



CAPCA Newsletter

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A Publication of the Chicago Area Peace Corps Association

NPCA's Chicago Conference 3 Months Away

Hardball Anchor Chris Matthews;

Peter Yarrow of Peter, Paul & Mary to Speak

Just three months remain before nearly 2,000 RPCV from throughout the country descend on the Palmer House Hilton for the 2004 NPCA conference, August 5th to 8th.

Top Notch Speaker List

The conference's impressive list of speakers continues to grow. We recently received confirmation that the following individuals will be participating in the exciting opening and closing ceremonies complete with African dancers, Latin musicians, Indian performers, and Romanian dancers:

- Afghanistan Vice President Hedayat Amin-Arsala,
- Former Thailand Foreign Minister Surin Pitsuwan,
- MSNBC Hardball anchor Chris Matthews (Swaziland 69-71),
- Peter Yarrow of Peter, Paul & Mary,
- Ohio Governor Bob Taft (Tanzania 63-65), and
- Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle and First Lady Jessica Doyle (both Tunisia 67-69).

Dozens of Stimulating Workshops

Dozens of exciting conference workshops will be held that will cover topics from world events to careers to affiliate group enhancement. There will be a day-long business symposium focusing on how to market products made in developing countries and a day-long workshop for teachers on global education and how to bring internationality into the classroom. The subjects of other workshops and panel discussions scheduled to date include:

- Afghanistan and Iraq,
- RPCVs Role in Peace,
- Understanding Islam,
- How to Get into the Foreign Service,
- Socially Responsible Investing, and
- Stress Management.

There is a call for films by RPCVs of their country of service experiences, to be shown as part of the 2004 NPCA conference. This is an opportunity for you to present your film to a national audience, to participate in an intimate question-and-answer session, and to network with other RPCV filmmakers. Contact Helen Haugnes at 630-355-3916 or snes@anet.com if you are interested in screening your film.

Country of Service Events

A highlight of the conference will be the multitude of country of service reunions. Join your fellow country RPCVs for reunions, dinners, country updates, the Sunday flag march, and more. Details of the activities being planned by the "Friends of" your country of service are at www.rpcv2004.org.

So have you registered yet? If not, visit www.rpcv2004.org today.

Wanna see who else is registered? Sort by name and by country at www.rpcv2004.org.

Companies are needed at the Career Fair and International Marketplace. Go to www.rpcv2004.org

Job Opening for Youth Services Representative

Jennifer Freeman (Ghana 00-02) is leaving this great position with Jobs for Youth, a non-profit organization that works with low-income, 17-to-24 year old youth. Youth Services Representatives (YSRs) are partnered with instructors to conduct Work Readiness and Life Skills Workshops. They assist youth during the workshops in developing and implementing individual employment and education plans. The position requires a bachelor's degree and at least one year of social service experience working with economically disadvantaged youth, or the equivalent combination of education and experience. For more information, call or write to Kerry Ito, Director of Career Development, at 312-499-2935 or kito@jfyChicago.org. Send resumes to Kerry at Jobs for Youth, 50 E. Washington St., 4th Floor, Chicago, 60602.

Supervisor Needed at Rotary International

The successful candidate will manage the direct coordination of humanitarian grants and support the department manager in the day-to-day administrative responsibility of humanitarian grants in an appointed geographic region.

A BA or BS is required; an MA or MS in public health or non-profit administration would be helpful. In addition, the successful candidate will have superior written and verbal communication skills, excellent analytical skills, and strong interpersonal skills. Send your resume and salary history to rjobs@cswebmail.com.

Volunteers Needed for NPCA Conference

We are still looking for many hands, brains, and bodies to pull off this exciting conference. Volunteers are needed now for pre-conference planning, and many volunteers will be needed during the conference August 5th to 8th.

Contact our Volunteer Chair Brian DeFilippo at volunteer2004@rpcv.org to sign up to help out. Contact Conference Chair Trina Janes at chicago2004@rpcv.org, or call 312-645-9400 x35, if there are other ways you would like to help out,

2004 Conference: Celebrating a Legacy of Service

If you are part of a legacy, share your story by participating in the 2004 NPCA conference's Legacy Poster Board Contest. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

- the most individuals involved in a legacy,
- the most countries involved in a legacy,
- the most unlikely story, and
- the most touching story.

