



Connecticut RPCV E-News

BEST SEEN by linking to <http://www.ctrpcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/CTRPCV0913.pdf>
September 2013 Maureen Shanley, Chapter President, MaureenShanley@hotmail.com
David Stoloff, eNewsletter editor, stoloffd@easternct.edu

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Best wishes for a return to complete health to Maureen Shanley

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International Game

Peace Corps Advocacy

Peace Corps Response

Have you paid your annual dues? Your support helps us stay

You are one of over 300 returned Peace Corps volunteers and/or friends of the Peace Corps who are receiving this e-newsletter. The Connecticut RPCV has about 75 dues paying members. If you are interested in participating in the following CTRPCV events, please also consider joining our group. Please click here to join and/or pay your annual membership fees!

Please also consider joining the Connecticut Returned Peace Corps Volunteers Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/37593849149/>.

Upcoming Events:

CTRPCV Calendar – more details below.

Saturday, September 7 9 am to noon	<i>Darien Book Aid</i>
Saturday, September 7 Noon to 3 pm	Fall CTRPCV Potluck Picnic at Sean Sullivan's in Darien
Friday, September 13 9:30 a.m. to noon	Commemorate 9/11, being organized by AmeriCorps and Urban Resources Initiative (URI) at Dover Beach Park, contact Anthony Trujillo at atrujillo2@peacecorps.gov for info
Saturday, October 19, 4:30 pm – board meeting, 6:30 pm – potluck.	CTRPCV Annual Meeting, CTRPCV Board Meeting 4:30 PM until 6:15 PM – All welcome to attend. Annual Potluck Dinner Meeting, 6:30 - on. Rockfall, CT. – near west of Middletown.

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!

[Letter from Congressman Joe Courtney supporting the Peace Corps](#)

[Peace Corps Website](#)

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

[Contact Us](#)

<http://www.ctrpcv.org>

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](#)

News about Maureen Shanley, CTRPCV President, from Patty Zelle, Maureen's sister, on Wednesday, August 21, 2013:

Hello All,

Maureen fell and shattered the femur just above my knee. The doctor said that the leg would be non-weight bearing until at least 11/1/13 and then the next phase of therapy will begin to retrain the muscles in the injured leg.

I was with Maureen for her staple removal last Thursday. It was very hard for her. I stayed and massaged her shoulders and helped her with breathing to relax, which she said helped a lot!

Needless, to say that wiped her out. For those of you who don't know, she had a blood transfusion the week before shortly after surgery and had to go back to the hospital via ambulette and then back to Bethel. It helped a lot. Prior to that she was fighting fever and weakness. The past several days have been moving forward.

Maureen says that the pain comes and goes... but every day is better than the day before. Her day is busy with: 4-6 hours using a CPM machine that moves her leg to keep the knee lubricated, a daily occupational therapy session, and a physical therapy session. But Maureen says that she looks back at the week before and realizes that she is indeed making progress every week. Granted it might not be big changes, but there is progress.

Thank you!

IF you do not have the address it is:
Bethel Health Care
13 Park Lawn Avenue
Bethel, CT 06801
Attn: Maureen Shanley/Room 305W

Keep in touch!
Toodles!
Patty Zelle <pattyzelle@yahoo.com>

you can think of!

Lost and Found

Found at our August 10 RPCVCT picnic: prescription glasses with clip-on sunglasses. Also one pair of woman's nonprescription sunglasses. If yours, contact Al May at amay47@sbcglobal.net.

A good time was had by all at the picnic. Please share any photos or memories for the next issue.

We are seeking a location for next summer. Any suggestions?

