



# Connecticut RPCV E-News

February 2013 Maureen Shanley, Chapter President, [MaureenShanley@hotmail.com](mailto:MaureenShanley@hotmail.com)

David Stoloff, eNewsletter editor, [stoloffd@easternct.edu](mailto:stoloffd@easternct.edu)

This issue is found at <http://www.ctrpcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/CTRPCV0213.pdf>

## In This Issue:

**Darien Book Aid – 2/16**

**From Jonathan Pearson**, the Peace Corps political advocate in Washington, [jonathan@peacecorpsconnect.org](mailto:jonathan@peacecorpsconnect.org)

National Day of Action – Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>

Peace Corps Around the Worlds – March 5<sup>th</sup>

CT Food Bank – April 20

Next Step Travel – Dominican Republic and Guatemala – Spring-Summer 2013

Peace Corps Connect: Boston 2013 – June 28 & 29, 2013

Peace Corps Hole in the Wall Gang Camp

## Upcoming Events:

### CTRPCV Calendar

Saturday, February 16	<b>Darien Book Aid</b>
Thursday, February 28	<b>National Day of Action</b>
Tuesday, March 5	<b>Peace Corps Around the World</b>
Saturday, April 20	<b>CT Food Bank, East Haven</b>
Spring-Summer 2013	<b>Next Step Travel – Dominican Republic and Guatemala</b>
Friday & Saturday, June 28-29, 2013	<b>Peace Corps Connect: Boston 2013</b>
Saturday, June 29, 2013	<b>Peace Corps Hole in the Wall Gang Camp Service Project</b>

## CT RPCVs Help Darien Book Aid Help PCVs



**February 16, 2013 Saturday... 9 – 1 PM**

Service Project –  
Saturday, June 29

### International Game

### Peace Corps Update

Have you paid your annual dues? You support helps us stay connected!

Click [here](#) to join or pay your membership fees!

Stay connected through our Peace Corps links - just click below!

### CT RPCV Website

Get updated news about events and our members!

### National Peace Corps Association

Stay connected to our national community and representation in Washington!

### Peace Corps Website

The Mother Ship – full of information for RPCVs from how to spread the word to finding great job opportunities!

### Peace Corps Encore!

Want to do it again? Encore! sends former Peace Corps Volunteers and staff members back into the field on short-term assignments (typically three weeks to

If you can help with the packing of books. PLEASE CONTACT MAUREEN so that she will know who is planning on attending this event.  
[MaureenShanley@hotmail.com or 203-775-9222]

A few years ago when we packed books at DBA, a PCV on his way to the airport to return to his PC post in Africa stopped by DBA to thank them for the books they had sent to him and to tell them the difference that these books were making in his village. His visit made us (CTRPCVs) realize that our few hours of packing boxes of books for PCVs *IS REALLY IMPORTANT.*

Perhaps some of you read books that were in the PC library in your country that DBA had sent.

Please give a few hours to return the favor and support a PCV who is now serving.

Darien Book Aid is a non-profit, all volunteer organization dedicated to fostering peace and friendship through the distribution of free books. Approximately 60% of DBA's shipments fulfill requests from current PC Volunteers. DBA needs volunteers to pack boxes, select books to ship, sort books and much more. As Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, you know how much of an impact educational materials can have on a community.

You can also Bring books – check their website <http://dba.darien.org>

#### Frequently Requested Books

\* Children's Books - for all ages - preschool to teen levels, fiction and non-fiction

\* Classics - and simplified classics

\* Dictionaries in English, picture dictionaries, Spanish/English and French/English dictionaries

\* Encyclopedias on CD ROM. Other information on CD ROM (PC format)

\* English readers and grammar

\* Crafts & how-to Books

\* Health, "Where There is No Doctor" type books

\* Science

\* Agriculture, vegetable gardening, beekeeping, animal husbandry

\* Ecology and environment

\* Books in Spanish or French for native speakers in all subjects

\* Paperback editions of recent novels (mysteries, fiction, etc.)

\* National Geographic - no more than 5 years old

three months) that match their professional expertise with specific social needs.

#### Contact Us

<http://www.ctrpcv.org>

[ctrpcv@gmail.com](mailto:ctrpcv@gmail.com)

#### Other links of interest :

#### Peace Corps Online

*The Independent News Forum serving Returned Peace Corps Volunteers*

#### PC Online Crossroads

*Links to every Peace Corp website you can think of!*

**Peace Corps Writers**  
*A site for returned Peace Corps volunteers to post their stories. Offers writing workshops, awards, publishing, and other resources; newsletter archives, etc.*

**Global TeachNet**  
*The objective of Global TeachNet is to promote students' knowledge of, understanding of and respect for the people, cultures and nations of the world. Global TeachNet is this country's premier resource for global education.*

#### \* Textbooks

Text books (not older than 10 years) with up-to-date content are accepted.

