

# WorldView



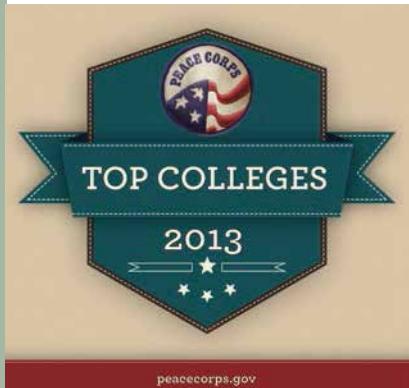
## HOST COUNTRY NATIONALS

### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- CAUSE: A Philanthropub
- The “Buy One, Give One” Development Model



# Experience



JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY

---

SCHOOL OF NURSING



# the Possibilities

at the **Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing**

Join Returned Peace Corps Volunteers at Hopkins who are changing lives and the world. Learn more about our unique **Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program** and opportunities to accelerate your career in community and public health nursing.

[www.nursing.jhu.edu/peacecorps](http://www.nursing.jhu.edu/peacecorps)

# Challenge Convention.

## Change Our World.



These words are much more than the Clark University motto. They are a rallying cry that inspires our community every day. Whether researching alternative energy resources, improving labor practices in developing countries, or forming unique collaborations, our faculty and students continually develop new ways of thinking and acting that have impact on the lives – and livelihoods – of people throughout the world.

### INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNITY, AND ENVIRONMENT (IDCE)

- MA in International Development and Social Change
- MS in Environmental Science and Policy
- MA in Community Development and Planning
- MS in Geographic Information Science for Development and Environment

[www.clarku.edu/idce](http://www.clarku.edu/idce)  
508.793.7205 | [idce@clarku.edu](mailto:idce@clarku.edu)

### GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT (GSOM)

- MBA
- MBA in Social Change
- MBA in Sustainability

### DUAL DEGREES

- MBA/MA in Community Development and Planning
- MBA/MS in Environmental Science and Policy

[www.clarku.edu/gsom](http://www.clarku.edu/gsom)  
508.793.7406 | [clarkmba@clarku.edu](mailto:clarkmba@clarku.edu)

Clark University is proud to participate in the Coverdell Fellows Program and offer generous scholarships to RPCVs.



**Publisher:** Glenn Blumhorst

**Editor:** Erica Burman

**Contributors:** Scott Beale, David Bleckley, Michael Buckler, Maureen Carroll, William Cartwright, Gaea Dill-D'Ascoli, Ryan Greenstein, Natalie Hall, Beau Jackson, Lebo Moore, Jonathan Pearson, Ryan Ruggiero, Zoe Shroeder, Eleanor Stanford, Nick Vilelle

#### WorldView Advertising

Scott Oser

advertising@peacecorpsconnect.org

*WorldView* (ISSN 1047-5338) is published quarterly by the National Peace Corps Association to provide news and comment about communities and issues of the world of serving and returned Peace Corps volunteers. *WorldView* © 1978 National Peace Corps Association.

Periodicals postage paid at Washington, D.C. & additional mailing offices.

#### POSTMASTER

Please send address changes to

*WorldView* magazine

National Peace Corps Association

1900 L Street NW, Suite 610

Washington, DC 20036-5002

#### ADVERTISING

Questions regarding advertising should be sent to advertising@peacecorpsconnect.org.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Magazine subscriptions may be purchased from the National Peace Corps Association by check or credit card. Prices for individuals are \$25 and institutions \$35 (add \$10 for overseas delivery). Order forms are also available on the NPCA website at [www.peacecorpsconnect.org](http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org) or [www.worldviewmagazine.com](http://www.worldviewmagazine.com).

#### EDITORIAL POLICY

Articles published in the magazine are not intended to reflect the views of the Peace Corps, or those of the National Peace Corps Association, a nonprofit educational membership organization for those whose lives are influenced by Peace Corps. The NPCA is independent of the federal agency, the Peace Corps.

#### EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Unsolicited manuscripts, photographs, or other illustrations will be considered. The editors prefer written proposals before receiving original material. Send queries or manuscripts to the editor at [news@peacecorpsconnect.org](mailto:news@peacecorpsconnect.org) or by mail to the NPCA address.

All inquiries can be addressed to the appropriate person at NPCA by fax at 202 293 7554 or by mail to NPCA, or through the NPCA website at [www.peacecorpsconnect.org](http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org) or [www.worldviewmagazine.com](http://www.worldviewmagazine.com).

# WorldView

A magazine of news and comment about the Peace Corps world

## Host Country Nationals

**Proud Product of the Peace Corps:** From humble beginnings, a Kenyan doctor rises to champion those most in need  
*by Erica Burman*

16



Kenya Red Cross Society

**The Reverse Peace Corps**  
*by Scott Beale*

19

**Friendship Through the Decades:** Sierra Leone President Bai Koroma reflects on the importance of Peace Corps  
*by Erica Burman*

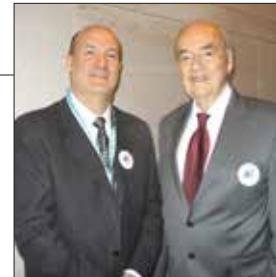
21

## Departments

### FROM THE NPCA PRESIDENT

**Host Country Nationals:** The people who make a difference in our service  
*by Glenn Blumhorst*

6



NPCA

### READERS WRITE

### AROUND THE NPCA

#### Group News Highlights:

A look at what NPCA member groups are up to  
*by Jonathan Pearson*

8



NPCA

#### National Day of Action

*by Jonathan Pearson*

11

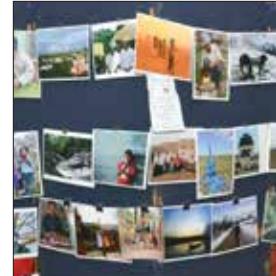
**A Place to Call Home:** Peace Corps Community Archive Established at American University  
*by Erica Burman*

13

#### Capitol Hill Update

*by Ryan Greenstein*

14



Elizabeth Chon

#### Where in the World Is WorldView?

Send us a photo!

14

### COMMENTARY AND OPINION

#### Third Goal International Film Festival:

Show Me State RPCVs showcase Peace Corps films  
*by Lebo Moore*

23

**COVER:** A child peers through a classroom window in Kenya, 2011. Credit: Peace Corps.

# WorldView

A magazine of news and comment about the Peace Corps world

## Departments

### The Evolution of a Collective Memoir

by Maureen Carroll

25



### Come to Africa for Business, Not Handouts:

"Buy one give one" model does no development favors by Michael Buckler and Beau Jackson

26

### BUZZ FROM THE FIELD

**Community Voices:** Realizing the Third Goal one song at a time

by David Bleckley

28



CAUSE

**The Living Dead:** South African youth project steps in to smooth school-to-work transition

by Ryan Ruggiero

30

### CAUSE, the Philanthropub: Changing the world ...

one beer at a time

by Nick Vilelle

32



### LETTERS FROM ...

**Letter from Vanuatu:** Staying On

by Gaea Dill-D'Ascoli

34

**Letter from Lesotho:** Tupa Trouble

by Zoe Shroeder

36

### BOOK LOCKER

**Long Division:** Excerpt from the memoir *História, História: Two Years in the Cape Verde Islands* by Eleanor Stanford

37



Riecken Foundation

### PROFILES IN SERVICE

**Reicken Community Libraries:** Inspiring volunteerism and activism in Central America

by William Cartwright

38



RPCVs of WI-Madison

### WHY I GIVE

**Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin-Madison:**

International Calendar supports development projects—and NPCA

by Natalie Hall

41

### COMMUNITY NEWS

**Recent Achievements of Our Community**

by Jonathan Pearson

43

### ADVERTISER INDEX

45

### THE PUBLISHER

The publisher of *WorldView* magazine is the National Peace Corps Association, a national network of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, former staff and friends. The NPCA is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) educational and service organization which is independent of the federal agency, the Peace Corps.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Carol Bellamy, Chair, Education for All - Fast Track Initiative
- Ron Boring, Former Vice President, Vodafone Japan
- Nicholas Craw, President, Automobile Competition Committee for the U.S.
- Sam Farr, Congressman, U.S. House of Representatives, California
- John Garamendi, Congressman, U.S. House of Representatives, California
- Mark Gearan, President, Hobart & William Smith Colleges
- Tony Hall, Former Member of U.S. House of Representatives, Ohio, Former U.S. Ambassador to Food and Agriculture Organization
- Sandra Jaffee, Former Executive Vice President, Citigroup
- Wilber E. James, Chairman, The Rockport Group
- Roland Johnson, Former Executive Director, The Grundy Foundation
- John Y. Keffer, Chairman, Atlantic Fund Administration
- Virginia Kirkwood, Owner/Director, Shawnee Holdings, Inc.
- Richard M. Krieg, President and CEO, The Horizon Foundation
- Kenneth Lehman, Chairman Emeritus, Winning Workplaces
- C. Payne Lucas, Senior Advisor, AllAfrica Foundation
- Dennis Lucey, Vice President, TKC Global
- Gordon Radley, Former President, Lucasfilms
- John E. Riggan, Chairman Emeritus, TCC Group
- Mark Schneider, Senior Vice President, Special Adviser on Latin America International Crisis Group
- Donna Shalala, President, University of Miami
- Paul Slawson, Former CEO, InterPacific Co.
- F. Chapman Taylor, Senior Vice President and Research, Director Capital International Research Inc.
- Joan Timoney, Director for Advocacy and External Relations Women's Refugee Commission
- Harris Wofford, Former U.S. Senator, Pennsylvania

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Tony Barclay, Chair
- Patricia A. Wand, Vice Chair
- Janet Greig, Treasurer
- Gary Schulze, Secretary
- Glenn Blumhorst, ex officio
- Jane Bardon
- John B. Blake
- Jayne Booker
- Harris Bostic II
- Teresa Devore
- Priscilla Goldfarb
- Steve Groff
- Darryl N. Johnson
- Sharon Keld
- Wendy Lee
- Tim McCollum
- Kristina Owens
- Mike Peter
- Kate Schachter, Group Leader Coordinator, ex officio
- Joby Taylor

### STAFF

- Glenn Blumhorst, President
- Anne Baker, Vice President
- Emily Bello, Manager of Membership & Operations
- Erica Burman, Communications Director
- Jonathan Pearson, Advocacy Director
- Adrienne McCloud, Membership and Development Assistant

### CONSULTANTS

- Lolie Commodore, Finance

### INTERNS

- Nicole Bustamante, Asha Khanzada, Ryan Greenstein, Kaitlyn Moberly, Robert Powers

### VOLUNTEERS

- Kay Dixon, Natalie Hall, Travis Hellstrom, Harriet Lipowitz

# CAMELBAK® ALL CLEAR™

MICROBIOLOGICAL UV WATER PURIFIER

"I CAME TO TANZANIA TO HELP. GETTING SICK WAS NOT AN OPTION. I NEEDED A PURIFIER THAT I COULD TRUST."

GARRETT MEANS, HUMANITARIAN AID WORKER



60 SECONDS TO  
PURIFIED WATER. ANYWHERE.



WHEREVER YOU GO,  
WE'VE GOT YOUR BAK.™

The Tanzanian village that Garrett visited didn't have any potable water. He used the CamelBak® All Clear™ for all his personal water and taught the locals how to use it before he left. CamelBak® All Clear™ is a powerful portable purification system that microbiologically purifies water in 60 seconds.

LEARN MORE AT [CAMELBAK.COM/ALLCLEAR](http://CAMELBAK.COM/ALLCLEAR)

# Host Country Nationals

The people who make a difference in our service

by Glenn Blumhorst

**I**t's all about the people. In the Peace Corps community, the people who most enrich our service are likely the host country nationals with whom our paths cross along the way. Whether local community members, students, host organization counterparts, local Peace Corps staff, or diaspora back home, the mutual experience is memorable and meaningful.

In this issue of *WorldView*, we reflect on the impact of our service on host country nationals and the influence they have had on our lives. Undoubtedly, there are many amazing stories of how Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) have made a difference in the lives of our hosts and continue to do so as Returned Peace Corps Volunteers. There are also countless testimonies as to how our service was nurtured with lasting friendships, partnerships and relationships with host country nationals.

Whether language instructors, educators, extension agents, public health workers, youth leaders, community mobilizers or entrepreneurs, we strived to improve the quality of lives in our country of service. Years later, we still may not feel certain we really made a difference.

We may not be aware of the footprints we left behind. But we are overwhelmingly convinced that the quality of our lives has been enhanced by the host country nationals with whom we interacted.

On a personal level, a number of host country nationals made a lasting impression on me during my Peace Corps service. Foremost among them are the Guatemalan Peace Corps staff that endeavored to make my service meaningful, productive and enjoyable—not to mention safe—in their country. I can still remember most of their names and faces. Frances, Patricia, Sheny, Lidia, Liseth, Basilio, Chepe, Flavio, Sergio and others were a steadfast source of support and encouragement.

My Associate Peace Corps Director, Salvador Morales, who recently retired after more than two decades of herding PCVs in Guatemala, was the exemplary mentor, leader and supervisor. We established a friendship that has endured to this day. I'm grateful to be in a position to give this "shout out" to my Peace Corps host country national staff.

The life and work of Dr. Mohamud

Shiekh Nurein Said, featured in this issue of *WorldView*, is a tremendous testimony to the positive influence that PCVs have on our host country counterparts. We are pleased to present Dr. Said with the 2013 Harris Wofford Global Citizen Award in recognition of his accomplishments and contributions to the international community.

We impact many people along life's path. Whether that intersection is for a fleeting moment or over the course of time, we may never know how profoundly our lives touch the lives of our host country national counterparts. But as RPCVs bringing the world home, we keep them in a special place in our hearts and minds; they personify the Peace Corps third goal in our lives and careers.

Here's to the host country nationals—the people who make a difference in our lives.

Saludos,  
Glenn

---

*Glenn Blumhorst (Guatemala 1988-91) is president of the National Peace Corps Association. You can reach him at president@peacecorpsconnect.org.*

## Readers Write

# Letter to the Editor

"**Y**ou don't look American." I was told that many times while serving in Ukraine, right after Ravi Shah, who told such a moving story. I'm a 3rd-generation Italian-American and it seems that skin color matters, the world over, and stereotypes

flourish. I also turned 70 in Ukraine. A *babushka* is a volunteer?

It's good that Peace Corps is addressing the issue of diversity, across the board. The people in the communities we serve, where we live and work for two years, have to do the

same. Kudos to Volunteers like Ravi who stick it out, work it through, with courage and determination, and show the world the true colors of America!

**Francine Curro Cary, PhD,**  
**Ukraine 2009-11**



**HOW DO WE SIMULTANEOUSLY  
ALLEVIATE POVERTY, SPUR  
DEVELOPMENT, AND FOSTER  
HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS?**

**WE TRAIN THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS.  
WE ARE PROUD TO PARTNER WITH THE PEACE CORPS.**

**-MASTER'S INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM  
-PAUL D. COVERDELL FELLOWS PROGRAM**

**THE GREAT CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME DEMAND A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE.**



**SCHOOL *of* INTERNATIONAL SERVICE  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC**

[AMERICAN.EDU/SIS](http://AMERICAN.EDU/SIS)

# Group News Highlights

A look at what NPCA member groups are up to

by Jonathan Pearson

PCAFPD



PCAFPD President Mark Holt and past President Maureen Carroll.

has raised nearly \$700,000, providing full scholarships enabling more than 200 low-income academically gifted Filipinos to attend college. More than 75 PCAFPD members and friends attended an anniversary reception hosted by the Philippines Embassy in Washington. "This reception is a small token of our appreciation," said Ambassador Jose L. Cusia Jr. in thanking PCAFPD and the nearly 9,000 Volunteers who served in the Philippines since 1961. "We hope you never tire in assisting the less fortunate students in our country."

