

Columbia River Peace Corps Association



Serving our community. Engaging the world.

NEWSLETTER

August 2010



Vol. 30, Issue 8

www.crpca.org

2010 West Regional Peace Corps Campout Reserve your campsite today!

This summer CRPCA will welcome RPCV (and Peace Corps nominee!) families from throughout the western U.S. to the 20th Annual West Regional Peace Corps Campout in the heart of Central Oregon. Be sure to alert your friends in Central Oregon!

**August 12-16, 2010 at Crane Prairie
Campground**



Schedule Overview: Arrive as early as Thursday afternoon, depart as late as Monday morning. That's right: one to four nights for one low price! Hikes in the area will be led by CRPCA members on at least Saturday. The big event will be the Saturday night dinner, provided by CRPCA and included in the camp fees (for non-campers, dinner only is \$5).

Schedule for Saturday, August 14:

- 4:30-5:45 pm: Appetizers available. **Regional meeting** of RPCV group leaders (agenda: NPCA update, group updates, decide dates and locations for 2011 regional meeting(s) and regional campout).
- 5:45-6:00 pm: All assemble for announcements and introductions.

CONTENTS

2010 Regional Campout, p. 1
Why We Raise Funds, p. 2
Bull Run Watershed Tour, p. 4
CRPCA's upcoming events, p. 4
What is your source of inspiration, p. 6
New and renewing members, p. 6
Contact Us, p. 7

- 6:00-6:45 pm: Dinner served by CRPCA.
- 6:45-7:00 pm: Birthday cake. Three CRPCA members share the August 14 birthday. Come celebrate with us!

Volunteer Shifts for CRPCA members: CRPCA members will be asked to sign up for one of the following volunteer shifts upon arrival.

- 4:00-5:00 pm: chopping
- 5:00-6:00 pm: setup
- 6:00-6:30 pm: serving
- 7:00-7:30 pm: cleanup

Our Campground: On Crane Prairie Reservoir, in the Deschutes National Forest, just under an hour's drive from Sunriver. Amenities include: Boat Ramp, Disabled Access, Fishing, Grocery Store, Lake Access, Pets OK, Restrooms, Shower. **RVs are welcome**, but no hookups are available at our group site: [Yellow Loop sites 1-15](#) hold 150 people (45 vehicles).

Reservations: You may reserve space for you, your friends, and family by clicking the appropriate button at <http://www.crpca.org/regional.html>; the next page will give you the option to pay by credit card or any other PayPal method. You may also RSVP to Karen Cellarius (campout@crpca.org, 503-998-5572), then pay by cash or check upon arrival. These rates apply

to the entire weekend, whether you're staying one, two, three, or four nights: CRPCA member adults \$10, Non-member adults \$15, Children under 18 FREE. Day visitors on 8/14 can reserve Dinner Only for \$5. *It will be very helpful to us if you make your reservations by Wed, 8/11.*

Directions:

- From Bend, travel south on US 97 approximately 17 miles.
- Turn right onto Vandervert Rd approximately 2.5 miles past the first Sunriver exit.
- Travel one mile west, then take the third right onto S Century Dr, which turns right onto County Hwy 42 after one mile.
- Travel 11 miles on S Century Dr before making a right onto National Forest Rd 4250.
- Take Rd 4250 1.5 miles, then make a left onto National Forest Rd 4270.
- The campground is 1.5 miles down on the right.
- More detailed directions can be generated from [Google Maps](#).

Interested in Carpooling? Need a ride or have one to offer? Contact Jerry Gabay, social@crpca.org, 541-578-0051.

What to Bring:

- Camp equipment: Tents, sleeping pads/bags, stove, lights, chairs, and a camp canopy if you have one.
- Camp supplies: Sunscreen, chairs, plates, cups, utensils, and maybe logs for the fire.

Area Attractions: The Bend area is popular for biking, boating, climbing, fishing, hiking, and rock climbing ([Smith Rock](#)). Suggested side trips include the [Newberry National Volcanic Monument](#), the [High Desert Museum](#), and [The Museum at Warm Springs](#) (on Highway 26 between Mt Hood and Bend).

Why We Raise Funds

by [Bill Stein](#), CRPCA President

CRPCA distributed \$6,500 in grants during the last year. With thanks to Jenn Dederich, Courtney Martin, and Richard Rystrom, who helped compile this information, here's what these grants are

supporting.

