



PORTLAND NEWSLETTER

FOR

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Oregon

November 1990
Volume 9
Number 7

NOVEMBER PROGRAM MEETING

Our November potluck, program, and meeting will be held Sunday, November 11th (potluck at 6 PM, meeting and program from 7 to 9 PM). Our guest speaker will be Julie Meyer from the Seattle Office of International Service Agencies. She will share with us what ISA is doing in the world and especially in Oregon. Charlene Holzwarth will host this meeting at her home at 2524 NE 34th AV. From I-84 eastbound take the 33rd AV exit and go North on 33rd. From I-84 westbound exit at 43rd AV, get on Broadway to 33rd AV, and turn right. Go past Grant Park to Knott Street. Turn right, and turn right again immediately onto 34th AV. This is a dead end street. Charlene's house is ORANGE. Lost? Questions? Call her at 284-3444 or me at 254-5161. See you there!



Your Program Coordinator,
Gabriella Kotubetey

Calendar

Nov 9, Friday, Social Hour, 5:15 pm, Greek Cusina, 404 SW Washington, upstairs, for fun and friends.

Nov 11, Sunday, RPCV Potluck & Program, 6pm, at Charlene Holzwarth's, 2524 NE 34th Ave.

Nov 15, Business Meeting, 7pm, at Douglas King's, 2730 SE 16th Ave., 235-7178.

Dec 9, Restaurant Meeting. Details to follow.

PEACE FAIR

The Oregon Peace and Music Festival, held October 6th at the Galleria, attracted many people interested in Peace Corps. In addition to distributing information to many possible Peace Corps candidates, those who staffed the booth sold 13 calendars, and gave out newsletters and membership forms to over 15 RPCVs interested in our group. RPCVs of Oregon would like to thank the following RPCVs for making this endeavor possible:

Jim and Bonnie Kiser
Leigh Knox
Andy Linehan
Brenda Michel
Kirsten Radich
Rosalie Schmitz
Martha Plaza
Darleane and Duane Lemley
Douglas King
Davy Crockett



Helping Portland

In addition to several projects that RPCVs of Oregon is already working on, it has been suggested that our members might be interested in helping our local area in general, not-necessarily-international ways. Two ideas discussed at the recent business meeting include 1) volunteering to answer phones at an upcoming pledge drive of Oregon Public Broadcasting. This idea spurred excitement not only because many RPCVs support OPBS, but also because of the chance to be on TV! 2) Another idea was to plant trees, whether in a park, along a street, or in a would-be forest. Such organizations as Friends of Trees or Global Releaf could aid us with this project.

Stay tuned for further details. If you are interested in organizing one of these projects, your over-worked officers would gladly appreciate it. Contact JoAnn von Rohr (2821721) regarding OPBS, or Douglas King (235-7178) regarding tree planting.

Around the Country

Iowa: RPCVs combined group building, public outreach/education, food and fun in a weekend retreat August 10-12, with an international panel on "Iowa in the Global Economy," a Banquet for Peace, and a "Trip around the World" open to the public. The group is also exploring ways to work with the Iowa Peace Institute. Contact: Harold Hommes, (515) 279-5610, or 242-6237.

Philadelphia: RPCVs are planning to select one issue to concentrate on during the coming year--perhaps "AIDS in Philly and Internationally," or "Decent housing in the Third World and at Home." They have created the new position of Social Services Director to plan and coordinate meaningful group activities that will benefit the Philadelphia area. Contact: Ann DeLong, (215) 629-1544.

Dallas-Ft. Worth: RPCVs here won first prize in the first annual Ruppe Awards. The award, in honor of Loret Miller Ruppe, Director of Peace Corps 1981-89, is for RPCV projects that carry out the Third Goal of Peace Corps, i.e., bring the world back home. The Dallas project, "Hearts and Hammers," refurbished 33 homes for elderly and low-income residents of West Dallas. Contact: Dennis Ashworth.

This newsletter is published by the
Returned Peace Corps
Volunteers of Oregon
PO Box 802
Portland, OR 97207

Submissions for the December
1990 newsletter should be received
by November 27.
Membership is \$7 annually.

Welcome to new members:

Rebecca Easton, Honduras, '87-'89;
Mark Mariotti, Gambia, '88-'90;
James Haynes, Niger, '74-'76;
Blake Ramsey, Togo, '69-'70.

