



# Western Montana RPCV News

March 2012

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 1

## Upcoming Events

**SATURDAY April 28  
NOM Party  
6 PM 84 Brookside,  
Missoula.**

**JUNE 8, 9 & 10!!!!  
2012!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Goat  
Chase Retreat  
Flathead Lake!!!!**

**JULY POTLUCK!!!  
TBA**



*Melissa MacKenzie and Teresa Sobieszcyk at the U of M International Food Fair and Culture Festival*

### From the President

Dennis C. Bangs (Ecuador 70-72)

Winter in Western Montana brought quite a bit of activity for the WMRPCV group. With the new semester and a new Peace Corps Representative on campus a number of people helped out with Peace Corps presentations. In January we had a nice potluck at the home of the President where Jeannie and Chris Siegler (Sierra Leone 1968-70) shared a slide show about the teacher's workshop that they were involved with in Sierra Leone last year. It was one of the projects our calendar sales help to fund.

In February a relatively new member, Jeff Shryer (Botswana 1988-90), hosted a well attended potluck where people prepared for Peace Corps Week. Bunny Sims (Philippines 1973-76) organized the speakers for this year's event. With her effort and the help of Mary Younger (Cameroon 1974-76) we had a great turn out of speakers in the schools. See the next page for details.

For March, Julie Brown (Benin 1991-93) hosted another fun potluck where we prepared for the upcoming International Food Fair and Cultural Festival at the University of Montana. At this event many of our members staffed a Peace Corps information table to share stories about Peace Corps and our group to the throng of visitors to the event. See picture above.

Thanks to all for your enthusiastic participation and don't forget about the NOM party on the 28th and the Goat Chase in June.

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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](mailto:wmrpcv@yahoo.com)>

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

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**The Western Montana RPCVs welcome the following new members:**  
Summer Sharpe from Helena who was in Thailand.  
Sandip Deo who is serving as a PCV in Nepal.  
Maureen Peterson from Minnesota, who was in Panama.

**Peace Corps Week!!**

Thanks to the efforts of Bunny Sims (Philippines 1973-76) we had many people share stories, pictures and artifacts from their Peace Corps experiences with the schools in the Missoula and Bitterroot areas during the first week of March. Actually so many people participated and so many teachers asked for speakers that the presentations went past the first week of March. Fifteen speakers appeared at presentations that reached almost 1100 students.

Congratulations Bunny and everyone that did a presentation.



*Lois Harris with one of the many young people she shared her stories with*

Our calendar sales provided us with the funds to support numerous projects which are noted below and on the following page. Cammy had been at the NOM Party 2 years ago.

*Following is a thank you from Cammy Swanson who is a PCV in Moldova*



*Catalin, 6 years old, looking at a new book with his teacher, Ms. Kozmik*

MULTUMESC



СПАСИБО



Dear Western Montana Returned Peace Corps Association:

Thank you for your wonderful generosity in our recent kindergarten supplies project!

From your donation, we were able to purchase crayons, colored paper, books, curriculum supplies, a hole-punch, a whiteboard, puzzles, folders, clay, paint, a desk lamp, magnets, and other useful supplies for the special education department.

Your kindness and eagerness to support our project is dearly appreciated, and we are excited about the positive impact these supplies will have on the educational development of our young students.

On behalf of the grateful teachers, parents, and students at the "Guguța" Kindergarten in Ungheni, Moldova,

Cammy Swanson, Peace Corps Volunteer



*Alexandra, 3 years old, after lining up the new animal puzzles*

**THANK YOU**



# Western MT Returned Peace Corps Volunteers

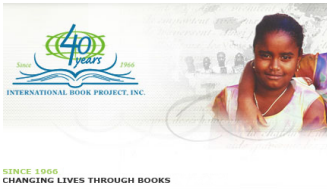
2011 Donations

## International:



**Water project for the Eshinusta Primary School in Khwisero, Kenya**  
Sponsored by Engineers Without Borders (MSU – Bozeman, MT)

Amanda Morrison and Eleanor Wintersteen,  
founders of H2O for Hope  
Helena, MT middle school students



