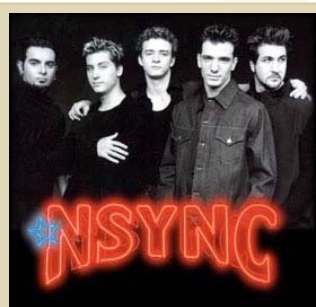


Nouakchott Notes

Letter from the Editor

Audrey Bottjen

Here at Nouakchott Notes we pride ourselves on being "in sync" with the pulse of Peace Corps Mauritania. This is your forum, so if you need to share, inform or just talk about your feelings with someone besides those insensitive jerks at site, just let us know and we'll sing it out for you. That is, until we go solo and break up with Britney. Then you can cry us a river for all we'll care.



Justin: Audrey Bottjen

audbot@hotmail.com

JC: Karl Adam

karladamde@yahoo.de

Lance: Miriam Edwards

edwardsmmn@yahoo.com

Chris: Janine Kossen

kossenjfk@yahoo.com

Joey: Will Holcomb

will@himinbi.org

PCVs Assist in the Largest Public Health Initiative in Africa

Janine Kossen and Miriam Edwards

In an effort to eradicate polio worldwide, UNICEF successfully completed two rounds of vaccinations in 24 African countries, including Mauritania. With 86% of all the world's polio cases in Africa, the campaign was the largest-ever internationally coordinated public health initiative undertaken during peacetime. PCVs from all sectors teamed up with health workers across the country going door-to-door administering vaccinations against polio as well as providing supplemental doses of vitamin A.

During the first round of vaccinations in Mauritania October 8-11, 93% of children under 5 received the oral polio vaccinations. In addition, vaccination teams provided information on the importance of Vitamin A in reducing child mortality, combating infections, and preventing blindness. The second round took place November 18-21 and targeted those children previously unavailable as well as provided an additional booster dose to those already vaccinated.

Poliomyelitis is a highly contagious, incurable viral infection of the nervous



Upcoming Events

<u>December</u>	Fri. 24	Christmas Eve Party	Rosso, Mauritania
	Fri. 31	New Years Eve	St. Louis, Senegal
<u>January</u>	Sun. 2 - Mon. 10	School Break	
<u>February</u>	Sun. 13	ETR	Nouakchott
	Fri. 18 - Mon. 21	W.A.I.S.T.	Dakar, Senegal
	Sat. 26 - Sat. Mar 5	Burkina Film Festival	Ougadougou, Burkina Faso
<u>April</u>	Sun. 3 - Sat. 9	School Break	
	Mon. 7 - Sat. 9	COS Conference	Nouadhibou
<u>June</u>	Sun. 26 - Sep. 24	School Summer Vacation	

Director's NEWS

Hello All:

I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving celebration! Events in Nouakchott are all well. I thought I would provide you a quick overview of some of the issues coming up over the next three months.

- It looks as if Peace Corps may have a **budget** by the time this issue arrives. Congress is scheduled to vote on the spending bill by December 6th.
- A new **APCD SED/ICT** has been identified. As he has not yet been formally contacted by Peace Corp Washington, I cannot give you too many details. Suffice it to say that I believe that he will be a great addition to our staff. The APCDs and I were very impressed with him and his background. He is an RPCV and has worked in the private sector and has an MBA. Once I have been notified by PC DC that he has accepted the position, I will send out a more detailed description. He is scheduled to arrive at post on February 9th.
- **Regional Library Enhancement Act of 2004** – As I am positive many of you have heard through the grapevine over the last month, the small apartment that once held the PCV video and fiction library has been converted to other uses. As a result, the large selection of books (mostly fiction and travel) and videos that were kept in that room will now be divided between the regional offices and the main In-Country Resource Center (IRC) here in Nouakchott. An added bonus of this restructuring will be the enhancement of the IRC to provide private PCV laptops with connection to the Internet through the office's dedicated line. The target date for completion of this upgrade is 30 January 2005.
- And the news only gets better ... Last month, Peace Corps closed its warehouse in Kaédi. As a result, we not have a myriad of items that can be donated to the regional offices. I would like to ask all of the Regional Coordinators to please send me a "**wish list**" of items that they would like for their regional offices. RC's please include a current inventory of items on hand so that we may distribute the scarce resources equitably.... Sorry, private requests will not be entertained - these items are intended for regional office use only.
- New Regional Medical Officer, **Dr. Michael Savage**, will be visiting Mauritania December 19 to 22. This will be an initial visit and will concentrate on a review of service providers located in Nouakchott.
- I will be traveling to the States for Peace Corps training and a short vacation December 28 – February 12th.
- And a final thought, I was wondering if you all would be interested in starting a tradition here at PC Mauritania. I was thinking that it would be interesting for each COS'ing group to leave a remembrance behind. My initial suggestion would be for each group to design a ceramic mosaic tabletop to be used in the new Terrace Café at Peace Corps Nouakchott ... all suggestions are welcome!



