



AUGUST 1993

RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF OREGON/PORTLAND

• Volume 12 • Number 8 •

Mike's Meanderings

National Conference...what a blast! A chance to get together with friends, meet people with similar interests, learn about sustainable development, and pick up more T-shirts. The entertainment was first rate, the food terrific and the weather perfect. And there were lots of activities, too. I was able to attend three outstanding workshops.

We sold a number of T-shirts at the National Conference. There were lots of T-shirts for sale by the various groups at the Grand Bazaar in Berkeley. I noticed many people shopping around trying to decide on the ONE T-shirt they were going to buy. The most popular T-shirt came from our friends in Eugene but I think our Peace Corps shirt came in second. We still have some left. They're good-looking, reasonably priced and help to raise money.

My most lasting impression was associating with other former Liberia volunteers. The situation in Liberia is horrid and information spotty at best. It was great to meet with people who had similar concerns about a country we care deeply about. We developed a great dialogue and related stories coming from various people through many unusual sources. We gathered together one final time for the closing ceremonies and led the cheers as the Friends of Liberia group won the Loret Ruppe award, capping off a splendid weekend.

I saw at least 15 people from this area down in Berkeley. I invite any of the National Conference participants to write a paragraph about something of interest from the conference and send it in to the newsletter. What was good, bad, impressive or depressive about your time in Berkeley? We look forward to hearing from you.

Mike Waite

From the President

Warmest greetings to you from my north-side spare room where I am diligently and dutifully trying to keep y'all apprised of what's going in with the RPCVs of Oregon/Portland.

Our last business meeting was at Mike and Mary Lynn Waite's home in Vancouver on Wednesday evening, July 21st. Mike's been driving over the river to Ptld. to attend business meetings for a number of years now, so we figured it was about time we drove over to his house to give him a break from the trek. We [the Waite's, the Swee's and myself] discussed the Wallowa Lake campout, T-shirt sales, parade banner sales, and our current financial situation.

T Shirt Update: We've invested approximately \$970, not including the cost of the booth at the conference in Berkeley. We've collected approximately \$814 and have \$150 to go to break even. We have 70 shirts remaining and of those 70, 48 are extra-large and 19 are large. An additional five or six mediums have been ordered and will be available July 29th. Four small-sized shirts are also on hand.

Given the fact that it's been hard to get ordered shirts to RPCVs, we decided to mail them out, at your request. Furthermore, our \$12 price includes postage and handling. If you'd like to order a shirt and wish to have it mailed to you please the order form on the back page of this newsletter. We can have it posted to you in no time at all!

more from Brenda on page 2

• BRENDA'S CORNER •

Camp-out: Details regarding the Wallowa Lake camping trip are elsewhere in this newsletter. Again, the dates are Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 20-22. The communal meal will take place Saturday evening. The Portland group is responsible for vegetables and fruit and since we're having shish kabobs, it's advisable that we provide things like potatoes, green peppers, onions, mushrooms, corn, tomatoes, pineapple chunks and fruits easy to carry over long distances like melons, apples, cherries maybe.... and, well, actually, anything your little heart desires. Please note that our food contributions at the communal meal are being handled by Joan Swee and Mary Lynn Waite. Kindly contact them for advice and/or more details. The Boise group will be making breakfast for all of us on Sunday morning!

Are you going to the Wallowas? While it's not necessary to "make a reservation" per se, please call me or leave a message on my machine and let me know who you are, along with how many in your party. I'll pass that info onto Eugene so whatever planning needs to be done can be done. We'll try to sell our shirts at the campout; Dick and Joan Swee will tote them over in their vehicle. Perhaps folks from Eastern Oregon, Washington, Montana and Idaho would be interested in our design. In spite of incredibly fierce competition at the conference, (every group and organization had a shirt) our logo was well received and admired by many.

Financial Report: Dick Swee, our treasurer, reports that while we are managing to scrape by each month, increased expenses incurred to produce the newsletter are eating into the few "profits" we've enjoyed from selling shirts. (I say "profits" of course because we haven't yet broke even. We borrowed money from the Eugene group to pay for the venture.) Dick and JoAnne von Rohr will take a close look at our membership and mailing lists to clean them up and bring them up-to-date. Their first perusal revealed a number of problems and errors: some members haven't paid in ages and remain on the list, while others paid months ago but do not yet appear on the roll. After that's resolved, we'll probably need to discuss raising membership dues. It now costs us almost \$0.80 to produce each newsletter.... that's \$9.60 of your membership dues for 12 issues and not much left over for anything else. I'm sure you agree. If we can sell our remaining shirts for \$12, we'd add almost \$700 to our coffers (after subtracting the \$150 we need to break even). No formal decisions were made at the July 21st business meeting to either increase dues or cut the mailing list. We'll take it up again in August. Any ideas?

