

# WORLD ROOTS

Newsletter of the RPCVs of Wisconsin - Madison



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## Message from the President

Lumelang fellow RPCVs!

I recently returned to Madison after a four day adventure in the Boundary Waters with five fabulous friends from Peace Corps Lesotho. A few had been extremely close friends during my time in Peace Corps and a few were people I had met before, but hadn't spent much time with (Different groups, different locations). Regardless of how well we knew each other before the trip, we all instantly formed new connections and worked together to portage our gear, read the map and survive the mosquito attacks. Keeping the Peace



Corps theme alive we also shared enough bathroom stories to make me feel like I was back in Lesotho.

Peace Corps has truly brought (and continues to bring) an absolutely amazing assortment of people into my life. I treasure all the friendships I made as a volunteer and really appreciate all the friendships I have developed within the RPCV community since my return from Peace Corps. I love the instant connection I feel with anyone I meet who

served as a volunteer and the stories we all have in common (and the stories that are unique to each of us).

I hope many of you have similar opportunities to reconnect with fellow volunteers from your county of service and I urge you all to attend some of the upcoming social events within the Madison RPCV community and reconnect to the other RPCVs in your area.

Sala Hantle,

Mary Ann Feutz

### Coming Up....

- Book Club, Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, Clare's house (p. 6)
- September International Dinner, 6:30 PM, Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> (p. 10)
- Calendar Packing Party - Friday, September 12, Weiners' Warehouse (p. 9)
- Annual Picnic and General Meeting - Sunday, September 14, Tenney Park, 4:30 PM (p. 11)

## Dates in Brief\*

### July

- 11 - TGIF, Memorial Union
- 16 - Gen Mtng, Mem Terrace
- 22 - Cal Com Mtng RAS home\*
- 26 - Atwood Summerfest

### August

- 7 - International Dinner
- 8 - TGIF, Memorial Terrace
- 20 - Gen Mtng, Mem Terrace
- 24 - Book Club\*
- 26 - Cal Com Mtng RAS home\*

### September

- 4 - International Dinner\*
- 5 - TGIF, Memorial Union
- 12 - Calendar Packing\*
- 14 - Mtng/Picnic, Tenney Park\*
- 21 - Willy St. Fair\*
- 23 - Cal Com Mtng RAS home\*

\* More info inside

## In this Issue

Message from the President	1
Officers & Contacts	2
Tabling	2
Meeting Minutes	3
Calendar News	4
Thank You	4
Announcements	6
NPCA News	9
International Dinners	10
Registration!	12

## *RPCVs of WI – Madison Officers & Contacts*

### **Elected Officers**

President	Mary Ann Feutz	(262) 224.3753	<a href="mailto:mafeutz@uwalumni.com">mafeutz@uwalumni.com</a>
Vice President	Kate Schachter	234.1795	<a href="mailto:kateschachter@yahoo.com">kateschachter@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary	Rich Carr	221.8467	<a href="mailto:ffrsc@uaf.edu">ffrsc@uaf.edu</a>
Treasurer	Ana Zambie	234.0281	<a href="mailto:azambie@matcmadison.edu">azambie@matcmadison.edu</a>
Board Member	Walt Zeltner	873.5257	<a href="mailto:zeltner@chorus.net">zeltner@chorus.net</a>
Board Member	Char Thompson		<a href="mailto:charkt@charter.net">charkt@charter.net</a>

### **Event Chairs**

Family Brunch	Clare Vogel		<a href="mailto:vogelclare@gmail.com">vogelclare@gmail.com</a>
Freeze for Food	Rick Lackey	213.8878	<a href="mailto:meisa@charter.net">meisa@charter.net</a>
	Peter Joyce	245.0626	<a href="mailto:peterjoyce@sbcglobal.net">peterjoyce@sbcglobal.net</a>
Tabling Events	Troy Rutter	245.9964	<a href="mailto:txrutter@att.net">txrutter@att.net</a>
International Dinners	Tom Brodd	251.6193	<a href="mailto:thomasbrodd@sbcglobal.net">thomasbrodd@sbcglobal.net</a>
50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Laura Buchs	(203) 918.8650	<a href="mailto:buchsll@gmail.com">buchsll@gmail.com</a>

### **Other Contacts**

Calendar Coordinator	Tom Brodd	251.6193	<a href="mailto:thomasbrodd@sbcglobal.net">thomasbrodd@sbcglobal.net</a>
Calendar Customer Service	Ken Coffeen	224.1164	<a href="mailto:kcoffeen@tds.net">kcoffeen@tds.net</a>
Business Manager	Rose Ann Scott	241.0845	<a href="mailto:roseannscott@yahoo.com">roseannscott@yahoo.com</a>
Donation Coordinator	Walt Zeltner	873.5257	<a href="mailto:zeltner@chorus.net">zeltner@chorus.net</a>
Global Education	Marc Brand	255.1339	<a href="mailto:brand@madison.k12.wi.us">brand@madison.k12.wi.us</a>
At Large	Anne Riordan		???
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Newsletter Editor	Lee Row	232.9065	<a href="mailto:worldrootsnews@yahoo.com">worldrootsnews@yahoo.com</a>
Peace Corps Recruiter	John Sheffy	262.1121	<a href="mailto:peacecorps@cals.wisc.edu">peacecorps@cals.wisc.edu</a>
Registered Agent	Terry Stark	233.9140	<a href="mailto:terry.stark@yahoo.com">terry.stark@yahoo.com</a>

