

From: First Coast RPCV
To: [First Coast RPCV](#)
Subject: May Update from First Coast Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
Date: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 4:33:53 PM

Hi everyone we had a very delightful Pot Luck last Saturday, at the Ponte Vedra Beach home, of David & Bernadette Miron, Colombia. We had close to 50 attendees. Most important, we had a sendoff for 4 soon to be PCVs: Uganda, Linda Oliva, Deena Dieffenwierth, Tanzania, Carly Bucker, Macedonia & Chandler Williams, Kosovo. Pictures are below. Carly was unable to make the picture due to an ankle injury. We asked them "What question do you have for us as RPCVs?" If you want to answer their question, please do. We will forward your answers. "So knowing what you know now, what would you want to know before you started your Peace Corps Service?"

Advocacy & NPCA Update

FY17 Victory At Hand: A deal on a spending omnibus to fund the government through the end of this fiscal year. Included is level funding of \$410 million for Peace Corps, and a slight increase of close to 1% for the overall International Affairs Budget. This is due to a record number of 175 signatures from a bi-partisan group of representatives. We had a record breaking response from the Peace Corps community during the month of March & April. Thank you

For the first time in FCRPCV History, one of our paying members is running for a Board Seat on NPCA to represent the Southern Region.

We are pleased to present to you the candidates for election to a three-year term on National Peace Corps Association's (NPCA's) Board of Directors to represent the Southern U.S. region (Thomas L. Potter, PhD), the Western U.S. region (Keith Beck), and the Asia and Pacific country-of-service region (Jed Meline).

To Read about these candidates and vote [NPCA's 2017 Board Elections](#).

HAPPY HOUR ON THURSDAY, MAY 18 , 5:00- 7:00 pm at CITY BISTRO in ST. AUGUSTINE:

We have been promoting this Happy Hour to everyone on our mailing list who live south of Jacksonville. We are now reaching out to everyone. The Happy Hour get together is at the City Bistro <http://citybistrofl.com/> located at 1280 Ponce de Leon Blvd in St. Augustine. The owners are Ted Mooney, RPCV, Senegal, Country Director Lesotho & Uganda, spouse Robyn and Tash from S. Africa. Usually the City Bistro closes at 5:00 pm, but we will have the lovely restaurant to ourselves. There will be music! Host Ted Mooney, jemooney09@gmail.com

PARTNERSHIP DINNER SUNDAY, JUNE 11, FROM 4:00-7:00 pm at DON JUAN's MEXICAN RESTAURANT 12373 SAN JOSE BLVD

We discovered Kaylee Darlington Quezada, **Azerbaijan, 2011-2013**, when we updated our mailing list. Kaylee is the assistant manager, and daughter-in-law of Efrain Quezada, the owner of Don Juan Mexican Restaurant. Kaylee met her husband, Eder at UNF. He visited her in Azerbaijan, and after marriage, in Jacksonville, they honeymooned at her former site. What a great story. Don Juan's is a great place to have our annual Partnership Dinner. \$25 Fixed price menu, complete with soft drinks, including gratuity, with four choices of entrees, Meat, shrimp & vegetarian available. Happy Hour prices for drinks, extra. <http://www.donjuansjax.com/>
RSVP: fcrcpv@gmail.com

FCRPCV SIGNATURE PROJECT: MULTI-CULTURAL EVENT, JULY 30, AT CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH PARISH HALL

The Board, in January, voted to support a project involving Refugees. We are partnering with the **Refugee Resettlement, Catholic Charities Bureau, Inc.** which is directed by **Michelle Karolak, Mauritania, and case worker, Frances Luna, Niger.** Both of these RPCVs are doing a great job under very difficult political & financial circumstances. Through Michelle & Frances, we are connected to Sarah Maley, who for the 4th Year is conducting this event. It includes: **Food Tasting, Music, Cultural Booths, Entertainment.**

Our minor, but important role, is to supply 1000 Chocolate Chip Cookies, as a representation of Ethnic North American Food! During our Committee Meeting with the refugee women who have been organizing this event, for the past three years they said: " North Americans buy tickets BUT they never come. Please tell your group to come!."

At our Pot Luck, we assembled 500 bags to hold two cookies each with a sticker that says: "From your friends at First Coast Returned Peace Corps Volunteers". So if you would like to support this effort you can buy a ticket to this event for \$10.00. Come & buy one at the Partnership dinner or send your money to our Treasurer, TOM BLISS, Treasurer, FCRPCV, 1912 Hamilton ST, STE 107, Jacksonville FL 32210. You can also support our Signature Project, by making a contribution. All checks should be made out to First Coast Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Inc. All contributions are tax deductible. We are a 501 (C) 3 IRS organization.

CALENDAR PAST JULY

8/9/2017 Wednesday, HAPPY HOUR 5:00-7:00 pm Beaches Area Host Joan Lipp lippj@bellsouth.net

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

10/14/ 2017, Pot Luck at the the home of Cecilia Bryant & Richard Lipsey, Borneo Sarwak, Black Creek Compound, in Middleburg, 2:00-5:00 pm RSVP rlipse87@aol.com

November Annual Meeting TBD

MUST SEE BONUS VIDEO Published on Jun 20, 2012

At the end of his IISS Fullerton lecture 'The Future of Afghanistan' Karl Eikenberry, the former US Ambassador, identified three lessons he taken from the US Intervention. He explained the final lesson using an anecdote about Afghan village elders memories of USAID and Peace Corps

<https://youtu.be/vdAUv4Q8EDY>

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.



On the right see Chandler Williams off to Kosovo, Linda Oliva, off to Uganda and to Linda's upper left Deena Dieffenwierth.



Assembling Chocolate Chip Cookie Bags (500 of them) at Pot Luck.



FROM YOUR FRIENDS



First Coast

MEMBER OF THE FIRST COAST UNIVERSITY SYSTEM