her way to make it super-easy for each of us to be involved.

Membership Renewal

I can’t close without a gentle reminder to send in your dues. You can pay your NPCA and Madison dues all in one check, either to us, or to NPCA. It all gets sorted out nicely. Our member year begins with our fiscal year: September. If you haven’t already done so, please be sure to send your $15 for Madison dues ASAP! Renewal form is on the back page.

Salama,

Kate Schachter
RPCVs of WI – Madison Officers & Contacts

Elected Officers
President  Kate Schachter  234.1795  kateschachter@yahoo.com
Vice President  Lee Row  232.9065  leerow@sbcglobal.net
Secretary  Meghan Meeker
Treasurer  Ana Zambie  234.0281  azambie@matcmadison.edu
Board Member  Walt Zeltner  873.5257  zeltner@chorus.net
Board Member  Char Thompson
Deadwood  Laura Buchs  (203) 918.8650  buchsll@gmail.com

Event Chairs
Family Brunch  Clare Vogel  vogelclare@gmail.com
Freeze for Food  Rick Lackey  Peter Joyce  213.8878  meisa@charter.net  peterjoyce@sbcglobal.net
Tabling Events  Troy Rutter  245.9964  txrutter@att.net
International Dinners  Tom Brodd  251.6193  thomasbrodd@sbcglobal.net
50th Anniversary  Laura Buchs  (203) 918.8650  buchsll@gmail.com

Other Contacts
Calendar Coordinator  Tom Brodd  251.6193  thomasbrodd@sbcglobal.net
Calendar Customer Service  Ken Coffeen  224.1164  kcoffeen@tds.net
Business Manager  Rose Ann Scott  241.0845  roseannscott@yahoo.com
Donation Coordinator  Walt Zeltner  873.5257  zeltner@chorus.net
Global Education  Marc Brand  255.1339  brand@madison.k12.wi.us
Membership  Heather Hempel Gomez  843.3973  heather.gomez@mattel.com
Newsletter Editor  Lee Row  232.9065  worldrootsnews@yahoo.com
Peace Corps Recruiter  John Sheffy  262.1121  peacecorps@calwisc.edu
Registered Agent  Terry Stark  233.9140  terry.stark@yahoo.com

Listserv
RPCVs of WI – Madison
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rpcv_madison/

Websites
RPCVs of WI – Madison
http://www.rpcvmadison.org
International Calendar
http://www.rpcvcalendar.org
NPCA
http://www.rpcv.org
Peace Corps Online
http://www.peacecorpsonline.org
Peace Corps
http://www.peacecorps.gov

PO Box 1012, Madison, WI 53701

Calendars for Sale
One of the benefits of membership in our group is the opportunity to purchase International Calendars for $5 each.
Calendars are available from
Rose Ann Scott  Troy Rutter  Sophia Zermuehlin
2714 Oakwood Ave.  3926 Anchor Dr.  317 Bordner Dr.
241.0845  245.9964  233.7886
August 20, 2008

President Mary Ann Feutz called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM on the Memorial Union Terrace. Laura Buchs, Mary Ann Feutz, Heather Hempel Gomez, Meghan Meeker, Kate Schachter, Rose Ann Scott, Lee Row and Ana Zambie attended.

Financial Report
Treasurer Ana Zambie reported positive ending balances for the calendar ($99,228) and group funds ($2,902) in July 2008. No membership dues were collected in that month. Of the groups who received funding from us, three still have not cashed their checks. Also, the Columbia Support Network has not yet collected the funds raised by the Freeze for Food event.

NPCA Grant Application Revisions
Members suggested further changes to the NPCA Group-Building Grant application, which had been provisionally updated in the June meeting and then published in the World Roots newsletter. They requested a change of dates in the application’s Proposal Guideline #4, so that the updated guideline shall read: “Proposals will be accepted once each year by August 15 and only one grant can be awarded per RPCVs of WI-Madison fiscal year (September 1 to August 31).”

