



The Columbia River Peace Corps Association Newsletter

Volume 25, Issue 4 "Bringing the World back Home" May, 2006

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CRPCA Events Calendar

May, 2006

Saturday, 5/20, 7 pm. Restaurant Meeting.
Siam Society, 2703 NE Alberta

Monday, 5/29, 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

It has been a privilege for me to serve for the past year as your President. With great help from Karen Cellarius it has been an easy transition. Karen, Thankyou for the incredible amount of time and energy you have given to the CRPCA.

We are now excited to welcome back Sean Rose who has taken on the job of Membership AND Newsletter. If anyone wants to step into either of these roles let me know. Dane has finished his Editor role and will in the Fall become the Social Coordinator.

We have someone interested in managing the calendar sales in the fall and Sally Carter has stepped into the role of Secretary.

The remaining positions that need to be filled are:

Events coordinator. Coordinates the Annual Fundraising Dinner Committee and organizes other special events such as the annual picnic. (Linda Parko is organizing the July picnic again this year)

Service Coordinator Organizes the Association's service events (including Volunteer Days described in Article VI); plans the Association's participation in community events such as festivals; coordinates the Association's advocacy for Peace Corps issues.

Fundraising coordinator Coordinates the Calendar Committee, works with the Events Coordinator to organize a charity auction at the Annual Fundraising Dinner; organizes other fundraisers (events or sales) for the Association and charities selected by the Board.

The 45th celebration at PSU was a grand success. NPCA said it was the best organized and best attended of all so far. It was heart warming to see the many volunteers and renew our shared visions. We have already reserved space in the Downtown Museum for exhibits for the 50th Anniversary in 2011!

Stay tuned for another Pacific Island cookout this Summer.

I put together a table for the World Affairs Council at the Schnitzer. I had the usual interested parties, RPVC's, nominees stop by,

but the most touching was a woman from Africa who said she was taught by a Peace Corps Volunteer and she is deeply grateful for all Peace Corps has done. The work we do and have done truly does trickle down.

Have a fantastic Spring and come join us at some event soon.

Richard Ireland

From the Program Coordinator

At our April potluck meeting, we had the pleasure of hearing Stephanie Vickers speak about her organization's cause. As National President of Friends of Liberia, Vickers heads LEAP, a teacher training program. A former PCV herself (Liberia, '70's), Vickers was a teacher trainer during her service, then returned home to provide many years of teaching. For the past couple years, she has become very involved in Friends of Liberia, specifically their LEAP project.

Besides discussing her work in Liberia, she also provided us a valuable history lesson about the country's civil strife that is slowly improving. Vickers enjoyed speaking to our group, saying, "Thank you for inviting me to share FOL's project, LEAP, with your members...I appreciate their interest, questions and support. It is always fun for me to talk about what these wonderful Liberian teachers have accomplished while facing such difficult situations."

Thank you, Vickers, for coming to speak to our group. It was very educational and insightful, and we also enjoyed all of your pictures during your slide show. Thanks to the Samuels family for providing the digital projector, and a BIG thanks to Jenny Tsai for hosting the meeting.

Our next potluck meeting is June 11, Sunday, 5-8p, at Anne Kimberly's home. Check our webpage for more info. Attendance has waned in the past couple meetings, but I hope to see more of you there this next meeting. We have a wonderful speaker who is very excited to talk to all of us, so let's show our support in numbers !! Paula Lucas will speak about her organization, American Domestic Violence Crisis Line, of which she is founder and executive director. Her non-profit aids abused American women and children living overseas. Check out her website

at www.866uswomen.org. Please join us June 11 for this roundtable discussion, great food and wonderful socializing with fellow RPCV's. And as usual, if anyone has any ideas for future speakers, please contact me! Happy Spring!

Laura Montez, RPCV Kiribati '97-'99
CRPCA Program Coordinator

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Peace Corps Travel Stories

Peace Corps stories and essays are wanted for the travel anthology "Americans Do Their Business Abroad: The Peace Corps Latrine Reader," edited by Steve McNutt and Jake Fawson. Think: humorous yet harrowing tales of self-deprecation and disaster. Above all, think funny. Proceeds will go to charity.

