Message from the Editor

Some of you know I’ve been staying with my mom in northern Wisconsin as she recovers from knee replacement surgery. As I’ve learned while sharing this process with her, the success of the knee replacement depends on moving the joint immediately after surgery, which is by definition extremely painful. After a physical therapy session, which had to hurt, my mom observed that the woman next to her on an exercise machine was having a hard time. She had suffered a stroke and was working on regaining the use of the left side of her body. “It hurt” my mom said, “but how could I feel sorry for myself when she had so much more to do?” Yep, it’s all relative.

As I observed my mom pedaling away on a piece of rehab equipment, I recalled some ladies I saw one day while driving to work in Niamey, Niger. Like so many in Niger, they were polio victims, but unlike many of their compatriots, they had acquired the arm-operated pedal chairs that allowed them to pedal side by side on the major road in front of the Peace Corps office. Dressed to the nines in gloriously colored boubous and headwraps, they booked down the street, engaged in animated conversation, clearly enjoying their commute.

As RPCVs, most of us have been struck by the relative wealth of our country compared to the countries in which we’ve served. Then there’s the relative wealth of the “haves” versus that of the “have nots” in those countries. And the disparity in wealth between the “haves” and “have nots” here at home. Many of us have noticed that some of the most joyous people we know are also the poorest. Closer to home is our next-door neighbor, who regularly informs Rick of their tropical vacation plans as we doggedly weatherize our windows.

Life is complex and we have much information and many resources available to us. And certainly there are those who have more and those who have less, those who appreciate their blessings and those who hunger for more. How do you make sense of all the disparities in the world? Various religions and philosophies have tackled this question. What’s your response to adversity or good fortune? Or the adversity and good fortune of others? How does this matter? Or does it matter at all? Just a few questions…

World Roots welcomes letters, comments, essays, articles, photos, and any other contribution you may want to make. What's on your mind? Please, let us know!

Our address is Worldrootsnews@yahoo.com. We hope to hear from you soon.

Dates in Brief*

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*Details and Contacts inside

#This month only

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## Elected Officers

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Mary Ann Feutz</td>
<td>(262) 224.3753</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mafeutz@uwalumni.com">mafeutz@uwalumni.com</a></td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Kate Schachter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
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## Event Chairs

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Brunch</td>
<td>Clare Vogel</td>
<td>213.8878</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cvogel@wisc.edu">cvogel@wisc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeze for Food</td>
<td>Rick Lackey</td>
<td>245.0626</td>
<td><a href="mailto:meisa@charter.net">meisa@charter.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter Joyce</td>
<td>245.9964</td>
<td><a href="mailto:peterjoyce@sbcglobal.net">peterjoyce@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tabling Events</td>
<td>Troy Rutter</td>
<td>251.6193</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tdrutter@usgs.gov">tdrutter@usgs.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Dinners</td>
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<td>249.3545</td>
<td><a href="mailto:thomasbrodd@sbcglobal.net">thomasbrodd@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Other Contacts

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calendar Coordinator</td>
<td>Melissa Kaltenbach</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:sauri_s@hotmail.com">sauri_s@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Calendar Customer Service</td>
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<td>Business Manager</td>
<td>Rose Ann Scott</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:roseannscott@yahoo.com">roseannscott@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>Donation Coordinator</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:zeltner@chorus.net">zeltner@chorus.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Education</td>
<td>Marc Brand</td>
<td>255.1339</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brand@madison.k12.wi.us">brand@madison.k12.wi.us</a></td>
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<td>Newsletter Editor</td>
<td>Lee Row</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:rowhome@sbcglobal.net">rowhome@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace Corps Recruiter</td>
<td>Greg Pepping</td>
<td>262.1121</td>
<td><a href="mailto:peacecorps@cals.wisc.edu">peacecorps@cals.wisc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Agent</td>
<td>Terry Stark</td>
<td>233.9140</td>
<td><a href="mailto:terry.stark@dot.state.wi.us">terry.stark@dot.state.wi.us</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Listserv

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

## Websites

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

## Calendar Purchases

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  
  2714 Oakwood Ave.  
  241.0845

- Troy Rutter  
  3926 Anchor Dr.  
  245.9964

- Sophia Zermuehlin  
  317 Bordner Dr.  
  233.7886
October 17, 2007

We met in the Red Gym on the UW campus. 12 were present. Our main topic was the review of our Constitution and our Bylaws, to determine if they should be altered. We agreed that we must abide by our own rules, to avoid potential legal difficulties.

