

COLUMBIA RIVER PEACE CORPS ASSOCIATION

• Volume 13 • Number 12 •

Pdx to Host NPCA Conference

Portland will host the first Northwest Regional mini-conference to be held on January 28-29. Members and trainers from the National Peace Corps Association will be putting on the training. Plans are to present two tracks: Leadership and Advocacy. There will be many good workshops including several for recently returned volunteers.

We have many details yet to work out but here's some preliminary information:

1. To attend you need to be a member of the National Peace Corps Association.
2. \$900 has been granted to assist those who have long distances to travel, and to help out recently returned volunteers with registration costs. A formula will be determined to distribute the money.
3. Friday, January 27, there will be a potluck dinner to meet and mingle with the National Peace Corps Association leaders coming to the conference.

To keep costs down for out-of-town participants, we are asking for people in the Portland area to call us if they can provide housing for one or more conference participants for the weekend. Call Robin Teater (286-0177 home or 241-1578/1-800-876-2377 work hours) if you have room available or if you need housing.

Registration information will be mailed directly from the NPCA office to all NPCA members residing in the Northwest Region in December. *Additional information on back page!*

From the President

West African Pigout — The fourth annual West African Pigout was the biggest and best yet. It's hard to get an accurate count but 80+ is close. We crowded into the Leach Gardens house, rich with the smells of Liberian food. Large amounts of food and homebrewed beer quickly disappeared as many satisfied their appetite for West African cuisine. Over 25 pounds of palm butter was consumed alone.

I plan to continue the Pigout tradition another year, and would like to involve more people. The first big decision for next year is the location. Do we continue at Leach Gardens, with a restriction on the numbers of people, or look for another site? I'm inclined to continue getting bigger but Leach Gardens was a terrific spot. Let me know what you think.

Speaking of Pigout, what was that music? — Several pieces of music used during the West African Pigout presentation were a combination of Pygmy music and chants combined with modern music. The West African Tour was accompanied with music from Baka Beyond, while the final presentation featured a cut from the album Deep Forest.

Mike Waite

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



1995 International Calendar Sales an Unprecedented Success!

Calendars sold: 500

(Note: There are still 20 calendars available! Get yours now!)

Over 30 volunteers have been involved in the calendar fundraiser project this year. Thank you all! We've sold over 500 calendars and raised over \$2,000 (that's compared to 225 sold last year totaling \$770). We'd like to gently remind our dedicated salespersons that about \$600 still needs to be collected.

Proceeds this year go to the Lutheran Family Services for refugee programs in the Portland area.

We would be delighted to start getting volunteers for next year to organize, call, sell, mail, etc. The more volunteers we have, the easier it is, and the more we can accomplish. If you have any questions, please call Jerry Porter at 281-9756.

The final report, including prize winners, will appear in January's newsletter.

Do you have a deserving organization for next year's fund drive? Nominations are now being accepted for the recipient of next year's calendar sales profits. The organization must satisfy the following criteria: 1) it must be a local organization, and 2) it should have an international focus compatible with Peace Corps goals. To be considered, the organization must submit a brief statement describing their programs and how the funds would be used.

Send nominations by December 31 to Jerry Porter at 3404 NE 25th Ave., Portland, OR 97212.

1995 International Calendar Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

Ph: _____

_____ Calendars @ \$8 = _____

Postage @ \$1.50 per calendar = _____

Total due = _____

Make check payable to:

RPCVs of Oregon

Send to: Jerry Porter, 3404 NE 25th Ave.

Portland, OR 97212-2507 Ph: 281-9576

RPCV Potpourri

Attention Former Handicrafts Volunteers! — Were you involved in a handicraft project while serving as a Peace Corps volunteer? I would like to talk to you! Would you be willing to complete a questionnaire about your experience? The data will be used as part of my Master's thesis. Additional information provided upon request. Please contact: Debbie Durham, 1052 LeBaron, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011. Or call 515-294-8519 or e-mail ddurham@iastate.edu.

Pen Pals Wanted — Elizabeth Samuels (RPCV Benin) is a fifth grade geography teacher at the Portland Jewish Academy. Her class would like to correspond with children who speak or are learning English. If you know of anyone in another part of the world seeking a pen pal, please contact Elizabeth at 3739 SW Hillside Drive, Portland, OR 97221. Phone 503-228-7706, fax 503-228-5757.

