



APRIL 1994

RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF OREGON/PORTLAND

• Volume 13 • Number 4 •

Visions in Action

Visions in Action provides 6-12 month internships in African cities with non-profit development organizations in the areas of project management, community development, journalism, health care, small business, research and other areas. Programs in Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Burkina Faso leave throughout the year, with the newest program in the Dominican Republic leaving in October.

Volunteers raise their own money for the program, approximately \$4-5,000 a year, which includes airfare, housing, insurance, and living expenses. In exchange, Visions in Action arranges for furnished apartments, work permits, internships, a month-long orientation, including local language training, and ongoing support. Volunteers also receive a monthly stipend. The program is international, with volunteers from around the globe participating, and is open to university graduates, or those with equivalent experience. For more information contact Allesandra deSantillana at Visions in Action, 3637 Fulton St. NW, Washington D.C. 20002; phone 202-625-7403.

From the President

Name Change: Recently a proposal was put forth to change our name to the Columbia River Peace Corps Association. As of this writing [3/23] the vote tally stands as follows: 2 Columbia River RPCVs; 2 keep it as is; 3 Columbia River Peace Corps Association. Two other suggestions were also offered — Columbia Willamette RPCVs or RPCVs of Oregon/Columbia River. If you have an opinion, please use the ballot on the back of this newsletter or leave word on my answering machine: 236-5838. We'll make the final decision in May at the annual Founders Day Potluck.

Starlight Parade, Saturday evening June 4th: This year's parade theme is "View From My Window". The Homowa Foundation for Afrikan Arts, i.e., Obo Addy and his drummers and dancers will not be able to join us in the Starlight Parade this year. In the meantime, the World Affairs Council is willing to phone any number of international exchange students in the metro area and ask them to walk with us. If you are planning to march, call me to reserve your place in the line up. Do you know someone in Portland from your country of service who would be willing to walk with you in the parade? Can you help me with the planning process? My task list looks like this: I need somebody to organize our eat/drink gathering afterward; somebody to get 10-20 flags for us; somebody to organize transportation logistics.

PCV Presentation Video: The Denver Pike's Peak RPCV group has produced a 60 min. video of PCVs at work in every region around the world. We anticipate many uses for this video, one of which is for you to use if you would like to do presentations but don't have any visual aids to supplement your talk. The video can be viewed in its entirety or can be started and stopped anywhere along the way, depending on

Next Business Meeting

Sunday, April 17 at Charlene's house (ph. 284-3444)
4:30 p.m.: Business Meeting
6:00 p.m.: Potluck
7:00 p.m.: Program, featuring Mia Burke of the City of Portland Bike Program to speak on "Biking in the Third World"

continued on page 2

From the President, continued from page 1

your and your audience's needs.

Our Nomination to the National Peace Corps Association: We're proud to announce that Phyllis Shelton is our nominee to the NPCA Board of Directors. We will submit our nomination letter to the Association by the April 19th deadline.

The **Nomination Party** held at the PSU Campus Ministry on March 14th was a great success. There were 40-50 people there including a number of RPCVs who are not yet members of this organization. Additionally, there were nominees on hand who very adeptly paired up with RPCVs who could offer lots of good advice. Thanks to Dick and JoAnn Swee for buying drinks and snacks, and to everyone else who brought food to share with the group. Three recruiters from the Seattle Regional Office facilitated discussions and answered questions about the process of becoming a volunteer.

Calendar Sales? But 1995 Isn't 'Til Next Year!

The RPCVs of Oregon 1995 International Peace Corps Calendar Sales Executive Committee ("RO95IPCCSEC") convened for its first ground-breaking meeting on March 8, 1994. Our goal was to make a plan to assure that the success of this year's fund-raiser surges way beyond last year's, which had surged way beyond that of the year before.

Highlights:

Sales goal: 500 calendars (we sold 225 last year).

