



Connecticut RPCV E-News

BEST SEEN by linking to <http://www.ctrpcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/CTRPCV1013.pdf>
October 2013 Maureen Shanley, Chapter President, MaureenShanley@hotmail.com
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Have you paid your annual dues? You support helps us stay connected!

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Stay connected through our [Peace Corps links](#) - just click

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, 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.
Tuesday, October 22, 7:30 pm	Wynton Marsalis fund-raiser, Woolsey Hall at Yale University in New Haven

News about Maureen Shanley, CTRPCV President

Maureen is getting better, but it just takes time...
So Maureen is going to make time for herself...

I would like to thank my fellow RPCVs who have emailed, sent cards, called, visited, and supported me spiritually. All these forms of support have helped me to stay positive during this ordeal. I have been in Bethel Health Care for 7+ weeks and I don't expect the doctor

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 you can think of!](#)

to give me permission to be weight bearing until, at the earliest, 10/23. That is the date he set for my next appointment. You know I asked if I could have a earlier appointment, to which he responded, "Yes, but it won't make any difference". So my prayer is that I will be able to put some weight on my leg on that date and then learn how to get up the stairs because my bathroom is a half flight from the main entrance.

While I know that my leg will be as good as new in the spring, I have realized that I need to make changes in my lifestyle. So it is with great regret that I am stepping down as President of CTRPCV. It has been a honor to represent the Connecticut Returned Peace Corps Volunteers as a board member, Vice President, and President since sometime in the 80's. I really can't remember the years when I held a certain position because CTRPCV just became a part of ME. Because I have been representing CTRPCV I have been afforded the opportunities to meet many dignitaries like US and foreign Presidents, senators, congressmen, and governors. However, my PC experiences also brought me to CT Quest for Peace whose mission is to feed and educate children in Nicaragua. Collecting, sorting and packing humanitarian aid for Nicaragua is like being a PCV here in the USA. Most importantly, being President of CTRPCV has enabled me to meet and become friends with so many RPCVs who live in CT. If it were not for my involvement with CTRPCV, I would not have had the pleasure of your company. So I thank you for giving me the privilege of being your representative for so many years.

I am very happy to announce that Al May & Terese Maineri have offered to be co-Presidents. They asked me to continue as Vice President, but I will only do that for one year with the intent of helping to make a smoother transition for CTRPCV. As long as I am in CT I will, of course, continue to support CTRPCV. However, I am asking all of you to please step-up and offer to help Al & Terese so that CTRPCV will continue to be an active RPCV group. Again... thanks for the memories... they are good ones ;)

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?

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.

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.

Please RSVP to Al May amay47@sbcglobal.net with what food you are planning to bring.

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.



WYNTON MARSALIS PRESENTS

“ABYSSINIAN: A GOSPEL CELEBRATION,”

October 22 ~ Woolsey Hall at Yale University

Tickets are now on sale for *Abyssinian: A Gospel Celebration!* scheduled for **Tuesday, October 22** at 7:30 p.m. at Yale University's Woolsey Hall (500 College Street) in New Haven. The concert, featuring jazz great Wynton Marsalis and his Jazz at Lincoln Center

Orchestra, will benefit Christian Community Action (CCA) in New Haven and its programs helping families that are homeless. RPCVCT Acting President Al May serves as development director for CCA.

Also featured at the concert will be Chorale Le Chateau, a 70-member choir from Harlem's famous Abyssinian Baptist Church. Maralis wrote the jazz Mass in honor of the church's 200th anniversary in 2008.

Tickets (\$100, \$75, \$45, \$30, \$20) are available in person at the Shubert Theater box office, 247 College Street (Woolsey Hall has no box office), by phone (local) 203-562-5666 (toll-free) 1-888-736-2663, or online at <http://www.shubert.com/>.

For the chapter memory book –



Several Connecticut Returned Peace Corps Volunteers

recently performed a morning of community service packing books to send to active volunteers around the world. Show here are, left to right, Al May, acting president of the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Connecticut (RPCVCT) (Costa Rica 1970-1972); Kim Nucifora (Tanzania, 2003-2005), and Kathy Taylor (Azerbaijan, 2009-2011).



Lauren Hofer, Macedonia 2010-2012, also volunteered at the Darien Book Aid.



Following their service at Book Aid, several returned volunteers attended a picnic graciously hosted by former Peace Corps staffer (Mauritius) and Country Director (Kenya) Sean Sullivan (third from left) at his Darien home. Thanks, Sean, for welcoming us to your home. Left to right, Al May, Lauren Hofer, Sean Sullivan and Robert Stein (Chile 1966-68).

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

“NPCA and its supporters advocate on issues of importance to the Peace Corps community, including an independent and robust Peace Corps, and policies that respect, honor and support the Peace Corps community.

We serve to convey the voice of the Peace Corps community and ensure that the Peace Corps remains true to its founding vision and mission.

We also seek to add the experienced voices of returned Peace Corps Volunteers to other issues of global concern.”

View the past legislative victories of the NPCA and the Peace Corps community.

Quick Links

- [Top-Line Issues](#)
- [Upcoming Activities and Opportunities](#)
- [Stay Up to Date](#)
- [Donate to Support NPCA’s Advocacy](#)

For more information, please go to <http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/advocacy/>

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

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From Peace Corps Connect - www.PeaceCorpsConnect.org

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>.

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 .

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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!](#)