

From: Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida admin@rpcvsf.org
Subject: RPCVSF - February 2016's - News, Events and Opportunities
Date: February 18, 2016 at 5:26 PM
To: Marvin Hancock tmhr@me.com

RP

DON't MISS IT! Everglades Part 2, Peace Corps Leaders, Habitat for Humanity...



NEWSLETTER

February 2016



"Never cut down a tree in the wintertime. Never make a negative decision in the low time. Never make your most important decisions in your worst moods. Wait. Be patient. The storm will pass. The spring will come."

-Robert Schuller

[Renew your membership today](#) memberships lapsed on March 1.

Photo: Children looking at the Eco Pond, Anhinga Trail, Everglades National Park

Over 100 Children Living in Shelters Visit the Everglades, Thanks to RPCVSF!

Lead by RPCV Lindsey Niertka (Honduras 2004-2006) and her team of nearly 100 volunteers, for the 17th year in a row RPCVSF hosted an in depth experience at the Everglades National Park over 100 children from homeless shelters in South Florida. To enjoy some of the pictures of the event, please click on the following link:

[Everglades Photos 2016](#)

We wish to express our appreciation on behalf of RPCVSF and all the

RPCVSF Board Members

President

Virginia Emmons
McNaught
Niger, 2000-2002
Co-Founder &
President
Educate Tomorrow

Vice President

Caryn Lavernia
November 2007-2008

children who joined us at the park and especially to our title sponsor:

Kiwanis Club of Biscayne Bay Youth Foundation

If you missed the everglades outing, don't worry you have another chance! Join us for the [Everglades Part 2 Camp Out, February 20th](#) click to learn more.

Fair Trade Market

Contributed by Linda Whitmyre (Malaysia, 1967-1969)

The Fair Trade Market wrapped up 2015 with sales of \$6,084 assisting the "fair trade movement" by purchasing \$3,059 in inventory and donating profits of \$2,206. This brings our cumulative (since 2005) sales to \$55,408; inventory purchases, to \$26,702; donations, to \$22,177. Our current location (twice a month) is the Upper Eastside Farmer's Market, Biscayne Boulevard at 66th Street, Saturdays from 9 - 2. It's a great little market where people come on a regular basis to stock up on vegetables, bread, eggs, free range meats, juices Our new item at the Fair Trade Market is a silk (70%)/cotton (30%) blend scarf made by the ladies of Craftbeauty in Vietnam. Come by for a visit! As always, your ideas re: fair trade products and possible sales venues are appreciated. And if you would like to assist in selling, that would be great too! (lindawhitmyre@gmail.com).

Accepting Applicants - RPCVSF Peace Corps Leaders Program

RPCVSF is now accepting applications for RPCVSF Peace Corps Leaders Program.

This six month program is designed to launch, inspire and develop community leaders among the RPCVSF community. This leadership series will include private dinners with some of Miami's most notable Peace Corps volunteers and community leaders, leadership training, and amazing networking and mentoring experiences. If you are new to the area or are looking for new opportunities in South Florida, or need a boost of inspiration then please send a brief (no more than 200 words) motivation statement and resume to Caryn Lavernia at clavernia@yahoo.com. The first co-hort will be limited to 10 applicants. Application **Deadline: March 1, 2016.**

RPCVSF Peace Corps Leaders Program Details:

The RPCVSF Peace Corps Leaders Program will select up to 10 RPCVSF members who will inspire and lead our future and community. Building on the legacy of Peace Corps and the commitment we made to serving our country and community, we aim to connect RPCVSF leaders with Miami's most influential local and international leaders in our mutual goals to create a stronger community. To qualify you must be a member of RPCVSF, and be able to commit to a majority of the following agenda:

- Exclusive invitation to up to six private dinners with some of Miami's most prestigious leaders.
- Monthly check-ins with a mentor/coach in your area of interest and development.
- Monthly leadership/community building workshops.
- Involvement in a community project.

