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Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Oregon

FEBRUARY 1990

P.O. BOX 802
PORTLAND, OR. 97207

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FEB DINNER

JAN MEETING

- WHAT :** The RPCV February restaurant meeting
- WHERE:** BJ's Brazilian Restaurant
7019 SE Milwaukie Ave.
(Milwaukie Ave. generally runs parallel to McLoughlin Blvd. BJ's is south of Powell & Holgate in Westmoreland. The nearest cross street is Bybee.)
- WHEN :** Sunday, Feb. 18th at 4:30 p.m.
- COST :** \$10 per person which includes three main dishes -- one each of fish, pork, and chicken -- plus salad. Drinks are extra.
- WHY :** Because the food is superb. The company and conversation exquisite and because it's FUN!
- WHO :** CALL BRENDA Michel [say: Michael] (formerly Kuehmichel) to make reservations before Thursday the 15th of Feb. 666-6292
- Looking forward to seeing you there.

Around twelve RPCV'S and friends gathered at Ed & Mary Warmouth's in Cornelius on January 14th for potluck and a discussion and video presentation on HABITAT for HUMANITY. If you would like to be added to the Habitat for Humanity mailing list, contact Ed Warmouth at 628-3227. Also see the September newsletter for Ed Warmouth's article on Habitat. Thanks, Ed and Mary, for your hospitality and for an enjoyable program.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEB 18TH DINNER MEETING
at B.J.'s Brazilian Restaurant in Westmoreland,
see write-up for details.

MARCH 18TH- MARCH MEETING
for topic and location, see
next month's newsletter.

APRIL 22 NEW OFFICERS AND ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK

JULY 20 - 22, 1990
NRPCV'S National Conference in Eugene, OR. Plan now to attend, we'll have a great time. See page 18 of WORLD VIEW Magazine, Winter 1989-90, for more information.



FROM JERRY

Hello Everybody!

You all know about the big events that happen every April. So I'll tell you about it anyway. With spring comes renewal, of officers, of membership, all set off by our big annual pot-luck dinner. Your officers met last Thursday (Jan 18) to get a head start on planning.

Gabriella and Brenda, our two monthly meeting planners will team up to coordinate the international pot-luck. With any luck, our April dinner won't be in May this time. We decided the initial tasks to focus on are choosing a location (last year it was at Fulton Park Community Center), getting people to help on the day of the dinner, and sounding out possibilities for international entertainment (last year we were dazzled by the Hopa Balkan dance ensemble). Let us know if you have any ideas or would like to help.

Here's the current officer situation:
Brenda will continue as Restaurant Coordinator.
Gabriella, who has been an indispensable board member and who has done a great job planning our programs has expressed an interest in running our Speakers Bureau.
Davy, our oasis of efficiency, will plan a Swahili dinner.
Ed Warmoth has agreed to form the nucleus of a Development Ed committee (no, it wasn't named for him).

If you've been glancing at the list of officers on the front page while you've been reading, you know that leaves Secretary/Treasurer (responsible for keeping track of membership and in- and outflow of moneys), Programs Coordinator (planning semi-monthly programs); Newsletter Editor, and Chair. The current chair is stepping down from that office, but plans to continue involvement on the planning board.

Again, if you have any interest in being responsible for or helping with any of the above tasks, let us know.

Jerry

Calendar Report

Here's the final report (from Davy) on our sale of Peace Corps Calendars from Wisconsin:

We made a profit of \$62.80 on the sale of 50 calendars (original outlay - \$260)

All of the profit came from sales by individual members (Thanks go to Kappy Lundy, Rosalie Schmitz, Gabriella Kotubetey, and me). 20 of the calendars were sold at cost late in the game to bookstores. We figure that if we do this again next year, involving more members in selling the calendars and approaching several stores earlier, selling them for a profit, we can easily do better and give more people a little view of the world and an appreciation of the Peace Corps.

Jerry

NEEDED: IDEAS

As you already know from reading Jerry's message, we had an officer's meeting on Jan 10 to start planning the April potluck. For the newer members, this is our biggest event of the year and we would like you all to attend.

We need your ideas and input. We would like to know with any of you know of a good location. It must be fairly large and have a kitchen, it must also be low cost or free. We would also like to know if any of you have ideas for international entertainment. If you can help us with either of these two things, please call either Gabriella at 254-5161 or Brenda at 666-6292. the tentative date of the potluck is April 22.