Posters should include the names and pictures of the RPCVs, the countries, and the years of service along with a description of the legacy. Posters should be half the size of a standard poster board.

All posters must be submitted by July 1 to Dina Zaccaria, 7238 Washington St., Forest Park, 60130. Contact Dina at rpcvdina@yahoo.com or Sarah Strong at sarastrong@hotmail.com if you have any questions.

Founder's Day – August 7

The Founder's Day/Silent Auction Committee is gearing up for the big Founder's Day celebration on August 7. In order to make this event a tremendous success, we need your service in two ways:

- volunteer for the following assignments: table managers, cashiers, registration, greeters, bid sheet organizers/managers, runners, and creative designers or
- donate a COS item to the silent auction.

Contact Nancy Kramer at 312-553-3190 or nkramer@ccc.edu for more information.

Share Your Experience

Presenter for Cultural Kitchen's Peace and Culture Festival May 22

Hostelling International – Chicago's Cultural Kitchen Peace and Culture Festival, May 22, would really love to have an RPCV come and speak about his/her experiences abroad. The audience will be 8 to 18 year old students from Chicago area schools. The presentation should use lots of visuals, like with PowerPoint, and have items that the youth can touch, hear, and/or look at. It would be wonderful, too, if the RPCV could teach the students a game or song from his/her country of service.

The presentation must be 45 minutes long and will be delivered three times between 10:30am and 1:15pm. The Peace and Culture Festival is a fun way for youth to unite and celebrate learning, cultural understanding, and a more peaceful planet through hostelling. If you are interested in speaking, contact Megan Johnson, Cultural Kitchen Coordinator, at 312-583-2221 or culturalkitchen@hichicago.org.

RPCV Interview for Communications Class Assignment

Mike Koffarnus, a junior at Purdue University, is seeking to interview a RPCV about his/her Peace Corps experience as part of Principles and Practices of Interviewing, a communications course he is currently taking. He has been fascinated by the stories he has read about Peace Corps and would love to speak with one of us who has had this experience.

Mike is in West Lafayette, of course, and is willing to travel as far as Chicago or Indianapolis to get the face-to-face interview. If you would like to share your Peace Corps stories with Mike, contact him at mkoffarn@purdue.edu.

Committee Members for RPCV Passport Project

RPCV Passport is organizing a community project to educate youth about cultural understanding and our Peace Corps experiences. We have a program that will connect RPCVs to the community and expose youth to a variety of global issues in a fun and participatory atmosphere. We are looking for RPCVs to serve on the committee, to be speakers, and to offer their talents in other creative ways. Watch for more information on the listserv or contact Brian DeFilippo at 847-650-1080 or bdefilippo@aol.com.

Speakers for Immersion Workshop on Latin American Issues

The firm that RPCV Monica Francois works for has been asked by a U.S.-based non-profit organization with a growing membership base in Latin American to identify experts and thought leaders to speak at an immersion workshop for the organization's board of directors June 2 and 3 in Costa Rica.

Monica would like to reach out to some new, forward-thinking visionaries and leaders in the region. She is looking for individuals who can represent experience-based perspectives from senior roles in think tanks, industry, management consulting, NGOs, academia, and government. Monica is asking for your help in making introductions that may lead to securing some world-class speakers for this workshop. If you have specific colleagues or contacts who might be interested in this all-expenses-paid opportunity, contact Monica at Language & Culture Worldwide, Inc., 773-755-5869 or Mfrancois@LanguageAndCulture.com.

CAPCA Nominates Stephanie Arnold for Re-election to NPCA Board of Directors

At its April 5th meeting, the CAPCA board nominated our association's Immediate Past President Stephanie Arnold (Ghana 93-96) to be a candidate for re-election as the Great Lakes Regional Representative to the NPCA Board of Directors. The board believes that Stephanie's experience, enthusiasm, and collaborative spirit make her an outstanding representative for all six NPCA affiliate groups in the Great Lakes Region. Her education, professional background, and on-going service activities at home and abroad enable her to continue to contribute meaningfully to the efforts of the NPCA.

Stephanie was first elected to the NPCA board last year to complete the final year of a vacated three-year term. She has been a dedicated member of our Board of Directors since 1998. She served as CAPCA's President from 2001 to 2003 and as Treasurer and Membership Database Manager from 1998 to 2001. Over the past year, she has served on the board as Immediate Past President and as the Great Lakes Regional Representative. She has also been active in the 2004 NPCA conference planning effort.

