



Volume 28, Issue 1 January, 2008

Columbia River Peace Corps Association Newsletter

"Bringing the World Back Home"

EVENTS

CRPCA Potluck

Sunday, February 10
at the home of Linda Centurion (3940 SE 47th Ave in Portland, 503-788-7366)
4pm board meeting, 5pm potluck, 6pm presentation books for Malawi

Feb Service Event

February OPB Radio Pledge Drive: Wednesday, Feb. 13th from 5:15-7:30pm.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It has been a couple months since we have had a newsletter. Two great events happened. A Potluck in December and our annual White Elephant gathering. Check out future events in this newsletter. We have given two grants. One to Mercy Corps NW. A local group separate from Mercy Corps that provides loans and training for women on their way out of Prison. The second is for an African Libraries project. Both of these are local Oregon RPCV projects. This year since we did not have a Calendar partner we are able to choose other activities and will continue looking for Oregon residents in the Peace Corps to support through the Partners program.

Besides the Calendar sales we are planning a Silent auction and dinner May 10th. Karen Cellarius has volunteered to coordinate the auction. So look for appropriate things to sell. I will have some Massages available for sale as well as a spot in an introductory Massage class. Sean Rose has already donated some things from Afghanistan. The dinner will be a Haitian meal cooked by a Haitian friend of mine.

Our Web site coordinator is leaving town so we need someone to manage the on going updates on the Web site.

CRPCA MEMBERS SERVE BREAKFAST TO NEEDY FAMILIES!

On Saturday December 22nd, eight CRPCA members and fans woke up early to help others have a good start to their holiday season. Continuing the devotion to service which, for many, started with two years in the Peace Corps, this past December's service event was a time to help people. We donated time to the Salvation Army by cooking, serving and cleaning up breakfast for an expected 200 families.

While not that many families came for the hot breakfast, many families were still moved by the work being done. Dane served a family who left their home, to come to the US, because of religious persecution. The mother of the family was incredibly grateful to have found this network, and aid in a this difficult time.

Another volunteer pointed out that Hands On Portland did an outstanding job as well. The volunteers who helped with the breakfast were well organized and ready for anything!

Not to be outdone by our own volunteers, of course. Thanks to all those who gave up their Saturday before Christmas. You made this the best turn out for a service event!

If you're interested in volunteering, sign up for the February OPB Radio Pledge Drive: Wednesday, Feb. 13th from 5:15-7:30pm. Spots are limited, so call or email me quickly!

Thanks! Sharlot

SPEAKER'S BUREAU UPDATE

Since the last newsletter, there have been a few requests and very little response from the 40 plus members of the Speaker's Bureau. I would like for this new year, to be able to have more RPCVs out there speaking and sharing about their experiences. It can start with a visit to a local school to ask teachers if they would be interested in having someone come in and work with a class. World Affairs Council has a really wonderful collection of boxes of artifacts etc. from all over the world that can be used for presentations. The resources are there and just talking about your experiences and sharing stories is great. Please let me know if any of you would like in your free time to try and help get the word out about the world cultures through our Speakers Bureau.

On Thursday, February 28th, 11 am and 7 pm, PSU Rm 327, Smith Memorial Union, 1825 SW Broadway, RPCVs Brenda Michel, Jim Maddry and Tamara Driscoll will discuss their experiences in Sierra Leone at a panel put on by Multnomah County Everybody Reads and PSU. The discussion is for the Everybody Reads 2008 book, A Long Way Gone, Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah. This is a great book, please come and support our RPCVs and participate in a thought provoking discussion.

Thanks, Mary Lopez, Education Coordinator RPCV Benin 93-95 Dem. Rep. Congo 98

SPEAKERS NEEDED

Need RPCVs Pacific, South America, Africa February 13th, afternoon. International School in Beaverton Grades 6th through 10th grade Share about your experiences. Please contact Speaker's Bureau if interested.

PEACE CORPS IN THE NEWS

A Cameroon Country Director expresses his criticism of PC recruiting policy.

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/09/opinion/09strauss.html?_r=1&oref=slogin

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

(NOVEMBER TO NOW)

Welcome New Members!

Kari Veblen Ghana 1998 - 2000, Jillian Warner - Perez Bolivia 2003 - 2006, Anthony Gromko Bolivia 2002 - 2005, Amy Margolin Rome Dominican Republic 2001 - 2003, Michael Waite Liberia 1974 - 1975, Jessica Hamilton Russia Far East 1997 - 1998, Brett Hamilton Senegal 1997 0 1998

Thank you renewing members!

Joe Gallagher Ghana 1993 - 1995, Linda P. Oh Philippines 1964 - 1966, Madeleine Mader Cameroon 1984 - 1986, Rosemary Furfey Botswana 1976-1978, Stan Withee Brazil 1966 - 1968, Martin L. Kaplan Somalia 62-64, Sumner Sharpe Thailand 61-63, Pat Russell Western Samoa 90-92, Jeff Strang Ghana 80-82, Katie Miller Malaysia 67-69, Kent Coe Botswana 88-90, Priscilla Coe Botswana 88-90

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, please visit <http://www.crPCA.org/join.html>. Newsletter submissions are due by the 20th of each month. Send by mail to P.O. Box 802, Portland, OR 97207, or e-mail to: crPCA_nl@yahoo.com.

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Columbia River Peace Corps Association & National Peace Corps Association

MEMBERSHIP - ADDRESS CHANGE - RENEWAL FORM

CRPCA's \$20 dues confer full membership on one or two named adults sharing an address. NPCA's \$35 dues are per individual. CRPCA urges you to support both organizations. Membership is open to all, and your contributions are tax-deductible.

	Member 1	Member 2
Name		
Address		
City, State, & Zip		
Home Phone		
Work Phone		
Cell Phone		
E-mail address (help us fight spam, please write legibly)		
Peace Corps Country & Years of service		
PC Job/Sector		
Current Occupation		
Willing to talk about your Peace Corps experience?	<input type="checkbox"/> Speakers Bureau	<input type="checkbox"/> Speakers Bureau
I'm interested in participating in the mentor program	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no

Columbia River Peace Corps Association

One free year is offered to all Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) residing in our geographic area who were never previously members of CRPCA and who agree to receive e-mail newsletters.

CRPCA Annual Dues: \$20 Request FREE initial year membership
 Please check the box for newsletter form: E-mail Paper

National Peace Corps Association

NPCA Annual Dues: \$35 for each member

or check FREE to request your initial free membership in NPCA. One free year is offered to all RPCVs who closed their service within the last year.

NPCA Annual Dues \$35 member 1
 \$35 member 2

Please mail this form with a check to CRPCA for the total of the boxes you checked.

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