MorePeaceCorps House Party
Teresa Cousins has volunteered to host a house party in support of the MorePeaceCorps campaign. The event is scheduled for September 6th in southwest Madison.

Restraining Order
Tom Brodd consulted attorney Gordon Malaise about the feasibility of filing a restraining order against Albert Wellstein on behalf of our group. Gordon indicated that it would prove very difficult. Anyone bothered by Albert should report the incident to campus and city police.

2008 Elections for Group Officers
The following members have accepted nominations to run for office: Kate Schachter as President, Lee Row as Vice President, Meghan Meeker as Secretary, Heather Hempel Gomez as Database Manager, Walt Zeltner as Board Member 1, and Char Thompson as Board Member 2. They will stand for election at the Annual Meeting on September 14th. Ana Zambie will continue as Treasurer through 2009.

Annual Meeting and International Potluck Picnic
All RPCVs, families, and friends are invited to our Annual Meeting and International Potluck Picnic at Tenney Park Shelter (1414 E. Johnson Street, Madison) on Sunday, September 14th. Meeting activities will include the collection of membership dues, election of group officers, and vote to revise the group’s constitution. Judy Stadler is accepting ballots by mail prior to the Annual Meeting.

Peace Corps 50th Anniversary
Laura Buchs shared the ideas from a group brainstorming session on events that our group could coordinate in celebration of the Peace Corps 50th Anniversary. In response, members contributed additional ideas: Heather suggested arranging a bus trip to the national ceremony in Washington DC and Lee suggested collaborating with the UW African Studies Department, which will also be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2011.

Website Update
The new website should go live by August 25th. Thanks Kim Malueg for all your hard work! Kate suggested adding the MorePeaceCorps logo to our website.

Kinko’s Discount Opportunity
Kate reported that Kinko’s offers a discount to organizations that spend more than $1,000 per year. But, Ana reported that our group has spent less than half that amount on printing and mailing supplies at Kinko’s this year.

Officer Job Descriptions
Judy is collecting job descriptions from the current officers, some of whom have not yet responded.

Nina Leopold Bradley Workdays
Several members promoted the volunteer workdays at Nina Leopold Bradley’s house on September 13th and October 11th from 9 am to noon. These are outdoor projects, so the rain dates will be September 14th and October 12th respectively.

UW Student Involvement
Our group is seeking greater involvement from UW students, especially since difficulties have arisen about our use of UW facilities for meetings and events. Laura will be a graduate student at UW next year, and we hope that the new Peace Corps recruiter will help promote student participation in our group.

Adjournment
Ana made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Kate seconded it.

September 14, 2008

President Mary Ann Feutz called the meeting to order at 4:45 PM in the Tenney Park Picnic Shelter. Twenty-nine members and friends signed the attendance sheet: Karri Barlett, Tom Brodd, Teresa Cousins, Mary Ann Feutz, Patricia Halpin, Rachel Hart, Heather Hempel Gomez, Char Kalsow-Thompson, Margo Kennard, Bob Klein, Meghan Meeker, Mark Miller, Stephanie Motz, Phyllis Noble, Julie Olsen, Helene Pesche, Judy Reed, Michele Ritt, Lee Row, Troy Rutter, Kate Schachter, Rose Ann Scott, Karl and Lia Stark, Terry Stark, Tim Valdez, Clare Vogel, Ana Zambie, and Sophie Zermuehlen. There were also 18 guests: Mike and Elena Fischer, Anne, Jay and Oren Garvey, Shah, Isaac Gomez, Brad Hinkfuss, Anne McKenna and Noah Hinkfuss, Akeem Msiska, Dan Olson, Eddie Patrisio, John, Priya and Josef Rudeucker, Tom Reed, Terry Sizer, and Nathan Toth.

