

From: First Coast RPCV
To: [First Coast RPCV](#)
Subject: August News from the First Coast Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
Date: Tuesday, August 01, 2017 10:52:17 AM

Greetings fellow Volunteers,

I am still excited about the news that our FCRPCV group has been recognized, and will receive the Loret Miller Ruppe Award at the National Peace Corps Association meeting in Denver, on Sunday August 3. Rosemary Takacs, Paraguay & Guatemala, and Tom Potter, Philippines & NPCA Regional Board Member Southern region, will be receiving the award for FCRPCV. Rosemary will be back for our Happy Hour, on Wednesday, August 9, at BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse to tell us all about it. Hope to see you there. See below for details.

I also want to bring to your attention, several omissions, from the list of founding members of FCRPCV and the past Presidents who have helped our growth. Helen Covington, Tunisia & Ron Kephart, Grenada, were part of the original meetings. Past Presidents, after Steven Orr, Panama & Michael Fackler, Poland, include Katie Stokes, Costa Rica, Frances Luna, Niger and Naavid Khatabi, Micronesia. Thank you all.

Our Signature Project for 2017 was held last Saturday & Sunday. Saturday we baked 1000 Chocolate Chip cookies, and packed them, two to a package, complete with the FCRPCV logo. On Sunday, the Multi Cultural Event Welcoming Refugees to Jacksonville was started with an 11:00 am Mass, followed by a Celebration, complete with a Food Tasting from around the world and very lively singing, dancing and celebration.

Saturday, 10 of us, under the Chef leadership of Helen Covington, Tunisia, prepared the cookies packages. See our pictures below. Thank you Helen and the Baking Team.

I want to thank Bernadette Miron, Colombia, for bringing this effort from an idea stage to fruition. This is FCRPCV, Inc's first major effort to assist in the refugee crisis. We started small this year, but we did what was asked of us. We can and we will do more with your help. Through your support, we have raised approximately \$900 which was donated to support this event. That total includes money from our dues which was authorized by the Board, to pay for cookie dough and related baking expenses.

I also want to acknowledge the leadership of Michelle Karolak, Mauritania, and the Director, for the past 9 years, of Refugee

Resettlement at Catholic Charities. Michelle, and her staff, in particular Sarah Maley (Ja Htu Bu in her native Burmese), the Coordinator of POWR Parishes Organized to Welcome Refugees who was our contact for FCRPCV involvement. We will have a fuller report at a later date, but we wanted you to get this news while it was still fresh.

Enjoy the pictures and we hope to see you at our two events on Wednesday August 9 and Wednesday August 16.

CALENDAR

8/9/2017 WEDNESDAY, HAPPY HOUR 5:00-7:00 pm BJs Restaurant and Brewhouse

Located in: [Markets at Town Center](#)

[Address](#): 4907 Gate Pkwy, Jacksonville, FL 32246

Host: Joan Lipp lippj@bellsouth.net

8/16/2017 WEDNESDAY, 5:30-7:00 Retirement Party for Ellen Siler, Jamaica, and outgoing CEO of 25 Years at Hubbard House

Haskell Building, 111 Riverside Ave Jacksonville, FL 32202

RSVP to Development@HubbardHouse.org or [\(904\) 354-0076 Ext. 301](tel:(904)354-0076)

9/15/2017 FRIDAY, Lunch at Clara's at the Cathedral 11:00-1:00 pm
RSVP Rtakacs2@bellsouth.net

10/7/ 2017, SATURDAY, Pot Luck at the the home of Cecilia Bryant & Richard Lipsey, Borneo Sarwak, Black Creek Compound, in Middleburg, 2:00-5:00 pm [4060 Scenic Drive, Middleburg, FL .](#)

RSVP: rlipsey87@aol.com

11/19/2017 SUNDAY, 9th Annual Meeting from 2:00-5:00 pm at a location we hope south of Jacksonville so that all the St. Augustine RPCVs can attend as well. Stay Tuned.

All of the above brought to you by your FCRPCV, 2017 Board of Directors

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Kind regards,

Jan Miller
FCRPCV President
Botswana RPCV 2011-2013



Check out our updated website at <https://sites.google.com/site/fcrpcv/>
PLEASE Like us and follow us on Facebook: FIRST COAST RETURNED PEACE
CORPS VOLUNTEERS

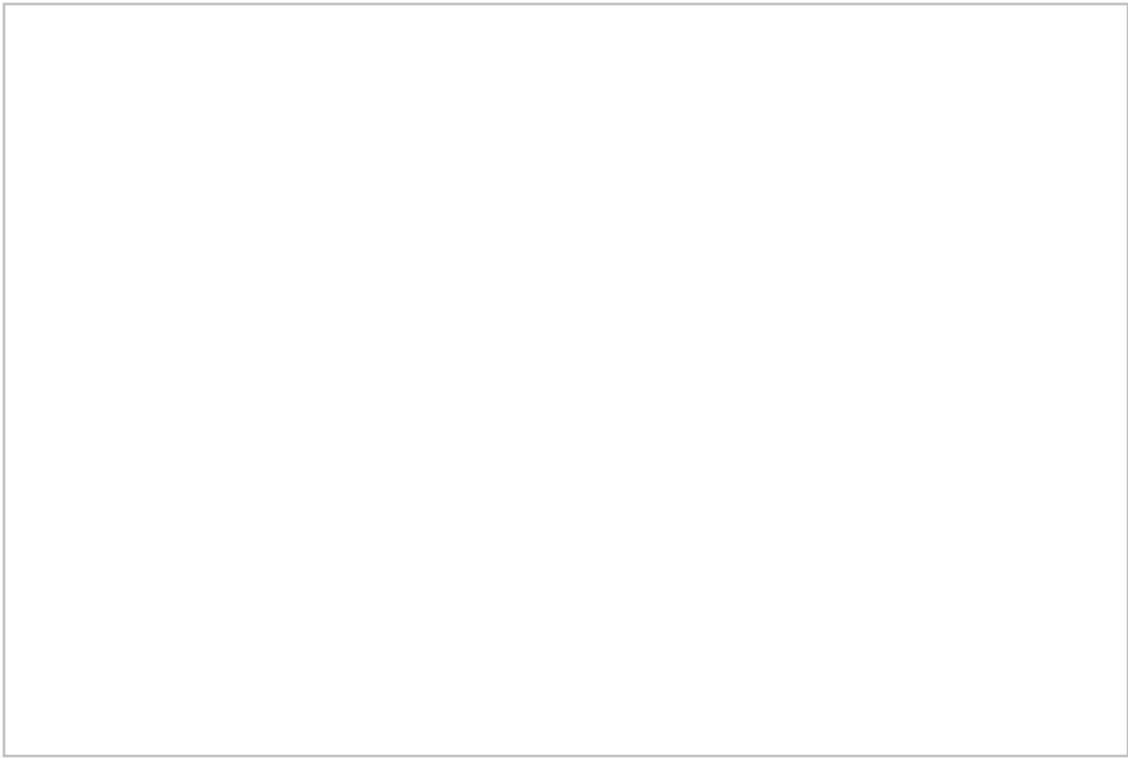
FCRPCV, Inc. is a non-profit organization which serves as an alumni group
of returned

Peace Corps volunteers, friends and family with the express purpose of
promoting the

Peace Corps and educating our fellow citizens about the countries where
we have served.

There are over 200 returned volunteers on the First Coast who have served
in over 66

countries. *Winner Loret Miller Ruppe Award 2018 from NPCA as an
Outstanding*



From the left standing, Rosemary Takacs, Pat Maguire, Jan Miller, Marianne Martin, David Miron, Maureen Orr, Joan Lipp, Michelle Karolak, Muen, Sitting from the left, Sarah Maley, Cal Marshall & Bernadette Miron



Helen Covington receiving her well deserved bag of cookies from Debbie & Muen on Sunday at the end of the food line



Pat Maguire & Cal Marshall show the results of 1 baking effort



Joan Lipp, Bernadette Miron & Maureen Orr demonstrate cleanup skills, and reminding us "life isn't always cookies & milk"



Steve Baker, Phil Stantial, Barbara Gubbin & Maureen Orr demonstrate exceptional patience ,waiting in line for an hour to receive their multi-cultural food tasting, sampling cookies helped ,somewhat.



With over 400 attendees at this Welcome to Refugees, Rosemary Takacs, friend Joan Ryan, my friend Barbara Fiser, and me, Jan Miller. We all enjoyed the food.



There were over 10 performances in their native costumes and dances: here is a troop of Burmese performers