### **Listserv**

RPCVs of WI – Madison [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rpcv\\_madison/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rpcv_madison/)

### **Websites**

RPCVs of WI – Madison <http://www.rpcvmadison.org>  
International Calendar <http://www.rpcvcalendar.org>  
NPCA <http://www.rpcv.org>  
Peace Corps Online <http://www.peacecorpsonline.org>  
Peace Corps <http://www.peacecorps.gov>  
Address

PO Box 1012, Madison, WI 53701

## **Wanna Table?**

**We sell calendars and do a bit of light Peace Corps recruiting at events around the community. If you want to be included in the fun of our next tabling event at the Willy Street Fair on Sunday, September 21, call Troy at 245-9964 or email [txrutter@att.net](mailto:txrutter@att.net) to volunteer.**



# Meeting Minutes

## Wednesday, June 18

We met on the Union Terrace June 18, 2008. Mary Ann called the meeting to order at 7:05.

**Present:** Rich Carr, Ana Zambie, Kate Schachter, Char Thompson, Lee Row, Mary Ann Feutz, Walt Zeltner, Karen Sage, Tom Brodd, Judy Stadler, Rose Ann Scott, Ken Coffeen

### Financial Report

Ana reminded all that the fiscal year runs from September through August. She is thus on her way to closing out the current fiscal year. There is currently a good calendar balance, even though there have not been many sales in the past month. The organization has accumulated a good amount of interest on our account over the past year. Eight of the groups whose proposals received funding have cashed their checks.

### 501(c) Filing of Form 990-N

Ana stated that as a non-profit, we will have five months past the 8/31 date to work out our books and file necessary tax forms.

### Restraining Order

Tom phoned Gordon Malaise to discuss the possibility of filing a restraining order against Albert Wellstein, but he has not heard back.

### Elections 2008

New officers will be chosen in September. Ana will continue as Treasurer; other positions are open to interested parties.

### Review NPCA Building Grant Request Form

RPCVs used to give NPCA \$10,000 without strings or an application process. Since 2005, we have furnished them with guidelines and asked for an evaluation report on their use of the money. We would like to change the process to an annual grant application with either a March 1 or a June 1 deadline.

### RPCV Mentoring Program

NPCA would like to develop further the RPCV Mentoring Program, in which newly returned PCVs are matched with a veteran RPCV for assistance in the readjustment process. They want a point person

to do the matching; Lee volunteered to be that person.

### Isthmus Update

Our listing in the Isthmus Annual Manual needs updating for accuracy. We should appear under "Citizen Action" and then be listed there under "Service Groups." Also listed should be the RPCV e-mail address.

### MorePeaceCorps Events

Milwaukee's MorePeaceCorps event will be held Sunday, June 22, in St John's Cathedral Atrium from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. The Madison event will take place on Monday, June 23, from 6:00 - 9:00 pm in the Agora Pavilion, 5511 East Cheryl, in Fitchburg. Lee has been handling press releases. Others have volunteered already to bring food or clean up afterwards. Son Mudanza, a Mexican group, will play from 8 - 9, and the \$100 for their performance will be paid by RPCVs; NPCA will cover most other expenses. Kate asked for help in picking up food, bringing chairs, staffing the literature table. Rajeev Goyal, RPCV Nepal and Coordinator of MorePeaceCorps, will deliver a presentation on the purpose and goals of the MorePeaceCorps movement.

### In Brief

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Potluck Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 14: meeting at 4:30, potluck at 5:00. The Calendar unveiling will take place at a potluck hosted by Tom (1527 Jefferson Avenue). Laura Buchs has returned and will soon announce a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee meeting. Mary Ann noted that we have received several thank-yous from groups whose projects were funded; those were passed around.

## Wednesday, July 16, 2008

**Present:** Rich Carr, Ken Coffeen, Char Thompson, Rose Ann Scott, Judy Stadler, Lee Row, Meghan Meeker, Tom Brodd, Kate Schachter, Kathleen Quinlan

Kate served as Acting President in the absence of Mary Ann. She called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

### Financial Report

Ana was unable to attend and sent a financial report by e-mail. Kate passed around handouts with the report and other materials connected to meeting topics.

### Filing for Restraining Order

Tom had finally been able to speak to Gordon Malaise, who stated that filing a restraining order against Albert Wellstein would be tricky, as RPCVs is a dispersed group. E-mail harassment is covered by Section 949.0125 by Wisconsin state law, and Wellstein's current restraining order could be used to cover RPCVs. Tom advised that anyone receiving a harassing e-mail from Wellstein (or anyone else) should ignore him and contact the police.

### Group Roles to Fill

Vice President and Secretary are both elected positions, and both are open for the coming year. Kate has asked Meghan to consider the Secretary position, but she is not yet ready to commit. Rich said that the position involved attending the meeting, taking notes, and organizing those notes into an accurate account of the proceedings; it required about five hours each month.

RPCVs also need a Data Base Manager. Rose Ann suggested that the name be changed to Membership Coordinator. The current title suggests something larger and more sweeping technically than the responsibilities require.