October 11, 2009 grant awards

\$1,000 to Cascade Festival of African Films (CFAF)
CRPCA sponsored a double-feature documentary screening on the afternoon of February 6, 2010, which coincided with our regional meeting at Portland Community College's Cascade campus. Members of RPCV groups from around the Northwest shared lunch with Amy Hart, the director of *Water First: Reaching the Millennium Development Goals*, a profile of an advocate for clean water in Malawi. The second film we sponsored, *African Underground: Democracy in Dakar*, explored rap musicians' influence on a recent election in Senegal. The festival was celebrating its 20th year of bringing free movies from African perspectives to Northwest audiences. It's amazing all the work the CFAF committee puts into this annual five-weekend festival (among them, pre-film notes and post-film speakers); look for it again in February 2011.

\$750 to Committee for a Museum of the Peace Corps Experience (CMPCE)

As regular readers of our newsletter are aware, CMPCE is coordinating with the Oregon Historical Society (OHS) on a significant exhibit celebrating the Peace Corps experience, set to open March 1, 2011, the 50th anniversary of the day President Kennedy established the Peace Corps. This grant went toward the cost of the initial mailing to alert hundreds of Northwest RPCVs of opportunities to participate in the exhibit. This snowballed into two inspiring meetings at OHS and dozens of submissions. This initial grant wasn't the end of our financial participation in this major "Third Goal" endeavor; see below for more information.

\$750 to Makindu Childrens Program (MCP)

MCP is an Oregon-based NGO, led in part by one of our members. This grant went toward the construction of a rainwater catchment project serving the Makindu community in Kenya. Specifically, CRPCA's funds were applied to the purchase of a plastic 5,000 liter tank, the largest cost of a MCP's pilot project. Their goal was to determine whether rainwater catchment would effectively store cooking and cleaning water for use by their orphanage during that part of Kenya's two dry seasons.

March 14, 2010 grant awards

\$1,007 to Village Bicycle Project (VBP)

VBP, based in Moscow, Idaho, sends donated used

bikes to and organizes training sessions in Ghana and Sierra Leone. CRPCA's grant was applied toward the \$8,000 cost of organizing six two-day bicycle repair workshops aimed at women in two communities in northern Ghana. VBP planned to develop a new women's workshop curriculum and provide 60 women with bicycles plus riding and mechanical skills.

\$993 to Visual Perspectives Advertising (VPA)

This was our first grant to a private business. It was brought to our attention by a Peace Corps Volunteer in Macedonia who hails from Camas, Washington. VPA, noting a dearth of local visual design talent in their high-unemployment community (Ohrid, Macedonia), sought funding to organize training sessions aimed at visual design students at the local university and other interested youths. VPA planned to teach 13 participants how to efficiently create marketable visual designs using industry-standard software, how to work with clients and/or account managers, and how to market themselves for freelance work. CRPCA's grant supplied 42% of the total cost.

June 13, 2010 grant awards

\$1,000 to Safe Passage to Motherhood (SPM)

SPM is an Oregon-based NGO, led by one of our members. CRPCA supplied a small share of the total funding required to teach Home Based Life Saving Skills (HBLSS) to master trainers in Kenya. Over the course of SPM's four-year commitment to the Bware community, these master trainers are training over 20,000 local health workers in HBLSS, a curriculum that does not require literacy. Their aim is that by the end of their four-year project over 20,000 women will know how to recognize and respond to emergencies in pregnancy, childbirth and post partum; that they will refer women to the local clinics to birth their babies and have strategies in place to transport them and pay for services they need. Their goal is to decrease the number of women who die due to complications of pregnancy and childbirth.

\$500 to Global Student Outreach (GSO)

GSO is an Oregon-based NGO, led in part by a Portland high school student. GSO is supporting an orphanage and trade skills center in Battambang, Cambodia. The children they serve are either orphaned or destitute. CRPCA's funding provided startup capital for a new school building and dormitory on donated land, as the current facility consists of three rudimentary buildings on flood-

prone land.

\$500 to MEJOR Communities



MEJOR Communities is an Oregon-based NGO, led by two of our members. Their project, Empowering Youth Through Health

Education, organizes young people to plan and execute health workshops in rural communities in Peru. CRPCA's funds supplied a small share of the total cost of a youth-led project to produce educational videos about the environment, nutrition, and first aid; and paint a mural to encourage the community to use the trash cans.

