



# Connecticut RPCV E-News

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**January 2014**

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**For the latest CTRPCV e-news -** <http://www.ctrpcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/CTRPCV0114.pdf>

All membership, donation, activity announcements, Peace Corps stories, and correspondence may also be sent to CTRPCV, P.O. Box 1803, Hartford, CT 06144.

## In This Issue:

Upcoming events ~

7th annual Run for Refugees, Feb 2, 2014

Social Event – Soul de Cuba- 2/4/14, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Help wanted at CTRPCV

International Game

Peace Corps Advocacy

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!

News from the

## CTRPCV Holiday Party

... Sat. 12/7 at 5 PM

**At 6:30 PM we had a visit from CONGRESSMAN JOE COURTNEY.**

Joe is a great supporter of the Peace Corps. It was a great time for CTRPCV members to personally thank him and to let him know how important his support is to RPCVs from Connecticut.



**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](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!*



**The fun filled evening was at the home of June Plecan & Pete Govert. There was fine food and a great holiday raffle gift exchange. Thanks go to June and Pete for opening their home and creating a memorable evening.**

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## Upcoming Events:

**CTRPCV Calendar – more details below.**

Sunday, February 2, 2014	Run for Refugees, New Haven
Tuesday, February 4, 5:30 – 7:30 pm	Event at Soul De Cuba, New Haven, with raffle as fundraiser
Wednesday, February 5, 6:30 – 9 pm	Western Mass RPCV group potluck, Springfield, MA
Saturday, April 19, 9 am - noon	Connecticut Food Bank in East Haven
Saturday, June 28 <sup>th</sup> 9:30 am - noon	The Hole In The Wall Gang Camp in Ashford, CT

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**Social Event  
at Soul de Cuba restaurant in New Haven  
(283 Crown Street)  
Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 7:30 pm**

Attention New Haven area and other interested RPCVs: Al May is working to put together a social event at Soul de Cuba restaurant in New Haven (283 Crown Street) for early February (tentative date: Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> in the evening, subject to weather). The idea is to give returned volunteers a chance to mingle with each other, have dinner featuring delicious Cuban food, (everyone will be able to order off the menu and be billed individually) and possibly win raffle prizes, donated by those in attendance. If you are interested in attending, please let Al know at [amay47@sbcglobal.net](mailto:amay47@sbcglobal.net). No firm commitment needed just yet; just expressions of interests.



**IRIS**  
Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services  
235 Nicoll Street  
Second Floor  
New Haven, CT 06511  
TELEPHONE: (203) 562-2095  
FAX: (203) 562-1798  
e-MAIL: [info@irisct.org](mailto:info@irisct.org)  
WEB: [irisct.org](http://irisct.org)



**Calling all RPCVs: Please come to the 7th  
Annual Run for Refugees on Sunday,  
February 2, 2014!**

Mark your calendar for our 5K run/walk on Super Bowl Sunday!

Join 800 other friends of IRIS (including many Returned Peace Corps Volunteers) to support refugees with a brisk run or walk through East Rock Park in New Haven, followed by a fun and delicious post-race party.

Sponsorship opportunities are available: contact [Chris George](#) (IRIS Executive Director and RPCV - Oman 1977-79 ) at 203 562 2095 x 206 or [cgeorge@irisct.org](mailto:cgeorge@irisct.org).

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### **Potluck Dinner Invitation from Joan Perreault...**

organizers for the Western MA region RPCV group –

We've set the date and location for our next RPCV gathering - a potluck at the home of Dave Modzelewski on February 5th. Those who attend are encouraged to bring a piece of art or an artifact from your host country, in addition to something for the table. We hope you can join us!

Here are the details, please RSVP if you can attend:

**What:** RPCV Potluck - bring a dish to share

**When:** Wednesday, February 5th, 6:30-9:00pm

**Where:** The home of Dave Modzelewski

33 Florentine Gardens, Springfield MA.

Easy access off of I 91. Parking available on the street

**Who:** RPCVs in the greater Western Mass area - invite friends who might not be on this list!

**RSVP:** reply to this email if you can attend, or text Joan at 617-642-4330 or email - [jmperreault@gmail.com](mailto:jmperreault@gmail.com).

I look forward to seeing many of you soon!

Joan Perreault

RPCV Dominican Republic, 2006-2009

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**You are one of over 400 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 above 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/>.

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## 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.
- 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.
- 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:

- **Jonathan Rosario will be connecting CTRPCV members through the social media** on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.



**CT Food Bank ...**

## **CTRPCV will sort food ... on Saturday... April 19**

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 19st from 9 AM to noon. Families welcome... it's a great service project for kids. If you are interested: call or email Lois Fucci, 203-239-0169 or lafj@att.net.