Very best to you all,
Obie

GAD CORNER

Jessica Dunsmore

It has been an interesting last couple of months up here in the GAD office. We said goodbye to an awesome coordinatrice, Beth Brogaard, and now I am working as the GAD volunteer coordinator along with our part-time staff member, Mariem mint el Bechir and Education APCD, Bagga.

The hottest item on the agenda these days is that we are working to make GAD a sub-sector of Education, and we are lucky to have two GAD volunteers among this new class: Adriana Publico in Kiffa and Andi Gittleman in Boghè. We are working closely with the Secrétariat de la Condition Féminine in order to solidify a contract for future collaboration between the GAD volunteers and the Ministry. Hopefully by next year we will be able to bring in even more GAD volunteers.

Aside from that, the GAD program is gearing up for the year, and we have a lot coming up: we have almost all of the GMCs open and running for the year; there is a Mentor's Workshop happening in Nouakchott the 12th - 14th of December; and best of all, we will soon be getting our 2005 financing...Incha' Allah! When the money comes in, the quarterly operating funds will be given out, and you are free to submit proposals from your regions for individual project funding.

We welcome all of the new volunteers who have sworn in and are almost through their first quarter. GAD is especially excited about these new faces because we have an amazingly motivated group of people who have taken the reins at many of the GMCs and are already going great GAD projects in the regions. Adriana's presence and hard work means that Kiffa is now back on the map as a functioning GMC. And the other regions now have a larger group of female volunteers who can help out, generate new ideas, and provide good energy to continue the current projects.

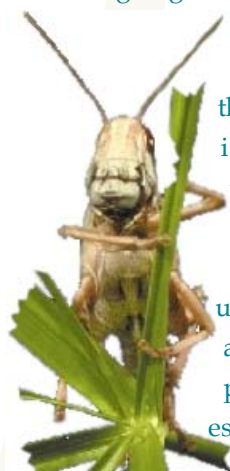
I look forward to working with all of you, and if you have any questions or comments feel free to e-mail rimgad@yahoo.com or call 675-4774.

Paintings for Show and Sale

Recently opened and inaugurated, Nouakchott's "Maison des Artistes" presents two main showrooms and six workshops of paintings by local artists. Themes vary, with many reflecting Mauritanian life, tradition and history, with prices ranging from 10,000 to 80,000 ouguiyas. A representative is there Sunday - Thursday, from 9h30 to 18h00. For additional information call 632-06-97. It is located on a small street off Charles de Gaulle, between Ma Pizza and Alliance Franco-Mauritanienne, and across from the Moroccan Embassy. It is on the right side of the street, and there is a large painted sign in the courtyard. Please stop by and support the local artists.

Locust Training and Feeding Center Fundraiser

Hi everybody, I sent this same basic message out to you by email, but I figured it couldn't hurt to repeat it. I hope you're all happily settled into your new sites, and that the second years are enjoying the downhill run. I'm sure you can see the light at the end of the tunnel by now. (Did I hear that Ben is going back for WAIST???)



I just wanted to let you all know that a few of us are raising money (not through PCP or SPA) to pay for an IST-like training on pesticide use for about 30 PCVs and their counterparts as well as for the establishment of feeding centers in response to the damage done by the locusts in the last few months. We've sent out an initial mailer by email and snail mail, and I'll send out more as I get more addresses.

