

WORLD ROOTS

September, 1999

Volume 19, Issue 10

RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF MADISON, WI

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Special Notice

If you submitted a Donation request and it is not listed within, I apologize tremendously. Please: Re-submit in person at the Sept. meeting or in December. Major problem with my computer again. The format will return next month. Thank you.

President's Message

I've loved the hot summer days we've had these past few months, and have saved up memories to trot out when it's 40 below. It's a shock to realize that September is almost here. This September I'll be attending my the 35th anniversary reunion of my high school class (Gonzaga, a Jesuit school in Washington, DC). It will be a huge treat to see all those people again, and hear stories about their lives. And it will be a nostalgic time, wandering through my high school again. It has some unique smells, and one whiff transports me back to teenager-dom. I really liked my high school. It was a time of idealism, hard but productive study, strong friendships, good teachers, and adventures. It was in Gonzaga that I decided I wanted to join Peace Corps and work in Nepal. I left high school with a very good education that set me up for lifelong learning. I'm ever so grateful to that place. When we go to high schools to talk to the students about Peace Corps, I am reminded of those days, and it make me an enthusiastic talker. But times are different. For one thing, today's high school students face grossly more expensive college costs, and the likelihood that they'll be deep in debt by the time they graduate--no leisurely stroll home after Peace Corps for them: they'll have to hurry back to serve as worker ants. Generation X has truly been screwed, as our country's heart has hardened. So it is all the more remarkable that just-returned RPCV's are just as fine a batch, if not better, than were our Peace Corps comrades. There is one constant in the world. You are all good company, and I'm glad I know you.

--Buck

Treasurers Report

Calendar balance	55982.12
Sales	36.50
UPS	-56.00
World View ad	-593.00
Phone	-48.60
Calendar balance	55321.02
Group balance	1282.15
Dues	15.00
NPCA rebate	75.00
Licensing	-15.00
Editors expenses#1	-138.07
W. Roots printing#2	-96.43
W. Roots postage#2	-287.45
W. Roots labels	-32.43
Group balance	802.77
Global education	2096.20
Giftaway	600.00
Morocco books	-157.21
WCCN	-600.00
Tibet (uncashed)	-600.00
Giftaway	-757.21
Annual Projects	4939.57
Camping reservations	-59.00
Camping income	34.00
Annual Projects	4914.57
Large Projects	16225.35
Nepal Literacy	-1000.00
NPCA	-3500.00
Large Projects	11725.35
Account totals	74702.70
Checking account	798.97
Market Yield	74803.73
Bank totals	75302.70
uncashed donation	-600.00
Actual total	74702.70

#1 Thanks to our editor, Theresa J for all her contributions to our newsletter.

#2 Thanks to Terry S and Walt Z for all their efforts in the distribution of our newsletter.

Editors Corner

Okay, I will apologize again. And I will have to say that a nice nasty little letter will be sent out to a certain software company for making my life difficult this last week. So many of you were so prompt in sending your articles, donation requests etc. (THANK YOU) and then my computer 'died'. I loaded a new software package that in turn destroyed important .dll files, which are essential for software programs to open and be utilized. I could not open anything including the folder in which all of your e-mails are stored, the publisher program which I do the newsletter. Matter of fact, the only thing that works is Solitaire. Just wonderful.

If you sent me anything that did not appear in this newsletter, please re send it or in case of a donation proposal, re-submit in person at the September meeting or for December.

