

PPCA NEWSLETTER

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Need a way to recover from the sugar coma following Halloween this year? Come down from that crash by reading the November newsletter! While the leaves and seasons change, keeping you up to date will remain consistent.

Please send any feedback or events wished to be posted in the next newsletter to newsletter@crpca.org. Pictures are always welcome, and I hear they are worth 1,000 words! Staying involved and spreading opportunities is just one way to share and support the values of Peace Corps service - Tony Ricciardi, editor

Drew, your Portland Peace Corps Association membership expires 04/30/2020. See bottom of page for how to renew.

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Book Club Survey

by Bill Stein, Activity Lead - PPCA Book Club

PPCA's Book Club is no exclusive group! Participation is open to everyone who has read a given month's book. We discuss books set in parts of the world in which Peace Corps Volunteers have served, and we also consider books on any subject authored by RPCVs.

If you like to read, please consider taking this month's survey! All 33 options, from Abouzeid to Zeppa, are listed in the **PPCA Book Selection Survey for 2020**, <http://www.portlandpeacecorps.org/book-club/book-selection-survey-for-2020/>, and have wide availability in local libraries. Through 5:00 pm PST on **Friday, November 15, 2019**, we are inviting each survey taker to select up to 10 books and then progress to the survey, which has a link at the bottom of the page.

Why just ten books? From our previous survey, we've already got book discussions scheduled through April 2020.

- Tuesday, November 12, 2019: Kadare, Ismail: ***The Fall of the Stone City*** (2008/2012)
- Tuesday, December 10, 2019: Gimlette, John: ***At The Tomb Of The Inflatable Pig: Travels through Paraguay*** (2003)
- Tuesday, January 14, 2020: de Villiers, Marq, and Sheila Hirtle: ***Timbuktu: The Sahara's Fabled City of Gold*** (2007)
- Tuesday, February 11, 2020: Cooke, Julia: ***The Other Side of Paradise: Life in the New Cuba*** (2014)
- Tuesday, March 10, 2020: Nguyen, Viet Thanh: ***The Sympathizer*** (2015)
- Thursday, April 16, 2020: Vargas Llosa, Mario: ***Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter*** (1977)

You can always keep tabs on what we're reading through <http://www.portlandpeacecorps.org/book-club/>.

PPCA November 2019 to January 2020 Events

November 2019

Tuesday 11/12, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Book Club - Location at the home of Jackie and Mike Spurlock, [2211 SW Park Pl](#), in Portland, 503-827-4126. This meeting will be 90 minutes exactly, as that's the time limit for on-street parking in the area. The book to read is ***The Fall of the Stone***

City (2008/2012) by Ismael Kadare. Feel free to bring snacks to share. See our [Book Club page](#) for more details.

Wednesday 11/13, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm - Service Activity: Oregon Public Broadcasting – OPB, [7140 SW Macadam Ave.](#) in Portland. Training for Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) phone answerer. More details to come. To register, send Jenn Forristal with OPB at jforristal@orb.org. **Be sure to identify yourself as a member of the Portland Peace Corps Association.**

Wednesday 11/13, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Si Se Puede – Que Pasa Cantina, [1408 SE 12th Ave.](#) in Portland. Practice your Spanish with other RPCVs. Se aceptan todos los niveles.

Saturday 11/16, 7:30 am to 10:30 am - Service Activity: Clay Street Table – St Stephen's Church, [1432 SW 13th Ave.](#) in Portland. Serve breakfast to the homeless. Volunteers RSVP to service@crpca.org.

Monday 11/18, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Pub Night - Migration Brewing, [2828 NE Glisan St.](#) in Portland. This is a great way to link up with other RPCVs, hear interesting stories from around the world, and grab a drink and a bite to eat among good company.

Thursday 11/21, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm - Writing Group - Hosted by Mimi Sanders [318 SW Palatine Hill Rd.](#) in Portland. 503-293-6195. Bring some writing to share as well as a snack or drink. Writing may be fiction, non-fiction, poetry or form of your choice.

December 2019

Tuesday 12/10, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm - Book Club - Hosted by Jane and Mike Waite, [7008 Kansas St.](#), in Vancouver, WA. 360-314-4117. The book to read is ***At The Tomb Of The Inflatable Pig: Travels through Paraguay*** (2003) by John Gimlette. Feel free to bring snacks to share. Note the later start time to account for traffic to Vancouver! See our [Book Club page](#) for more details.

Wednesday 12/11, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Si Se Puede – Location TBD. Practice your

Spanish with other RPCVs. Se aceptan todos los niveles.

Thursday 12/12, 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm - Service Activity: Oregon Food Bank – Oregon Food Bank, [7900 NE 33rd Dr](#) in Portland. We will be repackaging food. Children age 6 and older welcome with an adult. Please RSVP to service@crpca.org so we can add the names to the attendance roster.

Monday 12/16, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Pub Night - Lucky Labrador Beer Hall, [QUIMBY 1945 NW Quimby St.](#), in Portland. This is a great way to link up with other RPCVs, hear interesting stories from around the world, and grab a drink and a bite to eat among good company.

Saturday 12/21, 7:30 am to 10:30 am - Service Activity: Clay Street Table – St Stephen's Church, [1432 SW 13th Ave.](#) in Portland. Serve breakfast to the homeless. Volunteers RSVP to service@crpca.org.

January 2020

Wednesday 01/08, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Si Se Puede – Las Primas, [3791 N. Williams Ave #103](#), in Portland. Practice your Spanish with other RPCVs. Se aceptan todos los niveles.

Tuesday 01/14, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Book Club - Hosted by Carol McCormac Wild, [7865 SW Parrway Dr.](#), in Portland. 503-292-3385. The book to read is *Timbuktu: The Sahara's Fabled City of Gold* (2007) by Marq de Villiers and Sheila Hirtle. Feel free to bring snacks to share. See our [Book Club page](#) for more details.

Saturday 01/18, 7:30 am to 10:30 am - Service Activity: Clay Street Table – St Stephen's Church, [1432 SW 13th Ave.](#) in Portland. Serve breakfast to the homeless. Volunteers RSVP to service@crpca.org.

Thursday 01/23, 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm - Service Activity: Oregon Food Bank – Oregon Food Bank, [7900 NE 33rd Dr](#) in Portland. We will be repackaging food. Children age 6 and older

welcome with an adult. Please RSVP to service@crpca.org so we can add the names to the attendance roster.

Trees for Life

by Kyna Rubin- Trees for Life

[Trees For Life](#) is a new group whose mission is to ensure that Portland's large trees, which provide the greatest health and environmental benefits, reach their full potential. We are seeking volunteers to help us manage quick, short-term projects such as organizing tree-loving people to stand around trees-at-risk that we've identified and to take photos of the same that we will use for upcoming testimony before the city and on our website. If interested in helping with this particular project in the next two weeks—or with other projects that arise, please contact Kyna Rubin at krubin317@gmail.com.

PPCA Members Receive National Attention!

PPCA members got national attention in the fall 2019 issue of National Peace Corps Association's WorldView magazine, which can be viewed at https://issuu.com/peacecorpsconnect/docs/fall_2019.

- pages 6-7: **Rupee Honors**. PPCA member Jackie Spurlock (Iran 1974-1976) recently accepted an award for the efforts of the Peace Corps Iran Association.
- pages 12-14: **Your Permanent Exhibition**. PPCA members Martin Kaplan (Somalia 1962-1964), Bill Stein (Niger 1990-1993), and Nicola Dino (Ecuador 1994-1997) are quoted in a story on the history of the Committee for a Museum of the Peace Corps Experience.

On a related note, Jackie Spurlock is delivering a free public presentation, "**Travelogue: Toward Peace with Iran**," at the Battle Ground Community Library on Wed 11/06, per <https://fvrl.librarymarket.com/node/37014>.

