



The Columbia River Peace Corps Association Newsletter

Volume 24; Issue 5 "Bringing the world back home" June, 2005

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Calendar

June 2005

Sunday, 6/19, 5:00 pm. *CRPCA Potluck Meeting* (5:00 meeting, 6:00 dinner), at the home of *Anne Kimberly*, 4261 SE Alder St in Portland, 503-234-4094.

Saturday, 6/25, 6:30 pm at *Marrakesh Moroccan Restaurant*, 1201 NW 21st Avenue & Northrup. Movie to follow.

Monday, 6/27, 6:30 pm. *Soirée at Lucky Labrador Brew Pub*, SE 9th & Hawthorne.

July 2005

Thursday, 7/07, 6:00-8:00 pm. *First Thursday* opening of "*The Peace Corps Experience: Bringing the World Home*," an exhibit organized by the [Committee for a Museum of the Peace Corps Experience](#). *Art Institute of Portland* gallery, 1122 NW Davis Street in Portland's Pearl District. The exhibit will be open to free viewing through *July 29* (9-6 Mon-Thu, 9-4 Fri, 9-2 Sat).

Sunday, 7/17. *CRPCA Annual Picnic*, location TBD. Contact *Linda Oh*, 503-645-8825.

Monday, 7/25, 6:30 pm. *Soirée at Lucky Labrador Brew Pub*, SE 9th & Hawthorne.

Bob Findlay Runs for NPCA Board

The NW regional representative to the NPCA, Bob Findlay, is running for the newly formed Western Region Board of Directors slot of the National Peace Corps Association. He is a member of the Washington State PCA, LGBrcvcs, and Friends of Colombia.

NPCA members are eligible to vote for this position. The West Region now includes Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, and the U.S. Territories. *NPCA will notify you shortly via snailmail how to vote on-line or by paper ballot.*

Bob says:

"NPCA is the leading voice of the Peace Corps community. During the two years that I have represented the Northwest region on the NPCA board, it has undertaken a critical reassessment and is now positioned to carry out its responsibilities for advocacy, education, and service. I have served on its Global Education committee, the Group Leaders Forum steering committee, and on a committee to assess NPCA conferences and meetings. Based on my experience with the mutually-supportive groups in the Northwest, my interests are in NPCA service to its affiliated groups as well as representing the newly-redistricted West region.

I bring extensive board experience in professional (Iowa Architectural Foundation, Association for Community Design), educational (Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence at Iowa State), and community service organizations (Olympia's Design Review Board, Washington State Facilities Accessibility, Master Gardeners, and the Historic Dunn Gardens in Seattle). The Peace Corps experience (Colombia and Peru) served me early-on in shaping my worldview, and many years later as a Crisis Corps

volunteer (Cook Islands and El Salvador) to reinvigorate me as I neared retirement from teaching architecture at Iowa State University. Board service is my payback to the program. My partner of 21 years, Lee Haugen, and I are enjoying a retirement of community service based in Olympia, Washington."

2005 Northwest Peace Corps Campout

CRPCA invites all members to reserve spots at this year's *Northwest Peace Corps Campout*.

Website: <http://www.crPCA.org/campout.html>

Dates: August 25-28, 2005.

Location: *Honeyman State Park* on the Oregon coast near Florence. The largest of Oregon's coastal campgrounds features two natural freshwater lakes and the northern end of the Oregon Dunes. Canoeing, swimming, and a playground are available in the park. Also in the area are some nice hikes and beaches, the Sea Lion Caves, and the Heceta Head lighthouse.

Camping: \$15 per vehicle (Fri-Sat). There are extra charges for larger vehicles. Full details are available on the *campout web page*.

Meals: The group meals (Saturday dinner--*Chicken Curry, curried dahl with tofu, rice, salad and dessert* and Sunday breakfast) are *free* for CRPCA members, but we'll need *all* members to help with the Saturday dinner.

