March Meeting / Party Details

The March Membership Meeting / Potluck / Baron Bliss Party will all be held at the home of Mike, Liliana, Patrick & Diego McQuestion, located at 2210 Hollister Avenue, 2 blocks south of Regent Street, the second house west of South Allen Street.

The potluck portion of the evening will begin at 6 p.m. You bring:
• a delectable dish to pass (and a serving spoon, if needed);
• plate(s) for you and yours to fill with the aforementioned delicacies (Mike says they have a stash of plastic eating utensils, so don’t bother with them); and
• whatever beverage(s) you care to imbibe.

There will be a brief business meeting, starting around 7.

At approximately 8:00, there will be a seamless transition into the Baron Bliss Party, for anyone wishing to come to that and not the meeting. Dress for the tropics, bring something to munch on and again, your choice of beverage. Let’s party!

Who is Baron Bliss?

Henry Edward Ernest Victor Bliss, also known as the “fourth Baron Bliss of the former Kingdom of Portugal,” was born in the County of Buckingham, England. He first sailed into the harbor of Belize in 1926, though he was too ill to go ashore because of food poisoning that he had contracted while visiting Trinidad. Bliss spent several months aboard his yacht, the Sea King, in the harbor, fishing in Belizean waters. Although he never became well enough to go ashore, Bliss learned to love the country and its habitués -- the fishermen and officials in the harbor all treated him with great respect and friendliness. On the days that he was only able to languish on deck, he made every effort to learn about the small country. He was apparently so impressed with what he learned and the people he met that before his death he drew up a will that established a trust of nearly two million dollars to be used for projects that would benefit the people of Belize.

So far, over a million dollars in the interest from the trust has been used for: the erection of the Bliss Institute, Bliss School of Nursing, Bliss Promenade, In-Transit Lounge at the Belize International Airport, plus contributions to the Belize City water supply, the Corozal Town Board and Health Clinic, and land purchased for the building of Belmopan.

An avid yachtsman, Bliss stipulated that money be set aside for a regatta to be held in Belize waters, a focal point of the gala Baron Bliss Day celebrations each year. The Baron’s white granite tomb is located at the point of Fort George in Belize City, guarded by the Bliss Lighthouse.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 1 -- Cardinal Bar Benefit; call Kathleen Quinlan to see how you can help pull this off: 249-6437.
Friday, March 7 -- March Membership Meeting, a potluck at the McQuestions’; 6 p.m. for food and 7 p.m. ‘business’
Friday, March 7 -- Baron Bliss Party, also at the McQuestion residence, immediately following the meeting.
Thursday, March 20 -- Calendar Committee Meeting, Rose Ann Scott’s house, 2714 Oakridge Avenue; 7 p.m.
Monday, April 7 -- April Membership Meeting, back to Union South; 7 p.m.

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Executive Committee, 1996-1997

President
Deb Stapleton, 244-8609 (home)
e-mail: staplda@dhfs.state.wi.us

Vice President
Melanie Brooks, 255-8131 (home)

Secretary
Buck Trawicky, 241-2392 (home)

Treasurer
Rose Ann Scott, 241-0845 (home)

Members-at-Large:
Don Sauer – in Pakistan (truly at-large)
e-mail: tahlers@mailbag.com
Rochelle Goedken, 243-0298 (home)

Registered Agent
Gordon Malaise, 255-3261 (home)

Project Contacts
Community Projects
(your name here?)

International Calendar Project
Coordinator
Rochelle Goedken, 243-0298 (home)
Calendar Order Hotline, 608-829-2677

Events
Freeze for Food
Dave & Deb Hamilton, 873-5437 (home)
e-mail: dsvesttime@aol.com

Family Brunch
Rochelle Goedken, 243-0298 (home)

Cardinal Benefit
Kathleen Quinlan, 249-6437 (home)
David Wakeley, 244-0405 (home)

Finance
Rose Ann Scott, 241-0845 (home)

Global Education
(your name here?)