## PHILIPPINES

Mark Holt (Philippines 1982-84) says like many of his fellow RPCVs over the years, he learned true friendship and generosity during his service. "We met families who killed their last chicken because we were there and they didn't want us to go hungry." The spirit of friendship and giving back led to the formation of the **Peace Corps Alumni Foundation for Philippine Development** (PCAFPD), which celebrated its 30th anniversary in March.

With a focus on education, the Foundation on Boise, Idaho from March 1-3 to participate in the Pacific Northwest Regional RPCV Meeting. The **Idaho Returned Peace Corps Volunteers** hosted this year's regional gathering. Representatives from six RPCV groups across Washington, Oregon and Idaho were in attendance. The weekend activities included 13 workshops, a day of service in which more than 400 food backpacks were prepared for the Idaho Food Bank, and a recruitment/educational/networking display table in conjunction with the Boise State University International Food, Song and Dance Festival. Other upcoming activities in the region include this year's Regional Campout (to be hosted by the **Inland Northwest Peace Corps Association** in Spokane, Wash.) and the 2014 Regional Meeting (to be hosted by the **West Cascade RPCVs** in Eugene, Ore.).

on Boise, Idaho from March 1-3 to participate in the Pacific Northwest Regional RPCV Meeting. The **Idaho Returned Peace Corps Volunteers** hosted this year's regional gathering. Representatives from six RPCV groups across Washington, Oregon and Idaho were in attendance. The weekend activities included 13 workshops, a day of service in which more than 400 food backpacks were prepared for the Idaho Food Bank, and a recruitment/educational/networking display table in conjunction with the Boise State University International Food, Song and Dance Festival. Other upcoming activities in the region include this year's Regional Campout (to be hosted by the **Inland Northwest Peace Corps Association** in Spokane, Wash.) and the 2014 Regional Meeting (to be hosted by the **West Cascade RPCVs** in Eugene, Ore.).

## SWAZILAND

**Friends of Swaziland** (FOS) is supporting a Peace Corps Partnership Program project that will convert an old classroom into a primary school library providing students with better access to books and a space for studying and homework assistance. A mural design contest among schoolchildren is also being incorporated into the library project. In addition, FOS agreed to support the ongoing service of Evelyn Acheson, who first traveled to Swaziland with Project HOPE in the mid 1980s. She recently returned for several weeks to provide equipment and software designed to improve learning resources for nursing students at Southern Africa Nazarene University in Manzini.

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST

More than 100 individuals converged

## NATIONWIDE

Among the activities during NPCA's recent cross-country trip to connect with members of the Peace Corps community were four advocacy trainings organized with member groups. More than fifty individuals attended the trainings held in conjunction with the **Minnesota RPCVs**, the **Central Missouri RPCVs**, the **St. Louis Peace Corps Association** and the **Tennessee RPCVs**. The Central Missouri group is considering expanding its program offerings to members to include greater involvement with NPCA Advocacy. The other three groups have active local Advocacy Coordinators who helped organize the trainings. Along with providing localized information about key lawmakers, the NPCA training also provided general updates on its advocacy efforts, future activities and how individuals can play an important role in public policy matters related to the Peace Corps and other issues of global concern. Visit the NPCA Facebook page for photos chronicling the trip, as well as the NPCA Polyglot blog.



Three members of MNRPCV following a workshop in Minneapolis.

## **Farmers First**

In 2013, we will proudly provide farm input loans to more than 135,000 rural farmers. And we are dramatically increasing that number each and every year.

## **Join a different team**

We are headquartered in rural areas, where we learn directly from farmers. We are an entrepreneurial group of leaders. We work like the private-sector. We constantly stretch our careers.

## **Help us build**

We are in the process of building the largest network of smallholding farmers in Africa. Be part of that.



### **One Acre Fund**

Career-track roles for young professionals.  
[www.oneacrefund.org](http://www.oneacrefund.org)



**"Fletcher's global connections provided me with the skills, context and confidence to monitor and evaluate conflict resolution and peace-building projects around the world."**

*-Vanessa Corlazzoli, MALD '11*  
Design, Monitoring & Evaluation Manager  
Search for Common Ground



Vanessa Corlazzoli, who is originally from Uruguay and Canada, now works at Search for Common Ground in Washington, D.C., supporting peace-building and conflict resolution operations in more than 25 countries.

The Fletcher School's collaborative, cross-disciplinary approach, combined with a student body representing more than half the world's nations and 100 languages, brings the most pressing international issues to life in a truly global context.

Visit [fletcher.tufts.edu](http://fletcher.tufts.edu) or call 617.627.3040.

Master of Arts in  
Law and Diplomacy (MALD)

Master of  
International Business (MIB)

Global Master of Arts Program  
(GMAP)

Master of Laws in  
International Law (LLM)

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Master of Arts (MA)

Executive Education

Summer School

### GEORGIA

On March 9th, eleven **Atlanta Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers** (AARPCV) members gave their time to support the Atlanta Community Food Bank. The RPCVs volunteered alongside several other groups to inspect, sort, and pack food drive and salvaged food items for distribution to more than 600 nonprofit partner agencies. In total, AARPCV members helped sort 8,595 pounds of food items totaling 5,730 meals. The hardworking AARPCV members that volunteered their time and energy helped ensure that retail, salvage, and food drive donations are safe and wholesome for distribution to people in need.

### OREGON

The **Columbia River Peace Corps Association** (CRPCA) is providing a grant of \$2,300 to the Northwest Fair Trade Coalition, an Oregon-based organization dedicated to educating the local community about the issue of fair trade. The funds will assist in its efforts to create short videos featuring women and artisans in Northern India working with fair trade organizations. According to the Coalition, "These stories will capture the lives of individuals and allow viewers to experience the human connection between the artisans that create fair trade products and the improved economic

### OHIO

"Service Saturday" is a monthly event to promote continuing service and community involvement among **Northern Ohio Returned Volunteer Association** members. Each month, eight to ten RPCVs gather at a local library or Catholic Charities office to provide one-on-one English tutoring to recently arrived refugees in northern Ohio. Beneficiary refugees from many countries have participated, including Sudan, Burma, and Iraq. Members assess each beneficiary's level of English, and conduct a lesson at the appropriate level with an emphasis on practical English skills for employment and daily life. The group typically gathers for an ethnic lunch at a local restaurant after the event. The response from both beneficiaries and the RPCV community has been quite positive, with many from both groups participating regularly.



NORVO

Members of the Northern Ohio Returned Volunteer Association tutor refugees at a recent Service Saturday event.

justice that comes from participating in the fair trade movement." Since its inception in 2009, CRPCA's grant program has awarded nearly \$19,000 in awards to 25 organizations in the U.S. and thirteen other countries.



Columbia River Peace Corps Association's April Annual General Meeting.

### WASHINGTON

The **Inland-Northwest Peace Corps Association** (INPCA) hosted a screening of the film "Girl Rising" this past April in Spokane. The event attracted 150 people including many students from Gonzaga and Whitworth Universities. The film, a discussion that followed, and an INPCA information table all helped bring the world home to eastern Washington. "We hope that through this film we can provide a visual example of the power of education and the importance of promoting education worldwide," said INPCA President Sarah Achaoui. "This film was a great reminder of what women and girls' can achieve through the power of education."

To see a complete listing of National Peace Corps Association member groups, visit [www.peacecorpsconnect.org/resources/member-groups](http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/resources/member-groups).

# National Day of Action

by Jonathan Pearson

For the past nine years, NPCA has reached out to the Peace Corps community, encouraging participation in a National Day of Action in Support of the Peace Corps.

Timed around Peace Corps Day (March 1st), the level of activity has steadily increased each year. This year 91 advocates representing every era of Peace Corps service took part in the Capitol Hill portion of the Day of Action while many more contacted their lawmakers by phone or email.

Our Capitol Hill contingent was welcomed to Washington by all five Returned Peace Corps Volunteer



NPCA

Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA) (center) met with an NPCA delegation and received our 2013 Congressional Leadership Award.

## Combine your **master's degree** and **Peace Corps service**

Opportunities for RPCVs and incoming volunteers

- Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program
- Master's International Program
- RPCV Scholarships

**Now accepting applications for spring, summer, and fall 2013**

**Learn more at [www.sit.edu/graduate](http://www.sit.edu/graduate)**

**SIT and the Peace Corps—partners for 50 years**

**SIT Graduate Institute**  
a program of World Learning



Put **Your Passion** into Practice



## Around the NPCA

members of the House of Representatives. 149 meetings were held and all congressional offices received information packets urging support for strong Peace Corps funding, passage of Peace Corps commemorative legislation, and an overview of issues some members of the community face due to serious injury or illness stemming from their service.

Our thanks to all who participated in this year's National Day of Action. We hope you will make plans to participate next year as we prepare for the 10th anniversary of this event!

*Jonathan Pearson (Micronesia 1987-89) is the National Peace Corps Association's director of advocacy.*



Always willing to pitch in, our advocates helped carry congressional meeting packets to our orientation site.



More than 90 advocates participated in the Day of Action, including a strong delegation from Maryland.



All five RPCV Congressmen stopped by to welcome our advocates to Capitol Hill and thank them for their participation.



Congressman Jim Gerlach (R-PA) took time to meet with one of our NPCA advocacy teams.



Congressman Mike Honda (D-CA) met with other RPCVs who also served in El Salvador.



New Hampshire's Angus Fredenburgh (Nicaragua 2009-11) writes a thank you note following one of his meetings.



RPCVs meet with Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH).



NPCA's new President, Glenn Blumhorst, participated in Capitol Hill meetings with former Pennsylvania Senator Harris Wofford.



The newest RPCV member of Congress, Joseph Kennedy (D-MA), meets Harris Wofford, one of the early Peace Corps architects.



Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) meets with Allison Nye O'Donnell (Honduras 2007-09), granddaughter of former Peace Corps Director Kevin O'Donnell.

# A Place To Call Home

Peace Corps Community Archive established at American University

by Erica Burman

The entire Peace Corps community finally has a home for those Peace Corps letters, photos, newsletters and other memorabilia from service. On March 21, 2013 American University (AU) in Washington, D.C. officially launched the Peace Corps Community Archive, whose mission is to "collect, exhibit, and provide educational and public programs that document the experiences and impact of individuals who served in the Peace Corps and of individuals and institutions in host countries."

For many years, AU has preserved the archives of Friends of Colombia and Friends of Nigeria as well as the administrative files of the National Peace Corps Association. Now going forward it is opening its shelves to Volunteers who served in all countries and who wish to make their "correspondence, diaries, films photographs reports, scrapbooks and sound recordings" available to "historians, scholars and students." The Archive will also "collect organizational records of National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) member groups and oral histories and memoirs of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) and host country nationals."

Three units of American University support the Peace Corps Community Archive: the Library, the School of International Service and the College of Arts and Sciences.

AU is known for its strong commitment to international relations, so housing Peace Corps-related materials is a natural fit. In 2013, the Peace Corps ranked it second among medium-sized universities for service among graduates and for years it has consistently been one of the top five Peace Corps

Volunteer-producing schools. Less well known is that AU's connection to Peace Corps stretches back 52 years, to a planning conference held there in March 1961 and jointly organized by students from American University and the University of Michigan.

## The Genesis of the Archive

The Peace Corps Community Archive became a reality through the work of many people although one person in particular, Robert Klein (Ghana I 1961-63) was pivotal.

In the late 1990s, Bob Klein was inspired to initiate an oral history project to record the voices and stories of every member of Ghana I. That intention expanded and Klein began interviewing Volunteers who served in other countries and then started training volunteers to interview each other using widely accepted standards for oral histories. He convinced the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston, Mass. to accept the oral histories as part of its collection. Those oral histories, which now number nearly 400 recordings focusing on the earliest years of the Peace Corps, comprise the RPCV Archive Project.

In October 2011, just after the Peace Corps 50th Anniversary celebrations, Klein approached NPCA board member Patricia A. Wand (Colombia 1963-65)—the former University Librarian at American University—to assist him in establishing an archive. He wrote, "Now more than ever we need a Peace Corps Volunteer Archive as a living reminder of what Peace Corps service can mean." Two months later Klein and Wand presented a proposal for the Archive to William Mayer, AU's current University

Librarian, who immediately saw its value and began working toward that end.

Klein died in April 2012 but the results of his dream and hard work over many years came to fruition on March 21. Thanks to his efforts, and those of many other RPCVs, the story of the Peace Corps can be recorded, collected, preserved, organized and made accessible for future.

Learn more about the Peace Corps Community Archive, and how to donate items, at <http://bender.library.american.edu/pcca/>. Thank you to Pat Wand for her assistance with this article.

*Erica Burman (The Gambia 1987-89) is the director of communications for the National Peace Corps Association.*

## THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR PEACE CORPS SERVICE

- Employment leads and networking opportunities
- Professional development and mentoring
- Continued connections to your country of service
- Service travel, special projects, advocacy opportunities
- Access to Returned Peace Corps Volunteers resources

## JOIN TODAY.

**FREE TO PCVs and  
FIRST-TIME MEMBERS!**

**[www.peacecorpsconnect.org/  
membership](http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/membership)**

# Capitol Hill Update

Peace Corps legislation you should know about

by Ryan Greenstein

**Peace Corps Equity Act of 2013:** A bill that would allow Peace Corps Volunteers the same privileges and limitations regarding coverage of abortion services as Peace Corps employees, military and others serving our nation overseas was introduced in the Senate on April 25, 2013 by the late Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ). The bill has been read twice and referred to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. As of publication date, the bill has 24 cosponsors.

**Respect for Peace Corps Volunteers Act of 2013:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on April 15, 2013, this bill would allow RPCVs

to use the seal, emblem, or name of the Peace Corps on death announcements and grave stones. The bill was introduced by Rep. Sires (D-NJ) and currently has seven cosponsors in the house.

**Peace Corps Commemorative:** A bill introduced in the House by Rep. Kennedy (D-MA) to construct a commemorative to the 1961 founding of the Peace Corps in Washington D.C. that would not be funded with taxpayer dollars was sent to the Subcommittee on Public Lands on March 4, 2013. The bill currently has 36 co-sponsors. In the Senate, legislation introduced by Sen. Portman (R-OH) has been placed on

the Senate legislative calendar for final consideration.

**Peace Corps Funding:** There is no current legislation for increased Peace Corps funding but a Dear Colleague letter circulated in the House of Representatives to support a return to \$400 million for the Peace Corps was signed by a record 142 representatives. The letter, circulated by the five RPCVs currently in Congress (Farr, Petri, Honda, Garamendi, and Kennedy), requests \$22 million more than President Obama's Fiscal Year 2014 Peace Corps request.

Ryan Greenstein is an advocacy intern with the National Peace Corps Association.

## Where in the World is *WorldView*?

Peace Corps Volunteer Leader Brian Deyo and 10 other Volunteers serving in Swaziland recently accomplished a lengthy hike into Swaziland's Malolotja Nature Reserve. Writes Brian, "It was a great trip and a lot of fun. And what did a few of us bring to read? That's right, we brought a few copies of *WorldView*. I had earlier read your request for photo submissions, and realized what better place than one of the most beautiful spots in our small country. I'm sure I speak for all the Volunteers on that trip, that we would love to see this picture published ... [and] we look forward to the next issue!"

Submit your 'Where in the World is *WorldView*' photo to [news@peacecorpsconnect.org](mailto:news@peacecorpsconnect.org).



Brian Deyo

Pictured from left to right: Andrew Nute, Mia Zagaja Jack Weinstein (PCV friend), Shari Orr, Blythe Terrell, Brian Deyo, Kelly Tooley, Kim Koettel, Sherlie Viciere, Brian Orr, Kate Reilly and Christine Jacques.