Peace Corps Refer a Friend

One of President Kennedy's signature achievements was creating the Peace Corps and offering a unique opportunity for Americans to serve their country and the world. This dates back to an unexpected moment and [impromptu speech](#) on October 14, 1960, at the University of Michigan. Almost six decades later, we choose to not only remember that day in history, but leverage JFK's sentiments and empower staff, RPCVs, and Volunteers to make their own call for service. We do this through the implementation of our exciting referral program, **Refer a Friend**.

This is an applicant referral program meant to provide a new way to promote the Peace Corps to prospective candidates. We know that countless Volunteers have joined because a friend or relative shared their experience of serving in the Peace Corps.

We invite you to visit the [Refer a Friend page](#) for more information!

RPCV Survey - Domestic Impact

by Jackson McCauley- PCV Ecuador '16-'18

Dear RPCVs,

I am a current masters student at the University of Michigan studying public policy. I interned at the Peace Corps in D.C. this summer, and now I am putting together a survey to help the agency answer some questions about the *domestic* impact that RPCVs might have. Below is a google form that allows you to share your email with me and indicate your interest in participating. Of course, this survey will only be meaningful if we have a large enough and diverse enough sample, so please share!

Sign up: [\[https://forms.gle/wnP6EhuXYDA2JfpV9\]](https://forms.gle/wnP6EhuXYDA2JfpV9)

Volunteer Hosts and Pub Night Recommendations Wanted!

Still calling on all volunteer hosts! The PPCA **still** needs some gracious hosts and locations for events/meetings, as well as ideas of where to hold Pub nights. If you have any space willing to be used or know of a location, please reach out to program@crpca.org for the location and times willing to host. We need (and would **greatly** appreciate) the following:

- Locations for events and meetings from November 2019 to June 2020.
- Locations for Pub nights starting from January onward (the upcoming pub nights have been decided upon and will change from the previous venue for some variety. Our generous president has offered the first beer on the person who comes up with chosen venues.)

2020 International Calendars and more

It's that time of year! The PPCA has in stock the **2020 International Calendars!** For more information, as well as other offers for note cards with pictures from previous calendars as well as perpetual calendars, see our [2020 International Calendar page](#).

Membership Report

by Bill Stein, Membership Coordinator - PPCA

On October 31, 2019, PPCA has 200 active members in 169 households, of which 5 members are currently serving PCVs and 27 members are in their free first year.

On October 31, 2018, we had 216 active members in 180 households, of which 7 members were currently serving PCVs and 40 members were in their free first year.

In October 2019 we gained 6 new members: Don Evans (Tanzania 1979-1981, St. Vincent and the Grenadines APCD 1992-1995, and Ghana PTO 1995-1998), Kathy Evans (Tanzania 1979-1981), Michelle Gerdes (Tanzania 2006-2008), Todd Harwell (Peru 2012-2015), Kevin Kearns (Cape Verde 1994-1996), and Grace Kwon (South Africa 2017-2019). Welcome!

In October 2019 the following 16 members renewed: Pamela Akini (Kenya 2013-2014), Marilyn Badurina (Togo 1972-1976), Ann DeWart Crockett (Togo 1968-1970), Roger Crockett (Liberia 1968-1972), Nicola Dino (Ecuador 1994-1997), Lisa Grandgeorge (Tanzania 2005-2007), Russ Grandgeorge (Tanzania 2005-2007), Bob Link (Belize 2000-2002), Jo Link (Belize 2000-2002), Jennifer Mead (Niger 1986-1988), Betsey Minthorn (Philippines 1966-1967), Debbie Deetz Silva (Marshall Islands 1987-1989), Lisa Snell (Morocco 2003-2005), Kelly Viernes (Lesotho 2015-2017), Marjan Wazeka (Pakistan 1963-1965), and Gordon Young (Malaysia 1972-1974). Thank you!

In October 2019 dues amnesty was extended to 16 lapsed members, of which 4 had been in their free first year. We also received 1 unsubscribe request in October.

How to renew your membership

You can mail your check for \$20 (or \$100 for a Supporting Membership) to CRPCA, P.O. Box 802, Portland, OR 97207, or go to <http://www.crPCA.org/checkout/> and click one of the Dues buttons.