



Western Montana RPCV News

March 2011

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 1

Upcoming Events

**SATURDAY
April 16, 6:00 PM
NOM Party, Lynne
and Otto's 84
Brookside, Missoula**

**SATURDAY, MAY 21
6:00 potluck at
Reggie and Scott's,
635 W. Artemos,
Missoula**

**JUNE 10, 11 & 12!!!!
2011!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Goat Chase Retreat
Flathead Lake!!!!**



Kat and Jake in front of the Liquid Planet, Missoula

From the President

Dennis C. Bangs (Ecuador 70-72)

Thanks to Kat Barry (Ecuador 2000-03) and all of the people who submitted photos and information about their service we celebrated the 50th anniversary of Peace Corps in Missoula in good fashion. The whole state of Montana saw celebrations and news articles about the event thanks to many RPCVs throughout the state.

Even though we don't have many members in Great Falls and Billings both of those cities' newspapers carried stories about the anniversary and RPCVs in the area. The Helena area volunteers, many of whom are members of the WMRPCV group had quite a few events marking the anniversary as well.

On the following pages I highlight some of the events. Although while sending out congratulations to those who made these activities such a success I am sure I will forget to mention someone who played a pivotal role. Please forgive me in advance. I am especially humbled by the work that everyone did because I was taking it easy in Mexico while it was all going on.

In an effort to keep the enthusiasm going this summer I want to point out that our group will be celebrating our 20th year anniversary at the Goat Chase Retreat this June on Flathead. The registration form is on page 5, so don't forget to get signed up for this historic event.

And finally don't forget about the NOM potluck at Lynne and Otto's on April 16. This is a great time to meet the newly nominated volunteers and cheer them on as they get ready to depart.

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The WMRPCV Newsletter is published quarterly by and for the non-profit Western Montana Returned Peace Corps Volunteers.

All dues paying members receive a copy and are encouraged to participate in it's creation by sending comments, articles or other submissions to Dennis Bangs 1729 North Ave. West, Missoula, MT 59801, <wmrpcv@yahoo.com>

All newly returned volunteers will receive two free copies before they are requested to join.

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WMRPCV WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS.

Bryten Steed from Missoula who was in Ecuador.
Miriam Morgan from Missoula who was in Saipan, Mariana Islands
Mary Hensley from Great Falls who was in the Philippines.
Kristen Inbody from Great Falls who was in Romania.
Brad Drinvillr from Helena who was in Costa Rica.
Jessica Giuliani from Missoula who was in Kyrgyzstan.
Kristen Halseth from Helena who was in Macedonia.
Lara Kapelanczyk from Hancock, Missouri who was in Nicaragua.
Marcy Shrader-Launginger from Missoula who was in Paraguay and Colombia

Montana RPCVs celebrate 50 years of Peace Corps!!!

Members of the Western Montana RPCV group as well as other RPCVs all over the state marked the 50 year anniversary of Peace Corps during the first week of March.

In Missoula, a group of RPCVs gathered downtown at a local coffee and gift shop called the Liquid Planet to present a power point presentation of the experience of many RPCVs and their stories over the years. The presentation was created by Kat Barry (Ecuador 2000-03) and many people contributed pictures and words for the impressive presentation. Numerous RPCVs including Kat shared stories and experiences with the people who showed up during the First Friday Gallery Walk.

In Great Falls, the Great Falls Tribune had a nice article sharing stories and pictures from numerous RPCVs in the area. The article was written by a new member of the Western Montana RPCV group Kristen Inbody (Romania 2006-08) and featured a couple of long-time members of our group, Ken and Karen Thornton (Morocco 1982-86) as well as other RPCVs in the Great Falls area.

The Billings Gazette also featured an article on RPCVs in the Billings area and their stories. Sam Rankin (India 1967) who was one of the people highlighted has been a member of our group for a few months.