## Learn about the Serving Volunteer Advisory Council

<http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/about/serving-volunteer-advisory-council/>



# HARVARD Kennedy School

JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

[www.hks.harvard.edu](http://www.hks.harvard.edu)



Ellen Whitesides  
RPCV South Africa 2008  
MPA/ID 2011

**ASK WHAT  
YOU CAN DO**

## MASTER IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION/ INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The two-year MPA/ID program at Harvard Kennedy School is an exciting, rigorous graduate program designed to train the next generation of leaders in international development. The proven combination of doctoral-level economics with a multi-disciplinary approach sets this program apart. The demanding set of core courses includes public sector management, institutions, governance, and the practice of economic development.

Our graduates are positioned toward all-around excellence in a challenging field that requires both analytical and professional skills. Exceptional, motivated practitioners from all over the world with strong backgrounds in math and economics are encouraged to apply.

*Applications are due in early December. Classes begin in August. Full and partial scholarships are available for qualified applicants.*



[www.hks.harvard.edu](http://www.hks.harvard.edu)

mpaid\_program@hks.harvard.edu

PHONE: 617-495-2133

FAX: 617-495-9671

MPA/ID Program  
Harvard Kennedy School  
79 John F. Kennedy Street, Box 15  
Cambridge, MA 02138 USA

*For information on other master's and doctoral programs at HKS, please visit: [www.hks.harvard.edu/apply](http://www.hks.harvard.edu/apply).*



## HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT: **SHARE YOUR AMERICA**

### COMMUNITY2COMMUNITY



### CULTURE2CULTURE

### COUNTRY2COUNTRY



**HOST A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE-SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENT. BE A CITIZEN DIPLOMAT. CREATE A BOND THAT SPANS THE GLOBE AND LASTS FOR GENERATIONS.**



Learn more about hosting:  
[hosting.state.gov](http://hosting.state.gov)



Learn more about studying abroad:  
[exchanges.state.gov](http://exchanges.state.gov)

# Proud Product of the Peace Corps

From humble beginnings, a Kenyan doctor rises to champion those most in need

by Erica Burman

The image swam on my computer screen. Then froze. Could we try again? I redialed Dr. Said's Skype username and then pressed the video camera icon. Better. Dr. Said's visage came back into view. It was 11 a.m. in Washington, D.C., but in Nairobi, Kenya it was 6 p.m. and the day was winding down. Household voices hummed in the background. His granddaughter, curious as to whom her grandfather was talking, skipped into the room, nestled in his lap and shyly peered into the screen before skipping out. Later, he excused himself for a few moments to sign some checks.

As it turned out, I was catching Dr. Mohamud Sheikh Nurein Said—medical doctor, governor of the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), founder of the Kenya Medical Association's Human Rights Committee, former first African president of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture (IRCT), coordinator for the Pedro Cavadas Foundation of pro bono reconstructive surgery in Africa, and, oh yes, winner of the 2013 National Peace Corps Association Harris Wofford Global Citizen Award—at the end of a rather long day. May 8 is World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, and in his capacity as leader of the 70,000-member Kenya Red Cross, he had presided over several events that day including a free medical camp in a slum on the outskirts of Nairobi.

Nonetheless, Dr. Said patiently answered questions and shared his amazing life story—a life influenced by the Peace Corps.

I had briefly met Dr. Said in person a year ago, when he stopped by the offices of the National Peace Corps Association. Said has close cropped hair that is beginning to go gray, a broad nose, and kind, somewhat weary, eyes.



Dr. Said checks in on a patient at a free medical camp in Isiolo.

He exudes a tranquility that belies the tenacious drive and energy it surely has taken to accomplish all that he has. Then still serving his term as the president of IRCT, he was in Washington D.C. to participate in an international conference of experts on enhancing the use of forensic evidence to expose torture. With him that day was Russell Morgan, who in 1966 was a Peace Corps Volunteer from Bethlehem, Pa. freshly posted to a new secondary school in the northern Kenya town of Marsabit. It was a politically tense time, just a few years after independence. Many in the remote region wanted to secede and join with Somalia, and as a result the area was "very marginalized," according to Said.

This new Peace Corps teacher, and the ones that followed, made a deep impression on that pioneering class at Marsabit Secondary School. Before the arrival of Peace Corps Volunteers, the only whites the local students had encountered were the colonial district commissioner, the police commissioner, and maybe some clerks. "The British



Dr. Said examines a patient at Isiolo District Hospital, where KRCS medical teams offered free medical surgery in conjunction with the Pedro Cavadas Foundation.

were so serious," remembers Said. The Americans, on the other hand, interacted with the students and community in a way that was strikingly different.

"These teachers were very friendly, kind and helpful and made difficult subjects like physics and chemistry look very easy.



## THE POST-BACCALAUREATE PREMEDICAL PROGRAM

**Want to be a doctor?  
Make it a reality.**

The Post-Baccalaureate Premedical Program at Goucher College is a one-year curriculum of courses required for medical school admission.

- 99.7% medical school acceptance rate
- Classes separate from undergraduates
- Comprehensive advising and support
- Linkage agreements with 10 medical schools

Visit [goucher.edu/postbac](http://goucher.edu/postbac) or call  
**800-414-3437** or **410-337-6559**  
for more information.

**GOUCHER | college**

### ***Apply to spend one year on a project in Germany with the German Chancellor Fellowship Program!***



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation

During their time in Germany, Fellows conduct independent projects at their host institutions. The project should involve original exploration of a topic or issue, or research in the fellow's respective field of interest. The fellows are mentored by hosts in Germany, whom the fellows have chosen on the basis of their expertise in their respective areas. Projects should be of relevance to modern societies, have a long-term and visible impact, and help to advance fellows' careers and professional development. Through their experience in Germany, fellows will acquire greater knowledge of their fields, gain new international experience, and strengthen their intercultural.

#### Eligibility:

- **Bachelor's or comparable academic degree**, completed less than twelve years prior to the starting date of the fellowship (October 1 of the year following application)
- **Citizenship** of the United States, the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China, Brazil or India
- Candidates from **all professions and disciplines** are eligible to apply
- **Demonstrated leadership potential**; applicants whose background is largely academic should also have gained some leadership experience beyond their own research activities
- Either **English or German** language skills

#### Application:

- A **project plan** (approx. 3 pages)
- A detailed **host's statement**, including a confirmation of support
- Two **letters of recommendation**
- New application deadline: **September 15**
- **Apply** online: [www.humboldt-foundation.de/buka](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/buka)

## Host Country Nationals

The Peace Corps teachers encouraged us to study hard so that we could come home one day and help our countrymen. As a young boy I always wondered why these white people would leave the comforts in their countries and volunteer in Africa. Since then I have been involved in humanitarian activities as a volunteer."

For his part, Morgan found it deeply satisfying to introduce science concepts that were in many instances completely new. He taught at the school for three years before returning home—and completely losing contact with his talented student for forty years. It was only in 2007, when events took Morgan back to Kenya, that he was able to track down Dr. Said, that he learned of the influence he and his fellow Peace Corps Volunteers had had on this first cohort of students to receive a post-colonial education.

Dr. Said applied to many colleges but when he was awarded a scholarship to study in the Soviet Union, he made a leap into the unknown. He completed seven years of medical studies in 1979, returned to Kenya and began his career as a government medical officer at a provincial hospital on the western border of the country. Times were tough and by 1983 Dr. Said was spending almost as much of his own money on hospital supplies as he was earning, to his wife's consternation. As luck would have it, the chief surgeon at a private hospital and pharmacy in nearby Bungoma was leaving the country, and so Dr. Said took over the practice. He continues to see patients and oversee the hospital to this day.

Meanwhile over the next thirty years he devoted himself to volunteer efforts. Shanti Parikh (Kenya 1990-92), now an associate professor of Anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis writes, "While he could have sat comfortably with his success and ignored the plight of the underserved, he has dedicated his life to human right and humanitarian causes and to serving underserved individuals and communities." Parikh says that her Peace Corps experience and later career



Kenya Red Cross Society

Dr. Said tasting water from the Tana River, purified by KRCS. KRCS responded to displaced families in the Tana Delta that were using raw river water for domestic and drinking purposes.

path were profoundly shaped by her interactions with Dr. Said, who invited the newcomer to join him and his team of volunteers when they operated a mobile clinic in the area. "Being a humble man, he spoke little of how much unpaid time he spent bringing various development efforts to rural communities surrounding Bungoma town.... He became widely known among people from that region as a deeply compassionate and caring man." Parikh recalls the tender care he gave to a mother and child dying of AIDS, and late evenings at his house, "speaking with him and his wife about his desires to build a school for Muslim students who were marginalized from the school system in Bungoma, bring a clinic to a rural area that had evidence of an emerging HIV epidemic, and get involved with international human rights efforts."

Since those evenings in the early 1990s, Dr. Said has fulfilled those dreams. In 1996 he founded and chaired the Kenya Medical Association's Human Rights Committee and was instrumental in training Kenyan doctors and criminal justice officials on U.N. international minimum rules, medical ethics and medical legal issues. Dr. Said played a key role in the formation of the Independent Medico-Legal Unit, a nongovernmental network of doctors and lawyers who assist torture victims and do free post-mortems for those who die in custody. He has been the

vice chair of the organization since 1996. In 2002 the Kenyan government invited him to serve on a newly created National Committee on Implementation of International Humanitarian Law. Committee members received training from the International Committee of the Red Cross, including witnessing a court session at the Rwanda International Criminal Court in Arusha, Tanzania where some of those accused of genocide were being prosecuted. A visit a year later to Kigale Genocide Memorial in Rwanda, where he saw graves, torture instruments and tattered and blood stained clothes, made a searing impression on him. In 2006, this work led him to represent Africa on the board of the IRCT, which treats over 100,000 torture victims in its 150 centers in 75 countries in all the regions of the world, and to be elected its president.

Dr. Said is a strong proponent of the transformative impact of surgical rehabilitation, believing that it is a right due all victims. In the last eight years he has joined forces with the Pedro Cavadas Foundation of Valencia, Spain as a coordinator for eastern Africa. Dr. Said has arranged three "camps" each year where over 6,000 patients have been screened and over 2,000 received operations. An additional 28 patients have received specialized treatment in Spain, amongst them five boys whose genitalia were amputated through tribal conflicts.

continued on page 24

# The Reverse Peace Corps

by Scott Beale

Ever since Sargent Shriver and Harris Wofford first traveled overseas to launch the Peace Corps, there has been an interest in the idea of volunteers from around the world serving in the United States. While the idea piloted in the early years, it stalled a few years after launch and since then generations of Peace Corps Volunteers have thought it would be a great idea to allow young leaders of the countries they served in to have a similar opportunity to serve in the U.S. This idea, sometimes called a “reverse Peace Corps” because it reverses the flow of volunteers from overseas to the U.S., has been embraced by the rapidly growing nonprofit organization, Atlas Corps. Although independent of the Peace Corps, Atlas Corps has partnered with the Peace

Corps many different ways to make it possible for leaders from overseas to serve in the United States.

Atlas Corps launched seven years ago with nonprofit professionals from overseas serving at nonprofits in Washington, D.C. These “Atlas Corps Fellows” have two to ten years of social sector experience, are proficient in English and have college degrees. They tend to be nonprofit leaders in their late 20s and early 30s. These Fellows spend 12-18 months volunteering at an organization and are enrolled in a leadership development program. Since 2006, Atlas Corps has grown to support 164 leaders from 52 different countries serving across the United States and Colombia (Atlas Corps also sends U.S. volunteers to Colombia).

Atlas Corps has partnered with some of the world’s best organizations to host



Atlas Corps Fellow Katya Garcia.

these Fellows, including Ashoka, Global Citizen Network, Grameen Foundation, Operation Smile, Special Olympics, U.N.



Atlas Corps Fellows pay a visit to Peace Corps headquarters.

## Host Country Nationals

---

Foundation, UNICEF, World Wildlife Fund, and many more. Atlas Corps partners are usually nonprofit organizations, but we also partner with the private sector, such as McKinsey & Co., and the government, such as the Peace Corps.

The Peace Corps has hosted two Atlas Corps Fellows in the Washington, D.C. headquarters: Katya Garcia from Mexico who served in the IAP (Inter-America and Pacific) Regional Office and Tom Balemesa from Uganda who served in the Africa Regional Office. Katya and Tom took their peace building experience to strengthen the work of the Peace Corps. For example, Tom had a Master's Degree in Peace and Conflict Studies and nearly eight years of peace building experience in Africa. He worked with World Vision International in Uganda and the Africa Centre for Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD) in South Africa. After serving with Atlas Corps at Peace Corps for one year, he returned to Uganda to work at the Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE). He is committed to showing how development and conflict resolution are linked. Tom says, "Atlas Corps changed my perspective on international development. It is not just Americans who can come and serve in Africa, but people from around the world can serve abroad." Tom says he learned a lot as an Atlas Corps Fellow to be an effective nonprofit leader. He was inspired by his fellow Atlas Corps Fellows and loved his Peace Corps colleagues. He enjoyed D.C. networking and U Street dancing, and is happy to now be back in Uganda working to improve his country and also grow his farm.

Katya Garcia was the second Atlas Corps Fellow placed at the Peace Corps. Before coming to volunteer in the U.S., Katya had started a nonprofit called Paz Es ("Peace Is" in Spanish) to use her media and marketing skills to promote a culture of peace in conflict ridden northern Mexico. Katya helped the Peace Corps strengthen their training materials for PCVs in Latin America



Atlas Corps Fellows Katya and Tom.

and is now bringing the new social media skills she learned as an Atlas Corps Fellow to a Mexican company that helps organizations improve their communications. Katya says "Atlas Corps changed my life by introducing me to inspiring nonprofit leaders from all over the world and showing me how I can make change on a global scale. The opportunity to serve at the Peace Corps was incredible and I am proud of the work I did to help strengthen training in the IAP region."

In addition to hosting Atlas Corps Fellows, the Peace Corps community has nominated many candidates. Peace Corps Volunteers encourage host country nationals who fit our criteria (two to ten years of experience, college degree, English proficiency) to apply to be Atlas Corps Fellows ([apply.atlascorps.org](http://apply.atlascorps.org)). In fact, one Atlas Corps Fellow from Armenia, Zhirayr Edilyan, worked with the Peace Corps in Armenia before becoming an Atlas Corps Fellow. Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) have also introduced host organizations and funders to Atlas Corps, for example John Hecklinger's (Central African Republic 1995-96) organization, GlobalGiving, has taken Fellows from India and Japan. Susan Mogy (Bulgaria 2002-04) helped secure the first major foundation funding for Atlas Corps when she was at Humanity United. Atlas Corps has hired RPCVs including Erin Lawless (Uganda 2005-07) who recently left Atlas Corps to work in Peace Corps headquarters, and Emily Flanagan (Bangladesh 2005-06) who currently works at Atlas Corps. Finally, we are very proud that members

of the Peace Corps community, including Harris Wofford and Ester Benjamin have served as senior advisors and individual donors to Atlas Corps, helping guide and support our growth.

When former Director Aaron Williams came and spoke to the Atlas Corps Fellows he remarked at the diversity of our Fellows. Egyptian activists who had protested in Tahrir square were promoting citizenship with John Bridgeland at Civic Enterprises, a doctor from Sudan was working on women's health at Susan G. Komen, a Korean youth activist was promoting volunteerism at Service for Peace, and a Spanish marketing professional serving at Habitat for Humanity in Atlanta. This is the future of development. Not just a diverse room, but also an inclusive room where people of all countries have the opportunity to serve abroad just like Americans have had for 50-plus years.

At Atlas Corps we are proud of what we have been able to accomplish in a few short years, and we are particularly proud of our close relationship with Peace Corps and RPCVs. To learn more about how you can get involved check out [atlascorps.org](http://atlascorps.org) or email [peacecorps@atlascorps.org](mailto:peacecorps@atlascorps.org) to find out how you can help leaders from around the world have a similar, life-changing experience that you had when you served abroad.

