Dear BARPCV Community,

In 2015 BARPCV provided our members with a number of events and opportunities focused on service, social activities and support. The events were made possible by a board that saw a lot of transition this year. After three years, Lisa Frederick stepped down as our President and six other board members had to step down as well for a multitude of reasons. We were lucky to have the new positions fill quickly with new board members eager to dig in and help BARPCV in our mission.

In the spring, BARPCV partnered with the New England Recruiters for the Peace Corps to organize our Welcome Back, Send Off event. The collaboration resulted in a well-attended event that included an overwhelming number of invitees, their families and RPCVs. The New England Peace Corps recruiters have been extremely supportive of our events, and we look forward to continue this collaboration in the future.

New in 2015 as well, our new communications co-chair took on social media with a vengeance increasing our presence on Facebook and introducing us to Instagram. We hope that this effort will work to keep our members informed and to encourage others to join BARPCV. Please continue to support us on social media and invite all to like, share, comment and tag posts and photos.

Membership dues and calendar sales were once again BARPCV’s major sources of revenue for 2015. Unfortunately, calendar sales continued to decline for the second year in a row, and overall BARPCV revenues were not enough to sustain annual expenses resulting in a negative cash flow for the year. To address the situation, the board agreed to increase the cost of annual membership dues and is working to implement an email marketing strategy to encourage membership renewals.

We would like to thank our current members for their continued support of our organization. In 2016 BARPCV will provide more events and resources to continue to preserve our membership’s community and friendship.

Yours in service,

Erica Baker
President, BARPCV
2015 ANNUAL REPORT
Boston Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Inc. (BARPCV) is a non-profit membership-based organization, founded in 1978, that serves as a support for newly returned and prospective volunteers, and for those who have served. BARPCV also serves as an educational resource by connecting local communities with the unique experiences of members who gained important insight from living and working abroad. As BARPCV members, we share our skills and knowledge gained through Peace Corps, life and professional experiences with our friends, families and the greater community, in hopes of promoting a better understanding of each other and the world.

BARPCV board members attend the annual strategic planning meeting held at a member’s home
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Erica Baker  
President

Olga Shvayetskaya  
Vice-President

Alicia Charleston  
Treasurer

Laura Salonga  
Secretary

PROGRAM CHAIRS

Rose Cheyette  
Events Co-Chair

Lucy Danford  
Community Grants Chair

Christina Donnelly  
Speakers Bureau Chair

Emily Gingras  
Sports Chair
Andrew Johnson  
*TGIF Chair*

Abigail Kelble  
*Membership Chair*

Jennifer Leigh  
*Webmaster*

Ben Palmer  
*Communications Co-Chair*

Michelle Paul  
*Careers Chair*

Eric Roberts  
*Fundraising Chair*

Shane Runquist  
*Merchandise Chair*

Justin Senter  
*Photo Contest Chair*

Elise Simons  
*Communications Co-Chair*

Kevin Sparrow  
*Events Co-Chair*

Rachael White  
*Community Service Chair*
CAREERS
In 2015, BARPCV organized a number of career events to support RPCVs in the Boston area with networking and career development. In the spring, we hosted a speed networking event for members that allowed members to reach out to others in their community. They made new contacts within the Boston area and had the ability to share their own experiences.

In the fall, we introduced a new board member in the career chair role, Michelle Paul. We held a career workshop event where we provided information on resumes and cover letter preparation as well as interview practice. This event focused on newly returned volunteers as well as RPCVs interested in changing jobs.

In addition, we provided individual career advice to numerous RPCVs and made connections to those looking for new careers. We also revamped our LinkedIn page and made it more active. Please be sure to look out for our job postings as they become available.

We look forward to more exciting and informative career events and resources in 2016. As always, we welcome our members to reach out for advice or industry connections. Additionally, we welcome suggestions and feedback from our members.