Calendar Duties
Rose Ann Scott requested that members volunteer to help with various tasks related to the calendar. She and the Calendar Committee will prepare a list of
assignments to be distributed within the group.

MorePeaceCorps Campaign
Kate Schachter announced that Governor Doyle would be signing the MorePeaceCorps initiative on Wednesday, September 17 at 3:15 PM in the capitol. The governor has invited 6 RPCVs from Madison and Milwaukee to join him for photos during the signing. Helene Pesche and Sophie Zermuehlen will represent our group.

Membership Dues
Heather Hempel Gomez reminded members to pay their 2009 dues. She collected dues payments during the meeting.

Willy Street Fair Volunteer Shifts
Troy Rutter invited members to sign up for 1-hour volunteer shifts at the RPCV table during the Willy Street Fair on Sunday, September 21 from 11 AM to 7 PM.

Meal Deliveries for Dan Rosenthal
Rose Ann Scott announced that Dan Rosenthal, an RPCV who served in the Dominican Republic, is suffering from cancer. She passed around a sign-up sheet to provide meals for Dan and his son, who live on the east side of Madison. Please contact Rose Ann for more information about delivering meals to support Dan.

Peace Corps Partnerships
Rose Ann Scott invited members to select proposals from a list of the Peace Corps Partnership projects. Each member can designate $1000 to help fund a specific project of his/her choice.

Financial Report
Ana Zambie reported that the group’s fiscal year had ended on August 31st. There was over $189,000 in calendar sales revenue during 2008, with $93,000 of that being net profit. Of the groups who received grant funding from us in 2008, two still have not cashed their checks. Also, the Colombia Support Network has not yet collected the funds raised by the Freeze for Food event.

Elections
Mary Ann Feutz led the election of group officers for the 2008-09 fiscal year. The members unanimously voted to elect these new officers: Kate Schachter as president, Lee Row as vice president, Meghan Meeker as secretary, and Char Thompson and Walt Zeltner as board members.

Adjournment
Lee Row made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Teresa Cousins seconded it at 5:06 PM. Then followed the annual International Picnic, coordinated by Helene Pesche.

Calendar News

August 26 Meeting
Packing Party
The packing party was set for 6 p.m. on September 12th. Tom and Teresa will get the pizzas and Alan will get the drinks.

Production and Printing
We discussed the possibility of printing more calendars as this years’ sales are greater than last year’s. It was pointed out that this is due to earlier sales to our normal buyers than to a greater number of new buyers. We decided to get an estimate from the printer on the cost of printing more calendars, just in case. Alan will get the estimate and report back.

Website
The design and completion of the calendar website was discussed. We need to know when the site will be finished and the best way to display the order form to make it usable for customers. Tom will contact the web designer to clarify.

Marketing
We talked about who will contact local stores and deliver the calendars locally. There is no one doing this, but names were tossed out and those people will be contacted to see if they are interested. Rose Ann will put together a list of local stores and their contact people and the marketing volunteer can work from that.

Extra Photos
The process of preparing the extra photos for the 2010 calendar will start in September. Since the 2010 theme has yet to be decided, not all parts of the production can be done early. These photos are from last year’s photos selection process.

Day Blocks
We need to come up with ideas for a day block theme for 2010. It takes time to find this information, so we need a prompt decision and the theme needs to be coordinated with Troy and Buck, our day block editors.

The Calendar Packing & Pizza Party

The Packing setup

Many hands make light work

The pizza part
Governor Doyle & MorePC
The Milwaukee Peace Corps Association held a letter-writing session to inform Governor Jim Doyle about MorePeaceCorps. Doyle and his wife, Jessica, served as Peace Corps teachers in Tunisia. As a result of the letter-writing campaign, Governor Doyle requested a meeting to discuss MorePeaceCorps.

