



BRINGING THE WORLD BACK HOME

RPCV NEWS

www.rpcv-wa.org

March 2006

WASHINGTON STATE PEACE CORPS ASSOCIATION

Presidents' Envoy

submitted by Karima Homman-Ludiye & Brian Gay, Co-Presidents



Moroccan casbah among the
Atlas Mtns
(geog.sussex.ac.uk)

Hello to all our friends and membership,

This may be Karima's and my last newsletter to write to you as co-presidents...we will be in Morocco for the second half of March. We hope you will all vote in this month's election.

We began with WSPCA as a couple trying to drum up interest in climate change and environmental issues as a specialty area (Charlotte Utting asked us). Then, vice-presidency called us, followed by this past year as co-presidents. It has continued to get more complex to share time with you as we've added Sean, a full-time job for Karima and a Master's program at UW while working full-time for me (Brian). Like all executives recently, it seems, we are retiring to spend more time with our family (but we really are).

We have two meetings to report on this month: one was an annual officer's meeting to get the books straight, get the membership lists sorted out and make plans for the coming year:

Officer's Meeting - February 4, 2006

Attending were Joan Ramos (Brazil/Morocco 73-75), Hugh Ho (Kyrgyzstan 99-01), David Bane (Honduras 02-04), Geoff Gese (Mongolia 98-00), Brian Gay (Morocco 91-94). We met at Hugh's home.

Ambassadors to Eugene

- Dave and Paulette went to the regional meeting in Eugene. Highlights: some of our work impresses the regional partner groups - congratulations to us for our monthly get-togethers, social gatherings, and frequent service opportunities. Idaho will host this year's annual campout in August. WSPCA hosts the next regional meeting here in May.

Peace Corps week

- This is Peace Corps week, February 27 - March 5, so get out there and represent your relationship with your values of Peace and Service.

Peace Corps Parents

- We would like to begin interesting the parents of serving volunteers to be members of our organization. It would benefit them to have locals with real experience in the countries or situations their child sees. It would benefit us to have a contact with their PC volunteer daughter or son while in service and upon return to join our group. Can you think of a way to make our newsletter and activities attractive for them?

Other bits

- We have reduced the officer allotment by creating officers-at-large to take over the newsletter, service coordination, webpage, and speaker's bureau.
- We will be phasing in an electronic newsletter as soon as possible. Beginning this month, we will begin letting you know it is coming for those with an email address as soon as Hugh and Joan work out the details and are sure all of you are ready.

Communicating with YOU

- Also, for those with an email address, the officers have divided up our membership list among themselves and will be emailing you soon (if they haven't already) to ask 2 - 3 questions to get your opinions about the group and its activities more available when we make decisions.
- For those with web access, remember that the Yahoo site is available for you to join the conversation on the listserve. To subscribe just e-mail: wspca-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

— cont'd on pg 3 —

"The sad truth is that most evil is done by..." (Hannah Arendt, philosopher, 1906-1975)



Starting in May, the WSPCA Newsletter will be delivered to you in an electronic format unless you request a paper copy via wspcaeditor@yahoo.com

More details will follow in the next two newsletters. The printed newsletter represents the greatest recurring expense for WSPCA in terms of money and manpower. Over the past several years, electronic distribution has become commonplace for newsletters, and is also more eco-friendly. Comments? Let us know at wspcaeditor@yahoo.com or contact any of the WSPCA officers.

We will provide the newsletter to the email address that you have submitted to us, so let Geoff Gese, the Membership Coordinator (hosher_bahn@yahoo.com) know if you have recently changed your email address.

WSPCA Eats Out

When: Friday, March 17, 6:30pm

Where: Malay Satay Hut, 212 12th Ave South, Seattle
(206) 324-4091 or (206) 323-6604

Join your Peace Corps friends for March's "WSPCA Eats Out" at Malay Satay Hut on Friday, March 17th at 6:30 pm.