CT RPCVs Help *Darien Book Aid* Help PCVs

September 7, 2013

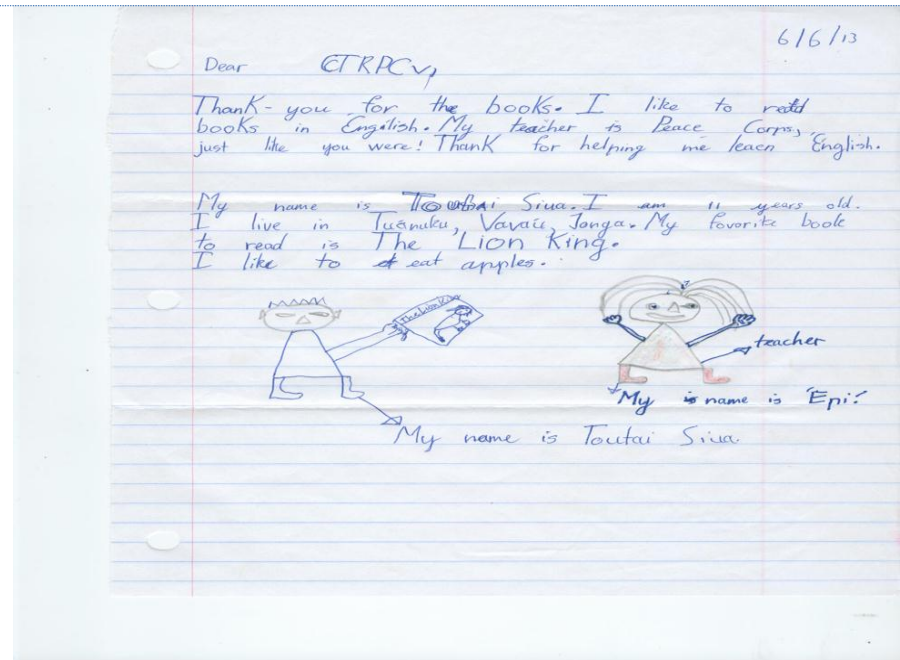
Saturday... 9 AM to Noon

Join us for a few hours of community service before the picnic at Sean's home.

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]

Last February we packed more than 50 boxes of books for PCVs. Just last week I received a packet of THANK YOU notes written in English by PCV- Abby's students.



June 6, 2013

Dear Maureen and all CTRPCVs,
I just wanted to thank you again for the wonderful work you are doing. It is amazing how much good one box of books can do. The day we brought the books to the school our principal was so excited that he had the students help him build a small classroom library right then and there!

These books are much loved. Every student has a favorite book that they know that they can read. They LOVE to read it to anyone who will listen.

Thank you so much for all you do for kids around the world.

Sincerely,
Abby Kloberdanz
PCV Tu'anuku GP8, Tonga

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. Darien Book Aid would love to hear from 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.

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 5th light.

Followed by ...

Come to a Potluck Picnic in Darien

Come for a gathering of the Peace Corps clan at the lovely home of CTRPCV Sean Sullivan, at 7 Homewood Lane, Darien, on Saturday, September 7 from Noon to 3 PM.

[Rain date, Sunday September 8]

What bring:

- your own drinks,
- something to grill,
- and a dish or dessert to share.

CTRPCV will provide the paper and plastic products and mustard, ketchup, mayonnaise, charcoal.

Come out and meet your fellow Connecticut RPCV's.

Directions:

From the east, off I95 at exit 11, immediate right onto Route 1. Right at third light, (Tokeneke Road), right at light (Old Farm Road, which runs behind a school), second right (Tokeneke Trail) to stop sign (Cross Road). Right at stop sign. Stay right up hill (Homewood Lane). Second house on left.

From the west, off I95 at exit 12, immediate right onto Tokeneke Road, right at light (Old Farm Road, which runs behind a school), second right (Tokeneke Trail) to stop sign (Cross Road). Right at stop sign. Stay right Homewood Lane up hill. Second house on left.

Please RSVP to Sean at 203 656-1497

Participate in a Positive Way to Commemorate 9/11

AmeriCorps invites RPCVs to join in their annual Day of Service!

The project will take place on Friday, September 13th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Dover Beach Park. This is a great opportunity to collaborate with AmeriCorps and Urban Resources Initiative (URI) to beautify the greater New Haven community by planting shrubs and perennials in Dover Beach Park. Please RSVP via email to the Peace Corps contact Anthony Trujillo at atrujillo2@peacecorps.gov if you would like to participate or to get more information.

