

Idaho Returned Peace Corps Volunteers

COMMON GROUND



www.IdahoPeaceCorps.com

Fall 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 14-17

WEST REGIONAL RPCV

CAMPOUT IN WASHINGTON

Place: Cougar Rock Campground,

Mount Rainier National Park

Hosted By: SEAPAX, the Seattle Area

Peace Corps Association. For more

information, visit home.seapax.org

Contact: Chloe Ross, 208.789.7547

rosschloe@hotmail.com

August 28

BSU DIVERSITY FESTIVAL

When: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Location: BSU SUB Patio

Contact: Connie Collins,

Connie1940@gmail.com

September 3 - 4

BSU CAREER FAIR

When: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Location: SUB Simplot Ballroom

Contact: Connie Collins,

Connie1940@gmail.com

September 3

IRPCV UPDATE AND TRAINING

Everyone is welcome to attend!

When: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Smokey Mountain Pizza

Contact: Connie Collins,

Connie1940@gmail.com

September 16

BSU STUDY ABROAD FAIR

When: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Location: SUB Simplot Ballroom

Contact: Connie Collins,

Connie1940@gmail.com

September 21

VOLUNTEER AT THE IDAHO

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL AND

WATCH STEEL MAGNOLIAS

Contact: Harriett Almerico,

harenco@msn.com

September 23

CWI CAREER FAIR

When: 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Where: Ada County Campus, Boise, Idaho

Contact: Connie Collins,

Connie1940@gmail.com

September 24

CWI CAREER FAIR

When: 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Where: Nampa Campus, Nampa, Idaho

Contact: Connie Collins,

Connie1940@gmail.com

October 1

PEACE CORPS INFO TABLE/INFO SESSION

When: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Location: SUB Simplot Ballroom

Contact: Connie Collins,

Connie1940@gmail.com

October 2

NNU PEACE CORPS INFO TABLE

Location: Nampa, Idaho

Contact: Jack Hawley

jhawley@peacecorps.gov

October 7 - 8

PEACE CORPS INFO TABLE/INFO SESSION

Location: Pocatello, Idaho

Contact: Jack Hawley

jhawley@peacecorps.gov

October 9

PEACE CORPS CAREER FAIR

AND INFO SESSION

Location: Rexburg, Idaho

Contact: Jack Hawley

jhawley@peacecorps.gov

October 10

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY CAREER FAIR

Location: Pocatello, Idaho

Contact: Jack Hawley

jhawley@peacecorps.gov

October 26

IRPCV BOARD MEETING

When: 5 p.m.

Location: 10948 Musket Street, Boise, ID

Contact: Diana Gardner, 208.602.1586

Dianalea024yahoo.com

November 18-19

BSU INTERNATIONAL WEEK

Contact: Jack Hawley

jhawley@peacecorps.gov

November 22

Holiday Parade

Location: Downtown Boise

December

IRPCV Holiday Party

When: To be announced

We are on Facebook!
Idaho Returned
Peace Corps Volunteers



IRPCV NEWS

Join us at our Next Tasty International Cuisine Night



Chosen as the most authentic Mexican restaurant in Boise...

Who: El Gallo Giro Mexican Restaurant

When: September 20th at 5 p.m.