The restaurant's web site is www.malaysatayhut.com and the Malaysian RPCV group website is www.friendsofmalaysia.org

Don't hesitate to send any suggestions for future events!

Slidell School Book Drive

submitted by Jim and Joanne Dufour, El Salvador and Nigeria

Below are the wishes of the current faculty of Slidell Pathways School in Slidell, LA. When their school building was devastated by Katrina, they lost everything -- including their modest library.

True Story of Three Little Pigs
Biographies of Famous People/Sports People
How to draw anything
Books about Sports/Sports figures, especially basketball
Goosebumps by R. L. Stine
The Great Gilly Hopkins by Katherine Paterson
Beverly Cleary books
Then Again! Maybe I Won't by Judy Blume
Hardy boys books
Nancy Drew mysteries
Official NBA trivia by Clare Martin
Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnhard
Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
Choose Your Own Adventure [Bantam book]
Two Minute Mysteries by Donald Sobol
Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner
From Mixed-Up Files of Ms. Basil E. Frankweiler by E. L. Konisburg
Pizza Size of the Sun or any other Jack Prelutsky books
Guinness Book of World Records
Comic strip books: Garfield, Calvin & Hobbes, etc.
101 Super Sports Jokes/ or any other joke books by J. B. Stamper
I Wonder Why the Pyramids were Built by Phillip Steele
books about inventors & inventions

The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
The Swiss Family Robinson by Johann Wyss
Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
Call of the Wild by Jack London
Frankenstein by Mary Shelley
The Diary of Ann Frank by Ann Frank
Nonfiction books about countries
Snowflake Bentley
Grandfather Tang's Story
The Greedy Triangle by Marilyn Burns
How Much in a Million by Stephen Kellogg
Where the Sidewalk Ends by Shel Silverstein
Any Dr. Seuss book
Cinderella/Rapunzel by Zelinsky
Books about careers
Books about states
Charlotte's Web
Where the Red Fern Glows
Amazing World Facts
Eyewitness Visual Dictionaries (on nonfiction topics such as animals/how things work/ human body)
Books about cars
Mrs. Frizzle's Adventures by Scholastic
World Atlas

Please contact Joanne Dufour at jamduf@hotmail.com or (206) 937-5724 for more information.

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next hangout

last Tuesday
in March

3/28/06

7 to 9 pm

Shultz's
in the U-District
(children welcome)

4114 University Way NE,
Seattle

(206) 548-9461



Presidents' Envoy (continued from pg 1)

- then create a user name and password on Yahoo and go to WSPCA in groups. Note that we are considering moving to another listserve as there have been some concerns voiced about adware, privacy breaches, cozying up to China, etc. This won't happen till we tell you, though, and discuss it on the listserve itself.
- And the Web is going to be more important for us to connect with you through calendars (for events), photos and links to old newsletters, etc. So having an At-Large officer for the web is very important - give us a ring if it sounds interesting. There can't ever be too many.

General meeting - February 11, 2006

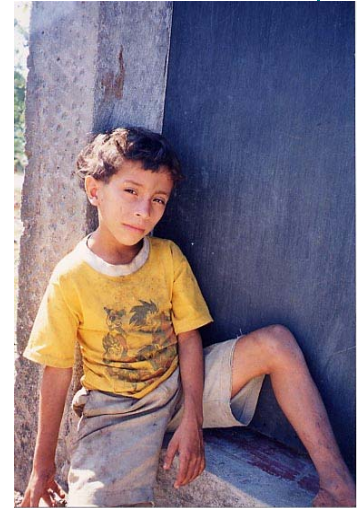
Attending were Annette Clothier (Czech Republic 1995-1997), Michael Le (Paraguay 91-94), Brian Gay, Karima Homman Ludiye (Staff Morocco 91-97), Hugh Ho, David Bane, Temma Pistrang (Uganda/Kenya 72-74), Joanne Dufour (Nigeria/El Salvador 64-66/72-73), and Joan and Scott Ramos. We met at Annette and Michael's home. Erin (3) and Sean (19mo.) also lent their special spices to the space.

