



CAPCA Newsletter

may/june 2003
vol. viii
no. 3

A Publication of the Chicago Area Peace Corps Association

CAPCA Nominates Stephanie Arnold for NPCA Board of Directors

Watch for your mail-in ballot —Voting for Contested Election to begin soon!

At its April 3rd meeting, the CAPCA Board **nominated** current CAPCA President **Stephanie Arnold** as a candidate for the one-year **Great Lakes Regional Representative** seat on the National Peace Corps Association (**NPCA**) **Board of Directors**. All dues-paying NPCA members and newly-returned RPCVs will be receiving (or have already received) an NPCA ballot in early May. The CAPCA Board strongly encourages all NPCA members to vote for 3 reasons:

- 1) Strong voter response from our region will demonstrate our substantial interest in and concern regarding actions that the NPCA undertakes in all of our names.
- 2) The Board strongly believe that Stephanie Arnold is the right candidate to serve the Great Lakes Region, the broader RPCV community, and Peace Corps in this role.
- 3) Particularly in this year leading up to the 2004 NPCA Conference, which our Chicago group will host, we feel very strongly that having a direct liaison from Chicago on the NPCA board will facilitate CAPCA's interaction with NPCA and contribute significantly to the conference's success.

Q. What comprises the NPCA Great Lakes Region?

A. The NPCA Great Lakes Region covers Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. All RPCVs residing in one of these states and who are current NPCA members are included and are eligible to cast ballots in this election. There are five NPCA affiliate (RPCV) groups including: Madison, Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Southeastern Michigan, Western Michigan and CAPCA. The CAPCA Board is increasingly committed to building bridges among all of these groups and believes, therefore, that any representative elected will need to serve all these areas and help support the effort to build such bridges. Stephanie has already begun to foster strong relations with some of these groups in her role as CAPCA President and is committed to furthering this collaboration should she be elected.

Q. Why did the Board nominate Stephanie?

A. After completing three years of Peace Corps service as a volunteer and trainer in Ghana (1993-1996), Stephanie moved to Chicago and became an active member of CAPCA. During the past five years, Stephanie has been a key member of CAPCA's leadership - serving as Treasurer and Membership Database Manager (1998-2001) and most recently as CAPCA President (2001-present). Her experience, enthusiasm and collaborative spirit will make her an outstanding representative for all five NPCA affiliate groups in the Great Lakes Region. Her education, professional background and on-going service activities at home and abroad will also enable her to contribute meaningfully to the efforts of the NPCA.

Furthermore, in this critical year leading up to the 2004 NPCA Conference, which CAPCA will host, it is especially important that Chicago have a direct liaison on the NPCA Board. Stephanie has been involved in CAPCA's conference planning efforts from day one and is committed to its success.

Continued on page 2.

CAPCA Nominates Stephanie Arnold for NPCA Board of Directors

Continued from page 1.

Q. Tell me more about Stephanie's background and qualifications.

A. Stephanie was born and raised in Galesburg, Illinois. She attended Grinnell College in Iowa and graduated in 1993 with a major in International Relations. A month after graduation, she left for Ghana to serve as a Health Education/Water and Sanitation volunteer. She and the community of Kpando-Abanu completed a number of successful development projects during her three years in the community. While a volunteer, she was invited to be a trainer at all in-service and pre-service training sessions. In 1997 she moved to Chicago and worked at Arthur Andersen LLP, where she was a manager, until 2002. For the past year, she has been Assistant Vice President in the Global Derivative Products group at Bank One, NA. While working full-time, Stephanie earned her MBA at the University of Chicago with concentrations in Finance, Economics and International Business. In addition to her CAPCA involvement, she is on the board of the Rotary Club of Chicago-Rogers Park, team leader for Habitat for Humanity's Global Village Program and a member of the Accra-Chicago Sister Cities Committee.

Q. So how do I vote?

A. In early May all NPCA members will receive a ballot. There is one other candidate (from Southeast Michigan RPCVs) running for the Great Lakes Region Representative position. After casting your vote, return the ballot via standard U.S. Mail by the date identified (we understand this deadline will be around June 15th).