On Wednesday, September 17, Allegra Troiano (Senegal), Bethany Neubauer (Bolivia), and Cheryl Nenn (Ecuador) represented the Milwaukee group and Ana Zambie (Bolivia), Sophie Zermuehlen (Morocco), and Helene Pesche (Cameroon) represented our group at a meeting in Governor Doyle’s office.

Allegra pre-sented the MORE PC idea to Gov. Doyle and he agreed to join the advisory council. He was gracious and welcoming. The group representatives agreed to initiate future Wisconsin RPCV events and to invite the Chicago RPCV group as well.

Invitation to Archive
We are delighted that a recent graduate librarian, Amy O’Shea, has agreed to set up an archiving process for old RPCV WI-Madison records. Amy will be doing her sorting and boxing work on the records at Char Thompson’s house, once the records are all transferred there. So this is your chance to move any old, unneeded records boxes out of your house.

If you are able to bring old records you have to the next monthly meeting, Oct. 15, at the Red Gym, we can make arrangements to meet in the parking lot and transfer boxes to my car. If you prefer, I can come to your home and pick them up at a time convenient for you. I will then take them to Char’s house. You don’t have to cull the files if you believe there are duplicates or extraneous records. Amy says that is all part of the archiving process. Ultimately, she will put the records in acid-free boxes for permanent storage.

We don’t want your active records (for example, current working files) but do want anything that is two years or older and closed. Let me know if you plan to come to the next meeting or if you would prefer a different plan for records pickup.

Also, please let me know if there is anyone else you know who may have old records files.

Thank you,
Judy Stadler
ja_stadler@att.net

Request for a Speaker
I am a Spanish teacher at Appleton West High School. Every year our World Language department organizes Global Awareness Week. During this week we have 33 presenters speak about other cultures and countries. We were hoping that this year we could have a returned Peace Corps volunteer speak about their experience.

Global Awareness Week is Monday, January 26-Thursday 29. Each presentation takes place in our auditorium during a class period, which is 50 minutes long.

Could you please let me know if there a volunteer who lives in the Appleton area or is willing to travel here to do a presentation? Thank you,
Kelly Blair
BLAIRKELLY@aasd.k12.wi.us

Peace Corps’ 50th Anniversary
Here are some notes from our first meeting of the minds regarding the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps. We talked at length about the variety of projects we could take on over the course of the next three years. Equally as important was our conversation regarding wanting to be certain RPCVs in the area had an opportunity to participate in both the creation and facilitation of these projects.

So PLEASE, if you have any interest in being part of any project to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Peace Corps over the next three years, let me know. It will help us figure out what will best meet the interest and needs of the RPCVs in the local area. THANK YOU!

Our next conversation about this will be at the General Meeting in September and then we will have another gathering of the minds sometime in October. We hope to have made some decisions about what direction we plan to take by January 2009. Without your interest, this all goes nowhere.

Waiting for your thoughts,
Laura Buchs
llbuchs@hotmail.com

50th Anniversary Brainstorming
Potential projects we could take on over the course of the next three years:
• Demonstration Fair of sorts highlighting the project areas in which we served and the type of work we did and/or continue to do in a U.S. setting - the focus would be applying our project areas in a U.S. environment
• Celebrating Peace Corps’ Influence in our Lives by creatively promoting how service led to career formation, community involvement, personal development, etc. Could also include some promotion of government leaders, community leaders, businesses generated, etc. by RPCVs.
• Media Event with WI Public Television where RPCVs would tell their stories of service and the influence it had on their lives. With PBS we could produce a series of stories which would air over the course of an unspecified amount of time.
• Archive Project - Bob Klein is especially interested in capturing the stories of the early volun-
teers from the 1960’s right now. This is an on-going project not specifically tied to the 50th Anniversary, but one we could promote as part of it.

