



Connecticut RPCV E-News

President: Terese Maineri-tmaineri@yahoo.com

August 2014 **David Stoloff**, eNewsletter editor, stoloffd@easternct.edu

For the latest CTRPCV e-news - <http://www.ctrpcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/CTRPCV0814.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:	Some Upcoming CTRPCV Events:	
Upcoming events	Saturday, August 2 nd Noon – 3 PM	Annual CTRPCV Summer Picnic Guilford, CT
CTRPCV events Help wanted at CTRPCV Peace Corps	Saturday Sept.13 th	CTRPCV Annual Potluck Dinner In Rockfall @ CT Forests & Parks Bldg. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Board Meeting (2 PM)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ All are WELCOME• Optional hike on marked trails (4 PM)• Potluck Dinner (5:30 PM)

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!

[CT RPCV Website](#)

[National Peace
Corps Association](#)

Stay connected to
our national
community and
representation in

- Presentation by Elizabeth Toomey
 - Built a bridge in Madagascar using a CTRPCV Community Service Grant

CTRPCV ANNUAL SUMMER Picnic!!!

Come out and join Connecticut RPCV's for an afternoon of fun in the sun!

What: Potluck style picnic at the beach

When: **Noon - 3pm, Saturday, August 2nd**

Where: 178 Durham Road, Guilford, CT 06437
At the home of Joan & Jeff Leonard



Washington!

[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*

At the **Connecticut RPVC big Annual Potluck Picnic**
all are welcome
including perspective PCVs
& anyone interested in learning more about the
PEACE CORPS ☺

Rain or Shine: Joan and Jeff Leonard have graciously offered to host this year's CTRPCV Summer Picnic at their home. The picnic date is for rain or shine because there is enough space inside if the weather is inclement.

What to bring:

- your own drinks, something to grill, and a dish or dessert to share.
- portable chairs, lawn blankets, coolers with ice would be a good to bring.
- If you have a portable table and/or a portable barbecue, please let Joan know because we need them for the food.

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

Parking:

Our annual picnic will be held this year at 178 Durham Road, Guilford, CT 06437.

There is limited parking available so we are going to ask attendees to drop off their picnic items at Joan's and then go and park at the computer parking lot. We will shuttle people back and forth.

If you have any questions about the picnic, or about rain cancellations on the day of the picnic, or if you have a table or grill that you can bring please call Joan Leonard at 203-988-8260. (jleonard@snet.net)

*serving Returned
Peace Corps
Volunteers*

[PC Online](#)
[Crossroads](#)

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

CTRPCV website has more information about the group. [www.ctrpcv.org]

We hope to see you there!



Directions:

Location: Joan & Jeff Leonard, 178 Durham Rd. Guilford, CT 06437

Directions from East (From New London) – Take I-95 to Exit 58. Right off exit onto Route 77/Durham Rd.

Go north six-tenths of a mile on Rte 77/Durham Rd. Past the police/fire station, tennis court, graveyard. Pass Hubbard Rd on left. Around curve, next left is Sign 176-186 Durham Rd. Look for mailboxes in a small covered structure. Take left onto street/driveway. House is next to last at end of street/driveway.

Directions from West (From New Haven) – Take I-95 to Exit 58 to traffic light. Left off exit onto Route 77/Durham Rd. Follow above directions.

Directions from North (Middletown, Hartford) – Take Route 9 to Middletown then Route 17 to Durham. Go straight through town on Main Street (Rte.17) south. Go through traffic light, then bear left at second fork onto Route 77 south to Guilford 8.4 miles; Cross Route 80 and proceed 3.8 miles, slow down; Sign 176-186 Durham Road will be on right. Look for mailboxes in a small covered structure. Take right onto street/driveway. House is next to last at end of street/driveway.

If you need help with directions, call 203.457.7007.

**Do you have another Event
or a Community Service Project
that may be of interest to CTRPCVs?**

Please email David Stoloff [eNewsletter editor, stoloffd@easternct.edu]
to let him know about your project.

MEET AND GREET FELLOW RPCVS

- Create a NIGHT OUT with CTRPCVs that can be as simple as “Lets meet at [your favorite bar or restaurant].
- Host a POTLUCK DINNER and get to know more CTRPCVs.

Are you involved in a Community Service Project that could use some helping hands?

Let David Stoloff (stoloffd@easternct.edu) know and we can let other CTRPCV members know the details.