Where: 5285 Glenwood Street Boise, Idaho 83714

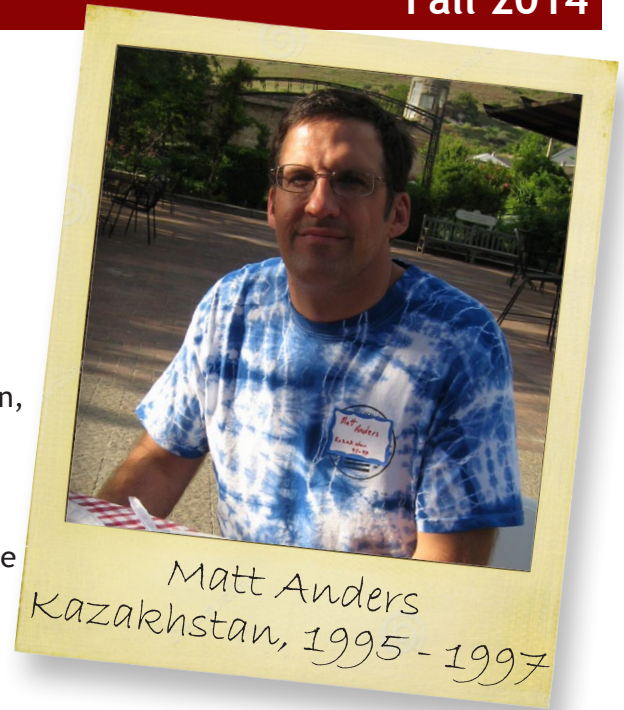
What: Choose from over 50 menu items, including burritos, enchiladas, seafood, Molcajetes and their famous tacos. Don't forget to top off your meal with one of their tasty desserts. They have many beers in stock and also provide a full bar.

Featured Dishes: Molcajetas Molcajete is a stone bowl used by the Aztecs to grind their condiments, to make sauces and serve festive dishes to special people. The rough surface of the basalt stone creates a superb grinding surface that maintains itself over time as tiny bubbles in

the basalt are ground down, replenishing the textured surface.

These dinners prove to be great IRPCV turnouts, come join us if you haven't yet!

RSVP: Diana Gardner, dianalea024@yahoo.com



Bring the World Home: Volunteer to Recruit for the Peace Corps

September is the start of another recruiting and advocacy term for IRPCV. In 2013, Idaho was 7th in the nation for recruitment. The following is a list of dates and times that IRPCV members in Ada and Canyon Counties are needed to man tables for the Peace Corps.

To volunteer and get directions and parking information, contact Connie Collins at 412-2135, or connie1940@gmail.com

August 28 Diversity Festival BSU 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

September 3 Career Fair BSU 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

September 4 Career Fair BSU 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

September 23 Career Fair CWI (Boise) 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

September 24 Career Fair CWI (Nampa) 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Volunteer at the Idaho Shakespeare Festival, September 21st



IRPCV's will volunteer and watch Steel Magnolias! Volunteers help with ushering, hospitality and information, and general cleaning of the theater before and after the performance. We will also have a picnic and watch the performance for free on a grassy hill.

To volunteer, contact: Harriett Almerico, harenco@msn.com

For more information visit: www.idahoshakespeare.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/VolunteerINFO.pdf

IRPCV NEWS

24th Annual Western Regional RPCV Campout

When: August 14-17, 2014
(Thursday - Sunday)

Where: Mt. Rainier National Park, Cougar Rock Campground

Register now for the 2014 NW Regional RPCV Campout. Reserve a spot in our group camp ASAP, as space is limited. Come for a night, come for the weekend, or make a day trip on Saturday to join SEAPAX and RPCV friends at dinner! Here is the link for online registration and payment, for all options:

www.brownpapertickets.com/event/666717

A detailed description of the campout can be found on the SEAPAX website. Updates on activities, group meetings, and other events will be posted as plans get finalized. If you have been to these events in the past, you know how much fun they can be. If you have never been before, sign up! With a great location and a great group of people, you will

enjoy. This will be the 24th annual Regional RPCV Campout, which each year attracts RPCVs of all ages, all decades of service, and is family-friendly. Ours is the only region that holds RPCV campouts, which makes it extra special. Responsibility for hosting rotates each year among the groups in WA, OR and ID, and this year it's the turn of SEAPAX as host to organize the event and provide the Saturday night dinner.