COMMUNITY SERVICE
In 2015 BARPCV members focused on outdoor volunteering, serving with the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, Stearns Farm Community Supported Agriculture, and the Friends of the Blue Hills. Our outdoor volunteer events were featured in the Winter 2015 issue of the National Peace Corps Association's WorldView magazine.

Stearns Farm Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) in Framingham, MA
In May and August of 2015 BARPCV helped out around Stearns Farm, a CSA farm located on four acres in Framingham. Volunteers weeded and watered vegetable beds, harvested zucchini, squash, and other produce, and learned about the organic farming practices in Massachusetts.
COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy’s Kelleher Rose Garden in Boston, MA
BARPCV members spent evenings in the summer of 2015 helping out the Emerald Necklace Conservancy with their maintenance of the Kelleher Rose Garden in Boston. Volunteers pruned roses and weeded the flower beds, and many joined in group dinners afterward at a nearby restaurant.

Friends of the Blue Hills
In the fall of 2015 BARPCV members joined the Friends of the Blue Hills to help maintain the trails and build a new drainage ditch. Volunteers helped out by digging the ditch, trimming plants away from trails, clearing fallen trees, and removing invasive species from the trailside. Afterwards we were treated to a pizza lunch by the Friends of the Blue Hills.

EVENTS

Welcome Back /Send Off
Each May and December, BARPCV brings together volunteers who have recently completed their service and new volunteers as they get ready to depart for their assignments. We held our spring WBSO at the City Year Headquarters in Boston, alongside the Peace Corps Northeastern Regional Office. Our speaker was Mark Marino, who at the time was the Vice President of Business Development for the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts. In December, we returned to Fire + Ice in Cambridge with great turnout.

Board Meet & Greet
Each year the BARPCV Board holds a meet and greet with members. This is a great time to meet the Board, give any feedback or suggestions, and to suggest events or service projects. Our 2015 Board Meet and Greet was held in May at The Brahmin, located in the Back Bay.
EVENTS
Restaurant Nights
Our restaurant dinners are among our most popular events. In 2015 we continued to explore new restaurants as well as returned to some of our favorites. This year, we feasted on Cambodian food at the Elephant Walk in Cambridge, and Senegalese food at Teranga in the South End.

New Members’ Party
Once again, BARPCV member David Sears hosted the annual New Members’ Party in September at his home in Cambridge. For years now, David has graciously opened his lovely home to BARPCV, and this event brought a lot of new faces and new members to the BARPCV community.

Peace Corps Week
Each year, BARPCV hosts several events for National Peace Corps Week. In March 2015, we dined on Peruvian food at Machu Picchu in Somerville, Caribbean food at Some ‘Ting Nice, also in Somerville, as well as a tour of the Taza Chocolate Factory.

GRANTS
As part of our mission of supporting Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, we fund a community grant of 500 USD twice annually, in the spring and fall. We strive to increase participation in our communities, and to address needs and opportunities consistent with our members’ values both in the greater Boston area and internationally.

Spring
Our Spring 2015 BARPCV Community Grant recipient was Shawn Grady, RPCV Mali 1994-1997 (Charlestown, MA). Our grant funded the security deposit to help Shawn move out of a shelter in the Boston area and secure permanent housing. Shawn is an RPCV, BARPCV Member and former Senator Ted Kennedy staffer. Our grant to Shawn promotes Peace Corps' Third Goal in Charlestown and the greater Boston community.
GRANTS

Fall

Our Fall 2015 BARPCV Community Grant recipient was Roger Perez, RPCV Nicaragua/Guatemala 2011-2014 (of Brandeis University) and the Aj Su’m Cooperative (Patzún, Guatemala). Our grant funded 500 USD of the 650 USD purchase of an electric mill to grind soybeans and create soy flour for baking products. The Aj Su’m Cooperative is a women’s organization of 20 women, registered as a cooperative with the government of Guatemala, with the following goals:

1. To create and maintain local employment opportunities for women,
2. To improve food security and decrease mother & child malnutrition, and
3. To empower marginalized groups of women.

