

# The Columbia River Peace Corps Association Newsletter

Volume 21 Issue 6 "Bringing the world back home" June 2002

## CALENDAR

**June 15** – Saturday. **National Peace Corps Association Northwest Regional Meeting**, 12-5pm (lunch, noon-1), Oregon Food Bank, 7900 NE 33rd Dr. (just north of Columbia Blvd; please bring a can of food for the Bank) Join group leaders from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. See flyer enclosed.

**June 15** – Saturday, 6pm, **CRPCA Restaurant Gathering**, Queen of Sheba Restaurant, 2413 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. (Note: group leaders from our 5-state NPCA region are invited to this after the Northwest Regional Meeting (see above). To reserve a space, call Bobbie Carrie, 503-244-8135.

**June 24** – Monday, 6:30pm: **CRPCA Soiree** at Lucky Labrador Brew Pub, 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd. We meet in the side room, or, if it's not too cold, on the back patio (Madison St. side).

**June 29-30** – **Salem World Beat Festival**. See article in this issue.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Charlene Holzwarth retires as Program Host

After over ten years of hosting our potluck dinners in her home in NE Portland, Charlene is throwing in the towel. She is moving to King City (near Tualatin), where she will have less yard work to do.

Charlene has been a pillar of CRPCA over the years. She was never too tired or busy to have us. And she was always ready with a spare utensil, an extra chair

or a pot of hot water for our tea or coffee. Many thanks, Charlene, for the use of your home and your ever-cheery disposition that greeted us every time we arrived. We look forward to continue seeing you at CRPCA events.

Note: The next CRPCA potluck/business meeting is scheduled for September 22nd. Location to be announced.

### World Beat Festival in Salem

#### June 29-30: CRPCA Booth

CRPCA (along with other Oregon RPCV groups and the Harambee Centre) will have a booth at the World Beat Festival in Salem on the riverfront on Sat. (10am-10pm) and Sun. (11am-6pm), June 29 and 30. The purpose of the booth is to increase membership, inform people about Peace Corps, and share our multi-cultural experiences.

The Salem World Beat Festival is a wonderful family- and child-oriented event celebrating the diverse people that make up Oregon. People from myriad countries showcase their music, dance, clothing, food, crafts, games and activities. The World Beat Festival was recently voted "Cultural Event of the Year" by the Salem Convention and Visitors Association. At the Beat, you can dine, shop and watch cultural performances in each of five World Villages, the Cultural Center, the Stepping Stage and the Amphitheater. For a full schedule, see their web site at [www.worldbeatfestival.org](http://www.worldbeatfestival.org).

Our booth is located in the "World Showcase" area, which is at the festival entrance. The booth is free, but the festival accepts up to \$50 as a donation. A Parade of Nations will take place on Sunday at 4:45pm, at which people are invited to walk behind their country's flag. Costumes are also encouraged. Fireworks are planned for Saturday night.

I'll be coordinating volunteers to staff the Booth. Of particular concern is Sunday, since we're not sure how

many RPCVs will want to come that day. The shifts for staffing the booth would be 1-2 hours. Please feel free to call or e-mail me if you're interested. We would love to have you!

*Annette Clothier* (Czech Republic, '95-'97)  
503-588-7790; anncl@attbi.com; 503-884-4076 (cell)

### **Committee for a Museum of the Peace Corps Experience Project Update**

The CMPCE was founded by CRPCA members in 1999 with the goal of creating the nation's first museum devoted to the Peace Corps experience. Our mission statement: To inspire connection with the world by sharing the Peace Corps experience of living among diverse cultures. We will have a summer intern: Stephanie Harris (Mali '98-'99), a masters candidate in Museum Studies at the University of Oregon. We will have a short board meeting in the Lucky Lab's side room at 6pm Mon, June 24 (right before CRPCA's soiree). Feel free to come by if you are interested in getting involved; we'd love to have your help! More information is at [www.PeaceCorpsMuseum.org](http://www.PeaceCorpsMuseum.org). You can also e-mail [pcmuseum@attbi.com](mailto:pcmuseum@attbi.com) or phone Martin Kaplan at 503-699-9833.

### **NW Regional Campout Update**

The campout is still scheduled for August 2-4 near Sandpoint, Idaho. People usually arrive on Friday evening and stay through Sunday breakfast. The more energetic members of the group usually come up with a group activity (climbing a mountain, swimming across the lake) for Saturday. The rest of us just hang out and do whatever we want. The Spokane group is hosting, which means they picked the site and are fixin' us some grub for Saturday dinner. The host group will also figure out how much the sites cost and let each person know how much they owe. It is usually about \$6 per night per person. Look for complete information in the July newsletter. I'm certainly going and I hope you are, too. If you are planning on it, let me know and tell me whether you have room in your car for passengers or if you need a ride. I will try to hook people up for transportation.

