



The Columbia River Peace Corps Association Newsletter

Volume 23; Issue 1

February / March 2004

Calendar

February

- 1 Sunday, 7 p.m., The Revolution will be Televised film series opens. See article for details.
- 6 Friday, 7 and 9:30 p.m., Cascade Festival of African Films opens. See article for details.
- 8 Sunday, 5 p.m., CRPCA Potluck Meeting. 5 pm – 7:30 p.m. at 1137 NE Beech St. (Jeff Strang's house) to finalize arrangements for the Annual Dinner next week and plan for Peace Corps Week.
- 14 Saturday 6:00 p.m. Annual CRPCA Dinner! See article for details. Call Anne at 503.234.4094 to reserve a lower ticket price.
- 23 Monday, 6:30 pm, Soiree at Lucky Labrador Brew Pub, SE 9th and Hawthorne. Friends. Beer. The occasional puppy. We're sometimes hard to find, but we're there!

March

- 1-7 Monday - Sunday. It's Peace Corps Week! RPCVs, teachers and other groups can contact Richard Ireland (see last pg.) if interested in presentations. Get speaking ideas and a helpful packet at www.peacecorps.com/rpcv/peacecorpsday, and you're on your way!
- 10 Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. CRPCA Restaurant Gathering at Andina Restaurant, 1314 NW Glisan Street in Portland. Good times, good Peruvian food. See article on page 2 for details.
- 29 Monday, 6:30 pm, Soiree at Lucky Labrador Brew Pub, SE 9th and Hawthorne Blvd. Is it warm enough to sit outside?

Stay Connected

COMMUNITY LANGUAGE AND CULTURE BANK

A great local resource, easy-to-access calendar and info on the Social Change Film Series, starting February 1 with Raoul Peck's "Lumumba".

www.clcbank.org

HANDS ON PORTLAND

A well-known hub of local volunteer opportunities. Find and post what you need!

www.volunteerhere.com

UNIVERSITIES

Check out the Ursula Leguin-Alice Walker Film Festival (free; 1/12-3/15) and the Hewitt Collection of African American Art this month at Portland State Univ.

www.pdx.edu

Randal Kennedy reads on race in the U.S. 2/9, Jane Elliott discusses prejudice 2/16, and Indian vocal music by Shweta Jhaveri 2/28, all at Lewis and Clark.

www.lclark.edu

Lani Guinier, damali ayo and Whitfield Lovell are just a few names showing up on campus in February at Reed College.

www.reed.edu

There's always something to get involved in and a host of great classes to check out at Portland Community College

www.pcc.edu

WASHINGTON STATE RPCVs

Have some contact information and some nice pictures; send them word if you're moving.

www.rpcv-wa.org

NEWS & NOTES

Time to Gather

CRPCA's Annual Dinner is finally here! We'll be having Cuban food, with preparation under the direction of Carmen Rosa Gonzalez. Menu: marinated pork, black beans, rice, salad, dessert, vegetarian option. Call Jeff Strang at 503.282.3647 to help cook and learn Cuban techniques, or to help at the event. Cuban music will be provided by the Roberto Gonzalez Group (he's Carmen Rosa's son), with additional music by RPCVs Ira and Linda Frankel (Iran), Heide Goertzen (Truk) and Jeff Strang (Ghana). Mead (honey wine) provided by Jeff. We'll also be awarding money to The Pangaea Project from our International Calendar sales.

When: February 14, 2004, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Where: IRCO, 10301 NE Glisan Street, Portland.

Cost: **Through Feb. 7th**

\$10 adults, \$5 children under 14, free for those under 5.

Call Anne Kimberly at 503.234.4094 to reserve this price!

After Feb. 7th

\$14 adults, \$7 children under 14, free for those under 5.

Note: Volunteers needed for serving, set-up and take-down. RPCVs, family and friends are all welcome!

Mar. 10 Restaurant Gathering

Join fellow RPCVs at the Andina Restaurant, 1314 NW Glisan St. in Portland, for a Peruvian repast! The owners, John Platt (Peru, '67-'69) and his wife Doris Rodriguez, are planning to travel north from their home in California to visit with us! Their son, Peter, is the resident manager of the restaurant. RSVP to Gabriella Maertens, 503.254.5161, gmaertens@earthlink.net

Here Comes Peace Corps Week

It's been 43 years of great work! Join Peace Corps enthusiasts all over the world to celebrate the birth of the Peace Corps as a real way to reach

out to people and countries around the world. Contact Richard Ireland at 503.246.0479 to find a welcoming place such as a school class to share your experience overseas. If you have other thoughts on celebrating, let us know by contacting one of the folks listed on page 5.

