

# CONNECTICUT RPCV

Newsletter—June 2016



Peace Corps

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 5, 2016  
[ART IN THE PARK](#)

Saturday, June 25, 2016  
[HARTFORD LATINO FEST](#)

Saturday, July 2, 2016  
[HOLE IN THE WALL  
GANG CAMP](#)

## CTRPCV OFFICERS

President: Terese Maineri  
[TMaineri@yahoo.com](mailto:TMaineri@yahoo.com)

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[Bryan.Garcia@ctgreenbank.com](mailto:Bryan.Garcia@ctgreenbank.com)

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Jonathan coaching local kids during a flag football summer camp.  
Photo courtesy of Jonathan William Rosario (Paraguay, 2011–2013).



01/10/2013 08:38 AM



**TIME:** 10 am – 4 pm.

**ARTIST VENDORS:** Fine artists and high-quality crafters producing original, hand-crafted work such as painting, ceramics, sculpture, photography, digital art, illustration, jewelry, fiber arts, etc. are

welcome to apply.

**LIVE ART:** Artists are encouraged to host interactive projects or provide demonstrations for learning and entertainment.

**PERFORMING ARTISTS:** The Main Stage will feature music, vocals, spoken word and dance of all kinds. Please contact us if you would like to perform.

**FOOD VENDORS:** Food vendors and trucks are welcome. Manchester food licenses required. No water or electrical available. Health Dept. inspections apply the morning of the event.

**ACCEPTANCE & AWARDS:** Jurors will review artwork. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by email. Awards TBD.

**LOGISTICS:** Every booth is a 10x10' corner (pods of 4) with 2 sides open to the public and 1 foot for storage. Artists are responsible for set up assisted by available volunteers. Canopy tents are suggested. Weights are required. Secure all displays for public safety. There is no limit to the number of pieces you can exhibit.

**SALES:** Sales are handled by the vendor with no commission taken. You may sell art, prints, other artistic work and future commissions. We suggest you are equipped to accept credit cards. To sell goods in CT, tax numbers are required. They can be acquired at [ct.gov/drs/lib/drs/fillable\\_applications/reg-1.pdf](http://ct.gov/drs/lib/drs/fillable_applications/reg-1.pdf) for a fee.

**VOLUNTEERS:** Consider lending help and expertise in areas of marketing, administration and fundraising. We need help building signs, poster distribution, and more.

**DONATIONS:** Think of us if you have access to goods or services to help general operations, supplies, hospitality, copy, print, etc. Donations are tax deductible.

**SPONSORS:** We seek corporate and community support. Personalized Sponsor Kits that spell out benefits and giving levels are available.

**INSURANCE AND LIABILITY:** Young @ Art, Imagine Main Street, Cynthia Bulaong, volunteers and staff assume no responsibility for the value of artwork. Artist is responsible for their own insurance against theft or damage at any time.

AITP reserves the right to refuse any individual, organization or booth set-up. All content subject to AITP approval.

For more information, contact Cynthia Bulaong, Event Coordinator at [artintheparkmanchester@gmail.com](mailto:artintheparkmanchester@gmail.com).

\*\*\*If you attend any of our events, please make sure to take photos to share on our website! You can send photos with a short description to [president@ctrpcv.org](mailto:president@ctrpcv.org)\*\*\*

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On Saturday, July 2, 2016 we will be volunteering our time 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 life-threatening diseases. All of the camp's services are free of charge. This unique camp, created by Paul Newman, provides a sense of normalcy for children who may have missed out on aspects of their childhood.

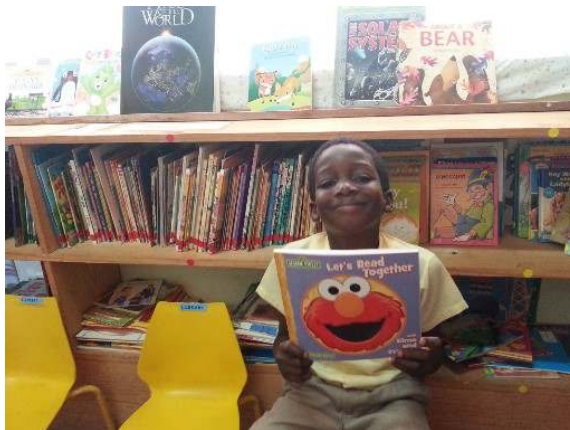
We will help to change bed linens (about 150 beds) for the campers who will arrive the following day. It will truly be a rewarding project and well worth our time and efforts.