When composing our rules of governance and behavior we deliberately made it difficult to change the Constitution: 2/3 of the total membership must approve. The Bylaws, less basic, are easier to change.

We reviewed the Constitution line by line.

Regarding our name (I.A.): We should be consistent in usage. Early on we altered our name from Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin, Inc. to “Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin – Madison, Inc.” in order to comply with State requirements when we raffled off quilts we made; so we could serve as an umbrella organization if other Wisconsin RPCVs wanted to start local groups under our legal aegis; because it struck us as arrogant to appear to represent the entire state, when most of us live in or near Madison. However, it is not clear that this long-ago change was done with the approval of 2/3 of the total membership. We should formally re-approve this.

Regarding our purposes (I.B.2.): We do not want to be perceived as lobbying government; this is not legally permissible for a 501(c)3 organization. Kate Schachter will consult Gordon Malaise, our legal advisor. Our sense is that the Constitution’s language is unimpeachable and written to qualify our group for 501(c)3 status.

Regarding our non-discrimination policy (I.C.): This is probably adequate, but we will ask Gordon if it needs updating.

Regarding distribution of the Group’s assets in the dismal (and, we trust, quite unlikely) event of dissolution (I.D.2): This perhaps needs to be reaffirmed after further discussion. We may prefer to donate our funds to Peace Corps Partnerships (although the Constitution need not be specific on this). Our group records might be given to the State Historical Society, as they already collect our newsletters. Buck Trawicky will contact the Society to confirm their willingness to receive and preserve our records, if the need should arise.

Regarding Educational and Charitable Support (I.E.), specifically scholarships to individuals (I.E.1.b.): no change in language needed, including the last sentence, “All scholarship award decisions will be made only upon approval of a quorum of the general membership of the corporation.”

Regarding educational programs (I.E.1.c.): is lobbying implied? Actually, this is not really an issue, because we know quite well how not to lobby and we have no interest in doing so. Nonetheless, Gordon will be consulted.

Regarding our charitable goals (I.E.2., and I.E generally): is the language too restrictive? Perhaps we should leave all as it is, keeping as our inspiration the Three Goals of Peace Corps.

Regarding revocation of membership (II.A.2.): There is no provision for this, but we’ve learned from experience that there should be, if there is due cause. Gordon will be consulted.

Regarding the composition of the Board of Directors (II.B.1. & 2.): No change needed. Terry Stark is our Registered Agent. Although the Treasurer typically serves for two years due to time required to master the job, we think it proper for the Treasurer, like the other officers, to be elected annually, in October.

Regarding our annual budget (II.B.3.): We need to resume compiling and publishing our annual budget. We also need to resume an annual internal audit soon after the end of our fiscal year (August 31). Thus, there is no need for a change in language, but we must improve our practice.

Regarding officers (II.C.1.): No change needed. Officers can be re-elected if we wish; there is no prohibition of this.

Regarding amending the Constitution (III.A.): This can happen only upon at least two weeks’ written notice to all “members in good standing,” and only if 2/3 of these members approve, at the meeting or by written proxy. While this has not been a problem, the procedure was crafted before e-mail became a common reality. Kate will query other groups with similar rules. More discussion is needed, both about e-mail voting and “good standing,” which has generally
meant having one’s dues paid.

Regarding the requirement that the Secretary have copies of the Constitution and Bylaws on file (IV.B.): The Secretary does have a copy on file and the Constitution has been widely circulated and is available as a file on our Yahoo! Group site or by request.

We agreed that before our next meeting, all present would each read the whole of our Constitution and Bylaws and compile our individual comments for further discussion.

Other Matters
Our next meeting will be in the Red Gym, Wed., Nov. 14, 2007. This is not the third Wednesday (Nov. 21), due to Thanksgiving proximity.

We should plump up our Archives every few years.

We should review our Bylaws due to Thanksgiving proximity.

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Calendar News
The Calendar Committee met at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 23rd at Rose Ann Scott’s home.

Highlights:
Vivi’s famous mini cupcakes
Rose Ann’s quick recap of her amazing trip that included a 40th Sierra Leone RPCV reunion.