Beneficiary: Lutheran Family Services?? (The selection was made at the December dinner at the Amrani's. Last year's sales led to \$300 being donated to the Community Energy Project.)

Prices: \$10, \$8 for members and stores.

Strategies: A variety of plans. The most important (going by last year's successes) is to continue and build the sales force of volunteers who sell to friends, co-workers, etc. We'll build by having more people involved, and by providing free sales training and...

Prizes: Sell 5 or more: Calendar postcards; sell 20 or more, RPCVs of Oregon sweatshirt.

We will take orders for calendars from now until the end of October. Calendars will be delivered by mid-November. Calendars will be sold, if available, after November 1.

Please call Jerry or any of the committee members if you'd be able to volunteer for phone duty, sales calls to stores, sales to friends, or calendar delivery. Please call also if you have any other ideas for making this fund-raiser a great success.

Calendar Committee: Jerry and Teresa Porter (281-9576); Karen McAlister (646-1298); Robin Teater (286-0177)

RPCV HAPPENINGS

The Annual Founder's Day Potluck and Picnic

When: Sunday, May 22nd

Where: Blue Lake Park, located 20 mins. east of downtown along Marine Drive, near 223rd Ave.

We've reserved Covered picnic area "Celilo A" near the weeping willow tree. At \$3 a car load, you can't beat the price of a great Founder's Day Picnic/Potluck! What's there to do?

- softball field #1 is reserved for us from 2-4 p.m.
- sanded volleyball courts
- basketball courts
- 2 miles of walking + biking paths
- swimming, fishing, boating
- archery range
- horseshoe pits
- concession booth
- paddle boats, canoes & tandem bikes for rent

Bring the kids (yours or your neighbor's) and join in the fun. See you there!

University of Portland Cultural Fair

RPCVs of Oregon/Portland will again have a booth at the U of P Cultural Fair to be held Sunday, April 17 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Chiles Center, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd. in Portland. This event is designed to bring together the diverse members of the North Portland community to celebrate cultural differences and similarities. It's also a chance to enjoy plenty of good ethnic food and excellent entertainment, as well as meet representatives of community organizations and businesses. This is a great opportunity for RPCVs of Oregon/Ptld to network, meet new people and enhance community relations. Please call Gabriella Maertens at 254-5161 if you're interested in helping staff the booth.

Regional Campout

The "RPCVs Just Wanna Have Fun" Regional Campout will be at Ogden Lake near LaPine, Oregon, south of Bend on August 19-21st. The fee will be \$10 per person, with a maximum of \$25 per family. Mike and Mary Lynn Waite have more information about the site. We're going to roast some turkeys for the group shared meal.

LETTERS

Dear RPCV Newsletter:

Like other RPCVs of Oregon, we have given many presentations to elementary and high schools. Some write thank-you notes, and I thought RPCVs of Oregon/Portland might like to see a few from the 5th grade at Sunnyside school.

The slide presentation (with artifacts) seemed a big hit with these kids — 28 in all!

Sincerely,
Jo and David Cameron

Earth Day Energy Fast

April 22 is Earth Day. This year, everyone is urged to participate by cutting back or eliminating energy use during the "Earth Day Energy Fast" for three days — Friday, April 22, through Sunday, the 24th. To have the greatest impact on energy savings during the fast, here are six recommendations from the national coordinators:

Transportation: Use mass transit; Climate control: Reduce temperature settings; Lighting: Retrofit with compact fluorescents; Food preparation: Prepare non-cooked meals; Water: Conserve; Electronic communication: Reduce or eliminate.

These easy individual acts, performed by millions of people nation-wide, add up to an enormous demonstration of collective power. The United States is by far the largest energy consumer in the world. It means we have a special obligation to reduce consumption, and the "Energy Fast" gives us the opportunity to show that it can be done.

Dear, Mr, and Mrs, Cameron

I know a lot about the Solom Islands now that you two came.