International Speakers Series

Three speakers remain in the World Affairs Council of Oregon's Speakers Series:

- 4. February: Former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Richard Holbrooke.
- 11. March: Director General of the World Health Organization Gro Harlem Brundtland.
- 20. April: Editor of Newsweek International Fareed Zakaria.

For tickets go to www.worldoregon.org or call 503.552.9888.

Young Professionals Discuss World

If you're interested in international politics and relations, and are between 21 and 40 years of age, then consider the new group at the World Affairs Council of Oregon. Young Professionals participants look forward to interesting presentations, as well as discussion tables to tackle big issues over beer on Wednesdays. Check out their website at www.worldoregon.org or call 503.552.9888.

The Revolution Will Be Televised

Community Language and Culture Bank presents A Social Change Film Series starting February 1 and running every Sunday at 7 p.m. Locations will change weekly, but find your seat at the first showing at PNCA, 1241 NW Johnson St. in Portland.

The first showing will be "Lumumba" by Raoul Peck, dramatizing the rise and fall of the first Prime Minister of the Republic of Congo, Patrice Lumumba. Come find out more about this legendary African leader's role in the Cold War.

NEWS & NOTES

Cascade Festival of African Films

In honor of Black History Month, Portland Community College's Cascade Campus is hosting the 14th annual Festival, which also includes films from Haiti. Best of all, it's free! Check your calendars; opening night is February 6th with two showings of "Amandla!" at McMennamins Kennedy School Theatre at 7 and 9:30 p.m., and an African Marketplace.

There's a thorough website at www.cfaf.net, or you can call 503.244.6111X3630 for schedules. Look for features on Fridays and Saturdays, and documentaries on Thursdays. See you there!

Prospective Portlanders Seek Information

Who needs Friendster.com when you have local RPCV groups? A couple from San Francisco is thinking about moving to Portland and want to know what it's really like. Before someone tells them about rain and the state budget, let them know about the good people and beautiful location (for example). One is a kindergarten teacher, one is a marriage and family therapist Put your thinking caps on and give them an insider's take on Portland neighborhoods, livability and job connections or resources.

Contact David Garver (Jordan '01) at pcvtintin@yahoo.com

LFS Seeks Skilled Tutors for Teens

Getting your homework done along with everything else going on when you're in school is a challenge, especially if you're new to the U.S. The SVET program is a way for people to make a positive difference in a student's studies. Lutheran Family Services assigns volunteers to work one-on-one with students, or lead after-school homework groups. Students in the SVET program are youths coming from former countries of the Soviet Union.

For more information, contact Christy Way at 503.231.7480 or email svetlcsnw@hotmail.com

Intern / Volunteer Needed

The World Affairs Council of Oregon is seeking FT or PT volunteers to support the International Speaker Series department by performing a variety of duties. Learn event management, researching, writing and global affairs while making connections in the field.

Send your resume, application form and references to internships@worldoregon.org or to 620 SW Main Street, #333, Portland 97205.

Intercultural Job Coaching Institute

This training opportunity is brought to you by the East County One Stop Career system. Attendees seek to improve their workplace by broadening their understanding of people of various cultures they might work with. The course is offered only once a year and is limited to 30 participants. The first session starts on March 19th (overnight) and continues on Wednesdays and Saturdays

You can find more at bilingualjobcoaches.org or call Joan Pasco at 503.661.3981.

OSU Peace Corps Events

The Peace Corps office has a new website, <http://oregonstate.edu/career/pc/> with every event on and off campus for applicants and local RPCVs. Check out the latest pictures from January's Northwest Regional RPCV Meeting! Also, on February 3 there will be several on-campus programs, from the OSU Forestry Job Fair to the Women's Center's WOMEN IN PEACE CORPS presentations!

--Mike Roman, OSU Peace Corps Rep., 541.737.0525, Peace.Corps@orst.edu

NEWS & NOTES

Volunteer Your Office Expertise

Kurdish Human Rights Watch needs your ink-stained and paper-cut-ridden hands! The new refugee service agency in Portland is looking for helpful office assistance a few hours each week. Experience in social services and/or with refugees is a plus, as is general office experience.

Call Shakhawan Shekhani at 503.246.6166 or email shakhawan@khrw.org.

DON'T FORGET**About Us: Call for New Officers**

Our officers are normally up for renewal on May 1, but unfortunately our Webmaster, **Annette Clothier**, must bow out before then. She has a beautiful new red-haired daughter, Erin, who requires a bit of extra time from mom (not sure why), plus they're moving to Seattle!