Deadline: September 15, 2006. Complete guidelines at: http://peacecorpsreader.blogspot.com E-mail submissions to: stevemcnutt@earthlink.net or jfwatson@gmail.com

Girl Scout Volunteers

I'm a Portland RPCV (Panama 03-05) now working for the Girl Scouts as their Bilingual Membership Specialist. We are looking for volunteers for some troops in low-income neighborhoods. Thanks! -Lauren Fitzgerald.

Columbia River Council is seeking volunteers to help lead and facilitate Girl Scout troops at several low-income apartment complexes throughout the Portland area. Through Girl Scouts, girls are exposed to new ideas and experiences. They develop values, friendships, and life-skills, and learn to become active members of their community. Group leaders have the opportunity to mentor young girls by addressing girl's special needs and interests....and it is tons of FUN!!!

Volunteers must be over 18 years of age. Retired persons, college students and single adults are welcome. Bilingual volunteers would be greatly appreciated in both Spanish and Russian. Being a Girl Scout leader takes time, planning, dedication and commitment, but it is flexible. The average time commitment is 2-4 hours per month. For more information please contact Samantha Keeley at the Girl Scouts, 503-598-6531.

**World Affairs Council of Oregon
presents SHIRIN EBADI
2003 Nobel Peace Laureate from Iran**

Human Rights and Islam
7:00 pm, May 19, Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall

SHIRIN EBADI, is an attorney and former judge who has worked passionately for the rights of the politically oppressed in Iran for over 30 years. The first Muslim woman to win the Nobel Prize, she asserts that it is patriarchal attitudes in the Muslim world that restrict human rights, not Islam itself, which she views as a religion of peace and tolerance. A courageous defender of political dissidents and victims of injustice, she will challenge our thinking about the future of Islamic societies.

For GROUP RATES for 10 or more please call:
The World Affairs Council of Oregon at
503.274.7488 For Individual Tickets Please call:
The Performing Arts Center box office at (503) 790-
2787, Ticketmaster outlets, or online at
www.ticketmaster.com.

**A Celebration of Mother's
in the Global Village:**

*Families in Portland celebrate women & girls in the
developing world and explore ways that all of us can
enrich our global community*

Sunday, May 7th, 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
OMSI – 1945 SE Water Avenue, Portland

Local volunteers have teamed up with CARE, Mercy Corps and The World Affairs Council of Oregon to present this family-friendly celebration of mothers around the world on Sunday, May 7th at OMSI. A Celebration of Mothers in the Global Village will bring families together to honor mothers, highlight the benefits of educating girls and explore ways that all of us can enrich our global community. Activities are designed for ages 5 and up and will include multicultural dancing and music, inspirational stories from women and girls around the world, bracelet-making, Central American weaving, “hands of hope” and more.

Julie Emry, former television news anchor for KATU, will emcee the celebration. The event will feature performers including dancers from the Kalabharathi School of Dance in Portland and nationally acclaimed storyteller Will Hornyak. Among the featured speakers will be Dr. Milly Kayongo, a CARE health professional from Uganda, Najia Hyder, a Mercy Corps program officer from Pakistan and Katie Reed, Southridge High School Senior & NetAid Global Action Award winner.

The celebration is designed by CARE, Mercy Corps and the World Affairs council to promote community awareness and inspire families to get involved in a global movement to end extreme poverty. The gathering will focus on the value of educating girls and empowering women to escape poverty and improve the lives of their families and communities.

Tickets for the event are \$5 for adults and children 3 and older or \$15 per family. Discounted OMSI tickets at \$5 each (regularly \$7 for children and \$9 for adults) will be available for purchase at the event. Pre-registration is required, please go to www.worldoregon.org to register or call Theresa Burks at 503-274-7488.

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.crpc.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: crpc_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:
CRPCA, PO Box 802, Portland, OR 97207