



The Columbia River Peace Corps Association Newsletter

Volume 21 Issue 2

"Bringing the world back home"

February 2002

CALENDAR

February

Festival of African Films see News and Notes

Feb. 5 – Tuesday, 10-11pm, OPB TV (Channel 10): "BILL MOYERS REPORTS: TRADING DEMOCRACY", an investigative look at the way corporate investors are using an obscure provision in the North American Free Trade Agreement to secretly challenge laws, regulations and jury verdicts before an international trade tribunal.

Feb. 12 -- **CRPCA Restaurant Gathering** at the *Queen of Sheba* (Ethiopian), Tuesday, 6:30 pm, 2413 NE Martin Luther King Blvd., 503 287-6302. Please contact Karen Cellarius, 503-289-3964 or cellark@rri.pdx.edu, if you would like to attend. (Fifteen RPCVs attended the December gathering at the Thai Orchid. Great food and great fun!)

Feb. 25 – **CRPCA Soiree** at the Lucky Labrador Brew Pub, SE 9th and Hawthorne, Monday, 6:30pm

March

Mar. 1 – **Peace Corps Day**. Returned Peace Corps Volunteers go into classrooms all over the country to speak about their Peace Corps experience. This has been quite a popular activity for CRPCA members in the past. If you are interested in speaking, contact Richard Ireland, rireland88@aol.com, 503/246-0479. To sign up as a speaker with the Peace Corps office and receive a free speakers kit, go to the website: peacecorps.gov/rpcv/peacecorpsday/index.cfm. 11 people have volunteered to speak so far. Someone in West Linn would like many speakers and is waiting to see how many we have. High school opportunities and Clark Community College.

Mar. 16 -**Committee to aid Somali education:** Fundraiser at Hayden Bay Yacht Club,. Dinner and

music. \$25. Contact Martin Kaplan, 503/699-9833
martinkaplan@attbi.com

Mar. 17 – Sunday, 5 pm, CRPCA Potluck Meeting. Nominations due for new officers, who will also be elected. New officers to start work May 1.

April

Apr. 11 -- Restaurant Gathering in Salem this time! Annette Clothier (annclo@attbi.com; 503/588-7790) has been coming to Portland for CRPCA gatherings, and now invites us to *Paprikas* Hungarian Restaurant in her neck of the woods. Tentatively scheduled for 6:30, but could be made later if she gets enough feedback. Paprikas is family-operated and specializes in Transylvanian goulash, Wiener schnitzel, stuffed cabbage, roast pork and chicken paprikash. Vegetarian dishes available. Karen Cellarius will coordinate carpools from Portland.

NEWS AND NOTES

Advocacy Workshop Report

A crowd of about 50 enthusiastic RPCVs, including CRPCA's Kristi Jo Miller, gathered in San Francisco on Jan. 19 for a full-day Advocacy Workshop. This event drew representatives from several groups in the Northwest and many from northern California. Led by a facilitator hired by the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA), the group learned skills for advocating politically with Congress and the media. The workshop ran from 9 am until 8 at night. It was sponsored by NPCA with a grant from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and hosted by NorCal (Northern Calif. Peace Corps Assn.) for RPCVs on the west coast. Each participant paid \$30 to help cover costs of food and a manual for each person.

NEW and NOTES continued

The CRPCA Potluck Meeting Jan. 20 featured Pavla Zakova-Laney (Cameroon, '96-'99), who presented a program on her non-profit organization, Educare-Africa, which is dedicated to improving living and learning conditions of students in Cameroon. Pavla lives in Albany, and solicited fundraising advice from CRPCA members at the meeting. Contact her at 541/924-9290 or pavlazl@attbi.com.

12th Annual Cascade Festival of African Films

Once again, the Cascade Campus of Portland Community College (705 N. Killingsworth) will host African film showings for **free** during February, Black History month. Most films will be shown in Terrell Hall, Room 122, Thursdays at noon, 1:30, or 2; and Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm. For more information, call 503/244-6111 X3630, or go to www.cfaf.net. CFAF was a recipient of CRPCA calendar money 2 years ago. Bring a little cash for their donation box.