We are very excited about this new initiative and look forward to getting to know you. Keep your eyes on the calendar and we look forward to seeing you at the next event!

vanuatu, 2005-2008
Community
Engagement
Florida International
University

Vice President

Matt Tanner
Costa Rica 2006-2008
Director Workforce
Readiness
Miami Dade College

Secretary & Membership Co-Chair

Mary Lamberts
Thailand, 1970-1972

Treasurer & Webmaster

T. Marvin Hancock
Colombia, 1963-1966
Retired International
Bank President & CEO

Membership Co-Chair

Barbara Junge
Council, Damian &
Valori, LLP
Togo, 1985-1987

Fair Trade Market Director

Linda Whitmyre
Malaysia, 1967-1969

Co-Founder & Governance Chair

Greg Zell
Nigeria, 1962-1964
Attorney

Directors

In service,

Virginia Emmons McNaught

President, RPCVSF, Niger 2000-2002

Grace Dessa
Nicaragua, 2003-2005
Educator, Florida
Virtual

Byron Hauser
Ukraine, 2011-2013
Professor, Miami Dade
College

Corey Lewis
Haiti, 2002-2004
Manager of Corporate
Relations, Center for
Literature, Miami Dade
College

Matt Lord
China, 2009-2011

Lindsey Nieratka
Honduras, 2004-2006
City of Hollywood

Marilyn Page
Marshall Islands, 1966-
1969

Patty Phares
Samoa, 1972-1975

Doris Vincent
Venezuela, 1964-1966
Retired International
Credit Card Services
Professional

Members at Large

Even though we have a few hundred members we are always seeking assistance to lead events, groups, and small projects. If you

to be a member, please contact:

have a desire to get involved at any level, please contact Virginia Emmons McNaught by email:

president@rpcvsf.org

Upcoming Member Events

FEBRUARY

[16th Annual Everglades Outing - Part 2](#)

20 Feb 2016 11:00 AM (EST) • Everglades National Park

[Habitat for Humanity Work Day - Blitz Build Dedication Day](#)

27 Feb 2016 7:30 AM (EST) • Blitz Build (Perrine Area) - Exact Address to Be Provided to Participants

MARCH

[Peace Corps Week Celebration - Featuring TCP Global; a poolside happy hour celebration](#)

02 Mar 2016 6:00 PM (EST) • 2901 S. Bayshore Drive, Coconut Grove

[59th Ghana Independence Celebration](#)

12 Mar 2016 6:00 PM (EST) • SOUTH COUNTY CIVIC CENTER 16700 JOG RD., DELRAY BEACH, FL 33446 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM

[Board of Directors Meeting](#)

09 Mar 2016 6:00 PM (EST) • Educate Tomorrow (Park in the Women's Club Parking Lot), 1717 N. Bayshore Drive, Suite 203, Miami, FL 33132

[RPCVSF March for Gay Pride - 8th Annual Miami Beach Gay - Followed by Brunch on the Beach Pride Parade](#)

10 Apr 2016 12:00 PM (EDT) • 5th Street and Ocean Drive, Miami Beach

[All Upcoming Events-click here](#)

Do you not see an event you are expecting here? Or do you have an event or group you would like to organize for RPCVSF or need volunteers for a community project please email Virginia Emmons McNaught at president@rpcvsf.org

[RPCVSF Cooking & Conversation Club-click here](#)

[RPCVSF Dive Club - click here](#)

Post It! From Our Members

Job Announcements

YES Institute is hiring Community

[The Riverside House's](#) "Thinking for Change" life skills classes are weekly classes for 12-15 people, but they far exceed that so they in seeking volunteers, Spanish speaking preferred, to assist.

Trainers

www.yesinstitute.org **contact:** Joseph at joseph@yesinstitute.org

Volunteer Opportunities

Educate Tomorrow, lead by two Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, seeks volunteer educational mentors for youth "aging out of the foster care system." Join us to learn more about the amazing opportunities to do great third goal work with other returned volunteers.

Deliver the Dreams Seeks volunteers to assist in family weekend retreats for families with serious medical issues. Contact Elizabeth Coomber RPCV for more details: ecoomber@deliverthedream.org

The day/times are flexible. Please contact Larry if you are interested in volunteering at larrysilvester@me.com RPCVSF thanks Larry for his continued service and dedication to making our community a better one.

Interpreter Bank

RPCVs with foreign language proficiency can be a huge help during times of need. RPCVs who are available may be asked to support as interpreters for newly arrived immigrants, especially unaccompanied minors project.

Please fill out the registration form with the languages you speak and your fluency level. Please list if you can speak, read, and/or write.

If you would like to have something posted here, for the next newsletter please send your announcement to Virginia Emmons McNaught at president@rpcvsf.org

[Renew Membership Today, Click Here!](#)

[RSVP for an Event, Click Here!](#)

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