So, send me the names and addresses of family and friends who may be interested in donating. You could also forward them my email ralphybing@yahoo.com and I'll send them the project description that Aw and Kane have put together.

Also, for those of you that have web diaries or websites, can you post a little blurb to let peeps at home know that this is going on. I'm sure you've already told them about the damage the locusts are doing, but tell 'em they can do something about it now!

I miss everyone and hope that you are enjoying yourselves...Have fun at WAIST (and don't forget to streak!!).

Take Care,
Racey

AROUND TOWN

Baaba Maal in da House

Cailin McGough

After months of rumors and anticipation, Senegalese music legend Baaba Maal arrived in Selibaby for two standing-room-only shows November 25 and 26.

The plan to get the performer to the Guidimakha regional capital was in the works forever, according to Selibaby AgFo volunteer Brandon Guernsey. "I think they always kind of dreamed of the day when Baaba Maal would come," he said. "Then they finally got together and organized a committee... then the date changed about 10 times." By the time the performer made it to Selibaby the city was ready. Both nights drew crowds of at least 800 to the city's Maison de Jeune amphitheater.

Maal slowed his set of quick Senegalese dance songs with more traditional instrumental and vocal interludes. Occupying every inch of the stage were an entourage of five or six percussionists, a keyboardist, backup singers and other instrumentalists, and two scantily-clad dancers. Though she couldn't understand a word of it, Selibaby SED volunteer Suzanne Carroll said she thought the performance of Maal and his band, Le Daande Lenol, was awesome. "I wanted to get up on stage and dance with those chicks," she said.

While she didn't know what to expect before the concert, Selibaby Environmental

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Senegalese Singing Sensation Baaba Mall

The Sahara Café

Janine Kossen

Not content with classy décor, killer flat screen tv and what appears to be a real live popcorn machine, this restaurant on the SE corner of the Stadium boasts some really cool fake bricks you might expect Indiana Jones to break through at any moment. According to Carl Strolle, however, "the lighting is all wrong. They need to divide up the space and put the lights lower to the ground and dimmer for a more intimate approach."

As far as food goes, the Sahara Café has a wide selection of dishes. Salads range from 1200-1800 um; fish, meat, and chicken dishes for 1500-2800 um; Lebanese specialties between 500-2500 um, pizzas at 1200-1800 um; and as always, your traditional cheap eats of burgers, chawarmas, and sandwiches.

We immediately commenced with various tasty drinks, including a strawberry/banana shake, reminiscent of a smoothie, a chocolate shake, which was not, and a strawberry-orange juice extra, which appeared to be a slightly better version of Foster's Clark. We next moved on to some appetizers. First there was the manakiche zaarta, which was a very dry

Lebanese pizza-type concoction. Slightly better was the manakiche fromage which was, true to its name, quite cheesy and very heavy. The green salad was delicious with its fresh lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, and green peppers drizzled with a delectable tangy vinaigrette dressing.



The Sahara serves traditional Moroccan and Lebanese dishes like tajines

As far as main courses went, the shrimp beignets were succulent but pricey at 2500 um - an absolute must if you have the ouguiya to spare. The chicken chawarma with garlic mayonnaise sauce was decent, but overpriced at 600 um. Whatever you do, avoid the burger and fries as they will, in all likelihood, be served cold, thereby diminishing the flavor factor. We topped the night off with a cup of coffee and a rich pineapple cake big enough for all to share at 500 um.

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Travel

PCVS Touch Down in Tunisia *by Jay Davidson*

Tunis, the capitol, has many streets that are reminiscent of Paris: there are wide boulevards, outdoor cafés, tree-lined avenues, and similar architectural touches on many buildings. I wouldn't call it a cosmopolitan city, in that there are not constituent elements from all over the world. But it most decidedly has a European flavor reminiscent of the southern regions of France, Italy, Spain, and Portugal, on the other side of the Mediterranean. The most popular attraction in Tunis is the medina, the old fortified city. It is crawling with tourists. Even though there are many cafés, food vendors, and shops that cater to locals, there is a huge number of stores that sell only the kind of useless crap that tourists seem to favor, which makes the experience look more like an Epcot Center display than an authentic experience. That said, its labyrinth of streets, alleys, and passageways do have their charm, and it is one of Tunisia's eight UNESCO World Heritage sites.