Membership
Coordinator
Melanie Brooks, 257-8630 (home)

Membership Directory / Mailing Labels
Susan Mendrysa, 255-7053 (home)
e-mail: mendrysa@students.wisc.edu

Pre-Connect / Re-Connect
Sharon Lewandowski, 241-2392 (home)

Speakers' Bureau
Erik Jensen, 262-1121 (office)
e-mail: enjensen@students.wisc.edu

Visibility
Newsletter
Earl Bricker, 244-0289 (home)
e-mail: dbricker@facstaff.wisc.edu

Website
Dean Jefferson, 224-4787 (office)
e-mail: winpcv@expcpc.com

Campus Peace Corps Recruiter
Erik Jensen, 262-1121 (office)
e-mail: enjensen@students.wisc.edu

Treasurer’s Report

01/01/97 to 01/31/97

Calendar Bal Fwd $35,611.06
Calendar Sales $14,632.30
Calendar Returns - $50.75
Interest + $205.99
Newsletter Postage + $114.52
Phone - $63.44
Accountant - $400.00
Supplies - $96.61
Bank Charges - $15.00
Postage - $2,030.00
UPS - $250.41

Calendar Balance $47,657.66

Group Bal Fwd $465.23
Dues + $521.25
NPCA Rebates + $240.00
Newsletter Postage - $114.52

Group Balance $1,111.96

Global Education $2,096.20
Large Projects $7,414.00
Giftaway 0.00

Annual Projects $1,954.00
Freeze for Food $108.00

Projects Total $60,413.86

Account Balances
Checking $2,203.03
Market @4.80% $58,210.83

Accounts Total $60,413.86

Calendar Inventory
Print Run $20,350
On Hand 458
Shipped 16,468
Local Sales 607
Vendors 433
Consignment 456
Marketing 108
Production 489
Informants 101

Donated $1,230

20,350

Faceless Justice in the Americas
March 1-3, at the UW-Madison
...a human rights conference to discuss the repressive legal system established in Colombia with U.S. assistance, its relationship to the hemisphere's most brutal human rights tragedies, and what we can do. For detailed conference schedule and registration information, contact the Colombia Support Network at 257-8753 or e-mail at CSN@IGC.APC.ORG.
Calendar $ Distribution -- Details

It's time to start the process for distributing the proceeds of the 1997 Calendar. All requests for donations must come from current members, so pay your dues if you haven't yet. Giftaway and other small donation requests must be submitted on one of our donation request forms; the latest form is slightly changed from that used last year. Anyone who would like a form or forms should contact Walt Zeltner (393 Lake Kegonsa Road, Oregon, WI 53575; Home: 608/873-5257; Work: 608/262-1321; FAX: 608/262-0454; Email: zeltner@engr.wisc.edu). Forms will also be available at the March membership meeting. All completed forms should be received by Walt by the end of the April group meeting. At that same meeting we will form a committee to consider the requests and recommend projects to be funded, and the amount of funding for each project. This information will be published in the newsletter you receive at the end of April, and the funding requests will be voted on at the May meeting of the group.

One more point. If you are requesting a donation, you can minimize the chances of a problem occurring by enclosing, if appropriate, a donation form for the organization or a cover letter to the organization that you want to receive funding. For overseas donations, you MUST provide us with a reasonable means of getting the money to the recipient. We won't fund a project unless we feel confident that the money will get where it is needed. If you request a donation, you should also consider how we can get information about the manner in which our donation was used.

Some background for new members. The Calendar Steering Committee will decide how much of the proceeds from this year's calendar operations should be set aside to pay for expenses associated with producing the 1998 calendar. The remaining amount will be passed back to the group for distribution to worthy causes. (Hopefully, this amount will be determined by the March meeting of the committee.) This money will get split into three pots. 1) The first is used to provide relatively small donations (around $400) to projects that can make good use of a few hundred dollars and recommended by our members. We call this the Giftaway and try to handle these donations in one block at our May or June meeting. Details about submitting a proposal for funding in the Giftaway are above. 2) The second pot covers requests for donations at other times of the year after the Giftaway has occurred. This pot is also used to pay the set-up costs for the Freeze for Food. 3) The third is set aside for long-term uses. If we invest the money and let it build up, we can use the interest to fund other projects. Or we can use this money to fund projects that require larger amounts of money. (For anyone interested, I can provide details on the procedure to follow for requesting funds for larger projects.) We have provided the Community Garden Program of Madison's Community Action Coalition ($3,100) from this pot, and we are currently funding an Ashoka fellow at $3,600 per year. Last year we put approximately $9,000 in the Giftaway pot, $2,000 for donations for the rest of the

Message from the President

It's a good thing we're such a high-quality bunch of folks, 'cause we're going to see a lot of each other in the next month! The next meeting (March 7th) will be one of the most fun; after addressing a few necessary business items, we'll get down to paying homage to Baron Bliss, patron of Belize. Wear your tropical garb, and bring a dish to pass and a favorite beverage. (Thanks for hosting, Lilianna & Mike!) Agenda items include an update on the Family Brunch, a report on recent fund-raisers (Cardinal Bar and Freeze For Food), and a quest for an RPCV representative to the Wisconsin Network for Peace & Justice. If you have anything you need to address, please give me a call so I can plan the agenda.