Hopefully the format that so many of you took the time to write me about, will be back next month. Please send me articles etc. to theresaj@tds.net

By September 13th deadline.
Thank you.---Theresa Jenkins

Calendar Committee Minutes

We met on Monday, July 26, at 7 p.m., at the home of Prudence Barber. Lox, crackers, cheese, and juices were available. Present were Prudence, Rochelle Goedken (our esteemed Honcha), Troy Rutter, Rose Ann Scott, Buck Trawicky, Alan Weiner, and Walt Zeltner. The next meeting will be on Mon., Aug. 23, 7 p.m., at Prudence's (1050 Jenifer, 251-0852). There will be a Calendar Packing Party at Alan Weiner's establishment, on Friday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m. We'll offer free pizza and soda; bring other treats if you wish--all will be consumed! On this evening we'll prepare orders in advance, inserting various numbers of calendars into mailing envelopes, with a boiler plate invoice and brochures. Thus, once small orders roll in, the only work left for Alan's paid staff will be to affix the mailing label and the postage, and drop the week's pile into the Post Office Dumpster. We did this last year, had a jolly time, and were done for the year in a single evening.

World View ads: (Rochelle): We discussed the prices charged us for ads in the National Peace Corps Association's quarterly magazine, "World View." Price shave increased substantially since earlier years, and even at the rate charged for non-profit organizations, it's a hefty bite. 3 subjects were discussed: (1) Are we indeed being billed at the non-profit rate (as opposed to that paid by auto companies, the Galactic World Order, etc.)? --Rochelle will make sure this is so. (2) Since we're a Big and long-established Customer (in our estimation), can we dicker down the total price? --Maybe; Rochelle will explore this. (3) Should we propose that RPCV groups get a cheaper rate than that charged to other non-profits? We know from conversation with other RPCV groups that some of them decline to advertise products in WorldView because the cost is way out of proportion to the orders generated.--Buck will bring this up at the Presidents' Forum at the National Conference in August. (4) However, if any group can absorb WorldView's ad prices with a shrug and a grimace, it's surely ours. No matter what, we'll continue to advertise in WorldView, and if we're disgruntled at the cost, will just write it off to support for NPCA.

Selling calendars at the RPCV Conference in St. Paul: There'll be a bunch of us there, more than enough to staff the sales table we've reserved. Walt will haul up 600 calendars for direct sales, and more for groups who want to take home hundreds. (Walt drives a 3/4-ton pickup.) Walt will also bring up brochures, some '99 Calendars, the credit card equipment, postcards and bookmarks, and banners and signs. What a mensch!

Calendars for schools: we no longer make a specific effort to offer free calendars to Wisconsin teachers-- the World Wise School's project is supposedly covering this need. (We had made teachers ask in writing, as a filter, but fulfilling the requests was both onerous and involved a lot of postage.) However, a nifty idea was raised: have 1 of us at the Wisconsin Educational Association conference, selling Y2K Calendars for \$2

(which is the approximate production cost), with WWS literature handed out. This would impose a filter against teachers grabbing any free stuff they can (which of course they do, since budgets are tight), even if it'll not be well used. And it would relieve us of having to process lots of written requests, and pay for the postage. And it would spread the word about WWS. (Yummy! another argument for the intelligence-increasing effect of kosher food.)

Shipments to date: we've already sent out 6000 calendars to World Wise Schools, 1000 to Randy Meredith, 1500 to the NPCA, and 200 as a gift to Morocco PC projects, as a fundraiser. We'll send lots out to the various PC recruiters, once each figure out how much money they have left in their FY99 appropriations. (Unfortunately, due to PC's institutional turnover and loss of institutional memory, this is a matter that has to be revealed afresh to some offices each year.)

Printers screw up and other complaints: Some copies of the Calendar have a minor smear alongside the Slovakia photo, in November. Straus Printing is chagrined, and offered to re-print thousands of calendars. We're less demanding, but will re-negotiate the bill, and if lots of copies are defective, we'll have extra copies printed, gratis. Also, the Cover photo came out darker than the slide made us expect, and many think the Truck-Tires of God ("2000") unjustly obscure the storm clouds. This is mostly our own fault. The Lesson is for the Cover to be designed early in the production stage, and then be relentlessly scrutinized. We'll take this to heart with the 2001 Calendar. But it's still a dandy cover, and very effectively eye-catching. Overall, the Y2K Calendar is Beautiful, All But Perfect, and the Best Yet. Our whole group should be proud. --Buck Trawicky

