

Columbia River Peace Corps Association

Serving our community. Engaging the world.



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are needed to see this picture.

NEWSLETTER

May 2009

Vol. 29, Issue 5

www.crpca.org

SPRINGING FORWARD

Welcome to New Board Members

We are delighted to welcome Bill Stein as our new President, Amy Evans and Rich Ireland as our new Co-Coordinators for Events, and Phyllis Shelton as the new Treasurer!

Three more board vacancies: organizations thrive when their members step forward to help. The three board roles below are creative and fun. We would benefit from a greater diversity of our membership on the CRPCA board. Please contact Bill Stein (garba@aracnet.com, 503-830-0817) if you have questions or would like to volunteer for one of the three vacancies:

Membership Coordinator: Recruits new members at CRPCA and community events. Maintains the membership database and periodically reports membership data. Sends renewal reminder notices. Forwards e-mail updates to members. **Webmaster:** Maintains up-to-date text and graphic content at crpca.org. Keeps the site's layout contemporary and useful. Manages the CRPCA page at Peace Corps Connect.org. **Education Coordinator:** Recruits local RPCVs to participate in the CRPCA Speakers Bureau. Fields requests for speakers and forwards them to speakers via the list-serv. Assists speakers with locating resources for improving their presentations.

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TALK TO US

Please take our brief survey to tell us what additional activities you would like the CRPCA to offer. Please click over to the survey from www.crpca.org

MAY IS A BUSY MONTH

Wednesday, 5/06, 6:00 pm – Join us at [Bete-Lukas Ethiopian Restaurant, 2504 SE 50th Ave](#) (suite D, upstairs) in Portland. Highly recommended. Moderately priced. RSVP to dane9@yahoo.com.

Saturday, 5/16 - Service Activity with SOLV. Please see our [service page](#) to sign up for "Down by the River" cleanup activities around Oregon.

Sunday, 5/17, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm - CRPCA Potluck and Board Meeting. Meeting 5:00-7:00. Principal agenda item is to review and possibly update [CRPCA's bylaws](#). Potluck dinner at 7:00. Location at the home of Martin Kaplan, [19436 Wilderness Dr](#) in West Linn.

Monday, 5/25, 6:30 pm - Soirée. An informal gathering at the [Lucky Labrador Brew Pub, 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd](#) in Portland. This is a great way to link up with other RPCVs, hear interesting stories from around the world, and grab a beer and a bite to eat among good company. You can usually find us in the front room.

The Columbia River Peace Corps Association Newsletter is published monthly by the CRPCA for the benefit of its members. The CRPCA serves Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and others in Oregon and southwest Washington who share an interest in serving the cause of peace and global development.

To join CRPCA and, or, the National Peace Corps Association, please visit www.crpca.org. 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.

**STATE OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER PEACE
CORPS ASSOCIATION, circa 5/01/2009.**

Bill Stein

In my inaugural message as CRPCA's new President, I'd like to call attention to some exciting initiatives our board members have been implementing of late...

Jenn Dederich and Courtney Martin, our Fundraising Coordinators, are leading us toward a great new grantmaking strategy that will be announced after we finalize the details at the May 17 potluck. Grant applications will be welcomed three times per year. Members will vote on which projects to fund at the June, October, and February potluck meetings. Those seeking funding will fill out an application form, sign a contract, and file an impact form. We'll be beefing up our fundraising efforts to meet the demand for grants; stay tuned for news of a music-focused fundraiser in the fall.

Jessica Matthews and Brendan Williams, our Service Coordinators, administered a member survey last fall that led us to focus our 2009 service activities on the Oregon Food Bank and SOLV. We've already had three of our best-attended service events in years, and we're doing lots of good for our community. Please plan to join us for one or more of the service events on May 16, June 4, and July 18.

Madeleine Mader, our Newsletter Editor, has restored monthly newsletters--yeah! In her other role as our Program Coordinator, Madeleine has planned four very engaging presentations: on local government, food security, energy and peak oil, and homelessness. These have been some of the most informative and engaging discussions I can remember having in our group. In February our outgoing Membership Coordinator, **Jim Maddry**, brought out the creativity and passion of our members with a group activity centered on ways to live more sustainably. Please plan to join us for the next program in this series (on health equity) at our June 14 potluck.

Dane Pikkola, our Social Coordinator, continues to take members' restaurant suggestions. You're going to love the new Ethiopian place he selected for our May 6 restaurant gathering.