Annette has agreed to update our website with info from this newsletter, then must move on, so we're in need of a new **Webmaster** very soon. If you're interested in taking on this role, contact Jeff Strang.

Please consider stepping up to fill an officer's shoes beginning May 1. At the least, we'll need a new **Membership Coordinator**, since **Dian Odell** will have served the maximum 3 continuous years our Bylaws allow in one office. We'll need a new **Restaurant Coordinator**, since **Gabriella Maertens** will also have served for a maximum 3 years continuously. **Richard Ireland** will be stepping out of his role after 2 years as **Speakers Bureau Coordinator**. We've been lacking a **Vice President** for a few years, and the role of **Program Coordinator** is unfilled.

On the plus side, **Jamey Dempster** has stepped into the **Newsletter Editor** job, and **Sean Rose** is supporting the newsletter by producing

and mailing the paper version. If you feel you can help out but don't want to take on the entire job, no problem; jobs can be shared, as Jamey and Sean are doing with the newsletter.

As for myself, I'm interested in continuing in one of the officer's roles, but I'm flexible: I could continue on as **President**, or take on Membership, Vice President, Restaurant Coordinator, etc.

In case you don't know, our Bylaws say that if an officer position is vacant, we can **appoint someone from the membership**, so you can't hide!

--Jeff Strang, President

Should We March in the Starlight Parade?

CRPCA has marched many times in the Portland Rose Festival's Starlight Parade many times in the past. Last year, we were denied a place so that other groups could participate. Should we try to do it again this year (June 5)? The entry fee is \$150. We've got a bunch of large country signs/flags from past years we could reuse. Members typically march in clothes from country of service, sometimes swinging kerosene lanterns and playing musical instruments from country of service. We'll take a poll of members' interest at our Annual Dinner.

Iowa Poll: Strong Interest in Increasing Humanitarian and Economic Assistance

A poll taken in Iowa on January 12, 2004, shows that Democrats and Republicans alike support an active role and greater foreign assistance to make the world better and safer. In fact, Iowans who are certain to vote in the 2004 general election want the U.S. Government to commit more economic and humanitarian aid to the war on global poverty in order to ensure the safety of all nations. The survey, conducted by the Better Safer World campaign, shows that eight out of 10 Iowans

believe that fighting poverty and hunger in foreign countries is essential to ensuring safety and security around the world. Highlights of the survey include: 81 percent believe the U.S. government should do more to help poor and developing countries; 57 percent favor the U.S. government increasing foreign assistance to poor and developing countries; 73 percent support a special fund that would challenge other countries to join the U.S. in providing more foreign assistance to countries that eliminate corruption and use the funds to improve education and health care, and create economic opportunity; 68 percent urge Congress and other elected officials to fully fund the President's initiative to combat AIDS around the world; 54 percent agree that the U.S. and other countries should commit \$25 billion a year -- less than 1 percent of our GNP -- to aid countries vowing to end corruption and improve education, health care and economic opportunities for the poor.

To learn more visit www.bettersaferworld.org

Victorian House with Roses and Garlic

For rent by RPCV Debbie Bauder (Honduras/Guatemala). Co-op style, 4-6 people, negotiable price. 10 blocks from Lloyd Center. Home business owners encouraged (e.g. tax preparer/accountant, car mechanic interested in hydrogen fuel cells, vine maple twig furniture maker). 503.281.6291.

Really Interesting Fact

Uigur is spoken mainly in China and to a lesser extent in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Some seven million Uigurs live in China, most in a large area of western China called the Sinkiang Uigur Autonomous Region. Only about 180,000 live in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, mainly near the Chinese boarder. The Uigur script was developed centuries ago, adapted from an earlier script called Sogdian, passed on to the Mongols in the 13th century and later to the Manchus who ruled China for 250 years.

The **Columbia River Peace Corps Association** newsletter is published monthly (except January and August) by the CRPCA and delivered to members. The CRPCA serves returned Peace Corps volunteers and others in Oregon and Southwest Washington who share an interest in global development issues. To join CRPCA (and/or the National Peace Corps Association) and have the newsletter delivered, please see the membership page.

Newsletter submissions are due by the 25th of each month. Send by mail to P.O. Box 802, Portland, OR 97207, or by e-mail to crcpcasn@hotmail.com

OFFICERS

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

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

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Restaurant Coordinator: Gabriella Maertens (Niger '64-'66), 503.254.5161, gmaertens@earthlink.net

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Committee for a Museum of the Peace Corps Experience

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