A Plea for Help

Dear Friends:

Writing form letters and soliciting funds are tow things i have never done before. Having some of the dearest and most dedicated people I have ever known threatened by a brutal war is another first time experience. I am referring to the desperate situation in Liberia today.

I spent about four years in Liberia working with health professionals to improve the lives of the children there. Since April, I have had no word from any of my colleagues and friends in Liberia. Monrovia, the capital city, has been without communications, electricity, and water for more than three months.

The war in Liberia is the result of an unbearable economy and inhumane dictatorship. As is often the case, most of the people being killed, maimed and displaced are innocent civilians. The official figures are now 5,000 deaths and 350,000 refugees. The actual numbers must be much higher.

Until now, I have felt completely helpless, unable to assist in any way. Recently, however, I have found a way to help. The group Friends of Liberia is organized by RPCVs. As a member I have been asked to participate in a fund raising drive for Phebe Hospital and for refugee assistance.

Phebe hospital is were my father and sister worked during their stay in Liberia. It is well known for its model health care program. The Chief Medical Officer, a member of Rotary International, has refused opportunities to escape Liberia and continues to treat suffering victims of the war.

A few days ago, I had the opportunity to read an official report on the refugee situation. The bottom

line is that although some effort is being made by many governments and private agencies, a great deal more is needed.

our support can help prevent outbreaks of disease among the survivors. We will also contribute to the long and difficult process of rebuilding a nation. Please take this opportunity to make a donation and a difference in Liberia.

Hoping for peace in Liberia and across the globe.

Gratefully yours,
Laurie Ackerman, (Chicago?)

Checks payable to:

Friends of Liberia
Project Development and
Refugee Fund
P.O. Box 28098
Washington, DC 20038

Officers	
Steering Committee	
Jerry Porter	230-8059
Davy Crockett	232-6180
Barbara Pugh	244-9081
Secretary-Tresurer	
JoAnn von Rohr	282-1721
Program Coordinator	
Gabriella Kotubety	254-5161
Restaurant Coordinator	
Brenda Michel	236-5838
Speakers Bureau	
Gabriella Kotubety	254-5161
Membership	
JoAnn von Rohr	282-1721
Doug Cameron	
Newsletter	
Douglas King	235-7178
Karla Green	
Development Education	
Ed Warmoth	628-3227
Donna Raynalds	239-0329

ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER OPENS→ United States Peace Corps Director Paul D. Coverdell and Peace Corps Chief of Staff Jody Olsen arrived in Budapest in early September to witness the first week of American Peace Corps volunteers starting to teach in Central Europe. On the same trip, they participated in the opening of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe which represents a collaborative effort between the EPA and Peace Corps. The center's managing director is Larry Koskinen, a former Peace Corps volunteer and staff member currently on detail to the EPA.

U N I T E D S T A T E S

PEACE CORPS

REPORT

A Monthly Summary

September 1990

CZECH PROGRAM SET→ Plans are set to send 22 Peace Corps volunteers to the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic in November. The first PCVs in Czechoslovakia will be joined by 40 more Peace Corps volunteers next year. Meanwhile, preliminary talks also are underway with Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. On a trip in September that took him to Europe, Peace Corps Director Paul Coverdell stopped in both Belgrade and Sofia to investigate the interest in sending American volunteers to those two countries and to analyze the needs of those two nations.

REVIEW OF ROMANIA→ Two Peace Corps representatives were members of a team sent to Bucharest by the U.S. Agency for International Development recently to explore possible American assistance for institutionalized children in Romania. It is estimated that there may be as many as 120,000 orphans in the country. While Romania has received extensive assistance, most of it has been short term. Peace Corps is studying whether to send teams of volunteers in the fields of early childhood development, special education and community development to develop model programs that could be replicated by the government of Romania.

A LINK FOR VOLUNTEERS→ Beginning this fall, Peace Corps volunteers nearing the end of their service overseas can arrange to have their credentials placed without charge in a newly established database called Connexion. Peterson's, a company based in Princeton, N.J., developed the database. Connexion is designed to link persons in transition to employers and graduate schools across the United States. Connexion currently has approximately 300 subscribers.