After four nights in Tunis, we were ready to hit the road. At Lisa's suggestion, we rented a car and she was happy to do all the driving! (Note: cost was 335 dinars a week for the car and 80 dinars for gas, equivalent to \$268 and \$64, respectively.) Sidi Bou Saïd is a small town north of Tunis. We stopped there first on our way out of the capital on Sunday morning. It is hilly and has lots of arts and crafts, along the lines of a Sausalito or Carmel. Once again, it is lousy with tourists.

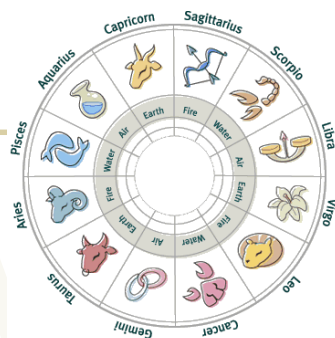
Our next stop was the area around the seaside village of Rafrat. This region looked remarkably like Central America - complete with donkey carts and people who even look like Central Americans! We were finally away from the other tourists. In the next town, Tabarka, we made the culinary discovery that was to become a staple for the coming week: the chapatti, a round flat bread from India, about an inch thick, which is used to make a large variety of sandwiches.

On Wednesday, we went through the mountainous area adjacent to Tabarka and then headed south to Le Kef, the town where Obie was living when he was a PCV in Tunisia during the nineties. He warned us not to tease him about it, but we couldn't think of any reasons why we should *not* tease him about it, as it is a town sitting majestically on a mesa above a verdant plateau, with beautiful mountains in the distance and lots of markets, amenities, and other delights.

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We spent much of one day in Carthage, which is adjacent to Tunis. The Roman ruins there are impressive. I found myself imagining what it must have been like to live in those times, and wished that I could have seen some of the daily life. There is a small museum with some fine mosaics and other artifacts, a cathedral, a theater, an amphitheatre, remnants of a spa, and other sites.



Fun PC Mauritania Horrscopes



Aries:

(Mar 21—Apr 19)

The stars are looking very auspicious for a nap and some tea.



Taurus:

(Apr 20—May 20)

Your SPA program to mate the last two albino camels of Chinguetti will go so very, very wrong.



Gemini:

(May 21—June 21)

Do not be surprised when you find yourself talking to the PCMO after wearing a tiara, life jacket, speedo, and calling yourself the “Princess of the Pulinkés.”



Cancer:

(June 22—July 22)

After starting your own designer-brand of wax-print, a rival brand will end your reign; but you get to



Leo:

(July 23—Aug 22)

You will rue the day you slept through French class when Maciré arrives in the Black Helicopter shouting “La phacochere veut te violer. Fui!”



Virgo:

(Aug 23—Sept 22)

You will receive both praise and ridicule for your SPA-project involving prosthetic smiin.



Libra:

(Sept 23—Oct 23)

Your APCD will come down hard on you for your repeated introductions of yourself as a “Peace Corps Spy” and him as “APCD X.” And stop saluting goddammit.



Scorpio:

(Oct 24—Nov 21)

Your attempt to blame “it” on the dog will indeed be the last straw after two helpings of soupakanje.



Sagittarius:

(Nov 22—Dec 21)

You will realize that you have been playing Dr. Frankenstein too long after your efforts at donkey-grafting yield fields of disproportionately long, but also real annoying, donkey-bananas.



Capricorn:

(Dec 22—Jan 19)

Neither God nor man will find your rendition of “Mothra vs. Godzilla” for your host family amusing.



Aquarius:

(Jan 20—Feb 18)

With Mars in equinox and Venus in nadir, it is not a fortuitous time to distribute those, “VOTER OULD NADER ‘04” shirts.



Pisces:

(Feb 19—Mar 20)

Beignets – they call you, even in your dreams. Heed their call and fill your kitchen, pockets and soul with them.

Infoshot: W.A.I.S.T.

West African Invitational Softball Tournament
Held in Dakar, Senegal
From February 18th to the 21st

Traditionally, RIM-PCVs have arrived en masse in Dakar. Host families of generous embassy employees house volunteers for the duration of the tournament. It is good form to bring a small gift for the families as a token of your appreciation. Enough equipment will be provided, but if you somehow have your own, bring it. Please exchange money beforehand to ease crossing and stress! Also please ask your APCD for permission to travel. We need you to come up with several other things:

T-shirt ideas: Last year’s T-shirts were great, but do we need something new?

Proposed Ideas:

1. RIM Pirates: A Quest for Moor Booty (turbaned skull with bats in background)
2. RIM Camel Bandits: Just looking for a hump or two. (crude dude on camel)
3. RIM Cowboys (picture of Mark)

Chants: They were good last year, but we need more.

New Proposals:

1. DON-moi CAD-eau, clap, clap, clapclapclap!
2. Bonjour madam/monsieur (using opposite gender)

Amusements

Fashion *Dos* & *Don'ts*

Fashionista Mistress Miriam



Do... think looking *hot!!* & dancing like this is sexy

Don't... think looking hot & dancing like this is sexy



Do... dress with cultural sensitivity



Don't... terrorize locals with your rendition of 'crazy' Hassaniya Abe Lincoln



Don't... use your haircut to come out of the closet

Do... be brave & try local hairstyles



Don't... ever think a mullet's a **good** thing



Do... coordinate outfits with your heterosexual life partner



Do... get delusions of grandeur, start wearing a crown & make everyone address you as "HRH, Teresa, Princess of Rosso"



Don't... get delusions of grandeur, start wearing a cape & run around town in your underwear

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Have you ever wondered what has happened to our long-lost RPCVs? Test your knowledge with the following matching quiz.

1. worked on a sheep and cattle ranch in Montana before starting grad school
2. currently working for an attorney in Tampa and looking forward to hiking the Appalachian Trail in March
3. starting cooking school in New York in February
4. ran a 5 mile race in Brooklyn, working at a New Orleans-style café, and applying to grad schools
5. completed a 6-month internship with the CT state Department of Environmental Protection and now harvests vegetables at an organic farm
6. waitressing in Connecticut and planning to move to San Diego in February
7. traveled to 10 countries in 2 months, including Ukraine, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Iceland

- a. Liz Kenton, agfo, Aioun
- b. Stacy Rose, ed, Kaédi
- c. Naruth Phadungchai, agfo, Kiffa
- d. Beth Brogaard, sed, Chinguetti
- e. Caroline Handschuh, ee, Chinguetti
- f. Geri Greenspan, ed, Boghé
- g. Jessica Laribee, sed, Oudane

answers on page 10

cont. from page 4 Education volunteer Molly Bayer was surprised both by the Kankossa education volunteer Annika Dubrall, in town for the Thanksgiving weekend, said she had never seen anything like it. "The people came up and gave him money and took pictures with him and he never missed a beat. It was amazing," she said. The lack of security stood in stark contrast to the metal detectors of home. "There were people just going up to him, putting their arm around him. And in those huge boubous! There's definitely not the culture of fear here."

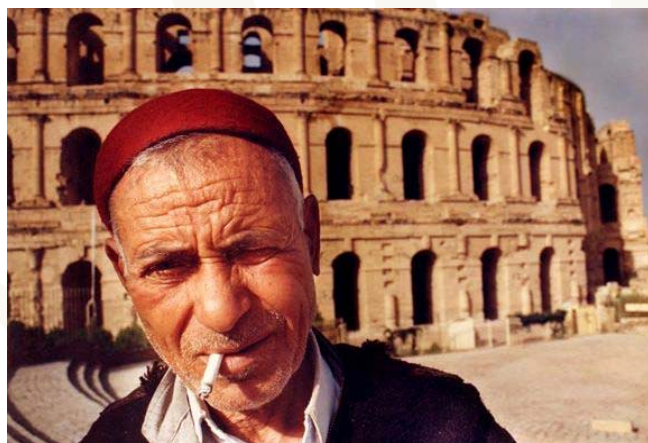
One of Senegal's biggest international stars, the 51-year-old from Podor, Senegal has toured in Europe and America. The show was his first in Selibaby. Selibaby Health and Water Sanitation volunteer Brock Emerson said he was surprised to recognize some of the songs, but even more surprised by the sedentary nature of the crowd. "Even if I hear a radio play people get up and dance. And then Baaba Maal is there in front of them and they all sit politely and don't make noise," he said.

"They were just sitting watching him," added Gouraye AgFovolunteer Nathan Gretzinger. "I mean they were kind of happy to be there I guess, but they weren't going ape like we do at concerts," he said.



Babaa does a mean Ray Charles impression

Guernsey, on the other hand, said he could see the energy in the crowd. "I think it meant a lot to the people of Selibaby, especially that he kept saying things about Selibaby," he said of the vocalist's often-improvised lyrics. "I heard 'toubab' in there a few times too. I don't know what that was about."



Just one of the many special and lasting friends Jay made in Tunisia

cont. from page 5 Outside Tunis we found hotels for as little as eight dinars per person (\$6.40), breakfast included. In one town I also found a men's *hammam* (public bath house) next door. The cost of the *hammam* itself is 1.2 dinars. For a massage to be included, the price was 3 (equal to about \$2.40), probably the cheapest massage I'll ever get.

I purchased a body-scrubber that is used in hammams – a rough piece of fabric, almost like carpeting that fits over the hand. In actuality, when the masseur uses it, it feels like he is using an oven mitt made of Scotch-Brite pads. While he didn't remove the top layers of skin, as I thought he had done, he did remove *something*, as he occasionally showed

me the rolled up layers of dirty skin that he had exfoliated. The massage is not the gentle warm-and-fuzzy nurturing variety. There is no massage table; we are sitting or lying on the marble floor. The masseur twists and tortures the limbs and I was pleased that at the completion of the job, he had not managed to crack or break any of my ribs.

When traveling by myself, I made my debut on the very practical form of public transportation called the *louage* (pronounced lwahj). There are *louage* stations in cities and towns of every size. The process is easy: just let somebody know where you are going, and you will be directed to the next vehicle headed there, from among all the vehicles in the garage (sometimes it is more like a parking lot). The larger stations have signs to indicate destinations; at the smaller stations, the workers there know which drivers are going where. The *louages* are large vans with seating for seven people. Like other places in Africa, they leave the stations only when they are full. Unlike other places, however, the definition of "full" means seven people for seven seats, not ten or more. Additionally, they filled up very quickly. During the entire day, I took five *louage* rides and never had to wait more than eleven minutes for a departure. The cost of my transport for the whole day was a very reasonable 10.350 dinars, about \$8.28.

cont. from page 1 system that can cause crippling paralysis or even death within hours of infection. Children can be infected with polio when they eat or drink food and water contaminated with the virus or when they come into direct contact with an infected person's fecal matter or saliva. At its peak, polio paralyzed and killed up to half a million people every year, before Jonas Salk invented a vaccine in 1955. Once considered a global menace, polio is now mainly a disease of poverty which is particularly devastating in crowded urban slums where sanitation is poor and children are malnourished and out of reach of basic health services.

In all, the multi-country campaign reached over 80 million children or approximately 90% of children under five in the 24 countries targeted.

Locally, UNICEF tapped into an established resource to help with the campaign; Peace Corps volunteers. After receiving training on administering vaccinations, PCVs were matched up with local health workers for both phases of the campaign. Countrywide, volunteers helped vaccinate over 500,000 children. (Note: This number may change. Statistics are still



being collected from the 2nd phase of the campaign.)

For some PCVs it was their first time seeing some of the places surrounding the communities in which they live. For some new volunteers it was their first time traveling extensively in the brousse as well as an eye-opening event. "Some of these communities were significantly more isolated...no paved road...people would have no way to easily leave..." says Molly Bayer environmental education volunteer in Selibaby. "The biggest differences were the resources we take for granted here [in Selibaby]," Molly continues, "Some villages didn't even have wells. Some villages didn't have schools." Molly acknowledges that it was very different from the village where she lived during stage.

Most volunteers agree that the days were long and exhausting, mentally and physically, but it was worth the effort. "I had a great time working with other health workers in the community. I went into parts of Kaedi that I've never visited before," says Health and Water Sanitation volunteer Janine Kossen in Gorgol. The chance to get out into some of the poorer and more remote areas of the regions in which volunteers serve was a unique experience not to be missed.

cont. from page 4 The pièce de resistance, however, was the bathroom. Yeah, first you must look past the mounds of dead flies congregating around the sink area, but then the magic of the toilet becomes apparent. Not only did it have a clean appearance and toilet paper to spare, but it also sported a motorized makaresh! What, you ask, is that? We sent Alice in to investigate, but when asked if she tried this modern miracle of technology, she replied, "I was too scared!" Not wanting to leave any toilet unexamined, I decided to delve deep into my courageous soul and try it myself. Imagine a metal hose connecting the toiletbowl tank to a superswank garden hose-like attachment resting in its own holder on the adjacent wall. In awe of such a device, I succumbed to my own curiosity and subsequently raised many eyebrows when departing from the restroom completely soaked and holding a tiny reporter's notebook and pencil.

COS 2005 - You May Already be a Winner!

2nd Years! Pack your bags and send the kids to Grandma's, you're going on the trip of a lifetime! The dates are set, April 7-9, but the package is up to you...

Package number 1: Keur Macene: This lush oasis boasts a swimming pool (needs to be fixed), wildlife reserve, possible beach trip, catered "really good" meals and private bungalows with air conditioning. This paradise is also isolated (good for parties).

Package number 2: Nouakchott, that's right, the big city. But this time you'll stay in style at the Novotel or Hotel Mercure. Experience all the amenities of the traditional expat lifestyle!

Package number 3: Nouadhibou: No pools in this quaint port town, but the beach is really close, if cold. Beer is readily available and restaurants are delicious and affordable on 2300um per diem. Plus, there's a night in the bird park on the drive home.

Send your vote to jdunsmore@yahoo.com by Jan. 1

Closing



Dedicated volunteers are constantly striving toward new heights

Dara's Top 10 Ways You Know You Are Becoming Mauritanian

10. You threw your toothbrush away and now use a stick for cleaning your teeth
9. You say "Inshallah" at the end of things you have no intention of doing
8. You get upset when you don't get your afternoon nap
7. You snap your fingers at people
6. You forget how to eat with a spoon or fork
5. You have kids get things for you
4. You no longer look for parents and instead you just beat kids yourself
3. You pick your nose
2. Your rear sinks into your matela
1. You say "Bismillah" before having sex

The Only Mauritania Joke on Africanjokes.com

How many police officers does it take to arrest a Mauritanian?

Two. One to write the ticket, the other to hold the oranges.

Answers to RPCV Quiz:

1.c 2.f 3.b 4.e 5.a 6.g 7.d

Locust Recipes

The locusts have ravaged the countryside, hiked vegetable prices and contributed to existing food shortages. However, there's a silver lining to every cloud – these little guys can make a tasty snack! Show the locusts who's boss with these delightful recipes:

Tinjiya (Tswana recipe): remove the wings and hindlegs of the locuts, and boil in a little water until soft. Add salt if desired and a little fat and fry until brown. Serve with cooked, dried corn.

Cambodia: take several dozen locust adults, (preferably female), slit the abdomen lengthwise and stuff a peanut inside. Then lightly grill the locusts in a wok or hot frying pan, adding a little oil and salt to taste.

American pioneers: remove the wings, small legs and distal portion of the hind legs. Then pull off the head, withdrawing any attached viscera. Boil prepared locusts in salted water. Add assorted cut-up vegetables, butter, salt and venegar to the broth and cook until the vegetables are tender. Serve as a thick soup over rice.

Engagement Announcement

PC RIM would like to congratulate Doug Kelly (PCV – China 1998-99) and Rachel Baker on their recent engagement and reminds them not to overlook Mauritania when considering prime honeymoon destinations.



Unlike cats, lizards don't always land on their feet