### Isthmus Annual Manual

Kate announced that RPCVs would henceforth be listed under 'Citizen Action—Service Groups.'

### Picnic Reminder

Annual Picnic will take place on Sunday, September 14. Any changes to the plans must be sent out a month ahead of the picnic date.

### Peace Corps 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Contact Laura Buchs if you would like to participate in the planning for the event. Tom asked that we consider what we want to do as a group to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. For the 40<sup>th</sup>, RPCVs from Minneapolis and Madison and the WAA put on a party in the

Great Hall. Char asked for a phone number for Laura (203.918.8650).

### **NPCA Grant Request Form**

The NPCA has expressed their gratitude for the fund. \$10,000 is not a great deal of money, so they need to pool our gift with other funds to apply the money to something useful. Their fiscal year runs from October 1 - September 30. They would like a rolling deadline rather than a fixed one, currently March 1. NPCA takes on one project a year; when they complete that project, they move to a new one. Lee asked if we could say that NPCA not receive more than \$10,000 per year. Char said that there should be no retroactive award; if NPCA doesn't use the money one year, they cannot receive \$20,000 next time. Our fiscal year runs from September 1 - August 31. Char stated that if we have not given NPCA money by late August, we could use that money for one of our proposals. Lee said she would try to embody those ideas into the draft grant policy and proposal. Kate suggested taking the grant draft as it was developed, changing item 4—"Proposals will be accepted once each year, no later than August 15, to comply with our fiscal year planning." The motion to amend the NPCA Group Building Grant accordingly passed.

### **MorePC**

We sponsored a MorePeaceCorps event on June 23 attended by fourteen people. MorePeaceCorps would like to double the number of volunteers serving overseas; as a follow-up to the nationwide events, MorePC would like an official endorsement of the program from all RPCV groups around the country. Char suggested that the issue be brought up at the Annual Meeting in September. Kathleen responded that MorePC would like the support in place by September. The discussion and questions centered on what "support" would entail or what exactly we would be voting on as a group, since funding for such an increase requires Congressional approval. Kathleen asked that we make a motion to support the MorePeaceCorps goal of doubling the number of

volunteers by 2011. The motion carried—8 yes, 2 no.

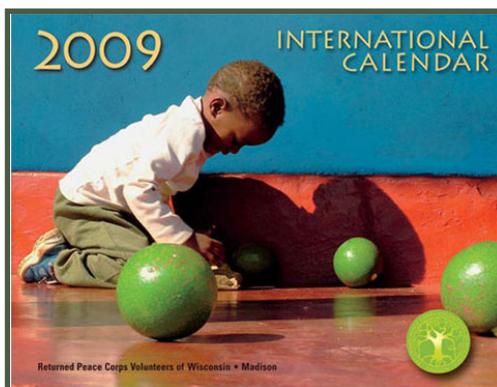
### **Damian Wampler Proposal**

Wampler is a former Peace Corps recruiter with an interest in professional international development. He is interested in starting a magazine with a grassroots, human interest focus and is soliciting support for the idea. Tom indicated the idea was an individual, not a group project. Char suggested that he might start with a blog to attract potential readers, then move toward a magazine.

### **Scheduling Room and Facilities Use at Memorial Union**

Kathleen is hosting a mini-reunion for her Peace Corps training group this summer and was surprised to discover how complex the scheduling process had become. For instance, Lowell Hall residences are available only to participants of meetings held at the Union. She also learned that only three members of our group have the authority to schedule meetings or events at the Union. Kate stated that at least one of the group's officers should have that authority, and at least one of those with scheduling authority should be a UW student. There is a process for changing the names of those qualified to schedule meetings; she will discuss the topic with the new Peace Corps recruiter when he arrives on campus.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm; the next meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 20.



## *Calendar News*

July 22, 2008

**Production** 35,000 calendars have been printed

### **Sales**

To date 21,652 calendars have been sold.

### **Job Descriptions**

The committee chair requested that all who work on the calendar write up a job description on what and how they do their calendar task. This is wanted so as to compile a complete listing of jobs and how those are done so future members will know the types of tasks and how they are done. Also in case of someone not being able to do their task others on the committee will be able to pick up the task without too much interruption to the calendar production.

### **Website Update**

Because of summertime vacations the website has not been totally updated. It is expected that this should be finished as soon as people return from their summertime travels.

### **Packing Party**

A tentative date of September 12, 2008 has been set but we still need to confirm this date with Allen.

### **Timeline for extra pictures**

Because we have started picking extra pictures to help relieve the time pressure on calendar production (by not having to produce work on all 13 calendar pictures between picture picking and calendar printing between January and May), we need to decide which of those pictures we want to use for the 2010 calendar and then to set deadlines on getting those pictures to production-ready status.

### **Price increase for calendar**

We need to discuss whether or not we want to raise the price we charge for the 2010 calendar. Reasons for a price increase on the production end include increased costs for printing and increased mailing costs caused by higher fuel prices. Reasons on the donation side are to keep up our current level of assistance in view of a weaker dollar. We will need to contribute more dollars to equal the same amount we've contributed to overseas projects.