**International Book Project – Rwanda**  
Peace Corps Volunteer Jennifer Ambrose



**Breaking Ground – Cameroon**  
Focus on Community Partnership,  
Investing in Agriculture, and Women's Empowerment



**Gender Empowerment Workshops:**  
**Ukraine**

Peace Corps Partnership Project

**Bo Teacher Workshop – Sierra Leone**



**Heifer International:**  
Honduras – Honeybees



**Quencha Benefit: Warming Wawas project Chivay, Peru  
(Baby hats and blankets)**

**Jean Matthews, RPCV - Missoula**

**Montana:**

- Flathead Food Bank - Kalispell**
- Garden City Harvest - Missoula**
- Habitat For Humanity of Missoula**
- Helena Food Share**
- Missoula Aging Services**
- Missoula Food Bank**
- Montana Food Bank Network**
- Poverello Center – Missoula Homeless Shelter**

**Western Montana Returned Peace Corps Volunteers  
2011 Financial Report**

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

**BALANCE: Year End 2010** **\$1,767.12**

**INCOME:**

2011 Retreat Registration	\$3,270.00	
Int'l Calendar Sales		
2011 Calendars	490.00	
2012 Calendars	3,953.17	
Western MT RPCV Dues	822.50	
NPCA Member Dues	560.00	
NPCA Dues Rebates	105.00	
<b>2011 INCOME</b>		<b><u>\$9,200.67</u></b>

**TOTAL INCOME** **\$10,967.79**

**EXPENSES:**

Donations		
International	\$1,290.00	
Montana	1,150.00	
Goat Chase Retreat		
Facility	2,365.00	
Food	369.92	
Entertainment	Donated	
2012 Calendar Fundraiser		
Calendars	1,600.00	
Postage	189.61	
WMRPCV Website/Newsletter	258.60	
NPCA Individual Dues	560.00	
NPCA Affiliation Dues	20.00	
Office/Potluck Supplies	211.99	
Postage	91.23	
<u>U of MT Homecoming Parade</u>	<u>90.00</u>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b><u>-\$8,196.35</u></b>

**BALANCE: YEAR END 2011** **\$2,771.44**



# Western Montana Returned Peace Corps Volunteers Eighteenth Annual GOAT CHASE RETREAT JUNE 8 -10

This year's Goat Chase Retreat will try to beat the turnout and great time that we had last year. We will once again be coming together to celebrate the camaraderie and good work of our group. It will again be held on the shore of scenic Flathead Lake at the United Methodist Camp. The camp is located on the west shore of the lake, just north of Rollins, Montana. Detailed directions and an agenda will be sent upon receipt of the completed registration form.

Rustic cabins, a variety of recreational facilities, and a lakeside bonfire site make a wonderful setting for reconnecting with old friends and making new ones. Everyone must provide their own bedding and no alcohol or pets are allowed on the grounds. There are cooking facilities in the cabins and a large lounge and communal kitchen for the grand international potluck on Saturday night. Saturday and Sunday's breakfasts are included in the registration fee. Saturday's lunch is on your own. **This year we are going to try something different for the Friday night meal. Tony Hoyt is going to recruit people to cook another international potluck for Friday night. He needs volunteers who are willing to cook their dish and have it ready to serve for Friday night. If we don't get enough people to participate we can go back to the spaghetti dinner that we have had in the past. If you want to present your meal on Friday, contact Tony at <[humbird2@blackfoot.net](mailto:humbird2@blackfoot.net)>** Saturday night we share an extravaganza of food prepared by each of us in all of the many individual kitchens. We also encourage people to dress in typical dress of the countries in which they served, to add an even more international flair to the evening. Receipt of registration will be confirmed in writing and this is when we will let everyone know about the Friday night meal.

The registration fee of \$75 includes the use of the many recreational facilities the camp has, from canoes to volleyball and ping pong. It also includes use of the conference center where we meet and have our meals, and reflects an increase in fees that the camp has instituted. For those of you with families you will note on the registration form a detailed breakdown of fees for the separate age groups.

**If you have any questions you can email them to <[wmrpcv@yahoo.com](mailto:wmrpcv@yahoo.com)>.**

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Peace Corps country and years of service \_\_\_\_\_

Peace Corps job title \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending:

_____ Adults, age 13 and above x \$75.00	_____
_____ Children between 5 & 12 x \$30.00	_____
_____ Children under 5 free	_____
Total Registration Fees	_____

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

WMRPCV only \$15.00	_____
National Peace Corps Association, includes WMRPCV \$50.00	_____
WMRPCV Student/Low Income \$7.50	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED:	_____

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



# Western Montana RPCV News

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**