Darien Book Aid would love to hear for you. For more information about them, visit on the web at <http://dba.darien.org>. If you're interested in volunteering individually, you can call (203)655-2777 or email [darienbookaid@yahoo.com](mailto:darienbookaid@yahoo.com).

#### Directions to Darien Book Aid Plan, Inc.

**Northbound:** Take I-95 to Exit 10. Take Noroton Avenue toward Long Island Sound. It T's at US Route 1 - the Boston Post Road.

Take a left and you will find Book Aid on the right, about 1/2 a block down at 1926 Post Road.

**The white wooden building looks like an old firehouse with a "bell" tower on top of the building.**

**Southbound:** Take Exit 11. Make left onto US Rt. 1 for about 1+ mile. DBA is on left just after the 5<sup>th</sup> light.

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#### Preparing for the National Day of Action – Feb. 28, 2013

from **Jonathan Pearson**, the Peace Corps political advocate in Washington, [jonathan@peacecorpsconnect.org](mailto:jonathan@peacecorpsconnect.org)

“For the 9th consecutive year, the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) is organizing a National Day of Action to correspond with Peace Corps week.

- **Thursday, February 28th** is the date for this year's Day of Action.
- **Everyone can participate**, whether making an important phone call or playing a more active role.

With just over six weeks to go, here is our first Day of Action update.

**The deadline for registering for the Capitol Hill component of our Day of Action is Friday, February 22nd.** Please register as soon as possible by contacting [jonathan@peacecorpsconnect.org](mailto:jonathan@peacecorpsconnect.org).

We realize not everyone can make it to Washington on February 28th, but we hope you will set aside a few minutes on

that day to write or call your lawmakers.

**In the meantime**, we are collecting your comments on why the Peace Corps still matters to our country, and how your Peace Corps experience benefits the city or state where you currently live.

Please take a few minutes to [offer your comments](#).

<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07e6qxeiuyhaec7pfa/a01fhhc9buaty/questions>

We are collecting your comments and organizing them by state, so they can be included in the packets we will leave with lawmakers during the Day of Action.”



**Peace Corps Around the World**

Email from Anthony Trujillo - [atrujillo2@peacecorps.gov](mailto:atrujillo2@peacecorps.gov)

Dear CT RPCVs,

**Thanks to those of you who signed up for the "Around the World with Peace Corps" event at the Hartford Public Library on March 5th!** This is going to be a fantastic evening of sharing your experiences with the greater Hartford community and also connecting with each other. With the event just about three weeks away, there are now 16 RPCVs signed up to participate representing a whole range of countries, sectors and years of service. There is still room for a few more. Next week, I'll send out a list of everyone who has signed up with some more info about table arrangements.

While there will be a recruitment aspect to this event, my hope is that through this event, your stories will inspire people of all ages, life situations and backgrounds to build bridges between cultures and countries whether they are able to serve at this point in their lives or

not.

With this in mind, I'd like to ask for your help in getting the word out about this event and inviting the community to attend. This past week we sent out an announcement to all the prospective and current candidates in our network and over the next few weeks, I'll be working hard to get the word out about the event to all my campus and community contacts. But in order to really make this event a success, I'll need some help from you all and here are a few ways you can start:

1. This next week, think of the people, community groups, and companies/organizations that you're connected with: (friends, family, work, service organizations, youth organizations, schools etc). Take a few minutes to invite these people and groups to the event. You can submit announcements to newsletters and post this event on your Facebook page! Here is a link to the event details and registration on the Peace Corps website:

<http://www.peacecorps.gov/meet/events/2575/>

2. Please let me know about any free community event calendars, online or print, where this announcement can be posted. How do you find out about what's going on in the area?

3. If you have local media contacts, please let me know as well. I'm planning on having a press release sent out and it would be great if we had some media contacts who might be interested in picking this up.

4. Finally, as I mentioned, there is still room for more RPCV to host a table. Our RPCV database isn't 100% accurate so if you know of other RPCVs in the area who did not get the invitation, please pass it along. Here's the link once again to the RPCV sign up form:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dHVzN1RoMVFDcURvWlhjSTFtQnJXX1E6MQ>

Thank you for your help and suggestions! I'm looking forward to a great Peace Corps Week celebration with you all!