Last month’s business
We are still looking for marketing volunteers, training available if desired. We need someone to coordinate local efforts 3 to 4 hours a month September through January and someone to manage large sales marketing. We discussed places the calendar is sold and places we have tried to sell to. The group agreed to help out until we have marketing volunteers in place by agreeing to call local businesses and corporations. Melissa will send e-mails and Rose Ann is available to answer questions.

Calendar production meeting
The production schedule for the 2009 calendar was presented. New Calendar Committee meeting dates: November 20th, 2007; January 26th or 27th, February 12th, March 25th, and April 22nd, 2008. We will notify photo winners February 4th and ship calendars out on May 26th. This year we will also try to stockpile good photos to allow us to create the calendar a year in advance if we decide to do that. Please help recruit good photographers! The 2009 calendar theme is “Global Networking.”

Brochures were sent! Yes! 4,000 were sent and it cost us $410. Thanks Rose Ann!

The calendar committee decided to create a professionally designed website specifically for the calendar for promotion, sales, and partnership tie-ins. Stephanie and Sandra will work together to prepare a proposal for the meeting on November 20th. Tom will propose the plan to the RPCV group.

The calendar committee voted to use the environmentally responsible “Green Print” paper option for the calendar this year if production quality can be maintained.

Alan will look into submitting the calendar for awards.

Peace Corps Washington will interview our group the week of December 4th regarding the calendar and Peace Corps Partnership.

Next Meeting Nov. 20, 2007, 7 p.m., 2714 Oakridge Ave. All are welcome!

Melissa Kaltenbach
Calendar Coordinator

Announcements
Saving Peace Corps’ History (before it’s too late)
As we approach the 50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps, the RPCV Archival Project has begun a renewed effort to seek out those who were the pioneers of the Peace Corps, Volunteers from the 1960s. Year by year we are losing that cohort and their unique stories of Volunteer service.

The Project hopes to add 3000 1960s interviews to the National Archives at the John F. Kennedy Library in the RPCV Collection before the anniversary year; that would be about 10% of those who served during that period.

The RPCV Archival Project is an informal network of RPCVs who work to preserve Peace Corps’ legacy by conducting oral history interviews of those who have served as Peace Corps Volunteers. In the five years of its existence, more than 40 RPCV interviewers have completed approximately 300 interviews [See www.jfklibrary.org, Search: The RPCV Collection].

The Project’s basic resource is and will continue to be the unpaid voluntary efforts of those RPCVs who have participated, operating in cooperation with NPCA affiliate groups. We need people to volunteer to participate by becoming interviewers; a commitment of 3 hours a month during 2007 could add 12 more RPCV stories to the Collection. The Project provides training and orientation through an operational guide; once started, participants work directly with the RPCV Archivist at the Kennedy Library.

Interested? Questions? Comments? Contact Bob Klein (Ghana 1961-1963), Project Organizer RPCVArchivalProj@att.net

Treasurer’s Report
September
Calendar Revenue:$14,387.95
Interest income: 59.81
Calendar expenses: 4,393.40
Acct Balance: $31,499.47

Ana Zambie, Treasurer
Desk Chair Adventures

Haven’t gotten a chance to travel lately? Miss seeing exotic locales and having new experiences? If it’s not practical to leave town just now, exotic travel and fascinating experiences are readily available by logging on to the blogs of group members Laura Buchs and Annie Riordan.

Laura’s a Resident Director in the midst of a Semester at Sea and her blog entries have come from Japan, China, Vietnam, Turkey, Egypt, the high seas, India and even more fascinating corners of the world.

Not exotic enough? Until recently Annie, a Fulbright scholar has been blogging from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia about wolves, frozen puke, Gobi excursions and music award ceremonies, among other things. She has now headed out to “the field” to conduct research and who knows what that may mean!

For vicarious cheap thrills, log on to http://wanderingatwill.blogspot.com/ for Laura’s blog and http://ulaanainmongolia.blogspot.com/ for Annie’s. Seriously, I am so grateful to these wonderful women for sharing their adventures and giving us these windows to the world outside Madison.
Talking to the Community
By Kate Schachter

Our listserv has recently offered us many opportunities to “give back” our Peace Corps experience to our community. Would you like to talk to an Optimist Club, a high school group or a gardening association? Even more informal, would you volunteer to talk with someone considering Peace Corps service over the phone? There are many opportunities and no one person can cover them all. That’s why Greg Pepping, the UW campus recruiter for Peace Corps, is so generous in sharing speaker requests with us. I hope many of us step up and take advantage of these opportunities.