Nicora Gardner, our Mentoring Coordinator, is very responsive to requests for RPCV mentors. All interested mentors and mentees are encouraged to learn about the RPCV mentoring program and to sign up at rpcvmentoring.org. Please allow time to fill out the rather involved surveys.

Rich Ireland, our outgoing President, is staying on board to share the Events Coordinator position with one of two (so far) new board members, **Amy**

Evans. Rich has been involved in planning some of CRPCA's most successful events, including nom parties, annual dinners, and a huge Peace Corps celebration in 2006. Amy and Rich will need our assistance planning future special events; stay tuned for news of how you can help.

Phyllis Shelton, our new Treasurer, is our other new board member. I'd like to thank **Cate Wilcox** and **Karen Cellarius** (who both put a ton of work in as CRPCA's Treasurer in the last year) and Phyllis for volunteering to fill this crucial role.

Brenda Michel, our Secretary, does more than take minutes at board meetings. She reserved the site for the first annual CRPCA campout, coming up June 26-28, and she's among the planners of an upcoming CRPCA baseball game outing.

As your outgoing Education Coordinator, I put together a survey of CRPCA Speakers Bureau participants that got a 40% response rate and brought us up to 50 speakers. I plan to work with our next Education Coordinator to plan upcoming speaker trainings. As your outgoing Webmaster, I encourage you to check out crpca.org. If you've attended a CRPCA event in the last six months, there's a good chance your image is somewhere on our website!

We're currently recruiting for a new **Education Coordinator**, **Membership Coordinator**, and **Webmaster**. Please contact me soon if any of these positions spark your interest: 503-830-0817, garba@aracnet.com.

Thank you for all you do in our community!

POTLUCK DINNERS and PRESENTATIONS
Madeleine Mader

Sunday potlucks hosted by RPCVs are one of the Columbia River Peace Corps Association's best-loved traditions. Each potluck is followed by a presentation and discussion on a topical issue. The CRPCA board meeting, open to all, precedes the potluck. Board meeting: 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., potluck: 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Discussion: 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The June potluck will take place June 14. The topic is health equity and the social determinants of health. Hosted by Jessica Mathews and Brendan Williams, 2145 SE Madison St. #1, Portland, 97214 Tel. 971-678-8510. Everyone is welcome to these children-friendly events!

Please share your ideas with me for future topics and speaks at mgmader@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE UPDATE

Jessica Matthews and Brendan Williams

New opportunities are available to volunteer with CRPCA at the SOLV Riverside Clean-Up and Oregon Food Bank!

SOLV: Sat., May 16, times vary

Oregon Food Bank: Thurs., June 4, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Oregon Food Bank: Sat., July 18, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Due to the fantastic response for our Oregon Food Bank service events, and an inability to schedule other events with them for a few months out, we've decided to take on a SECONDARY PROJECT - sound familiar??? We're bringing it back, old school Peace Corps style.

SOLV is having a "Down By The Riverside"

Cleanup day with dozens of exciting cleanup projects on Saturday, May 16th. Check out the website, and sign up directly for a project of your choice (the counties are listed in the left hand column, if you scroll down to Multnomah and there are many Portland events listed). Let us know if you sign up! http://www.solv.org/programs/down_by_the_riverside.asp#sitelist

Down By The Riverside is on May 16th with school and some community projects taking place during the week of May 10th through the 17th. The 14th annual event, presented by the Oregon Lottery, will bring together community members, students, public agencies, and businesses from every corner of Oregon and SW Washington to celebrate and improve our watersheds, proving that when people get together, things get done.

Don't forget about the **Oregon Food Bank**. With the economic recession in full swing, the need for food distribution and packaging is great; OFB is a very worthy and appropriate cause for CRPCA to be involved with. We will volunteer as a group on a weekday evening or Saturday every other month. We will repack and sort bulk non-perishable food items, fresh produce, frozen foods (meat, vegetables, etc.), or perform other projects. The tasks involve standing, squatting, lifting, and pulling. OFB can accommodate most physical limitations, so please contact Brendan or Jessica if you have any special needs or questions.

Please RSVP at any time for the SOLV event and by Wednesday, May 27th for the June 4th OFB event, and by Friday, July 10th for the July 18th OFB event to Jessica Matthews at rosematthews@gmail.com or 971-678-8510.