RSVP: Please e-mail crPCA@crPCA.org as soon as your plans are set. We expect to fill to capacity this year, as Peace Corps families from all over the West are being invited. Please provide all of the following information in your e-mail:

- *Your name, country and years of Peace Corps service*
- *Names of all passengers in your vehicle*
- *Type of vehicle:*
 - \$15 rate = car, pickup, SUV, or van
 - \$18 rate = RV or any vehicle with trailer
- *Which nights you wish to camp (Thu, Fri, and/or Sat)*

Please contact *Bill Stein* (crPCA@crPCA.org, 503-235-9637) with any questions.

Nom Party Wrap

On May 16th, thanks to the great efforts of *Charlie Urewyler* our local PC rep, we gathered for a second try at a Nom party. The first only had one Nom show, but this affair had a nice gathering of locals and some Noms ready to get on the plane, to some who were just thinking about it. As usual it was a wonderful opportunity for RPCVs to tell stories, give advice and hang out with nervous, excited and curious nominees. (One had just learned *an hour before* he was going to

Bangladesh!) Others were headed to *Nicaragua, Mexico, East Timor, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Benin, Togo and Malawi*.

Thanks again to the RPCV's who showed to make this a wonderful event. The *next nom gathering* will be during our *annual picnic, July 17th*. Put it on your calendar and check the Web for details

Now, A Message From Our (New) President

Returning from Haiti in 2001, I participated in a potluck and was impressed by the way *Karen Cellarius* managed the meeting. Looking for a way to serve, I took over the Speaker Bureau and have had the privilege of serving for the past three years. It has been a joy to be able to connect people to the community and I look forward to the efforts of *Victoria Crumpacker* who is now taking on that task.

During this time Karen has been the glue that has held us all together and she has left a cadre of great people filling the various positions that keep us a vital organization. It is a delight to take the baton from Karen and I hope I can do half as well as she. Hopefully you can each thank her at some celebration as she proudly parades her new future volunteer. (*Zachary Shanidar Cellarius Shekhani, aka Zack Shekhani. Born April 23rd, 7:52AM. 7lbs,6ozs; 20 3/4 ins. Proud parents: Karen Cellarius (Hungary '91-'93) and Shakhawan Shekhani. All doing well.*)

I have met some of you and hope to meet many more. I very well may not remember names, so please re-introduce yourselves. My memory ain't what it used to be. This, like all groups, is only as strong as you make it. If you have ideas or needs that we can address please contact me, or better yet, come to a Potluck and present them. I look forward to serving you.

Richard Ireland (Haiti '98-'01)

RPCV Tells All

Robert Rosenberg is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (Kyrgyzstan, '94-'96) and author of the Peace Corps novel *"This Is Not Civilization"*, which has just been released in paperback.

Robert will read and discuss the novel at Powell's Books in Portland, *Friday, June 3, 2005* at 7:30 p.m. Powell's Books is located at 1005 W Burnside St, (503) 695-7212

The novel, inspired by his Peace Corps service, was recently chosen as an editor's Paperback Row selection in the New York Times Book Review, with the following description:

"Rosenberg's vibrant first novel shifts between post-Soviet Kyrgyzstan, an Apache reservation in Arizona, and earthquake-shattered Istanbul, telling the

story of a misguided but well-meaning American Peace Corps volunteer."

The Novel was chosen as a Book Sense selection in both hardcover and paperback, a Borders Books Original Voices selection, and a Powells.com #1Staff Pick of 2004.

More information and full reviews can be found on Robert's website at:

<http://www.robortalanrosenberg.com/>

Northwest RPCV Group Leaders Meet in Boise

by Bill Stein (Niger, '90-'93 and CRPCA's webmaster)

For over a decade, the Pacific Northwest Peace Corps groups have seen value in caucusing several times a year. On May 21 I attended a meeting in Boise hosted by Sam Greer of Idaho RPCVs.

Group updates: The Boise and Seattle groups had members who were affected by the Southeast Asian tsunami, and they mobilized to send aid to Sri Lanka and Thailand. On a personal note, Paulette Thompson of Seattle was pleased to announce that two of her former students have joined the Peace Corps. The Spokane group continues to collect bicycles to send overseas. I brought news of our record calendar sales and the upcoming Peace Corps exhibit in July.

We spent a lot of time talking about relations with the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA). The Idaho group is a joint membership organization; all their members also belong to NPCA. They have reorganized their group around NPCA's goals of advocacy, service, and education. I asked for testimonials about the good work NPCA does so we can promote NPCA membership among our members. Look to hear more on this subject in coming months.

Elections are underway for the reconstituted NPCA board. CRPCA and the other Northwest RPCV groups nominated and have endorsed *Bob Findlay* of Olympia WA for re-election. He has ably represented the Northwest for several years. Because of redistricting, he's now aiming to represent all of the West (includes AK, CA, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR, and WA). This is a contested election, so NPCA members should be sure to return their ballots by the June 15 deadline. (see *accompanying article, page 1*) With the official expansion of our region, we voted to invite the other Western RPCV groups to our future gatherings. It will be great if they show interest, but we will go forward with our regional activities in any event. The *August campout* is thus likely to fill up, so be sure to reserve your spot soon (see *announcement this newsletter*). The next regional meeting after the campout will be in *Eugene in January 2006*. They're talking about holding the 2006 campout in a spectacular area of northeastern Idaho.

Those who stayed over Saturday night were treated to a concert organized by Idaho Voices for Diversity, a choral group led by two members of the

Idaho RPCVs. Thousands of people packed the beautiful auditorium on the campus of Boise State University for one of the biggest celebrations of gay culture in Idaho's history. On Sunday I went for a hike outside the old mining town of Idaho City with fellow Niger RPCV Sue Bracken of Spokane; the impressive Boise River canyon was surprisingly green after weeks of rain. Getting out of Boise was interesting: They made everyone evacuate the airport after a security breach, but it only took ten minutes to get all the passengers and crew back through security.

I look forward to sharing more from Boise at our *June 19 potluck meeting*. Thanks to CRPCA for sending me.

Latest, Latest News From Our Webmaster

Basil is happily telling everyone that "Mommy's having a baby!" I'm sorry he couldn't tell more of you in person. The expected arrival is Thanksgiving week. Bill.

About us

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 (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.crpga.org. **Newsletter submissions** are due by the 25th of each month. Send by mail to P.O. Box 802, Portland, OR 97207, or e-mail to: crpga_nl@yahoo.com

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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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PO Box 802

Portland, OR 97207

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

2005 International Calendars

Once again it is time to order your 2005 International Calendars developed by the RPCV's of Madison. We are carrying on a 14-year tradition of selling the calendars. Calendars are \$10 each plus \$4 postage. This postage rate applies to 1-5 calendars, with additional postage for more than 5 calendars. We would like to encourage people to pick up their calendars at our various pick-up points or to purchase them at CRPCA events. You may also complete the order form below and have calendars mailed to you.

This year our partner and proceeds recipient is **The Cascade Festival of African Films**. CFAF is committed to the following mission and values: Developing knowledge and understanding and appreciation of the richness, complexity and diversity of African peoples and their cultures; Building community by bringing people together to view African films, meet African filmmakers, participate in after-film discussions, and debate issues of personal and global significance, in a forum where open and honest dialogue can flourish; encouraging inclusiveness and accessibility by offering the festival free of charge; Creating an audience for African film in Portland, Oregon, and its environs; Serving as a resource of information about African cinema; Working with Portland Community College to build a library of African cinema for use by students, faculty and staff, and the public; and Sharing our passion for knowledge of Africa and African cultures through film. Look for their upcoming film series February 2005 at PPC/Cascade Campus. For more information, call 503.224.6111 ext. 3630 or visit www.cfaf.net

You may get calendars from the following people: *Richard Ireland* (503-246-0479, SW Portland), *Thrina Parent* (503-288-7231 NE Portland), and *Cate Wilcox* (503-777-3578, SE Portland). If you would like to call in an order you may call *Cate* at 503-777-3578 or e-mail cwilcox@teleport.com. Thanks for your continued support.

~Cate Wilcox (Micronesia '87-'89)

2005 International Calendar

Sold by Columbia River Peace Corps Association www.crpca.org

Order form

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, and Zip _____

Number of calendars _____ X \$10 = \$ _____

Postage and handling \$ 4 (1-5 calendars)

Total \$ _____

Make checks payable to **CRPCA**. Please send your order and payment to: Cate Wilcox, 4609 SE Mitchell St.,
Portland, Oregon 97206
503-777-3578