Stephanie is truly passionate about the RPCV community, the unique experience we have shared, and the ways we can continue to effect positive change in our communities.

Originally from Galesburg, Stephanie received her degree in international relations from Grinnell College *and* her invitation to serve in the Peace Corps in Ghana on the same day. She served in Kpando-Abanu in the Volta Region as a health education/water and sanitation volunteer. During her three years of service, Kpando-Abanu undertook innovative development projects that attracted the attention of Ghana's president.

In 1997, Stephanie moved to Chicago and worked for Arthur Andersen LLP. Since 2002, she has been Assistant Vice President in the Global Derivative Products Group at Bank One. 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 involvement with CAPCA and NPCA, she is President-Elect 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.

NPCA's Great Lakes Region covers Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. There are six NPCA affiliate groups in the region: Milwaukee; Madison, Wisconsin; Southeastern Michigan; Western Michigan, Northeastern Illinois; and CAPCA. Stephanie has begun to foster strong relationships with the groups in this region and is committed to furthering this collaboration should she be re-elected.

Voting to begin soon! Watch for your mail-in ballot.

All dues-paying NPCA members and new RPCVs will receive a ballot in the mail around May 15. The CAPCA board encourages everyone to vote.

Strong voter response from our region will demonstrate our substantial interest in and concern regarding actions that the NPCA undertakes in our names.

The board strongly believes that Stephanie Arnold is the right candidate to continue to serve the Great Lakes Region, the broader RPCV community, and Peace Corps. She is now up and running in her role, and she needs another term to be able to contribute fully and have a meaningful impact.

As CAPCA enters the final stages of preparations for the NPCA conference, we need continued strong national board representation. It is in our interest to have representation following the conference when its success is evaluated and proceeds are shared and utilized.

Regional Office to Recruit Heavily in Suburbs this Summer

Plans are being made by the Chicago Peace Corps Regional Office to conduct the most intensive Chicago-area recruitment ever this summer. Staff are building a database of all area churches, health clubs, libraries, social service agencies, service clubs, and senior centers to use to publicize an intense schedule of general information meetings at suburban community colleges from mid-June through July. The database will be used to communicate with people throughout the area, asking them to post flyers on their bulletin boards and include announcements of Peace Corps events in their newsletters.

If you have any guidance or contacts you think would be useful to the regional office's recruiters, please contact them. "They are far more savvy in doing university-based recruitment and have very limited knowledge of the 'burbs," says Scot Roskelley, the office's public affairs specialist. Creating the database alone will be very labor intensive. For example, the staff have ordered 53 area telephone directories to build the foundation of their database.

Information sessions will be conducted this summer at eight community colleges as well as two universities in the city. If you have tips on how to best reach individuals in your community, contact the recruiter below who is organizing the session nearest you.

- College of Lake County – Sophia O'Donnell (sodonnell@peacecorps.gov),
- College of DuPage – Mark Kittrell (mkittrell2@peacecorps.gov),
- Harper College – Courtney Cunningham (ccunningham@peacecorps.gov),
- McHenry County College – Greg Renda (grenda@peacecorps.gov),
- Moraine Valley Community College – Jamie Diatta (jdiatta@peacecorps.gov),
- Northeastern Illinois University – Jeri Titus (jtitus@peacecorps.gov),
- Oakton Community College – Emily Olsen (eolsen@peacecorps.gov),
- Triton College – Liz Thomas (ethomas@peacecorps.gov),
- University of Illinois Chicago – Avani Patel (apatel@peacecorps.gov),
- Waubensee Community College – Michael Dane (mdane@peacecorps.gov),

The Chicago Ballet Gives Gala Performance May 7

The International Visitors Center of Chicago is proud to announce A Private Gala Performance of The Chicago Ballet Friday, May 7, at the Ruth Page Dance Theater, 1016 N. Dearborn Ave., Chicago. The champagne reception begins at 7 p.m.; tickets are \$55. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Visitors Center. To reserve a seat, contact Angie Pilgrim at 312-254-1800 x102 or apilgrim@ivcc.org.

