



NOVEMBER 1993

# RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF OREGON/PORTLAND

• Volume 12 • Number 11 •

## From the PSU Representative

Hi, I'm Scott Urbatsch, the new Peace Corps Campus Representative at Portland State University. I arrived in Portland on a snowy day in March still deep in readjustment, and finishing six months of travel. I started my journey from the Warm Heart of Africa — Malawi — where I was the Computer Training Specialist in the Ministry of Agriculture. My job was to develop the training curriculum, increase computer awareness in the managers, and train the computer staff in training techniques. My travels from Malawi took me through Zanzibar, Hong Kong, China, Japan, San Francisco and finally to my birth place, Iowa. There, I reacquainted myself with many family and friends. My journey continued from Davenport to St. Louis and Phoenix, where I met my brother. My brother and I travelled slowly from Phoenix to Portland along the California coast. We arrived in Portland in March, and I was ready to start the job search.

In an act of frustration, I searched for a job in the computer training field. I also applied to a graduate program at PSU in Adult Education. Currently, I am slowly adjusting to the regimen of school, and trying to disperse information about Peace Corps. If anyone has any ideas of how to get me into meetings where I can talk to any of the following groups of people, I would be most appreciative: Forestry, TESL Instructors, Nurses, Environmental Education, Public Health, Math/Science teachers, Crop Extension, Nutrition, and Teacher Trainers.

Peace Corps is also making an effort to recruit minorities, so if anyone has some inroads to minority communities, please give me a call at 725-3015. Thanks!

*Scott Urbatsch*

## From the President

Hi Honey(s)! Well, after four weeks on the "old" job, I can finally say, "I got a different job!" I said goodbye to the engineering consulting firm on October 20th and said hello to the landscape architecture/ graphic design firm on the 21st. Nice to be downtown again. I'm just across the street from my previous job (at the computer software company) and just around the corner from Robin's office.... no excuse now for late newsletter submissions unless it's the ole "dog ate it" one. Isn't life wonderful? No matter where you go, there you are. Here's the deal starting with the past and working toward the future:

The United Nations Folk Fest at the Chiles Center a few weeks ago was a great success. Thanks you RPCVs of OR/Ptld. for volunteering to staff our booth. Richard from Friends of Trees was there and he called to say how wonderful we were and how apparent it was that both kids and adults loved dressing up in the costumes we provided. Thanks again for the work.

Karen McAlister has been taking orders for Peace Corps Calendars like you wouldn't believe. She's sold over \$200 worth and it's not even Halloween yet! Thank you, Karen, thank you. You may have single-handedly saved us from financial ruin. [somewhat of an exaggeration, but too close to the truth for comfort] We owe money to the National Peace Corps Association (group affiliation fees), to West Cascade (they fronted us a bunch'a calendars), and to Madison, Wisc. (for more calendars). Yikes.

*more from Brenda on next page...*

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## • BRENDA'S CORNER •

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continued from page 1

The Speakers Bureau training session held at the World Affairs Council a few weeks ago was very well attended by RPCVs and foreign exchange students alike; a good time was had by all. A summary of speaking tips from the evening's handouts will appear in a future edition of this newsletter. Thanks for making the evening a success by your participation. We are deeply grateful to Jean Campbell, Gwen Duley and Joy Churchill of the World Affairs Council for their efforts on OUR behalf. More than anything or anyone else, *they* are responsible for our opportunities to speak before community and school groups around the area throughout the year.

**Regional Meeting:** Saturday afternoon, November 13th at the NW Natural Gas Bldg. Thank you Jan Trzil for making all the arrangements for us. It's a lovely venue for a meeting; I'm glad we could secure the place. The agenda is found elsewhere in this newsletter. Everyone/ anyone is welcome to attend. We'd love to have you join us. The Pacific NW is the most organized region in the country; we have been meeting as a region since '88 or '89. We work extremely well together as a group. I'm proud to be affiliated.

**Starlight Parade** application forms will arrive in our P.O. box in a few months. I'm thinking about a different kind of entry for next year's parade. The matter is up for discussion at the Regional meeting on Nov. 13th. Anybody else out there with me on this?