The other area the we need help with is a slate of officers for next year. I would like to encourage some of you to get involved!! I was a member for a couple of years before I became newsletter editor. I have been involved with other organizations that take much more time and the people were not as cooperative. You can't find a nicer group of people to work with!! So, I want to encourage any of you that think you may have the time to offer your help, if enough of you want to be involved, then no one will have a big burden to carry. Give one of the current officers a call if you want to learn more about their office.

RECIPE CORNER

DINNER WITH A PERSIAN TOUCH

*ROAST CHICKEN WITH SPICED PRUNES
WHEAT OR RICE PILAF
CUCUMBERS AND SCALLIONS WITH
SOUR CREAM DRESSING
*CRANBERRY ICE
CRISP ALMOND COOKIES

*RECIPE GIVEN

ROAST CHICKEN WITH SPICED PRUNES

1 3½-pound chicken
1½ teaspoons salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
½ lemon
1 cup halved, pitted prunes
1 clove garlic, cracked open and
peeled but left whole
4 tablespoons plus 1 teaspoon
sweet butter, softened
2 cups thinly sliced, peeled
onions
1 cup water
Dry red wine
2 teaspoons lemon juice
¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon

Heat oven to 400° F. Rinse chicken
and pat dry with paper towels. Rub

¼ teaspoon of the salt and ¼ teaspoon
of the pepper inside the cavity of the
chicken. Squeeze the lemon into the
cavity and put it in the cavity with
8 prune halves, the garlic clove and
the 1 teaspoon of butter. Tie drum-
sticks together and then tie to tail.
Fasten the neck skin to the back with
a skewer and turn wing tips onto back.
Sprinkle onions in the bottom of a
shallow roasting pan and put chicken,
breast side up, on top of onions.
Spread remaining 4 tablespoons butter
all over chicken and sprinkle with re-
maining ¼ teaspoon of salt and ¼ tea-
spoon pepper. Roast uncovered 45
minutes, basting occasionally with pan
drippings. Scatter remaining prunes
around chicken and stir in water,
scraping in the onions sticking to the
bottom of the pan. Roast 45 minutes
longer. Lift chicken with 2 wooden
spoons and tilt it so that cavity juices
drain into the roasting pan. Place
chicken on a heated platter. Pour con-
tents of roasting pan into a 2-cup
measuring cup; fill to 1½ cups with
red wine. Pour liquid into a medium-
sized saucepan; add the lemon juice
and cinnamon and bring to a boil.
Taste sauce, add salt and pepper if
necessary and keep hot while you carve
the chicken. Pour sauce into a heated

sauceboat and serve with the chicken.
Makes 6 servings.

CRANBERRY ICE

½ cup cold water
2 envelopes unflavored gelatine
6 cups cranberry juice cocktail
1 cup sugar
½ to ¾ cup lemon juice
Orange slices (optional)

Place the cold water in a large mixing
bowl and sprinkle the gelatine over it.
Bring 2 cups of the juice to a boil over
moderately high heat. Remove from
heat and stir in the softened gelatine
and the sugar until dissolved. Add re-
maining cranberry juice and the lemon
juice and mix well. Set freezer con-
trol at lowest setting. Pour mixture
into 2 freezerproof pans, leaving
enough room for whipping. Freeze
until outer edges are frozen but cen-
ters are still mushy, about 3 hours.
Beat with wire whip, rotary beater or
electric mixer until crystals are broken
up and mixture looks frothy. Refreeze
until solid, break up with a spoon,
quickly transfer to a bowl and beat
until fluffy and snowlike. Return to
container and freeze 2 hours or long-
er. Place orange slices in dessert com-
potes and top with mounds of the ice.
Makes about 7 cups. THE END

November 4, 1989

Dear Rosalie and friends:

Greetings from Iloilo. Thanks for your postcard from Ashland - that's definitely on our list when we come home in 1991. How were the plays? It seems you can never tire of Shakespeare - every time you reread a play, you find new delights. Crater Lake, too, is on the list of visits with Elena. I must confess though that our list of people and places to visit is far longer than we can possibly manage in the one year we'll be home. Ah well, doesn't hurt to dream.