Thanks to another all-star line-up at our booth at the Atwood Summerfest on July 26, 2008. Leading off was Lee Row, followed by Rochelle Goedken, Ken Coffeen, Rose Ann Scott, Phyllis Noble, Bob Klein, Sharon Isensee, Marc Brand, Teresa Cousins, Margot Kennard, with Tom Brodd, Greg Pepping, and Laura Buchs batting clean-up. As the photos can attest, everyone had a fun time.

If you want to be included in the fun, our next tabling event will be at the Willy Street Fair on Sunday September 21. Call Troy at 245-9964 or email [txrutter@att.net](mailto:txrutter@att.net) to volunteer.



Rose Ann reminds everyone that calendars are going fast and we sold out last year. Members can buy calendars for \$4 up to the end of the picnic at Tenney Park, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>. After the 14<sup>th</sup>, calendars are \$5 for members. A good plan might be to pay your membership and get your calendars at the picnic.



## Treasurer's Report

July 2008

Calendar balance	\$116,793
Group balance	2,902
Global Ed Fund	1,200
Annual projects	6,670
PCPartnerships	0
NPCA Fund	7,400
FFF	2,149

**Account balances \$137,134**

## Thank You's



### Ghana Girls Dorm

Kate Schachter was a PCV in Ghana and when she had the opportunity to "spend" calendar money on a PC Partnership Project, she chose a project in Ghana. Now the project is completed and the Volunteer who presented the project and the girls who will benefit from a safe and clean place to stay while they attend the Najpanduri Business High School have written to thank us.

Dear Kate & the RPCVs of Madison,

Thank you all so much for your extremely generous contribution to the Nakpanduri girls' dormitory project. Your continued support of PCV projects and how you're representing Peace Corps and a spirit of community is truly admirable. I hope we new RPCVs can continue to grow your legacy. In Nakpanduri, 100 girls have moved in to their new dorm – complete with electricity, bunk beds, and bed nets – and they are very grateful. It is my hope that the dorm should serve that community for many years. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Carl Allen  
RPCV Ghana '08

Dear Donors,

In conjunction with my colleagues and staff of Nakpanduri Business High School is very grateful to you for your parcel donated to us to erect the girls hostel. I cannot commend words to thank you for this voluminous gesture. All that I can say here is that I appreciate your effort very much for such kind gesture.

Finally, we the girls are hanging in people house where we are always asked to carry on every house hold activities, which retards our studies. Sometimes landlords force some girls to give themselves to them on bed. I wish to assure you that your money will be used for the rightful purpose it was give for that is the construction of the girls hostel to solve those problems listed above. We thank you very much and hope that when ever we call on you as Oliver Twist also ask for more you will help us. Thank you very much for your support.

Yours sincerely,  
Nanbiar Matilda S.

Dear Donors,

I am very grateful to write you this letter. I write to acknowledge the receipt of the funds you sent us for the construction of our hostel. The main reason why I am writing this letter to you is that I want to thank you for the wonderful work you have done.

We are going to think about you. Our hostel was constructed and we are ready to state that you should not forget about Nakpanduri business high school. Always remember about us.

The problem that was facing us in other hostel was too bad for us to control the town boys who normally come and disturb us and tease some of the girls to rape them and some of the girls go out in the town and follow boys. Finally some of them may easily get pregnancy and some of them may easily die. So you should continue to remember about us.

Yours ever,  
Mayeem Mary

## Announcements

### It's Election Time!

Our September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and picnic is also our annual election event. We will vote on candidates for president, vice president, secretary and two board positions. The treasurer position is a two-year commitment and our able treasurer, Ana Zambie, will continue in her office through 2009.

#### Candidates are:

President: Kate Schachter

Vice-President: Lee Row

Secretary: Meghan Meeker

Board member 1: Walt Zeltner

Board member 2: Char Thompson

We also have a non-elected change in our group. **Brad Hinkfuss** has been our Membership Coordinator for most of this century and he has done a beautiful job of creating an Access database that can be easily updated and maintained. He recently indicated he was ready to pass the database on to someone who would like to support the group with this task. We greatly appreciate his energy and good work and thank him for his time. Now he can devote more time to his family, when he's not doing good work at Porchlight.

**Heather Hempel Gomez** has volunteered to take on the membership coordination duties. Please welcome Heather to the position, and thank her for her commitment the next time you see her at a monthly dinner or Union Terrace social event!

This is an example of volunteer activity that is not an elected position. We have many more opportunities like this. Please feel free to contact any of the Board members or ask at a meeting to find out how you can help the group continue its work in the Madison and global community.

### Book Club

The August Book Club meeting will be held August 24 at Clare Vogel's house in the Monroe St. area. We'll be discussing Confessions of an Economic Hit Man by John Perkins. If you're interested in be-

coming a regular member of the club or just attending this discussion, e-mail Mary Ann Feutz ([mafeutz@uwalumni.com](mailto:mafeutz@uwalumni.com)) to get on the "insiders" e-mail list, otherwise stay tuned for further listserv and newsletter reminders.

### A Couple of Issues

For a number of years the RPCVs of WI-Madison set aside 10% of calendar profits to support the National Peace Corps Association. A few years ago we decided to formalize the NPCA grant and specify that the money be used to help build other RPCV groups. This past year the NPCA has done a good job using 2007 funds to conduct group-building sessions in the context of meetings they've held around the country. Based on discussions at recent meetings and discussions with the NPCA, we've updated the grant guidelines, which appear below.