Now is the time for members to get involved! In addition to reserving your space in the group camp or individual RV sites, we need you to sign up for the campout committee. We need a full team to pull off the event for: meal planning, food shopping, gear provisioning, cooking, set up and clean up. You don't have to be a camper to participate, and we welcome you to join us at the dinner; dinner-only sign-up is



Lee Godshalk
South Korea, 1967 - 1969

available on the main registration page. (For non-campers who want to stay in the area, a variety of lodging is available both inside and outside the park, and it's a nice summer day trip too.) Please send a note to campout@seapax.org to let us know that you will be there, and how you can help out before and/or at the campout. We'll be having a Campout Planning Meeting on the evening of July 28 to work on the final logistics, details coming soon. Thanks! *Até já!*

Scott Ramos

In 2014 IRPCV Donated Funds to:

\$100 Botanical Gardens

\$190 Eastern Caribbean
Library Remodel
Volunteer Project

\$500 Boise Urban
Garden School (BUGS)

Donate to Idaho Returned Peace Corps Volunteers

Idaho Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Inc. is a nonprofit, 501(c)3, corporation registered in the State of Idaho. We are an all-volunteer organization and no wages or salaries are paid to any of our members or board. Our tax ID number is 20-3065582. Each year our organization makes at least one charitable donation. Our members make suggestions of organizations they would like to see receive the donation(s) and they are then voted on by the general membership. We try to choose organizations that exemplify Peace Corps idealism and its spirit of volunteerism.

Some of our past recipients include:

- Boise Valley Habitat for Humanity
- The Good Samaritan Home
- Interfaith Sanctuary Housing
- Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program
- Corpus Christi House
- Global Gardens
- Semilla Nueva
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Ada County

Liberty Day Parade



Downtown Boise

July 4, 2014



**Bon Voyage
& Welcome
Home
Potluck**



**Idaho
Botanical
Gardens**

May 16, 2014



IRPCV NEWS

2015 International Calendar On Sale

For the last 25 years, the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers in Madison, Wisconsin have been producing the International Calendar. It features countries where Volunteers have served. Net proceeds from International Calendar sales - more than \$1 million since 1988 - have been donated to community projects around the world.

This year's calendar pays a warm and deserving tribute to Nelson Mandela who, during his 27 years in prison, was sustained by his belief in the goodness of the human spirit. We hope our labor of love, the International Calendar,

will help your group spread peace and justice throughout the world. The International Calendar is prized for its quality and provides an excellent tool for promoting Peace Corps' Third Goal: To bring aspects of our countries of service home to Americans. To learn more about the calendar visit:

www.rpcvcalendar.org/

To purchase a calendar, attend an IRPCV meeting or contact Chloe, 208.789.7547, or email her at irpcvpresident@gmail.com



Dear IRPCVer's,

Last October I attended the 50-year reunion of our group from the Philippines, 1963-65. What a rewarding event! Physically changed, yes, but in spirit just as I knew them. An abiding faith that the world can be a better place and we are therefore obligated to do our part. Maybe we did "save the world." After all, we're still here, aren't we? If you get a chance to reconnect with your group...DO IT. Thanks for your effort to keep us in touch.

John Adkins

Shoshone, ID



Calendar Price:

\$12.00 each, 3 for \$33.00
or 6 for \$60.00 (sales tax included,
mailed postage is extra)



IRPCV NEWS

You Shop and Amazon Gives: IRPCV Partners with AmazonSmile



AmazonSmile is a program where Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Just select Idaho Returned Peace Corps Volunteers Inc and shop! Visit: AmazonSmile at <http://smile.amazon.com>



Past President Challenge Results

Thank you to Jennifer Rogers and the generous folks who donated to the Past President Challenge! We raised \$200 (\$100 from Jennifer and \$100 from IRPCV members). The funds will be used for administrative costs, IRPCV projects and organization donations.

SERVE ON THE IRPCV EXECUTIVE BOARD

Fall IRPCV board elections are coming up! If you are interested in holding a board position, please contact President Chloe Ross at 208-789-7547 or irpcvpresident@gmail.com

Dear IRPCV's,

"Gardens are not made by sitting in the shade." – Rudyard Kipling. Thank you for stepping into the sun with your contribution of \$500 to Boise Urban Garden School (BUGS). At BUGS, we provide kids (and adults) with knowledge through "real life" experiences. We know that a student that is able to dig in the soil, plant a seed, and watch it grow is excited to eat the fruits of their labor, and more likely to understand the science behind a sprouting seed or photosynthesis. Thank you for pledging your confidence in what we do! Sincerely,

Erin Guerricabeitia
Executive Director

Would you like a personal tour of BUGS? Contact Erin at erin@boiseurbangardenschool.org

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT NEEDS YOUR HELP

Junior Achievement of Idaho is looking for volunteers to mentor students in schools using Junior Achievement curriculum for one hour a week for five weeks. We have K-12 teachers at schools all over Boise, Meridian, Caldwell, Melba, Homedale and Nampa. Please help bring financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurial lessons to students. We will have a free training (I'll bring food and drinks) if we can get at least seven RPCVs to sign up.

We have the curriculum kits all ready. The mentor volunteer is trained on presenting and how to use the curriculum – presentation/discussion, hands on activity and summary.

Each lesson is 45-60 minutes once a week for 5-7 weeks. The teacher lets us know when he/she wants the mentor in the classroom. When we get a teacher request, we update our volunteer spot with each class. The mentors can select which class, date and time works for them. For more information, visit:

www.juniorachievement.org/web/ja-idaho/volunteer-now

Please help. Your time and efforts would be greatly appreciated. Thanks,

David Wallas

PC Tanzania 91-94
Program Manager for Secondary Education, Junior Achievement of Idaho
david@jaidaho.org
208-869-5393

PCV NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Peace Corps Removing Volunteers in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 30, 2014 – The Peace Corps today announced that it is temporarily removing its volunteers from Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea due to the increasing spread of the Ebola virus. The agency has been and will continue to closely monitor the outbreak of the virus in collaboration with leading experts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Department of State.

The Peace Corps has enjoyed long partnerships with the government and people of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea and is committed to continuing volunteers' work there. A determination on when volunteers can return will be made at a later date.

In recent months, the Peace Corps has provided volunteers in adjacent areas of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea with guidance to ensure they take the utmost precautions to protect their health. Transmission of Ebola virus requires direct contact with bodily fluids from a sick, infected individual, and individuals who are infected but not yet sick are not considered contagious. For more information on the Ebola virus, please visit www.cdc.gov.

There are currently 102 volunteers in Guinea working in the areas of education, agriculture and health; and 108 volunteers in Liberia and 130 volunteers in Sierra Leone working in education. All Peace Corps programs have emergency action plans specific to that country in place, and staff and volunteers are trained and prepared to respond in situations like this one.



Pick your posting: Peace Corps allowing its applicants to choose countries and programs

WASHINGTON (AP) – The Peace Corps launched a new online application Tuesday that allows applicants to choose the countries and programs where they want to serve and removes red tape that was dissuading people from completing the international service organization's application process.

Previously, applicants could only identify preferred countries, meaning they could be sent to a country of little interest to them. Being able to pick specific countries to serve in or programs in which they want to serve – such as education or health – will help align their service with personal and professional goals, Peace Corps Director Carrie Hessler-Radelet said in an

interview. Applicants can also search for programs by a country's language, making it easier for them to use any additional languages they might speak.

The updated online application will also reduce the time it takes to apply, from about eight hours to an estimated one hour, by removing repetitive information and only asking for the information needed by each specific program or country. Because of the length of the old application, more than 60 printed pages, many people who started the application never completed it – 30,000 people in the last nine months alone, according to the Peace Corps.

The updated application is the most recent result of the Peace Corps' effort modernize, which began in 2010. The update to the application is largely possible because of the Peace Corps new website, Hessler-Radelet said. To shorten the process, the new application only asks for one essay and is geared toward the specific country to which the person is applying. Some applications do not require transcripts or all information up front. The new application also gives applicants a definite date by when they will know if they were accepted into the Peace Corps, allowing them to better plan ahead.

Thanks to New and Renewing Members

Daniel Broockmann
Haiti 01-03

Jane Pierie
Liberia 84-86

Lila Cabrera
Paraguay 90-93

Chloe Ross
Malawi 10-12

John & Linda Hammond
India 66-68

Carolle Skov
Grenada 89-91

John Hooper
Niger 84-86

Kathleen Tilford
Burundi 82-85,
Cameroon 79-82,
Cote D'Ivoire 68-70

Jenny Kuykendoll
Slovakia 96-98

Kathryn Wolff
Nicaragua 04-06

Dennis Larsen
Costa Rica 77-79

Kevin Laughlin
Belize 79-81

Blakely Neff
Ukraine 11-14

Natalie Perry
Madagascar 08-09



Your membership dues are vital to the success of Idaho RPCVs. In addition to our many social and service activities this past year, IRPCV made three \$333 donations to support local nonprofit/charitable groups in Idaho.

The three 2013 grant recipients are: Corpus Christie House, providing day shelter and other services to our homeless community; Boys and Girls Club of Ada County Book Donation Project, serving approximately 900 children through a reading program; Semilla Nueva, a 501(c)3 organization to help farmers in Guatemala.

Join IRPCV Today!

Become a Member and Renew Now!

Your dues are essential to the continuing success of our organization. And what a bargain! For only \$15 a year, you get 12 months of Peace Corps advocacy, IRPCV activities, updates and information to help fulfill the 3rd goal of the Peace Corps - bring the world back home to Idaho.

IRPCV is run totally by volunteers. The regional Peace Corps Office in Seattle counts on IRPCV to help recruit new Volunteers throughout the state of Idaho. IRPCV expenses are very frugal: National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) annual membership dues, financial support for our NPCA Regional Representative, financial support for our leaders to attend regional meetings plus charitable donations.

Dues can be sent to our Treasurer, Trish McKernan (make your \$15 check payable to IRPCV and send to: 5349 N. North Glen Lane, Boise, ID 83714). If you have questions,

you may contact her at 208.853.1051. You can download a membership form from our website or pay your dues via Paypal on the site www.idahopeacecorps.com. Spouses and friends are welcome to join our organization as well. Any RPCV who has never been a member of IRPCV can join for one year free of charge!

We encourage you to consider joining the NPCA. NPCA makes it easy to maintain your Peace Corps connections and make new ones through their social networking, global events and affiliate member sites. Most importantly, NPCA is the #1 advocate for the Peace Corps on Capitol Hill. If you are currently serving or you have recently returned from service, you can join NPCA at no charge.

After one year, NPCA dues are \$35 per year and can be paid online. You can join IRPCV and/or other affiliate regional, country and special interest RPCV groups via the NPCA website www.peacecorpsconnect.org. NPCA will forward the \$15 IRPCV dues to us and send you a reminder when they are due again.

Join us today!

IRPCV 2014-2015 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President / Coordinator

Chloe Ross
208.789.7547
irpcvpresident@gmail.com

Advocacy Chair / Vice President

Diana Gardner
208.602.1586
dianalea024@yahoo.com

Secretary

Kathryn Wolff
ke_lloyd@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Trish McKernan
208.853.105
twopats@mac.com

Service Chair

Aaron Hueth
Kazakhstan 07-09
208.340.9391
cincygriffey@aol.com

Education Chair

Connie Collins
Ukraine 03-05
208.412.2135
connie1940@gmail.com

Membership Chair

Pat Hughes
Thailand 71-74
208.853.1051
twopats@mac.com

Newsletter Editor

Kristi Haman
Bulgaria 98-00
208.830.2737
brumleybooks@me.com

Past President

Jennifer Rogers
Bolivia 98-01
208.484.7511
jen30rog@gmail.com

Website Editor

Matt Anders
smse.trout@gmail.com



Gabriel Reilly
Honduras, 1998 - 2000

Our Peace Corps Representatives

Erin Erickson

Moldova 07-10
Seattle Office (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA)
206.239.6624
855.855.1961
eerickson2@peacecorps.gov

Jack Hawley

Zambia 10-13
West Coast Region
855.855.1961
jhawley@peacecorps.gov

Peace Corps Seattle Recruitment Office

1601 5th Ave, Suite 605
Seattle, WA 98101



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VOLUNTEERS**

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