MEMBERSHIP

This year we had a Membership Chair transition from Jan Le to Abiagil Kelble. We concluded 2015 with 245 BARPCV members. Membership dues increased slightly to $30 per year for individual memberships and $40 for two-member households. The increase has helped to further support BARPCV events and the community grants program.

MERCHANDISE

BARPCV continues to sell small merchandise items to raise funds to support our grants and operations. The Peace Corps photo calendar has been the focus of this work for a number of years. In 2015, we reduced calendar volume to reflect decreasing popularity of paper calendars in this digital age. Still, we sold far fewer calendars than expected. This was in part due to a change in September that reduced our newsletter distribution, which was previously reaching a number of non-members who bought calendars - lesson learned. We also created a detailed inventory tracking document for our BARPCV t-shirts, greeting card packs, koozies, and calendars to provide visibility to all board members.

In 2016, we will explore new ideas for fundraising via merchandise sales including investigating an agreement with PC headquarters to permit sale of official Peace Corps items (as the NPCA does). We will also consider new BARPCV logo designs for future merchandise and communications. We invite feedback and suggestions!

PHOTO CONTEST

The BARPCV Photo Contest is always a great opportunity to showcase RPCVs’ countries of service and to connect with local cafes in the Boston community. In 2015, we had a variety of submissions from volunteers around the world. The annual voting process narrowed the submissions down to the top 10, which were proudly displayed at Simon’s Café in Porter Square, Cambridge during the month of March. The photo displays then rotated to Ula Café in Jamaica Plan throughout the Month of April.

During the opening day of the display at Simon’s Café, the top three photos were announced. The first place winner was “Morning Calm” by Beth Do; the second place went to “Hut” by Pamela Lepkowski; and the third place photo was “Good Friday” by Alicia Charleston.
SPEAKERS BUREAU
BARPCV Speakers Bureau continues to facilitate Peace Corps’ third goal by connecting local schools and organizations to RPCVs willing to speak about their experiences abroad and their host country cultures and traditions. The Speakers’ Bureau also supports the Peace Corps Regional office with recruitment events.

SPORTS
2015 was a fun year for BARPCV sports. Popular events from 2014 were held again, such as the overnight ski trip, canoe trip, and BARPCV Field Day with hopes of continuing as annual BARPCV events. Other events included bowling, a trip to Skyzone, and the introduction of a BARPCV team in the Cambridge Classic 5K series of 3 races. The BARPCV softball team had another great year with many new names on the roster and the generous donation of team shirts from the Regional Peace Corps office.
TGIF
The monthly TGIF event has continued to be a successful way for RPCVs in the Boston region to get together and network or just enjoy a nice drink with each other. The normal 6pm timeslot at the Asgard has had good turnouts, occasionally as high as forty, and the post-WBSO gatherings have had extremely good carry-over from the WBSO program as well, including December where Fire and Ice allowed us to just stay in our own room. We also added some outdoor events that were huge success in the summer, at KO Pies in East Boston and Lawn on D in the Seaport. We are looking forward to continued success in the new year!

WEBSITE
The BARPCV website serves as a source of information to our membership and prospective and serving Peace Corps volunteers and their families. The website is a hub for local BARPCV events, a source of career and volunteer information, and a spotlight for notable RPCVs. 4,052 people visited the barpcv.org website last year, an increase of almost 19% from the previous year. Of these 67% were new visitors. Visitors remain on our website for an average of two and a half minutes and visited about three pages while there. The website continues to publish event information, community service and job opportunities, organized sporting events, contests, grants and information from and about our members.

TGIF event at Lawn on D
BARPCV ended the 2015 fiscal year with a cash and cash equivalent balance of $15,324.52. For FY0215 BARPCV’s expenses were $9,052.40 and the organization’s income was $6,239.87 leaving the organization with a $2,812.53 negative cash flow for the year. A detailed profit and loss statement has been provided below.

