



The Columbia River Peace Corps Association Newsletter

Volume 22; Issue 6 "Bringing the world back home" mid-July/Aug. 2003

CALENDAR

July 17, Thursday, 6:30pm: CRPCA Restaurant Gathering, Capuia's International Restaurant, 435 N. Killingsworth St. This restaurant is owned by a family originally from Angola, and has a number of nice African dishes, including fufu.

July 28, Monday, 6:30pm: CRPCA Soiree at Lucky Lab Brew Pub, SE 9th and Hawthorne, Portland. The beer's cheap on Mondays, and they have good food! Meet in the side room, or outside in the back if the weather's nice.

August 1-3, Fri.-Sun., National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) Annual General Meeting. Most events will be at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Portland, and include a Career Fair, International Bazaar, workshops, dance party and various meetings. Go to www.rpcv.org for more information.

August 8-10, Fri.-Sun.: Northwest Regional RPCV Group Campout at Silver Falls State Park. RSVP to Karen Cellarius, 503-289-3964, or cellark@pdx.edu. The North Falls Group Camp Site has been reserved. The Eugene RPCV group will be cooking for everyone Saturday night, and the Idaho group will do Sunday breakfast.

Aug. 9-10, Sat.-Sun.: Homowo Festival of African Arts in the south Park Blocks at Portland State University. A wonderful celebration of African music, dance and culture. Volunteer help also needed. For more information, visit www.homowo.org.

Aug. 25, Monday, 6:30pm: CRPCA Soiree at Lucky Labrador Brew Pub, SE 9th and Hawthorne, Portland (See entry for July 28).

NEWS AND NOTES

Portland-area RPCV Wins P.C. Award

Local RPCV Paul Goodrich (Togo 89-91) was awarded the Peace Corps' Franklin H. Williams Award June 4 in Washington, D.C. Each year since 1999, one awardee for each region of the U.S. has been selected. The award honors outstanding RPCVs of color who have put their overseas experiences to work in their communities and professions to promote a better understanding of other peoples and cultures. Paul is the founder of African Sports Outreach (ASO), a recipient of last year's CRPCA calendar sales profits. For more info on ASO, visit www.asointernational.org.

CRPCA Fall Volunteer Day

The Columbia River Peace Corps Association will host its annual Fall Volunteer Day on Saturday, Sept. 13. Our cause of choice this fall is Loaves & Fishes Centers, The Meals-On-Wheels People. Volunteers will meet at Loaves & Fishes' Belmont Center, 4610 SE Belmont, to help deliver Meals-On-Wheels to homebound seniors throughout the Portland metro area. The time commitment is 10:30am-noon. This is a great way to brighten a senior's day with a visit, while ensuring they receive a nutritious meal. If interested in participating, please call Melody Finnemore at 503-408-5814 or e-mail barrymel@hotmail.com.

Host a NPCA Meeting Attendee 3 Nights

Richard Sitler (Jamaica 00-02) would like to stay with a fellow RPCV while in Portland for the NPCA Annual Meeting. He arrives Friday, Aug. 1, 11:25am on American Airlines #487, and departs Mon., Aug. 4, at

6:14am. His address: richs85@yahoo.com. If you can host him, please let Karen Cellarius know (cellark@pdx.edu; 503-289-3964).

New Regional NPCA Rep.: Bob Findlay

Please welcome Bob Findlay, of Olympia, Washington, as the new NW regional representative to the National Peace Corps Association. He'll be serving a 3-year term.

I thank you all for having had the honor and privilege of serving our region in this capacity for the past two years. I am so glad that I have had a hand in bringing back the regional meeting. This service has been a bright spot for me in the midst of two terrible years in education in both Washington and Oregon.