FORMER PC DIRECTOR TO SPEAK

May 13 at 7:30 a.m. Mark Schneider will speak on: "Post-Conflict Re-construction: Challenges Facing Business, NGOs and the Obama Administration" at the Performing Arts Center, Sylvania Campus, PCC, 12000 SW 49th Ave., Portland. Mr. Schneider, who was PC Director from 1999 to 2001, is senior vice president and special advisor on Latin America for International Crisis Group. Questions? Please call Kate Chester at (503) 977-8233. Registration (free) is requested www.bizcenter.org/globalsspeakerseries



Tiawanaku, Bolivia: Temple of the underworld

REGIONAL CAMPOUT: August 21 to 23

Scott Ramos, Brazil, 1973 - 1975

webmaster@seapax.org

The 2009 Regional Campout will be held at Bridge Creek, a group site in the Wenatchee National Forest, with SEAPAX as host. The campground is reserved Friday, August 21 until Sunday, August 23; those wishing to arrive earlier or stay longer will have many options in this popular area. Just 8 miles from Leavenworth, the campground is in the spectacular Icicle Creek basin, with many hiking opportunities, from casual strolls along the river to strenuous backcountry possibilities. The site has space for tents and hammocks as well as RVs. In addition, non-campers can find lodging in Leavenworth and join us for the activities.

As host, SEAPAX will be responsible for preparing and serving dinner on Saturday night. This will require the efforts and energy of many people. We have formed a campout organizing committee, which is now recruiting members. Four people have signed on already, but we'll need many more to make the event a success. All SEAPAX members at the campout take on KP duty to put on the dinner and clean up afterwards. If you plan to attend the campout, please add your name to the list by sending me an email, and indicate if you also wish to join the organizing committee.

Details about the campground, driving instructions and regional information will be disseminated later. Stay tuned. This will be a fun outing!

New Members

Erin Hamlett, Zambia 2005 - 2007 * Megan Borg, Nominated for Africa * John Rogers, Uganda 1972 - 1972, Honduras 1973 - 1976 * Barbara Rogers, Uganda 1972 - 1972, Honduras 1973 - 1976 * Lauren * Mitchell, Bangladesh 2005 - 2006 * Mckenzie Harker, Costa Rica 2006 - 2008 * Erin Wheelis, Bolivia 2005 - 2008 * Alden Jencks, Ivory Coast 1968 - 1970 * Katie Masferrer, Peru 2004 - 2006 * Roberto Masferrer, Peru 2004 - 2006 * Sarah Kate Weaver, Tonga 2006 - 2008

Renewing Members

Allison Mobley, Malawi 1995 - 1997 * Shelley, Bedell, Fiji 1982 - 1984 * Charles Brasher, India 1970-1972 * Debbie Deetz-Silva, Marshall Islands 1987 - 1989 * Leigh M. Knox, Kenya 1984 - 1986 * Brian Mahoney, Kenya 1983 - 1985 * Laura Miller, Cote d'Ivoire 2001 - 2002 * Chuck Norris, Moldova 1998 - 1998 * Barbara A. Pugh, Brazil 1966-1968 * Pat Russell, Western Samoa 1990 - 1992 * Carole Lee Jensen Smith, Thailand 1964 - 1966 * Mike Street, Tunisia 1970 - 1972 * Jenny Tsai and Scott Diaz, Fiji 1990 - 1992 * Joseph M. Dunford, Kenya 1967 - 1969 * Brenda Michel, Sierra Leone 1986 - 1988 * Lee Norris, Moldova 1996 - 1998 * Judi Mahoney, Belize 1984- 1986 * Lisa Grandgeorge, Tanzania 2005 - 2007 * Linda Centurion, Paraguay 1988 - 1990 * Marna and Lou Elliott, Brazil 1968 - 1971 * Jerry Healy, Dominican Republic 1974 - 1976 * Fallon Taylor, Botswana 2005 - 2007.



From Torotoro, Bolivia

CONTACT US - CRPCA Board Members

President:

Bill Stein, Niger 1990-1993
503-830-0817, garba@aracnet.com

Treasurer:

Phyllis Shelton, Honduras 1986-1988
503-704-6298, phyllisshelton@cs.com

Secretary:

Brenda Michel, Sierra Leone 1986-1988
503-408-6933, Brenda.Michel@kpff.com

Web Master:

Your Name Here

Education Coordinator:

Your Name Here

Membership Coordinator:

Jim Maddry, Sierra Leone 1986-1988
503-288-3046, crpca_memb@earthlink.net

Mentoring Coordinator:

Nicora Gardner, Mongolia 2004-2006
503-548-7674, nicora.gardner@gmail.com

Program Coordinator and Newsletter Editor:

Madeleine Mader, Cameroon 1984-1986
503-333-8462, mgmader@yahoo.com

Service Co-Coordinators:

Jessica Mathews, Thailand 2004-2006
971-678-8510, jrosemathews@gmail.com

Brendan Williams, Kenya 2002-2005
971-678-8509, kenyanwilli@yahoo.com

Co-Events Coordinators

Amy Evans, Jamaica 2002-2004
417-763-9956, amyevans2@gmail.com

Richard Ireland, Haiti 1998-2000
503-246-0479, rireland88@yahoo.com

Social Coordinator:

Dane Pikkola, Swaziland 1992-1994
971-544-1727, dane9@yahoo.com

Fundraising Co-Coordinators:

Jenn Dederich
Dominican Republic 2000-2003
520-906-0387, jdederich@yahoo.com

Courtney Martin
Dominican Republic 2001-2003
520-906-0436, cemartin79@yahoo.com

EVENTS: CONNECT, BUILD FRIENDSHIPS and CONTINUE TO SERVE

Brenda Michel, Secretary (sweetdreams471974@yahoo.com)

- **Soirées at the Lucky Lab Brew Pub:** Join RPCVs the last Monday of every month from 6:30 p.m. on for a “soirée” among friends. It’s a great way to link up with other RPCVs, hear interesting stories from around the world, and grab a beer and a bite to eat among good company. Located at 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Kids ok until 9 p.m. Find us in the front room.
- **Potluck and Presentation:** Usually the second Sunday every other month. CRPCA business meeting is from 5 to 6 p.m.; potluck dinner 6 to 7 p.m.; and presentation from 7 to 8 p.m.
- **Restaurant Gatherings:** Dine at one of the many international restaurants. Sometimes make an evening of it by picking a film to share afterwards. Contact Dane at dane9@yahoo.com.
- **Nomination Party.** Meet and encourage prospective Peace Corps Volunteers who have been recently nominated to serve.
- **Annual Summer Picnic** in July takes place in a local park.
- **Campouts** in Oregon and the Northwest with local and regional RPCV groups.
- **Annual Fundraising Events** in support of one or more international projects.
- **Community Service Projects.** Continue to serve. Think globally, act locally.

CRPCA Summer Events

June 2009

Sun. June 14 - Potluck and Discussion. Business meeting 5-6 p.m.; Dinner 6-7 p.m.; Hosted by Jessica Mathews and Brendan Williams. Program 7-8 p.m. Topic: Health Equity.

Thur, June 4th, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Volunteer at Oregon Food Bank. Contact Jessica Mathews 971-678-8509 or Brendan Williams 971-678-8509.

June 26 and 27 - Summer Camp-Out at Indian Henry Campground, Mt Hood National Forest. (Group Site #D008). folks can come for the day, if they don’t want to camp.

Mon. June 29 - Lucky Lab Brew Pub Soirée, 6:30 p.m., 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Kids ok until 9 p.m.

July 2009

Sun. July 12 - Summer Picnic. Location TBD. Potluck. Fun. KIDS!

Sat, July 18th from 1-3 p.m. Volunteer at Oregon Food Bank. Contact Jessica Mathews 971-678-8509 or Brendan Williams 971-678-8509.

Mon. July 27 - Lucky Lab Brew Pub Soirée, 6:30 p.m., 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Kids ok until 9 p.m.

August 2009

Fri-Sun, 8/21-8/23 - Regional RPCV Campout. [Bridge Creek group campground](#) in the Wenatchee National Forest, eight miles from Leavenworth, WA. For more information, see the [SEAPAX website](#).

Mon. Aug 31 - Lucky Lab Brew Pub Soirée, 6:30 p.m., 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Kids ok until 9 p.m.

Djenne Rooftop, Mali



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.

	Member 1	Member 2
Name		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Home Phone		
Work Phone		
Cell Phone		
Email		
Country and Years of Service		
PC Job Assignment		
Current Occupation		
Willing to talk about your Peace Corps experience. Check.	<input type="radio"/> Speakers' Bureau	<input type="radio"/> Speakers Bureau
I'm interested in participating in the mentor program. Check	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

CRPCA urges you to support both organizations. Membership is open to all and your contributions are tax-deductible.

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 newsletters by e-mail.

Annual CRPCA Dues: \$20 FREE initial year membership Newsletter format paper email

National Peace Corps Association

NPCA Annual Dues: \$35 Member 1 \$35 Member 2

Check FREE box for one free year offered to those who closed their service within the last year.

Please mail this form with a check made out to CRPCA for the total of the circles you checked to:

CRPCA, P.O. Box 802, Portland, OR 97207

Columbia River Peace Corps Association
P.O. Box 802
Portland, OR 97207

Mail To: