



Western Montana RPCV News

March 2012

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 1

Upcoming Events

**JULY POTLUCK
SATURDAY July 14
at Tony and
Michelle's on the
Jocko 3PM, call
726-3384 for
directions**

**AUGUST
POTLUCK
Saturday, August 25.
6 PM at Steve and
Heidi's, 1710 Lenore
Ct. Missoula**

**JUNE 14, 15 & 16!!!!
2013!!!!!!!!!!!! Goat
Chase Retreat**



Goat Chasers 2012

From the President

Dennis C. Bangs (Ecuador 70-72)

This spring saw quite a bit of activity again for the WMRPCV group. At the end of March many members volunteered to help with the Peace Corps Recruiting office on campus at the annual International Food Fair and Cultural Festival. This is always a fun event and a great time for us to share our stories with prospective Peace Corps volunteers and to make contact with newly returned volunteers in the community.

In April Lynne and Otto Koester (Ethiopia-Eritrea/Ghana 68-70/69-70) once again hosted the NOM party, where newly nominated PCVs are invited to meet RPCVs. We have fun sharing stories about our experiences and hearing from them about where they are going and what they are hoping to do. The turnout was great and the sharing continued well into the night. Dana Foster (El Salvador 10/12), the PC representative on campus in conjunction with the Seattle office got a lot of newly nominated volunteers to attend which created a truly vibrant evening.

Tish (Sierra Leone 64-66) and Dave Herries hosted the May potluck which elicited some very lively and personal sharing of Peace Corps experiences. Then June brought the Goat Chase Retreat on Flathead Lake. A more detailed report with a couple more pictures is on the following page.

Upcoming events include the July potluck at Tony and Michelle's on the bank of the Jocko River and the August potluck and Steve and Heidi's Jamaican Rum Shack. Also the calendars from the Wisconsin group have arrived. You can find an order form inside the newsletter, and don't forget this is our main fundraiser for the year, so we need people to continue to be involved if we want to maintain the amount of support we have been able to generate in the past.

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The Western Montana RPCVs welcome the following new members:

Vanessa Many from New Hampshire who was in Madagascar

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.

OFFICERS:

President/ Newsletter Editor:
Dennis Bangs 549-1631
wmrpcv@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Mary Younger
251-2292
mmjyounger@aol.com

Missoula Area Rep: Tony Hoyt 726-3384
humbird2@blackfoot.net

Helena Area Rep: Jennifer Wintersteen 443-8593
wintersteen@mt.net

Emissary Contact Tish Herries 541-2556
Saffron@blackfoot.net

Campus Representative
Dana Foster 243-2839
peacecorps@umontana.edu



Goat chasers greeting the day

Goat Chase 2012

This year our group of enthusiastic campers joined together once again for our annual get together of shared community, international food and good times. The somewhat smaller group and the mild to unsettled weather lead to a bit of a more intimate gathering then some of the others in the recent past. Friday night's weather allowed us to enjoy another enthusiastic story telling session around the bonfire.

The scattered sunshine most of the day Saturday encouraged people to get out on the canoes and enjoy the day. By the evening the rain began to fall but it didn't dampen spirits as everyone gathered for the big international potluck and more sharing.

After the meal the families with kids headed off to their respective cabins and a group of the rest gathered in one of the bigger cabins in front of a toasty fireplace for sing a long with a couple of very talented guitar players and lots of enthusiastic crooners. Our special retreat turned out to be special again this year.

At our annual meeting on Saturday morning we didn't change any officers but did talk about ways to recruit and retain new members. Using Facebook and other methods of social media was discussed as well as having some special community-wide events and having a specific person in the group take on the task of being an outreach/communications person.



Reggie and Anisa



Saturday's International Potluck



Western Montana Returned Peace Corps Volunteers help plant the seeds for peace 365 days a year....

The funds raised from the sale of the International Calendars developed by the Madison, Wisconsin RPCV group are directly donated to a variety of local and international humanitarian endeavors. If you have a project you would like considered please contact us at <wmrpcv.com>. Cost is \$12 per calendar - shipping and handling included. Please complete the order form below and send it with your check payable to 'WMRPCV' to:

Mary Younger, WMRPCV Treasurer
100 Erika Court
Missoula, MT 59803

2012 International Calendar Order

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please send me _____ calendars @ \$12 each (shipping included)

Included is my check for \$ _____, payable to 'WMRPCVs'



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**