

## **NENY RPCV Meeting Notes Tuesday September 06, 2005**

### **Agenda items:**

- Food, drink, introductions and prison stories
- Thanksgiving dinner: Saturday November 26, 2005
- Letterhead is forthcoming
- Bill Batt turns over the Treasurer/Membership baton
- Calendars make great gifts... \$10
- The People Speak: Thursday October 6, 2005
- Newsletter: September 15<sup>th</sup> deadline
- October foliage walk: October 15, 2005
- Habitat for Humanity: Friday & Saturday, September 9-10
- Meeting with Congressman Sweeney
- PC/Military update
- Christmas party: December 17, 2005
- Next meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in October

### **Food, Introductions & Prison Stories:**

A marvelous selection of delicious foods & beverage were presented at the home of John & Barbara Flynn (who have a luscious looking berry patch in their back yard). President Steve opened the meeting with introductions of 17 people in attendance, including Steve Anderson, who will be leaving for a 2 year gig in Mali in one week! We sent him off with best wishes and stories of experiences with ...well... the law.

### **Thanksgiving dinner: Saturday November 26<sup>th</sup>**

Thanksgiving dinner will be served **12-2:30pm** to RPI's foreign student community at the McNeil room in the Student Union. Doors open for set-up & clean-up from **10am-3pm**. Sign up to bring food, help serve or to donate cash with Joan & Harry Thornhill <HarryThornhill@hotmail.com>. If you can bring a microwave, also indicate such.

If you have ideas for PC related presentations or dinner info-tainment, please step up to the mike! Harry & Joan are working to attract sponsors & the media (maybe your talent will be scouted!). Augusta will contact the Times Union.

### **Letterhead:**

Steve & Bill presented the occasional need for NENY RPCV letterhead and a copy of a letterhead with a logo previously designed by the group was circulated. Tim will try to make a high quality scan. Uncertainty about the use of NPCA logo was discussed.

### **Bill Batt will step down as Treasurer & Membership officer**

John Flynn volunteered to take over the duties, and Jeanette Gottlieb offered to help out. Names on the present bank account will be changed to reflect the change. Duties include keeping the books, keeping membership records from NPCA (~100 paying + 400 non-

paid names), an annual report to NPCA on NENY's activities and tending to NENY's mail. NENY RPCV's PO box (~\$76 half year) is checked by Tim.

A huge thanks to Bill for all his years of service and to John and Jeanette for stepping up to the plate.

Bill will also leave his UNA liaisons work, although he sees a great need to support the UN in anyway possible in this political climate. Bill is, however, becoming increasingly busy with foundation business and he passed around the latest copy of GroundSwell.

**Calendars** are here! At \$10 each, they make great gifts. Request them through Bill <hwbutt@yahoo.com> & make checks to NENY RPCV. Bill ordered half the number that he ordered last year, as NENY RPCV's have not embraced these as a fundraising tool. If you know of upcoming venue, fairs or event tables, at which the calendars might be presented, please contact Bill.

**The People Speak: Thursday October 6, 2005**

A draft press release for this year's event was circulated. The League of Women Voters will sponsor the event at WAMC's Linda Norris Auditorium. The sponsors & venue are anticipated to bring increased interest. Topics this year include Trade vs Aid, Global Poverty & AIDS efforts. More details will come from a planning meeting being held tonight or on the web page <www.thepeoplespeak.org>.

**Newsletter: September 15<sup>th</sup> deadline**

The newsletter deadline is upon us. Please send all submissions to Christine Vanderlan <cvanderlan@hotmail.com> **before September 15<sup>th</sup>**.

**October foliage walk: Saturday October 15, 2005**

Augusta Field <afield3@earthlink.net> picked peak leaf season for this fall outing, so bring your camera! Place & time will be in the newsletter.

**Habitat for Humanity: Fri & Sat, 9am - 1pm, Sept 9 & 10, 696 Delaware Av Albany**

Habitat for Humanity ReStore will have a warehouse/garage sale. Habitat is selling new building materials, appliances & furniture that have been donated by wholesalers & retailers, but are not being used in present projects. Also for sale are used items donated from private parties. The local Habitat chapter just finished a building rush and needs to raise money before planning new projects.

Please come help set up, tear down, load merchandise... or just shop!

The warehouse is at the Habitat for Humanity office at 696 Delaware Av in Albany, between Graceland Cemetery & the Normans Kill and will be open from 9am - 1pm. If you can help on sale day or if you have donations, please contact Wendy Davis <WDavi@mail.als.edu>.

**Advocacy efforts:**

**Congressman John Sweeney:** Terry Amrhein & Wendy Davis attended a donation party for Congressman John Sweeney. They were able to catch his ear regarding PC and informed him of the over-400 RPCV's in NENY. He was very interested and said he'd liked to attend one of our meetings. Wendy followed up with his office and will try to schedule something for this winter. Terry asked NPCA President, Kevin Quigly to also attend. Terry will write a follow up article for the newsletter.

**PC/Military connection:** Steve Hoyt announced that the letter drafted as a result of last meeting was sent. Steve Anderson pointed out his fear that older PCV's may appear more suspicious than younger ones ...as he heads out to Mali next week. Terry suggested keeping an open mind, and we agreed to disagree.

**Christmas party: December 17, 2005**

Bob Fakundiny is ever so kindly once again opening his home in Castleton for holiday merriment. Think of all the people who you haven't seen since last year and to whom you can give the gift of calendars!

**Next meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in September**

Next meeting is at Carol and Don Hegeman's in Chatham Center. See the website [www.rpcv-neny.org](http://www.rpcv-neny.org) for directions when they become available.