If you would like to attend, or for more info., please contact Lois Fucci at [lafj@att.net](mailto:lafj@att.net).



Alexander Zielske, a PCV in Grenada sent this short, but sweet note "Thank you Darien and Jeff Sonshine RPCV Ecuador 1970-1972!" Jeff had helped pack books when Darien Book Aid volunteered to pack books for PCVs who request books that they use when they are teaching. Darien Book Aid has been sending books to PCVs for decades... indeed some of the "more mature" RPCVs remember "book lockers" that DBA would send to PCVs. What is marvelous is the fact that this work is still going on and as you can see in the faces of the children in these photos, the books are treasures that are enjoyed for years.

Please consider volunteering at Darien Book Aid on your own... or feel free to join us when we go as a CTRPCV group. During a normal year Darien Book Aid will send between 22,000-25,000 pounds of books to between 300-500 PCVs. For more information about DBA, 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).



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Please support a local campaign: Connecticut Returned Peace Corps Volunteer member, Philippa Wood (Guatemala, 2009), is looking to raise funds for [Outside Perspectives](#), a nonprofit expedition program that aims to partner with youth development organizations to provide transformative outdoor experiences. Their immersive wilderness expeditions for under-served youth from New York City and larger cities in Connecticut will help create focus for teens who are often looking for direction. [Find out more and donate HERE!](#)



Below is an email we received recently from CTRPCV supporter Dan Rossano:

I wanted to share some exciting news! I've officially started up a bike touring company called BikeTrex! We're based out of northern Connecticut and plan to lead bike trips all around the New England area to start, then eventually expand to other states and ride international trips!

Why choose us?!

Because we're awesome! I've been riding with groups for over 3 years and have lots of experience. We know where to find the best views, the best restaurants and pubs, and the many hidden treasures of each area we tour. And our leaders are qualified, medically trained, and professional. Get out of the city get out of the house and come enjoy being outside!

Please help me by sharing this information with your friends and family. Sign up for our mailing list for all the latest news and updates. Our first tour starts in May 2016 from Monroe, CT!

Please visit our website: <http://www.ridebiketrex.com/>

Thanks!  
Dan

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## Early Bird Registration

[Early bird registration](#) is underway for Peace Corps Beyond, our 55th anniversary national gathering running from September 21st through September 25th.

Our gathering will include a major Capitol Hill advocacy mobilization, which will be free of charge (though we urge you to make a contribution if you can to support the day). We want advocates from all fifty states to join us and make the case for increased Peace Corps funding and improved post-service health care for RPCVs in need.



Make plans for an advocacy orientation session on the early evening of September 21st and a full day of Capitol Hill citizen lobbying on September 22nd.

Don't delay! [Register now!](#) Early bird prices run through June 1st.

Read more about [Peace Corps Beyond](#).

## You Hit the Mark!

We asked for 10,000 messages to Congress in May.

**Congratulations! You Delivered!**

Nearly 10,500 messages have been sent to Congress since May 1st, urging a \$450 million Peace Corps appropriation in Fiscal Year 2017.

You can still [take action now](#) if you have not yet done so!

Let's end the month with 11,000, 12,000 or even 13,000 messages!

[Click here](#) to see how your state is responding to this action.



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Dear NPCA Member,

It's time to renew your affiliate group membership in the group(s) you see listed below. Affiliate groups are at the core of the National Peace Corps Association's (NPCA) efforts to champion the Peace Corps community. And with more than 150 affiliate groups - representing over 60 Peace Corps countries - ours is a vibrant community that has significant impact on the world around us.

Our affiliate groups put the Third Goal in action. They keep you connected to your fellow RPCVs. And, they provide service opportunities that impact both local and global communities. Your membership and participation, at whatever level, is key to their success. Renew your membership and stay connected to your Peace Corps community. Together, we can accomplish so much.

Renew your affiliate group membership(s) listed at the foot of this email today.

#### How do you renew?

Renew all of your groups at once by logging into your NPCA profile [here](#). (If you need to retrieve your login, use the "Forgotten Your Login?" link on that page.) Click the "Renew" tab and follow the onscreen prompts to complete your payment.

In addition to renewing your affiliate group membership, I invite you to also consider becoming an **NPCA Mission Partner** to support our core goals: 1) increasing the Peace Corps community's development impact, 2) enabling RPCVs to thrive back home and 3) advocating for bigger, better Peace Corps. To become a Mission Partner, simply [make a tax-deductible donation](#) of \$50 or more after you've completed your affiliate group renewal.

Thank you for your commitment and for all that you do to bring the world home!

In service,

*Glenn Blumhorst*  
**NPCA President & CEO**  
**RPCV Guatemala 1988-1981**

*Please note: If you prefer to renew by check, please make it out to "NPCA" and mail to our office at National Peace Corps Association: 1900 L Street NW, Suite 610, Washington, DC 20036*

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# 6.1.16

 [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov)

 @PCThirdGoal

 Peace Corps Third Goal

Tune in on social media for the [big announcement](#)

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[RPCV Storytelling Contest](#)



[Participate in Pilot Program](#)



[Storytelling Training June 7](#)

**We want your  
RPCV Bio!**

What path did  
you take?



[Send Us Your Bio](#)

## CONTACT US

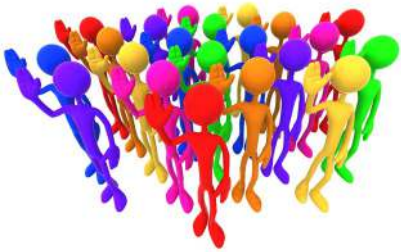
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# MISCELLANEOUS

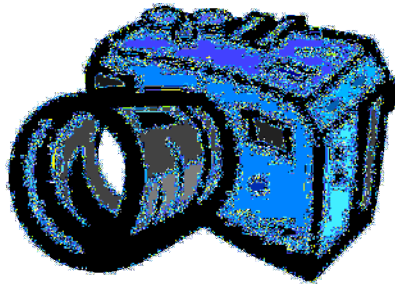
Have an event or community service idea?  
Let's make it happen!!

Share your ideas with us and let's make your ideas come to life. We can help spread the word through our social media platforms and the monthly newsletter. Events can be as simple as "Let's meet up at [restaurant name] on [date]". Email us at [president@ctrpcv.org](mailto:president@ctrpcv.org).



## CALL FOR PHOTOS!!!

We are redesigning and updating our website and we need your help! If you have any photos from your service or from any of our past CTRPCV events, and wouldn't mind sharing them with us, please send them to our email address, [president@ctrpcv.org](mailto:president@ctrpcv.org). For each photo, please attach a description of the photo's contents and yourself. Please include your name, country and years of service along with who/what is shown in the photo and a caption for the photo.



PEACE CORPS  
RESPONSE

Peace Corps Response (PCR) provides qualified professionals the opportunity to serve in rewarding, short-term assignments, in various programs around the world. When you serve as a PCR Volunteer, you bring your skills and experience to projects in places where you are needed most. PCR is recruiting talented Volunteers to serve in a wide range of positions and countries including Georgia, the Philippines and Vanuatu. Opportunities are available in all six program areas and selected applicants can be in the field as early as January.

If you are interested in learning more about Peace Corps Response, please visit <http://www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/response/> or send an email to [pcresponse@peacecorps.gov](mailto:pcresponse@peacecorps.gov) to schedule an informational interview with your local Peace Corps recruiter.

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# MISCELLANEOUS

We are updating our website and need your help! We will be debuting a new section of our website called 'CTRPCV Profiles' in which we will briefly share our members' stories. If you would like to take part, please fill out the questionnaire below and email your responses, along with photos from your service that you would like to have published on our website, to [president@ctrpcv.org](mailto:president@ctrpcv.org).

