



# The Columbia River Peace Corps Association Newsletter

Volume 23; Issue 4 "Bringing the world back home" August, 2004

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## Reminder!

This year's campout, August 13-15, is close to Portland at Peterson Prairie Campground near Mt.Hood. Every summer the NW Regional Campout brings together RPCVs from all over the Northwest. As a benefit of membership, CRPCA will pay for the overnights for CRPCA members. Those with CRPCA Family Memberships will also be covered for their domestic partners and dependent children. Not a member, or want to upgrade? You can do it at the campout!

Peterson Prairie is located in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in southwest Washington, between Mount Rainier National Park and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, and includes Mount Adams and the Mount St.Helens National Volcanic Monument. This is nice hiking terrain, with a paved road to the campground with RV parking.

We have group sites 1 and 2 which will accommodate 75 reserved places. We also have reserved campsite 2 for Thursday if anyone wants to arrive early.

The fee for camping will be between 5 and 10 dollars, depending on how many people come. Saturday dinner will be provided by your hosts, WSPCA. You can visit the campground website and see photos at:  
[www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/recreation/campgrounds/sites/peterson-prairie-group.shtm](http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/recreation/campgrounds/sites/peterson-prairie-group.shtm)people.

Update on 7/26/04: **Please RSVP to the Washington group at [braema@hotmail.com](mailto:braema@hotmail.com)**

## Seeking nominations for Partner Organization for 2005 calendar proceeds

Greetings, CRPCA members! It's July, and yes, time to start thinking about selling the 2005 international RPCV calendars. We need you to submit nominations for our recipient partner organization this year. Please send your ideas along with an explanation why this organization would be good to support to: Cate Wilcox [cwilcox@teleport.com](mailto:cwilcox@teleport.com) or call 503-777-3578. We are open to either local organizations or international non-profits. The partnership decision will be made at the September 12, CRPCA meeting. Also, if you are interested in being on the calendar committee, please contact Cate by e-mail or phone. Thanks for your support!

Cate Wilcox, Micronesia ('87-'89)

## CALENDAR

**July 26, Monday, 6:30 pm, Soirée** at :  
Lucky Labrador Brew Pub, SE 9th and  
Hawthorne.

**August 6-8, Fri-Sun**, National Peace  
Corps Association Conference in Chicago,  
Illinois.

**August 12-15, Thu-Sun**, Northwest  
Regional RPCV Campout at Peterson  
Prairie, WA.

**Sept. 12, Sun, CRPCA Calendar  
Planning Meeting**, Multnomah County  
Library, 801 S. 10<sup>th</sup> **2:30-4:30 pm** *Pizza  
provided!*

## NPCA Northwest Regional report

*Bob Findlay, NW regional representative to NPCA  
board*

*attended the last regional NPCA meeting in Spokane.  
This is his report.*

NPCA president Kevin Quigley joined us for an informative meeting where there was considerable discussion about the groups in our region, our regional support activities, our relationship to NPCA, and efforts to initiate and sustain groups. All of our groups have now re-affiliated with NPCA for the coming year and will have a vote at the national conference in Chicago in August.

The board nominations committee has assembled a commendable roster of candidates for officer positions - a group of agreeable, articulate and caring former volunteers who have clearly invested in the organization in recent years. There will be an opportunity for some of our regional attendees at the conference to participate in a panel discussion on nurturing and sustaining groups. If you are interested and will be attending the Chicago conference, please reply to me and I will keep you informed as this session develops. They are interested in our regional activities - the campout, meetings and information sharing.

Another part of the panel discussion will be on leadership succession and sustaining rpcv groups.

A major issue, in response to a request on the part of the presidents forum -the group leaders or the constituency of NPCA, is for 'right sizing' the board. The result of a governance committee's efforts is a proposal to downsize from about 30 board members to a number under 21, with about half and half elected and selected members. An accompanying proposal is to reduce the committee structure to more closely follow board responsibilities in personnel, development, and organizational policy.