However, the NPCA has not applied for a grant for our current fiscal year, which expires in September. That means that we have funds in our account that are not being used. At the same time, members of the Calendar Committee have been working on a Global Education project to create posters for use in educational settings using calendar photos to illustrate cultural commonality. In the next month, the Poster People will be presenting a formal request for the 2008 NPCA funds to finance the Poster Project. You may have seen some prototype posters at the Photo Viewing in January when they asked members for feedback on poster design. They also attended the Social Studies and International Education Conference in March and discussed the posters with social studies teachers. Now they want to let the group in on what they've been working on for discussion and reaction:

#### Draft Proposal

In the spirit of the third goal of Peace Corps and based on the huge photo resource and reputation of our calendar, it is proposed to do a series of posters. In all there would be fifteen with the

topics of commonality i.e.: We all eat, we all need a home, we all learn, we all play, we all travel and we all are families, etc. Each would be illustrated with 7 to 9 photos from previous year calendars or great ones not selected by RPCVs. Along with a booklet to describe the context of each photo and some educational questions, it could be very useful in classrooms and for diversity training. There have been requests from teachers for such and in anticipation of the 50th anniversary, this seems the appropriate time. We also can expect that libraries and other RPCVs would purchase them.

We could start with 5 24" x 36" posters and add 2 more sets of 5 over the next two years. By the 50th someone could purchase all 15 posters. They are not as time sensitive as a calendar, so it would be all right to sell them over several years. The set of 5 could be sold and mailed in tubes for \$29.95 plus postage, for example. Maybe by 2011 we can sell the 15 for \$50. We would like to start with a print run of 2,000 for a cost of \$1,655 or 84 cents per poster.

There would be some additional design and mailing upfront costs. The return per sale would be about \$20 so it would only take sale of 500 to cover the costs. This would mean a potential \$30,000 profit per set to fund good things. Or we can reduce that to sell to others wholesale and have less but yet cover the costs of future production. We would like to request initial production costs in the near future to seed this project. Comments and discussions are welcome. Please contact Char Thompson ([charkt@charter.net](mailto:charkt@charter.net)) for more information.

The latest version of the NPCA grant guidelines appears on the next page. Send comments or attend a meeting to discuss.



## RPCVs of Wisconsin – Madison NPCA Group-Building Grant



### Grant Policy

The members of the RPCVs of WI - Madison recognize that the work and culture of Peace Corps does not stop at the close of service, but that we carry that spirit into a variety of organizations and efforts across the country and around the world. We also recognize that forming RPCV groups and keeping that culture alive requires a great deal of effort in itself. The RPCVs of WI-Madison value group-building and wish to support it within the returned volunteer community.

The National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) is one of the key organizations that provide assistance to RPCVs as individuals and groups. One of the NPCA's goals is to "Strengthen the work of its affiliates at home and abroad in their pursuit of service." To that end, RPCVs of WI - Madison have established a grant as a means of encouraging NPCA efforts to support other returned volunteer groups and group efforts.

### Proposal Guidelines

All proposals of specific projects or initiatives that contribute to the development and success of RPCV groups and group efforts will be given serious consideration. We will use the following criteria in evaluating NPCA proposals:

1. Grants will be made to the NPCA as an organization and not to individuals.
2. Grants are not made to establish or add to endowment funds unless such funds are directed to a specific project that the RPCVs of WI - Madison deem appropriate.
3. Grants are not to be made to support operating expenses, general administrative expenses or travel expenses.
4. Proposals will be accepted once each year by August 15 and only one grant can be awarded per RPCVs of WI - Madison fiscal year (September - August).
5. The amount of grant funds available in a given year will depend on the proceeds of sales of the International Calendar from the previous year. Based on history, grant proposals should not exceed \$10,000.
6. An evaluation report of the previous year's grant (if awarded) and financial accounting for funds used must be submitted before a new grant proposal will be considered.
7. RPCVs of WI - Madison retains sole discretion as to the awarding of grants, the amount awarded and the longevity of this program.

### Proposal Format

Proposals should provide a simple narrative of what the NPCA wishes to do with the funds requested. An itemized project budget that lists other sources of funding and support, if any, must be included. The total proposal and budget should not exceed one single-spaced page.

### Another Interesting Project

Damian Wampler was our recruiter before the mighty Greg Pepping came on the scene. Damian's got a new idea he wants to share with the group. He's not asking for \$\$ at this point, just for ideas and feedback. In our recent meeting, we thought everyone should have a chance to read and react to his ideas. Following is Damian's recent e-mail.

RPCVs of WI-Madison,  
I used to be the campus recruiter for UW Madison before Greg, when I was a grad student there. I was thinking of your group and how wonderful the calendar is every year. I myself was a volun-

teer in Kyrgyzstan from 1999-2001 and now I am a recruiter at the New York regional office.