- Most of our meeting was a social get-together, sharing stories and catching up with each other about what's going on in each other's lives.
- We welcomed Temma Pistrang back from her trip to Kenya where she was leading another tour group - it was good to see her safe and healthy.
- We did, however decide to dedicate 50% of the proceeds of our 2005 PC Calendar sales to the Slidell book drive. There are many ways to make this giving sustainable and to expand our support through Starbucks, the National Library Association, the Seattle Public Library and the Group Leaders of other RPCV affiliate groups.

Also, Scott Ramos will probably be giving us a little help with our web publishing.

Thanks everyone for making the last year fun and interesting,
Brian and Karima
Co-Presidents

P.S. we may send a news bite from Morocco for next months newsletter..."experiencing the return to the country of service" or something.



Valerio, an El Salvadoran boy
(rtfcam.org)

NPCA/Peace Corps Open House in Portland

submitted by Anne Baker, NPCA Vice President, Fiji 85-87

When: March 5, 2006

Where: Portland State University's Multicultural Center, Portland, OR

Join the Peace Corps and the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) on Sunday, March 5 from 2:00-5:00 pm for an Open House to be held at Portland State University's Multicultural Center. Take this opportunity to celebrate Peace Corps Week and the 45th anniversary of Peace Corps; learn more about the Peace Corps, the NPCA and returned volunteer activities in the region; and connect with others whose lives have been influenced by the Peace Corps experience. Presenters will include Chuck Brooks, Associate Director of Volunteer Recruitment and Selection for the Peace Corps, and Anne Baker, Vice President of the National Peace Corps Association. Workshops will be held on topics of interest such as global education and service.

All returned volunteers, prospective volunteers, educators, family and friends of the Peace Corps community, and anyone who is interested in learning more about Peace Corps and the NPCA are welcome to join us for this event. Representatives from NPCA and Peace Corps will be on hand to discuss programs, and refreshments will be provided.

For regularly updated information on this and other Open Houses, visit the NPCA website at www.peacecorpsconnect.org/openhouses

"...people who never make up their minds to be good or evil." (Hannah Arendt)



WSPCA Officer Nominations

President

David Bane, Peace Corps; Honduras; 2001-2003, Crisis Corps; USA - Hurricanes Katrina & Rita, 2005

I see our group as an energetic, dynamic, and exciting organization that meets the needs and interests of our members and friends. I see it as an organization that 1) serves as a social/professional network 2) serves as an outlet for community service and education, and 3) plays an important role in recruiting volunteers.

I have the following goals:

- 1) Increase membership by 50 people
- 3) have at least 100 hours of presentations through the Speakers' Bureau
- 3) have 3 regular monthly service projects
- 4) work more closely with the Seattle recruiting office
- 5) Use money saved by switching to electronic version of newsletter to lower membership dues

Vice-President

none

Treasurer

Temma Pistrang, Kenya 72-74

I am willing to run if you would like me to continue as Treasurer. I traditionally go back once a year to Kenya for three weeks at a time, so I am not always around, but I can still do the job.

NPCA / PC Liaison

none

Membership Coordinator

Jennifer Samnick, Togo, 2002-2004

I am looking forward to becoming more actively involved with WSPCA. I've met and become friends with many RPCVs throughout the Seattle area through mutual friends, UW's Evans School of Public Affairs/PCMI program, and WSPCA. I would like to help WSPCA continue to build a strong member base and network of RPCVs from the varying years in which people served, regions of the world, program areas, and current interests and careers.

Officers-at-Large (3)

Hugh Ho, Kyrgyzstan 99-01

Grad school limits my ability to continue as a full-time newsletter editor, but I can help transition the newsletter to a better, electronic model in the next few months with the help of Joana and Scott Ramos.