Chicago's Palmer House Selected as 2004 Conference Venue

The NPCA 2004 Conference Planning Committee continues to move forward with planning efforts. CAPCA will serve as the host of the bi-annual conference scheduled from August 5 to 8, 2004. The first two objectives of the planning efforts have been accomplished --a meeting planner has been hired, and a venue has been selected.

Conference Venue: At the April meeting, the conference planning committee unanimously agreed to hold the conference at the Palmer House Hilton. Historic and centrally located, the Palmer House will be the site of most indoor conference events including plenary sessions, workshops, exhibit hall, Founder's Day dinner and receptions. Conference attendees will be given a significantly discounted room rate of \$135 per night. For those seeking cheaper sleeping options, the nearly new J. Ira & Nicki Harris Youth Hostel, 24 E. Congress Parkway, is just five blocks away and costs \$31 per night.

Meeting Planner: The planning committee selected a meeting planning firm that will play a critical role in the overall planning and management of the conference. The Burnison Group has been retained to assist with the planning efforts. Principal, Judi Burnison, has already added significant expertise and professionalism to the planning efforts.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the 2004 Conference Planning Committee is Monday, May 19, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. at the Palmer House Hilton, 17 E. Monroe, Room Clark 1 on the 7th floor.

Get Involved: Volunteers are greatly needed to ensure a successful conference. New volunteers and ideas are always welcome. To get involved or for more information, contact NPCA 2004 Conference Planning Committee Chair, Trina Janes, at 312/645-9400 ext. 35 or via e-mail at chicago2004@rpcv.org.

Did you know that Peace Corps periodically sends a free newsletter and other interesting information to RPCVs?

If you haven't received something from Peace Corps recently, your contact information may be out of date!

It's easy to update your information. Simply visit www.peacecorps.gov/rpcv/records today!

Upcoming Events

May Dinner at Olive Mountain

Thursday, May 15, 2003 at 6:30 p.m.

Support the 3rd goal of Peace Corps by dining with our Middle Eastern brothers and sisters! When coalition troops waged war on the land of Afghanistan, CAPCA members responded with person to person diplomacy by dining at Kabul House in Skokie. Now that the theater of war has moved to the Middle East, it is time to reach out again. On Thursday, May 15 at 6:30 p.m., CAPCA will have its monthly dinner at The Olive Mountain restaurant. Located at 610 Davis Street in Evanston, just 2 blocks East of the Davis "E" stop. The Olive Mountain will be serving a 4 course meal with choice of entree for \$15 per person, including tax and tip. Vegetarian dishes abound and its BYOB. To RSVP, please contact Jeff Mattison at 847/866-7593 or e-mail him at jeffm@mc.net no later than Sunday May 11, 2003.

CAPCA Celebrates its 15th Annual Founder's Day!

Saturday, June 7, 2003

6:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

Maggiano's Little Italy

516 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL

Please join CAPCA as we celebrate our 15th Annual Founder's Day Dinner honoring President John F. Kennedy and Peace Corps Volunteers past, present and future!

Check the CAPCA website and the mail for more information. If you have questions or would like to get involved, please contact Christine Blair at 773/722-3169 or via e-mail at chrisblair@rocketmail.com.

Silent Auction and Raffle Items

CAPCA is still collecting items for this year's Founder's Day silent auction and raffle. Proceeds from the auction and raffle will support the Peace Corps Partnership Program. Handicrafts, gifts from your country of service, tickets to plays, museums and sporting events, gift certificates to restaurants and spas all make excellent donations. Or, consider donating your time and/or resources (e.g., legal work, tax preparation, weekend at your family's summer cottage, etc.). Be creative!

If you have items to donate or are willing to secure donations from area businesses, please contact Christine Blair at 773/722-3169 or via e-mail at chrisblair@rocketmail.com.

Announcements

Host an International Student

Bring the world home yet again! Center for Cultural Interchange (CCI), a not-for-profit student and adult exchange organization, founded in 1985, is looking for individuals and families to host university students interning in Chicago this summer. CCI's goals are to promote cultural understanding, academic development and world peace through international exchange. For more information, please contact Justine Aten at 773/262-2432 or via e-mail at timandjustine@netzero.net.

Want to keep up your Russian?