- Calendar Year of Events related to “The Complexities of the World in which We Live” - bringing people together through understanding and incorporating all sorts of international organizations.
- Book commemorating the 50 years of Peace Corps history specifically in Wisconsin. It could include bios, sociograms, photos, anything we wanted.
- Poster project - again not specifically a 50th Anniversary Project, but this celebration creates a good background in which to launch this project and give it special attention.
- Party with RPCVs in the area on campus similar to 40th Anniversary celebration.
- Public Reunion - events to bring together people who served in the same countries/regions, project areas, time period, etc. Also bring people who were involved in other types of international service in these areas.
- Get the Overture Center International Fair to have a Peace Corps theme during anniversary year.

NPCA Mentor Program
For returning Peace Corps Volunteers, sometimes the hardest thing about the Peace Corps is adjusting to life back home. That’s why the National Peace Corps Association, in conjunction with the Peace Corps, has created a unique program to help returning volunteers link up with RPCV mentors.

Our group currently needs mentors for RPCVs from the Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan. And are there members of our group who have business and federal government experience? If you are interested in connecting with a returned volunteer as a mentor, please go to

www.rpcvmentoring.org
to sign up!

Book Club News
At the recent Book Club Gathering we chose the next set of books for our Book Club. They are:

- September *Desert Queen: The Extraordinary Life of Gertrude Bell: Adventurer, Adviser to Kings, Ally of Lawrence of Arabia by Janet Wallach
- October The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story by Diane Ackerman
- November A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah
- December La Doctora by Linnea Smith

- January *Wild Swans Three Daughters of China by Jung Chang
- February *The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy
- March Malaria Dreams: An African Adventure by Stuart Stevens

*This denotes books that are part of the Madison Public Library's Book Club collection. I will have multiple copies of these books at the previous month's meetings for people to borrow.

We meet on the 4th Sunday of the month at 2 PM. Please contact me if you would like to be included in the Book Club e-mails. Feel free to join us for any or all of the book discussions.

Happy Reading!
Mary Ann
mafeutz@uwalumni.com

Kidlinks World, Inc.
Benefit for Vulnerable Children & AIDS orphans

The first annual Journey to South Africa Culinary Experience, hosted by Kidlinks World Inc., will be held at the Cloud 9 Grille on October 23, 2008 from 6pm until 10pm. This unique dining experience will take people on an inspiring journey to South Africa through food, wine, stories, music and dance. The event will feature a six-course South African meal, the renowned African storytelling of the UW's Harold Scheub, African music by Djam Vivie and Tani Diakite and Savanha Wines imported from South Africa. The highlight of the evening will be the keynote speaker, Viwe Msthontshi of the Academy for Educational Development based in Washington DC.

100% of the proceeds raised at the event will go directly to benefit AIDS orphans and vulnerable children in Southern Africa. Kid links World, Inc. is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization that is based in Madison and is 100% volunteer-run and donor-funded.

For tickets ($75 each all inclusive), contact Cristianne Wendler at 608-658-1772.

You Might Be a Member if...
Actually there are only two ways to be a member:
1. You paid your dues;
2. You just returned from Peace Corps service.

And that’s it! Just because you receive the newsletter or because you get listserv messages you may think you’re a member of the RPCVs of WI - Madison, but unless you fit into one of the categories above, you are not.

Why would you want to be a member? There are a couple of really good reasons. One is that you can buy the beautiful RPCV International Calendar at member rates, solving many gift-giving problems and saving $$$. Another reason is that only members can sponsor projects funded by calendar sales. And still another good reason to be a member is that you have a vote in group affairs.

Since we don’t use proceeds of calendar sales on ourselves, membership dues are currently our only source of group revenue. So, if you haven’t done it yet, please go to the last page of this newsletter and fill out the membership form, write a check and e-mail Heather at heather.gomez@mattel.com to get the mailing address.
Thank Yous

The Peace Corps Office of Private Sector Initiatives Report

The Peace Corps Office of Private Sector Initiatives (OPSI) received a $70,000 donation from the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin - Madison in July 2007. The group generously voted to allocate $25,000 of this amount to the Peace Corps Partnership Program’s new Drinking Water and Sanitation Fund. This allocation secured an additional $25,000 from the Wallace Genetic Foundation as part of a challenge grant they offered to Peace Corps.