I applied for and received a one-semester travel-leave-study sabbatical. I leave for Brazil on July 31. I'll be travelling with a program through the University of Washington's Comparative History of Ideas Dept. and Latin American Studies. I'll get twelve credits: 5 in Portuguese, and the rest will be in either History or Latin American Studies. My third-goal activities have always kept me sane whenever the craziness of this school, school district, and educational policies have been too much. When I return to Seattle in October, it will be strange to have the luxury of tending to myself; I have not done so in such a long time! If all goes well, I may even get to return to Morocco for three and a half weeks if I get accepted for the Fullbright Teacher Exchange!

Peace,

--Paulette Thompson (Morocco 86-88)

Former PSU P.C. Rep. Needs a Job

Many of you may know me as the PC Representative at PSU, a position I've held for two years while in graduate school. On June 14th, I graduated with a Masters of Social Work, and I'm currently looking for a job. Please send any leads, even opportunities that are not directly related to social work, my way as I'm flexible in terms of jobs I'll consider. I focused on Community Based Practice at PSU, but I'm also interested in direct mental health work, international organizations such as Mercy Corps or World Affairs Council, or any intriguing non-profit. I speak just a little French and a lot of not-very-useful Bambara. It's rough out there in the land of social services, so I'd appreciate any help my fellow RPCVs can give me! Please contact me at stolksta@yahoo.com or 503-287-7299.

PS: The new Peace Corps Representative at PSU is Charlie Urwyler (Philippines 00-02). He'll begin the position when school starts at the end of June. He will also be earning his Masters of Social Work. He can be reached at curwyler@pdx.edu or, in September, at 503-725-3015.

--Stephanie Tolk (Mali 98-00)

NPCA Advocacy Efforts Gearing Up

The National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) is ramping up its efforts to recruit active advocates for the Peace Corps and related issues, including the Peace Corps Charter for the 21st Century, Peace Corps funding, and international development and democracy. In these times, the Peace Corps is needed more than ever; however, adequate Peace Corps funding has not been provided. Today, there are only about 6000 volunteers, compared with 14,000 in the 1970s. The NPCA is developing an active nationwide advocacy effort to encourage Congress to assist with Peace Corps issues and to appropriate additional funds for international development. THE NPCA NEEDS YOU TO BECOME A PART OF THIS EXCITING NEW EFFORT! If you are not a member of the NPCA, please join. Applications are available at <https://secure.schoolyard.com/rpcv/howtojoin.cfm>. Membership is only \$50 per year, which includes affiliate group membership in either a local or regional RPCV group or a Country of Service group. To make our advocacy efforts more effective, you are to register by completing the form at <http://www.rpcv.org/pages/survey.cfm?id=33>. You won't be advocating alone. We will connect you up with other NPCA advocates in your congressional district so that you can work together as a team. We have also developed a brand new training guide on the NPCA website to assist you in becoming an effective advocate. You can access the training guide at <http://www.rpcv.org/pages/sitepage.cfm?id=730>. Since the guide is short and concise, in only a few hours it will teach you everything you need to know to become an effective advocate. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. We know from experience that a few dedicated advocates working on a specific issue can persuade members of Congress to support that issue; we've done it several times. But we need more advocates. Please don't delay; register now. The future effectiveness of the Peace Corps may truly depend on YOU!

--Britta Schnoor (advocacy@rpcv.org)

NOTE: CRPCA's local advocacy coordinator is Martin Kaplan, 503-699-9833, martinlkaplan@comcast.net.

Tony Gasbarro Receives 2003 Lillian Carter Award

The National Peace Corps Association and the Peace Corps are pleased to announce that Tony Gasbarro (Dominican Republic 1962-64; El Salvador 1996-98) is the 2003 winner of the Lillian Carter Award. The award was presented by Former President Jimmy Carter at a special ceremony at The Carter Center in Atlanta,

Georgia. This biennial award recognizes outstanding seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to the Peace Corps' third goal. (Eligible seniors must have served as a Peace Corps Volunteer at age 50 or older.) The award is in memory of Miss Lillian Carter, who served in the Peace Corps as a senior in the 1960s. Tony Gasbarro is also the president of the Northern Alaska Peace Corps Friends, an affiliate group of the NPCA based in Fairbanks, Alaska.

BRIDGE: a New Approach to "Bringing It Back."