[Announcements from](#) Shannon McBride, Regional Recruiter, RPCV Uganda (2010-2012)

Peace Corps Northeast Regional Office, 201 Varick Street, Suite 1025 | New York, NY 10014,

Phone: (212) 352-5450 | Email: smcbride@peacecorps.gov

Peace Corps Annual Summer Potluck Picnic

Saturday, August 2nd, 12:00pm to 3:00pm, 178 Durham Road, Guilford, CT 06437

Description:

Come out and join Connecticut Returned Peace Corps Volunteers for an afternoon of fun in the sun (rain or shine)! All are welcome including perspective Peace Corps Volunteers and anyone interested in learning more about the Peace Corps. ***Please bring with you something to drink, something to grill, and something to share.** There is limited parking so please park at the commuter parking lot and there will be someone to shuttle people back and forth.

Can anyone cover this event?

There is a Peace Corps information table being held at the farmer's market. I just need someone to man the table, hand out materials, and answer and questions people have. I can hand you the materials at the picnic on the day before. (If you can only do 3 hours that's fine too.) **If you are interested please contact me at (646) 662-2375 or smcbride@peacecorps.gov.**

Peace Corps at CitySeed Farmers' Market at Edgewood Park

Sunday, August 3rd 10:00am to 2:00pm

At the corner of Whalley and West Avenues, New Haven, CT 06515

PCV Isabel Bauerlein in Nicaragua received a CTRPCV Community Service Grant

Dear Connecticut Returned Peace Corps Volunteers,

I would like to give you all great big hugs in person, but seeing as though I'm in the middle of the Nicaraguan jungle, an email to show my gratitude will have to suffice.

Thank you so much for your incredibly generous donation to my Peace Corps Partnership Project to start a community English learning center. The donation from CT RPCVs made a huge difference and helped us get the funds quickly.

My community and I are so excited to begin work on the building renovations, making the furniture, transporting the thousands of donated books to Nueva Guinea and starting to organize the library. We are thrilled to connect teachers to teaching materials, students to practice materials, and community members to opportunities to learn English. The lending library will also work to help cultivate a culture of reading here. We are excited to meet the community's interests and needs and to empower local community members to learn and teach English. I'm confident this project will greatly help the people of Nueva Guinea grow in their educational and professional opportunities.

Without your help and support, this project would not have been possible. Thank you so much.

Abrazos,

Isabel Bauerlein



PEACE CORPS *Office of Third Goal and Returned Volunteer Services*

Friday, July 18, 2014

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Dear RPCV groups,

As you may have heard by now, Peace Corps has made significant changes to its recruitment, application, and selection processes. We've created [this toolkit](#) to help you understand these changes and share them with your group members. Please look over the toolkit and share the information and resources in it as you see fit.

Additionally, Peace Corps recently re-vamped the RPCV pages of our website in order to better serve and recognize you, the valued members of the RPCV community. [Visit the new pages today](#) to:

- ***Bring the World Home*** – Explore everything from video libraries to storytelling tips to help you share your Peace Corps story with others. When you get involved and tell us about your activity, we'll send you a free kit of promotional materials. Also, check out the new Third Goal Highlights where we tell the story of your great Third Goal work and share best practices. If you have a practice or activity you'd like to share as a Highlight, submit it to us at thirdgoal@peacecorps.gov.
- ***Access resources in the RPCV Virtual Career Center*** – Let Peace Corps help you find your next job with resources like the RPCV Career Link jobs board, online and in-person RPCV Career Events, one-on-one resume reviews, and career self-assessment software. Also, post your organization's job opportunities on Career Link for free to recruit other talented RPCVs.

Check out the pages today, share them with your members, and tell us what you think of them. We'd love to get your feedback! Thank you for your ongoing support of Peace Corps and the Third Goal. Please never hesitate to reach out to me with ideas or feedback. I am here to support RPCV groups however I can.

Best,

Meleia Egger

Peace Corps Office of Third Goal and Returned Volunteer Services

Third Goal Program Specialist and RPCV Group Liaison

megger@peacecorps.gov

202.692.2669

If you are having difficulty viewing this email properly, please click here:

<http://www.mailoutinteractive.com/Industry/View.aspx?id=593102&q=762882135&qz=bca28d>

Cindy Clair suggested that we also look at

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/peace-corps-announces-major-changes-to-application-process/2014/07/14/f1cff488-0931-11e4-bbf1-cc51275e7f8f_story.html

for more information on these changes.



NEW! Education Small Grants

We are pleased to announce a new small grants program for members and member groups with grants of up to \$500 awarded quarterly to fund community projects/events that promote Peace Corps' Third Goal. This goal is to "strengthen Americans' understanding about the world and its peoples" by way of returned and current volunteers, as well as friends of the Peace Corps, sharing their Peace Corps experience and host country culture. These grants are intended to educate Americans about other peoples and countries of the world. The project must be short term (less than one month) and of a local scope and scale. Projects will engage with local schools, libraries, and/or community organizations.