---

*Scott Beale is the Founder and CEO of Atlas Corps. The Washington Post called Scott "The Nonprofit Entrepreneur" for his work creating a sustainable, multilateral, service corps that has been profiled by the Brookings Institution as a "best practice" in international exchange. Prior to Atlas Corps he served with the U.S. Department of State in New Delhi helping coordinate the U.S. Government's efforts to fight human trafficking in India. He also worked at Ashoka's Youth Venture, in the White House, and with OSCE organizing elections in Bosnia. He is the author of *Millennial Manifesto: A Youth Activist Handbook*. He has his B.A. from Georgetown University and his MPA from the University of Delaware.*

# Friendship Through The Decades

Sierra Leone President Bai Koroma reflects on the importance of Peace Corps

by Erica Burman

**B**ecause Peace Corps service is such a transformative experience, and because Peace Corps Volunteers are charged with sharing that experience upon their return to the U.S., we hear a great deal from Peace Corps Volunteers about what the experience has meant to us:

"It changed the course of my life."

"I received more than I gave."

"It made me a citizen of the world."

It is less common to hear from host country nationals—our counterparts, neighbors, host family members, students, friends—about the impact that Peace Corps Volunteers have had on their lives. Those stories are also part of the Peace Corps legacy—a testament to the enduring value, and values, of the Peace Corps.

While not every student of a Peace Corps Volunteer grows up to be a head of state, it is not unusual for presidents and ministry officials to regale U.S. government officials with tales of "their" Peace Corps Volunteer—often followed by a request to help find "Miss Susan from Milwaukee" or "Steve from Arizona."

On April 2, 2013, His Excellency Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma, President of Sierra Leone, spoke at an event at Peace Corps headquarters in Washington, D.C. and told his Peace Corps story. His speech is excerpted here.

"It gives me great pleasure to be visiting the headquarters of the United States Peace Corps today; this is an organization for which I have a strong personal affinity. My association with this distinguished organization goes back to its early days in the 1960s, when I was in primary school in my hometown of Makeni, which is in the northern part of my country. The dedication and professionalism of Peace Corps

Volunteers in our educational system made an indelible impact during my formative years. The selflessness of their commitment to improving educational standards in Sierra Leone was matched by the enthusiasm with which they

embraced our local traditions. I have fond memories of the seemingly ubiquitous Peace Corps Volunteers in the smaller towns and villages of our nation in the immediate post-independence years; helping to sustain

## World Class

In our TESOL program, you'll learn one of the world's most important skills, from some of the world's best instructors: how to bring people together, through the power of a new language.



Peace Corps Fellows

**BE THE S  
OLUTION**



Offering master's degrees through Peace Corps Master's International programs and the Paul D. Coverdell Fellows program in language teaching, public administration, international policy studies, international environmental policy, international education management, and international business. Through generous scholarships and guaranteed internships, we offer you the chance to Be the Solution – again.



Monterey Institute  
of International Studies  
*A Graduate School of Middlebury College*

[go.miis.edu/peacecorps](http://go.miis.edu/peacecorps)



Peace Corps

President Koroma and Returned Peace Corps Volunteer Sharon Kasper Alvarado. Alvarado served in Sierra Leone from 1964 to 1966 as an education volunteer and got to know President Koroma's family and schoolmates. Reunited before the event at Peace Corps Headquarters, the two had not seen each other for nearly 50 years.

our newly-won freedom and fostering partnerships for education, not only between the governments of the two nations, but also, on a personal level, amongst its peoples. These partnerships and friendships have confirmed in our hearts that Americans are a freedom-loving and tolerant people, ready to go the remotest villages to support efforts of other freedom-loving people. I am confident that you would agree with me that United States Peace Corps volunteers are worthy ambassadors of this great nation....

... In my primary school days, I was particularly touched by the devotion of a Peace Corps Volunteer, Sharon Kasper now Mrs. Alvarado. Staying just yards from my family home, she immersed herself in her vocation and our culture with uncharacteristic fidelity, meticulousness and genuine concern. Her dedication and comportment etched in our young minds images of America at its best. While at secondary school, the equivalent of high school in the U.S. system, I was fortunate to benefit from the expertise, mentorship and friendship of a number of Peace Corps Volunteers like Tilman and [Mark] Zober. Some of these relationships have

lasted over the years. I was heartened to receive congratulations on my election as President, from David Shear, a Peace Corps Volunteer who taught me in Magburaka School. This illustrates the depth and strength of partnerships forged by Peace Corps Volunteers, and provides an emphatic affirmation of a people-to-people friendship, which constitutes a veritable foundation for an abiding and mutually beneficial government-to-government partnership.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is worth noting that even though the partnerships for freedom that we extol today were inspired by events that occurred at the infancy of our countries, they have been strengthened over the ages, in no small part because of the work of Peace Corps Volunteers. My friendship with Americans started when I was in Primary School. My presence here today as a former student of Peace Corps Volunteers is a testament to my continued dedication to this friendship; my presence here as President of Sierra Leone on the invitation of President Obama is proof of the strengthening of the alliance at the government-to-government level.

Fond memories of my personal

affiliation with the Peace Corps strengthened my resolve to advocate for the resuscitation of the program when I became President in 2007. During the civil conflict in my country in the 1990s, many former Peace Corps Volunteers stood with Sierra Leoneans in demanding an end to the tragedy that had befallen a most hospitable people. Their prayers and support were instrumental as we worked tirelessly to take back our country from the warlords. With your help, we restored our democracy, conducting multi-party elections even as the threat of terror, instability and insecurity loomed. We stayed true to the founding ideals of our capital city as we asserted our fundamental rights and chose participatory and inclusive governance over governance by warlords....

In my welcome address to the first batch of Volunteers to participate in the revived Peace Corps Program, I asked them to be ambassadors of the good news about Sierra Leone. I encouraged them to assist us in combating the negative stereotypes by sharing accounts and images of a resurgent Sierra Leone. I implored them to mention our time-honored tradition of religious tolerance, as well as the renowned warmth of Sierra Leonean hospitality, the natural beauty of the country and the commitment of its people to eternal values of good neighborliness, peace and security for all. Peace Corps have always been great ambassadors of my country. As we look towards the future, I am confident that these committed Americans will continue to play a critical role as we write the next chapter in Sierra Leone's history ....

I am heartened that the United States Peace Corps volunteers, who played such a critical role in my formative years, will continue to be an important part of this partnership ....

*Erica Burman (The Gambia 1987-89) is the Director of Communications for the National Peace Corps Association.*

# Third Goal International Film Festival

Show Me State RPCVs showcase Peace Corps films

by Lebo Moore

The first time I came to Columbia, Mo., almost everyone I met would tell me about the True/False Film Fest, which promotes nonfiction films. It seemed that the whole town was gaga over films, especially ones that not only challenged their viewpoints as Missourians but also challenged them to take action as global citizens. Columbians by nature are cosmopolitan, so it is no surprise that a Third Goal International Film Festival, hosted by the Central Missouri Returned Peace Corps Volunteer Association, has taken root and grown into a local success.

The one-day festival features films that address current global issues and engage RPCVs and community members in the Third Goal. Each of the films selected is either connected to a Peace Corps Volunteer in some way or addresses issues in countries hosting Volunteers. After the films screen, RPCVs from the regions connected to the films join host country nationals to participate with the audience in panel discussions.

On February 2, 2013, the Third Goal International Film Festival attracted more than 500 filmgoers. People came out to see powerful films, eat a variety of traditional foods from Peace Corps countries and participate in other Third Goal activities such as language learning, games and dancing. Volunteers also submitted photos from their years of service to a contest decided by audience votes. The winning photo this year was taken by Phil Berger (Cameroon 2008-10) of a group of girls gathering water at before their school day started in Adoumri, Cameroon.

The featured film of 2013 was *Kinyarwanda\**, a moving story about the alliances built between Muslims, Christians, Hutus and Tutsis during



Entries in the Third Goal Film Festival photo contest.

## THE DUKE DIFFERENCE

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) program prepares students for leadership roles in public, private and nonprofit sectors.

- A collaborative, international environment
- Practical experience starting in the first year
- Access to leading scholars and professionals with high-level work experience in business, media, law, medicine and other fields
- Small class sizes and accessible faculty
- An active network of dedicated alumni in Washington, D.C., and around the world

Students can pursue dual degrees in law, business, environmental management or medicine.

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers accepted into the program are guaranteed a fellowship.



Duke **SANFORD**  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY



Contact us: MPPAdmit@duke.edu  
(919) 613-9205 [sanford.duke.edu](http://sanford.duke.edu)



The audience for the screening of "Kinyarwanda."

the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Director Alrick Brown (Ivory Coast 2000-02), an alumnus of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts graduate film program, participated in the discussion and gave talks to local high school students, college students and community members about the movie and the challenging issues that it addresses. The films following *Kinyarwanda* drew in diverse audiences, which made for great discussion and reflection. The films shown were *Feast and Sacrifice*, about the Senegalese celebration of the Feast of the Sacrifice, directed by Clare Major (Senegal 2004-06); *My Village, My Lobster*, a striking look at the complex struggle of the spiny lobster fishing industry along Nicaragua's Miskito Coast, directed by Joshua Wolf and produced by Brad Allgood (Nicaragua 2004-07); *Hijos de*

*Kennedy*, which chronicles the history of the Peace Corps in Colombia, directed by Susan Koch; and *Last Train Home*, which follows a Chinese family caught in the desperate annual migration home for the Chinese New Year, directed by Lixin Fan.

As an RPCV and Paul D. Coverdell Fellows scholar, I am mindful of my Peace Corps service every day. However, the Third Goal International Film Festival not only reminded me of the great work that the Peace Corps does, but it re-inspired me. It reignited that drive to connect with my community and reach out across barriers, both physical and cultural, to work with my neighbors towards a communal goal. I do not think that anyone left the festival without having learned something new about a new place. This is the Third Goal. This is why we come back to the United States and dive into nonprofits, government, schools



Director Alrick Brown and a festival panelist.

... you name it. We do it so that we can share what we have learned and teach our neighbors. What better way to continue doing this than through film, especially films made by Peace Corps Volunteers or the countries where they served.

\**WorldView* published *Kinyarwanda: Love Hate Life Death – Peace Corps filmmakers bring story of hope and forgiveness to the screen* by Lori M. Piskur in the winter 2011/2012 issue, which can be viewed at [www.worldviewmagazine.org](http://www.worldviewmagazine.org).

---

*Lebo Moore served in both Bolivia and Peru from 2008 to 2010 as an agriculture Volunteer. Currently, she is a Paul D. Coverdell Peace Corps Fellow studying Geography at the University of Missouri. She served on the steering committee for the Third Goal International Film Festival and is an active participant in Central Missouri RPCVs.*

### Proud To Be A Peace Corps Product

continued from page 18

Dr. Said also dedicated himself to the Red Cross, a commitment which he credits to his early Peace Corps mentors. "It is in fact their approach in character of universality, independence and impartiality that made me join the Kenya Red Cross," he said. He rose through the ranks: from local volunteer, to chairman of a branch board then regional board, to National Executive Committee, First Deputy Governor and now to his current position as Governor

of the 70,000-member organization. Dr. Said proved his leadership talent during post-election violence in 2008 when over 1,000 people were killed and 600,000 were internally displaced; the KRCS was the lead agency and managed all the camps. It is around this time also that the Red Cross introduced modern ambulance services in the country and trained paramedics. Challenges continue. The KRCS is currently managing the largest refugee camp in the world (over 600,000 people) at Daadab in northeastern Kenya.

The Peace Corps, however, is never far away. The Bungoma Muslim Secondary

School, for which Dr. Said serves as chair, is hosting two Peace Corps Volunteers. Another school where he sits on the board, the Mumias Vocational Secondary School for Deaf Girls—one of its kind in sub-Saharan Africa—has hosted Peace Corps Volunteers.

And through the efforts of Dr. Said and Russ Morgan, Peace Corps Volunteers are back in the Marsabit region. Dr. Said visits them on a regular basis.

---

*Erica Burman (The Gambia 1987-89) is director of communications for the National Peace Corps Association.*

# The Evolution of a Collective Memoir

by Maureen Carroll

In Fall 2009, members of Peace Corps Philippines Group 1 (1961–63) gathered in Pasadena, Calif., for our biannual reunion—a practice we started about 10 years ago.

In 1961 we were among the very first Peace Corps Volunteers. Aware of the upcoming 50th anniversary of Peace Corps—also our personal 50th anniversary of volunteering—we talked at the reunion about a way we could mark the occasion. Some of us felt that it might be important to document that experience in some way. Two of us volunteered to be the editors of a document and met shortly thereafter to plan an effort. By March we had prepared a proposal for the publication of a book of essays looking back on our service. We stated the rationale for the project as follows:

*The 50th anniversary will rightly spawn numerous celebrations and commentaries. We'd like to contribute to the dialog about the meaning or significance of Peace Corps by producing a book of reflections on our experiences as "founders" of the Peace Corps. We believe that the book will not only be interesting and valuable for us and our families, but will also serve as an archival record of the Peace Corps experience during its infancy from the perspective of those who lived it.*

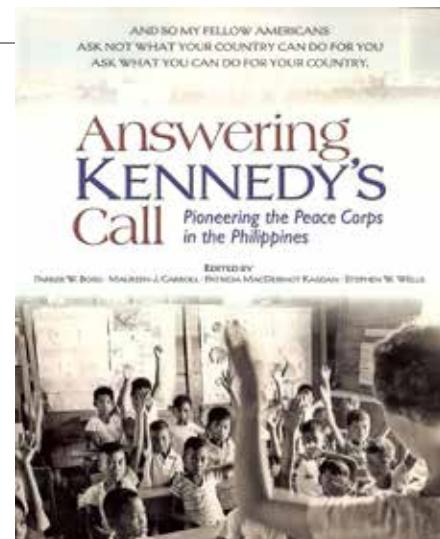
Since two other Peace Corps groups also went to the Philippines in 1961, we invited them to join us in the project for the broadest coverage of different regions of the Philippines. Since each of the groups had stayed in touch with each other to some extent over the years, we were able to contact 170 of the 233 volunteers who went to the Philippines in 1961. We provided them with suggested topics and guidelines about length, and we requested two

photos—one then and one now. Ninety-five of them submitted essays. We also received essays from seven original staff members and from a half-dozen Filipinos who had come to know the Volunteers during their service.

The editing and preparation of the book stretched out over six months. We had to extend original deadlines to accommodate late submissions and to allow for editing the essays and photos, creating maps of areas in which we served and writing background pieces. We also had to explore publishing options, and we had to find a book designer and a cover designer to compensate for skills we did not have ourselves.

We published the book as a print-on-demand book through CreateSpace and as an imprint of Peace Corps Worldwide. A major advantage of the print-on-demand method is that one doesn't have to sell the book to a commercial publisher, which would be looking for a much broader audience appeal. One of the disadvantages of publishing by this method is that you have to do your own marketing and promotion of the book. Having the Peace Corps Worldwide imprint was a way to bring attention of Peace Corps readers to the book.

Our book was published on March 1, 2011, the actual 50th anniversary of the founding of the Peace Corps. The project turned out to be more ambitious and labor intensive than our original vision—and several of us who financed the project have not been fully reimbursed through sales. Nevertheless, it was an extremely rewarding project for the writers and editors\*, and everyone who participated is quite proud of the product. The process of revisiting diaries, letters and memories from our service and



reflecting on its significance in our lives was a profound experience. Reading each other's essays was enjoyable and often revealing. Each essay tells a unique story and shows the diversity of experiences that most of us did not realize about each other at the time. Yet together the essays also describe a shared experience at a very exciting time in American history.

We accomplished our goal of creating an archival document that describes what it was like in 1961 to respond to John F. Kennedy's call to service in his inaugural address, written by those who did it rather than researched it. The book is entitled *Answering Kennedy's Call: Pioneering the Peace Corps in the Philippines*, and it is available on amazon.com. In 2012 the book was awarded an "IPPY" by the Independent Publishers Association as one of the 10 outstanding books of the year, out of more than 5,000 entries.