What's Ahead in FY 2011

CRPCA would like to be able to continue awarding grants totaling \$2,000 at each of our next three grant cycles. Awards will be decided by our assembled members prior to the potlucks on October 10, 2010, February 13, 2011, and June 12, 2011. To have this amount of funds available, we need to raise approximately \$4,000 for the CRPCA Grant Program through fundraising activities. That's in addition to the approximately \$2,000 we bring in from our annual calendar sale.

CRPCA would also like to help raise funds for the Oregon Historical Society's 2011 Peace Corps exhibit. OHS has budgeted \$25,000 for a good exhibit, but they're seeking to raise another \$25,000 for a great exhibit. So we'll be partnering with OHS on one or two upcoming fundraising events.

In order to organize these fundraising activities, we are presently recruiting for a new Fundraising Coordinator. Jenn Dederich and Courtney Martin did a terrific job for us over the last two years, but they've asked to step down. (We're also recruiting for a new Social Coordinator, as Jerry Gabay is moving out of the country.) If either Fundraising Coordinator or Social Coordinator speaks to you, please contact president@crpca.org today. New board members will be officially elected at our September 19 annual meeting, but we'd love to start working with you sooner!

Finally, an inspiring exhibit update...

The Oregon Historical Society (OHS) recently asked for more Peace Corps stories for the 2011 Peace

Corps exhibit. Upon examining all the submissions, Marsha Matthews, OHS' Director of Public Services, wrote, "I wish they were my own stories to tell they are so good. I am constantly amazed by what you all have done and experienced. As I replied to someone, I thought I understood 'life-changing' but after reading your stories/experiences I have a better appreciation for what that truly actually means. Anniversary exhibits can be a bit of a snore in reality but no lie, I'm looking forward to what this exhibit shapes up to be more than any other in a long time."

Bull Run Watershed Tour **See your water source up close and personal!**



CRPCA has scheduled a group tour of Portland's Bull Run Watershed on Mount Hood for **Saturday, October 2, 2010**.



Q: Why visit Bull Run? Seeing the watershed first-hand builds appreciation for this awesome resource in our community. Also, outside of organized tours like this one, it's one of the more inaccessible places in Oregon to the general public. And think what a fun excursion this will be with Peace Corps people; among other things we can compare notes on water sources in the communities we served in!

Q: Do I drink water from Bull Run? Chances are very good that you do if you live or work in Multnomah or eastern Washington counties. For example, the entire city of Portland is on Bull Run water for most of each year. (For a few weeks each

year, Portland's water comes from the Columbia South Shore Well Field, which is also visited on the tour.) See the following links for more information.

- [List of Portland's suburban water customers](#)
- [Map of water sources on Oregon side of metro region](#)

Q: What's the tour involve? Meet tour bus at Hollywood Fred Meyer 9:00 am sharp. Expect return by 5:00 pm. Please read and digest the details in the [CRPCA Bull Run Letter](#). You can also print, fill out, and plan to bring along with photo ID the required [Adult Waiver](#) and/or [Under 18 Waiver](#).

Q: Can I bring my kids? There is no firm age limit, but be aware that the tour involves a long bus ride and the need to be attentive during talks. Per Portland Water Bureau staff, "children are welcome if parents feel confident that their kids would enjoy it, or at least not be TOO bored or disruptive."



Q: How can I make a reservation? **Please register/pay (\$10/person) by 8/31.** CRPCA needs to fill between 15 and 26 seats for this tour to happen. FYI your money will be refunded if we don't reach the minimum 15. Thanks for reserving your seat(s) on the bus today! The link to our Bull Run tour PayPal button is at <http://www.crPCA.org/bullrun.html>. Please contact Bill Stein at president@crPCA.org or 503-830-0817 if you'd like to make other payment arrangements.

CRPCA's August-October Events:

August 2010

Thu-Mon, 8/12-8/16 - West Regional RPCV Campout, hosted by CRPCA at Crane Prairie group camp near Bend, Oregon. More information (including a registration button) is available on pages

1-2 of this newsletter and on our [Regional Campout web page](#). **RSVP by Wed 8/11.**

Thursday, 8/26, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm - Service Activity at the Oregon Food Bank in NE Portland, [7900 NE 33rd Dr](#) in Portland. **RSVP by Mon 8/23** to service@crpca.org or call Tom at 503-267-3943. Please see our [Service page](#) for additional details.