AND, don't you think this event is ideal for introducing uninvolved RPCVs to our group? Let's call or email our RPCV acquaintances with a special invitation to see what we're about when we're at our best! Same goes for the Cardinal Bar Benefit, the Family Brunch, the Retreat.... Rochelle Goedken has taken over the helm of the Calendar Steering Committee! She already does a superb job coordinating the Family Brunch, and we can look forward to her creative leadership in this rather complex role. Many thanks to Barbara Chatterjee for her years of facilitation during a period of rapid changes and growth of this project. Note to new members: If you're looking for an interesting and creative ongoing project to work with, contact Rochelle.

The 1997 National RPCV Conference will be in San Diego, July 10 - 13. Early registration is through March 15th -- call me if you want details. I'll bring information to the meeting and post something in the next newsletter. See ya soon, probably often!

Paz, Deb Stapleton

UW Lectures & Events

Monday, March 17 - Tyrannical Idealists and Revolutionary Horrors, a lecture by Daniel Chirot, U. of Washington; 3:30, 5106 Social Science.

Light in the East Film Festival - Asian films, all shown in 4070 Vilas Hall at 7 and 9:15 p.m., including the following:

Saturday, March 1 -- Good Men, Good Women (Taiwan)
Friday, March 7 -- The Red Lotus Society (Taiwan)
Friday, March 14 -- The Warrior Lanling (China)
Saturday, March 15 -- A Living Dream (China)

The International Institute Calendar of Events is on the Web at http://www.wisc.edu/iw-oisp.

year, and $4,000 for long-term and/or large project uses. Other breakdowns may be more sensible. In any event, the group has to approve the particular amounts to be spent before we spend them.

By the way, if any other member would like to chair the distribution of proceeds, I'd be happy to pass on this job.

Walt Zeltner
General Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 6, 1997

We met at the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center; 32 present, including 4 New Persons! We introduced ourselves, but with no long stories.

The Cardinal Bar Benefit (Kathleen Quinlan) is on for March 1. (See details elsewhere) We each took flyers to post. The food will be Asian, and we’re each to bring a lot. Proceeds will go to United Refugee Services, and this year they will help promote the Benefit, and will also do some cooking. The turnout may be even more huge than normal.

The Family Brunch (Rochelle Goedken) will be on Sunday, April 13, from 10–1:30 pm.

Donation Proposal for School Construction in Paraguay (John Elder) was discussed at our last meeting, and was described in the January World Roots. We unanimously voted AYE to donate $600 to help pay for the school roof.

A Radio Show! (Erik Jensen): Erik, Mike McQuestion and others have been getting guff on tape from all of us, and are now editing it. It’ll be aired on WORT’s Access Hour on Monday, Feb. 17, 7-8pm. Good for them!

PC Recruiters on Campus (Erik Jensen) the week of Feb. 24-28. We are all encouraged to help sit at tables and on panel discussions. And there will be a Nomination Party on February 27, for the selected PCVs-to-be. Come! (Call Erik at 262-1121 for more information)

Speakers Bureau Request (Erik Jensen) in Platteville, for Ag students, anytime during this semester, on Mon / Wed / Friday. Our group will be paid 99 per PC/Minneapolis if we fulfill this request! Someone, please do this. Call Erik (262-1121) for details.

And, having swiftly completed our business, we settled down to view SLIDES for the 1998 Calendar. About 290 were submitted for consideration.

Buck Trawicky, Secretary

International Calendar Project

The monthly meeting of the Calendar Steering Committee was changed to a day after the deadline. Minutes from that meeting will be in the April World Roots. Note that the March meeting will also be held on a day different from past schedules, Thursday the 20th; all are welcome to attend.