### Profit and Loss Statement

**January 1st Through December 31st, 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales Revenue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar, T-shirt, Koozie Sales</td>
<td>$3,831.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Sales Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,831.54</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships/ Donations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$96.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARPCV-Direct</td>
<td>$1,924.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARPCV-NPCA</td>
<td>$386.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Memberships/ Donations</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,408.33</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,239.87</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marketing and Outreach</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Page</td>
<td>-$198.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Marketing and Outreach</strong></td>
<td><strong>-$198.17</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; Administrative*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board</td>
<td>-$342.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td>-$18.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; Administrative - Other</td>
<td>-$362.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total General &amp; Administrative</strong></td>
<td><strong>-$722.90</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These expenses include costs to keep BARPCV up and running including post office box rental, website subscription, Salesforce subscription, office supplies, etc.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs &amp; Events</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
<td>-$188.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo Contest</td>
<td>-$53.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>-$199.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Programs &amp; Events</td>
<td>-$805.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Back Send Off</td>
<td>-$1,893.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Meet and Greet</td>
<td>-$364.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Programs &amp; Events</strong></td>
<td><strong>-$3,505.85</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NPCA</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NPCA Annual Membership</td>
<td>$320.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPCA Rebates (Due to NPCA)</td>
<td>$677.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NPCA</strong></td>
<td><strong>-$997.01</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Merchandise for sale</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calendars</td>
<td>-$3,420.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendars - Shipping</td>
<td>-$208.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Merchandise for sale</strong></td>
<td><strong>-$3,628.47</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Community Grants               | -$1,000.00 |

| **Total Expense**              | **-$9,052.40** |

| Net Income                     | -$2,812.53  |


**BOARD MEMBERS 2015**

**Erica Baker**, Burkina Faso ‘06-‘09  
President  
president@barpcv.org  
Erica, originally from Michigan, served as a Small Business Development volunteer in Burkina Faso. There she worked with cotton, sesame and subsistence farmers teaching them a range of small business, agriculture and life skills. Before Peace Corps, Erica was working as an advertising executive in LA on fast food client Carl’s Jr. After returning from Burkina with her village dog, Cooper, Erica took advantage of her non-competitive eligibility status to snag a seasonal position with the NPS as a Park Ranger for Everglades National Park in Florida. It was there she met the love of her life Frank and followed her heart to Massachusetts. Today she works as a Marketing Communications Specialist for the Massachusetts Port Authority and is attending her second year of graduate school at University of Massachusetts Boston where she is pursuing her MBA.

**Alicia Charleston**, Benin ‘08-‘10  
Treasurer  
treasurer@barpcv.org  
Alicia served as a Small Enterprise Development Volunteer working with the Artisans Coalition of Natitingou. She took on secondary projects with student groups that worked to educate their peers on relevant health issues like malaria prevention and treatment, hygiene, and sexual health. Upon returning to the states, Alicia obtained her Master’s in Public Health from Boston University. She currently works as an epidemiologist at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Alicia joined the board in September 2014.

**Rose Cheyette**, Ukraine ‘09-‘11  
Events Co-Chair  
events@barpcv.org  
Rose served as an Education volunteer, teaching English as a Foreign Language in Konotop, a town in Northern Ukraine. In addition to teaching English, Rose worked on female empowerment projects with girls at her school, worked with children with disabilities at a local NGO, and taught at and directed numerous weekend and summer English language camps, including Survivor Camp in the Carpathian mountains (Don’t worry, everyone survived both years). Rose currently works for the U.S. Department of Labor in Boston, working to promote democracy and financial integrity within labor unions throughout New England.