The Helena group, under the guidance of Mike Lee (Liberia74-77) hosted a number of events. They had three exhibits. One at Carroll College, in conjunction with the Hunthausen Center for Peace and Justice, and was installed at the Campus Center the first week of March. Susan Gallagher and Ron Zellar were key with this exhibit. They staffed the exhibit for four days (Merwin Barrows, Michele Rush, Jeanne Younger and Kathy Chase). A number of people contributed material for this exhibit (Mike Wherley, Merwin Barrows, Kyle Stode and Julie Flynn, Chris and Carol Hunter, Kathy Chase, Diana Hammer, Alan Wintersteen and others). A second exhibit was coordinated by Jennifer Wintersteen and was at the Lewis and Clark County Library. They were able to exhibit material from their countries of service. The third exhibit was at the Holter Museum of Art, in the Held Community Hall. Laura Erikson organized the volunteers that contributed photos and stories for the Holter exhibit. They also offered to speak to classes at both Carroll College and the U of M Helena College of Technology. Morgan Maynard, Chris Hunter, Jessie Frazier and Jason Seyler were the key RPCVs for this effort. volunteer. Tenly Snow also provided them Peace Corps literature. They had dozens of interested Carroll College students visit with them at the exhibit.



Helena

**Western Montana Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
2010 Financial Report**

Submitted by Mary J. Younger, Treasurer (Cameroon 1974-76)



**WESTERN MT RPCV
Membership Profile**
January 2011

NPCA: 24 regular
14 free 1st time members
38 members

Western MT RPCV only: 35

TOTAL: 73 Members

- Missoula Area: 36
- Western MT: 10
- Helena Area: 14
- Great Falls Area: 4
- Bozeman/Billings Area: 3
- Out-of-State: 4
- Out-of-Country: 2

BALANCE: Year End 2009 **\$2,060.25**

INCOME:

2010 Retreat Registration	\$2,590.00	
Int'l Calendar Sales		
2010 Calendars	80.00	
2010 Calendars	3,443.44	
Western MT RPCV Dues	585.00	
NPCA Member Dues	525.00	
NPCA Dues Rebates	45.00	
2010 INCOME		<u>\$7,268.44</u>

TOTAL INCOME **\$9,328.69**

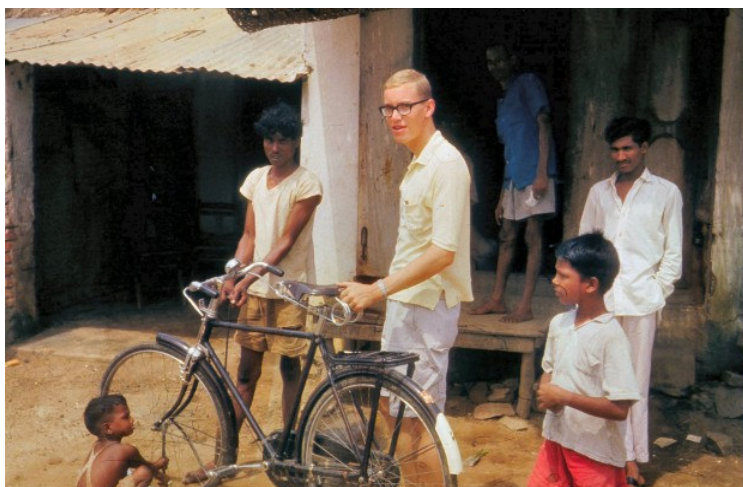
EXPENSES:

Donations		
International	\$1,050.00	
Montana	1,075.00	
Goat Chase Retreat		
Facility	1,882.00	
Food	276.21	
Entertainment	350.00	
2011 Calendar Fundraiser		
Calendars	1,600.00	
Postage	136.00	
WMRPCV Website/Newsletter	236.66	
NPCA Individual Dues	560.00	
NPCA Affiliation Dues	20.00	
Office/Potluck Supplies	144.20	
Postage	132.00	
Miscellaneous	99.50	
TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>-\$7,561.57</u>