CRPCA receives tax-exempt status

CRPCA has received tax exempt status from both the state and federal government. Many thanks to Linda Centurion and Martin Kaplan for working on these applications. A small working group will meet to discuss the benefits and requirements of this status for the group. If you are interested or know of someone who might be able to give us some training or advice, contact Linda Centurion at pinkycenturion@yahoo.com or 503-788-7366.

The **Committee for a Museum of the Peace Corps Experience** (CMPCE), which houses objects brought back from overseas by RPCV's, and tells their stories and those of their host countries, has been awarded a Technical Assistance Grant by the Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC) to help the group improve its nonprofit organizational skills. The CMPCE is made up of RPCV's who hold local, temporary art exhibitions and develop strategies to accomplish their ultimate aim of a permanent museum site. RPCV's interested in joining the CMPCE should contact Martin Kaplan at martinkaplan@attbi.com or at (503) 699-9833. Website: www.peacecorpsmuseum.org.

CRPCA member **Jackie Goldrick** has left World Affairs Council and started a non-profit organization, the Harambee Center, with Grace Kuto (a partner in 2 of our former annual African Dinners).

NPCA seeks nominations for World Food Prize by February 15

The National Peace Corps Association has the opportunity to nominate a candidate for the World Food Prize, a prestigious award. The prize is given annually for specific, tangible achievements that resulted in enhancing the global food situation by increasing the quality, quantity or availability of food for those most in need. The World Food Prize Council of Advisors is headed by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Norman E. Borlaug, considered by many the founder of the "Green Revolution." Consult the World Food Prize website at www.worldfoodprize.org for information on the nomination process. For questions on getting the nominations submitted, e-mail Dane Smith at president@rpcv.org.

Founder of the "Peace Corps" idea dies

Henry S. Reuss, U.S. Congressman from Wisconsin, died on Jan. 12 in California of congestive heart failure. While others had talked about "youth service", Reuss and Hubert Humphrey both proposed the idea of a government service "Peace Corps" in the late 1950s. Reuss's advocacy went back to 1957 when he was a member of the Joint Economic committee and traveled to Southeast Asia. He came upon UNESCO teams of young teachers from America and other countries who were working at the village level. In January of 1960 Reuss introduced the first Peace Corps-type legislation. This was in the House and sought a study of "the advisability and practicability to the establishment of a Point Four Youth Corps." In June of 1960, Senator Humphrey of Minnesota, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, introduced in the Senate a bill to send "Young men to assist the peoples of the underdeveloped areas of the world to combat poverty, disease, illiteracy and hunger." Senate Bill S 3675 was the first to use the specific name, "Peace Corps." The rest is history. Henry Reuss of Wisconsin was 89 (full story at <http://PeaceCorpsOnline.org>).

Pres. Bush calls for the Peace Corps to double.

President George W. Bush called for doubling the size of the Peace Corps over the next five years in his State of the Union Address and called for the Peace Corps to join a new effort to encourage development, education, and opportunity in the Islamic world. Bush called for every American to provide two years of National Service.

He called for an expansion of Americorps under the name of the new USA Freedom Corps. It is unclear from his description if he proposes reassigning the Peace Corps, which is now an independent agency, under the USA Freedom Corps.

Vasquez confirmed as Peace Corps Director

Gaddi Vasquez's nomination for Peace Corps Director was approved by the US Senate on Jan. 25 by unanimous consent as part of a package of 30 Bush appointments. There was no discussion of the nomination and no roll call vote. Deputy Director Jody Olsen was also confirmed.

Peace Corps Online

Peace Corps Online is an independent news forum dedicated to the free exchange of ideas among Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and is not affiliated with the US Peace Corps or any other returned volunteer organization. They have an Online Returned Volunteer Directory of over 10,000 RPCVs. Visit them at www.PeaceCorpsOnline.org.

CRPCA Volunteer Opportunities
MARCH 1 PEACE CORPS DAY – SPEAKERS NEEDED!

We now have **11** Volunteers signed up to speak for the March 1st Peace Corps day. We have more places than speakers. It is not too late to get in on the fun! There are a couple times available at other dates, too, if that doesn't work for you. *Shy about speaking?* If you are shy about speaking, you could join one of the people already scheduled to get a feel for it. It always makes it easier to do things together. If you want to speak or partner-up with another volunteer, contact Richard Ireland at rireland88@yahoo.com.