Sincerely,  
Anthony

**Discover the world at this special Peace Corps Event:  
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers will host tables and  
share stories from countries around the world.**

**Tues., March 5, 6:30 to 8:00pm, Downtown Hartford Public Library, Multipurpose Room**

**Find out how you can embark on the adventure of a lifetime with Peace Corps - visit [peacecorps.gov](http://peacecorps.gov) or call 800.424.8580**



## **CT Food Bank ...**

### **CTRPCV will sort food ... on April 20**

The Connecticut Food Bank annually distributes more than 15 million pounds of food to six of the state's eight counties. Donations come from the food industry, through community member and corporate contributions, and via government subsidies.

At the CT Food Bank donations are organized and sorted by products before they are distributed at the warehouses. Member programs send representatives to the warehouses to shop for food that is then distributed to those who need it most at local food pantries, soup kitchens and emergency shelters.

CTRPCV volunteers will inspect, sort and pack non-perishable food at CT Food Bank in East Haven on Saturday, April 20 from 9 AM to noon. Families welcome... it's a great service project for kids. We are limited to 15 people, so if you are interested please call Lois Fucci at 203-239-0169.

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## **Next Step Travel**

*National Peace Corps Association members love to travel and to travel with a purpose. And who better to travel with than Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and their friends and families?*

NPCA Next Step Travel program features small group travel (up to 20), hands-on service projects, educational programs and a close-up

view of the impact of volunteer service. Our all-inclusive trips are operated by Discover Corps, a program of Terra Education, an experienced leader in educational travel. Their CEO, Andrew Motiwalla, is also a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (Honduras 1996-98)! Tickets are available – purchase early using the registration forms below and make your plans.

- **Request More Information**
- **Phone: 1-619-202-4114      1-619-202-4114**
- **Email Us**
- **Registration Form** (*Fill out, print, and submit via mail, email, or fax*)

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### Upcoming Trips – Spaces Still Available!

**Dominican Republic – [click here to find out more](#)**

- February 16 – 25, 2013
- February 16 – March 1, 2013
- May 18 – 27, 2013
- May 18 – May 31, 2013

**Guatemala – [click here to find out more](#)**

- March 9 – 18, 2013
- March 9 – 22, 2013
- June 1 – 10, 2013
- June 1 – 14, 2013
- August 24 – September 2, 2013
- August 24 – September 6, 2013



**Hole in The Wall Gang Camp**

### **Volunteer Project... Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> in Ashford, CT**

On June 29th, CTRPCV's will participate in a volunteer day at The Hole In The Wall Gang Camp in Ashford, CT. Since 1988 the camp has served as a non-profit residential summer camp and year round center for children coping with cancer and other life-threatening diseases. All of the camp's services are free of charge. This unique camp, created by Paul Newman and his friends, provides a sense of normalcy for children who may have missed out on aspects of their childhood. We will be changing bed linens (about 150 beds) for the campers who will arrive the next day. This is truly a rewarding project and well worth our time and efforts.

Please plan to participate and bring your family (children should be 15,16 or older). If you are able to volunteer call or email Lois Fucci, 203-239-0169, [lafucci@comcast.net](mailto:lafucci@comcast.net).

WHEN: June 29th, Saturday

WHERE: Ashford, CT

TIME: 9:30 AM -12:00 (noon)

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### **Peace Corps Connect: Boston 2013**

#### **SAVE THE DATE – Event is June 28-29, 2013**

Join us for the National Peace Corps Association's second annual gathering — **Peace Corps Connect: Boston 2013**. We invite you all to Boston, Massachusetts on the weekend of June 28-29, 2013 for an event that will encourage you to continue “bringing the world back home” while visiting with friends and having fun.

This being for the Peace Corps community, key elements of this event will be highly interactive and incorporate career networking and knowledge-sharing. By bringing our collective experiences together can support each other and help to solve important development challenges.

Join the conversation on Facebook and Twitter using hashtag **#PCCBOS13**

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#### **Why Should You Attend?**



**Be a part of something bigger than yourself:** We all share a Peace Corps history. Now is the chance to connect in-person and combine our collective experiences to learn from each other and help all of us succeed. You'll make new friendships that might last a lifetime.

**Groups:** This is a great time to get together with people who served in the same country or live in the same region! Contact Emily Bello to learn more.