**Lucy Danford**, Namibia ‘10-‘12  
Community Grants Chair  
grants@barpcv.org  
Lucy, originally from North Carolina, served as a Health Extension volunteer affiliated with a Ministry of Health ARV Clinic in Maltahohe, Namibia. There she worked with enterprising community members and youth on community grants and life skills, overseeing among other things the successful grant-based establishment of a sustainable community chicken coop. After returning from Namibia she has spent time working in the healthcare field, first at the Massachusetts General Hospital and now for athenahealth in Watertown. She joined the BARPCV Board in March 2014.
Christina Donnelly, Togo ’10-’12
Speakers Bureau Chair
speakers@barpcv.org
Christina, a native of the Boston area, served as a Girls’ Education and Empowerment (GEE) Extension Agent in Amegnran, Togo. She taught classes on life skills and HIV/AIDS, established a girls’ soccer team, and held a Men As Partners training for community leaders to encourage gender equity. Christina was also a counselor for Camp UNITE, a national life skills summer camp for youth, and was a regional co-coordinator for a Women’s Wellness and Empowerment Conference. Christina is currently the Executive Director of the Family-to-Family Project, an organization that seeks to prevent and reverse family homelessness in Massachusetts through timely financial assistance. She joined the BARPCV Board in March 2015.

Emily Gingras, Burkina Faso ’07-’09
Sports Chair
sports@barpcv.org
Originally from Maine, Emily served as a Small Business Volunteer in the West African country of Burkina Faso from 2007 - 2009. Based in the northern part of the country, Emily worked with a handicapped artisan’s association to improve their business practices and introduce new skills to members. Emily also collaborated with a local NGO to conduct an HIV/AIDS education and awareness training of trainers, and partnered with local schools and other volunteers to teach entrepreneurship and complete a world map at a school. Upon returning from her service, Emily received her MBA in Nonprofit Management and International Management from Boston University. Currently, Emily works at Partners In Health where she is a Grants Specialist for the Public Sector Development team.

Andrew Johnson, Moldova ’06-’08
TGIF Chair
tgif@barpcv.org
Originally from Kansas, Andrew served as a TEFL volunteer in a regional high school in northern Moldova. In addition to classroom teaching, he coached the men’s and women’s high school basketball team, the latter of which to a national championship. In addition his Model UN teams placed first and fifth in the country, and his Odyssey of the Mind team placed first nationally, and were invited to the European Championship in Berlin, placing third. (Don’t give him too much credit, though, they were all the same group of students) Also, Andrew and his wife Sarah did a book collection project at the local library, importing and organizing English language library books for students. The project has since continued to grow.

Abigail Kelble, Moldova ’06-’08
Membership Chair
membership@barpcv.org
Abigail is the Director of Programs at the Millennium Campus Network (MCN), a Boston-based non-profit organization devoted to mobilizing campus organizations that focus on eradicating poverty and advancing the Millennium Development Goals. At MCN, she incorporates her experience in education, public-civic-private partnerships, and global health. She served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Moldova ’06 - ’08 and as a Peace Corps Response Volunteer ‘12. She previously worked with City Year, the Flour Fortification Initiative, and Broadreach. Abigail completed her Bachelor’s Degree in Anthropology and Biology at the University of Colorado and completed her Master’s of Public Health at Emory University.
Jennifer Leigh, Haiti ’02-'04
Webmaster
webmaster@barpcv.org
Jennifer served as an agro-forestry volunteer in the southern department of Haiti from 2002-2004. She worked with a local community group to expand their tree nursery and promote reforestation and erosion control projects. She also helped oversee the setup of the second rural computer center in the country. She focused on training local instructors on basic computer skills and software applications, while also providing technical and teaching support. Jennifer currently works at the Harvard Business School as a business and reporting analyst. She is also pursuing a graduate degree in information management systems from the Harvard Extension School. She joined the board in 2015.

Ben Palmer, Ecuador ‘09-’11
Communications Co-Chair
info@barpcv.org
Benjamin served as a Natural Resources Conservation Volunteer in an indigenous village in Northeast Ecuador where he taught English to 3 local schools and promoted eco-tourism as an alternative income source to subsistence farming. After returning from Ecuador, Benjamin began work in the public sector and currently serves as a Portfolio Management Specialist for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Benjamin joined the board in December 2015.