The Partnership Program, managed by OPSI, serves as a vehicle through which individuals, RPCV groups, foundations, and corporations can make trans-parent, tax-deductible donations to volunteer-coordinated, community development projects in countries served by Peace Corps. These projects average around $3,100 each. OPSI seeks to raise the amount requested by advertising each project on the Peace Corps website, where donors may contribute directly to a project of interest. Additionally, donations were solicited from foundations, civic groups, Volunteer referrals, and the returned Peace Corps Volunteer community.

In order to receive funding through the Partnership Program, the host community must make a minimum contribution of 24% to the total project cost and outline success indicators for monitoring and evaluating the overall impact of the project. This helps ensure community buy-in of long-term sustainability, and, ultimately, success.

The $70,000 donation from the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin - Madison was initially allocated to two Peace Corps Funds for the purpose of distributing money throughout the year to Peace Corps Partnership projects. The Drinking Water and Sanitation Fund received $25,000, and immediately helped Peace Corps to leverage an additional $25,000 matching grant. The remaining $45,000 was placed in Peace Corps’ Global Special Fund and allocated to Peace Corps Partnership projects as selected by the RPCVs of WI - Madison.

In total, the $70,000 donation funded 52 projects in 28 countries. This contribution helped leverage over $144,000 in additional funding from donors to the Peace Corps Partnership Program and over $125,000 from local communities.

The 52 funded projects benefited a total of 33,782 people. This translates into a cost of $2.07 per beneficiary for the RPCVs of Madison donation, and demonstrates the Peace Corps Partnership Program’s ability to stretch each dollar received to benefit a large number of people throughout the world.

Through the Drinking Water and Sanitation Fund as well as from allocations requested by group members, 46% of the projects funded address access to clean drinking water and basic water sanitation. Agriculture projects make up 6% of the funded projects, Education projects total 17%, Environment projects 6%, Health projects 8%, and Youth projects 17%.

The generous donation from the RPCVs of WI - Madison presented an opportunity for the Peace Corps Office of Private Sector initiatives to leverage additional funding for 52 projects, reduce overall fundraising times, and build cross-cultural awareness. This donation was also an important factor in helping OPSI launch the Drinking Water and Sanitation Fund, which continues to help the Peace Corps raise awareness about drinking water and sanitation issues: provide funding for water and sanitation projects throughout the world, and build greater capacity to fund a greater number of water and sanitation projects each year.

With the help of donors like the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of WI - Madison, OPSI has already funded 560 Peace Corps Partnership Projects in this fiscal year. This represents a 36% increase over last year. In fiscal year 2009, OPSI is seeking to provide funding for 625 Peace Corps Partnership projects around the world, helping Volunteers and their communities to promote development and cross cultural exchange. We look forward to support of the RPCVs of Madison again.

Contact Rose Ann or Lee for a full copy of the report.

Willy St. Fair Thanks

Thanks to everyone who helped make our tabling event at the Willy Street Fair such a huge success. Not only did we sell over 150 calendars, we connected or reconnected with over 20 RPCVs who signed up for our listserv and newsletter. And everyone enjoyed the sights and sounds of Willy Street with 5 stages of music and entertainment and 150 vendors and organizations selling food, drink, arts and crafts, and more.

Thanks go out to Pat Halpin, Mary Ann Feutz, Clare Vogel, Sharon Isensee, Ken Coffeen, Mark Doyle, Tom Brodd, Terry Stark, Helene Pesche, Scot Simpson, Ana Zambie, Phyllis Noble and Leif Brottem for helping staff our table. And it was great to see Rose Ann Scott, Don Olson, Jim and Laura Good, Prudence Barber, Rochelle Goedken, and Kristy Torres who stepped by our table to chat.