30TH ANNIVERSARY NEARS→ Thirty years ago, Oct. 14, 1960, presidential candidate John F. Kennedy addressed students at the University of Michigan in a 2 a.m. impromptu speech challenging them to give two years of their lives to help people in other countries. The following year, shortly after becoming president, Kennedy signed an executive order creating the Peace Corps. Peace Corps will observe its 30th anniversary marking that event on March 1, 1991. Congress approved legislation formally authorizing the Peace Corps on Sept. 22, 1961. As the Peace Corps prepares to celebrate its third decade, it is continuing to expand. New countries that will be entered by the end of 1990 are Bolivia, Haiti, Panama, Namibia, Cote d'Ivoire, Sao Tome/Principe, Poland, Hungary, Malta and Vanuatu. New countries on target for 1991 are the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Mongolia, Bulgaria, Laos, Uganda, the Congo, Chile and Uruguay.

VOLUNTEERS LEAVE YEMEN→ Because of the current international crisis in the Middle East, the Peace Corps has called home Peace Corps volunteers in the Republic of Yemen citing safety reasons. There were 23 volunteers in the country working in health and education and 23 new volunteers had just completed training. "While it is always disappointing to pull volunteers out of a country," Peace Corps Director Paul Coverdell said, "I recognize that it is most frustrating to the volunteers themselves. It is truly unfortunate that the world has not yet learned the ways of peace, but this is a constant reminder of the importance of our work." The first small group of United States Peace Corps volunteers went to Yemen in 1975, just two years after a decade-long civil war ended. Initially, Peace Corps' programs focused largely on health-related

GIFTS IN KIND PROGRAM

Through its global network of over 70 countries, the Gifts In Kind Program of the United States Peace Corps links the specific needs of Peace Corps Volunteers in the field with donations of materials and services from the American private sector. These linkages promote both economic development and human potential, while supporting the individual efforts of the Volunteers.

All contributions accepted by the Gifts In Kind Program are in response to in-country requests from Peace Corps Volunteers, host communities and staff offices. Peace Corps Volunteers are involved in projects focusing on small business development, the environment, education, health, urban development and agriculture. In almost all countries with Peace Corps operations, there are urgent needs for microscopes, portable typewriters, wheelchairs and walkers, textbooks and baby scales. Other items which are constantly requested are agricultural equipment, such as hand and battery-operated tools, sports equipment and lap-top computers. Contributions in recent years have included these materials, as well as donations of shipping services, magazine subscriptions, emergency air travel and vehicles.

The requests we receive are many and varied, ranging from fire fighting equipment in Guatemala to solar powered refrigerators in Zaire. Some examples of specific Volunteer and staff appeals have included science laboratory equipment for Benin, gas powered chain saws for Senegal, and medical supplies for clinics in Sierra Leone. This year, Volunteers in Costa Rica and Ecuador have contacted us for printing services and electric typewriters; while surveying equipment is needed in Tunisia and business textbooks have been requested for Western Samoa. In all, Volunteers have identified over 750 items which will be necessary for their successful completion of projects this year.

Recent donations to the Gifts In Kind Program:

Apple Computer, Inc. donated Macintosh computers to 54 overseas sites, with software contributed by Microsoft Corporation and Claris Corporation.

Asgrow Seed Company, a subsidiary of the Upjohn Company, contributed over 12,000 pounds of vegetable seed for distribution by Peace Corps Volunteers in 32 countries.

The Tennessee Physical Therapy Association donated equipment to help furnish the new wing of a hospital in the Seychelles.

All in kind contributions received by the U.S. Peace Corps are tax deductible in accordance with Internal Revenue Code 26, U.S.C. 170. The value of the contribution is assigned by the donor. For more information, please call us at (800) 424-8580 (ext. 227), or (202) 606-3360, or write:

Office of Private Sector Relations/Gifts In Kind Program
United States Peace Corps
1990 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20526

Current Requests Include:

Portable typewriters (manual, electric or battery), sewing machines, flashlights, AM/FM radios, generators, solar powered calculators, basketballs, sporting goods, slide projectors, movie cameras, audio -visual equipment, tools, shovels, axes, hoes, scales, beekeeping equipment, gloves and overalls, all terrain bicycles.