I have been researching the possibility of starting an international development magazine with a grassroots human interest focus, the type of work Peace Corps volunteers do on a daily basis but never gets recognized by the media. I have been looking for ways to start it, and was thinking about collaborating with WorldView or with another newsletter. Those plans though don't seem feasible, as WorldView has its own vision that doesn't necessarily correlate with mine. Do you think the RPCV's

of WI would be interested in a magazine and online development tool that would allow people in the United States to communicate with people in developing countries and actually contribute to grassroots development from their own homes? This would be a professional magazine sold in news stands and by subscription, and a web portal.

The mission statement is below and will give you an idea as to what I am talking about.

Peace and love,  
Damian Wampler  
[damianwampler@gmail.com](mailto:damianwampler@gmail.com)

## **Business Plan for a New International Development Magazine**

**Mission:** To portray people in peaceful developing countries who strive to improve their communities but lack resources in a realistic and compassionate manner and to connect them with counterparts who have technical skill, expertise and concern for their fellow human.

**Portray:** The publication will target readers of National Geographic and Smithsonian but with a few major differences. It will be a professional magazine available in newsstands and will probably begin at 10 issues per year. But unlike other news magazines, it will be more personal, focusing on the struggles of communities who have an abundance of will but a lack of resources. It will allow the reader to connect with the subject of the article and create a partnership that leads not only to collaborative development but also friendship.

Today's public is more aware of the realities outside of the United States that the generations before us. Today's young people have studied and volunteer abroad, and more and more have lived and worked in developing countries. We are aware of the plight of the developing world based on first hand experience. We know that developing countries are not homogeneous or static. We know that the stereotypes presented by mainstream media are inaccurate. We know that there is change and hope. We know that people in other countries are not really other – they are us. I plan to create a magazine that reflects the experiences of the modern reader and speaks to the hope that is provided by grassroots organizations and international assistance.

I have been shaped by my Peace Corps experience, and while I respect all forms of international experiences I feel that the Peace Corps is a fundamental first step in truly understanding other cultures and transforming oneself into a global citizen. The Peace Corps is

also an already established network of socially active citizens.

Therefore my publication would use returned Peace Corps volunteers as a foundation. The magazine will feature only developing countries that are peaceful (predominantly current or past Peace Corps countries) because of the potential for development and progress. Many of the stories covered will be a result of the journalists' interaction with Peace Corps volunteers or Returned Peace Corps volunteers. The publication will not however focus on the volunteer experience but rather on the success stories



on the ground in these countries, told by the people themselves. On the US side, stories will include how communities of foreigners are dealing with adaptation, poverty and discrimination, and how Americans are supporting and empowering these communities, raising awareness and developing intercultural relationships. Both types of stories will be told by people on the ground in their own worlds whenever possible, with Peace Corps volunteers providing the inspiration for the stories, contact information and translation.

The goal is for readers, teachers and students to be moved by these articles to communicate with the subject of the article and engage people of other cultures. The articles will provide a way for

readers to contact the people that are being written about and create friendships, provide assistance and promote change. The magazine will serve as a gateway to other cultures that builds relationships across cultures.

**Online:** The magazine will have an online component that will initially be simply a web version of the print magazine. But over the course of several years the website will be connected to another website, perhaps with non-profit status, with a different mission.

**Connect:** The development gateway will allow professionals, teachers, classrooms and inspired individuals with the ability to connect with communities overseas and provide technical assistance. The gateway will also be a way for people across borders to share their culture. The development gateway will allow people to have a Peace Corps like experience right at their computer. Individuals will volunteer their time on different projects and make an active contribution to global development through decentralized voluntary participation in international development.

Peace Corps volunteers will be the driving force behind the development gateway. Right now there are lots of ways that communities in the United States can donate money to currently serving volunteers and their projects, but no systematic way for people to provide technical expertise. Likewise, once relationships are established, communities overseas can access the gateway and ask for assistance without the help of a Peace Corps volunteer.

**Budget:** This magazine is in the startup phase. I am currently seeking support for this magazine. I am hoping to receive initial funding from RPCV groups throughout the country to cover the start up costs of the print magazine and the online version. I am also seeking technical assistance and human capital- RPCVs interested in sharing their stories with journalists and writers.

## Calendar Packing (and Pizza) Party

Our annual calendar packing party will be at Weiners' warehouse, 7182 US HWY 14, Middleton on Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. All are welcome to come and prepare our beautiful calendar for mailing to our loyal customers. This is an all-ages event, with tasks for all as well as plenty of pizza to fuel the efforts.

Traditionally this was the last chance for members to buy calendars at the \$4/calendar rate, but that privilege has been extended to the Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and picnic at Tenney Park (see p. 11 for details). Make it an RPCV weekend and reconnect with RPCV friends and make new ones! By the way, after the picnic, calendars will cost members \$5.

### Packing Party Directions



Take University Ave west through and out of Middleton past the last stop light. Continue until Hwy 14 is no longer divided. Go .3 (three tenths) of a mile further on the 2-lane Hwy 14. There is a very tall and slender sign that says "Westside Warehouse" on the right (north). That's it. Turn right at the red post.

that medical inventory that would otherwise be wasted could be routed to Bolivia. Thus, Minnesota volunteers began collecting and shipping what has now grown to 2,500,000 pounds of medical surplus. On the receiving end, Cochabamba volunteers continue to ensure that those medical supplies reach the neediest Bolivians. She pressed forward and within two years of launching Mano a Mano, she and her husband, along with counter-part volunteers in Bolivia, were overseeing a massive clinic-building program that as of now has created a health care infrastructure of eighty-nine community clinics in previously unserved areas of Bolivia.