Applications and supporting materials will be accepted on a rolling basis. Applications will be reviewed and awarded quarterly. Learn more and download the application from <http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/resources/education/>.

Communicate with your representative to the NPCA Board of Directors

To facilitate your communication with the NPCA Director elected to represent your region on the NPCA Board of Directors, we established permanent emails as follows

Northeast: NPCANortheast@peacecorpsconnect.org (Teresa Devore)

Sherry Anderson, RPCV, Panama 2000-2002 announces this volunteer opportunity - no payment would be received:

"Last September, I trained in the internship at CTV-21 in Newtown, Charter Communications cable community access television with Max Arzu, among others.

Max has developed a 30 minute career development show in which he interviews guests from different parts of Connecticut about their careers. The main goal of the show is to make sure that viewers are getting the best information possible to assist them in what steps to take to be successful in their chosen career path. The show is for all audiences, but is mainly directed towards H.S. and college students. So far he has had a basketball coach, a social worker, and an illustrator (painter) for children's books. It would be great to have someone (or two people) in a career post Peace Corp to talk about his or her experiences in the PC and then getting into his or her career. Max's next show will be taped in July, but he will be doing one about once a month. If anyone is interested, they can reference my name (I'm

usually graphics person on his show) and email Max at max_arzu@yahoo.com or call him at 203 437 2295. The taping is done in the CTV-21 studio in Newtown off Exit 10 of I-84.

Also, as a separate program, I am planning on producing a show interviewing a small panel of RPCV's demonstrating our diversity and discussing our experiences. This would either be 30 or 60 minutes. If anyone is interested in the panel program or has questions about it, please email me at Lillysail@yahoo.com with your age group, ethnic group, and country. This will be an informative and fun experience for all. I have no particular date in mind at this time. Maybe in the fall, depending on the participants.

Thank you for your interest in our Third Goal."

THE MRZU SHOW



PEACE CORPS
from the Director

Monday, July 28, 2014

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Dear Peace Corps Family:

As you probably know, The New York Times has just published a story on the tragic death of Nick Castle, a Volunteer in China who died in February 2013. As the person whose responsibility it is to notify a fallen Volunteer's family with news that I know will forever change their lives, I can assure you that I experience deep grief with every Volunteer we lose—just as we mourn for every volunteer who is injured or sick while serving in the Peace Corps. The loss of a Volunteer is a tragic event for the entire Peace Corps family—from that person's fellow Volunteers, to their Peace Corps staff, to their host and home communities, to Volunteers and RPCVs across the globe. I want to assure you that as part of our commitment to honor the memory of those we have lost, including Nick, we are dedicated to doing everything we can, every single day, to protect your health, safety and security.

Before I go any further, I want to thank you for your service. I have traveled extensively in the past four years to more than 30 states, and feel so fortunate to have met many of you. I am inspired by your stories of Peace Corps service and the work that you continue to do back home in advancing the Third Goal. You are heroes, every one of you, for you have all chosen to take the path less traveled to serve in areas of great need—and great potential—and in so doing, you have shown your host communities our country's very best. We all know that we get more than we give through the Peace Corps experience. But you have given, and continue to give, so much. I am inspired by you every day.

But our good work does not come without cost. And it is not news to you that operating in the environments in which we serve can be difficult and poses risks. If it were easy, we wouldn't be there. The vast majority of our Volunteers have safe, healthy, and productive volunteer experiences that they cherish for the rest of their lives. But we have not been immune to tragedy over the years. We are glad that the number of Volunteers who die in service has dropped

dramatically since the beginning of Peace Corps. Throughout our history, the number of Volunteers who have died in service is less than two-tenths of one percent. But even one death is too many. Each of our losses is personal—he or she is someone’s daughter or son, mother or father, brother or sister, friend or loved one.

We have been working very hard for the past four years to improve the quality of our support to Volunteers, particularly in the areas of health care, safety and security, and programming and training. If you aren’t aware of all the things we have done to improve the quality of our support to Volunteers, I encourage you to read about the reforms at peacecorps.gov.

Nothing is more important to the Peace Corps than our Volunteers, and though we can never fully overcome the fundamental challenges of operating abroad, we will never stop pushing the limit to try. We are a vibrant and caring agency. We represent the commitment of nearly a quarter of a million Americans who have served since 1961 and the thousands serving today. The legacy of your compassion and committed service is our strength. We will work through this as we always have, as a family.