The September 1999 meeting of the RPCV's of Wisconsin - Madison

This meeting is scheduled to be a Friday potluck. Because the first Friday of September is the start of Labor Day weekend, it was not an auspicious time for a potluck. We decided at our August meeting to postpone the potluck for one week. As a result, the September meeting/potluck dinner will be held on Friday, September 10 at Sophie Zermuehlen's house. (317 Bordner Drive on the West Side of Madison near the CUNA buildings. Bordner intersects Rosa Rd. north of Sophie's house but generally runs parallel to Rosa to the west. Call Sophie at 233-7886 for further info if needed). Generally people start arriving 6 to 6:30. We need to start eating by 7 in order to fit in what we hope will be a short business meeting. Major topics will be finding candidates to run for various offices at our October election and discussing several requests for donations from the 1999 calendar sales. If you sent a donation request and it did not appear in this newsletter please submit in person, or re-submit in December.

The October 1999 meeting of the RPCV's of Wisconsin - Madison

Come to our next meeting at Union South. Everyone is welcome. Kids too. (Bring some toys or games to keep them occupied.) FREE PARKING is available BUT NOT one block west of Union South in the Camp Randall parking lot. (That lot has disappeared to be replaced someday by a parking ramp!) There really is no acceptable reason not to attend!

RPCV OF WISCONSIN/MADISON CHAPTER PROJECT APPLICATION FORMS

Sponsor: Buck Trawicky Ph #: 608-241-2392 Requested Amount: \$474
Name of Project: Shipping Books to Bal Kumari Girls School, Nepal Project
Description: We'd pay for shipping donated books. The Bal Kumari Girls School has established a small school library. The students and teachers ardently desire more; Stacy King has established a partnership with a US grade school in her home town, with the students there already sending books (40 boxes; shipment paid for by a grant). Another 12 boxes have been collected, and our grant will pay for shipment of these. I urge that we donate this money: we'd be paying to ship others' generous gifts. None of our donation will be spent on administration (all such work is unpaid voluntary).

Sponsor: Kevin Nies Ph # 608-850-4991 Requested Amount: Equal Share
Name of Project: Mali Reforestation Project
Project Description: While getting my Masters degree at Arizona State University, I worked as the campus PC recruiter. A nominee, Rob Bills, is now serving as a Forestry PCV in Mali, West Africa. Rob is working on a reforestation project at his site, Wassala, Mali. His site is part of the National Forest. The project is in conjunction with the Malian National Forest Service which has the goal of getting 1000 trees planted in five villages in the next five years. Rob has started a nursery of various trees at his site to be transplanted into the National Forest. (cont)As an

additional project, Rob works as a Biology teacher's aide at the local grade school and takes his students on field trips into the forest explaining his project as well as the benefits and proper management of trees. If donation request is approved, funds will be used to establish more nurseries and transplanting materials.

Project Category: Latin America Type: Water/Sanitation/Health and Hygiene Education. Project Title: Chipaya Hygiene Education Project BOL 9001
Application Date: July 28, 1999 Amount Requested: \$900
Sponsor: Mr. Paul Sobiech Telephone: 303-734-3493 Walt Zeltner 873-5257

Project Description: The community of Chipaya [in Bolivia Walt] does not use latrines; therefore, the incidence of waterborne disease and fecal-oral transmission of infection is very high. Last year, Water For People and a local NGO partnered to install 120 household wells with hand pumps in the Chipaya municipality. Phase Two of this project will partner with UMAG (Unidad Multidisciplinaria Agropecuaria y Gestion), a environment/health NGO, to facilitate a three-day health education workshop. Peace Corps financial assistance will allow approximately 80 health promoters the opportunity to attend this health/hygiene workshop. UMAG's instructors will focus primarily on waterborne illness such as gastrointestinal disease and effects of severe diarrhea on children. In addition, the health promoters will be trained on the handling/storage of clean water, latrine building and basic hygiene concepts. Project Contact Person: Jody Camp, project manager WFP / Sue Southerwood is our country coordinator for Bolivia Project Address: Chipaya is the Third Municipal Section of the Atahualpa Province, in the department of Oruro. Both UMAG and Sue Southerwood are located in Oruro. If project is funded, how will money be conveyed? A check from RPCVWI/MAD will be sent to Water For People. WFP will then send a wire transfer of funds to the project coordinator. Our Project Coordinator then disburses the funds to UMAG. WFP address is as follows:

Water For People 6666 West Quincy Ave., Denver, CO 80235 USA 303-734-3493

Project Title: Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center Meal Programs RPCV-WI Sponsor: Gordon M. Malaise (255-3261) Amount Requested: \$500 The Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center's food involved programs play a vital role in the Williamson-Marquette neighborhood. Over 14,000 meals and snacks are prepared each year in our lower-level kitchen for our many children's programs including After School, Summer Camp, and SOAR (?) (Teens Organized Around Responsibility). Additionally, neighborhood organizations, children's groups, support groups, and community potlucks use this kitchen. By offering this space to our neighborhood, in addition to our children's programs, we facilitate the nutritious meals and healthy interactions that form the basis of a community. We are currently seeking funding in the amount of \$500 toward the renovation of our lower-level kitchen. This upgrade is necessary because of changing requirements for daycare certification and city code plumbing requirements. Among the items that require replacement or repair for safe and efficient use include dishwasher installation, stove, counters, and plumbing. Funding for this type of project is difficult, but it is necessary and vitally important if we want to continue to provide quality programs and offer a safe and healthy gathering place for all people.

Sponsor: Brent McNabb Ph #: 608-835-7512 Requested Amount: \$600

Name of Project: Francisco of Assis Cultural School

Project Description: I served in the Peace Corps in the interior of the northeast of Brazil. One of my neighbors was a family of 12 living in a tiny 4-room house. Neither of the parents was able to read or write, but they made sure their children went to school. Now their spirited middle daughter, Maurina, has founded a school in an urban working class neighborhood. In November of '95, I had the chance to visit Maurina (after 20 years) and see this amazing school. I was moved by the excitement for learning I encountered and by the focus on building the children's sense of self worth and all with such meager resources. The school is worthy of our support and so are the children who benefit from her passion to provide the best education possible for them. The school currently supports 30 needy students tuition-free. I propose that we support one student for a year (the cost is \$600). The potential for this being an ongoing commitment from our group merits consideration. (We have funded this project for several years now - Walt)



Remember the Harvest Moon Celebration on September 25th at Mary and Dan Ott's!
Fun, food, music and friends! Hope to see many of you there to enjoy the largest moon of the year!
Details: see last month newsletter.

October Elections are coming up soon. Please submit your name for a position in our wonderful organization. Please let the vice-president or the editor know of your intent. Thank you!!!



Events Calendar

Sept. 8, Wed. Poker at Deb's, 7:00 p.m. (244-8609, 2406 Somers Ave.)

Sept. 10, Fri. General Potluck Meeting, Sophia Zermuehlen's, 317 Bordner, 233-7886. (Note: NOT on Sept. 3!!)

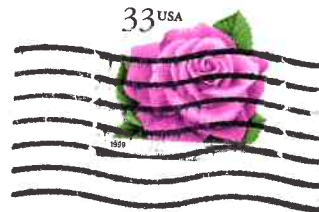
Sept. 13, Mon. Deadline for newsletter

Sept. 24, Fri. Calendar Packing Party, 7:00 p.m.; Alan Wiener's warehouse, 7182 US Hwy 14 #1010; ph.: 233-9031(h); 831-3554(w). Free pizza and soda; many hands make swift work.

Sept. 25, Sat. Harest Moon Celebration @ Mary and Dan Ott's Brooklyn

Oct 4, Mon. General Meeting, 7:00 p.m., UNION SOUTH (back to Normal!)

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Madison
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