\*Fellow editors were Parker Borg, Patricia MacDermot Kasdan and Stephen Wells.

*Maureen Carroll is a member of Philippines I 1961–63. Currently retired, Carroll had a career in design and management of domestic and international service programs. She worked for the Peace Corps in the 1960's and the 1990s, including a tour as a Country Director in Botswana and as the Acting Regional director for Africa. She encourages other Peace Corps groups to undertake similar publishing projects and would be willing to answer questions about the experience. Her email is Mjcarroll1@verizon.net.*

# Come To Africa For Business, Not Handouts

“Buy one give one” model does no development favors

by Michael Buckler and Beau Jackson

**A**frica is a marketplace on the move. Over the next 40 years, it will yield the highest returns on investment of any place on Earth. As a 2012 Goldman Sachs research note remarks, “is now the time for multinationals to be investing in Africa? In short, our conclusion is yes.” Africa currently has fewer people but more purchasing power than India. According to McKinsey & Company, by 2020 more than half of African households will have enough income to purchase non-essential goods. The Brookings Institution adds that, by 2030, Africa’s 18 leading cities will wield a combined \$1.3 trillion in spending power. However, the U.S. has been slow to engage Africans as business partners and customers, due, in part, to false perceptions of the continent. In fulfillment of Peace Corps’ Third Goal, Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) should lead a paradigmatic shift that corrects the record and benefits our friends abroad.

In our work as international trade attorneys, we track the intricacies of foreign aid, trade and investment. Although we believe that each has a legitimate role to play in spurring the development of low-income countries, it is axiomatic that Africa needs increased trade and investment to mature economically. Yet, free markets and for-profit businesses do not solve all problems and, frankly, sometimes create new ones. There will always be a need for nonprofit and for-profit social enterprises to fill gaps. Not all social enterprises are created equal, however, and we reject the notion that good intentions are enough.

Two social enterprise models embraced by Americans are particularly troubling from a pro-African business perspective. TOMS Shoes popularized the buy-one-give-one (BOGO) model, whereby a consumer purchases two pairs of shoes, one for herself and one for a “child in need.” Under the second model, utilized by Goods for Good (GFG), an organization collects surplus goods and repurposes them as giveaways in low-income countries. Under both models, companies do well—TOMS has made a lot of money and spawned myriad BOGO copycats, while Goods for Good acts as a conduit for companies to write off their losses as charitable giving. Yet both models are a form of dumping, which often harms local entrepreneurs and perpetuates the stereotype that the recipients are our dependents. The economic reality is that these organizations would foster greater social impact by investing time, energy and money in locally driven businesses and community initiatives.

The proprietors of these flawed models are well-intentioned people with a misunderstanding of poverty alleviation in developing countries. According to the New York Times, TOMS acknowledges that it is “not in the business of poverty alleviation,” but you would never know that from its marketing campaigns, which exclaim, “Try the shoes that sparked a global movement to improve children’s lives.” Similarly, Goods for Good’s website boasts, “you have known us as the organization that provides material resource to African communities. Now

... we help these same communities generate their own resources.” It is clear that both organizations are struggling to forge an internally consistent identity. At the center of this struggle lies an irreconcilable incongruity between viewing Africans as partners in economic growth and relegating them to the counterproductive stereotypes of the past.

To be fair, dumpers are not all bad. Goods dumped in poor countries do not always displace existing local industry (although they certainly suppress the emergence of new industry). In

## Show Your Peace Corps Pride

Purchase logo merchandise at [peacecorpsconnect.shop.musictoday.com](http://peacecorpsconnect.shop.musictoday.com)



Unisex T-shirt



RPCV Nalgene Water Bottle



NPACA Nalgene Water Bottle



Peace Corps Outdoor Flag

the short term, kids do get shoes and school supplies, and to their credit, the dumpers have heard the chorus of criticism and attempted to make amends. TOMS, for example, is piloting a shoe manufacturing operation in Ethiopia, and Goods for Good has introduced a community enterprise program. Still, these efforts pale in comparison to the damage wrought by their continued dumping—TOMS has given away more than 2 million pairs of shoes globally, and Goods for Good claims to have distributed (mostly dumped) 1.4 million pens, 116,200 shoes and 23,000 school uniforms and other garments in Malawi alone.

However, successful marketing is the most insidious way in which these organizations inflict harm. When an investment banker returns home from work and sees his child wearing TOMS Shoes, the message is clear—Africa is not ready for my investment money. When a CFO authorizes the donation of excess goods to Goods for Good, she is propagating the myth that Malawians are too poor to buy consumer goods. Surveys of American companies confirm this bias.

Widespread poverty reduction will occur in Africa, as it has in China, only when investors see business value and trade flows increase. Many companies are investing in Africa at a frenetic pace. But by choosing a dumping approach that inherently perpetuates the stereotype that Africans are needy and disempowered, organizations like TOMS and Goods for Good are hurting local economies and discouraging the influx of business stimuli that Africa really needs. Game-changing growth and development will come from robust trade and investment, not handouts.

*Michael Buckler served in Malawi from 2006 to 2008. Beau Jackson served in Cape Verde from 2003 to 2005. They are now attorneys at Adduci, Mastriani & Schaumberg, LLP in Washington, DC, where they practice international trade law.*



## It's not too late to become a doctor

### The Postbaccalaureate Premedical Program at Bryn Mawr College

*Realize your dream to become a physician at one of the nation's oldest, strongest, and most respected postbaccalaureate premedical programs.*

- For women and men changing career direction
- Intensive, full-time preparation for medical school in one year
- Highly respected by medical schools—many look for Bryn Mawr postbacs
- Over 98 percent acceptance rate into medical school
- Early acceptance programs at selected medical schools—more than any other postbac program
- Supportive, individual academic and premedical advising
- Ideal size—small enough for personal attention, yet large enough for diverse perspectives
- Wide range of medically related volunteer and job opportunities and programs

### BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

POSTBACCALAUREATE PREMEDICAL PROGRAM  
Canwyll House | Bryn Mawr, PA 19010  
610-526-7350 | [postbac@brynmawr.edu](mailto:postbac@brynmawr.edu)  
[www.brynmawr.edu/postbac](http://www.brynmawr.edu/postbac)



### Master of Science: Peace Operations

Study the theory and practice of peace operations, international civilian police operations, nongovernmental organizations, elections, refugees/internally displaced persons, and governance with world-renowned scholars and practitioners at one of the nation's leading schools of public policy.

- Small classes taught by world-renowned faculty
- Conveniently located in the metropolitan Washington, D.C., area
- Full-time or part-time study
- Affordable cost

To find out more, please contact Graduate Admissions at the School of Public Policy at George Mason University at [spp@gmu.edu](mailto:spp@gmu.edu) or 703-993-8099.



### School of Public Policy

# Realizing The Third Goal, One Song At A Time

by David Bleckley

**S**haring songs is one of the most immediate ways to engage Peace Corps's Third Goal because music is a cultural universal that somehow taps into humanity's shared experience. Music creates memories for Peace Corps Volunteers ranging from the tinny sound of the minibus driver's battery-powered tape player blaring from the dashboard to the lively festival performances in the middle of the town or village to the private moments when we hear a mother's lullaby or a counterpart singing during work. These memories punctuate Returned Peace Corps Volunteers' stories, emerge on playlists and mix tapes, and forever change the way we listen to and hear the world around us. For some RPCVs, local music makes an even deeper impact on our work and inspires us to continue to connect with our host countries through music. This article explores the way two other RPCVs and I have worked toward the Third Goal—and continue to work on the First Goal—through music.

Casey Dickey (Mali 2007–09) is a composer and musician who is rapidly gaining a reputation for his jazz and contemporary brass compositions. His experience in Peace Corps exposed him to the amazing music being performed around West Africa, and he wanted to record it to help artists share their work with audiences around the world. African music is often portrayed as homogenous and static, but Casey saw that musical diversity can exist even within a small region and wanted to demonstrate to listeners the continual changes music undergoes. In September and October 2012, he traveled to Senegal and Mali, drawing on his own



Soku player Brahma Kumare from Segou, Mali, during his recording session with Casey Dickey.

memories, the knowledge of local PCVs and the kindness of strangers to direct him to the best local performers. With backpacks of microphones, camcorders and a laptop, he recorded and documented performances spanning the musical spectrum from young instrumental protégés to Tabaski (the local name for the Muslim holiday Eid al-Adha) celebrants and from emerging hip-hop artists to polyrhythmic balafon groups. The Senegal–Mali Project was an experiment in some ways; Casey would love to meet artists and record the music of the world full-time if he could make a career of that work. A successful Kickstarter campaign gave him some startup funds to begin the project, and he is currently selling the final recordings as a double album on Bandcamp (<http://farafinamusic.bandcamp.com/>). If record sales earn a profit, Casey plans to return the proceeds to the artists he recorded to

encourage them to keep sharing their culture with the world.

Adam Klein (Mali 2002–04) is a singer-songwriter and founder of the independent record label Cowboy Angel Music. During his Peace Corps service, he developed relationships with local musicians and nurtured his love for traditional Mandé music. Adam's country folk/Americana lyrics and melodies draw heavily on his experiences in Mali. In February 2010, he traveled to Bamako to record a Mandé album, singing primarily in Bambara while his local musician friends play traditional instrumentation. The effort was funded through a Kickstarter campaign and resulted in the 2012 release of *Dugu Wolo* (<http://adamklein.bigcartel.com/product/dugu-wolo>). The album is a celebration of both American roots and the evolution of Mandé music. Documentarian Jason Miller accompanied Adam, and a video documenting the journey and the recording process is currently in post-production. The music represents the Third Goal elegantly: sharing not only the culture of Mali but an RPCV's experience of that culture.

I spent years grappling with ideas for overcoming the financial barriers to the community-driven, asset-based development work I observed during my Peace Corps service. Thinking of local music as an untapped asset for development, I realized that the economic and cultural forces of globalization could be turned upside down to create opportunities for small communities around the world to share their culture and generate



Adam Klein during his Mandé recording sessions in Bamako, Mali.

seed funding for development work. The proliferation of digital music distribution helped me further develop the idea, and in 2011, I reached out to Peace Corps/Senegal to explore piloting the project there. Working closely with PCV Joshua Snyder, the project recorded music in two small villages near Koungheul, developed a copyright agreement that assigns the rights of the songs to the community itself (rather than to the individual musicians or the project) and released the first recordings in April 2013 ([www.communityvoiceinternational.org](http://www.communityvoiceinternational.org)). I incorporated Community Voice International as a nonprofit organization to expand the pilot project in Senegal and eventually to communities around the world. By building communities' capacity to share their culture, I hope to improve cultural understanding and create opportunities for community members to fund local development efforts.

Music creates bonds between people and facilitates cultural understanding in unique ways. Community Voice International Board Member Jim Russell (Thailand 1985–87) observed, "As it stands now in many communities, the overwhelming amount of cultural information is one-way with movies and music and news coming from all over

the world (mostly developed country contexts) *into* the communities." These three examples show how the RPCV community can help culture to flow in both directions and utilize music to foster connections worldwide.



Recording session, Thiaraguene Cognadji, Senegal.

*David Bleckley was a sustainable agriculture and community development Volunteer in Senegal from 2002 to 2003. He is the founder of the nonprofit startup Community Voice International.*

**minimum scholarship  
plus in-state tuition  
guaranteed to  
returning volunteers**

# \$5,000



**THE BUSH SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICE** at Texas A&M University offers professional graduate degrees for those seeking public and international service careers. Emphases in international affairs, politics, diplomacy, intelligence, regional studies, nonprofits, government, and policy areas such as energy and health provide career-enhancing options to students. In addition, the School adds strength from collaboration with programs in agriculture, urban-planning, rural public health, nuclear engineering, education, and other parts of Texas A&M, a major public research university committed to service.

---

**<http://bush.tamu.edu>**  
**979.862.3476**

---



AT&T | TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

# The Living Dead

South African youth project steps in to smooth school-to-work transition

by Ryan Ruggiero

**W**alking through the dusty streets of my village with the sounds of roosters crowing, children's chatter as they returned from school and the sun beaming brightly, it seemed like a typical walk home from work. As I turned the corner onto my street, through a doorway leading into Lipher's small one-bedroom home, I noticed frantic movement by three of my friends. They looked desperate.

"What's going on?" I asked.

"There's a job opening for the police but the application is due in town today and we don't know how to fill it out or where to send it to," Lipher responded.

Lipher, 25, lives in a rural area. Like many of his peers, he does not have parents to guide him or motivate him. His father died when Lipher was two and his mother died of AIDS when he was in grade 10. Despite these challenges he had managed to pass grade 12, a real accomplishment. But since graduating, he had done little with his life.

I met him when I arrived in 2010—he was a young man with enormous potential but like most other youth in the village he never had a job.

"We [the youth] are the living dead," he once told me. "We have no skills and can't find jobs. We do nothing with our lives." He wanted to do something with his life—to provide for his family and to be proud of himself—and he already tried. He started a small business in the village, Boyz Club, selling prepared meals. However it quickly closed because he did not know how to budget appropriately or account for the unexpected spoiled product, increased electricity costs, etc.

I was impressed by his motivation and work ethic and wanted to harness



Ryan, surrounded by Simunye youth center members, wears traditional Zulu clothing at her village farewell party.



Opening of the Simunye Youth Centre in March 2012. After four months of negotiation with a local gogo (grandmother), she agreed to them to use the space for free in exchange if they paid for some renovations.



Ryan and Lipher, in his police uniform, after he returned from 10 months training in Cape Town.

his talents into a worthwhile project. Together we founded Simunye Youth Development Project as a community-based approach to combat youth unemployment. It was designed to give Lipher and others like him a chance to develop skills and gain the support needed to eventually find employment.

In South Africa, the unemployment rate for youth is 49% in comparison with adults over the age of 30 who have an unemployment rate of 17% (South African National Treasury). In rural areas, where youth are plagued by poor education, lack of access to services and jobs are scarce, the unemployment rate for youth is even higher. Youth unemployment is a development issue

faced all over the world in developing as well as developed countries. Globally, youth make up 43.7% of the total unemployed population yet only account for 25% of workers, (Youth and Employment in Africa, 2011).

A community-based approach to tackling youth unemployment has been tested and deemed successful during my Peace Corps experience in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa, with Simunye Youth Development Project. The community-based and youth-driven project aims to mitigate youth unemployment from multiple angles. We provide skills development, volunteer opportunities, a strong support network and access to job-seeker services at the local level.



Conducting a training with some of the youth who were selected to work as youth center staff. I extended my service to get the youth centre off the ground and used much of that time to train and capacitate staff to run the project.

“School-to-work transition in a young person’s life is one of the most important transitions ‘for determining an individual’s economic and social well-being,’ (ILO, 2006). Simunye catches youth when they leave school and is designed for and by the youth in the community who facilitate life skills as well as computer and business trainings. AIDS has left many youth parentless and therefore lacking direction and necessary life skills to become productive members of society. As part of our life skills training we incorporate these skills—communication, leadership, job and CV preparation, interview skills, savings and budgeting, HIV prevention and reproductive health, etc. These life skills make the difference between finding a job or remaining forever unemployed.

We also encourage the youth to volunteer—mainly through peer education—as a way for them to develop and practice these skills while also developing their community. Sports days and youth meetings also create a strong support network to keep youth motivated. We even offer job-seeker services—access to cell phones, photocopying, help with CVs and assistance with transport—which goes a long way for youth in rural areas who cannot afford to travel far to access these services.

When it came to that rushed application for a position with the police, however, Lipher didn’t have transport, the money to make a phone call or even know who to call. He needed help filling out the application and eventually, preparing for the job interview. Through the job-seeker services offered at Simunye—access to cell phone time, an updated CV, assistance with transport cost (a mere \$3 to town), mock interview practice and computer skills—he eventually received word that he would be leaving for Cape Town to begin training as a police officer.

Lipher recently returned from Cape Town after completing his 10-month training, just in time to attend a meeting with the National Department of Social Development HIV youth prevention coordinator who traveled eight hours to visit our centre. They were impressed by our youth leadership and our accomplishments: training 100 out-of-school youth in life skills in 2012, reaching 4,000 community members and students through peer education surveys and drama on HIV, pregnancy and abuse as well as our computer classes now up and running thanks to the eight donated computers. Ninety-one percent of our youth after being in the program for one year secured

employment, internships or continued volunteering. The National Department is now planning to spread our model nationally, potentially affecting hundreds of more youth.

Listening to Lipher recount the history of the project (in his police uniform) really brought it full circle. Through Simunye we are trying to replicate Lipher’s success story for youth in our area and even across the country. We are confident that our youth no longer feel like they are the living dead, rather they are the ones developing and improving their community and changing their own lives. Everyone wants a chance to live a meaningful life through decent work and to provide for their families, and we are making this happen at Simunye one youth at a time.

---

*Ryan Ruggiero (South Africa, 2010-2013) served for three years in KwaZulu Natal province, where she helped establish Simunye Youth Development Project to develop out-of-school youth in her community to act as peer educators while gaining favorable skills for employment. She is currently travelling around Southern Africa with a project she and a friend started called Unheard Voices, interviewing and telling the stories of rural African youth. Simunye’s website and the stories can be found at [www.kznyouth.org](http://www.kznyouth.org)*

## Stay informed.



**“Like” us on Facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/peacecorpsconnect](http://www.facebook.com/peacecorpsconnect)



**Follow us on Twitter**  
at @pcorpconnect  
Each Friday at 12 noon EST, join the conversation with PCVs and RPCVs.  
[#RPCVChat on Twitter](#)

# CAUSE, The Philanthropub

Changing the world ... one beer at a time

by Nick Vilelle

**I**s it possible to go out to a bar and restaurant, have a great time, and support charitable organizations at the same time? CAUSE, a new bar and restaurant in Washington, D.C., was developed to allow people to do just that. The "PhilanthroPub" was established solely to support charitable organizations by raising awareness of the great work these organizations are doing and by donating 100% of profits to featured charities that need support. Given how busy people are trying to balance their time among career, friends and family, our goal is to bring charitable giving into day-to-day living.

The CAUSE concept is simple—patrons come in to eat and drink just like they would at any other bar and restaurant, except that 100% of the profits go to vetted charitable organizations. We believe that CAUSE will change the way we look at charitable giving. Simply by having dinner and drinks, people will be able to help make the world a better place. The support CAUSE provides to charitable organizations allows them to spend less time worrying about resources and funding and more time accomplishing their mission. We haven't yet found anyone else doing this, and we are excited to innovate and lead the way into a new form of charitable giving.

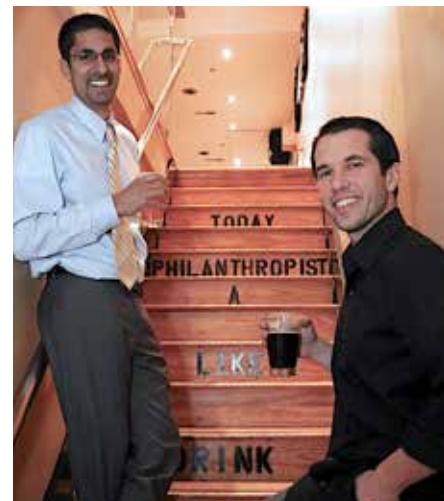
My business partner Raj and I came to this idea from slightly different backgrounds, but with the same ultimate motivation. We met when we were both starting Ph.D. programs at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., Raj in cognitive psychology, and I in organizational psychology. I left the program after getting my master's degree and joined the Peace Corps. It was on my return in 2006 that Raj and I first discussed the idea that eventually became CAUSE.



Patrons enjoy the upstairs bar area at CAUSES.

Raj was still working on his Ph.D. and felt that between working toward his education and career goals, he had no time left to get involved in charity and projects that give back. His behavioral psychology background shaped his search to integrate charitable giving into our everyday lives, and he thought that a bar and restaurant would be a great solution. I had just returned from West Africa, having been exposed to extreme poverty and the conditions people are forced to live under. At the same time, I had seen some great grassroots organizations that were doing fantastic work to improve those conditions but were struggling to come up with the necessary funds.

Appropriately, the idea for CAUSE was first discussed over a beer at a bar. We were out, watching people have a great time and seeing a tremendous amount of money changing hands, wondering why all the money spent on social activities couldn't be used to create good in the world. Over the next five years, we continued to ponder the question and work through different business models that would allow us to make it happen. A year and a half ago, we decided it was time to make the plan a reality.



Co-founders Raj Ratwani and Nick Vilelle.

Knowing that two psychologists starting a restaurant would not end well, we recruited and partnered with restaurant-industry veterans John Jarecki and Dave Pressley, who have been involved with more than 20 bar and restaurant openings. In addition to restaurant-industry support, we knew that to donate profits in year one, we would have to do things differently from most bars and restaurants. The first thing we did was use a crowdsourcing model to build CAUSE. We found that everyone we told about CAUSE would get excited and would ask us how they

All Photos CAUSE



CAUSE has been bustling since its opening in October 2012.

could help. Through this process we were able to recruit our lawyer, graphic designer, editor, and local artists, all of whom volunteered their time to make CAUSE what it is today. In another effort to keep our debt low, we launched a crowdfunding campaign and raised over \$25,000, receiving contributions from more than 200 individuals in 15 countries who believed in our vision. In the final key step, we used an impact-investing model and purchased a 2,500-square-foot property in May 2012. As a result of those efforts, we opened our doors for business in October 2012.

We see our Washington, D.C. location as a pilot site and think that we have a model that we can work in lots of cities. Apparently others feel the same way, as we have already had over 15 groups approach us about bringing CAUSE to their city. Our projections indicate that we should eventually be able to donate about \$100,000 a year from our D.C. location. We love to think about what we will be able to do when we have 10 and then 20 locations! All providing sustainable funding for grassroots organizations simply through people have a good time.

*Nick Vilelle (Togo 2004–06) is the co-founder of CAUSE the PhilanthroPub in Washington, D.C. Through his Peace Corps and AmeriCorps service and his work at TechnoServe, Nick has aided and advised on the founding and operation of hundreds of small businesses. Concerned about current funding sources, he identified the potential for the CAUSE model to improve efficiency in both charitable giving and grassroots development.*



The CAUSE menu features locally sourced, ethically produced ingredients.



**Peace Corps  
Fellows Program  
in Community  
Development**

Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs

**FULL TUITION WAIVER & A PAID INTERNSHIP**








*"To sit in a classroom with RPCV's from other countries is such an amazing experience. I finished the program with strong academic qualifications, unique skills and experiences, and solid job prospects in the development field."*

*-Michael Toso RPCV Niger, Senegal*

[www.peacecorpsfellows-wiu.org](http://www.peacecorpsfellows-wiu.org)   800.526.9943   Now accepting applications



**IIRA**  
Illinois Institute  
for Rural Affairs



**WESTERN  
ILLINOIS  
UNIVERSITY**

WorldView · Summer 2013 · www.PeaceCorpsConnect.org | 33

# Staying On

by Gaea Dill-D'Ascoli

In Bislama, the lingua franca of Vanuatu, the word “volunteer” translates to “work thank-you.” In an article I read in *WorldView*, the local language of a country had translated “Peace Corps” to “they work for love.” That language summarizes why I left my life in the United States to join the Peace Corps. I came out of love and to work for a thank-you.

I spent two years on Pentecost, an island in the country of Vanuatu. I lived in a bamboo hut and cooked on an open fire. After two years, I felt like I was finally starting to understand. I was just starting, not ready to end.

I stayed. Then I had to explain to myself and my family why I stayed—why I extended my Peace Corps service in Vanuatu, a country few have heard of and that can barely be found amidst the blue of the Pacific Ocean. As a married Volunteer, it wasn’t my decision alone. My husband Jason and I discussed the new assignments we would be assuming in Vanuatu and the opportunities they represented.

The decision wasn’t easy. There were conflicting pressures to return home, to get “a real job,” to move on and to resume the physical comforts of life in the United States. But there was another force compelling me to stay, something that said I wasn’t finished here.

At the beginning of service, I made mistakes. I thought meetings called for 8 a.m. would start by 8:15. I didn’t always have food ready when someone stopped by my house. After a year, I’d learned that a piece of fruit counts as feeding a visitor and you show up at 8 a.m. for a 10:30 a.m. meeting. I knew that if there was a death in my village, or any village within a day’s walk, all other plans were canceled.

At the end of two years, I had learned to skin a coconut in under two minutes, weave a basket from *pandanus* leaves and



Gaea and Jason participating in traditional dancing to celebrate the First Communion at the Catholic Church in Melsisi, Pentecost.



Playing Health Jeopardy at Lycee de Melsisi, Pentecost Island, where Gaea and Jason taught for the first two years of service.

roast taro on an open fire. I could spend my day sitting in a mama’s kitchen watching an infant or skinning manioc. I stopped to chat with everyone I met on the road and didn’t worry if the walk took twice as long because of it.

When I left Vansemakul, my village, people trusted me. They knew who I was. They knew I was not a ghost with my fair skin. They knew I wasn’t just another tourist. I was *their* white person. I was *their* Peace Corps Volunteer, their *Pis Kop*.

I also knew I had stopped being as effective as I could be. I’d spoken about AIDS and reproductive health until my students blurted, “Use a condom,” when I asked them about any illness. Have a cold? Use a condom. I’d helped write a grant for toilets that the community needed and now the community had taken control of the project. I’d tried other projects—English classes, road markets, a health lecture series—but they hadn’t gone anywhere. They were



Counting toes in three languages.



Cooling down and cleaning off. Gaea, Jason Tabikieran and Sheila Mabon playing in the laundry sink on a hot day.

ready for a new person with new ideas and I was ready for a new challenge.

I chose to extend into the capital city of Port Vila. I work with Wan Smol Bag, an NGO that offers a range of activities: "Love Patrol," a TV soap opera about AIDS, domestic violence and issues facing today's youth; a grassroots sea turtle conservation and hatcheries program; a drop-in youth center with classes on cooking, sewing, hip-hop dance and art. My job is a mix of work in the youth center and outreach on waste management and conservation. I don't have an "average" day. The plan I arrive at work with in the morning is never how the day turns out.

I spent two years being too American. Every bite of *laplap* (steamed manioc cake) was a tiny piece of trust gained

in my community. For every bucket of water carried back to my house, I gained the respect of the women. With each piece of my American self I lost, I became more effective. As I learned to live in ni-Vanuatu culture, I started to make real changes, the kind that will have a long-term impact. Like the organizations I work for, I sit at the crossroads between the United States and Vanuatu.

Two years ago, I would have found Wan Smol Bag chaotic, disorganized and inefficient. If I were still 100% American, I would still see it that way. It functions at the intersection between the developed world and the developing world. It translates between the office and the village. And that is where I now belong. Halfway between two worlds, I am a more effective Volunteer than I ever thought I would be.

So, why did I extend? Because I can do more now than I could two years ago. Because I speak Bislama. Because I have family and friends here. Because I can see a million tiny changes happening around me. Because I believe in the work I am doing. Because I still work for love.

---

*Gaea Dill-D'Ascoli and her husband Jason Ritenour arrived in Vanuatu in September 2010. Gaea plans to continue writing about her Peace Corps experience in multiple forums, including their blog, [www.tegabis.com](http://www.tegabis.com). Her current COS date is December 2013.*



If **medicine** is your dream  
but you don't have the required courses  
for medical school,  
**we'll help you  
get there.**

If you are a  
**college graduate**

we have a program offering:

- Outstanding preparation for medical school
- Expert, individualized advising
- Medical experience with Johns Hopkins faculty
- Linkages for accelerated enrollment in medical school



To learn more about our  
**Post-Baccalaureate  
Premedical Program**, visit  
**[www.jhu.edu/postbac](http://www.jhu.edu/postbac)**  
or call **410-516-7748**.

**JOHNS HOPKINS**  
UNIVERSITY

**Post-Baccalaureate  
Premedical Program**



# Tupa Trouble

by Zoé Schroeder

**A**s I wait for school to start (originally opening on Jan. 14 and now Jan. 28), I am in that three month time period when you first arrive at site. That time when you can experience loneliness and miss home. That time of too much attention from the community and not enough attention from the community. Of daily frustrations at mundane tasks that suddenly become difficult.

Enter *tupa*.

*Tupa* is not a person, but rather one heck of an annoying piece of wood.

That is right. Piece. Of. Wood.

Here's the scene: My community relies on a well to get all of its water. Now, being that this is Africa, it is, of course, broken. The part that applies pressure to the lever when you pump, so that water is pushed up, is missing. It broke off about two years ago (or so my neighbors tell me) and has never been replaced. Therefore, the people of Tabola have replaced it with a large piece of wood called a *tupa*.

Up until about a week ago, the *tupa* and I had no problems. I pumped my water and carried it home like a good Masotho. Yet, one day I arrived and discovered no *tupa*.

No *tupa*, no water.

I stared blankly at the pump for a couple minutes and I am sure people were watching and laughing, as they always do. I eventually made my way to the nearest house to ask where it was, and saw another *tupa* on the ground. In broken Sesotho, some English and a lot of hand gestures, I got the impression that most people have their own *tupa*. The woman at the house kindly let me borrow hers and I successfully pumped my water for the day.

Suddenly I was worried about where

I was going to find my own *tupa*. You might say, "Well find the nearest tree," but that would not be helpful because at my site I cannot see a single tree for miles.

Luckily, my host family has their own *tupa* which they usually leave at the pump for others to use if need be. But as of late, the *tupa* has been used too much and has worn out. The wood has smoothed out so that it does not grip the lever and slips easily. Also, there is less water now that we are in mid-summer. You have to pump a lot harder and faster than usual. After about 10 minutes of heavy pumping, I have already put the *tupa* back 30 times and I have yet to see a trickle of water fill my 20-liter bucket. I am ready to throw the *tupa* into the bush, into South Africa.

Although I struggle with the *tupa* to this day—get so angry at the pump that I have to tell myself to calm down—this story has a happy ending. The past three or four times I have been at the pump, frustrated, someone has come out to help me. The other day, it was a boy who could not have been much older than eight. While I am ready to burst into tears at the situation, my neighbors take on the *tupa* with such patience. When it falls, they calmly put it back. They might laugh at me and my crazy American ways every day, but they see me as part of their community. The fact that I actually go to the tap myself and pump my own water is a sign that I really am serious about living here, with them. They help me out just as they would help out anyone in Tabola. It is a very generous act and I am always touched when it happens.

These traits of generosity and patience are as scarce in some places as water is in others. In the developed world, we are



The community well.



Behold, the *tupa*.

taught to compete and to win. We prefer fast and cheap over good quality. We disillusion ourselves in thinking that all our needs can be satisfied with the click of a button. In all this, we call ourselves "modern." Yet it is in taking the time to help our neighbor that we truly connect with one another. It is how communities like Tabola survive. Generosity and patience are not qualities naturally born to the Basotho people, however. They are learned and need to be cultivated as precious commodities.

For all the *tupas* I may encounter in my lifetime, I can only hope that my Peace Corps service will have taught me to handle them like an African.

Zoé Schroeder is a Peace Corps education Volunteer currently serving in Lesotho.

# Long Division

An excerpt from the memoir

*Historia, Historia: Two Years in the Cape Verde Islands*

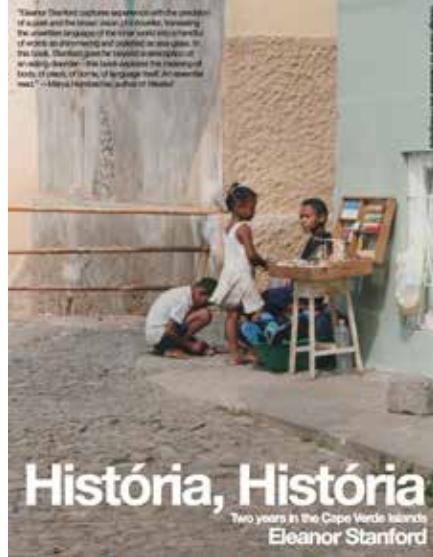
by Eleanor Stanford

I held a match to the wick of the kerosene lamp, then fit its curved glass in place. Gurete's face was all round edges, her skin dark ochre in the half-light. Small gold hoops in her ears dangled charms of clenched fists. Her hand cupped her cheek in concentration. On the table, her notebook was a complex reckoning: ladders of division unfold down the page. I tried to help her with her homework, but the mathematics here was different, based on the European method. My brain moved slowly, translating and inverting to the way I learned.

Gurete would turn thirty the following month. In June she would finish the equivalent of sixth grade. The pink four-room schoolhouse down the hill offered night classes for adults: Portuguese, history, science. Math was Gurete's best subject. The numbers had a logic that she liked, the columns lined up orderly as the rows of manioc and sweet potatoes on the hillside.

Education in Cape Verde often means physical dislocation. Many of our rural students commuted hours each way to school by dump truck; others moved in with relatives in town, since there were only two high schools on the entire island. But Cape Verde demands of all its students a separation in some ways even more jarring and irrevocable. This is the switch from Creole, the mother tongue, to Portuguese. Beginning in the first grade, children are thrown into an environment where all communication takes place in a foreign language.

I imagined Gurete as a six-year-old: her wide smile, hair in pigtails, skipping down the hill to the schoolroom, only to find the teacher, whom she already knew, speaking in a strange language.



The schools have hot cinderblock classrooms, with peeling paint and no glass in the windows, no decorations on the walls. The children sit at wobbly wooden desks and copy into their notebooks from the blackboard. "Repeat after me," the teacher intones, reciting Portuguese conjugations: Eu tenho, tu tens, ele tem... The teacher herself has only completed the sixth grade. What is Portugal to her, to any of them? She will go home, make supper, beat clothes against the washboard. What can they pin to the thin line stretching north? Not today's washing. Not a single hope flapping in the stiff wind like a shirt.

Gurete had five children. The oldest, Rubem, was thirteen. He commuted an hour and a half each day to school in town, like all the kids in the village, because the school in Ribeira Filipe didn't go higher than sixth grade. The next in line, Enrique, was the smartest, Gurete bragged. Only eleven, and he already knew more than his older

continued on page 40

*Life is calling.  
So is SPEA.*



Lynn Nguyen, MPA '13  
RPCV Guatemala 2008-2010  
Youth Development Volunteer

- **Master of Public Affairs (MPA)**  
New Concentration:  
**International Development**
- **Master of Science in Environmental Science (MSES)**
- **Dual MPA/MSES**



**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Peace Corps' Coverdell Fellows and Master's International (MI) students receive tuition benefits and credit hour waivers.

[www.spea.indiana.edu](http://www.spea.indiana.edu)

[speainfo@indiana.edu](mailto:speainfo@indiana.edu)

(812) 855-2840 · (800) 765-7755

# Reicken Community Libraries

Inspiring volunteerism and activism in Central America

by William Cartwright

**O**ver the past dozen years, nearly 30 Peace Corps Volunteers have contributed to developing a distinctive network of 64 rural community libraries in Guatemala and Honduras. The seed for that idea—the concept of libraries as tools for community development—was planted in the consciousness of a calculus-teaching Peace Corps Volunteer, Allen Andersson, more than 40 years ago.

From 1966 to 1968, Andersson taught at the National University of Honduras; yet on trips outside the capital, Tegucigalpa, he learned about the true needs of people in remote villages: food, medicine, schools, fertilizer, honest government and good jobs. Andersson began to understand the critical importance of widespread access to information in the social change process.

In 2000 Andersson founded the nonprofit Riecken Community Libraries with money he had earned from a career in telecommunications, computational linguistics and radiology. During his 1960s Peace Corps days, Andersson developed a strong belief that local empowerment and robust democracy could bring “power to the people” which, in turn, would build strong communities that would work for the public good. Local residents, if given access to information and a voice in the creation of local development activities, could improve their standard of living, address local needs and demand government transparency.

The Riecken network is now spurring a grassroots movement that puts community volunteerism at its center, encouraging social participation and proactive citizenship.

Raul Nunez is one of the Peace Corps Volunteers who played a role in



All Photos Riecken Foundation

Riecken reading promoters travel to a rural community.

developing the Riecken Community Library network during his 2006–08 assignment in the small village of Namasigue, Honduras.

“As a municipal development Volunteer, Namasigue’s mayor asked me if I had heard of an organization called Riecken. They were encouraging communities to submit proposals to build a local library,” said Nunez. “The mayor asked me to learn more about them and ultimately, to play a facilitator role in submitting an application.”

Riecken staff met Nunez and the Namasigue community to discuss the project. They emphasized that Riecken’s model is rooted in a philosophy that promotes free and open access to essential knowledge, and a commitment to lifelong learning. Each library had to be managed by volunteer community leaders, who would not only oversee it, but also build an institution with strong local governance drawn from all community sectors. In Riecken’s

experience, this approach is the best assurance that the library becomes a place where, in addition to free access to information and activities, people feel welcome and comfortable convening.

“One of the things I immediately noticed in the village was that there was no community center,” said Nunez. “There was one soccer field, but no place for people to gather for intellectual activity. There were few really active community members. But Riecken’s work in the community changed that.

“I remember being impressed by how the people came together to fulfill Riecken’s proposal requirements, and how hard both the community and Riecken staff worked. Riecken wanted the library located in a place where it would be utilized, so the library board and mayor proposed building it right next to the middle and high school.”

The one-room Camino Hacia el Exito Library was inaugurated on August 1, 2007. Many residents contributed



Street scene in Copan, Honduras.

labor for construction, while others donated materials. The end result was a collection of books, never before seen by the children in such numbers, and open access to computers and the Internet. Teachers had a place to assign children to conduct research; youth and women had a meeting space; and students could nurture and create reading habits and critical thinking skills.

"Many well-intentioned developing world projects waste a lot of money," said Nunez. "What I witnessed was how Riecken differentiated itself by the intensive training they provided to library staff and volunteers, and the requirement for active community involvement in the library's planning and management.

"In 2011 I went back to Namasigue, and saw that the community had added another big room to the library. A board member and teacher talked about the library's critical contribution to the students' research and after-school activities. Riecken spent an unbelievable amount of time on volunteer library board training, and that really made the difference."

Nearly half of Riecken's libraries have benefited from a Peace Corps Volunteer's contribution to their development, programming and/or fundraising. With their



Library computer users in Chiche, Guatemala.



Riecken Library patron.

help, the network has grown and stands in direct contrast to traditional Central American public libraries, which have closed book stacks, and little to no relevant programming, activities, or technology.

Instead, Riecken's volunteer boards oversee libraries with high demand and usage, strong programming to respond to community needs, open book stacks, Internet access and user borrowing privileges. They host book clubs, infant nutrition programs for new mothers, youth environmental clubs, electoral candidate debates, and programs to reach farmers, aspiring entrepreneurs, and indigenous girls, who are often denied access to education.

Riecken's libraries foster a movement of democracy, transparency and citizen participation. The libraries strive to be models of democracy with freely elected boards, transparent finances, and services open to all. Many libraries even publicly post their monthly financial information to encourage government transparency elsewhere.

"I feel so lucky to have been in Namasigue, seeing the library go from an idea, to construction, to enthusiastic use by teachers, students, and community members," said Núñez. "Being able to

**YOU'VE  
SERVED THE  
WORLD...  
NOW LET US  
HELP YOU.**



 WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY | MBA  
[willamette.edu/mba](http://willamette.edu/mba)

Scholarships available for  
Peace Corps alumni.

**Apply now for Fall 2013**



return and see the library's contribution to the community reaffirms that my time as a Peace Corps Volunteer made a difference."

At their core, Riecken Community Libraries give local villagers a chance to play a key role in their own destiny, making sure that books, programs, outreach and activities are tailored to community needs. The fact that so many Peace Corps Volunteers have contributed and continue to contribute to the development of local volunteerism in Central America is a legacy not only of Riecken's founder, Allen Andersson, but also a tangible measure of the Peace Corps's enduring impact around the globe.

I understand that everybody wants a

face and a hero, but that really isn't what the Peace Corps (or its afterwork) should be about ... The real heroes [are] the townspeople who have – in 64 out of 64 communities!! – sustained their libraries even after outside support disappeared. Also the youngsters who fill every library every day with an ebullient spirit of discovery...

---

*William Cartwright (Costa Rica 1987–89) is the president and CEO of Riecken Community Libraries. You can learn more about the Riecken Libraries at [www.riecken.org](http://www.riecken.org).*

Kids being measured as part of a nutrition program.



### Long Division

continued from page 37

brother. João Domingos was nine, he lived with an aunt half a mile down the hill. Gurete saw him on Sundays. Djudjé was seven and Suraia six. They could pass for twins, both miniature versions of their mother. Thick braids sprouting from their heads; arms and legs always covered in a thin film of dust.

The children's father lived in Portugal. He left before Suraia was a bulge in Gurete's belly. She would count on her fingers the months since he'd sent a check. When money does come, she'd say wryly, *ta kumpra midju pa galinha*—it buys corn for the chickens.

Usually her concentration was fierce, for at least fifteen minutes, before a neighbor leaned in the window to pay a visit or she remembered that she left the pot on the fire, or her mother came in to tell her to put the books away, to come help shell beans. But tonight I could tell she was distracted by something else. The numbers kept evading her, hovering like the dust that wouldn't stay swept.

"*N sta pensa na ba Merka*," she told me, a bit sheepishly, looking up at me for approval. I'm thinking about going to America. "Just for a few years," she said.

Her voice grew distant, as though she could picture it. "Save some money... My cousin Isildo says there's work for me in Brockton, in the factory. He says I could stay with his family there." Her pencil traced curlicues on the paper. She lay the words down like a carefully worked answer, waiting for my verdict.

The smell of kerosene sharpened on the rough-edged silence. I felt it in my sinuses, a suffocating headache. With my college education, I could explain the basic math Gurete was learning, but not the equations that really mattered: how was it I found myself thousands of miles from my comfortable suburban upbringing, on this remote speck in the Atlantic? How was it Gurete, who'd lived her whole life on this ribeira, and dreamed of something else, couldn't leave?

And how did Gurete imagine America? Probably not the tumbledown tenements outside Boston, windowless factories, cold cracking like mean jokes in a language she couldn't understand. Her math skills could not calculate the long hours, months multiplying into years, how a paycheck reduces itself into smaller and smaller fractions: rent, food, bus rides, things you hadn't counted on.

She put the pencil down. "Of course I'd have to get a visa first," she sighed.

We've both seen the lines at the American Embassy in Praia, trailing out the door like a long remainder. We both know the tiny percentage that gets in, of those the smaller fraction that get the coveted piece of paper. We both knew that at thirty she was past her prime, that the consul would see no currency in her waist thickened from childbirth, her breasts already beginning to sag.

"*Ja tchiga*," she said, closing her notebook, shouldering her school bag. That's enough. I watched her walk the few meters up the hill to her house, where she would fall into bed, wrap her body around the small sum of Suraia's limbs. "*Nha kodé*," she'd whisper, the name for the last loved child, the caboose.

---

*Eleanor Stanford served in Cape Verde from 1998 to 2000. Her memoir about the experience, *Historia, Historia: Two Years in the Cape Verde Islands* was published in 2013 by the Chicago Center for Literature and Photography. Her first book, *The Book of Sleep*, was published in 2008 by Carnegie Mellon Press, and her poems and essays have appeared in Poetry, Ploughshares, Harvard Review, The Massachusetts Review, and many other journals. She currently lives in the Philadelphia area and teaches at St. Joseph's University.*

# Returned Peace Corps Volunteers Of Wisconsin–Madison

International calendar supports development projects—and the NPCA

by Natalie Hall

**N**PCA Member Groups do so much to engage the Peace Corps community in continued service, education and advocacy. Many of them also raise significant funds to support projects both here at home and abroad.

In our donor feature this month, we highlight how one group took a simple concept and developed it into a major project, generating funds to support NPCA—including other member groups—and community projects around the world.

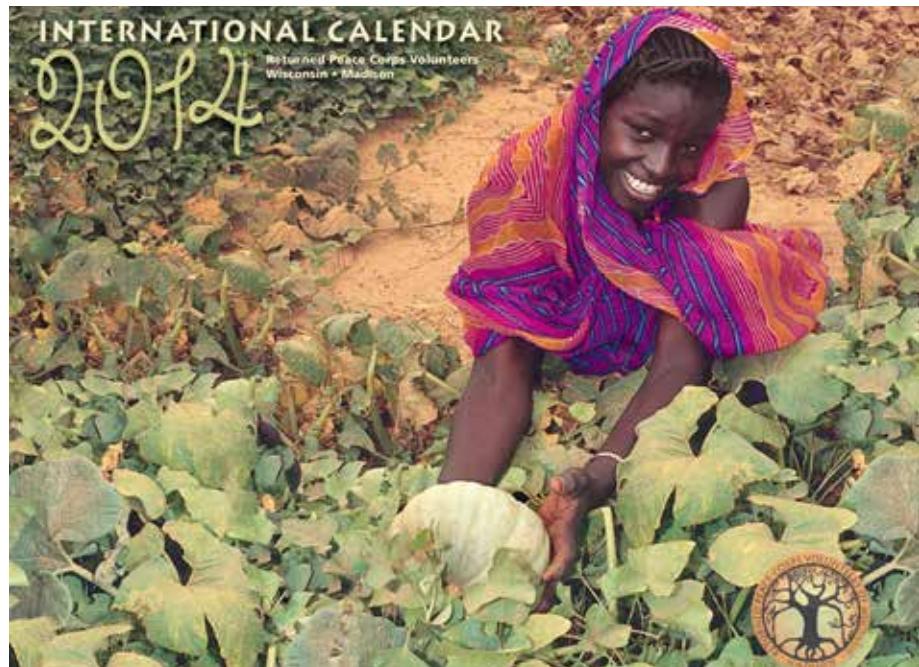
NPCA Special Projects Volunteer Natalie Hall (Thailand 1967–69) interviewed Ron Chance (Nepal 1980–83) about the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Wisconsin–Madison's well-known international calendar. Ron is Chair of the International Calendar Committee, which is responsible for producing the calendar.

**NPCA:** Many of us have admired the international calendar that RPCVs of Wisconsin–Madison creates and sells. Can you tell us about the calendars?

**RPCVs of WI–Madison:** For the last 28 years we have been producing the international calendar, which features countries where Volunteers have served. Generally, 13 countries (i.e., the cover and one for each month) are featured each year. Net proceeds from the sales—more than \$1 million since 1988—have been donated to Peace Corps Partnership and community projects around the world.

**NPCA:** How did the idea get started?

**RPCVs of WI–Madison:** A Returned Peace Corps Volunteer in Madison had the idea to produce a calendar in 1986,



The 2014 Calendar cover

leading to the production of the first international calendar in 1987. Other RPCVs got involved and it just took off! Over time, the calendars generated a profit, which our group started to donate to local and international projects.

**NPCA:** How do the calendars relate to the Peace Corps Third Goal?

**RPCVs of WI–Madison:** Besides donations to development projects, one of the primary goals in producing and distributing the international calendar is to help fulfill the Third Goal—to promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of U.S. citizens. Many calendars are donated to schools and community organizations, or handed out at cultural events to achieve this purpose.

**NPCA:** How many are produced each year?

**RPCVs of WI–Madison:** We produced 35,000 last year. The calendar is distributed all over the U.S., and to Peace Corps offices and embassies abroad. It is sold mostly to individuals.