I’d like to share some of my experiences in preparing and presenting on “50+ Peace Corps: Changing Life Goals Toward Voluntary Simplicity” at the Minnesota State University-Mankato Women and Spirituality Conference, October 15th and 16th. I do not want to “report” on the event, but rather use it as an example of an informative speech preparation process. I focus on only a few key pieces of the preparation process, but more details can be found at this useful website: www.hawaii.edu/mauispeech/html/preparing_speeches.html.

Topic Selection
Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) enter service for various reasons. For some it is based in altruistic reasons, some in political or social motivations, some for spiritual development reasons (as distinguished from religious proselytization reasons), and sometimes just because you don’t know what to do after graduating from college or there’s a strong urge to travel. When you agree to give a presentation on your service, it is important to identify your own personal starting point, and build on that. Your ethical core becomes the place you return to when talking about your experience, the thing that ties your presentation together.

My motivation was of the political/social nature. That is, I want to see change in the world, during this life, not after. This philosophy shaped the way I prepared my material. It also shapes the way I live my life both here and in Ghana.

Be Audience Centered
When choosing the Women and Spirituality conference as a presentation venue, I had to think about the fact that I don’t really have anything to tell women about spirituality. I have my own brand of such, but it is not something I care to share with a large audience. So, when identifying the topic, I veered strongly away from spirituality per se, and focused on living life simply but fully...at an age over 50 (hence, the “50+”). My PC experience was my framework for talking about one way that one can do this.

I composed my presentation abstract by considering what this particular group of people might want to learn. What would draw them to my workshop, over the other 45 happening at the same time?

“For those who have considered a major life change, or who want to share their similar experiences, this workshop is presented to describe the delights and the challenges of living simply in another culture, particularly when the personal goal is to make a difference in the world. The presentation will be from the Peace Corps perspective, but people who are considering other volunteer experiences will gain from the presentation, and those who have had similar cultural and/or lifestyle experiences will be able to contribute to it.”

The point is to prepare something that can either be used in the conference booklet or in a club at a broader conference. Are people glazing over at parts of your presentation? Are they raising questions that you hadn’t considered? Is the group composition not exactly what you expected? Be prepared to adapt to your audience. I had eight people at one session, and seven were older women seriously considering PC, the eighth a recent college graduate who was probably closer to the big decision. The second session I only had three people, one who was going to India with the Himalayan Institute to teach English at a yoga ashram. The other two had been PCVs, and were there to share and listen. The style of presentation had to change for each session, but I was prepared for up to 30 people attending.

Select Visual Aids
Will this be a PowerPoint presentation? Will this be a slide show of your personal photos and images? How will you use them to get your point across? PowerPoint is an easy way to set this up. Consider using the template offered by Peace Corps. Go to our Yahoo! Group page to get the template that Greg recently
uploaded for us from the Peace Corps Washington site. It’s in the Files section: groups.yahoo.com/group/rpcv_madison/files titled “FromPCWeb site_pcorps_main.ppt,” and it is a good basic template that can serve as a starting foundation; just add your own slides to those existing, and subtract those you won’t need. Greg can also get you a presentation kit, which includes a DVD and fact sheets, from the Minneapolis recruiting office. I also have this kit, as an alternate resource for anyone working on a presentation.

Consider using your laptop screen saver as a looping selection of photos that run behind you without commentary. I chose to do this and had the photos running behind me on the screen as we sat in a circle. When something came up that people wanted to know more about, we would pause in the conversation to discuss the photo. I also frequently turned to the screen and inevitably an appropriate photo would come up to emphasize my discussion point. The drawback to this approach is that you cannot stop and pause the presentation. You can only stop and restart it. But it’s simple! Just select your photos and place them in a specific directory, then point the screen saver to that directory.

Consider using music in your presentation. Perhaps encourage some dancing. Do some art or other activity relevant to your discussion. Again, gauge your audience. Music and sounds of the country can make your presentation so much more meaningful and is fun for both you and the listeners.

Conclusion
Be sure to let people know how to contact you and consider taking names and contact information for follow-up. At the end, summarize your main points, and leave your audience with something to think about. This could be a poem or a final message, but needs to be meaningful to your original statement and purpose.
And finally…breathe…and smile.

**Resources**
The Harvard International Review is available in magazine format, but also maintains a website that presents a wide array of interesting and informative articles on development issues. Find it at hir.Harvard.edu. Click on “Feature Topics” on the left-side menu.