--Karen Cellarius, 503-289-3964, [cellark@rri.pdx.edu](mailto:cellark@rri.pdx.edu)

### **New e-mail list of Africa-related events in Oregon**

Oregon Africa Village is a twice-monthly e-mail concerning Africa-related events in Oregon and SW Washington. To subscribe, send an email to [orafricavillage@cs.com](mailto:orafricavillage@cs.com). The e-mail is sent out on the 1st and 15th of each month. The deadline for submitting information is the 10th and 25th of each month.

### **Short-Term Hosts For AFS Exchange Students Needed**

American Field Service (AFS) needs exit and gateway hosts for exchange students. This involves being available the evening of July 6 and morning of July 7 for students exiting the U.S and/or being a host for students entering the U.S. from 1 to 3 nights, Aug. 7 - 9 . It would also involve transporting the students within the Portland Metro area from or to the airport, pizza parlor drop-off points, etc. For arriving students, it would probably involve driving them to Camas, Washington, for orientation, but that could all be worked out. You would mainly serve as a transition point between the permanent host family and the student's home country. This is a lot of fun. If you would like to talk to someone who has done it, you can call me, Elizabeth Samuels, at 503-228-7706.

To sign up, e-mail Sue Byrum ([suebyrum@columbia-center.org](mailto:suebyrum@columbia-center.org)).

If you would like to make a bigger commitment and be a host family for the year or semester, you can also contact Sue or AFS at 503-241-1578. They also need liaisons for 2002-2003. You would make a friend with an exchange student and check in with him/her at least once a month. You would be a liaison between the student and their host family. If you would like to volunteer in any other way, contact AFS. Thank you.  
--Elizabeth Samuels (RPCV Benin '75-'77)

### **Help for Former Soviet Union Youth Needed**

Lutheran Community Services Northwest has started a new state-funded project dedicated to assist youth from the former Soviet Union. We need volunteers to work with us to help the youth overcome barriers they face in the new land. We need your assistance and ideas with homework, classwork, recreational activities, summer activities and field-trip coordination. You do not need to speak Russian at all. We are in desperate need for female volunteers.

We need your assistance, your ideas and creativity as soon as possible. If you see yourself contributing to this project, please contact me and I will give you more information. Thank you.

*Slavica Kojadinovic*

"SVET" Project Coordinator

503-731-9549

[skojadinovic@lcsnw.org](mailto:skojadinovic@lcsnw.org)

## Museum Committee Seeks Workgroup Members

The Committee for a Museum of the Peace Corps Experience (CMPCE) has five new working subcommittees. Efforts are now under way to work towards another temporary exhibit in Portland a year from now. If you are interested in joining any of these workgroups, please contact the chair of that subcommittee: Board Development -- Karen Cellarius, [cellark@rri.pdx.edu](mailto:cellark@rri.pdx.edu); Fundraising -- Stephanie Harris, [sharris1@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:sharris1@darkwing.uoregon.edu); Marketing and P.R. -- Mike Renning, [mrenning@yahoo.com](mailto:mrenning@yahoo.com); Exhibit Planning -- Martin Kaplan, [martinkaplan@attbi.com](mailto:martinkaplan@attbi.com); Special Events -- to be announced. Information is available on their website, [www.peacecorpsmuseum.org](http://www.peacecorpsmuseum.org); e-mail [pcmuseum@attbi.com](mailto:pcmuseum@attbi.com).

## Homowo African Arts & Cultures' 2002 African Arts Summer Camp

Homowo African Arts and Cultures will conduct its African Arts Summer Camp again this year, July 15-19, from 9am-3pm. Cost is \$200 per child, aged 6-12, which includes supplies. Activities include Ghanaian hand drumming, Ghanaian dance, instruction in the history and culture of Ghana through songs, stories and personal anecdotes. Additional activities include painting, drawing and other African art forms. Instructors are members of Obo Addy's traditional Ghanaian touring company -- *Okropong* -- and professional visual artists.

All classes will be at Friendly House, 1737 NW 26th Ave (at Thurman St.). Students are required to arrange their own transportation and meals.

Scholarships are available (apply early). For more information, or to sign up, contact the office at 503-288-3025, or visit [www.homowo.org](http://www.homowo.org).

## RPCV Seeks Housemate

Large master bedroom in SE Portland (Ladd's Addition) duplex. Furnished apt., has basement, washer/dryer, dishwasher, fireplace, front porch, front/back yards, plenty of on-the-street parking. On the #14 bus line. Female preferred. \$400/month plus utilities. Move in July 1st with 1st/last month's rent. Contact Cindy Fletcher (RPCV Russian Far East '97-'00) at [fletcherindy@hotmail.com](mailto:fletcherindy@hotmail.com).

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. Web page: [www.crPCA.org](http://www.crPCA.org).

\*Newsletter submissions for a particular month are due by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the previous month. Send by mail to the above address, or by e-mail to [crpcasn@hotmail.com](mailto:crpcasn@hotmail.com).