## CTRPCV Profiles

Who are you (please include name, country of service, years of service and anything else you want to add)?

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Why did you choose to serve as a Peace Corps Volunteer?

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What did you do as a Peace Corps Volunteer?

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Can you share your favorite memory from service?

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How has serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer affected your life?

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What advice do you have for prospective Peace Corps Volunteers?

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Do you have anything else you would like to share with our readers related to you or your PC service (stories, poems, quotes, etc.)?

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# MISCELLANEOUS



**We  
Need  
Your  
Help  
Please**

## **HELP WANTED at CTRPCV!**

We currently have openings for the following positions:

**FUNDRAISER:** Devises ways to replenish our CTRPCV Community Service Fund. All ideas are welcome.

### **SOCIAL EVENTS**

**COORDINATOR:** Hosts/plans restaurant outings, pot-luck dinners, etc.

We are also searching for the following positions ASAP as Jonathan Rosario has accepted an employment position in Washington DC and will be this month:

### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

- Design the newsletter as you wish! You can keep the current design or create your own. The current design was created using Microsoft Publisher, but you are free to use any program you would like.
- Incorporate new information into the newsletter including new events, advocacy updates, CTRPCV announcements, etc. (Most info. remains relevant for several months, so you would not have to create a completely new newsletter each month. You can simply update the previous month's newsletter)
- Eliminate outdated information.
- Correspond with CTRPCV officers to ensure all information is relevant and up-to-date.
- Email the newsletter at the end of each month to [president@ctrpcv.org](mailto:president@ctrpcv.org). Our email coordinator/website updater, Jonathan Rosario, will then make sure to send it to all newsletter recipients on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month and upload to our website.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR:**

- Maintain up-to-date information across our social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn).
- Create Facebook events as they are planned by the CTRPCV officers.
- Maintain email communication with CTRPCV officers.
- Engage with social media community members by responding to their questions.
- Increase membership.

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[Maureenshanley@hotmail.com](mailto:Maureenshanley@hotmail.com)

## CONTACT US

E-MAIL: [President@ctrpcv.org](mailto:President@ctrpcv.org)

POST MAIL: CTRPCV, P.O. Box 1803, Hartford, CT 06144

[Official website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[LinkedIn](#)



## CTRPCV needs more PAID MEMBERS \$\$\$

If you are interested in participating in the above-mentioned CTRPCV events, please also consider joining our group. If you would like to join and/or pay your annual CTRPCV membership fees, please go to the NPCA's website at [www.peacecorpsconnect.org](http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org). Login/Register at the top right of the page. Once logged in, you can choose to pay your CTRPCV membership dues only or make a donation to NPCA as well; the choice is yours.

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

### WHY someone should join 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 of 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 new 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. Please let us know if you have a business that you would like to have posed on our website.

FYI: Your dues pay our expenses, e.g. room rental for meetings, supplies for potluck meetings, group NPCA membership dues, state filing fees, communication costs (postage, paper, internet costs), etc.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 5, 2016  
[ART IN THE PARK](#)

Saturday, June 25, 2016  
[HARTFORD LATINO FEST](#)

Saturday, July 2, 2016  
[HOLE IN THE WALL  
GANG CAMP](#)

## CTRPCV OFFICERS

President: Terese Maineri  
[TMaineri@yahoo.com](mailto:TMaineri@yahoo.com)

Vice-President: Bryan Garcia  
[Bryan.Garcia@ctgreenbank.com](mailto:Bryan.Garcia@ctgreenbank.com)

Treasurer: Mike Hilton  
[Mjhilt@comcast.net](mailto:Mjhilt@comcast.net)

Secretary: Jillian Corley  
[JillianOCorley@gmail.com](mailto:JillianOCorley@gmail.com)

Newsletter: Jonathan Rosario (interim)  
[Rosario014@yahoo.com](mailto:Rosario014@yahoo.com)

Member-at-Large: Al May  
[AMay47@SBCglobal.net](mailto:AMay47@SBCglobal.net)

Comm. Svc. Fund: Maureen Shanley  
[Maureenshanley@hotmail.com](mailto:Maureenshanley@hotmail.com)

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