United Nations Folkfest Report — The Columbia River Peace Corps Association was again represented at the 16th Annual United Nations Folkfest which was held at the University of Portland in October. In order to help cut costs, the CRPCA shared a table with the American Field Service (AFS) international student exchange program.

Many thanks to Michele Willemse, Thrina Parent, Karen McAlister, and Gabriella Maertens for staffing the booth. We enjoyed wonderful multi-cultural entertainment while talking to people about the Peace Corps and selling 10 calendars!

African Film Festival — The Cascade Festival of African Films, celebrating its fifth season this year, will open with the Portland premiere of *Sankofa*. Haile Gerima, the filmmaker, will be in Portland to introduce the film and answer questions afterwards. Because they are hoping for a large crowd, they have reserved the 1100 seat auditorium at Jefferson High School for this program on February 2, 1995.

In addition to *Sankofa*, the film festival will present four additional Thursday evening programs in Terrell Hall on the Cascade campus of Portland Community College on February 9, 16, 23, and March 2. The festival will conclude with a documentary program featuring two films made by African women. A Saturday family film program will again be offered this year on February 11 featuring four short African films made for children.

You're encouraged to call 244-6111, ext. 5263 for additional information.

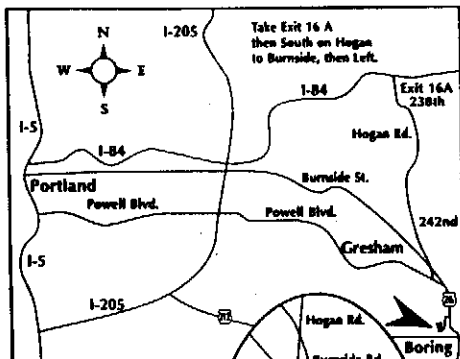
Moroccan Holiday Feast

We will meet at the home of Kathryn and Abbas Amrani, also known at the Lariat Gardens Bed & Breakfast, on Sunday, December 11 around 4:30 p.m. Their regular \$25, 5-course Moroccan Feast will be served for just \$15 (tip included) starting at 5 p.m. On the menu: harira, a rich lentil soup; lemon chicken almond with a seasoned vegetable; bastilla, individual triangles of savory filling wrapped in phillo; Moroccan bread; Moroccan baklava; cider, coffee and tea.

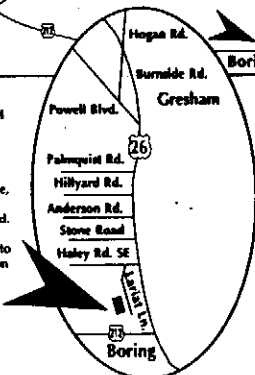
RPCVs who served in Morocco will bring artifacts to display along with those which the Amrani's already have on display in their beautiful house in Boring, Oregon. A map and directions appear below.

Bring your gift items for the family we will be sponsoring during this holiday season (see related story, right).

Questions? Call Gabriella Maertens at 254-5161. For reservations call Alma Cunningham at 223-9298.



Directions: From I-5 or I-205, take I-84 East Exit. Follow I-84 East. Take Exit 16 A for Mt. Hood. Turn right, you will be on 238th, later called Hogan, and later 242nd. At Burnside Rd. turn left. Stay on Burnside, it will become Hwy 26. Go 4 miles on Hwy 26. At Haley Rd. turn right, go one block, turn left onto Lariat Lane. Follow to end. We are the large house on right with the beautiful garden. Parking in front. You'll see our name on the mailbox.



**Lariat
Gardens**
BED & BREAKFAST

29440 S.E. Lariat Lane
Boring, OR 97009
503/663-1967

Help Sponsor a Family During the Holidays

This year, the Columbia River Peace Corps Association will again help make the holidays a little brighter for a family in need. This year's family are hispanic migrant workers. If you can, share a gift with one or more of the following members of this family:

Father, Guillermo (size Men's Medium)

Mother, Maria (size 14)

Daughters: Araseli, age 18; Maria age 16—would like purses; Sandra 13 (size 10)—needs warm clothes;

Mira, age 6 (size 8)—would like warm clothes and toys

Sons: Sergio, age 14 (size 14); Carlos, age 11 (size Boy's 12)—both need warm clothes; Jose, age 7 (size Boy's 10)—would like warm clothes and toys

This family also needs household items and food.