2006 WSPCA Election Ballot

President

- David Bane
- _____ (write-in candidate)

Treasurer

- Temma Pistrang
- _____ (write-in candidate)

Membership Coordinator

- Jennifer Samnick
- _____ (write-in candidate)

Vice President

- _____ (write-in candidate)

PC/NPCA Liaison

- _____ (write-in candidate)

Officers-at-Large (3)

- Hugh Ho
- _____ (write-in candidate)
- _____ (write-in candidate)
- _____ (write-in candidate)

mail ballot to: WSPCA, PO Box 55914, Shoreline, WA 98155-9998

or email wspcaeditor@yahoo.com by **March 24**



National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) News

submitted by Bob Findlay, NPCA Board West Regional Representative

A significant proposal for the NPCA to become a more vital and viable, member-driven community was presented at the board meeting last month in Austin, TX. Its development was a direct response to the on-line survey that many of you completed at the end of last year. By harnessing advances in information technology and the Internet which were not available to NPCA in the past, this "virtual community" would foster connections and dialogue, empower individuals and groups to mobilize and engage others, and provide information on issues of concern to all who share Peace Corps values. Learn more about the proposal for Creating a Virtual Peace Corps Community on the NPCA website:

www.rpcv.org

Olympia Area Events

submitted by Bob Findlay, NPCA Board West Regional Representative

Governor Christine Gregoire made a splendid event out of her proclamation of Peace Corps week by inviting Olympia area RPCVs to a signing and photo session. We introduced ourselves by country of service, she pointed out her inspirational JFK-style rocker in her office and volunteered that her daughter is seriously considering PC service between her undergraduate and graduate studies. Did you see us on KOMO news on Friday evening?

We celebrated the 45th anniversary of Peace Corps with a dinner that evening at the Cuisine of India restaurant in downtown Olympia. First arrivers got PC caps and everyone was encouraged to post the posters and use the DVDs in community and classroom presentations. Our bi-monthly dinners attract RPCVs from the South Sound region, there are a few regulars but most of the group changes each time. We are in the process of socializing and entertaining the possibility that service projects and advocacy efforts will emerge in the near future.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill in the appropriate information to update your status with either WSPCA or NPCA. Please make all checks payable to WSPCA. Thanks!

Check here if this is an address change

Annual Membership Options

- \$50 - NPCA and WSPCA single membership
- \$65 - NPCA and WSPCA couple membership
- \$15 - WSPCA only single membership
- \$22.50 - WSPCA only couple membership
- \$7.50 - WSPCA only low-income

Recently COSed RPCVs receive a free 1-year trial membership in NPCA and a free 3-month trial membership in WSPCA

Amount Enclosed

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ **Work Phone** _____

E-mail address _____

I would like my newsletter sent by email (instead of mail)

I am a current NPCA member Yes No Exp. Date? _____

Peace Corps Info

Country of Service/Years _____

Position _____

Current Job Title _____

mail form to: WSPCA, PO Box 55914, Shoreline, WA 98155-9998



Upcoming Events

March

March 1 - Peace Corps Day (p.1)

March 5 - NPCA/PC Open House in Portland (p.3)

March 17 - WSPCA Eats Out (p.2)

March 28 - Hang Out at Shultzys (p.2)

and coming up:

May - West Region NPCA-affiliated Group Leaders Meeting and annual PC/WSPCA nomination event in Seattle

August 3-6 - RPCV West Region Campout (another PC 45th Anniversary event), Dworshak State Park, near Orofino, Idaho

Satellite Groups

Olympia/Lacey

Michelle Andrews
(253) 770-6260
andrewmd2@msn.com

Bellingham

Cat McIntyre
(360) 671-1986/0541 (fax)
mcintyre@comcast.net

Bainbridge Island

Carole Gates
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carole.gates@ee.doe.gov

Starting in May, the WSPCA Newsletter will be delivered to you in an electronic format unless you request a paper copy via wspcaeditor@yahoo.com

Vote for WSPCA Officers (p.4)

WSPCA
PO Box 55914
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Check out our website!
www.rpcv-wa.org



Honduran woman with coffee beans
(kooperationutangranser.se)