

From: Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida Rpcvsf@wildapricot.org
Subject: The RPCVSF May 2018 Newsletter
Date: May 3, 2018 at 10:52 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!



Newsletter

May 2018

Bon Voyage!



Our annual Bon Voyage Picnic held on April 22nd was a success! It was a beautiful day at **A.D. Barnes Park**, and our pavilion was full of wonderful people, delicious food, and lots of Peace Corps stories! We had RPCVs, invitees, prospective applicants, and PC supporters. Oh, and did I mention the amazing potluck dishes? We also said good-bye to Steve Hunsicker as our PC Recruiter, though he's still in Miami, so it's more like *hasta luego*!

RPCVSF wishes **good luck** to all the new Peace Corps Volunteers about to embark on the **journey of a lifetime**. It will be challenging, inspiring, and incredible. We wish you all the best. See you when you get back!

when you all are back. See you when you get back.



Upcoming Events

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

Saturday, May 5th

This Saturday is the annual *cinco de mayo* party at Helene Dudley's beautiful home. This party has it all — **piñatas**, **mariachis**, **delicious food**, and of course our wonderful RPCVSF **community**. It's always a great evening. We hope you

can join us. The party starts at 5 p.m, the mariachis start about 6:30 p.m., and the fun won't stop until we're done.

Friends and families are welcome. Please bring a potluck dish to share and BYOB. The **Fair Trade Market** will be there too. Proceeds benefit **TCP Global's micro-loan program**. Join us at Helene's house at [2151 SW 17th Street, Miami, FL 33145](#)



[More Information](#)

[Email Helene](#)

Annual Retreat in Key Largo

Friday to Sunday, September 7th-9th



Please join us for our **annual RPCVSF membership retreat** September 7th to 9th in Key Largo at the lovely [Amoray Resort](http://www.amoray.com/).

While Hurricane Irma caused us to cancel last year's retreat, in past years we have had more than 70 RPCVs and their families and friends **join us for a great weekend together**. We hope you'll be with us this year.

Amoray is a waterfront resort with a small beach. Kayaking, sailing, snorkeling, and SCUBA diving are all available. Reservations for Friday and Saturday night can be made directly with the resort: (305) 451-3595 or <http://www.amoray.com/>.

Be sure to tell them you are with the Peace Corps Volunteers group for a **20% discount off the room rate**. If you want to share a room, please let us know and we'll try to match you with a roommate for the weekend. Kids are very welcome! For the **full weekend itinerary**, please see our website. We look forward to seeing you in the Keys!

[More Information](#)

[RSVP](#)

Write Your Peace Corps Book

Unleash your inner writer with **John Coyne** (Ethiopia 1962–1964). John will lead a **two-month seminar** beginning this June for RPCVs who want to tell their Peace Corps story. The online seminar will feature videos, class discussions, and individual phone conversations. The seminar will be **limited to ten students** and have a flexible schedule. Besides writing, the seminar will also focus on ways to publish and promote a finished manuscript.



John is the author of 26 books of **award-winning fiction and nonfiction**, including his Peace Corps novel, *Long Ago and Far Away* (2014) and *How to Write a Novel in 100 Days* (2013) and is also the editor of www.peacecorpsworldwide.org. Interested RPCVs should contact John at jcoyneone@gmail.com to secure a spot in the seminar.

[Email John](#)

Grant Opportunities

Grant Opportunities

Citi Foundation's Youth Workforce Fund

The [Citi Foundation](#) invites leading youth-focused community organizations to submit their innovative ideas for connecting low-income young adults, ages 16–24, to workplace skills training and employment opportunities, including full-time jobs, internships and apprenticeships. As part of [Pathways to Progress](#), the **\$4.5 million Youth Workforce Fund** will award **one-year grants of up to \$250,000** to nonprofit organizations across 15 cities in the United States. Grantees will also be provided with technical assistance training, networking opportunities, and access to Citi volunteers as part of the Fund. For more information on the Fund's eligibility requirements and to apply, visit the [Youth Workforce Fund website](#). If your organization **connects young adults with employment opportunities**, check out this opportunity. The deadline to apply is 4 p.m. EST, Wednesday, May 23, 2018.

Citi Foundation



[More Information](#)

Dollar General Youth Literacy Grants

[Dollar General Grants Youth Literacy Grants](#) provide **up to \$4,000 in funding** to schools to help students who are below grade level or experiencing difficulty reading. Grant funding is provided to assist in the following areas: implementing new or expanding existing **literacy programs**; purchasing **new technology or equipment** to support literacy initiatives; or **purchasing books, materials or software** for literacy programs. The deadline is May 17, 2018, so get your application ready!

[More Information](#)

ASM Materials Education Foundation

[The ASM Foundation](#) is dedicated to promoting applied science careers for students and teachers. This grants **helps K–12 teachers** bring the real world of **materials science** into their classrooms. The ASM Foundation is committed to working with and supporting teachers through “Living in a Material World”. **20 grants for \$500** are available to K–12 teachers. If you teach a STEM subject or know someone who does, why not apply? The deadline is May 25, 2018.

[More Information](#)

Travel Corner

Reports from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Botswana

From Greg

We arrived in Johannesburg a day before the tour began to recover from jet lag and to see some of the city including Soweto and Mandela's house...

Our first night is at The Emperor's Palace, a huge casino/hotel complex next to the airport protected by guards with AK-47's because there is lots of money here.

The first gin and tonic of the day at Tribes bar and restaurant is divine (quinine to kill the malaria; gin to kill it dead, though the Peace Corps doctor warned us not to believe that advice). Then we do dinner. The farm raised ostrich steak in berry sauce is superb. My friends, Art and Annette, take the pledge to become Africa hands on this trip. Never again will they say "Johannesburg". From now on it will be "Jo-burg"...



Arthur, Greg, and Annette

To read more about the The Emperor's Palace, the Zambezi River, the Okavango Delta, and more, visit our [website](#)

From Arthur

Traipsing in Southern Africa with OAT Travel and a close encounter with Hyenas made my mind up on getting surgery on my prostate as soon as I returned home. Don't laugh, but my need for relief, often, given my seniority, caused by my experience in the bush, tipped the scale on my decision.

Night can come quickly as the evening sun dives into the horizon behind the trees. I was to get out close behind the jeep since it was approaching sunset. That's when the hyenas started howling. This is their time to prowl looking for prey. They are especially adept by nature with jaw muscles to break bones using hammer like impact. Being a city guy, I have no clue as to what their howls mean. But in the jeep, they did. I hear both guide and driver, frantic. They shouted, "Art get back NOW!" I rushed back, desperately searching for the steel rungs on the jeep that barely serve as steps in the best of conditions. I did my best Tarzan, defying gravity, climbing back in to the safety of the Safari Jeep ...

Travel Note: Art Casanova waited until this 84th year to visit Africa for the first time.

Coming Soon

Travel Goes to Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam with OAT. For more information, please [contact us](#).

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Email Travel



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January 26, 2019

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