Dave Hall calls himself “a one-man prototype of what I hope will be the South African version of the Peace Corps.” He calls it AfriCorps and he’s created a web site for it at: www.africorps.org. He’s particularly interested in using electronic media and the Internet for development and enjoys corresponding with like-minded people. His address is; davehall@dbn.storment.co.za.
**NPCA News**

**Good Travels Contest**

NPCA is working with Razoo.com, a social networking site promoting social good, to let you know about a chance to win an unforgettable journey and more. "We are hoping the 'Good Travels' con-test will inspire millions to explore all the opportunities for good in our world via Razoo.com. Through this contest, visitors will discover their passions, meet people who share the same interests, and learn how the small things they do can make a significant impact on the world around them," states Sebastian Traeger, CEO of Razoo.

The contest invites "travel" through Razoo.com. Contestants who complete four road markers along the way will be entered into the trip-of-a-lifetime drawing. In addition to the Grand Prize of a $5,000 trip-for-two, to be chosen by the winner from ResponsibleTravel.com's trip options, Razoo.com will be awarding five second place prizes, the XO Laptop.

"One to take with you wherever your journey might lead," continues Traeger. This includes laptops for the five winners, plus five laptops donated in the winners’ names to children in developing nations, via the One Laptop Per Child initiative. There will be ten third place prize winners taking away the Flip Ultra camcorder, to document their travel adventures.

The team who started Razoo as well as their 20,000 members believe big changes can happen, not just on local and global issues, but also in the lives of people who choose to give to and serve others. At the core of Razoo is the belief that life is more rewarding when lived for others. Razoo staff member Scott Overdyke (Panama 04-06) was the 2006 recipient of the Peace Corps’ first John F. Kennedy Service Award and is an active member of the NPCA affiliate group Friends of Panama.

The Good Travels Contest ends January 18, 2008. Contest winners will be announced via e-mail and press by Friday, January 25, 2008.

**MEP Investment Pool**

**Approaching $1 Million Goal**

In recognition of the success of microfinance in helping the world’s poor to raise their standard of living, the United Nations declared 2005 the International Year of Micro-Credit. The following year, the Nobel Peace Prize was presented to Muhammad Yunus, whose Grameen Bank has lent over $5 billion dollars to the poorest of the poor with a repayment/success rate of over 98%.

Now, thanks to the National Peace Corps Association’s MicroEnterprise Program, affiliate groups and individuals also have the opportunity to invest in micro-credit initiatives. By the end of 2007, with a little more help from its friends, that NPCA loan pool will grow to $1 million, giving testimony to the RPCV community’s ongoing commitment to the developing world.

**How it works**

The MEP program happens through the purchase of Community Investment Notes issued by Calvert Foundation. Investors with a minimum of $1,000 earn a fixed financial return of 0-3% (investor's choice), while generating social returns that are measured in microenterprises and jobs created. In addition to the high impact, no investor has ever lost their principal or interest, and investors are also protected by over $20 million in security enhancements. Community Investment Notes can be purchased either directly through Calvert Foundation with a check and application, or in your brokerage account (please contact Calvert Foundation for more information about the Note and how to purchase).

**Why it's unique**

The MEP is unique among the Calvert Foundation programs in that 100% of MEP dollars are put to work in micro-credit programs in the developing world in consultation with NPCA, thus allowing RPCVs to use their investment dollars to continue the type of work they did in Peace Corps. MEP investment dollars allow Calvert Foundation to offer affordable capital to organizations such as FINCA, the Women’s World Banking Network, and Alterfin. With micro-credit loans dispensed to recipients at an average of $300 over three months, you have the potential to assist multiple families over the term of your investment (from 1-10 years).

Compared to the social impact a typical $20 donation to a charity might yield, community investors realize that a below-market rate investment can yield a far greater social impact. Simply by opting to accept up to $20 less on a $1,000 MEP investment than they could potentially earn in more aggressive investment opportunities, a community investor’s entire $1,000 goes to work making a sustainable difference in the lives of families in the developing world. Nowhere else can $20 leverage that kind of impact. Visit www.calvertfoundation.org/social_impact/social_return_calculator to calculate the social return on your proposed investment.