Membership Committee

The first meeting of the Membership Committee met on January 29. Present were Sharon Lewandowski, Susan Mendrysa, Peter Quella, Deb Stapleton, Earl Bricker, and Melanie Brooks.

This committee was formed to join the forces of various membership-focused activities done by individual members, specifically Pre-Connect/Re-Connect and the Membership Directory, as well as World Roots and various events. The committee is currently focused on creating ways to enhance current member satisfaction, increase levels of involvement in the group and attract new members. Most of the meeting was spent brainstorming ways to achieve these goals, and many ideas were generated. Here are some of highlights:

- update the database with information about members willing to share professional advice and those with room for people to crash for a night or two;
- create a brochure about the group to send to potential members and have available at events;
- additional social activities, like a monthly happy hour;
- advertise (maybe in the Isthmus).

Again, this is just the beginning of the list of ideas. If you have more ideas, comments, concerns, give Melanie Brooks a call (255-8131) to offer them and find out about the next meeting date and time.

Freeze for Food 1997

This year's Freeze For Food was a great success due to the cooperative effort of a whole lot of group members. Special thanks to Troy Rutter and Melanie Brooks for going beyond the call of duty, to Wade DallaGrana and Chris Antonuzzo for graciously hosting the Chili Feed, to Luke and Emma for being such good hosts to the younger set, to Jenny Guerne and Terry Stark for preparing chili, and to Karen, Helene, John, Kathy, Barbara, Dean, Rochelle, Gina, Buck, Sharon, Earl, Lori, Wati, Sheila, Erik, Brenda, Ross, Marc, Marty, Amy, Peter, Susan, Ken, Deb, Jim, and Mike for their help on the day of The Freeze.

As of Feb. 12, we have $2,641 in hand, and we expect a few hundred dollars more in pledges to trickle in by the end of February. As always, 100% of the money raised will be sent to Oxfam America to further development projects in over 30 countries. Thanks again to everyone who helped make the 16th Annual Freeze such a big success!

Dave & Deb Hamilton, FFF Directors

From the Editor

Once again, there is no Thorn Tree or Looking Back to be found. In fact, if future issues are anything like these last two, they will be “lost” once again. It’s just too hard to justify a whole page for the Thorn Tree, as attractive as the format is, and there’s been so much happening now that reminiscing is hard to justify. BUT, keep sending your announcements and requests as I’ll fit them in somehow. As you can witness from this abbreviated message, I’m making personal space sacrifices so that your issue of World Roots will contain the most interesting and timely information. Well, that’s mostly true; some things I have no control over..... The deadline for the April World Roots will be Friday, March 21; the mailing party for that issue will be Wednesday, March 26 -- plenty of time for it to arrive before the April 7 meeting. Can you help?
Today is Jumail, the last holy day of Ramazan, the Muslim month of fasting, and I for one will not be sorry to see it end. I can’t get a cup of tea or any hot food during the day because all the teashops and restaurants are closed until Iftar, the official Muslim declaration of sundown, when it is permissible to eat, drink, or smoke. Prior to that putting anything in one’s mouth is considered very gauche. The level of hospitality and ease during the main part of the day will improve noticeably next week. The end of Ramazan is marked by Eid. It’s kind of like Christmas in the west. All the book shops and lots of street vendors are selling Eid cards, and there are fancy decorations up on all the shops and the homes. Gift giving is almost as obligatory here as it is around Christmas at home. There is a shortage of new 1 and 2 rupee notes according to the paper because the Pakistan National Bank sells Rs 1 notes in packs of 200 for Rs 250 and Rs 2 notes in packs of 200 for Rs 500. Shopkeepers and artisans pay the premium just to have new notes out of which they make cape or fan like affairs which are then given as gifts at Eid and as wedding gifts. The bank reduces the overall amount of money in circulation, minimally I would guess, and the artisans get the premium they paid back in the price they charge the customers so everybody is happy. It is a festive time but I won’t be sorry to see it end.

That’s because I have a job. Wednesday was my first day with Development and Humanitarian Services for Afghanistan (DHSA). This organization is directed by the man I met at a conference I attended in Ft. Collins, Colorado, on Sustainable Village Based Development in September of 1993. Shahir Zahine and I hit it off quite nicely during that time, and he was the one who inspired me to make my trip to Peshawar in the spring of 1995. Now I’m working for his organization. The first two months are basically on a volunteer basis although they are providing me a generous stipend that amounts to about $270 a month for food and lodging. If, at the end of the two month period, we are all satisfied with the results and direction of our collaboration, I will continue on as a paid advisor with a salary of about $1000 a month. This is not in the range that many expatriates make in NGOs here but frankly, it if were much more than that I would begin to have some significant ethical qualms about the whole deal. The overall cost of living is quite low relative to the US and the level of poverty and need one encounters in the streets on a daily basis is appalling. I’m not into the martyr saint routine. I would like to live a relatively comfortable expatriate life, have a reasonable level of personal mobility and help my kids out with college and other expenses a bit more than I have so far been able to manage. But it looks like I can make a good start on all those goals at $1000 a month. And there may be the possibility of modest increases depending on long-term funding and success of the collaboration. So I’m pleased.

So now I’ve got the chance. The success of my vision is largely up to me. I am called a “technical advisor” for purposes of funding, but my real role will be to bring my western bureaucratic experience and my ability to express myself decently in English into play on behalf of DHSA. DHSA is essentially concerned with rural development in several regions to the north and west of Kabul. They are concerned with rehabilitation of rural and agricultural infrastructure like canals and karezes (underground waterways that bring groundwater to the surface for irrigation), check dams to improve flood control and increase the amount of land available for irrigation, reconstruction of bridges and footpaths, wheat seed multiplication and distribution, orchard re-establishment and expansion, as well as providing enhancements in health and education services in these rural areas. I already have many questions to ask in the areas of sustainability and appropriateness for the long-term development of these regions and concerns about some of the emphasis so far shown in terms of dependence on manufactured fertilizers, petroleum based farm traction and the heavy use of pesticides for insect control in the orchards. But these are questions, not foregone conclusions on my part. There may well be good reasons for short-term use of some of these things in the initial rehabilitation work. However, it seems to me that I will be failing in my role as an advisor if I do not ask these questions and challenge some of these strategies in the transition from rehabilitation to long-term sustainable development.

During my first two days on the job I have been buried in workplans, financial reports and interim reports trying to discover just what is going on from the macro level. Yesterday I spent the whole day with a set of reports on a large project funded by the European Union (EU) in 1994. I have the data through November of 1996, and I looked at the original workplan and then made an outline of the work actually accomplished. This is in preparation for proposing an unfunded extension of the plan. There is still significant money in this budget, and much of the work originally anticipated has not been completed for a variety of reasons. For instance, as I was going through the reports, I came across a mini-project that called for the construction of two check dams to enhance flood control and to increase the amount of land under irrigation. The two dams were built as planned originally but then fighting swept through the area and the dams were destroyed. The fighting died down and moved elsewhere. Construction was begun again. However, before it could be completed, a huge flood came roaring out of the mountains and swept it all away again. Not long after that an independent evaluator came in to review the program and much of what he had to say was, “Tut, tut, you didn’t follow the original plan, and the plan changed.” Well, duuh. This kind of thing does tend to get under the skin of Afghans trying to do something useful and worthwhile to rebuild their shattered country. There were a number of legitimate points in the evaluation, and I see a big part of my role to help my employers take the important and legitimate criticisms and make good use of them while sloughing off the less relevant parts of the criticism, and to be able to distinguish between the two.

(continued on next page)
At-Large, continued

Obviously, I don’t have personal knowledge of the situation on the ground yet but there are plans in the works for me to get that kind of knowledge. It won’t be all bureaucracy and workplans, at least I hope not. Later on this spring I hope to be able to travel to some of these areas and see the work on the ground. It will also be the opportunity for me to travel inside Afghanistan again. There is talk of an extended trip to these regions this summer of up to a month’s duration. That won’t make me mad because Peshawar in the summer time is no bargain. The temperature often soars to 130F, and that doesn’t sound inviting at all. The highlands of central Afghanistan sound preferable to that.

Well, your member-at-large has passed the first hurdle of realizing his dream. I now have a position which seems to give me the opportunity to make a useful contribution. I have to avoid being blinded to problem areas by personal loyalty and friendship with my employer and avoid the hubris of thinking that western solutions will solve all the problems. If I can successfully tread this narrow path I think I can make use of this opportunity to aid the Afghans in their attempt to construct a sustainable future. We will see what the future holds. Inshallah.