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### **Attending**

**Location:** The Joseph B. Martin Conference Center at Harvard Medical School, 77 Avenue Louis Pasteur Boston, MA 02115

**Registration:** We will announce registration prior to the event. There will be discounts for NPCA members, seniors and recently returned RPCVs as well as special Member Group deals. This is a good time to ensure that your membership is up-to-date. *Learn more*

**Schedule:** *Check back regularly as more details will be added.*

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### **Where to Stay / How to Get Around**

**Transportation:** Find out more about Boston transit here.

**Airport:** Book your airline tickets now! The closest airport is Boston's Logan Airport (BOS).

**Ground:** Most trains and buses connect in Boston's South Station.

**Accommodations:** NPCA is negotiating group rates at local hotels for event attendees. *Check back for updates.*

**Alternative Accommodations:** The National Peace Corps Association is partnering with [Tripping.com](http://Tripping.com) to bring you alternative, affordable accommodations during the Annual Gathering. It's easy! Go here to search the Boston Rentals that are available during the weekend's activities. *(All bookings made through this link via Tripping will help to support the National Peace Corps Association.)*

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## Sponsorship

**Become a Sponsor:** There are many ways that you or your organization can sponsor this event. *Learn more*

**Exhibit Hall Requests:** You may request a table at the Exhibit Hall. To request a table contact *Development*.

**Program Ads:** For more information on placing an Ad contact Development.



## Recommended places for unwinding

Introducing a new section for the CTRPCV e-newsletter where members share a special place for unwinding in the world. The location may be in Connecticut or anywhere away from home. Please send a short description (100 words) to the [e-newsletter editor](#) with the name of place, location, cost for the rental, amenities, local places of interest and restaurants, transportation, contact information, and other details.

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## An International Game

Visit the Peace Corps Challenge Online Game –  
<http://www.peacecorps.gov/kids/>

suggested by David Stoloff – [stolofffamily@yahoo.com](mailto:stolofffamily@yahoo.com)

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from



Peace Corps Update



From <http://www.peacecorps.gov/engage>

## Peace Corps Digital Library Share Your Photos for Peace Corps Week

The Peace Corps' Office of Communications wants your photos for Peace Corps Week! Current and returned volunteers can share service, celebrations and events now by uploading photos to the Digital Library. We encourage photos that correspond to the week's themes: Grow Your Peace Corps Family Tree; Inspire Global Learning; Share Culture from Around the Globe; Invite the World to Your Table; Foster Global Citizenship; Champion RPCVs as Global Professionals; and Act Locally, Influence Globally. Photos should be high resolution and include descriptions of the location, people, activity and the corresponding theme. Top photos will be shared on social media!



**Visit today!** - <http://collection.peacecorps.gov/>

To learn more about work in malaria prevention across Africa, please visit our [Stomping Out Malaria in Africa](#) website and the Facebook page.

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## RPCV Career Link Benefit from this brand-new service

Hotline, Peace Corps' semimonthly career bulletin which has provided RPCVs with job announcements, scholarships, and volunteer opportunities for over 40 years, has changed! On January 2, the Office of Third Goal and Returned Volunteer Services launched RPCV Career Link, a new interactive jobs board for RPCVs. This new platform combines the opportunity information of Hotline with the flexibility of the RPCVNetwork Listserv in one user-friendly platform. The interactive format is a giant leap forward and is sure to please RPCVs and employers alike. Be sure to take advantage of these improved capabilities by visiting the [RPCV Career Link webpage](#). Happy job searching!



## Peace Corps Response More Response Volunteers than ever hit the field

Nearly 50 Peace Corps Response Volunteers (PCRVs) departed for their assignments in January,



making it the greatest number ever of PCRVs to head into the field in a one-month period. As Peace Corps Response continues to grow, many new opportunities have been developed to help meet the needs of Peace Corps' host countries. Presently, Peace Corps Response is seeking food production educators in Guatemala and an ESL textbook and curriculum development specialist in Kyrgyz Republic, among many other openings. To apply for these positions or to explore additional open positions, visit [Peace Corps Response](#).

### **Peace Corps Partnership Program**

**Support Volunteers who use art to engage their communities**



Along with a spirit to help others, Volunteers bring imagination and creativity when working with their communities. In Botswana, one Volunteer is working with local artisans to expand and enhance the local art center. Once completed, more artisans will be able to use the facility and a wider range of products will be created for sale. In Georgia, a Volunteer is working with a local youth center to create an innovative arts program. Youth will learn skills in clothing design, stage craft, and fine arts and will be able to put these skills to use through youth center performances. Visit the [PCPP web pages](#) and search by keyword “art” to support these projects.

### **Paul D. Coverdell Fellows**

**New programs join the Fellows family**



The Paul D. Coverdell Fellows program has issued invitations to 19 new programs to participate in the network of graduate schools offering fellowships to RPCVs. The new programs will expand the network to 84 schools offering courses of study such as teaching, anthropology, and Spanish. For a full list of partners, including new programs in development, [visit here](#).

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**Send me your news and announcements for the next E-news! [MaureenShanley@hotmail.com](mailto:MaureenShanley@hotmail.com).**

**Have you paid your dues??? Do you have a new email address??? [Click here to join or pay your membership fees!](#)**