![Support of the Peace Corps community](image.png)
groups also recognize the MEP as a worthwhile place to invest affiliate funds that are available for a minimum of one year. Friends of Kenya, Fiji, Colombia and Nigeria as well as RPCV groups in Chicago, San Diego, Minnesota, Oregon and Washington D.C. have already invested in the MEP. Among the 550 million people who are currently living on less than $1 per day, there are countless prospective entrepreneurs who have the ability, initiative and energy to change their own lives. This is not a donation that creates dependency but an investment that empowers individuals. By helping people develop a source of income, we also increase the opportunities for their children to attend school and improve health and nutrition levels of these families.

**Investor kit and further information**
To request a free investor kit, visit [www.calvertfoundation.org/requests_a_kit/index.cgi?kitsetid=2](http://www.calvertfoundation.org/requests_a_kit/index.cgi?kitsetid=2)

**e-Newsletter: Sign Up and Get Connected!**
Receive monthly news of the NPCA and the wider Peace Corps world. Go to [www.rpcv.org](http://www.rpcv.org) and click on "News."

**NPCA Joins Actions Linking Climate Change and Global Development**
"Climate change is already a major driver of impoverishment and conflict around the world, but that fact has not yet been given the urgent attention it demands." This excerpt is part of a "Statement of Principles on Climate Change and Global Poverty" NPCA recently signed, joining a range of environmental and development organizations including Friends of the Earth U.S., the National Wildlife Federation, Mercy Corps and Church World Service. The statement highlights the following principles:

- All countries, including the United States, must act now to do their fair share to reduce their contributions to global warming.
- The United States has a responsibility to provide assistance to help developing countries adapt to the consequences of global warming.

- The United States must work collaboratively with other nations to address climate change and the critical links between global warming and global poverty.
- The United States must both shift to a more sustainable domestic energy path, as well as support other nations in their shift to a more sustainable energy and climate path.

In a related development, NPCA signed an organizational letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, urging continued support for a section of the House version of the Energy Bill, assessing the needs of developing nations in adapting to climate change, including funding sources to support such efforts.

**House Subcommittee Questions Postal Officials on Global Book Rates**
The House subcommittee responsible for oversight of the US Postal Service held an October 30th hearing focused primarily on rate structures for periodical mailings. However, due to advocacy by the Peace Corps community and others, lawmakers also raised the issue of the USPS decision to eliminate affordable ground shipping of books and other humanitarian materials.

Noting the "dreaded amount of inquiry relative to international charitable mail", Subcommittee Chairman Danny Davis (D-IL) asked Postmaster General John Potter and Board of Governors Chairman James Miller to address these concerns. Potter stated the recommendation to eliminate surface mail was due to a combination of declining volume within the service and cases where airmail was the only option to send such mail. Adding that the postal service is not insensitive to their needs, Potter told the subcommittee his agency is looking at ways under the new rate structure to be able to accommodate the humanitarian initiatives of charitable organizations.

Following the hearing NPCA - on behalf of a coalition of concerned organizations - presented Potter with a group sign-on letter and online petition urging a remedy from the recent changes which have tripled or quadrupled shipping costs for humanitarian book projects.

If you have not yet signed the online petition, please take action and continue to build momentum for this effort.

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**About Global TeachNet**
The "Third Goal" of the Peace Corps is to bring a global perspective back to the United States. The NPCA launched Global TeachNet (GTN) to directly implement that global perspective in U.S. classrooms.

The objective of Global TeachNet is to promote students' knowledge of, understanding of and respect for the people, cultures and nations of the world. Global TeachNet is this country's premier resource for global education. For more information, e-mail them at [teachnet@rpcv.org](mailto:teachnet@rpcv.org).

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**Fair Trade Fest**
Are you looking for a special gift and want to support Fair Trade? Come to the Fair Trade Holiday Festival sponsored by CALA (Community Action on Latin America). It will be at the downtown MATC campus on Saturday, December 1st from 9 to 4.

Fair trade coffee, chocolates, textiles, clothes, games, and stuff you can not find anywhere else will be there, as well as our 2008 [International Calendar](http://www.rpcv.org). And if you have time, stop by our RPCV table and say hello. As always, volunteers are needed to help staff the table. Call Troy at 245-9964 to volunteer.
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 renewing or joining between September and December should pay $15; members renewing or joining between January and April should pay $10; members renewing or joining 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.

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

___ Individual - $15/$10/$5     ___ Overseas Individual - $24/$16/$8
___ Joint - $20/$14/$7 (Two people receiving one newsletter) ___ Overseas Joint - $29/$20/$10
___ 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