CTRPCV Annual Meeting



**CTRPCV Annual Meeting & Potluck Dinner
Saturday, October 19 at 6:30 PM
at CT Forest and Parks Bldg. in Rockfall**

Come share some RPCV food, learn about how our grant program supports community programs at our annual potluck dinner and meeting.

The CTRPCV Board Meeting will be from 4:30 PM until 6:15

PM immediately before the Annual Potluck Dinner Meeting. Everyone is invited to attend the Board Meeting. New ideas are always welcome!

Who:

Anyone interested in being with Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and hearing our stories!!!

What:

Board Meeting followed by a short General Meeting & Potluck Dinner. We have not decided on the entertainment or a special speaker for this event. If you have any ideas, please contact Maureen.

What to bring:

Food for 6 to share according to the first letter of your last name

- A-H: main dish for 6 people
- I-S: dessert for 6 people
- T-Z: side dish or salad for 6 people

A raffle item or two (optional) - the perfect opportunity to regift!

Just look around your house...you probably have something that someone else would love. Perhaps you have something special from your country of service! A plant, a cake, a bottle of wine... you name it... all the proceeds from the Instant Raffle goes to our CTRPCV Community Service Grant Fund.

Come share some RPCV food, learn about how our grant program supports community programs at our annual potluck dinner and meeting.

Annual Potluck Directions...

Connecticut Forest & Park Association headquarters is located in the middle of Connecticut on Route 66 between Meriden and Middletown. It is a spacious room with all the tables and chairs that we could possibly want. There are large windows to let in sunlight.

We will meet on the first floor that is on ground level that makes it easy to get into the building because there are no stairs. There is a full kitchen and a bathroom for us to use.

Where:

CT Forest and Park Association 16 Meriden Road, Rockfall, CT 06481...between Meriden & Middletown on Rt. 66

Directions: Connecticut Forest and Parks Association
<http://www.ctwoodlands.org/> (860) 346-2372]

Take I-84 to I-691 which becomes CT-Rt. 66. Coming from the Waterbury, drive approximately 4 mi. on Rt. 66 , CFPA will be on your left. It's just after the 4th stop light. Once you pass a used car lot that was a Citgo gas station, it will be the next driveway on the left. The driveway is hard to see at night.

Help Wanted at CTRPCV:

- We need someone who will be our CALENDER poster who will update our CTRPCV calendar, post our events on the NPCA website, and just get our info about events “out there”.
- Connect RPCVs with requests for speakers. We get about 3- 6 requests a year.
- Restaurant/Potluck/Friday Night Out... Coordinator... Basically someone who is interested in hosting one of these events contacts you and you share “The Plan” that CTRPCV has developed to help them organize their event.

JOBS ARE BEING FILLED:

- Fundraiser- we need to think of ways to replenish the funds for our CTRPCV Community Service Fund. We can think big& small... all ideas are welcome. **[Al May is heading up this committee, but he would love some help. Any ideas are welcome!]**
- **Jonathan Rosario will be connecting CTRPCV members through the social media** on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.

GRACIAS... CTRPCV

Connecticut Quest for Peace sends Computers to Nicaragua

Written by... Maureen Shanley (RPCV Colombia)



In addition to being president of CTRPCV, I am also VP of Connecticut Quest for Peace. Connecticut Quest for Peace is a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization founded in 1985 by a group of dedicated individuals whose mission is to help the poorest people of Nicaragua. Connecticut Quest for Peace seeks to improve the lives of the poor in Nicaragua by working through proven Nicaraguan organizations to provide humanitarian aid in a variety of educational choices, health care, arts, and microfinance initiatives primarily directed toward women and children.

Thanks to a donation of \$1,000 from CTRPCV, Connecticut Quest for Peace sent and will connect to the internet 10 computers (laptops) in two very rural schools in Somotillo, Nicaragua. These computers will not only be used to teach children valuable computer skills that can transfer into better job opportunities, but they will also open the “world” to this poor, tiny, rural community in northern Nicaragua. At night these computers will also be used by townspeople for a small fee. Thus the school can use the computers to pay for the school’s internet charges and the townspeople will have an inexpensive way to broaden their world.