Through this network more than 700,000 Bolivians have access to health care for the first time. This and Mano a Mano's other accomplishments (such as building roads, airstrips and agricultural water reservoirs as well as attaining an aviation program and constructing public school classrooms) has improved the lives of hundreds of thousands of Bolivians.

### The Loret Miller Ruppe Award for Outstanding Community Service

#### Project Wizard of the World (WOW), Friends of Malaysia

Project WOW brings RPCVs from Malaysia to grade school classrooms around the country in an effort to fulfill the third goal of Peace Corps - bringing the world back home - by promoting global awareness and cross-cultural understanding among young Americans. The 42 RPCVs of Project WOW use Malaysian folktales as a gateway for children to gain broader cultural understanding of Malaysia. In 30 states, over 3,300 elementary school students have gained some familiarity with Malaysia via these folktales, multi-media presentations, flashcards, show-and-tell, discussion, and Malaysian memorabilia - all provided by corporate donors and the Malaysian government. Project WOW has been remarkably successful in organizing the project, engaging RPCVs, and reaching out to their communities nationwide.

### The NPCA Electronic Media Awards

Entries were judged on content and technology used.

First Place: The Heart of Texas Peace Corps Association

<http://www.hotpca.org/>

Second Place: Minnesota Returned Peace Corps Volunteers

<http://www.mnrpcv.org/>

Third Place: The San Diego Peace Corps Association

<http://edweb.sdsu.edu/SDPCA/>

Fourth Place: Friends of Kyrgyzstan

<http://friendsofkyrgyzstan.org/newsletter/index.htm>

### The NPCA Print Media Awards

Entries were judged on content and layout and design.

First Place: Amigos de Bolivia y Peru

<http://www.amigosdeboliviayperu.org/>

Second Place: Friends of Nigeria

<http://friendsofnigeria.org/Newsletters.htm>

Third Place: Central Missouri Peace Corps Volunteers

<http://groups.google.com/group/central-mo-rpcvs>

Fourth Place: San Diego Peace Corps Volunteers

<http://edweb.sdsu.edu/SDPCA/newsletter.html>

Please take the time to click on or type in the links. It's definitely worth while!

### MorePeaceCorps

Message from the MorePeaceCorps campaign:



#### 100 House Parties

On September 6, 2008, the MorePeaceCorps campaign will be throwing 100 House Parties across the United States. Our goal is to build a bigger, better, bolder Peace Corps - one that is doubled in budget and worldwide volunteer base by 2011, the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps.

We are asking local MorePeaceCorps volunteers on the ground to rally their communities in support of this crucial campaign. September 6th is a night for supporters of MorePeaceCorps to gather with returned and prospective Peace Corps volunteers, friends, and family, for drinks, snacks, dancing,

## NPCA News

### NPCA Awards

The NPCA recently announced Service and Media Awards that reveal RPCV community talent and resourcefulness. Check out the links to the media awards to see what other groups are doing - and maybe get inspired!

### The Sargent Shriver Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Service

#### Joan Velasquez, co-founder of Mano a Mano, RPCV Bolivia

In 1994, Joan and her husband, Segundo Velasquez, founded a non-profit organization to serve the most impoverished villagers in rural Bolivia.

Mano a Mano was originally premised on the simple notion

movie screenings, letter-writing and live music.

There are numerous ways to help us out, whether by hosting a party, arranging for donations, coordinating publicity, writing letters or op-ed pieces, or simply attending your local house party!

Are you a natural-born leader? Become an official MorePeaceCorps local organizer. We will send you a house party organizer's kit, connect you with volunteers in your area, and plug you into our website.

*The success of 100 House Parties is essential to catapulting our campaign forward. We need your help to make this happen!*

To host a MorePeaceCorps House Party or to learn more about 100 House Parties, please contact May, MorePeaceCorps Communications/Events, at

[maywilkinson@morepeacecorps.org](mailto:maywilkinson@morepeacecorps.org)  
The MorePeaceCorps website is <http://www.morepeacecorps.org/>.

### **Peace Corps 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary NPCA has Started the Conversation**

In preparation for the National Peace Corps Association's Annual General Meeting, Board Meeting and Advisory Council meeting which took place June 28-30, 2007. NPCA President Kevin Quigley crafted a discussion paper on planning for the 50th anniversary of Peace Corps.

Read the full document by clicking:  
[Peace Corps at 50: Looking Back/Looking Forward](#)

We've also been steadily nudging relevant institutions to think about the 50th, and urging our community to reflect on how to mark this important occasion. NPCA discussions with Peace Corps have resulted in the designation of a committee within Peace Corps to initiate planning for the 50th. They have also begun to secure high profile event venues.

[Read an outline of 50th anniversary planning submitted by Deputy Peace Corps Director Jodi Olsen](#)

One date to pencil in: **September 22-25, 2011**. That is the date currently chosen for festivities on

the National Mall in Washington, DC to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Peace Corps.