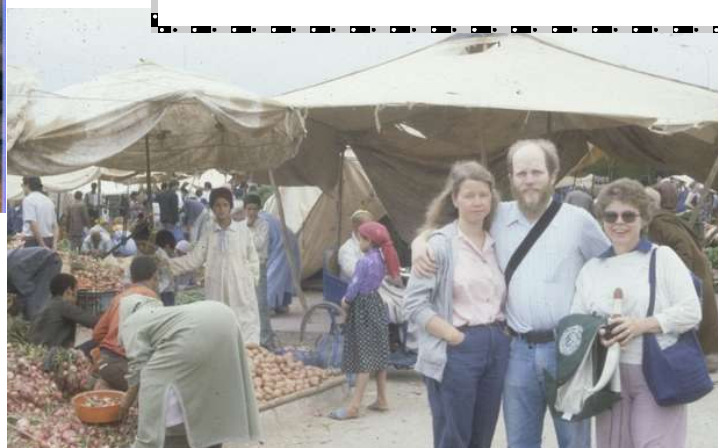
BALANCE: YEAR END 2010 **\$1,767.12**

**From Tish Herries
(Sierra Leone 1964-66).**

This year eleven members of our group volunteered to speak in the schools and share the celebration of our 50th Anniversary. We had sixteen requests from teachers. However, many times several classes receive presentations for any given teacher. For example, I spoke to five classes for one teacher. While most of the visits were made during Peace Corps Week, some were done later, and a couple remain to be done, depending on the needs of the teacher. It is heartening how many requests are repeats, and how enthusiastic the teachers are. If you made a presentation that I do not happen to know about, please let me know so we can add you to the tally. Also, don't forget to let me know an estimate of how many students heard your presentation, so Mary can have that total for her report. THANKS TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU for planting seeds that may one day each fruition as a future Peace Corps Volunteer.



From The Billings Gazette: Brent Cromley in India, 1960's



From the Great Falls Tribune: Karen and Ken Thorton in Morocco in the early 80's

Tony Hoyt (Liberia/Guatemala 1967-69/74-75) also did a presentation at the Salish Kootenai College in Pablo to a group of enthusiastic nursing students.

Western MT Returned Peace Corps Volunteer

2010 Donations



International:

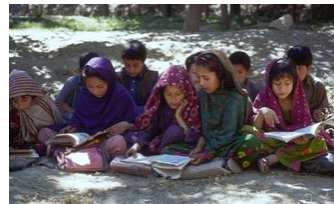
- Costa Rica: “Art for Peace” – Rebecca Stumpf, Peace Corps Volunteer



- Central Asia Institute - Pennies for Peace



Promoting peace one school at a time.



- Women’s Global Education Project

Programs are focused on sub-Saharan Africa where rates of poverty are among the highest in the world and, conversely, literacy and school attendance rates for girls--especially those from rural communities--are among the lowest.



Pankisi Valley Computer School – Duisi, Georgia

- Senegal Peace Care – Peace Corps Partnership Health Project



Montana:

- Food Banks in Missoula, Helena, and Kalispell
- Garden City Harvest - Missoula
- Habitat for Humanity
- Montana Food Bank Network
- Missoula Poverello Center (Homeless shelter)
- Missoula Aging Services





1729 North Avenue West
Missoula, MT 59801

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN WMRPCV OR NPCA

Name: _____
Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____
Phone: _____ E-mail _____
Peace Corps country of service _____ Years _____
Peace Corps job title _____

*****Membership dues expire in June of each year unless you are an NPCA member through the Western MT RPCVs.*****

WMRPCV only, \$15.00 _____
National Peace Corps Association, includes WMRPCV \$50.00 _____
WMRPCV Student/Low Income \$7.50 _____
Free membership to all serving Peace Corps Volunteers – This membership, good for service term plus one year after COS, can be activated online by PCVs in the field. _____
First time free - Any RPCV who has never been a member before may join for one year for free. _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE WESTERN MONTANA RPCVs and send to:
Mary Younger, 100 Erika Court, Missoula, MT 59803**