**Next Business Meeting:** Lordy. Are you ready for this? Sunday morning, 10:30 a.m., November 21st, my house. A light but tasty brunch will be served. Look at the lengths we've gone to to entice you to come. If we make these meetings sweet enough, before you know it, we'll have VIPs flying in from Wash DC to see what we're all about. Won't you venture across town and join us?

**Holiday Party** plans have been firmed up. Set aside Sunday, late afternoon, December 12th, at the bed & breakfast near the town of Sandy where we had that Moroccan dinner in the past. Phyllis Shelton has made arrangements with Lutheran Refugee Services to "Adopt a Family". Read this newsletter for details about who in the family needs what. You can bring your gift(s) to the party/dinner on the 12th.

**Oregon Public Broadcasting:** Sometime between December 3rd and 13th, we will assist OPB with their winter fund-raising campaign. The sign-up sheet for

this year's OPB event will circulate at the Waite's West African Pigout. JoAnne von Rohr is our OPB coordinator and will have the definite date by Pigout time.

**DUES:** Will go up to \$15 at the new year. You can renew for a year at the old rate of \$10 by paying before January 1st.

**Next Program Meeting** is likely to be Sunday, Jan. 16th. at Charlene Holzworth's house.

**Friends of Trees:** We will plant trees.... how 'bout Forest Park. Saturday, January 22nd, 1994.

### 1994 National Meeting

The brochure for the 1994 National Peace Corps Association meeting has arrived, and by the looks of it, next year's meeting in Atlanta promises to be a great one. "Kahadineh" is Navajo for "gathering of the people" and reflects the theme of celebrating the unique heritage of our diverse American communities. The conference, to be held July 29-31 in Atlanta, will provide an opportunity for exploring ways to promote positive cultural interaction, understanding and cooperation as well as a forum for sharing varied perspectives about issues confronting our communities. Our Atlanta hosts will bring together examples of multicultural efforts in Atlanta with conference participants. The focus will be on building on the cross-cultural strengths from our Peace Corps experience in order to stimulate ideas that can apply to our own communities and lives.

The conference will provide a day and a half of plenary sessions, speakers, panels, and workshops, with ample scheduled time for Country of Service events and special issues meetings. Volunteer Day will offer such projects as building a house with Habitat for Humanity, creating a large World Map for display in Atlanta, and sponsoring a health fair. Other scheduled events include the Cultural Fair, Career Day, city tours, and activities connected with the 1994 National Black Arts Festival. Watch future newsletters for more details and updates.

# West African Pigout

It's here again. That time to enjoy delicious food, homebrewed beer, and good company. The major attraction is authentic Liberian/West African food. This alone is worth the admission price. In addition we have free beer compliments of several homebrewers. This year will feature Pygmy Hippo Ale, a brew that seems to get better each week. There will be other brews including Pigout Porter, and Over the Top Stout.

For those who haven't been to one of the previous pigouts here's the menu. 1st course: Tortilla Chips, Plantain Chips and beer. 2nd course: Liberian food consisting of Cassava Leaf soup, Palm Butter, Pumpkin Soup, Peanut Soup and Potato Green Soup all served with rice. If you served in Liberia you know that soup means sauce and it is served over the rice. 3rd course: Seconds, all you can eat. We make every attempt to make the food as authentic as possible. The result is a menu typical of the diets of Sierra Leone and Liberia.

We open up the house prior to the dinner. This is a good chance to drink a couple of brews (there is also a non alcoholic punch) and socialize with a number of interesting people. We expect to have guests from California, Seattle, Eugene and perhaps Montana.

Profits from the Pigout will be going to the Friends of Liberia, winners of the Loret Ruppe award at the 1993 National Returned Peace Corps Conference. They earned their award with numerous projects and advocacy in a country still suffering from a Civil War. The work continues with an invitation to monitor elections in Liberia when they finally occur.

So come as you are, a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, spouse, friend, associate, or stray, enjoy exotic food, good company and contribute to a good cause.