Stay tuned!! Go to this page for 50th anniversary updates. Bookmark it or type [www.peacecorpsconnect.org/peacecorps50](http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/peacecorps50).

### **Community Projects in the Planning Stages**

[Peace Corps at 50: An Anniversary Story Project](#)

[RPCV Archival Project](#)

### **PC Mauritania & PC Georgia**

It was an eventful week for Peace Corps. On August 8, 2008 the agency announced that all Volunteers and trainees serving in Mauritania were accounted for and safe following a coup two days earlier.

Then came the conflict in the Republic of Georgia. Following an announcement on August 9 that the Volunteers and trainees there were safe, accounted for and in "stand fast" mode, the agency announced August 11 that they have now been temporarily relocated to neighboring Armenia. The press release states:

The decision to relocate the Volunteers is due to the ongoing conflict taking place in the South Ossetia region of Georgia and bordering areas. All 36 Peace Corps Volunteers and 49 Peace Corps Volunteer-trainees serving in Georgia are safe. Personnel from Peace Corps/Georgia, as well as Peace Corps/Armenia, are now supporting the Volunteers.

The Peace Corps/Georgia office is still open in Tbilisi, and is constantly and carefully monitoring this situation along with Peace Corps Headquarters in Washington. Peace Corps Volunteers do not serve in South Ossetia, the separatist region located in the north of Georgia along its border with Russia.

The Peace Corps program in Georgia was established in 2001. Since that time more than 275 Volunteers have served there. The 85 Volunteers and Volunteer-trainees currently serving in Georgia are working in English lan-

guage education, business and social entrepreneurship programs.

### **Peace Corps Funding Update (Action Opportunity)**

Prior to its August recess, the House and Senate Appropriations Committees put forth Fiscal Year 2009 funding proposals that fall far short of robust funding needed to expand opportunities for Peace Corps service.

While the House Appropriations Foreign Operations Subcommittee did recommend the President's request of \$343.5 Million, the request falls far short of the \$400 Million urged by more than 70 House colleagues during NPCA's National Day of Action this past March.

Recommendations in the Senate were even less promising, as the full Senate Appropriations Committee recommended only \$337 Million, a less than two percent increase.

While final action on appropriations for Peace Corps and other federal programs is uncertain, taking action now helps to show a growing number of advocates are following congressional activity on Peace Corps funding and want to see significant increases.

For more information and detailed instructions as to how to take action, go to <http://www.rpcv.org/pages/sitepage.cfm?id=1886>.

Each month we dine together at a Madison Restaurant with a particular ethnic focus.

Tom Brodd coordinates dinners and sends out notices on our listserv. If you are not online, call Tom @ 251.6193 to get alternative notices.

# RPCVs of Wisconsin – Madison

## *Annual*

Shelter available at 3:30 PM  
Voting/Business at 4:30 PM  
Potluck at 5 PM

✳ Picnic

✳ General Meeting

✳ Elections

## Sunday

## September 14, 2008

## Tenney Park Shelter

1414 E. Johnson St.

[www.cityofmadison.com/parks](http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks)

Madison Metro Bus Routes 2, 5, 9, 27, 28



Bring a dish to share, serving utensils and your own drinks

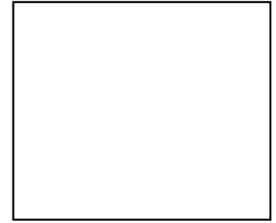
Paper plates, soup bowls, napkins, cups and plastic tableware will be provided

Plenty of electrical outlets, bathrooms, water fountain, and a playground

- ✳ Vote on updated constitution
- ✳ Elect new officers
- ✳ Join or renew your membership
- ✳ Last chance to get Calendars at member pre-Packing Party rate

All RPCVs, Families & Friends are Welcome

**PO BOX 1012  
Madison WI 53701**



**SEPT 14, 2008**

**ANNUAL PICNIC AND GENERAL MEETING  
(Good times and important votes)**

All RPCV of Wisconsin-Madison members receive a monthly Newsletter, World Roots, on payment of annual dues shown below. To avoid record-keeping hassles, we prefer members pay through September of the year joining, then pay for a full year membership in September. Members who join between September and December should pay \$15; members who join between January and April should pay \$10; members who join between May and August should pay \$5. Reduced rates are available for those in extreme financial circumstances. You can also join the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) through us by paying an additional \$35. We encourage you to join the NPCA, which provides us a way to affect national issues. **\*\*New RPCVs receive a complimentary year's membership.\*\***

Please note that overseas rates do not include NPCA membership. See above for calculations

- Individual - \$15/\$10/\$5
- Joint - \$20/\$14/\$7 (Two people receiving one newsletter)
- I am also enclosing \$35 for each NPCA membership
- I do not want to join, but would like to receive World Roots and am enclosing \$7 (\$15 for overseas) to cover costs.
- I'm Moving! Please change my mailing address.
- Overseas Individual - \$24/\$16/\$8
- Overseas Joint - \$29/\$20/\$10

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL ENCLOSED

I would like to receive my Newsletter  on paper, by mail  electronically, by e-mail

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #s (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

PC Job: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date : (Optional - M/D/Y) \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed form & check to: RPCV's of Wisconsin - Madison, P.O.Box 1012, Madison, WI 53701