Check, Please

Patty Floch Bruzek is putting together Sierra Leone's Friday night country of service dinner meeting at the NPCA conference. She is looking for restaurant suggestions from us locals. Contact her at bruzek@aol.com or 630-916-0218.

Only Fiji Experts Need Apply

Eric Knepper (Fiji 94-97) is looking for a speaker for the Friends of Fiji group at the NPCA conference's Saturday country update session. If you are up on Fiji news, politics, and issues, contact Eric at etk@knepperonline.com

Join the Listserv!

Get all the latest CAPCA news and happenings by email. To subscribe, go to www.capca.org or send an email to capca-announce-subscribe@egroups.com

CAPCA Board Minutes December 7, 2003

Members Present: Wallace Goode, Trina Janes, Lee Losey, Kori Scurlock, Stephanie Arnold, Eva Lord, Jeri Titus, Kara Malefant, Marie Eardman, Christine Blair, Beth Versten.

- **Welcome.**
- **Secretary's Minutes:** No minutes to approve from November meeting.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Unanimously approved.
- **Committee Reports:**

NPCA Conference - August 5-8, 2004 (Trina Janes-Chair):

Official conference website: www.rpcv2004.org.

Online registration will be available soon.

Over 40 proposals received for workshops.

Need a Chairperson for Fundraising Committee.

Upcoming planning meeting: Monday, December 15; 6:30p.m. at the Palmer House.

Community Service (Lee Losey-Chair):

Save the date: February 28, 2004; 8:30a.m. -1:00p.m. with pizza party at Lee's house afterwards.

Community service project painting houses/window weatherization for elderly on south side.

1 community activity will be planned each quarter.

Communications (Carole Wilkerson-Chair):

Many submissions for newsletter received.

Submissions for January newsletter due by December 22, 2003 to Melissa Hall.

CAPCA website updated.

Grants (Chuck Sheftel/Beth Versten-Co-Chairs):

Update on funded project computer project in Romania; received thank you notes from students in Romania for the computer lab.

Membership Development (Cherie Lockett/Kori Scurlock-Co-Chairs):

Suggested to recruit more members at December potluck.

Suggestions for increasing membership: membership drive, create contact form (post card) to give to RPCVs to fill out, develop CAPCA directory, create benefits for being a CAPCA member: i.e. networking events, CAPCA directory.

Social/Networking (No Chair):

Committee chair needed.

Third Goal/Global Education (No Chair):

Committee chair needed.

- **Upcoming events:**
Wednesday, December 10th, 6:30p.m. - December Holiday Potluck at Corinthian Yacht Club.
Monday, December 15th, 6:30p.m. – NPCA Conference Planning Meeting at Palmer House.
- **Old business:**
Calendar Sales: will be sold at Dec 10 potluck at \$10 each.
- **Next board meeting:**
Monday, January 5 at 6:00p.m.
Future meeting dates: Feb. 2, March 1, April 5, May 3, and June 7.
- **Meeting adjourned.**

January and February Board Minutes Coming in the Next Newsletter

Chicago Area Peace Corps Association

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**One-year presidential appointees
(term expires at board election
time: September of the year
indicated).*



Chicago Area Peace Corps Association
P.O. Box 1149
Chicago, IL 60690

Got a job? Need a job? Need volunteers? Recently returned?
Wanna tell your story to folks who really are interested?
Come, then, to our monthly meeting at

**Mama Desta's Ethiopian Restaurant,
3218 North Clark Street,
6 p.m. Wednesday, May 26th.**

For our May meeting, we will return to one of CAPCA's favorite haunts. This will be an evening of communal eating. It will be unrushed and full of laughter, new taste treats, local libations, and great smells and sounds.

For the newcomer, Ethiopian food is presented family-style. On a large platter, covered by pancake-like bread, various meats and vegetables are placed. Using pieces of the bread (rather than forks and spoons), we all pick up pieces of meat and veggies from the platter. The flavors are truly wonderful. It is an authentic eating experience not to miss.

For those who have been here before, come back and experience again the ambiance of a small, intimate, non-gentrified eatery. Enjoy a cold, jumbo Mamba or Ethiopia's fantastic honey wine.

\$12.50 for CAPCA members
\$15.00 for non-members
(includes tax and tip)

RSVP to capcanews@yahoo.org, or call Wallace Goode if you have any questions.