Special thanks go out to Lee Row, who saved the day for us. When my car broke down a few hours before the fair, Lee drove across town to pick me and all the
equipment up and delivered us to our table at Willy Street. She then went home to write the stories for WORT-FM's news program "Third World View." Lee then returned to our table to snap a few photos for this newsletter before going to the WORT studios for the broadcast of "TWV" (Sundays from 5-6 PM). She returned for a third time to work the last shift, clean up, and delivered everything back to my house. Thanks again Lee for going above and beyond the call of duty!

Our next tabling event will be at the Fair Trade Holiday Festival (sponsored by CALA - Community Action on Latin America) on Saturday December 6th at the Monona Terrace. Call me, Troy, at 245.9964 or e-mail (txrutter@att.net) to volunteer.

PC News

Our New PC Rep

Greetings from the UW-Madison Campus Rep!

My name is John Sheffy. I'm a new PhD student in the Nelson Institute Environment and Resources program. My graduate research is a continuation of my Peace Corps work of helping farmers to create organic agriculture and agroforestry business projects.

I was a volunteer in Togo, 2002-2004. My current projects are in Mexico, Kenya, and central Wisconsin.

Coming back to campus has been exciting and busy! I was actually a UW-Madison undergrad, so I applied to Peace Corps here and had my interview in the Red Gym.

It's already been fun to practice telling stories about my Peace Corps experience and helping answer questions to all the curious and excited applicants. It has also been great getting to know many RPCV's around campus.

September was a busy month full of student fairs and back to school events. I'll be coming to the next Madison RPCV meeting on Oct. 15th with hopes of engaging some folks to help with presentations over the school year.

Feel free to contact me any time at peacecorps@cals.wisc.edu or 262-1121.

Peace Corps Bolivia

Volunteers have been withdrawn from Bolivia. Here's the official news from PC:

Peace Corps operations in Bolivia have been temporarily suspended to ensure the safety of the Peace Corps Volunteers serving there. With growing instability in Bolivia, 113 Volunteers were consolidated on Sunday, September 14, and have now been moved to Peru where they will be transitioning out of service or to another post.

"Our first priority is the safety and security of our Volunteers," said Peace Corps Director Ron Tschetter. "Thousands of Peace Corps Volunteers have served in Bolivia since 1962, building deep friendships with the people there. We hope the situation will improve soon so future Volunteers can continue the Peace Corps' fine tradition of valuable service to the Bolivian people."

The Volunteers serving in Bolivia will be granted close of service in good standing, or offered an opportunity to transfer to another Peace Corps country.

Since 1962 more than 2,500 PCVs have served in Bolivia. The current group of Volunteers worked in: agriculture, business development, environment, health, and youth development.

PeaceCorpsOnline said:

PeaceCorpsOnline sent an inquiry to the Peace Corps Press Office asking them if Peace Corps volunteers had been withdrawn from Bolivia in part in retaliation for Bolivia's actions in expelling Ambassador Goldberg from Bolivia and here is the reply:

"While the expulsion of the U.S. Ambassador was considered by the Peace Corps, the decision to temporarily suspend the Peace Corps program in Bolivia was based on the Peace Corps emergency action plan and its evaluation process for suspensions and evacuations. The safety and security of the Volunteers and their ability to do their work are the primary factors in such a decision. In the case of Bolivia, there was increasing civil unrest, including blockading of major transportation routes, a mass protest and march planned, and escalating violence against Bolivian citizens. We made the decision to consolidate the Volunteers and then to move all 113 Volunteers based on our own evaluation. All were moved safely from Bolivia to Peru."


Each month we dine together at a Madison Restaurant with a particular ethnic focus.