Thank you for your service, for your commitment to our mission, and for representing us so well in communities across our nation.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carrie Hersh Radelich". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Director
Peace Corps



CTRPCV needs more PAID MEMBERS

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 85 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/>.

Help Wanted at CTRPCV:

- **FILLED>>>** We need a **SECRETARY** to take notes at our board meetings that occur 3 to 4 times a year.
- **FILLED>>>** 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 😊

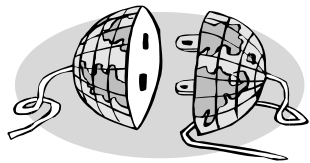
- **Jonathan Rosario** is connecting CTRPCV members through the social media on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.
 - **Carmen Britton** is our new secretary.
 - **Dan Rosanno** is our new membership chair.
 - **Doug Latham** is our member-at-large and he will also assist with the membership.
 - **Elizabeth Toomey** will be our calendar updater and will post information on appropriate websites.
-
-

WHY someone should **join** CTRPCV.

We need to create a list of **benefits** when one is a member of CTRPCV or a few reasons why we should be members of CTRPCV.

- a chance to break bread with people who are not only like you, but also LIKE you.
- connect with an RPCV who might just be your neighbor!
- ability to receive CTRPCV Directory so you can request help with your favorite community service project.
- if you are newly returned RPCV... we will LISTEN to your story because we too have been there! RPCVs are FAMILY. We never tire or hearing your stories, frustrations, what you miss and what you are finding strange about your return
- help an RPCV find a new job through the Mentor program. Mentor a newbie RPCVs and help them navigate their transition
- help support PCVs and/or CTRPCVs through the CTRPCV Community Service Grant Program.

- keep in the PCV loop, know about short-term stints if you are interested.
- find opportunities to continue to serve locally or overseas.
- find someone who: has kids the same age as yours; others who have married host country nationals.
- let others know about YOUR art, social, sport or local community service project.
- spread the GOOD WORD about the Peace Corps.
- **We want to add a page to our website that would offer FREE ADVERTISING for CTRPCV members who own a business.**



STAY CONNECTED!!!!

Volunteer opportunities

The International Institute of Connecticut is looking for volunteers to become mentors to our refugee client one day a week for one hour. When a refugee arrives in Bridgeport, they often come with nothing and know no one. A mentor would be a liaison between the client and the Bridgeport community. Mentors can do a variety of activities with their mentee. They may bring refugees grocery shopping, they may cook a meal together or they may just do something fun to build a friendship.

If this is something you believe your members may enjoy, please feel free to pass on our the attached flyers and e-mail me for more information. I would also be pleased to come speak with your group. We would love to have your help. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mattea Heller

Volunteer
International Institute of Connecticut
Bridgeport, Connecticut

<http://iiconn.org/>

The International Institute of Connecticut (IICONN) is a non-profit, non-sectarian agency dedicated to helping foreign-born persons achieve self-sufficiency. Our services include refugee resettlement, English and citizenship classes, counseling, translation/interpretation services and legal assistance.

IICONN advocates for fair and equitable treatment of immigrants, refugees and others, and works to increase public awareness of the contributions of foreign-born persons to American culture and values.

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 resources at <http://www.peacecorps.gov/resources/returned/home/>

Other Upcoming events

of potential interest:

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

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



CTRPCV POTLUCK DINNER

- ✓ Open board meeting
- ✓ Hike in the woods

CTRPCV Annual Potluck Dinner

**Saturday, September 13 at 5:30 PM
at CT Forest and Parks Bldg. in Rockfall**

- **Our Board Meeting** that is open to everyone will be held at **2 PM** in the same room as the potluck dinner. New ideas are always welcome!
- We are also planning a **hike from 4 - 5:30 PM**. The woods surrounding the CT Forest & Parks building where we meet has marked trails that are open to the public. So we would like to take advantage of that opportunity.
- Anyone interested in being with Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and hearing our Peace Corps stories is welcome to attend our events!!!

❖ **Elizabeth Toomey** will share with us photos that document her use of the CTRPCV Community Service Grant that she received while she was a **PCV in Madagascar**. A few of us have seen her presentation... you're going to love it!

- ❖ Come share some RPCV food at our annual potluck dinner.
- Meet & Greet 5:30 – 6 PM.
 - Dinner will start at 6 PM.

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!
- ❖ All the proceeds from the Instant Raffle go into our CTRPCV Community Service Grant Fund.
 - 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...

Where:

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

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. Maureen will stay in the room to accept food and raffle items since she cannot hike. Yes, her broken is healing... but hiking is not her best activity right now.

Annual Potluck 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.

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!](#)