Erma Boothby will be glad to have you bring your gifts to her home until it is time to deliver them.

Please call ahead to be sure that she is home: Erma Boothby, 6466 SE Division, Portland. Phone: 777-5896.

Erma Boothby will be glad to have you bring your gifts to her home until it is time to deliver them.

A Toasty Holiday Story

by Joanne Wu

It was the weekend that winter settled in when our volunteers turned out to weatherize with the Community Energy Project (CEP) on November 19th. We did a very thorough job on two beautiful old homes in northeast Portland. The Huggins and Thompson households tell us their homes feel warmer already!

We installed reusable plastic window kits (which last up to five years), sealed doors and wrapped pipes. Simple, low-technology methods are the CEP's key to success. Our volunteers picked up a lot of know-how in one morning. I heard a lot of people saying they were going to go home and apply their new skills!

We can always use more hands to help! We are planning another joint weatherization session with the CEP in March or April. Hopefully we can discuss this plan at the January potluck and have a quick demonstration of how easy it is to install the window kits. Joining hands with the CEP is a great way to not only help the community and the environment, but also to learn how to weatherize your own home.

Thanks to: Mike Waite, Shirley Forsberg, Charlene Holzworth, Nancy Muktoyuk, Sean Connolly, Jan Trzil, Joann von Rohr, Diane Schacht, Jessica Duke, Laura Sabatino, Kristine Egan and Nicole Peterson for their time and their hands!





NEWS FROM ALASKA, WASHINGTON, OREGON, IDAHO, & MONTANA

Northwest Regional Conference

Portland — January 28-29, 1995.

Advocacy workshops and leadership training. Mark your calendars now.

What's Happening Around the Region

Columbia River Peace Corps Association

The Fourth West African Pigout raised \$465 for the Friends of Liberia and was an overwhelming success. RPCVs weatherized several needy households through the Community Energy Project in November. In December the CRPCA will appear on Public TV with the Winter Pledge drive as well as collecting Christmas items for a family in need. CRPCA is busy making plans to host the NW Regional Conference on January 28-29.

West Cascade Peace Corps Association

The first Annual Eugene Peace Corps Festival on November 12 turned out to be a great success. Several hundred RPCVs and people from the community enjoyed a curry dinner and danced to the salsa beat of Caliente. The event included a silent auction and a dollar auction and raised \$1000 for a Peace Corps Partnership Project in Romania headed by Eugene Volunteer Catherine Coulter. The first Annual Meeting with keynote speaker Congressman Peter DeFazio took place on October 21.

Alaska RPCVs

President Katie Lefebure reports that RPCVs are sending books to Kenya with money raised through some engineers. Cathie Clements is in Cameroon doing the ground work for a church group. Anchorage teen-agers will help build a women-childrens' center where health and nutrition will be taught. A small group of RPCVs are working at the Akeela House, a half-way house for drug and alcohol-dependent people once a week. The RPCVs help residents in obtaining their GED.

Western Montana RPCVs

Lots of potlucks have been enjoyed lately around Montana and many new members are signing up. A new group appears to be forming in Bozeman with Dave McGoldrick's help. Leslie Chapman will head up work at the Poverello Center Homeless Shelter and Soup Kitchen on November 13. Rick Briggs, the new recruiter at the

University of Montana Campus is intent on continuing involvement of the RPCV groups. The date for the Fourth Annual Goat Chase Retreat at Flat Head Lake has been set — June 2-4.

RAVN (Returned Action Volunteers of the Northwest)

The Seattle group had the opportunity of hearing the National Peace Corps Association's President, Chic Dambach at the October 21 potluck. Two members of RAVN, Theresa Twiss and Terry O'Leary, recently left for assignments in Kigali, Rwanda and the Tanzanian border to work with the Tutsi camps and coordinating the work of over 90 NGOs. Twenty-seven RAVN members walked in the Northwest AIDS Foundation Walk and raised \$2,093 for HIV/AIDS education and care services. The walk raised \$1.2 million.

Idaho RPCVs

President Sam Greer reports that on United Nations Day three officers of the Idaho RPCV met with Governor Cecil Andrus and proclaimed the week of October 24, to be United Nations week. They had a international fund raiser and met with other like-minded groups.

NOTICE

If you are interested in running for the NW Regional Representative NPCA Board position vacated by Phyllis Shelton (who took an overseas position), please write a paragraph describing your qualifications and what you expect to bring to the Board. Send to Beryl Brinkman, 892 Sprague, Eugene, Oregon 97405. Deadline December 26. If questions, please call 503-345-3504.