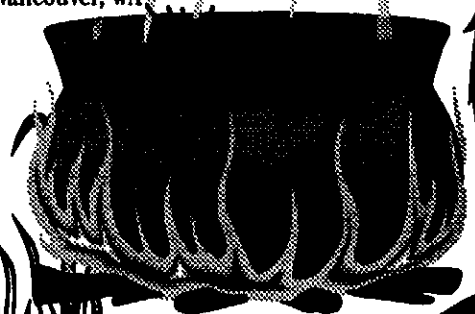
**Date:** Saturday November 13

**Time:** Social hour 4:30  
Dinner 6:00

**Price:** \$9.00

**Cuisine:** Traditional Liberian & Sierra Leonian food

**Location:** Mike & Mary Lynn's home. 4711 NE 112th St. Vancouver, WA  
Directions on another page. Please give us a call if you're coming or have questions.  
206-574-7455



# Directions to the Pigout

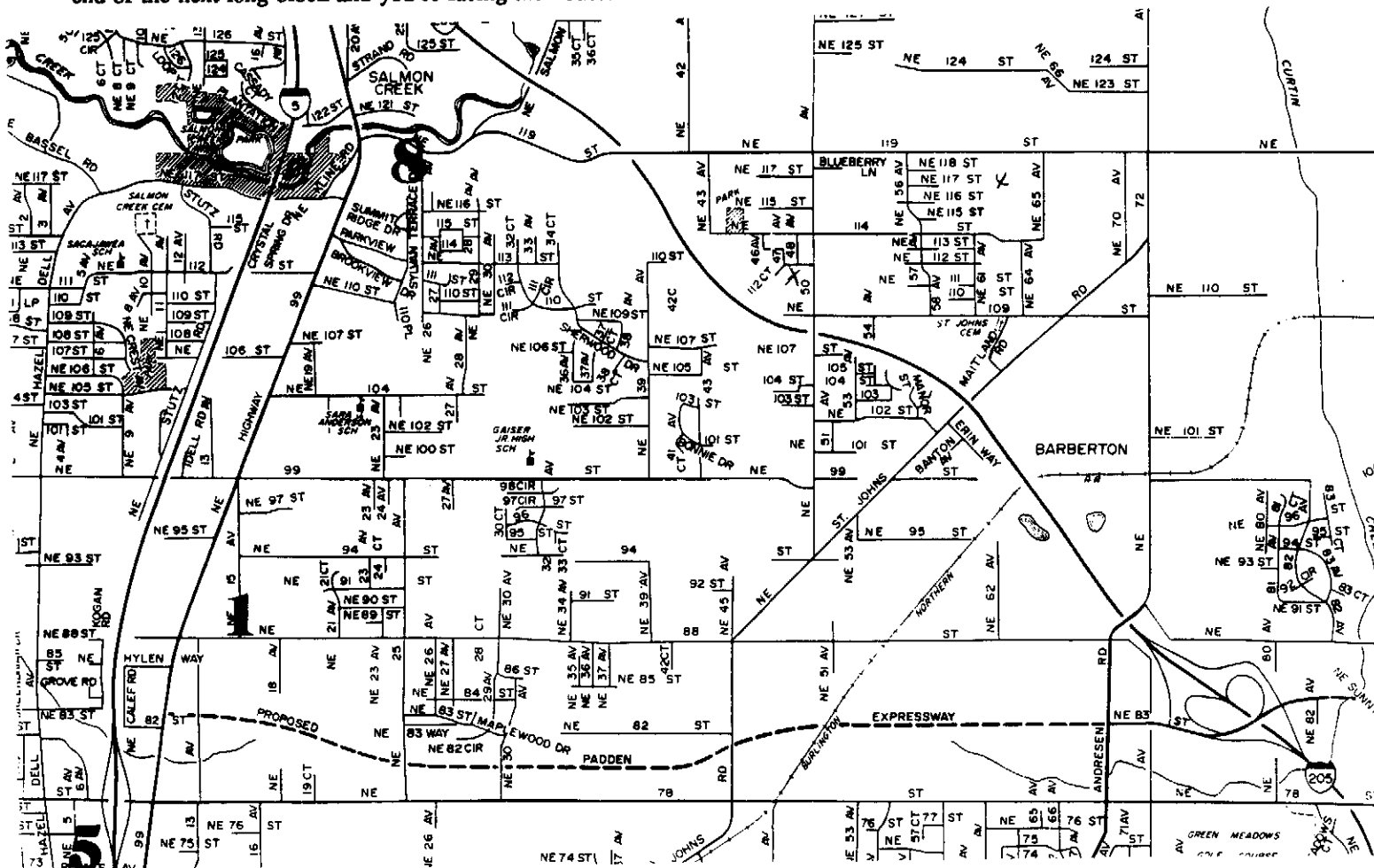


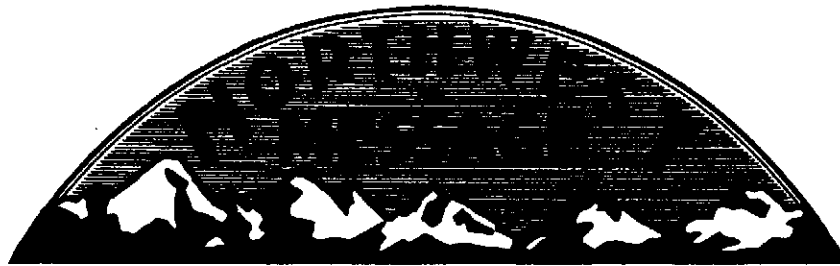
Come north on 205 into Vancouver and take the NE Anderson Street and NE 83rd street exit (exit 32). The exit splits -- the right being east and the one that is straight ahead being west. You want to go west. This will put you on 83rd. 83rd junctions with Anderson and you have to turn either right or left. Turn right - it's one of those turns where you don't have to stop if you are turning right.

Now you are on Anderson and it takes you back across 205 and down across the railroad tracks, and in about a mile you come to 109th. Turn left on 109th. There is a stable on the left a ways before the turn onto 109th - I use that as a land mark. Now you are on 109th. 109th crosses St. Johns and junctions with 50th. Turn right on 50th and drive to 114th. Turn left on 114th and that takes you into our subdivision. Turn left again at the first street you come to - (48th) and drive down to the next intersection. You will be pointed at our house. We are at the T of the junction.

Our home is white, 2-story and the #'s are 4711. There will be a black Dodge Van in the driveway. Just come on in. Although these instructions may seem complex it's not hard to find. Dinner will start at 5:30, and you are encouraged to arrive by 4:30 to find your way in the daylight, visit with friends and have some homebrew, tropical punch, and munchies.

For those coming up I-5 turn on the 78th Street exit (exit 4) in Northern Vancouver. Turn right at the stoplight at 78th street. You will see a Fred Meyer at that exit. Continue on 78th through the next two traffic lights (only while they're green). Continue at least a mile until you come to a traffic light on St. Johns avenue. Turn left on St. Johns and continue past a traffic light and mini mart until St. Johns narrows from a 4 lane street to a 2 lane street. Turn left on 50th Ave. at that spot. There's a turn lane. Continue on 50th until 114th St. Turn left, go one long block and turn left on 48th, go to the end of the next long block and you're facing the house.





## NEWS FROM ALASKA, WASHINGTON, OREGON, IDAHO, & MONTANA

### Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of the Pacific Northwest Quarterly Regional Meeting / Portland, Oregon\* Saturday, November 13th, 1993 AGENDA