Monday, 8/30, 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. Kids welcome until 9pm.

September 2010

Sunday, 9/19, 3:00 pm to 7:30 pm - Annual Meeting, followed by Potluck Dinner. All members are welcome to the 3-6pm meeting where we will determine CRPCA's budget, calendar, and priorities for FY 2011, which begins 10/01. Please bring a potluck dish to share for the 6pm potluck. There will be no post-dinner program.

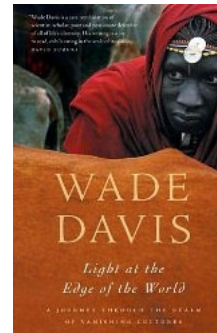
Directions to 9/19 Annual Meeting: Please use these directions rather than the erroneous ones delivered by Google: This event will be at the home of Tai Bainter, [500 Martin Ct](#) in Vancouver, WA. It's very accessible from Portland: Take the I-5 Interstate Bridge to Mill Plain, exit #1C. Turn right, then make the first right onto Fort Vancouver Way. Go straight through the traffic circle and continue south 0.4 miles until you see the unassuming entrance to Martin Court (if you reach the end of Fort Vancouver Way, you've gone one block too far). Find parking, then walk west (back toward I-5) to #500.

Draft Agenda for 9/19 Annual Meeting:

Time	Agenda Item / Activity
3:00	Introduce 2010-2011 board members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First we'll take nominations for and elect a Fundraising Coordinator and Social Coordinator. • As we (re-)introduce ourselves, each participant will be asked to share one personal goal related to CRPCA in the next year. • A token gift will be awarded to each board member in

	attendance.
3:15	Review and approve business meeting minutes (2/06, 3/14, 4/11, 5/16, 6/13)
3:25	Review and approve FY 2010-2011 budget
4:00	Determine decision criteria for grants
4:30	BREAK
4:45	Determine who can edit what on our forthcoming blog-based website
5:00	Decide schedule and topics for potlucks, programs, and business meetings
5:15	Decide schedule for service, social, and special events
5:30	Make decisions about CRPCA participation in 50th anniversary of Peace Corps events
6:00-7:30	Potluck dinner (please bring a dish to share)

Tuesday, 9/21, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Book Club. Location at the home of Anne Kimberly, [4261 SE Alder St](#) in Portland. The book to read is [Light at the Edge of the World: A Journey Through the Realm of Vanishing Cultures](#) by Wade Davis (2007). Feel free to bring snacks to share.

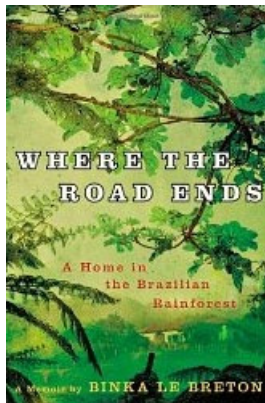


Monday, 9/27, 6:30 pm - Soirée. An informal gathering at the [Lucky Labrador Brew Pub, 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd](#) in Portland.

October 2010

Saturday, 10/02, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm - Group Tour of Portland's Bull Run Watershed on Mt Hood. More information (including a registration button) is available on page 4 of this newsletter and on our [Bull Run Tour page](#). **Register/pay (\$10/person) by 8/31.**

Wednesday, 10/06, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Book Club. Location at the home of Carol McCormac Wild, [7865 SW Parway Dr](#) in Portland. The book to read is [Where the Road Ends: A Home in the Brazilian Rainforest](#) by Binka Le Breton (2010). Participating in our discussion will be the book's author! She'll be introduced by CRPCA's Blake Schmidt, who worked with her Brazil-based NGO, [Iracambi](#). Feel free to bring snacks to share.



Sunday, 10/10, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm - Business Meeting, Potluck and Program. Location at the home of Jenny Tsai, [2646 NW Overton St](#) in Portland. All are welcome to the 5pm CRPCA business meeting (where we will determine which grants to award for the autumn grant cycle), 6pm dinner (please bring a dish to share), and 7pm program (TBA).

Saturday, 10/16, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm - 50th Anniversary of Peace Corps Celebration at Portland State University. More details to follow.

Monday, 10/25: Soirée. Venue and start time TBA, as we'll again be joining Global Sistergoods and the Portland Area Global AIDS Coalition's quarterly happy hour.

What is Your Source of Inspiration?

By Katie Masferrer

Have you ever had days when you felt weary of trying to change the world, felt like your battery was running low, and you needed to see some positive change to remind you that it is possible to have an impact on our surroundings? I'm sure we all have. As Peace Corps volunteers we likely faced this low several times, to be buoyed again by our community, our friends, or counterpart agencies, or some other inspiration that reminded us to continue on.

It happens in our "U.S." life as well, and sometimes more so, because we are further removed from those

uplifting experiences of having made a direct impact on a community that needed us. So we try to fill that need for inspiration through volunteering, if we are lucky enough to have the time. But what other ways do you find yourself being filled again with that motivational energy and good will?

At the risk of sounding like a commercial, I want to suggest my own source of inspiration and renewed faith in humanity. [Karmatube.org](#) is an excellent source of videos that do not range quite as widely as YouTube does, for example. They are specifically geared toward discovering and sharing inspirational stories. You may find a video about a teacher on the other side of the world showing his first grade home room to live with compassion, or a sand artist creating amazing works of art in the sand with only a stick, just to see them washed away by the next tide. Others are purely informational, reminding us to be good to ourselves and the Earth.

I encourage you to visit the website, but more importantly, I encourage you to share what inspires you so that others may also benefit from your fountain of strength. Please email submissions which I will include in a future newsletter to newsletter@crpca.org. Thank you and may inspiration find you always!

New and Renewing Members (Thank You!)

Peter Chilson (Niger 1985-1987)
Debbie Deetz-Silva (Marshall Islands 1987-1989)
Craig Dennis (Guyana 2003-2005)
Samantha Dillman (Dominican Republic 2009-2010)
Christina Fagan (Costa Rica 2008-2010)
Laura Gephart (Mali 1991-1992)
Julie Granger (Sierra Leone 1969-1972)
Robert Granger (Sierra Leone 1969-1972)
Celeste Hamilton (Guyana 2003-2005)
Jerry Healy (Dominican Republic 1974-1976)
Frances Hernandez (Kyrgyzstan)
John Keane (Philippines 1964-1966)
Josie Kpobe-tee
Katie Masferrer (Peru 2004-2006)
Roberto Masferrer (Peru 2004-2006)
Casandra Huerta Murphy (South Africa 2009-2011)
Kevin Murphy (South Africa 2009-2011)
Barbara Pugh (Brazil 1966-1968)
Joel Salter (Sierra Leone 1986-1988)
Lauren Scott (Guyana 2006-2008)
Mike Street (Tunisia 1971-1972)

Contact Us:

2010-2011 CRPCA Board Members

Office	Name	Country & Years of PC Service	Phone	Email
President	Bill Stein	Niger 1990-1993	503-830-0817	president@crpca.org
Secretary	Brenda Michel	Sierra Leone 1986-1988	503-408-6933	secretary@crpca.org
Treasurer	Phyllis Shelton	Honduras 1986-1988	503-704-6298	treasurer@crpca.org
Newsletter Editor	Katie Masferrer	Peru 2004-2006	503-946-8567	newsletter@crpca.org
Newsletter Editor	Alanna Randall	Belize 2001-2003	971-340-9763	newsletter@crpca.org
Webmaster	Scott Eckert	St. Vincent & the Grenadines 1987-1989	971-832-9695	webmaster@crpca.org
Education Coordinator & Membership Coordinator	Marta Wicke	Mozambique 2001-2003	480-747-3875	membership@crpca.org
Events Coordinator	Amy Evans	Jamaica 2000-2002	503-890-2731	events@crpca.org
Events Coordinator	Erin Gettling	Ukraine 2003-2005	971-404-4308	events@crpca.org
Fundraising Coordinator	Your name here! Please contact president@crpca.org if you'd like to get involved!			
Grants Coordinator	Richard Rystrom	Ukraine 2007-2009	360-993-5365	grants@crpca.org
Networking Coordinator & Program Coordinator	Madeleine Mader	Cameroon 1984-1986	--	networking@crpca.org
Service Coordinator	Tom DeMeo	Ghana 1980-1982, Botswana 1982-1984	503-267-3943	service@crpca.org
Social Coordinator	Jerry Gabay	Malawi 1984-1986	541-578-0051	social@crpca.org