The third goal of Peace Corps is often the most neglected of all; we all know the difficulties of describing to our family and friends the countries we lived in. After a while, it's easy just to give up. BRIDGE has an innovative approach to "bringing it back" that we want to share with other RPCVs. Our website, www.bridgingdevelopment.org, brings alive the people we lived among through cultural Quicktime movies that play the music, folklore, proverbs, and libations of our host countries with highlighted English translations that allow you to listen and understand at the same time. We believe that through digital media like Quicktime movies, we can virtually "take people there" and inspire them to really get involved. We highlight the projects and grassroots organizations we work with so that as people become interested in the culture, they may also become interested in the projects. Take a look at our website and send us any feedback on our approach. If you would like, we would include you in our newswire, which briefly describes a featured story on our website. We send newswires about once every three months.

--Jonathan Richter (Ghana 97-00), BRIDGE Director

Check it Out: the Hippo Roller!

Imagine waking up long before sunrise and then walking for more than two hours to the nearest river or borehole, and then carrying a bucket full of water on your head all the way home. For many of us, we don't have to imagine much; we've done it or seen it! Visit www.hipporoller.org for an intriguing alternative. The hippo roller is basically a plastic 20-gallon drum with a large screw-on lid, with a clip-on handle. Laid on its side, it's rolled in front of the water transporter. In this way, more water is transported more easily, and the roller can also serve as a land mine clearer.

Jan. and Aug.) 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. To join CRPCA and/or the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA), see back page.

Web page: www.crPCA.org.

Newsletter submissions for a particular month are due by the 25th day of the previous month. Send by mail to P.O. Box 802, Portland, OR 97207, or by e-mail to crpcasn@hotmail.com.

OFFICERS

President: Jeff Strang (Ghana '80-'82), 503/282-3647, RPCVjeffstrang@comcast.net

Vice President: Your Name Here (?)

Secretary/Treasurer: Anne Kimberly (Sierra Leone '86-'88), 503/234-4094, anne.kimberly@reed.edu

Program: Your Name Here (?)

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

Newsletter: Your Name Here (?)

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

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

Restaurant Coordinator: Gabriella Maertens (Niger '64-'66), 503/254-5161, gmaertens@earthlink.net

Program Host: Your Name Here (?)

Advocacy: Martin Kaplan (Somalia '62-'64), 503/699-9833, martinkaplan@comcast.net

Steering Committee:

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

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

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

Jenny Tsai (Fiji '90-'92), 503/224-1643, jenn_tsai@hotmail.com

Committee for a Museum of the Peace Corps

Experience Liaison: Martin Kaplan, 503-699-9833, pcmuseum@attbi.com

It's here!

CRPCA welcomes the National Peace Corps Association

August 1-3, 2003

in the Portland Downtown

310 SW Lincoln, Portland, Oregon Doubletree Hotel

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings and activities take place at the Doubletree Hotel-Downtown Portland

Activity Schedule

Friday 10:00am-5:00pm Career Fair and Workshops
8:00am-4:00pm NPCA Board of Directors Meeting
3pm-7pm Registration
5:30pm Poolside Reception

Saturday 7:30-8:30am NPCA Affiliate Group Officers mtg
8am-10am Registration
10am-5pm International Bazaar (Open to the public)
9am-12pm Outdoor trip to Washington Park (Zoo, Rose Garden, and Children's Museum)
9am-11am NPCA Presidents Forum
11am-12pm Annual General Meeting
12:15-1:30 Lunch and Peace Corps Update

1:40-3:30 pm Workshops on a number of themes including "Regional and Country of Service Group Organizing," and

"Sharing Your Peace Corps Experience."
3:30am-5:30pm Special reception the Celebrations Exhibit presented by the Committee for a Museum of the Peace Corps Experience (Open to the public)
6pm-8pm Dinner on your own or join the Board of Directors at Jakes Restaurant (RSVP req'd)
8pm-9pm Reading and book signing by Peace Corps Writers (Purchase their books at our Bazaar!)
9:00pm-Midnight Dance Party! (Live performance by **Pepe and the Bottle Blondes!** Salsa Lessons provided.)