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

Knovation (2013, August 12). In Search of the Ways of Knowing Trail. Retrieved from http://www.brookfieldzoo.org/pagegen/wok/index_f4.html .

suggested by David Stoloff – stolofffamily@yahoo.com



The Next Step In Changing The World

Advocacy for the Peace Corps

Have you ever been inspired to speak to your local Congressman or Senator to discuss the value of Peace Corps service and the need to expand Peace Corps efforts internationally or thank them for supporting Peace Corps endeavors in the past? Join the hundreds of Return Peace Corps volunteers advocating for Peace Corps locally. If you are interested in participating follow the steps below. Every volunteer has a unique story to share of their service. Sharing your story, may impact government to continue Peace Corps service. Follow the steps below if you would like to advocate in Connecticut.

Step 1: The first step is to go to the bottom of our August District Advocacy Page - <http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/district-meeting-days/> to see if anyone is listed yet as planning to help coordinate meetings in your region. If someone is listed, please contact them to express your interest in participating or assisting. **This is very important**, as the National Return Peace Corps Association wants to make sure they don't have multiple people requesting a meeting with the same congressional office.

Step 2: If no one is listed for your area and you are willing to organize one or more meetings in your area, contact the National Return Peace Corps Association at advocacy@peacecorpsconnect.org today. Let them know where you live and what office (or offices) you would like to organize a meeting with.

In the coming days, the National Peace Corps Association will reach out to you with some basic instructions on how to schedule meetings with your district offices. You will take the lead on scheduling the meeting and (if possible), finding 1 – 3 other local RPCVs to form an advocacy team. The National Peace Corps Association will help provide you with participants if necessary. They will also provide you with background materials and key talking points to help you plan and prepare for your meetings.

For additional information, please contact Terese Maineri [<mailto:tmaineri@yahoo.com>]

An example of advocacy,

CTRPCVer Atty. Joan Leonard, jleonard@snet.net, Clinton, CT received this letter from Congressperson Joseph Courtney discussing his support for the Peace Corps, shared at

<http://www.ctrpcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/response-from-Joe-Courtney-0413.pdf>



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

Addressing Critical Needs Around the Globe

Peace Corps Response provides qualified professionals the opportunity to serve in rewarding, short-term assignments, in various programs around the world. When you serve as a Peace Corps Response Volunteer, you bring your skills and experience to projects in places where you are needed most.

Search for positions, apply, or modify an existing application here:

[Search](#) ♦ [Apply](#) ♦ [Update](#)

From Peace Corps Connect - www.PeaceCorpsConnect.org

Get in the Act Day

For the past three years on September 22, the National Peace Corps Association has encouraged RPCVs to host Global House Parties around the world to connect our community while marking the anniversary of the signing of the Peace Corps Act in 1961 -- the date that the Peace Corps became "official." This year, we're broadening the ways that people can participate. While gatherings are certainly encouraged, there are many ways people can *Get in the ACT!* Please help spread the message that September 22nd is a day to celebrate the myriad ways that Peace Corps has made a difference in our lives and in the communities where we served.

Get in the ACT!

September 22 is Peace Corps ACT Day! Yes, it marks the anniversary of the passage of the Peace Corps Act, which permanently established the Peace Corps. But it's also the day

that the National Peace Corps Association is asking *you* to ACT: to reflect on and celebrate the Peace Corps Difference during a 24-hour period. Visit <http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/peace-corps-act-day/> to learn more.

Time is running out to meet the match!

Thank you to the member groups who have already responded to the challenge. As of today, 25 groups have contributed (and three more have pledged) a total of \$6,650 towards matching the \$7,150 grant from RPCVs of WI-Madison to advance the Mentoring Program and address other data management needs. But time is running out, as this campaign will officially end September 15. Help us surpass the grant with your group's donation! For more information, visit our blog post and/or the Group Leaders Forum, where you will find the original grant proposal and letter outlining the campaign sent to all member groups in the spring. Need more time to consider this? Just let us know!