Don Sauer
(received February 8, 1997)

For Your Information

Do You Wanna Be Dan Rather?

WORT is looking for an AM news reader for Fridays. This is not a volunteer activity for anyone who has trouble getting out of bed, but it is enjoyable. If you’re interested and want more information, call Margo Robb, News Director, at 256-2001. Or, if you want the scoop firsthand, call Earl Bricker at 244-0289; he does it on Tuesdays.

RPCV Yard Sale

It’s been a while since we did this, but Saturday, May 10, will see the resumption of a group yard sale, with space provided by Deb Stapleton. This is the same day as Atwood Community Center’s sale, so there’s will be a good crowd in the area. BUT, if this is going to happen, someone needs to step forth and say, I’ll coordinate it! And say it with the exclamation point!!!

Of course, everyone’s help is needed -- start looking through your basement / attic / storage closet / garage now, and identify the stuff you’re can donate. Don Sauer left several boxes of that pesky “stuff,” so follow his example and divest yourself of unnecessary stuff. The original plan was to use the proceeds from this event to pay for some of our organizational costs, like mailing the newsletter 1st class, etc.

Of a Like Mind

The Mission of the Madison Literacy Council is to:

- assist new readers and non-English speaking adults who wish to improve their English language and literacy skills.
- help adult learners gain the confidence they need to attain their goals.
- encourage adult learners, volunteers and staff to develop and learn together in an atmosphere of mutual respect, trust, caring and confidentiality.

Founded in 1974, as a non-profit organization, the Council staff and volunteers help more than 400 adult learners meet their goals of improving reading, writing and speaking skills each year. With services provided by the Madison Literacy Council, a learner gains increased self-confidence and independence.

Become a partner in learning!! Since 1974, the Madison Area Literacy Council has trained 1000’s of volunteers to assist new readers and non-English-speaking adults in improving their English language and literacy skills. Through the work of these dedicated volunteers, adults have gained confidence to attain such goals as reading their first book, talking to their boss and co-workers, acquiring citizenship, and entering a GED program.

The agency has a particular need for tutors who can help meet the language needs of a growing immigrant and non-English-speaking population in the Madison area. Agency staff believe volunteer candidates with extensive cross-cultural experiences can contribute positively to the tutor-learner relationship. With this in mind, the agency staff is appealing to the RPCVs of Wisconsin - Madison and their friends to offer some assistance. One RPCV summed up his experiences at the Council as follows:

Being an ESL tutor gives me the opportunity to ease my learner’s transition into this language and culture. I remember as a PCV in Lesotho, my tutors were invaluable, helping to shape and expand my experience into everything it could be. I would highly recommend tutoring to other RPCVs; the rewards are greater than the efforts.

- Peter Quella, RPCV/Lesotho

The MLC provides training workshops, ongoing support and a resource library on site. Other opportunities are available: tutor adults in basic literacy, serve on various committees, assist with fund-raising events, or write for the MLC newsletter. Of course, you may also support the MLC, a United Way agency, with a financial contribution. Please call MLC at 244-3911 to find out how you can be of service to adult learners in Dane County!

Hankerin’ to get involved? Have questions or comments on specific issues? Any great ideas for events or projects? Check out the Officers & Contacts List on page 2 and call any of them directly -- this is your organization, after all, and it is what you make it!
Our Money Works for So Many.....

by Brent McNabb

I served in the Peace Corps in the interior of the northeast of Brazil. One of my neighbors was a family of 12 living in a tiny four-room house. Neither of the parents was able to read or write, but they made sure their children went to school. Their daughter, Maurina, was an active and enthusiastic member of our neighborhood youth group. I remember her and her family so fondly and have kept in touch over the years. Maurina has now founded a school in an urban working class neighborhood.

In November of 1995, I had the chance to visit Maurina (after 20 years!) and see this amazing school. I was moved by the excitement for learning I encountered and by the focus on building the children’s sense of self-worth - and all with such meager resources. Last year, our group deemed her school worthy of our assistance. The school currently supports approximately 30 needy students tuition-free, and that number has been expanded thanks to your help. The following is her response of gratitude to you:

"RPCVs of Wisconsin"

Muito obrigado, avó...or many people, including myself, and some of the children, received this letter. You are the most generous people, I am very moved. You are helping to solve problems of some children. Thank you for your help, thank you for your efforts, your commitment, your love."