Tom Brodd coordinates dinners and sends out notices on our listserv. If you are not online, call Tom @ 251.6193 to get alternative notices.
NPCA News

NPCA Events and 50th Anniversary Updates

On September 6, 2008, More-PeaceCorps launched its 100 House Parties effort to propel the campaign forward and draw widespread attention to our mission: doubling the budget and number of volunteers in the Peace Corps by 2011. The House Parties took place in cities, towns, and rural communities across the U.S., and even some overseas.

We exceeded our initial goal of 100 parties and hosted an overwhelming 110 gatherings in over 40 states and 14 countries. Altogether, 2,000 people gathered together and raised over $15,000! Thank you for your continued support of NPCA and the future of the Peace Corps.

Upcoming House Party opportunities are coming early in Dec. Parties can be varied, each with a different theme, shape, and size. A comprehensive organizer’s tool-kit is now available. Please contact our House Parties coordinator, May Wilkerson at maywilkerson@morepeacecorps.org for more information.

NPCA has Started the Conversation

In preparation for the National Peace Corps Association’s Annual General Meeting, Board Meeting and Advisory Council meeting which took place June 28-30, 2007 NPCA President Kevin Quigley crafted a discussion paper on planning for the 50th anniversary of Peace Corps.

Read the full document by clicking: Peace Corps at 50: Looking Back/Looking Forward (HTML)

We’ve also been steadily nudging relevant institutions to think about the 50th, and urging our community to reflect on how to mark this important occasion. NPCA discussions with Peace Corps have resulted in the designation of a committee within Peace Corps to initiate planning for the 50th. They have also begun to secure high profile event venues.

Resources

Global Happenings

Global Studies at the University of Wisconsin is a member of the UW International Institute. You can read about its very interesting history and mission at http://global.wisc.edu/mission.htm. Global studies also puts out the most comprehensive schedule of international events in Madison. You can go to http://ghapps.global.wisc.edu to see them or to subscribe.

KIVA

KIVA introduces lenders in the US to borrowers in the developing world via the Internet. It’s a really cool concept and has been relatively successful. You can read about the lending concepts and even lend some money at www.kiva.org. Behind the scenes are the KIVA fellows - and you could be one! Read all about it at http://www.kiva.org/fellows.

Foundation for Sustainable Development

Another organization that offers internships that you pay to do - but that offer some training and a “safety net” is Foundation for Sustainable Development. They also have information on scholarships available and on their projects at http://www.fsdinternational.org/devsubject/intro.

Read an outline of 50th anniversary planning submitted by Deputy Peace Corps Director Jodi Olsen. December 12, 2007 (Word format + Sept. 08 update)

One date to pencil in: September 22-25, 2011. That is the date currently chosen for festivities on the National Mall in Washington, DC to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Peace Corps. Stay tuned! Go to www.peacecorpsconnect.org/peacecorps50 for 50th anniversary updates.
All RPCV of Wisconsin-Madison members receive a monthly Newsletter, World Roots, on payment of annual dues shown below. To avoid record-keeping hassles, we prefer members pay through September of the year joining, then pay for a full year membership in September. Members who join between September and December should pay $15; members who join between January and April should pay $10; members who join between May and August should pay $5. 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 $35. We encourage you to join the NPCA, which provides us a way to affect national issues. **New RPCVs receive a complimentary year’s membership.**

Please note that overseas rates do not include NPCA membership. See above for calculations

___ Individual - $15/$10/$5
___ Joint - $20/$14/$7 (Two people receiving one newsletter)
___ I am also enclosing $35 for each NPCA membership
___ 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

I would like to receive my Newsletter  ____ on paper, by mail  ____ electronically, by e-mail

Name: ___________________________ Date: ________________
Address: ___________________________
Phone #s (H) ____________ (W) ____________ E-mail: _______________________
Country of Service: ______________________ Service Dates: _________________
PC Job: ___________________________ Birth date : (Optional - M/D/Y) __________

Send completed form & check to: RPCV's of Wisconsin - Madison, P.O.Box 1012, Madison, WI 53701