To update you on us, Elena was on vacation this last week since this was semestral break for all the university's different levels. Now half-way through Kinder 1 class she still seems to really enjoy the class she is in, and her teacher is very patient and understanding. So far she is fitting right in being able to keep up with the work (pre-math and pre-reading/writing skills) that they are doing in their workbooks. Our concern is not so much with her academics, since she seems to catch on pretty quickly, but with her social skills and Ilonggo language abilities, and this school thing has been real good for her in that respect. She loves being really 4 years old now since that symbolizes to her the "not a baby anymore" step. She is getting more patient with all the "pinchy ladies" at the gatherings we go to, and now is increasingly able to answer them politely and wait for the caresses to stop. It seems we are all growing as we pass our 2-year mark.

Speaking of the 2-year mark, that was a significant milestone for us - one that was passed last week on 10/21. It's a little mind boggling to think that if we were Peace Corps volunteers, we'd be going home right about now. The Lord has brought us so far in these last two years! Several times we thought back to our arrival in Manila and the struggles, frustrations, and joys of especially our first year here. We just returned from a week-long vacation with Bruce's parents (who have been visiting since late August and will stay through Christmas) and it was so nice to come back to Iloilo where we have friends, a house, and connections that make us feel we "belong."

This last weekend we were invited to speak at the Iloilo Provincial Union of Philippine Baptist Women's Missionary Societies annual assembly. Bruce did a workshop on Saturday on small business principles and then we both gave the message at the church service (on the theme "Our utmost for the highest" "*Ang labing maayo para sa pinskamataas*"). Many of the women attending (they had over 120) were from very rural churches, and when they saw in the program that two foreigners would speak they were concerned about being able to understand the workshop and especially the message. It was such a blessing to us to be able to give both in, if not fluent, at least acceptable Ilonggo, with no more English than any typical pastor here would use. And we didn't get the words for brothers/sisters and vegetables mixed up again! (Just imagine, "Our lesson today, my dear vegetables, is ...") All of those months of struggle with a new language seem worth it if the Lord can now use us to speak to people about something important using the language they best understand. This gift of tongues seems to us now a great gift from the Lord that we have received in this past two years. All in all, it is almost like harvest time now, that after 2 years of preparation we can use our friends, new social skills, new language skills, and our knowledge of "how we do things around here" to make the difference the Lord sent us here for.

In other news of us, Bruce's parents are enjoying getting to know their only grandchild. Of course, Elena loves having two more adults around to pay attention to her, play games, read books, etc. His mother is helping out some with CPU's College of Nursing since she is on sabbatical from the school where she teaches nursing in Bremerton, WA. His father hopes to get a little involved in CPU administration, right now in the area of labor-management relations since a staff union has recently been organized. We have kept them busy nearly every weekend so far going along on different speaking engagements we accepted in different interior and coastal towns. They have been real good sports about rough roads, no electricity, running water, or toilets, minimal English, and a very different diet. We accepted all these appointments in order to expose them to the "real" Philippines of the rural areas, and it has been a good learning experience for them. On the flip side, we just finished a week's vacation that took us to Baguio City in the

mountains of northern Luzon (cold nights and cool days at over a mile high, different ethnic groups) and Manila again (5-star hotels, big shopping malls, palatial homes) which exposed them to other parts of this diverse country. Every weekend except one from now to Christmas is also filled, so there is still much for them to see and do before we go back with them to Manila to say good-bye.

I finished a major crunch of work this last August and September and am now starting to catch my breath and take a look around. I had several major grants and reports to prepare and process, and that kept me writing and editing almost non-stop. In addition, I had several workshops and a national conference to help organize and lead, and then in the middle of all that there was the accreditation of CPU's Dept. of Social Work, which is the umbrella group for the Katin-aran Center where I work. It was a very hectic time, made more so by the absence of the Director (my immediate boss) because of several conferences. I am in the midst of a re-evaluation phase right now (we're calling it a "mid-course correction") to see what the remaining year and a half before our home assignment back in the US should be. I would like to get more involved in outreach to pastors' wives in the area of livelihood skills and small business, so we'll see how that develops.

