



The Columbia River Peace Corps Association Newsletter

Volume 25, Issue 2 "Bringing the World back Home" March, 2006

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CRPCA Events Calendar

March, 2006

Sunday, 3/5, 1-5 pm. "Open House"
Celebration of Peace Corps' 45th Anniversary,
Portland State University Multicultural Center.
(See article on pg. 2 and CRPCA's home page.)

Monday, 3/27, 6:30 pm. Soirée at *Lucky Labrador Brew Pub*, 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd in Portland. (Look for the CRPCA sign in or near the front room.)

President's Corner

We had a nice gathering of 15 people for the potluck and business meeting at Elizabeth Samuel's home. Their hospitality is always such a plus and the food was great.

Meeting minutes: Rich informed the group of the ongoing plans around the March 5th, 45th Anniversary Event. Everything going well. People from Peace Corps, Seattle, DC, and NPCA will be attending. Seems to be a good response. Passed out a few flyers to post.

Anne reported the current status of the finances. A lot of flux with money still coming in. Cate Wilcox will be taking over Anne's duties in the fall. Richard and Cate will assist her in putting together the annual report. After the dust settles we should have around \$1000.

Calendars: We have sold at least 570. We will finish the books and then distribute the money. The remainder will be made available for speakers to give as gifts.

Reimbursement for NPCA traveling: We discussed that with two meetings a year, we ought to help local people attend these meetings. Rich brought up the question of who authorizes him to make such decisions. It was suggested that we write a budget and include a discretionary fund that the President can use. Identify parameters for different expenses and if we go outside those parameters, then the board will have to be consulted. Supporting travel to NPCA bi-annual meeting will be a line item on the budget. Rich will put together a budget and submit it to the Officers.

Officer openings: We have a number of positions to fill. Rich encouraged people to keep their ears peeled for candidates and that people can still volunteer for specific tasks. Sean will be taking over *Membership*, but his long term status is unknown, as he may be returning to Iraq. Cate will leave the *Secretary* position and take over as the *Treasurer*. (She will *not* be available to ramrod the Calendar Sales next year, so we need a volunteer to take on that task.) Jenny would like to bow out as Restaurant Coordinator (New position now identified as *Social Coordinator*). Dane is going to be traveling, so we need a *Newsletter Editor*. Bill is willing to do the Newsletter or the Website. Laura will stay on as *Program Coordinator* (She may now be a new mother!). Victoria will stay on as *Speaker*

Bureau Coordinator. There are openings for *Fundraising Coordinator*, and *Service Coordinator.* (Rich owes Martin Kaplan a pen!!)

Presentation: Stephanie Tolk gave a description of the Pangaea Project that we have been helping with by sharing Calendar sales. It is getting funding and they are planning their first trip to Ecuador this summer. It is an exciting program.

Next meeting April 9th. See you there!
Rich

Peace Corps Week Celebration

Join the Peace Corps and the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) on **Sunday, March 5** from 2:00-5:00 pm for an Open House to be held at *Portland State University's Multicultural Center.* Take this opportunity to celebrate Peace Corps Week and the *45th anniversary* of Peace Corps. Presenters will include *Chuck Brooks*, Associate Director of Volunteer Recruitment and Selection for the Peace Corps, and *Anne Baker*, Vice President of the National Peace Corps Association. All returned volunteers, prospective volunteers, educators, family and friends of the Peace Corps community and anyone who is interested in learning more about Peace Corps and the NPCA, are welcome to join us for this event. Representatives from NPCA and Peace Corps will be on hand to discuss programs. Refreshments will be provided. Workshops will be held prior to the reception and program on the following topics:

- Third Goal: Global Education,
- Celebrate Continuing Service, and
- Peace Corps Recruiter Chat.

When:

Sunday, March 5
Workshops 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Program 3:15-4:00 p.m.
Reception 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Where:

Portland State University
Smith Memorial Student Union
Multicultural Center (2nd floor)
1825 SW Broadway
Portland, Oregon

To RSVP and for the latest information on this and other Open Houses, visit the NPCA website at www.peacecorpsconnect.org/openhouses
I hope to see you there.