• CALENDAR OF EVENTS •

Dec. 11 Moroccan Holiday Feast, 4:30 p.m.
 Dec. 12 Business Meeting, 7 p.m. at Gabriella's
 Jan. 15 Potluck & Business Meeting at Charlene's
 Jan. 28 Northwest RPCV Conference

Welcome New Members!

Sean Connolly, Lithuania 92-94
 Nancy Vizi, Kenya 70-73
 R. Paul Aertker, Mauritania 88-89
 Gary Miller, Sierra Leone 88-90; Guatemala 91-93
 Les Hopkins, Jamaica
 Dennis Downing, Fiji 84-85
 David French, Guatemala, Ecuador 80-85
 Laura Paxson, Paraguay 85-87
 Angelene R. Welch, Costa Rica 91-93
 Chet & Linda Skibinski, Thailand
 Christian & Pamela Wenrick, Botswana 87-89
 Joel Fritzler, Botswana 90-92
 Jeff (George) McKenna, Bolivia
 Molly A. Welhstein, Philippines 62-64
 Elizabeth Samuels, Benin 75-77 (returning member)

OFFICERS

President
 Mike Waite 206-574-7455
Steering Committee
 Brenda Michel 236-5838
 Gabriella Maertens 254-5161
 JoAnn von Rohr 282-1721
 Dick Swee 252-2295
Secretary-Treasurer
 Marilyn Watts 777-4650
Program Coordinator
 (we need you) ?
Membership
 JoAnn von Rohr 282-1721
Restaurant Coordinator
 Alma Cunningham 223-9298
Speaker's Bureau
 Dick Swee 252-2295
Newsletter
 Robin Teater 286-0177
Development Education
 Gabriella Maertens 254-5161

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 Peace Corps Association**
 P.O. Box 802
 Portland, OR 97207

Submissions for the Jan. 1995
 newsletter should be received by
 December 25. Please mail to:
 Robin Teater
 7126 N. Delaware Ave.
 Portland, OR 97217

MEMBERSHIP • ADDRESS CHANGE • RENEWAL FORM

NAME: _____ PHONE:() _____ hm () _____ wk

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

PEACE CORPS COUNTRY: _____ YEARS: _____

PEACE CORPS JOB/SECTOR: _____

CURRENT OCCUPATION: _____

- New Membership
- Membership renewal
- New address, effective: ___/___/___
- Joining CRPCA and NPCA (\$35 individual/\$50 family)
- Joining CRPCA only (\$15 individual/\$22.50 family)
- Joining NPCA only (\$20 individual/\$27.50 family)

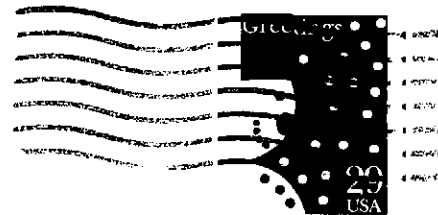
Please make checks payable to : **COLUMBIA RIVER PEACE CORPS ASSOCIATION**
 And mail to: **P.O. BOX 802
 PORTLAND, OR 97207**

Northwest Region Mini-Conference Portland January 28-29

Useful information:

- A fund will be available to assist those who have long distances to travel, and to help out recently returned volunteers with registration costs.
- Friday, January 27 there will be a potluck dinner to meet and mingle with the National Peace Corps Association leaders coming to the conference.
- The fee for the Conference will be determined by dividing the cost of the facilities and any meals by the expected number of attendees.
- A prominent keynote speaker is being lined up.
- The agenda can still be influenced. If you have a topic you would like to see on the agenda, let one of the Columbia River Peace Corps Association officers know soon.
- Housing will be provided by RPCVs in the Portland area for those from out of town wanting to keep costs down.
- For information, call Mike Waite 206-574-7455.

COLUMBIA RIVER
PEACE CORPS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 802
PORTLAND, OR 97207



Aug 1, 1995
Marie Hermanson
Portland, OR

If this box is checked, your membership has expired. Please renew using the membership form inside!

If this box is checked, you have received a complimentary copy of our newsletter. To become a member of Columbia River Peace Corps Association and receive future issues, please see the membership form inside!

Bringing the World Back Home