Boston University

School of Management
685 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

Public Management Program
617/353-2312



September 17, 1990

RPCVs of Oregon
c/o Jerry Porter
P.O. Box 802
Portland, OR 97202

Dear Ms. Porter:

The need for highly skilled managers in government and the nonprofit sector is as great as it is in private business. Boston University offers a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree with a concentration in Public Management designed specifically for individuals with careers in government and nonprofit settings.

Founded in 1975, the Public Management Program is celebrating fifteen years of commitment to management excellence in the public and nonprofit sectors. The Program is unique in its integration of public and private management skills. It expands on the strengths of traditional business education with an emphasis on the special constraints and challenges facing public and nonprofit managers.

Program benefits include:

- * MBA career options in the public, nonprofit, and private sectors;
- * Courses tailored for public and not-for-profit managers;
- * Students with substantial and diverse professional backgrounds;
- * Scholarships available for Returned Peace Corps Volunteers;
- * Full and part-time study, with September and January entrance.

Would you take a moment to display the enclosed poster and brochure? Please encourage any interested individuals to contact Sally Locke, Assistant Director, at (617) 353-2312 for more information.

Thank you.

(PS: Newsletter editor Douglas King has a copy of the bulletin regarding this program. To see it, you can call him at 235-7178.)

Sincerely,

Deborah P. Jordan

Deborah P. Jordan
Director

x 1326

NEWS RELEASE

To: Book Editor

New Reference Book Announcement

Who's Who In The Peace Corps., 1991 Edition, edited by Cheryl R. Lacroff. 500 pages including several indexes. 7x10 softbound: Reference Press International, Greenwich, Connecticut 06830. Publication date March 1, 1991.

New Reference Book Being Published To Honor The United States Peace Corps Volunteers.

Since its organization in 1961 over 100,000 American men and women from all walks of life have volunteered for the Peace Corps. These volunteers have served in more than 60 underdeveloped countries around the world, making it one of the most successful and important volunteer organizations ever formed.

In celebration of the Peace Corps' 30th Anniversary and in honor of those dedicated volunteers who through personal sacrifice have furthered world peace, Reference Press International, publishers of directories and reference books, is compiling their all new **Who's Who In The Peace Corps**. This directory, produced with the cooperation of the Peace Corps, is a volunteers biographical register comprised of listings of current and former volunteers and staff of the Peace Corps. A listing will consist of the volunteer's name, address, date and place of birth, telephone number, years and countries of service, educational background, occupational experiences, marital and family status, works published, and awards received. The directory will be organized alphabetically by name. It will then be cross-indexed geographically by the individual's current address, and then cross-indexed again by country of service, chronologically.

When completed, this important new sourcebook will aid all interested persons in relocating returned volunteers with whom they have lost contact. Reference Press International is currently in the process of locating current and returned volunteers and active and retired staff of the Peace Corps. Anyone interested in receiving a biographical questionnaire for a **Free Listing** or additional information concerning **Who's Who In The Peace Corps** should contact Reference Press International, P.O. Box 4126, Greenwich, CT 06830 or call toll-free 1-800-786-6777 or fax 203-622-5983.

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REFERENCE PRESS INTERNATIONAL P.O. Box 4126 Greenwich, CT 06830
Publishers of Reference Books 1-800-786-6777 * 203-629-4900 * Fax 203-622-5983

The Funniest Job You'll Ever Love: An Anthology of Peace Corps Humor, is a collection of humorous stories from volunteers. Compiled by James Cloutier for the Eugene National Conference, copies can be obtained from the West Cascade RPCVs, PO Box 5462, Eugene, OR 97405. The following story is from this anthology.

LATRINE PROJECT

By June Wiaz, Guatemala, (1988-90)

A health volunteer in Guatemala came to visit our latrine project in Jalapa. The volunteer was introduced to the president of the committee in charge of introducing latrines to the community.

The volunteer, who had hopes of doing her own latrine project, enthusiastically began to ask the campesino logistical questions; How deep are the latrine holes? Who pays for transportation of materials?, etc. But her best question was, "What kind of 'pecho' do you have?" By using the word "pecho" instead of the correct word, "techo", the volunteer had inadvertently asked the campesino what kind of breasts he had, rather than what kind of roof (for the latrines). Her explanation for the incorrect word? "I give a lot of talks on breast feeding...".

June Wiaz continues to serve as a PCV in Guatemala