Harris Wofford Global Citizenship Award

Do you know a Host Country National impacted by Peace Corps whose life's work has made a significant contribution to the world in a way that reflects core Peace Corps values?

Nominations are open through October 31, 2013 for the 2014 Harris Wofford Global Citizenship Award. For nomination information and to read about this year's winner, please visit <http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/about/awards/#wofford>.

Washington Nationals' Peace Corps Night

Please join us in celebrating the Peace Corps at Nationals Park on Wednesday, September 18, 2013, the Washington Nationals take on the division-leading Atlanta Braves. Opening ceremonies will begin at 6:30 p.m. EST (game time is 7:05 p.m. EST) with festivities including the hallmark *Peace Corps Parade of Nations*. If you are interested in serving as a flag bearer for the Parade of Nations, please contact either Jason Cunningham (jcunningham@peacecorps.gov) or Brian Klein (bklein@peacecorps.gov) of Peace Corps headquarters. The Nationals organization has reserved 1,300 seats for Peace Corps, with two ticket options available to participants. "Outfield reserved" seats are located in left field sections 103-107 and are \$16 each. "Left field baseline" seats are down the

third baseline (and closer to the action) in sections 108-110. These tickets are \$32 each, but also include a \$10 voucher good for any and all refreshments and merchandise at the ballpark. To purchase tickets, visit www.nationals.com/peacecorps. If you have a group of 13 or more and would like to sit together, please contact Ara Sarajian of the Washington Nationals at Ara.Sarajian@nationals.com.

Peace Corps Connect – Nashville 2014

I just returned from my first site visit to Nashville and it was great! I'm very excited for Peace Corps Connect - Nashville. It's a great city that has a lot to offer our community. We hope your group is planning to join us! We'll be getting things together and completed earlier this year, so please be thinking about how your group can get involved. We'd love to be able to showcase all the NPCA Member Groups. For specific questions about and/or suggestions for Peace Corps Connect - Nashville, please email us at events@peacecorpsconnect.org. We will also be providing regular updates about Peace Corps Connect – Nashville in these monthly emails.

Please email me at emily@peacecorpsconnect.org if you have questions about any of these topics.

Thank you for all that you do for the Peace Corps Community!

*Emily Bello
Manager of Membership and Operations
Benin '02-'04*

Upcoming events of potential interest:

**These are events that involve fellow RPCVs...
we'd like to let you know about them...**

**(send David info about an event
that you want to publicize!!!)**

1) **Walktober**

Eastern Connecticut, October – November 2013

If you might be interested in a fall-time stroll in the forests and historic towns of Eastern Connecticut and the Last Green Valley, please see the developing list of events at <http://www.tlgv.org/resources/walktober2013info.html> David Stoloff, RPCV Zaire 1973-75, will buy CTRPCV members their first beer sampler at WilliBrew - <http://willimanticbrewingcompany.com/> if he is available after your walk, if you contact him at stoloffd@easternct.edu .

2) **WYNTON MARSALIS...**



PRESENTS

“ABYSSINIAN: A GOSPEL CELEBRATION,”

October 22 ~ Woolsey Hall at Yale University

Attention jazz and gospel music fans:

Christian Community Action (www.ccahelping.org), a New Haven-based ecumenical social services agency where CTRPCV Vice President Al May (Costa Rica 70-72) serves as development director, is sponsoring a fundraiser on Tuesday, October 22 at Woolsey Hall at Yale University in New Haven. It will feature the noted jazz musician Wynton Marsalis. Called “Abyssinian: A Gospel Celebration,” the show was written by Marsalis for the 200th anniversary of New York City’s historic Abyssinian Baptist Church. Also featured will be the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra.

This will be the only New England performance of this show this year. Tickets go on sale after September 1. For further information, contact Al at (203) 777-7848 x 19 or amay@ccahelping.org.

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Send me your news and announcements for the next E-news!
MaureenShanley@hotmail.com.

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