Put your PCV skills to use! The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) of Chicago is in need of volunteers to help Russian-speaking seniors prepare for their American citizenship exam.

You do not need to be fluent, but "chut-chut Roosky" helps! Meeting times and locations (city and suburbs) are flexible. HIAS Chicago provides the teaching materials and training (2 hours). All we ask for is a commitment of 1.5 hours per week. To learn more, please contact Suzie Budak (RPCV Ukraine 98-01) at 312/357-4966 or via e-mail at suzannebudak@jfcscchicago.org. "Spasibo!"

Volunteers Needed

In association with Chapungu Sculpture Park, Harare, Zimbabwe, two prominent botanical institutions—Chicago Botanic Garden and Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance—are joining forces to co-present Chapungu: Custom & Legend, A Culture in Stone, from May 31, 2003 to October 31, 2003. Volunteers are asked to commit to a minimum of two days per month and are required to attend a training in mid-May.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Chicago Botanic Garden location, please contact Mary Plunkett at 847/835-8210 or send her an e-mail at mplunkett@chicagobotanic.org.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Garfield Park Conservatory location, please contact Kirsten Akre at 773/638-1766 ext. 24 or via e-mail at kakre@garfieldpark.org.

CAPCA Board meeting minutes

February 13, 2003

Present: Arnold, Thomas, Janes, Malenfant, Sharon, Erdman, Goode

1. *Minutes* (Erdman). Erdman presented the December and January minutes. The January minutes were amended to state that the October and November minutes had been approved via e-mail vote. Janes moved to approve the minutes as amended, Malenfant seconded and the motion passed.
2. *Treasurer's Report* (Malenfant). The final balance in the CAPCA account as of February 13, 2003 was \$8,306.93. Goode moved to accepted the treasurer's report as presented, Janes seconded, and the motion was approved.
3. *NPCA 2004 Conference update* (Janes). Janes and Arnold went to Providence to present the CAPCA proposal for the NPCA 2004 conference in Chicago to the NPCA board. The board approved Chicago as the venue, and also approved the theme recommended by the conference committee. Highlights: Emily O'Rourke will be the NPCA staff liaison to CAPCA; NPCA will provide some seed money for a planner; all contracts will be signed by NPCA; next Conference planning committee meeting will be March 10, 2003 at 6:30 p.m.
4. *Other NPCA news* (Arnold). Malenfant provided the annual treasurer's report, and Arnold will do the narrative annual report. Some names were discussed to propose for filling the NPCA board position vacated by former CAPCA president, Leslie Wilson.
5. *Founder's Day* (Arnold). Founder's Day will be held Saturday June 7, 2003 from 6:00 p.m to 11:00 p.m. The cost will be the same as two years ago when the event was last held at Maggiano's. Arnold and Christine Blair comprise the Founder's Day committee. Goode and Arnold are drafting a letter to invite Noel Kreicker to be speaker.
6. *Monthly dinners*. February dinner will be February 18, 2003 at Daley's. Sharon will organize the September dinner, which will be the election dinner.
7. *Board retreat*. The Board Retreat will be held at Janes' house on March 1, 2003.
8. *Recent activities*. Happy hours are being organized by Kevin Nicollette. The January dinner was held January 27 at Café Bolero. Annual camping retreat was held February 1, 2003 at Camp Vista.
9. *Old Business*. Goode moved that we invest \$1000 for 3 years at 1 % interest in the NPCA Micro-Enterprise project. Sharon seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
10. *New Business*. a.) Arnold recommended that Lara Weber, a recently returned RPCV currently working as a journalist, be added as a board member. Janes moved to accept Arnold's recommendation, Goode seconded and the motion passed unanimously. b.) Who is checking the guestbook? There was a question about a project in Georgia. Kara will check with Judy. c.) Newsletter deadline is February 21, 2003.
11. Next meeting will be the board retreat on March 1, and the next regular board meeting will be April 3, 2003 at Goode's office.
12. Malenfant moved to adjourn the meeting, Sharon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Subscribing to the CAPCA Listserv Just Got Easier!

- 1.) Visit CAPCA's website at www.capca.org.
- 2.) Enter your e-mail address in the listserv box.
- 3.) Select "subscribe."