Sunday

9:15-10:15am Presidents Forum
9:00-11:00 Workshops & Group Leader Mtgs
10:30am-1:00pm Board of Directors Meeting

It's not too late to register!

Cost for the full schedule is \$75 for NPCA members and \$85 for non-members. Or register for selected events, such as the career fair and career workshops (\$35), Saturday and Sunday workshops only (\$35), Saturday Awards Luncheon (\$20), Friday evening reception (\$10). You can register online at <https://secure.schoolyard.com/rpcv/conference.cfm> or at the meeting on Friday evening and Saturday morning. (It will help us with counts if you register ahead though! You'll also get a nicer looking nametag.)

If you don't do anything else, come to the Salsa Dance with *Pepe and the Bottle Blondes!*

Doors open at 9 pm on Saturday. Pepe will follow his first set with Salsa lessons! \$12.50 in advance at www.rpcv.org or \$14 at the door. Bring your friends!!!

Career Fair (Friday)

Employers and Educators

- Apollo College
- Indian Health Service
- US Customs
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- Peace Corps
- Mercy Corps
- FBI
- Intercultural Communication Institute
- and more....

Workshops

RPCV Career Development (Friday Career Fair)

- Publishing Your Peace Corps Story, John Coyne
- RPCV - Resume Paper Chase Validated, Sam Greer
- Post-Peace Corps Careers (Panel Presentation), Karen Cellarius, Allison Mobley, and others
- Join the Peace Corps (PC Recruitment), Peace Corps Seattle Office
- Crisis Corps
- Peace Corps Fellows, Peace Corps Seattle Office

Sharing Your Peace Corps Experience (Saturday and Sunday)

- How To Write a Novel in 101 Days or Less, John Coyne
- The Making of a Museum of the Peace Corps Experience, Mike Renning, Stephanie Harris, Samuel W. Shogren
- The RPCV Archival Project, Bob Klein
- *From Peace Corps Service in Afghanistan to the Classroom*, Jan West

International Bazaar (Saturday)

Vendors include...

- Cannon Beach Books
- Martha Wallace
- Timbuktones
- World Affairs Council of Oregon
- Harambee Center
- NPCA
- CRPCA
- Beyond Borders
- GambiaHELP
- EF Foundation
- RPCVs for Environment & Development

- Making Peace with the World, a Proposed Photographic Documentary of Peace Corps, Richard Sitrler

Regional and Country of Service Group Organizing (Saturday and Sunday)

- *Global Education for Groups*, Anne Baker
- *World Wise Schools, Peace Corps Washington, DC*
- *Newsletter Editors' Roundtable*, Pat Reilly, Susan Neyer, and Erica Burman
- How RPCV groups can influence Foreign Policy & Policy toward the UN on the local level, K. Hansen
- NPCA Advocacy Training Overview (How to organize an Advocacy Day for your group), Dave Hibbard and Terry AmRhein.
- Fundraising and Special Events for groups, Lisa Martin
- The Climate Change Crisis: From Our Countries of Service to Our Communities Back Home, Jonathan Pearson

The World Affairs Council has announced their line-up for the

2003-04 International Speaker Series in Portland

- Palestinian Foreign Affairs Minister Nabeel Shaath and Former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, October 16th, 2003
- Former US Ambassador to the UN Richard Holbrooke, December 4th, 2003
- Director General for the World Health Organization Gro Harlem Brundtland, March 11th, 2004
- Editor for Newsweek International Fareed Zakaria, April 20, 2004

More info will be in the September newsletter. Or you can order by phone today at 503-552-9888. *Tell them you heard about it through CRPCA, and CRPCA will get a portion of the proceeds.*

Costs: Reserved Series Ticket: \$200 (WAC members, \$150); General Admission Series Ticket: \$100 (WAC members and students, \$80); Holbrooke Banquet Ticket: \$75