Bruce just finished the first semester of his second full teaching year, and this was a little different in that he had a co-teacher for his Intro. to Entrepreneurship class. That is real encouraging since it means there will be somebody else qualified to teach his subjects second semester and he can move on. There is not much point in all of this if nobody else is ready and able to step in when we aren't here any more. He also helped a new student organization get started last term: the Association of Collegiate Entrepreneurs (ACE) which is active on several college campuses in the US as well. Second semester should be somewhat of a grind as he will be teaching two brand new classes, and that means writing the syllabus and each lesson plan from scratch from an assembly of books and handouts. One of them is double-length class, so keeping a class going for 2 hours 3 times per week should be an interesting challenge. We are hoping that we will also be more able to put together a seminar and consulting series for rural pastors and congregations next semester so that some of this material can go to benefit people who really desperately need the skills for their "daily bread" (actually rice).

Thanks again for writing. Please let us know what you're doing these days and how the group is faring. Greetings to Marie, Donna, Jim, and the rest of the gang.

Love,

Ann, Bruce + Elena Borquist (RPCVs Ghana)

Feb 9-12 - CONFERENCE ON THE TRANSFORMATION FOR SOCIALISM featuring scholars and trade officials from the USSR, China and other Asian countries. Economic cooperation with the Soviet Far East and East Asia will be the central topic. Held at PSU.

March 31 Sat - PEACING IT - TOGETHER Conference, a gathering for persons concerned with peace issues within the Catholic tradition. Held at University of Portland, Columbia Hall. Call 232-4393 for details.

June 16-22 - UNITED NATIONS IN FOCUS CONFERENCE - a study program for high school students interested in the work of the United Nations. Sponsored by the American Heritage Assn and the United Nations Association of Oregon. Call 635-3702 or 1-800-654-2051.

June 26-July 27 - FACULTY SEMINAR: Village Development in Thailand. Sponsored by N.W. Intl Education Assn, 206-878-3710. \$300 down payment due March 15, 1990.

July 1-28, 1990 - SUMMER SEMINAR IN MEXICO FOR EDUCATORS designed to assist educators in developing curricular applications on Mexico and Latin America. The program is for non-specialists and does not require a knowledge of Spanish. Four graduate credits are included. Held at the University of the Americas, Puebla, Mexico. Contact Oregon International Council, 999 Locust St NE, Salem, OR 97303 or telephone 378-4960.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AGENCIES

The International Service Agencies (ISA) is a federation of 37 well-known, nonprofit American organizations which, last year, improved the lives of 150 million impoverished people in over 100 countries worldwide. As a returned Peace Corps Volunteer living in the northwest, I feel fortunate to continue my "development" by representing ISA in employee fund drives in Alaska, Washington and Oregon.

ISA member agencies such as CARE, OXFAM, Save the Children, and Foster Parents Plan are working in over 100 countries providing disaster relief and long term self-help development assistance. You may have worked with staff from any of the agencies listed below. You know their strengths and you know some of their successes. Hopefully, you know that their work is much like the Peace Corps; empowering people to improve their standard of living through agricultural, entrepreneurial, health and literacy training, building of clean water systems and many other projects.

What you may not know about these agencies however, is that they are receiving a significant slice of the charitable pie here in the U.S. Through their membership in ISA, these agencies participate in all federal workplace Combined Federal campaigns nationwide, and in 22 state employee campaigns as well as a number of City, County, and Public School employee campaigns. Today, ISA and its member agencies receives significant support through cash and payroll contributions from federal employees throughout Oregon, as well as from City of Portland employees. Currently, a new administrative rule prohibits agencies serving people outside the state of Oregon, from participating in the Oregon State employee combined fund drive.

Not only is money being raised but the third goal of the Peace Corps-- to educate people at home about development--is being met by the interaction between ISA's staff and volunteers with people in a broad range of workplaces. ISA's goal is to increase the number of opportunities where we can extend the message of what private American agencies are doing overseas. We seek to change this recent rule by the state and ask for your support and your ideas. We also welcome leads on other public or private workplaces that are interested in providing an international giving "option". The United Way is only one group of non-profits in an increasingly complex social system serving the local community; and its mission has never been to help people in other countries. And yet, in many workplaces, United Way is touted as "the way" to help solves our world's problems. ISA is working cooperatively with the Black United Fund, and the Environmental Fund of Oregon to expand your charitable choices. We welcome your help!

For more information please contact:

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