

From: Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida Rpcvsf@wildapricot.org  
Subject: RPCVSF's August Newsletter  
Date: August 7, 2019 at 5:30 PM  
To: Marvin Hancock tmhr@me.com

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Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida is *your* group—please join us for fun get-togethers, community service activities, job/life networking, great events, stimulating conversation, and much more. Read on and get involved!



# Tropical Currents

The RPCVSF Newsletter

August 2019

## Quick Event Links

**August 23**

[Happy Hour](#)



Join us at [Mai-Kai Restaurant](#) in Ft. Lauderdale for half-price drinks and food with the RPCVSF crew.

**September 6–8**

[Annual Retreat in Key Largo](#)



Join us for a beautiful weekend at [Amoray Dive Resort](#) in Key Largo.

**October 12**

[Spirit of Service Learning Awards](#)



Celebrate incredible educators in the the South Florida community with us.

## Hello from the Marlins Game!





Photo Above: Our RPCVSVF group at the Marlins vs. Diamondbacks game on July 27th

## Take Action



Write Your Representatives

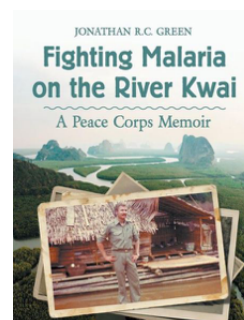
Florida Senator **Rick Scott** has introduced a bill, [S.2320](#), to make Peace Corps part of the U.S. Department of State. This proposal puts PCVs work and well-being at risk. Since its creation by President Kennedy in 1961, Peace Corps has been **intentionally apolitical**, not a foreign policy program. Folding Peace Corps into the State Department would change that, creating suspicion within countries where Peace Corps Volunteers serve, thereby **jeopardizing** the program and potentially putting Peace Corps Volunteers at **greater personal risk**. If you're concerned, please follow the link to NPCA's website and send a letter to your state senators. Thank you!

## RPCV Books

## New Memoir Available

**Jonathan Green** is an RPCV twice over. Newly retired, he decided to write his memoirs of his first host country, **Thailand**, where he served 1973–75. *Fighting Malaria on the River Kwai* is now available in hard copy and ebook via [Amazon](#) and [Barnes and Noble](#). His assignment was to **fight malaria** through mosquito population control in remote jungle villages in the valley of the River Kwai.

[Read More](#)



## 2019 Moritz Thomsen Winner Announced



[The Moritz Thomsen Peace Corps Experience Award](#) was initiated in 1992 and is presented annually to a Peace Corps Volunteer or staff member, past or present, for the **best depiction of life in the Peace Corps**. This year, former RPCVSF Board Member **Richard Sayette** (Russian Far East 1994–95) was honored for his work *The Vodka Diaries: A Peace Corps Volunteer's Adventures in Russia*, available on [Amazon](#). The book takes a humorous and insightful look at the cultural differences between America and Russia as well as providing a glimpse at how his Russian friends and colleagues coped with all the changes to their daily lives. Rich and his wife, Heather, RPCV Paraguay, are both former members of RPCVSF and met here in Miami.

[Read More](#)

## Job Opportunities

### United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

The **Kendall field office** (SW Miami Area) of USCIS, an agency of the US Department of Homeland Security, is seeking Returned PCVs for **three open positions**: Immigration Services Officer I, Immigration Services Officer II, and Immigration Services Assistant. The USCIS Kendall Field Office is located at [14675 SW 120<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33186](#). For more information, please [visit our website](#) or e-mail [Kristian.parker@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:Kristian.parker@uscis.dhs.gov).



[Email Kristian](mailto:Kristian.parker@uscis.dhs.gov)



# Volunteer Opportunities

## TCP Global Micro-loan Program



TCP Global builds zero-overhead, sustainable **micro-loan programs** currently **serving more than 20 sites in eight countries** but is approaching the limit of what a small group of volunteers can do.

Over the next few years, mentoring and management functions will gradually transfer to the National Peace Corps Association — Community Fund. To make sure this move is successful, TCP Global seeks to **enhance existing computer support** and they are looking for volunteers who have skills with databases and/or Excel.

They are also looking for RPCVs to assist in **bringing micro-loans to their PC sites** and serving as long-term mentors. For more information on either opportunity, please [contact Helene](#).

To learn more about TCP Global's work, please visit their [website](#), check out this [YouTube video](#), or follow them on [Facebook](#).

Email Helene

## RAA Board Members Wanted

The Board of Directors of [Refugee Assistance Alliance](#) (RAA) is looking to expand by 1–2 additional board members. RAA works with **more than 90 individuals** who have resettled in Miami-Dade and Broward counties to **improve their English skills and become more self-sufficient**. They are specifically looking for people with previous board or organizational experience, fundraising experience, and/or have large networks in Miami. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on RAA's board, please contact [kristen@refugeeassistancealliance.org](mailto:kristen@refugeeassistancealliance.org).



Email Kristen

## Travel Corner

### RPCVSF Goes to Paris

There's still space to join us for an **eight-day package to Paris** September 16–24, 2019. Stay in a **four-star hotel** in Paris. Visit **many Parisian hotspots** like the Louvre, L'Orangerie; Arc de Triomphe, Latin Quarter, and Notre Dame, to the extent allowed.



Have lunch in the Eiffel Tower at **Restaurant Jules Verne**. Admission to the tower is included with the meal. **Optional day trips** are available to Versailles, Giverny, Normandy, Fontainebleau, and Malmaison.

The land package costs \$2400pp. Airfare from MIA is about \$850pp. You may book air on your own and use miles or go through the travel agency. Prices for air change slightly almost weekly. If you are interested in this trip, email [travel@rpcvsf.org](mailto:travel@rpcvsf.org) **ASAP**. Your deposit will be your final commitment.

### Thailand Trip

If you are interested in our **comprehensive tour of Thailand** happening November 5–18, 2019, [email travel](#) ASAP. Air prices are creeping upward and hotels are filling up!

\*NOTE: These are not fundraisers. The Trip Leader is not compensated.\*

Email Travel

## Newsletter Help

Are you interested in helping us put together the newsletter? RPCVSF is **seeking a Newsletter Editor** to help with writing and editing our monthly newsletter. If you're interested in **volunteering your time and talents**, please email Jen at [newsletter@rpcvsf.org](mailto:newsletter@rpcvsf.org). Let us know if you'd like to flex your communication and journalism muscles for a good cause. Thank you!

Email Jen

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Thank you for selecting us as your charity on Amazon Smile. We've received **\$627.06** as of May 2019 because of you!

May 2019 because of you!



***Thank you for your membership. We hope to see you soon.***

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