I'm Anthony, the one who kept putting my hands up. I hope you know who I am now. I really feel sorry for them, but they are very smart and they know what to do.

Sincerely, Anthony Masley

p.s.

I'm sorry you broke you're arm.



Dear Mr and Mrs Cameron
Thank you for coming to our class to teach us about the Solomon Islands. I learned a lot, especially about the fans to keep flies away from food, and that before 1903, the people there were cannibals.
Thank you for coming.

Sincerely,
Zach Michelin

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Cameron

Thank you for showing us about Solomon Island, it was very interesting. I hope some day you will come in again and show us more about other countries.
Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
- Tom Nguyen



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

And part of Wyoming (welcome to our region)

Next Regional Meeting

Seattle, Washington May 14, 1994

Contact Charlotte Utting — 202-527-7611 with agenda items

Last regional meeting

The meeting on February 19, 1994 was hosted by the West Cascade RPCV group of the Eugene/Springfield, Oregon area. The Starlight Parade is in Portland June 4, this is also the date for the Annual Goat Chase Retreat in Montana. Members of the region are urged to attend one of the events. The Regional Camp Out will be in the Ogden Group Camp on Paulina Creek in the Newberry Crater of the Deschutes National Forest on August 19-21. Mike Waite of the Portland group can be contacted for information — 206-574-7455. Beryl Brinkman and Don Nordin gave a summary of the National Peace Corps Association activity and progress. The 1994 Atlanta National Conference, the Group Project Manual, ReConnect, a Mission Statement, and Resource Assistance to Rural Environments (RARE) was also discussed. A summary of the entire minutes can be obtained by calling 503-345-3504 or your local regional representative.

What's happening around the region

RPCVs of Alaska

Gary Stein of Anchorage reported that the meeting called to hook-up by telephone to the Regional Meeting was curtailed by a violent wind storm and 50 degree below temperatures! They get together once a month at a restaurant.

RPCVs of Portland, Oregon (Colombia River Basin Peace Corps Association)

The group has contributed money and volunteer labor to help weatherize homes for people with limited mobility or low income. The group agreed to help a family from the Sudan with furnishings. In February the group will plant trees with "Friends of Trees." They will participate in International Volunteer Day. A breakfast with Carol Bellamy on January 12 was enjoyed.

RAVN of Seattle, Washington

RAVN was very pleased with the reception for Carol Bellamy and career workshops by Mona Melanson in January. A New Year's Eve dance was a successful fund raiser. They donated \$700 to a center for homeless and \$700 to a Peace Corps Partnership project in Ghana. The group submitted an application to help with the national immunization project.

West Cascade RPCVs, Eugene/Springfield, Oregon

The Carol Bellamy reception was the highlight of the quarter for the RPCVs in southern Oregon. A signing of an agreement of cooperation for a fellows program between the University of Oregon and the Peace Corps took place prior to the reception. The group applied for the Peace Corps' ReConnect project.

Corvallis, Oregon

Nicholas Hobgood has called a March meeting of RPCVs in the Corvallis/Salem area with the intention of forming a new group. A Zairian night with food (*fufu*) and slides will entertain those who attend.

RPCVs of Western Montana

The group meets several times a year. They sold calendars and donated the funds to three food banks. Members visit schools and groups to give talks. The annual retreat will be at Flat Head Lake near Rollins, June 4-6.

Treasure Valley RPCVs of Idaho

The group's activities include a Nepal night open to the public to show slides and artifacts. They also are planning their second annual Earth Fest in April that will have recruitment booth that they will help man.

• CALENDAR OF EVENTS •

April 17 Business Meeting @ Charlene's

April 17 University of Portland Cultural Fair

May 22 Founder's Day Picnic & Potluck

June 4 Starlight Parade

Aug. 20-21 RPCV Northwest Regional Campout

July 1994 National RPCV Conference, Atlanta, GA

• END NOTES •

Starlight Parade Reminder: Are YOU planning to walk in this year's Starlight Parade, Saturday night, June 4th? Call Brenda 236-5838 and tell her so. She needs to know how many to plan for. Furthermore, if you are planning to walk in the parade, do you know a host country national who would walk with you? Leave that message on her machine, too.