The major effect on our region is the necessary redistricting that is proposed, based on membership numbers, which merges the NW region into a region called the West. These changes will be voted upon in Chicago and will affect elections of representatives in 2005. In other words, we will either expand to represent the West, or another area region will expand to represent us. How this affects our regional support structure remains to be seen.

I have had the impression that an inordinate amount of board time has been spent in restructuring the organization and I look forward to redirecting board and committee efforts to the mission and substantive issues of the NPCA in education, advocacy and service.

Your thoughts on these matters are welcome prior to the national conference in Chicago, August 5-8. We will continue the conversation at the **WSPCA** picnic in July and at the regional campout in August just after the conference.

Our next regional meeting will be a breakfast meeting during the conference dates in Chicago, and then on January 22, 2005 in Olympia.

Thanks for your support.

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### To UOP grads who are former Peace Corps Volunteers

Laurie O'Reilly, a UOP grad and RPCV, is writing an article on UOP grads who have been Peace Corps Volunteers. She would like to talk with you about your experiences. Please E-mail her at: [loreilly47@hotmail.com](mailto:loreilly47@hotmail.com).

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### Dealing with mid-life crisis - the RPCV way

Steve Randolph (Kenya '77-'80) has decided not to buy that sportscar he was saving up for with his Mid-life Crisis Fund. Instead he will be using the money to finance a 150 mile trek through the deserts of northwestern Kenya with "smelly camels, extreme heat, snakes, scorpions," and he hopes, "starkly beautiful terrain." No, he won't be trekking alone, nor is this the questionable impulse of a man-in-crisis. But, rather, he will be accompanying **Michael Farley (Kenya '77-'80)**, founder of the **Makindu Children's Center** and with several others, notably **Tim Cahill**, travel adventure writer, who will be writing for the *National Geographic Adventure Magazine*. The Makindu Children's Center was founded in 1998, after Farley made a return visit to the part of Kenya where both he and Randolph had served. What he discovered in Makindu was more than 100 children who had been orphaned by AIDS and other diseases. MCC was begun as a result and is now a Kenyan NGO, headquartered in Brownsville, Oregon as a 501(c) 3 organization. The Center is dedicated "to respectfully tending to the medical, emotional, educational and nutritional needs of the orphans of Makindu."

To help fund the program, a "walk" was held in 2002 up the Riff Valley 150+ miles to

remote Lake Turkana. The effort was so successful (\$43,000) that it will be repeated as **Walk 2004 on August, 12**. However, there will also be a **fundraiser on July, 26<sup>th</sup>** at the *Rogue Ales Public House* at 1339 NW Flanders, Portland.

To read the Journal of Walk 2002, and learn more about the children and the Makindu Children's Program, visit [www.makindu.org](http://www.makindu.org) or contact [omelrandolph@earthlink.net](mailto:omelrandolph@earthlink.net) 503-282-5279

"The walkers are committed to covering all costs of the walk, so that all funds we raise go directly to the Makindu Children's Program."

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### NPCA Advocacy update

**Jonathan Pearson, NPCA Advocacy Coordinator**, sends the following:

[Peace Corps Budget-2005](#)

House Appropriation Committee, Subcommittee on Foreign Operations Proposed funding of \$330 million for Fiscal Year 2005, \$71 million less than President Bushes request.

[Peace Corps Safety and Security Act](#)

**NPCA President Kevin Quigley & RPCV Gladys Maloy (Romania '00-'02)** testified at the June 22<sup>nd</sup> public hearing on the PCV Health, Safety & Security Act of 2004 (S.2454) Also included were submissions from 225 RPCVs to the Committee for their consideration. Visit:

[rpcv.org/pages/sitepage.cfm?id=930](http://rpcv.org/pages/sitepage.cfm?id=930)

Also;

[foreign.senate.gov/hearings/2004/hr040622a.html](http://foreign.senate.gov/hearings/2004/hr040622a.html). For an overview of the pending legislature visit:

[rpcv.org/page/sitepage.cfm?id=410](http://rpcv.org/page/sitepage.cfm?id=410)

[Training on Effective Communication on Global Warming](#) *(continued)*

Twenty-one people gathered on June 19th in Detroit for the first in a series of training for

communicating strategies and action opportunities for responsible U.S. leadership on issues of global warming and clean energy.