**NPCA:** How do you decide which countries and photos to feature?

**RPCVs of WI–Madison:** The selection of the 12 to 13 countries each year often depends on the quality of photos we can obtain from PCVs and RPCVs. We have recently done an analysis of all the countries we have featured over the years. In 2015 we will try to feature countries that have appeared infrequently or have never been in the calendar. There is a photo submission form on our website: [www.rpcvcalendar.org](http://www.rpcvcalendar.org). People who

submit photos receive a free calendar. Each year we have an event where we lay out all of the photos submitted and people vote for the ones they would like to see in the next calendar. This year it will also be an international potluck. It will be a festive event!

**NPCA:** Who works on the calendars?

**RPCVs of WI-Madison:** The whole operation is built around a core team of 20 to 25 volunteers. Another 15 to 20 volunteers help with projects involving prepacking calendars and selling them at events. We pay for calendar design and layout, and for its printing. We have only one part-time staff member who provides customer service and processes calendar orders. Graphic images based on traditional designs from each country featured in the calendar are selected and hand drawn by Julie Olsen, an elementary school art teacher.

**NPCA:** Who buys the calendars?

**RPCVs of WI-Madison:** NPCA member groups buy a lot of calendars and use them for fundraising for their own projects. It's easy and worthwhile. We donate about 10,000 calendars to the Peace Corps, schools, literacy groups and organizations that use them in teaching about other cultures.

**NPCA:** Who gets the money raised from the sales?

**RPCVs of WI-Madison:** We get requests from PCVs in the field through the Peace Corps Partnership program. The requests range from \$1,000 to \$2,000. We have allocated funds for this purpose in the \$40,000 to \$50,000 range over the past several years. Additionally, paid members of the RPCV Wisconsin-Madison group can choose development projects to sponsor. In 2012 we granted 16 requests for a total of \$14,050.

**NPCA:** How are the sales related to NPCA?

**RPCVs of WI-Madison:** Each year we also donate to NPCA, particularly for group-building purposes. In 2012 we

donated \$7,150 to seek out matching funds to upgrade the membership database.

**NPCA:** Why do the RPCVs of Wisconsin-Madison financially support the NPCA?

**RPCVs of WI-Madison:** The RPCVs of Madison have been proud supporters of the NPCA in its various forms over the years. From the early days as the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, a volunteer organization based in Omaha, Neb., to today's staffed office in Washington, D.C., it has been important to have an umbrella organization that provides a national presence for RPCVs—one with real impact that we could not manage as separate, disconnected groups. We in Madison believe NPCA is that organization, and provides important coordinating help towards our Third Goal efforts, alumni-type services to the groups and advocacy support for Peace Corps on Capitol Hill.

**NPCA:** I noticed that you have lots of website resources such as recommendations for books, films and recipes.

**RPCVs of WI-Madison:** Yes, one of the great value-added benefits of our calendars is the wealth of information on the calendars and also on our website. If you look there, you will see statistics and recommendations for adult and children's books, films and recipes for each of the featured countries. We also feature world music linked to YouTube videos and a key word, which we present in many different languages. The key word in the 2013 calendar was "friendship"; for the 2014 calendar it will be "home." Our RPCV Wisconsin-Madison "we all" posters are also a great resource for teachers. Each set is built around a theme, such as we all eat, learn, celebrate and need peace.

**NPCA:** Ron, how did you personally get involved?

**RPCVs of WI-Madison:** I have been involved for the past 10 years. I was aware of RPCVs of Wisconsin-Madison and the calendar. When I moved to Madison I was excited to get involved in the calendar project and work with RPCVs.

**NPCA:** What is the future of the international calendar?

**RPCVs of WI-Madison:** We plan to continue production and increase our visibility through social media. We think we are reaching only 10 percent of RPCVs and would certainly like to connect with many more. We believe the international calendar and wall posters promote greater international understanding while connecting RPCVs with each other to foster friendship and good works. It is also a great gift that conveys an important aspect of an RPCV's identity. Finally, all of the proceeds from the calendar are donated to make the world a better place.

As Ron mentioned, RPCVs of Wisconsin-Madison donated \$7,150 to NPCA this year to seek out matching funds to upgrade the membership database. To make a donation as part of that match, visit [www.peacecorpsconnect.org/donate](http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/donate). Be sure to designate your donation towards "Matching Campaign for Database Support." Or send a check to NPCA at 1900 L Street NW, Suite 610, Washington, DC 20036. Include "database match" in the memo.

To order the international calendar, go to [www.rpcvcalendar.org](http://www.rpcvcalendar.org). RPCVs of Wisconsin-Madison is still selling the 2013 International Calendar. The 2014 International Calendar will go on sale in June. To order "we all" posters, visit [www.rpcvmadison.org](http://www.rpcvmadison.org).

---

*Natalie Hall (Thailand 1967–69) is the NPCA special projects volunteer.*

# Recent Achievements of Our Community

by Jonathan Pearson

## AFGHANISTAN

As part of the Washington state Apple Blossom Festival, **Doug Head** (1967-70) was honored as Grand Marshal of the 2013 Stemilt Growers Grand Parade in Wenatchee. The honor recognizes Head's nearly three decades of service to the community. During that time, he has directed the Wenatchee Regional Office of the Children's Home Society of Washington, which works to find loving homes for area children by connecting highly trained foster parents with emotionally and/or behaviorally troubled children. An article in the *Wenatchee World* newspaper also cited the ongoing commitment of Head and his wife Lyn, in providing sponsorship and other support to children from Afghanistan.

## CAMEROON

Bradley University announced the awarding of a Fullbright Scholar Grant to **Dr. Cecile Arquette** (1987-89), Associate Professor of Teacher Education. Dr. Arquette's scholarship will take her to the Pontifical Catholic University in Valparaiso, Chile next

year. While at the university, she will be working with undergraduates studying to become English teachers.

Dr. Arquette also hopes to build stronger ties between the two universities.

## CHAD

The student government board of Delaware Valley College does not name individuals to its prestigious Hall of Fame on an annual basis. Rather, the honor is bestowed only when someone meets the criteria of college loyalty, improving the student experience and improving the lives of others. This year, RPCV **Jim Diamond** (1971-73) received that honor. A 1961 graduate, Diamond is the former dean of agriculture. He also serves as an honorary trustee and national chair of the college's planned giving committee. In noting the honor, Diamond recognized his wife **Betty Diamond**, with whom he served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Chad. Speaking to phillyburbs.com, he said "I did not earn this honor alone. My wife, Betty, certainly played an important role in supporting me during my 47-year career that led to this award."



## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Hartford, Connecticut region of the YWCA has appointed **Monique Turner-Lopez** (1991-93) as the organization's new Chief Program Officer. Turner-Lopez will be responsible for leading the implementation of a program vision that builds on the organization's strengths, increases its capacity to address the emerging needs of women and families in greater Hartford and supports YWCA's mission of empowering women and girls and eliminating racism. She comes to the organization with

more than 20 years of experience in the non-profit sector. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the City Wide Youth Coalition in New Haven.

## COSTA RICA

**John Dinon** is the new Ohio Director of Outreach for the Humane Society of the United States and Ohioans for Humane Farms. Dinon joined the organizations after serving as Executive Director of the Toledo Area Humane Society. According to the Humane Society, "Dinon will focus on a variety of animal protection issues with an emphasis on

## ETHIOPIA

At a White House ceremony in February, **Harris Wofford** was one of 18 individuals honored with a Citizens Medal, presented by President Obama. Wofford was selected from more than 6,000 nominations for this award, the second-highest civilian honor given to individuals who perform "exemplary deeds of service for their country and their fellow citizens." Along with his many roles in the formative years of the Peace Corps (including special representative to Africa and director of operations in Ethiopia), Wofford also served as President of Bryn Mawr College (1970-78), U.S. Senator from Pennsylvania (1991-95) and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service (1995-01).



supporting humane and sustainable animal agriculture in the state, helping such farmers build markets for goods that answer to higher animal welfare standards. Dinon will also provide support for animal protection legislation and work with Ohio's county humane societies, shelters and animal welfare agencies." Prior to his work with the Humane Society, Dinon worked at zoos in Cincinnati, Detroit, and Battle Creek, Michigan.

### GUATEMALA

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has named **Brittany Sickler** (2009-12) as an economic development specialist for the North Dakota District Office in Fargo. A native of Bismarck, Sickler will conduct marketing and outreach for the SBA in southeastern North Dakota. Prior to her Peace Corps service, she worked for ACCION USA in Miami as a marketing and outreach specialist.

The first member of the faculty of Columbia College in Columbia, Missouri to receive a Fulbright Scholarship is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer. **Dr. Nathan Means**, an associate professor of biology, will conduct soil quality research at the National Institute of Agricultural Research in Montevideo, Uruguay. Dr. Means has been on the faculty of Columbia College since 2004.



### MONGOLIA

The University of Missouri named **Mike Burden** (2006-08) as one of the recipients of this year's International Engagement Awards. Burden, a senior information specialist in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, received the staff award. He was honored for his work in developing multimedia content for CAFNR that will help promote research and teaching. He has also taught journalism courses at MU and played an important role in coordinating the Third Goal International Film Festival held this past February (see related article in this issue).



### NICARAGUA

**Sara Skiles** (2010-12) has been hired to serve as a Community Outreach Coordinator for the non-profit organization, Mississippi Health Advocacy Program (MHAP). MHAP strives to be a strong, effective voice for improved health care for all throughout the state of Mississippi, especially those whose health is threatened by poverty, racism, malnutrition and violence. Working within the Health Help Mississippi division, Sara is the outreach leader in 20 different Mississippi counties. She will work on health care advocacy and education, serving as a resource to

Mississippians for their health care questions and concerns, with a focus on at-risk populations and lower socio-economic communities.

### GUINEA BISSAU, POLAND, MADAGASCAR

**Cheryl** (Guinea-Bissau, 1990-92) and **William de Jong-Lambert** (Poland 1992-94; Madagascar 1994-96) have coauthored a book titled *Outdoors with Kids New York City: 100 Fun Places to Explore In and Around the City*, a new city-based book series developed by the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) in response to the national "no child left indoors" movement. The book is built on the premise that the city itself is an outdoor destination that extends far beyond Central Park and as such it features traditional hiking and outdoor activities, as well as urban-hiking treks. The book and the blog they write for the AMC, called Kids Outdoors, were featured in the *New York Times*.

### NAMIBIA

Citing his ten years of mentorship experience, Big Brothers and Big Sisters (BBBS) of Southwest Idaho has named **Jason Sears** as the organization's new Chief Executive Officer. Prior to his appointment, Sears worked as Director of Visitor Services at the Discovery Center of Idaho, and with the Boys and Girls Club of Ada County, Idaho. "Jason's dedication to improving the lives of the youth of the Treasure Valley, coupled with his strong leadership and communications skills will serve him well as the organization strives to meet the demand for the program," said BBBS Board Chairman Larry Koomler.

### NEPAL

**Dr. David Edds** (1977-79) was honored by Emporia State University as the 2013 Roe R. Cross Distinguished Professor. Dr. Edds is a Professor of Biological Sciences, serving on the faculty at Emporia State since 1989. The Cross award honors faculty for their scholarship, teaching and mentoring of students. A native of Kansas, Edds is extremely active within his community. He coaches youth soccer and baseball, organizes aquatic ecology summer camps for several organizations and supports the Emporia Area Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Among other recognition associated with the

award, Edds will be the speaker at university commencement ceremonies in December.

## NIGER

**Kimberly Arth** (1999-2001) is the new Director of the Angels Camp Museum in Angels Camp, California. The museum focuses on the history of the California gold rush. Arth comes to California from Arizona, where she worked as Education Manager at the Bead Museum in Glendale. Prior to that, she worked as an assistant at the Arizona State University Museum of Anthropology.

## PHILIPPINES

At Yale University, **Peter Crumlish** (1996-98) has been named the new Executive Director of Dwight Hall, a non-profit organization that features more than 85 student groups, engaging more than two-thirds of Yale's undergraduate population in service and social justice activities. Crumlish recently served as Director of Resource Development for the Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven. He also serves on the boards of the Calvin Hill Day Care Center and the Congo Leadership Initiative.

## RUSSIA

**Melinda Reed** (1995-97) is the new Executive Director of the Friendship Center in Helena, Montana. The center provides a safe haven and broad range of support services at no charge for anyone who has suffered domestic violence and sexual abuse. Reed's past work with non-governmental organizations includes employment with Mercy Corps and the American Refugee Committee.

## SOUTH AFRICA

Georgia State Senator **Jason Carter** (1998-2000) was the May 4th commencement speaker at Georgia Southwestern State University in Americus, Georgia. Carter was elected to the Georgia State Senate in 2010. The grandson of former President

Jimmy Carter and great-grandson of former RPCV Lillian Carter, Jason Carter is active in many aspects of community service and sits on the boards of several charitable and public

interest organizations, including the DeKalb Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence, the Georgia Afterschool Investment Council and the Carter Center.



## SIERRA LEONE

At a recent ceremony in Shenge, Kagboro Chiefdom, Moyamba District, Sierra Leone, **Gary Schulze** (1961-63) was installed as an honorary paramount chief. Gary, a current member of the NPCA Board of Directors, accepted the honor on behalf of all Peace Corps Volunteers who served in Sierra Leone. Following his service with the first group of Sierra Leone Volunteers, Gary served on the board of the Friends of Sierra Leone, which played a major role in securing political asylum status in the United States for thousands of Sierra Leoneans during the rebel war. He also acted as a United Nations election observer during the crucial 1996 elections. Gary has given assistance over the years to a number of aid projects in rural areas, including Kagboro Chiefdom. Gary's official title is Paramount Chief Pieh Gbabior Caulker Schulze.

For more Community News go to [www.peacecorpsconnect.org/n pca/news/community-news/](http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/n pca/news/community-news/)

## Write For WorldView! We welcome your submissions.

[www.peacecorpsconnect.org/n pca/News/worldview-magazine/submission-guidelines/](http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/n pca/News/worldview-magazine/submission-guidelines/)



## ADVERTISERS INDEX

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| American University School of International Service, 7 | Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, Cover 2, page 1 |
| Bryn Mawr Post-Bac Pre-med, 27                         | Johns Hopkins University Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical, 35 |
| Camelbak, 5  | Monterey Institute of International Studies, 21             |
| Clark University, 2                                    | Next Step Travel, Cover 4                                   |
| Duke University, 23                                    | One Acre Fund, 9  |
| Friends of Alex Humboldt Foundation, 17                | SIT Graduate Institute, 11                                  |
| George Mason University School of Public Policy, 27    | Texas A&M University Bush School, 29                        |
| Goucher College, Post-bak Premed, 17                   | Tufts University Fletcher School, 9                         |
| Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, 15    | U.S. Department of State Exchanges, 15                      |
| Indiana University SPEA, 37                            | Western Illinois University, Peace Corps Fellows, 33        |
|  | Willamette University MBA, 39                               |



National  
Peace Corps  
Association

NEXT STEP  
TRAVEL PROGRAM



## All-Inclusive Volunteer Vacations for RPCVs and Their Families

- Travel and build life-long friendships with RPCVs and like-minded travelers
- Hosted by RPCV experts
- Immerse yourself in a new culture
- Explore historic and archaeological sites
- Volunteer side-by-side and create meaningful connections with local people

“The itinerary was a nice blend of working, learning, and enjoying the Dominican Republic. While it was beneficial to meet PCVs (Peace Corps Volunteers) and learn about their projects, it was equally important to talk to NGOs working in the area and to independent scientists and ecologists. It gave us all a richer and broader perspective on the enormous challenges the DR faces and some of the emerging solutions.” – Rob C.

+1 619 202 4114  
[travel@peacecorpsconnect.org](mailto:travel@peacecorpsconnect.org)

Operated by

 DISCOVERCORPS

<http://travel.peacecorpsconnect.org>