Namaste Richard Ireland (Haiti 98-00)

Can you write a page on the history of the CRPCA for our website?

Anyone willing to go through old documents to put together a history of our group for our website? Items it might include are: date founded, past activities and awards, calendar sale and Annual Dinner partners, list of past presidents/officers. The document should be fairly brief and created in Word. (Our webmaster can then convert it for the web.) If interested, contact Karen at 503-289-3964 or cellark@rri.pdx.edu

ENDNOTE

Check out Jimmy Carter's 2-page essay in the Feb. National Geographic, which launches a regular feature in the magazine for the coming year, called Challenges for Humanity.

Cuban music, anyone? **The Roberto Gonzalez Trio performs trova and nueva trova (Cuban folk) music. Next performance: Saturday, Feb. 9, from 7-9 pm, at La Rumba Caribbean Restaurant, 10 N. Weidler St. (at the Coliseum Ramada Inn). Parking is free in the hotel parking areas.**

COMMUNITY SUMMIT on GLOBALIZATION:

ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE.

February 16, 2002 (Saturday). Program, 10 am - 3:30 pm.

Registration begins at 9 am

First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson, across from the Goose Hollow MAX station. MAX & carpooling encouraged.

Sliding scale contribution \$5 to \$20, and no one turned away.

Lunch will be available.

Join others in re-thinking democracy, while also creating a more equitable and sustainable world. Portland's COMMUNITY SUMMIT on GLOBALIZATION will feature guest keynote speakers, including Paul Cienfuegos, a California activist with the End Corporate Dominance Movement. Local citizens will present workshops, focusing on alternatives for creating a fairer, more broadly prosperous system of global trade, development, and sustainable relationships at many levels.

The SUMMIT is a local event inspired by the World Social Forum Jan 31 - Feb. 5, in Porto Alegre, Brazil, where thousands of people throughout the globe are meeting to address concerns --human rights, labor rights, and environmental protection --that have not been addressed at fora like the WTO meeting in Seattle in 1999 and the World Economic Forum in New York in 2002.

The SUMMIT is presented by Local to Global, an ad-hoc coalition consisting of: Alliance for Democracy, Portland; Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment; Economic Justice Action Group of the 1st Unitarian Church; Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon; End Corporate Dominance Alliance; Jobs with Justice; Jubilee USA Network in Oregon; NW Rage; Oregon AFL-CIO; Oregon Africa Council; PSU Campus Ministry; Sierra Club; Students for Unity at PSU; Women in Black, Portland; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Pacific Green Party, Metro Chapter; Democratic Socialists of America, Oregon Chapter; and others.

Co-Sponsors include: KBOO Community Radio, 90.7 and The Portland Alliance newspaper.

Need more info? Call Mafe Chase at 503-239-6841. E-mail: mafe@nwrage.org

The **Columbia River Peace Corps Association (CRPCA) Newsletter** is published monthly by the CRPCA for the benefit of its members. The CRPCA serves returned Peace Corps volunteers and others who share an interest in global development issues, in Oregon and southwest Washington. Annual membership: \$15 for individuals, \$22.50 for families. Address: CRPCA, P.O. Box 802, Portland, OR 97207. Newsletter submissions for a particular month are due by the 25th day of the previous month. Send by mail to the above address, or by e-mail to crpcassn@hotmail.com.

OFFICERS

President: Karen Cellarius (Hungary '91-'93), 503/289-3964, cellark@rri.pdx.edu

Vice President: Your Name Here (?)

Secretary/Treasurer: Linda Centurion (Paraguay '88-'90), 503/788-7366, pinkycenturion@yahoo.com

COMMITTEES

Program & Speakers: Martin Kaplan (Somalia '62-'64), 503/699-9833, martinkaplan@attbi.com

Newsletter: Jeff Strang (Ghana '80-'82) and Tamara Boyd, 503/282-3647, jeffboyd@hotmail.com

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Program Host: Charlene Holzwarth (Sierra Leone '84-'86), 503/284-3444

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