Visit: [rpcv.org/pages/sitepage.cfm?id=931](http://rpcv.org/pages/sitepage.cfm?id=931).

For a more complete report on these and other topics visit: [www.npca-advocacy.net](http://www.npca-advocacy.net).

### From the (new) editor:

One of the responsibilities of a CRPCA editor, it seems, is to be keeper of two large boxes of previous issues. Thirty-seven years worth! I've really enjoyed reading through them, discovering the wealth of RPCV history we have amassed. Two years overseas can generate some great stuff! On that note, I would like to request submissions from you, yes *you*, the current members. How about a short story from when you were a Volunteer, you're dying to share? Any original artwork that might reflect your time there? A favored recipe from your host country that can be prepared locally? Letter to the editor? Sharing experiences like these with fellow RPCV's (and wannabes) is one of the more enjoyable parts of our gatherings (and how we love to gather!). So, let's reflect that same spirit in our newsletter as well. Send 'em in! Hmmm, how my mouth waters at the memory of a good, slow cooked potjiekos!

### RPCV seeks abode

**Alyssa Moy (Paraguay '99-'01)** has emailed us with a request. She is moving to **Hood River** in the fall to begin an ESL teaching position and is looking to share housing. Non-smoker, vegetarian, 34, outdoorsy and truck owner. If you can help or advise contact her at: [almitalia@yahoo.com](mailto:almitalia@yahoo.com)

## About us

The **Columbia River Peace Corps Association (CRPCA) Newsletter** is published bi-monthly by the CRPCA for the benefit of its members. The CRPCA serves Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) 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 back page or visit [www.crPCA.org](http://www.crPCA.org). **Newsletter submissions** are due by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each odd-numbered month. Send by mail to P.O. Box 802, Portland, OR 97207, or e-mail to [crPCA\\_nl@yahoo.co](mailto:crPCA_nl@yahoo.co)

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## 15 Symptoms of Chronic Peace Corps Withdrawal (C.P.C.W.)

by Dr. Harvey Hemweh, M.D., Bhutan ('69-'71)  
Journal of Occupational Dysfunction, Vol. 8, No. 3, 1987

1. Guilty feelings about your indulgent lifestyle.
2. Salivating when you hear polyrhythmic music.
3. Decorating more than two rooms of your house with host country memorabilia.
4. The desire to do everything outdoors.
5. Confusion between "immediately" and "by next week."
6. Greetings exceeding three sentences or eight seconds.
7. Deprecating comments about American beer.
8. Subscribing to magazines normally found only in libraries.
9. Anxiety induced insomnia from lack of mosquito net in bedroom.
10. A fixation with ethnic restaurants.
11. Feeling nostalgic when your commuter bus is filled to overcapacity.
12. Involuntarily using foreign swear words and interjections.
13. Considering yourself better informed about developing countries than top level State Department officials.
14. The inability to use the left hand when making cash transactions.
15. Reaching for the pepper before the salt.

*Lifted from Reconnections, newsletter of the West Cascade Peace Corps Volunteers in Oregon's southern Willamette Valley 9/91*

**MEMBERSHIP \* ADDRESS CHANGE \* RENEWAL FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter form: Electronic (by e-mail)\_\_\_ Paper (by USPS mail)\_\_\_ Both\_\_\_ .

Peace Corps Country and Years of Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Peace Corps Job/Sector: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type (Check one): \_\_\_\_\_New \_\_\_\_\_Renewal

Are you available at times to speak with groups about your Peace Corps experience? \_\_\_\_\_

Association(s) you wish to join (Check one):

 CRPCA and NPCA (\$50 individual/\$65 family) **Only one form necessary** CRPCA only (\$15 individual/\$22.50 family) NPCA only (\$35 individual/\$42.50 family)Please make checks payable to: Columbia River Peace Corps Association, and mail to:  
CRPCA, PO Box 802, Portland, OR 97207

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[www.crpca.org](http://www.crpca.org)

Please review your expiration date on your mailing label. If your membership is expiring, please use the form in this newsletter to renew.