



Connecticut RPCV E-News

December 2011 Maureen Shanley, Chapter President, MaureenShanley@hotmail.com
This issue is found at <http://www.ctrpcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/CTRPCV1211.pdf>
[Click here to open the issue and activate the links on these pages.](#)

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CTRPCV Holiday Party ... Sat. 12/3 at 6 PM

Come and share a fun filled evening!

Becky and Claude Errera have been kind enough to open their home to our CTRPCV group for a HOLIDAY PARTY on December 3 from 6 PM - 9 PM. **A board meeting at 3 pm will precede the party.** [learn more](#)

Women's Fair Trade Market

Sat Dec 10th, 6 - 10 PM, or drop in earlier if you have another event.
Open House, so come for an hour or stay the whole evening.

56 Deerfield Lane, Bethany CT 06534 203-393-9203

Becky Errera - becky@smallbits.com [learn more](#)

CT RPCVs Help Darien Book Aid Help PCVs

January 7, 2012 Saturday... 9 - noon

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] [learn more](#)

CT Food Bank ...CTRPCV will sort food ... on April 21

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. [learn more](#)

PC Photo Contest

50th anniversary
celebration in
Dominican Republic

Request for NPCA
donation

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

Get updated news about
events and our members!

National Peace Corps
Association

Stay connected to our
national community and
representation in
Washington!

Peace Corps Website

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

Peace Corps Encore!

Want to do it again?
Encore! sends former
Peace Corps Volunteers
and staff members back
into the field on short-term



CTRPCV Holiday Party ...

Sat. 12/3 at 6 PM

**There will be a board meeting at
starting at 3 pm before the party.**

Come and share a fun filled evening!

Becky and Claude Errera have been kind enough to open their home to our CTRPCV group for a HOLIDAY PARTY on December 3 from 6 PM - 9 PM. Learn more Our hosts will prepare a main meat dish and CTRPCV will supply the soda & paper/plastic products.

Attendees are asked to bring your favorite holiday appetizer, side dish or dessert to share. If you'd like, bring some wine or beer, but eggnog and soda will be served.

We would appreciate an **RSVP** so we can prepare ahead of time. Let Maureen know what food item you plan to bring. Call Maureen at 203-775-9222 or email MaureenShanley@hotmail.com so that we will know how many people are planning on attending... and so we don't end up with 12 desserts and no appetizers, wine or beer.



**Please bring... Something Special for the
Raffle...** an item that would make a *nice gift* for a friend or family member.

We would appreciate something that is a bit special. In the past we have raised \$550 at this event for our CTRPCV Community Service Fund.

Since we are asking for a higher quality raffle item for this Holiday Event, the price of instant raffle tickets will be higher than normal. As always, the proceeds will go to our Community Service Fund.

Directions:

56 Deerfield Lane, Bethany, CT 06524

Phone: (203) 393-9203 Cell: (203) 887-4844 [Note: there is no cell coverage INSIDE the house; I include the number in case I'm out when you call. Try home first, cell if you get no answer.]

From the West:

- Take I-84 to exit 19 (Route 8 South)
- Follow Route 8 to exit 26 (Route 63, Bethany).
 - Go left off the exit ramp, pass under the highway, and turn right at the light.
 - This puts you on Route 63. Head south on 63 for 5.3 miles. This SHOULD put you at the top of a hill, next to a big green building.
 - A landmark: there's a traffic light at the BOTTOM of the hill, at the intersection of 63 and Route 42; this is just under a mile before the big green building.
- Turn right just after the big green building, onto Fairwood Road, and head down 0.5 miles.

<p>assignments (typically three weeks to three months) that match their professional expertise with specific social needs.</p> <p>Contact Us</p> <p>http://www.ctrpcv.org</p> <p>ctrpcv@gmail.com</p> <p>Other links of interest :</p> <p>Peace Corps Online</p> <p><i>The Independent News Forum serving Returned Peace Corps Volunteers</i></p> <p>PC Online Crossroads</p> <p><i>Links to every Peace Corp website you can think of!</i></p> <p>Peace Corps Writers <i>A site for returned Peace Corps volunteers to post their stories. Offers writing workshops, awards, publishing, and other resources; newsletter archives, etc.</i></p> <p>Global TeachNet <i>The objective of Global TeachNet is to promote students' knowledge of, understanding of and respect for the people, cultures and nations of the world. Global TeachNet is this country's premier resource for global education.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first left turn is Deerfield Lane. Follow it all the way to the end (0.25 miles) - we're the last house on the street. • It's the big triangular looking thing, pinkish in color. (Go straight through the circle.) It's number 56. • <p>From the South:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Take I-95 to exit 27A (Route 25 & Route 8). ○ 3.5 miles after you get on 8, Route 25 splits off to the left. ○ Stay right (on Route 8). ○ Take Exit 22 (Bank Street) - 14.9 miles from the split. ○ Go left off the exit ramp, and then right onto Route 67 at the next stop sign (maybe 200 yards up). ○ Follow Route 67 until it ends in a T - 4.4 miles. ○ Turn left onto Route 63 (north), and stay on it into Bethany - 4.8 miles. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You'll pass the Bethany Airport on your left, then Billy's Ice Cream on your right and the new Fire station on the left; • you want the next real road on the left after that. It's Fairwood Road, and there's a big green building on the corner. ○ Turn left into Fairwood, and head down 0.5 miles. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first left turn is Deerfield Lane. Follow it all the way to the end (0.25 miles) - we're the last house on the street. • It's the big triangular looking thing, pinkish in color. (Go straight through the circle.) It's number 56. <hr/> <h2>For Women ONLY!!!</h2> <p>Women's Fair Trade Market Sat Dec 10th, 6 - 10 PM, or drop in earlier if you have another event. Open House, so come for an hour or stay the whole evening. 56 Deerfield Lane, Bethany CT 06534 203-393-9203 Becky Errera becky@smallbits.com</p> <p>What you will find: Alternative Gift Shopping Good Food and Drink Free Chair Massages The company of great women Love, Joy, Satisfaction</p> <p>What to bring: An appetizer or a dessert Money for shopping Open, Caring Hearts</p> <p>This annual alternative gift shopping evening is designed to offer a unique</p>
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shopping experience that supports women in need throughout the world. All proceeds will go towards one of several development projects focused on women and children, and most items are made by hand by the women themselves.

Many of the vendors from the past will be returning. This year we will add gifts from Made by Survivors, benefiting survivors of human trafficking.

If you have items to sell in support of your favorite organization, please get in touch with me to make arrangements for display.

This is a for women, by women event, so if you are not a woman and received this invitation, please pass it along to your wives, sisters, mothers and daughters.

CT RPCVs Help Darien Book Aid Help PCVs



January 7, 2012 Saturday... 9 - Noon

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]

Two years ago when we last packed books at DBA, a PCV on his way to the airport to return to his PC post in Africa stopped by DBA to thank them for the books they had sent to him and to tell them the difference that these books were making in his village. His visit made us (CTRPCVs) realize that our few hours of packing boxes of books for PCVs *IS REALLY IMPORTANT*.

Perhaps some of you read books that were in the PC library in your country that DBA had sent.

Please give a few hours to return the favor and support a PCV who is now serving.

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. DBA needs volunteers to pack boxes, select books to ship, sort books and much more. As Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, you know how much of an impact educational materials can have on a community.

You can also Bring books – check their website <http://dba.darien.org>

Frequently Requested Books

- * Children's Books - for all ages - preschool to teen levels, fiction and non-fiction

- * Classics - and simplified classics

- * Dictionaries in English, picture dictionaries, Spanish/English and French/English dictionaries

- * Encyclopedias on CD ROM. Other information on CD ROM (PC format)

- * English readers and grammar

- * Crafts & how-to Books

- * Health, "Where There is No Doctor" type books

- * Science

- * Agriculture, vegetable gardening, beekeeping, animal husbandry

- * Ecology and environment

- * Books in Spanish or French for native speakers in all subjects

- * Paperback editions of recent novels (mysteries, fiction, etc.)

- * National Geographic - no more than 5 years old

- * Textbooks

Text books (not older than 10 years) with up-to-date content are accepted.

Darien Book Aid would love to hear for 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.



CT Food Bank ...

CTRPCV will sort food on April 21

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 21st from 9 AM to noon. Families welcome... it's a great service project for kids. If you are interested: call Lois Fucci at 203-239-0169.



Hole in The Wall Gang Camp

Volunteer Project... Saturday, June 30th in Ashford, CT

On June 30th, 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, lafucci@comcast.net.

WHEN: June 30th, Saturday

WHERE: Ashford, CT

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

Opportunities to serve through Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven

Every year volunteers contribute over 2,500 hours of time, either individually or as part of a group, to help Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven accomplish its goal of eliminating poverty housing in the New Haven area.

Volunteers participate in a large range of activities on behalf of HfHGNH, including volunteering on our construction sites or in the office, serving on one of our committees or working on special events.

For information about volunteering as an individual or as a group, please contact Ellen McNally, Volunteer Coordinator, at <mailto:emcnally@habitatgnh.org> or (203) 785-0794, x.10.

Ellen McNally, RPCV, Senegal 1977-78

Volunteer Coordinator

Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven

37 Union Street

New Haven, CT 06511

(203) 785-0794 (TEL); (203) 785-0679 (FAX) <http://www.habitatgnh.org>

Book recommendation by Meryl Menon

Being First by Robert Klein, a member of my group, Ghana I. Following are two links with descriptions.

http://www.wheatmark.com/merchant2/merchant.mvc?Screen=PROD&Product_Code=9781604944570&Category_Code=HIS

<http://www.amazon.com/Being-First-informal-history-early/dp/1604944579>

GrantStation membership

CTRPCV has a membership in GrantStation for one year. This enables us to search their data base to see if there are grants that we can apply for that would help us fund our CTRPCV Community Service Grant Fund. If anyone has some knowledge of how to apply for grants and would be interested in helping to search for grants, please contact Maureen Shanley at MaureenShanley@hotmail.com.



"Exotic" --- Recipes ... share yours!

At our Potluck Dinners people are always asking for the recipes of the food they just ate. Please think about making copies of your recipes to hand out. This is just another way to "Bring the World Back Home Again"! We'd love to put them on our website too!

PC photo contest for the 50th Year of PC

<http://collection.peacecorps.gov/>

"This resource provides a searchable collection of select electronic Peace Corps historical materials. This collection consists of materials from the Peace Corps archives and contributions from current and returned Peace Corps Volunteers and Staff... View the winning photos at <http://peacecorps.gov/photocontest> .

We encourage you to continue sharing your Peace Corps experience by contributing your photos and stories to the Peace Corps Digital Library."

Invitation to the 50th Anniversary of Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic, February 7-10 of 2012

"Greetings

My name is Charlie and I am a Peace Corps Volunteer serving in the Dominican Republic. It is with great pleasure that I invite you to join current Peace Corps Volunteers, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, staff and others for the 50th Anniversary of Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic.

The 50th Anniversary celebration in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on February 7-10 of 2012 will provide you with the opportunity to reflect over your Peace Corps experience, reconnect with fellow RPCVs, and to learn about what projects are shaping the service of volunteers today. Come join us for this historic occasion where you can take part in panel discussions, an artisan fair, and one of the many excursions we have planed to reacquaint you with the sun soaked country you once called home.

Participate in the history that you helped create, and share what made your Peace Corps service memorable! For more information and to register please visit the 50th Anniversary website at <http://50th.fotdr.org/>

I look forward to seeing you in February!
Charles Thompson
Peace Corps Volunteer, Dominican Republic”

From Jonathan Pearson, Advocacy Coordinator, National Peace Corps Association

“I am writing to make this personal request for an end-of-year donation to support NPCA's Advocacy Program.



Following September's 50th Anniversary Capitol Hill Advocacy Day, we received many comments on evaluations, including this:

"I am very excited about how I spent this day! What a fantastic way to participate in government in such a direct way to promote a cause I believe in very sincerely."

We were so pleased with many of the positive comments, appreciate the suggestions for improvement and look forward to continue providing advocacy mobilization and support to the Peace Corps community.

As the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps comes to a close, we remain committed to moving forward and advancing advocacy initiatives and other policies representing the values and ideals of Peace Corps service.



But we need your financial assistance to continue this progress.

As an independent non-profit organization, it is important to remind you that funds secured for the Peace Corps are not and can not be used to support NPCA's advocacy efforts. While we occasionally secure financial support from foundations, the number of foundations supporting advocacy efforts (especially related to the Peace Corps) is very limited and intermittent.

Therefore, **our success requires your support!** Eight years ago, when I was hired as NPCA's Advocacy Coordinator, I took on the position following a period when NPCA's advocacy program had been suspended due to a lack of funding.

We don't want that to happen again. We need to raise at least \$50,000 over the next six months to support activities such as our annual [National Day of Action](#) in Support of the Peace Corps (planned for next March), our District Meeting Advocacy Mobilization (planned for next September) and future advocacy trips to connect with members of the community.

If everyone opening this message makes a \$25 donation, we will be well on our way to our goal. And, if you can pass this message along to five friends and encourage them to support NPCA advocacy, we will be ready to go!

Please donate to NPCA Advocacy today!

I thank you for everything you do to raise your voice for global peace, justice, friendship and understanding. Best wishes during the holiday season.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Pearson, Advocacy Coordinator, National Peace Corps Association"



If you have story, event or RPCV you would like featured in Peace by Piece, please send an email to mlevine@peacecorps.gov with "Peace by Piece" in the subject



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!](#)