"Belo Horizonte,\n
Maurina, \n
RPCVs of Wisconsin"

Thanks you very much to all of you for helping us this year, 1996, by making an education possible for some needy children at our school. I was so pleased to have received your contribution. I am however very sad with the health problems of a family member. Brent can tell you about the problem.

Thanks to God, we are succeeding with one more year on life's journey. Thank you for your support and understanding that you ("group") gave us.

Merry Christmas and a new year full of health, peace and much love. These are my sincere wishes from your friend from afar. A hug (abracos).

Maurina (Bahia, Brazil)
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!
Thanks!!!

Thanks to the following folks for kindnesses rendered:

To Mike McQuestion, Erik Jensen, Henry Nehls-Lowe and Earl Bricker for pulling together an interesting hour of radio on behalf of RPCVs and Peace Corps. Also, thanks go out to Jim Good, Sheila Przemiecki, Peter Joyce, Deb Stapleton and Mike & Earl for eloquent readings, important to the final show. Thanks go out as well to Chic Dambach and Randy Merideth for lending their respective expertise. Finally, a special thanks to Jim Gutknecht, WORT volunteer engineer, who spent hours working to make this all come together.

A very special thanks to Barbara Chatterjee for years of dedication to the International Calendar Project. Her mark has been made, and her influence is obvious. But, she’s not leaving the Steering Committee for a while yet, so her contributions will continue.

The next Membership Meeting is a potluck!!!

Friday, March 7
Details on Page 1.

After the completion of business, the meeting becomes the Baron Bliss Party!!!

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin - Madison
Earl Bricker, Editor
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, Wisconsin 53701-1012

Organizational member of the Wisconsin Network for Peace & Justice (WNPJ)

Rose Ann Scott
2714 Oakridge
Madison, WI 53704

Is your membership up-to-date? Use the enclosed form to make sure.... the Membership Directory will be mailed at the end of March, so make sure your name is in there -- send it in today!!!
Food, Glorious Food!

Come and indulge in a delicious buffet of Asian recipes, prepared by Returned Peace Corps Volunteers & members of Madison’s Asian community.

CELEBRATE THE 36TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS BY PARTICIPATING IN THE THIRD GOAL OF PEACE CORPS: BRINGING THE WORLD BACK HOME.

Saturday, March 1, 1997
The Cardinal Bar
418 E. Wilson Street, Madison
5 to 7:30 p.m.

$5 for adults / $3 for children

All proceeds go to United Refugee Services of Wisconsin.
Cardinal Bar Benefit
March 1, 1997 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

One of the more enjoyable social functions of the year is when we dust off those cookbooks and recipes, whip-up a yummy exotic dish we never cook for ourselves, and then pay five bucks for the privilege of eating it. This describes the Cardinal Bar Benefit, of course. By now you know the basics of time, location, and purpose. Let me give some suggestions of how you can help make the event successful. First of all,

bring lottsa food!

In fact, bring twice of whatever you think you should bring. In our recollections, we have always run out of food since it’s an all-you-can-eat affair. In addition, with United Refugee Services’ help this year in promoting the affair, we anticipate an even better crowd than usual.

You say you can’t cook? Don’t have the slightest idea about Asian cuisine? A few suggestions. First, bring or even buy rice. We’ll need lots, as Asian food is traditionally served with a scoop o’rice. Also, consider bringing sauces and other Asian condiments to compliment the meal. These items will be greatly appreciated. If you can cook but don’t have any recipes, call Kathleen Quinlan. Kathleen has recipes, cookbooks, and ideas. Once your creation is done, please label it and note if it is very spicy or vegetarian.

Other thoughts. The benefit gets under way at 5:00 p.m. This means, of course, there should be food to serve at that hour. If, however, you are not able to be there at 5:00 p.m., don’t worry. Most Asian food tastes best freshly prepared, and your hot dish at 5:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. will be greatly appreciated. But if you do plan to arrive after 5:00 p.m., please let either Kathleen or me know. Also, bring your own utensils and plates. Finally, tell your friends. Drag in your neighbors. Hang-up flyers, like the one on the other side of this summary - use it. This event can only be as successful as the amount of people who attend. This is great food, a great price, and a great cause. See you there!!

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