Parade Banner: We took our beautiful parade banner down to Berkeley, hoping we could sell one like it to other groups.

**Next business meeting
and a little birthday
party for me: My
house, Tuesday
evening, 7:15 p.m.
August 17th. 254 S.E.
28th Avenue, on Pine
between Burnside and
Stark streets.
I'll be 37!**

We had a pile of order forms that included a glossy photograph of the banner on our T-shirt table, but for a variety of reasons I would list here, they didn't get out into people's hands as we had hoped. At the business meeting, we decided Mike Waite would compose a cover letter and we'd mail the order forms with photographs to group leaders around the country. Do not uncross your fingers yet on this one!

West Afrikan Harvest Festival: This is the third or maybe fourth annual harvest festival sponsored by the Homowa Foundation. Its usual venue is the amphitheater in the Washington Park Rose Garden. Plan to attend this free, wonderful cultural event Sunday afternoon/evening, August 29th. Call 288-3025 if you'd like to volunteer to help out in some way.

PigOut: The Waite's are looking at the 13th of November for their by now famous West Afrikan dinner. If you have any ideas for a location with bigger facilities, let them know!

Next Business Meeting and a little birthday party for me: My house, Tuesday evening, 7:15 p.m. August 17th. 254 S.E. 28th Avenue, on Pine between Burnside and Stark streets. I'll be 37. It doesn't look so old in print but why does it feel so old in person?

• Calendar of Events •

August 17	Business Meeting at the home of Brenda Michel; 7:15 p.m.
Aug. 20-22	RPCV Regional Campout, Wallowa Lake
August 29	Sabin Multicultural Fair, 1-6 p.m.
Sept. 19	Potluck & Program Meeting at Charlene's
July 1994	National RPCV Conference, Atlanta, GA

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Submissions for the Sept. 1993
 newsletter should be received by
 August 25. Please mail to:

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 12835 SW Douglas St.
 Portland, OR 97225

New Members*

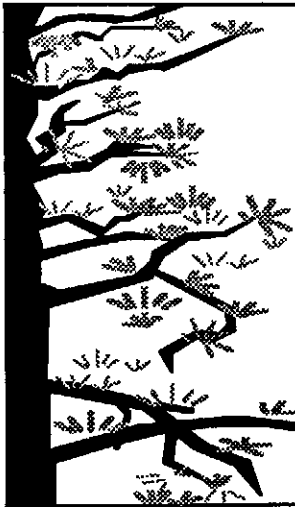
Sharon Kayhall, Honduras 64-66

Louis Elliott, Brazil 68-71

Anne Feldstein, Sierra Leone 86-88
 (returning member)

Phyllis Shelton, Honduras 86-88

**actually, these folks were new members two months ago but due to the woeful filing system of your organizationally-impaired newsletter editor, their names were only discovered this month (my apologies for the latest of this recognition of these new members)*



SEE YOU AT THE CAMP-OUT!

RPCV T-Shirt Order Form

Please send me _____ RPCV T-shirt(s) at \$12 each, postage free.

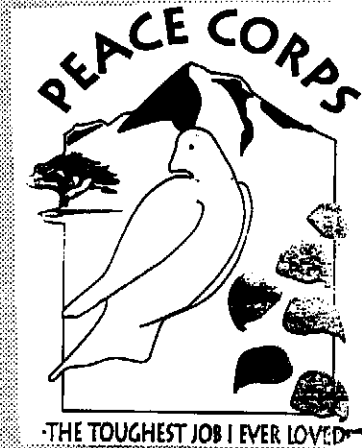
Name _____ Phone (just in case) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

How many? _____ small _____ medium _____ large _____ extra-large

I'm enclosing a check for \$ _____



Mail to: RPCVs of Oregon/Portland. P.O. Box 802, Portland OR 97207

RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS
OF PORTLAND/OREGON
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Apr 1, 1994
Marie Hermanson
[REDACTED]
Portland, OR [REDACTED]

HERM603 972153010 1493 08/07/93
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HERMANSON, MARIE
[REDACTED]
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Bringing the World Back Home