The listserv will keep you up-to-date on activities and topics of interest to local RPCVs.



Chicago Area Peace Corps Association

Board of Directors, 2002-2004



Stephanie C. Arnold ('04)
Ghana 93-96

President

msarnold@gsb.uchicago.edu

312/732-8478 (work)

773/262-9440 (home)

Marie Erdman ('04)

Zimbabwe 93-95

Secretary

marieerdman@hotmail.com

773/878-9113 (home)

Wallace Goode ('03)

Central African Republic 80-81 &

Solomon Islands 84 -86

Vice President

wgooderpcv@aol.com

773/624-0560 (home)

Melissa Hall

(Ex-Officio/Non-Voting)

Paraguay 94-96

Newsletter Editor

2004 NPCA Conference

Development Chair

capcanews@yahoo.com or

mlhall_70@yahoo.com

773/383-9157 (home)

Trina Janes ('03)

Morocco 91-93

2004 NPCA Conference Chair

cjanes1999@kellogg.nwu.edu

312/645-9400 ext. 35 (work)

Stephen Maduli-Williams ('03)

Zimbabwe

Membership Development

Coordinator

swilliams@chiventures.org

773/761-2135 (home)

Kara Malenfant ('04)

Armenia 92-94

Treasurer & Database Manager

kmalenfant@illinoisalumni.org

773/561-0310 (home)

Judy Ossello

(Ex-Officio/Non-Voting)

Web Site Team

Jordan

jossello@hotmail.com or

jossello@depaul.edu

773/325-7470 (work)

David G. Pope ('03)

Thailand 90-92

Global Education and Third Goal

Activities Chair

david_pope@att.net

708/660-1156 (home)

Elizabeth (Liz) Thomas

(Ex-Officio/Non-Voting)

Yemen and Morocco

Liaison to Regional Peace Corps

Recruiting Office

ethomas@peacecorps.gov

708/445-1946 (home)

Juliann Wilson Salinas

(Ex-Officio/Non-Voting)

Paraguay 94-96

Web Site Team

juliannws@hotmail.com

847/394-0375 (home)

Rachael Sharon ('04)

Russia Far East 95-97

rachaelasharon@hotmail.com

773/769-2279 (home)

Chuck Sheftel ('03)

India 69-72

2004 NPCA Conference Vice Chair

and Grants Co-Coordinator

shef3886@aol.com

847/831-3886 (home)

Jeri Titus

(Ex-Officio/Non-Voting)

Morocco 92-94

Liaison to Regional Peace Corps

Recruiting Office

jtitus@peacecorps.gov

312/353-4990 (work)

Elizabeth (Beth) Versten ('04)

Senegal 89-91

Grants Co-Coordinator

bethv@xsite.net

773/274-1191 (home)

Lara Weber ('04)*

Zambia 00-02

lweber@tribune.com

312/222-3440 (work)

773/525-2320 (home)

Leslie F. Wilson

(Ex-Officio/Voting)

Thailand 90-92

Peace Corps Staff, Moldova, 95-97

Immediate Past President

lfwilson@hotmail.com

**one-year presidential appointees*

CAPCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Want to become a member? Membership about to expire? Please send in your dues today. Make checks payable to CAPCA. Send your dues and this form to Kara Malenfant, c/o CAPCA, PO Box 1149, Chicago, IL 60690 or go to www.rpcv.org and join CAPCA and NPCA electronically.

Check one: RENEWAL NEW MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGE

Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Home phone: _____

Work phone: _____

Country/Year(s) of Service: _____

Job assignment: _____

Current position: _____

Current employer: _____

Membership Options

- \$15 CAPCA annual dues
- \$50 Joint CAPCA & NPCA dues
- \$65 Family CAPCA & NPCA dues
(2 members, one address)
- One year free for newly returned RPCVs
- \$500 Lifetime CAPCA membership
- \$_____ Unrestricted contribution
- \$_____ Restricted contribution
- Interested in giving talks about Peace Corps
- Would NOT like my name in the CAPCA directory

CAPCA Membership
c/o Kara Malenfant
PO Box 1149
Chicago, IL 60690

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED