

## Northern Virginia Returned Peace Corps Volunteers 2014 Annual Report

The newly formed Northern Virginia Returned Peace Corps Volunteer group (NOVA RPCV) became a National Peace Corps Association member in February, 2013. The group got its genesis from the formation of an interested group of returned volunteers in 2011 to celebrate the Peace Corps 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We currently have a very active board:

President - Jean Parcher  
Vice President - Steve Cristofar  
Secretary - Sarah Samuel  
Treasurer - Lynn Lillienthal

Other members on our board are:

Erica Brouillette, Community Service Activities Committee Chair  
Don Boileau, Parliament at Large  
Hannah Hamilton, Partnership and Grants Committee Chair  
Duane Karlen, Grants Committee member

During 2014, the NOVA RPCV held General meetings every other month on the second Sunday of the month, and Board meetings on the alternate months. The General meetings were normally held as pot luck dinners at member's houses or at an ethnic restaurant in the local Fairfax County area. The structure of the meetings normally included dinner and invited speakers. Notes from the General meetings and Board meetings are distributed to all members.

### **Highlights for NOVA RPCV in 2014 include the following:**

**Reston Trail Cleanup** – Each quarter the members meet to pick up trash along the Glade Pool trail in Reston. We now have an Adopt a Trail sign with our name on it.

**Habitat for Humanity Restore** – Volunteers participated at the Restore in Chantilly, VA, sorting and restocking donations in July.

### **Outreach and Communication**

Two major items have greatly helped in outreach.

- 1) NOVA RPCV trifold brochure – 300 of these were printed and are used to disseminate information about our group.
- 2) NOVA RPCV Facebook Group – this group is used to disseminate both information about NOVA RPCV activities and NPCA activities of interest to the group.

### **Fundraising**

For the second year in a row, NOVA RPCV sold the Madison, Wisconsin Peace Corps calendars. Each year we have successfully sold 50 calendars to our members and others.

## Northern Virginia Returned Peace Corps Volunteers 2014 Annual Report

**Reston Multicultural Festival** – In both 2013 and 2014, NOVA RPCV manned a booth at the Reston Multicultural Festival. Besides distributing Peace Corps information and discussing our Peace Corps experiences with visitors, the highlight of the booth was a map of the world on which visitors were invited to put in a colored pin in their country based on the following criteria:

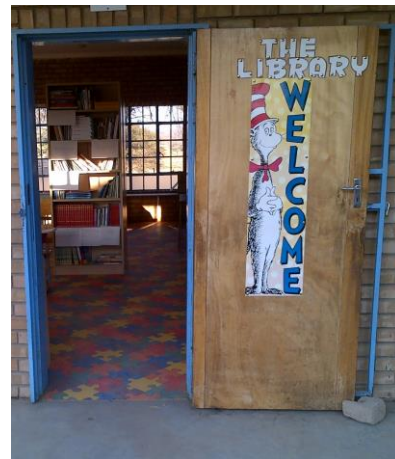
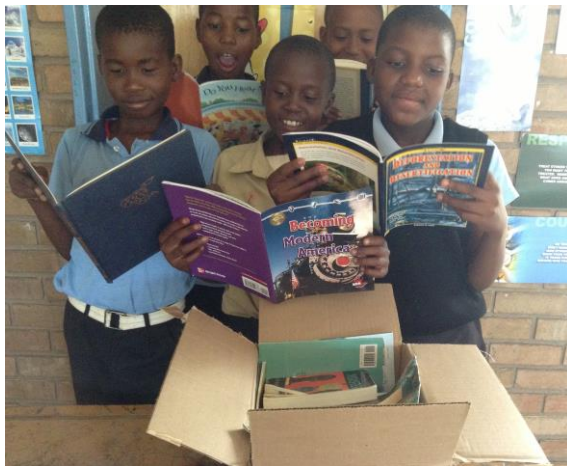
- a) Country of Peace Corps service (or family member who served),
- b) Country of birth
- c) Country of their ancestors
- d) Country that they have visited.

This map has been so successful that the Reston Magazine highlighted the map in their article about the 2014 Reston Multicultural Fest.



### Partnership Donations to Peace Corps Volunteers

Rosamund Loeb, currently serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Limpopo, South Africa, a member of our group from Fairfax County, requested donations of books, pens and pencils for the school and library in Limpopo, and funding to support Puberty Education and supplies for young women. NOVA RPCV stepped up to the plate and provided over \$300 in funding and many boxes of books and pens.



## Northern Virginia Returned Peace Corps Volunteers 2014 Annual Report

### **NPCA Activities**

Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill – Various members participated in this Spring event.

Nationals Game Peace Corps Night–NOVA RPCV was invited to stand on home plate while NPCA President Glenn Blumhorst threw out the first pitch. Additionally NOVA RPCV members volunteered to be flag bearers. Unfortunately the game was rained out and the events were rescheduled for the following evening.

### **Membership**

Currently we have 37 paying members, of which 30 are NPCA members. We have 110 people on our e-mail list. This number has grown since on our first mailing we had 70 members on our e-mail list.

### **Finances**

We have approximately \$1036 in our bank account. Income is generated from dues memberships and from calendar sales. Expenses are limited to materials used in the Reston Multicultural Fair and to renting a space to hold our Annual Meeting. In 2014 we also spent funds to print the trifold brochure about NOVA RPCV.