- 11:30 - 12:30 Potluck and introductions around the table.  
12:30 - 12:45 1) Next year's summertime camp-out location — Mike Waite's suggestions (but perhaps Seattle wishes to organize the event for August of '94?)  
2) Date and place of next regional meeting.  
3) RPCV Housing Exchange update
- 12:45 - 1:15 Group updates: Brief reviews of recent past events and plans for the near future.  
1:15 - 1:45 National Peace Corps Association updates from Beryl & Don.  
1:45 - 2:30 The National Conference in Atlanta update: What do we know about it?  
Brainstorming session: the good / the bad / the ugly / the beloved:  
Considerations from/about previous conferences.
- 2:30 - 3:15 -Should we put on a mini regional conference in the Pacific NW?  
-Should we as a group, sponsor or put on a workshop/seminar in Atlanta?  
Discussion/debate/brainstorm of ideas.
- 3:15 - 3:30 The Portland Rose Festival Starlight Parade entry. Does Eugene and/or Seattle wish to appear with us in the parade? If so, develop ideas for our joint entry.
- 3:30 - 4:15 Membership building within our local groups -or- "How to keep the love alive"  
The strengths and weaknesses of our groups/leaders, etc.
- 4:15 - 4:30 Clean-up / pack-up  
4:20 Drive to Mike and MaryLynn Waite's house in Vancouver, Washington for the third annual "West African Pigout".

\*The Northwest Natural Gas Building  
Pacific One Square  
220 NW 2nd Avenue  
4th floor, conference room west

**PARKING:** Available in the "PUBLIC PARKING" structure on 1st and Davis. This structure is across the street toward the river (east) from the Pacific One Square Bldg. All day is approx. \$2. You may also find parking on the street or in a nearby lot.

**I-5 South Bound:** Travel south toward Pld.; Drive through Vancouver and over the green Interstate Bridge. Take I-405 (Exit 302 B) "Beaverton". As you drive over the Fremont Bridge, move into the left hand lanes and Take "EXIT 2B Everett Street" *(note: it comes quickly!)*. This is where it gets tricky: at the stoplight, the left hand lanes are freeway entrance ramps which dip down. You CAN and SHOULD turn left onto a street without going back onto a freeway, but it's difficult to see until you're right there. If you miss it, you can turn left onto Couch or Burnside since these streets are all parallel to one another. Wherever you turn left, keep going east (you'll be on 14th or 15th and you want to go east to 2nd). Watch for the large, octagonal shaped glass bldg. called Pacific One Square.

**I-5 North Bound:** Take I-405, Exit 299B (City center/Beaverton) exit —it's a left hand exit off I-5. Take Exit 1-A, Front Avenue (it's also a left hand exit). At the light by the Marriott, Turn right onto SW Front Street, drive north along Waterfront Park. Turn Left onto Oak (watch for the ship's stack on your right and the blue "scenic drive" sign at the head of the left hand turn lane. If you miss Oak, take the next left "Ash" (see the nondescript brick central fire station on your left). In either case, turn right onto 2nd Avenue (going north). Crossover Burnside STREET. See the tall, glass, octagonal bldg. just two or three blocks ahead on your right.

# RPCV HOUSING NETWORK NORTHWEST REGION

- *HOST* -

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Peace Corps country: \_\_\_\_\_

Availability:      Anytime: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Anytime, but: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodations: Tent, field, yard: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Bedroom: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Couch, floor space: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Restrictions:      Smoking/non-smoking: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Pets: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Children: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Time limit: \_\_\_\_\_

Life Style:          Comfortable, amenities: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Sparse: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         You're on your own: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         We're at your service: \_\_\_\_\_

Special features:    Kitchen privileges: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Sight-seeing guides: \_\_\_\_\_

Special interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

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

**• Calendar of Events •**

- Nov. 13 Regional meeting; NW Natural Gas Bldg.
- Nov. 13 West African Pigout (at the Waite's)
- Nov. 14-20 Geography Awareness Week
- Dec. 12 Holiday meeting & Moroccan dinner at the Amrani's
- Jan. 16 Program Meeting @ Charlene's
- July 1994 National RPCV Conference, Atlanta, GA

**RPCVs of Oregon/Portland to Sponsor Sudanese Family for Holidays**

Our RPCV group will be sponsoring a family from The Sudan this holiday season. This family comes to us courtesy of the Lutheran Refugee Services Portland office. They are a Christian family that is having a hard time fitting into the predominantly Muslim local Sudanese community. The family consists of a father, mother, male cousin and two children, ages one and three. The men speak English, while the mother speaks Dinka and some Arabic. She is feeling pretty isolated here and along with material gifts could probably use some female friendship — maybe even help in cooking, "American Style." As far as gift suggestions, the LRS office recommends the following:

- Winter clothing (for the adults; winter coats, gloves)
- Blankets, towels, sheets (twin and double)
- Bike helmets for the men (they have been given bikes for transportation)
- Backpacks for carrying books and such on bikes
- English dictionary
- Umbrellas (welcome to rainy Oregon!)
- A nice cooking pan
- Used cassette player
- A diaper bag
- A few new toys (quality, not quantity counts)
- A lamp for reading
- Supplies like toilet paper or shampoo, soap

Please take a good look at this list and see if you don't have some good-condition, used items which could be donated. Or, if you are shopping for yourself and can buy one or two extra items, it would be most appreciated and you probably won't notice the extra expense. Bring anything you can to the Holiday party at the Ben 'N Breakfast in December or call Phyllis Shelton at 503-295-1863 for pick-up or drop-off coordination. Thank you for helping this family settle into life in Portland!

**OFFICERS**

<b>Steering Committee</b>	
Brenda Michel	236-5838
Margie Hazelton	236-8346
Joan Swee	252-2295
Mike Waite	206-574-7455
<b>Secretary-Treasurer</b>	
Dick Swee	252-2295
<b>Program Coordinators</b>	
Margie Hazelton	236-8346
Pat Greendale	255-1101
Charlene Holzworth	284-3444
<b>Membership</b>	
JoAnn von Rohr	282-1721
<b>Restaurant Coordinator</b>	
Joan Swee	252-2295
<b>Speaker's Bureau</b>	
Phyllis Shelton	295-1863
<b>Newsletter</b>	
Robin Teater	286-0177
<b>Development Education</b>	
Gabriella Maertens	254-5161

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P.O. Box 802  
Portland, OR 97207

Submissions for the Dec. 1993  
newsletter should be received by  
November 25. Please mail to:

Robin Teater\*  
7126 N. Delaware Ave.  
Portland, OR 97217  
*\* please note new address!*

**FYI**

Ratio of soldiers to  
physicians in the  
developing world:  
8:1

## Holiday Dinner

We will have a special Moroccan dinner at the home of Kathryn and Abhas Amrani in Boring on Sunday, December 12th. Gathering time is 5 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. On the menu is chicken tagine, harria soup, a variety of salads, bread, chocolate mousse, coffee, tea and punch — all for \$10, including tip! The Amrani home is always beautifully decorated for the holiday season. Moroccan artifacts will be on display and you may view a video of henna application taped during their recent visit to Morocco. Call Joan Swee at 252-2295 to reserve your place. Bring canned foods or gifts for our Adopt-a-Family project (see article by Phyllis Shelton on previous page for details).

## National Geography Awareness Week

I will again coordinate the National Geography Awareness Week activities at Madison High School to take place this year from November 14-20. Jo and David Cameron have developed a special presentation on the theme "Water Matters." The environmental art classes will provide posters and the Environmental Club at Madison will have speakers on local water issues. I still need a few more speakers. Call me at 254-5161.

*by Gabriella Maertens*

**RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS  
OF PORTLAND/OREGON  
P.O. Box 802  
PORTLAND, OR 97207**

## Speaker's Bureau

On Wednesday, October 13th, the World Affairs Council of Oregon hosted a Speaker's Training session which was attended by 13 RPCVs and about 20 international students from local colleges. We ate dinner, mingled and heard short presentations by experienced speakers on successful tactics for speaking to groups. The event was well organized and enjoyed by all.

If you are willing to speak in classrooms and/or to organized meetings, and are not registered with our group as a speaker, please sign up by calling Speaker's Bureau Coordinator Phyllis Shelton at 503-295-1863. If you have registered before but have moved, changed your work hours (and thus your availability) or have expanded your repertoire (through more travel) please call and update our records. Thanks!

.....  
• **DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR** •  
• **INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR! THEY** •  
• **MAKE GREAT GIFTS AND THEY HELP** •  
• **SUPPORT RPCVs OF OREGON/** •  
• **PORTLAND!** •  
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Apr 1, 1994  
Marie Hermanson  
[REDACTED]  
Portland, OR [REDACTED]