In peace,
Anne Baker

Vice President, NPCA
Fiji 1985-87

From our Program Coordinator

Hello CRPCA members! It was good to see all of you at our most recent potluck meeting. I would like to extend my thanks to the *Samuels'* for hosting the event. It is greatly appreciated!

The presentation was by *Stephanie Tolk* (Mali '98-'00) of *The Pangaea Project.* This project is a yearlong program for low-income teenagers that combines international service work with localized volunteer projects. Each year a specific social or environmental theme is chosen, and the participants learn how this issue affects both their own community and a specifically chosen international community. These teenagers complete a local training period which focuses on team-building, basic language training, educational field trips, diversity training and country-specific cultural training to prepare them for the next step. Phase two involves a four to six-week volunteer project in another country, and upon return, they are to volunteer with a local organization on a project that addresses the initial theme.

This is the first year where students will actually get to travel to another country and go through all three phases of the Pangaea Project. Eight to twelve students will go to *Ecuador* this summer to learn about Environmental Justice. Because this trip entails fundraising by both the Project Coordinators and students themselves, donations are always welcome. You can visit their website at www.thepangaeaproject.org, or email: info@thepangaeaproject.org. Thanks again Stephanie, for a great, educational presentation. You are doing wonderful work to make the world a better place; one person at a time.

Please join us April 9th for our next potluck. Location: *Jenny Tsai's* residence, 2944 NW Raleigh St, Portland. We already have an enthusiastic speaker lined up to talk: *Stephanie Vickers*, the National President for *Friends of Liberia.* She will discuss her project with a digital slide show presentation. Hope to see you all there!

Laura Montez
Kiribati '97-'99

Franklin H. Williams Award

Dear RPCV Colleagues:

Each year the Peace Corps honors an RPCV of Color from the Pacific Northwest (Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Montana and Idaho) with the *Franklin H. Williams Award*. This award is given in memory of Mr. Franklin H. Williams, a former Ambassador to Ghana who played an important role in helping Sargent Shriver, the first Peace Corps Director, promote the agency and its programs to the world.

I need your help in identifying an RPCV of Color who has demonstrated a dedicated commitment to community service and/or Peace Corps' third goal.

Peace Corps will pay for airfare, food and lodging for one RPCV of Color from this region to attend the Franklin H. Williams Award Ceremony at the Peace Corps headquarters in Washington, D.C., on *June 22, 2006*. For Selection Criteria and Nomination Form, contact: *Wayne Blackwelder*

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Letters

Friends,

I am seeking a friend of mine that I have lost contact with who served in the Peace Corps. I am seeking *Phillip B. Johnston*. His parents were also Peace Corps Volunteers, his father being a doctor and his mother a nurse. If you would have any knowledge of Phillip, could you please let him know to contact me. I appreciate any help

you could provide. Phillip was recruited at the University of Oregon.

Regards,
Michael Suarez
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Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
503 648-8975 503 621-8563
antorf1@comcast.net

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.crPCA.org. Newsletter submissions are due by the 25th of each month. Send by mail to P.O. Box 802, Portland, OR 97207, or email to: crPCA_nl@yahoo.com

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MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS CHANGE RENEWAL FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

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? _____

Please check one of the following membership options:

Preferred / Encouraged

Membership in the National Peace Corps Association with CRPCA as your free affiliate.

_____ \$50 CRPCA and NPCA (Individual)

_____ \$65 CRPCA and NPCA (Family)

_____ FREE CRPCA and NPCA (if you closed your Peace Corps service in the last year)

Low Income / Living Lightly

Membership in CRPCA only.

_____ \$15 CRPCA only (Individual)

_____ \$22.50 CRPCA only (Family)

Please make checks payable to: Columbia River Peace Corps Association, and mail to:
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