### OFFICERS

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

**Vice President:** Your Name Here (?)

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

**Program:** Martin Kaplan (Somalia '62-'64), 503-699-9833, [martinkaplan@attbi.com](mailto:martinkaplan@attbi.com)

**Speakers:** Richard Ireland (Haiti 98-00) 503-246-0479, [Rireland88@aol.com](mailto:Rireland88@aol.com)

**Newsletter:** Jeff Strang (Ghana '80-'82) and Tamara Boyd, 503/282-3647, [jeffboyd@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffboyd@hotmail.com)  
\* *submissions see above*

**Membership:** Dian Odell (Korea '66-'68), 503/234-3876, [odell.dian@emeryworld.com](mailto:odell.dian@emeryworld.com)

**Webmaster:** Kimberly Kuehn (Guatemala '85-'87), 503/235-5600, [kimkuehn@earthlink.net](mailto:kimkuehn@earthlink.net)

**Restaurant Coordinator:** Gabriella Maertens (Niger '66-'68), 503/254-5161, [gmaertens@earthlink.net](mailto:gmaertens@earthlink.net)

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

**Advocacy:** Kristi Jo Miller (Namibia '98-'00), 503/493-0775, [ndatewa@hotmail.com](mailto:ndatewa@hotmail.com)

### **Steering Committee:**

Annette Clothier (Czech Republic '95-'97), 503-986-3811, [annclo@attbi.com](mailto:annclo@attbi.com)

Bobbie Carrie (Senegal '95-'98) 503-244-8135, [bobbiecarrie@hotmail.com](mailto:bobbiecarrie@hotmail.com)

Jenny Tsai (Fiji '90-'92), 503/224-1643, [jenn\\_tsai@hotmail.com](mailto:jenn_tsai@hotmail.com)

# NPCA Northwest Regional Meeting

June 15th, 12-5 pm

## Come to the

### *Oregon Food Bank*

**7900 NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Dr. (just north of Columbia Blvd)**

**Portland, Oregon**

**(Please bring a can of food for the bank)**

Join group leaders from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington at the Northwest Regional Meeting in Portland.

The meeting will begin with a catered lunch from 12:00 to 1:00. The general meeting will be from 1:00 to 5:00.

### **Topics:**

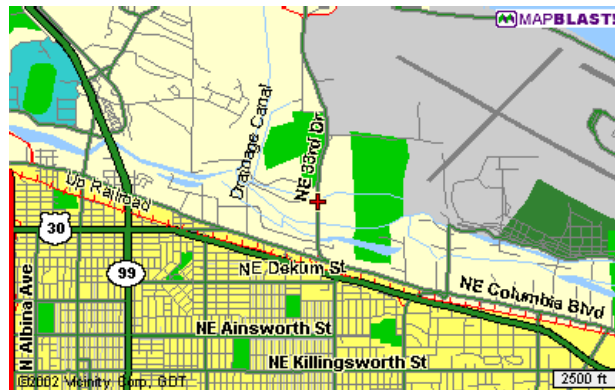
- Group Updates
- National Conference for RPCV's
- NPCA/CRPCA Dues Increase
- Northwest Regional Campout
- Committee for a Museum of the Peace Corps Experience
- Response to group leader turnover and transition
- Sustaining group involvement and encouraging new participation, preventing burnout
- Sharing financial management tips
- Funding the Regional Representative

### **Dinner:**

Come to the dinner even if you can't make the meeting. Dinner at Queen of Sheba Restaurant (see Calendar), 6pm!

### **Directions:**

Oregon Food Bank is located near the airport at 7900 NE 33<sup>rd</sup> just north of Columbia Blvd. From I-5, take the Columbia Blvd east exit. Go in the front door and ask for Conference Room 1&2.



**All returned volunteers are encouraged to come to the meeting and/or dinner.**

**Comments and Recommendations by RPCVs****to nominated PCVs at the 2002 Nomination Party, Lucky Lab. Pub, April 29 (from notes on posters)**

Greatest Reward of Peace Corps Service:

- Friendships all over the world.
- A different perspective that will serve me for the rest of my life.
- Where I met my wife.
- Having everyone think I'm the most important person in the room.

Words of Wisdom from RPCVs:

- Don't bring heavy boots (unless ... you're like in a mountainous country).
- Don't bring waders ... uh ... just ask me.
- Don't bring neckties.
- Bring your non-PC passport.
- Polaroid Camera.
- Do bring (many) a dictionary.
- Don't bring clothes. That is, anything more than 2 outfits of climate-appropriate clothing.
- Bring a good backpack.

Greatest Challenge of Peace Corps Service:

- Language.
- Spending time alone.
- Ringworm on my naughty bits.
- Getting robbed.
- Multiplex's.
- Being patient.
- Having everyone in town know your every movement all the time.
- Always being lost.

Most Important /Useful Item You Packed for Peace Corps:

- Shortwave radio!
- Ziplock baggies.
- Little souvenirs / gifts (coins, postcards, magnets).
- Good shoes.
- A cool state flag (full-size), especially if it's from a cool flag state like California or Texas.
- Polaroid camera and film!
- Nalgene water bottle.
- Sturdy camera.
- Nothing you expect to bring home.
- Music.
- Duct tape.

*--Submitted by Annette Clothier*