



North Carolina Peace Corps Association
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2016 Activities Report

In 2016, the North Carolina Peace Corps Association (NCPCA) brought area RPCVs together through a variety of events including an RPCV book club, international dinners, and happy hour events in Raleigh. Regular NCPCA events also included Steering Committee meetings, which occurred during the months of January, March, April, May, August, and October. The year concludes with the NCPCA's Holiday Party and Annual Meeting on December 10th at the home of Glenn and Ruth Sappie in Raleigh.

NCPCA signature events included the NC Peace Prize on Feb. 27th at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh. The annual Peace Prize award, a vase and a \$1,000 donation to the local non-profit The Refugee Support Center were presented by our speaker Richard Harrill, RPCV and Executive Director of the UNC-CH Campus Y. Proceeds from calendar sales fund the award. May brought Peace Corps Night, which was held at the Community Church of Chapel Hill this year and involved our traditional pot luck dinner and a silent auction to raise \$1,000 for NC PCV Peace Corps Partnership projects in Zambia (RISE, with PCV. W. Wiggins) and the Gambia (Explore Your Countries, with PCV M. Whinna). The annual NCPCA Fall Picnic was scheduled to be held at the Beech Shelter at Lake Crabtree Park in October but had to be cancelled due to Hurricane Matthew.

We helped promote events being held by local PC recruiters (a send-off party in May at Elon University and the NC Pride event in Durham in September). We made a financial contribution to the RPCV film A Towering Task. We got involved with helping to lobby the NC Legislature regarding the recognition of Peace Corps service for state employees. We promoted the need for assistance for refugees in the local community. Overtures were made to increase collaborations with the PC program at the Sanford Institute at Duke, though nothing materialized. We also discussed holding a film festival, though plans for that did not materialize in 2016.

This year we became registered as a non-profit with Amazon Smile. Amazon Smile will contribute .5% of purchases made by those who identify NCPCA as the recipient. To date, that hasn't resulted in any payments, but eventually we hope it will contribute something to our treasury. We continue to work out the kinks in the PayPal system, which people are using to pay for their memberships and calendars.

In September we were represented by our President, Margaret Riley, at Peace Corps Connect and the 55th anniversary of the Peace Corps in Washington, DC.

Events were communicated to members through monthly e-mails, the NCPCA Facebook group, the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Meet-up group, telephone trees and Evites.

Date	Event	Attendees	Description
1/12	International Dinner	8	Tallulah's Restaurant, Chapel Hill
2/27	Peace Prize	40	Speaker, Richard Harrill; Awardee: The Refugee Center, Pullen Memorial, Raleigh
3/16	International Dinner	12	Wasabi Restaurant, Cary
4/4	International Dinner	8	The Palace Restaurant, Durham
5/5	Peace Corps Night	30	Potluck and Auction to raise money NC Peace Corps Partnership project. Community Church, Chapel Hill
6/15	International Dinner	6	Zayka Restaurant, Raleigh
7/19	International Dinner	8	Sawasadee Restaurant, Chapel Hill
8/17	International Dinner	8	Sitar Indian Cuisine, Durham
9/7	International Dinner	12	The Bosphorus Restaurant, Cary
10/8	Fall Picnic	0	Cancelled due to fringe weather from Hurricane Matthew
11/10	International Dinner	14	Abyssinian Ethiopian Restaurant
12/10	Holiday Party and Annual Meeting	40 (est.)	Annual meeting to review group business and elect Steering Committee members.