### **Hole in The Wall Gang Camp**

#### **Volunteer Project... Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> in Ashford, CT**

On June 28th, 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, lafj@att.net.

WHEN: June 28th, Saturday

WHERE: Ashford, CT

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



## 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.

[back to beginning](#)

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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](http://www.brookfieldzoo.org/pagegen/wok/index_f4.html) .

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

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## 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/>

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An example of advocacy,

CTRPCVer Atty. Joan Leonard, [jleonard@snet.net](mailto: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>

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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](#)



See the latest e-newsletter at

<http://www.mailoutinteractive.com/Industry/View.aspx?id=521797&q=678493799&qz=6bd7e3>

which includes this information –

*Peace Corps Week 2014*

*How will you answer the challenge?*

*Online information at*

<http://www.peacecorps.gov/resources/returned/thirdgoal/pcweek/>

*Each year during Peace Corps Week, the Peace Corps commemorates President Kennedy's establishment of the Peace Corps on March 1, 1961. For more than 50 years, the Peace Corps has touched lives. Peace Corps Week is a great time for the whole Peace Corps family to renew their commitment to service and celebrate the amazing difference Volunteers are making at home and abroad.*

*This Peace Corps Week, the agency invites current and returned Peace Corps Volunteers to answer the Peace Corps Week 2014 video and classroom challenges. Both challenges, designed to support the Peace Corps Third Goal of sharing other cultures with Americans, launch on January 1, 2014, and continue through Peace Corps Week (February 23–March 1).*

*The video challenge is themed "Cultural Windows: What I wish Americans knew about my Peace Corps country." The classroom challenge asks current and returned Peace Corps Volunteers how many classrooms can be reached by March 1. Visit the Peace Corps Week site to learn more and participate in these exciting initiatives. How will you answer the challenge?*

### ***RPCVs, Keep in Touch***

*Is your Peace Corps contact information up to date?*

*If you are an RPCV, take a moment to make sure we have your latest information.*

*<https://www.peacecorps.gov/resources/returned/staycon/updaterec/>*

### ***Office of Third Goal and Returned Volunteer Services***

*RPCV Career Link -*

*<http://www.peacecorps.gov/resources/returned/careerlink/jobs/>*

*Looking for a new job in the New Year? Then look no further than the Peace Corps RPCV Career Link! Since launching in January 2013, RPCV-friendly employers have posted more than 2,700 jobs. So, if you are an RPCV jobseeker or an employer looking to hire RPCVs, take advantage of RPCV Career Link today.*

### ***January RPCV Career Events***

*The Peace Corps RPCV Career Center will host three RPCV career*

*events in January:*

- *January 14, 3–5 p.m. EDT – Résumé Review Workshop (Peace Corps Headquarters)*
- *January 29, 1–2 p.m. EDT – One Acre Fund: Employer Info Session (online)*
- *January 29, 3–5 p.m. EDT – Job Search and Résumé Review Workshop (online)*

*For more details and to register for these events, check out the “Local” and “Online” events on the RPCV Career Events Page.*

*<http://www.peacecorps.gov/resources/returned/carres/carevents/>*

### ***World Wise Schools***

*Happy New Year from World Wise Schools! How did your host country celebrate the New Year? This year, resolve to share some of your host country culture with friends and family here in the United States. Apply for the Speakers Match program –*

*<https://www.peacecorps.gov/wws/volunteers/speaker/enroll/>*

*and inspire future generations of Peace Corps Volunteers.*

### ***National Peace Corps Association***

#### ***(NPCA) Honor distinguished RPCVs***

*Whether as innovative social entrepreneurs or as people making sustained contributions to humanitarian causes at home or abroad, RPCVs lead lives of service. Honor outstanding RPCVs with a nomination for the 2014 Sargent Shriver Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Service, to be awarded at Peace Corps Connect—Nashville on June 21, 2014. The deadline for nominations is March 31. Learn more about NPCA’s Sargent Shriver Award here at <http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/about/awards/>.*

### ***Office of Inspector General***

***Report fraud, waste, abuse or mismanagement.***

Hotline 202.692.2915

<mailto:OIG@peacecorps.gov>

Online web form

<http://www.peacecorps.gov/OIG>

Follow @PCOIG on twitter for updates and reports from the Office of Inspector General.

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From Peace Corps Connect - [www.PeaceCorpsConnect.org](http://www.PeaceCorpsConnect.org)

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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*

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# Upcoming events of potential interest:

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

(send David – stoloffd@easternct.edu info about an event  
that you want to publicize!!!)



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!