Any Ideas? The next West African Pigout will be Saturday, November 12th. We're looking for a more spacious venue. Any suggestions? Please call Mike and Mary Lynn Waite at 206-574-7455.

OFFICERS

Steering Committee
 Brenda Michel 236-5838
 Margie Hazelton 236-8346
 Joan Swee 252-2295
 Mike Waite 206-574-7455

Secretary-Treasurer
 Dick Swee 252-2295

Program Coordinators
 Margie Hazelton 236-8346
 Pat Greendale 255-1101
 Charlene Holzworth 284-3444

Membership
 JoAnn von Rohr 282-1721

Restaurant Coordinator
 Joan Swee 252-2295

Speaker's Bureau
 Phyllis Shelton 295-1863

Newsletter
 Robin Teater 286-0177

Development Education
 Gabriella Maertens 254-5161

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 P.O. Box 802
 Portland, OR 97207

Submissions for the May 1994
 newsletter should be received by
 April 25. Please mail to:
 Robin Teater
 7126 N. Delaware Ave.
 Portland, OR 97217

MEMBERSHIP • ADDRESS CHANGE • RENEWAL FORM

NAME: _____ PHONE:() _____ hm () _____ wk

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

PEACE CORPS COUNTRY: _____ YEARS: _____

PEACE CORPS JOB/SECTOR: _____

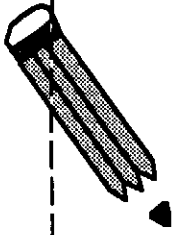
CURRENT OCCUPATION: _____

- New Membership
- Membership renewal
- New address, effective: ___/___/___
- Joining RPCVs of Oregon/Portland and NPCA (\$35 individual/\$50 family)
- Joining RPCVs of Oregon/Portland only (\$15 individual/\$22.50 family)
- Joining NPCA only (\$27.50)

Please make checks payable to : **RPCVs of OREGON/PORTLAND**
 And mail to: **P.O. BOX 802**
 PORTLAND, OR 97207

VOTE HERE

ON PROPOSED NAME CHANGE FOR RPCV'S OF PORTLAND/OREGON



I vote we keep our name the same:
The Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Oregon/Portland.

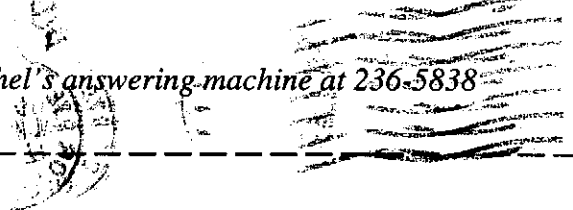
I vote we change our name to:
The Columbia River Returned Peace Corps Volunteers

I vote we change our name to:
The Columbia River Peace Corps Association

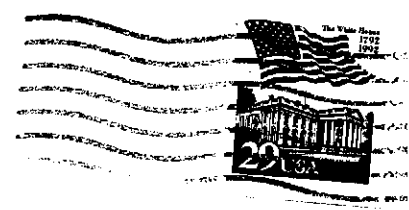
I suggest this instead: _____

**Please send this ballot to*:
RPCVs of Oregon/Portland
P.O. Box 802
Portland, OR 97207**

**Or, if you prefer, leave a "voice mail" vote on Brenda Michel's answering-machine at 236-5838*



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



Apr 1, 1994
Marie Hermanson
[REDACTED]
Portland, OR [REDACTED]

If this box is checked, your membership has expired. Please renew using the membership form inside!

If this box is checked, you have received a complimentary copy of our newsletter. To become a member of RPCVs of Oregon/Portland and receive future issues, please see the membership form inside!

Bringing the World Back Home