Michelle Paul, Western Samoa ‘12-’14
Careers Chair
careers@barpcv.org
Michelle, originally from North Carolina, served as a Rural Literacy Specialist in Western Samoa from 2012-2014. She worked with primary school students in years 4 through 6, teaching skills such as phonics, letter relationships, and reading skills. She worked with teachers as well to produce sustainable teaching policies that moved them from a teacher-centered lesson plan to a student-centered one. After Peace Corps, Michelle moved to Boston and entered graduate school at BU, studying epidemiology and biostatistics. She’s currently working in the disaster relief field through disease surveillance, and regularly volunteers with the Red Cross Disaster Action Team. She joined the BARPCV board in 2015.

Eric J. Roberts, Paraguay ‘05-'08
Fundraising Chair
fundraising@barpcv.org
Eric served as an Agroforestry Extension volunteer in Ka’apukumi-Franco Isla, Paraguay from 2005-2008. While in Paraguay, Eric worked with community members to integrate agroforestry and natural resources management techniques into traditional agriculture plots and with school instructors and national and international non-profit organizations to teach conservation biology. He also co-hosted a weekly radio show called Mba’e La Porte Norte, assisted in the development of an ecotourism project, and drank a lot of tereré with Paraguayans in the cool shade of mango trees. Based in Cambridge, MA since 2012, he is an associate at the Consensus Building Institute where he helps groups of government, business, nonprofit and community representatives to collaborate more effectively while developing solutions to social and environmental policy dilemmas at the local, regional, national, and global scales. Eric joined the BARPCV as the Fundraising Chair in November 2014.
Shane Runquist, Mexico ‘08–’10
Merchandise Chair
merchandise@barpcv.org
Shane served as a GIS and Knowledge Management Specialist in the Mexican government agency responsible for natural resource management in the states of Querétaro and Puebla. He made process improvements in forestry data management, provided training in GIS and GPS usage, and performed satellite imagery analysis to detect forest loss over time. Prior to his Peace Corps service, Shane worked as an embedded software engineer and manager at Garmin International. Following his service, he accepted a job with the MITRE Corporation which brought him to Boston to work as senior software systems engineer working in the public interest, primarily in mobile software security.

Laura Salonga, Thailand ‘06–’08
Secretary
secretary@barpcv.org
Laura served in Thailand as a Teacher Collaborator and Community Outreach Volunteer. During her service she initiated and managed various projects in a remote village in northern Thailand on the Thai/Burma border. One of her primary projects was working in conjunction with Thai teachers of English to assess the curriculum from grades 2-10 and then co-create and co-teach more effective, student-centered units and lesson plans. Additionally, she planned and led trainings for students and teachers in subjects including teaching English, youth leadership, HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention and community project development. After the Peace Corps Laura remained in South East Asia for more than 4 years. During that time she worked the International Rescue Committee- Resettlement Support Center, assisting refugees from all of the world access resettlement to the United States. She returned to the US in 2012 with her husband, Ferdinand. They live in the South Shore with their son. Laura has been working at athenahealth since 2014 and has been on the board since 2013.

Justin Senter, Mauritania ‘07–’09
Photo Contest Chair
photos@barpcv.org
Original from southern California, Justin has been in Boston since returning from Mauritania. He served as an English Education Volunteer teaching grades 6-12 in Tintane, a village in eastern Mauritania. During his service he also started adult education courses with local business people in town and won the 2009 West African Invitational Softball Tournament as a member of the RIM Pirates. Justin currently works as an English teacher at Randolph High School and as an Adjunct Lecturer at Northeastern University.
Olga Shvayetskaya, Morocco ‘07-‘09
Vice-President
vp@barpcv.org
Olga served as a Small Business Development Volunteer in Peace Corps, Morocco, where she worked with a local NGO to design and implement a product development capacity building project, funded by USAID through the Small Project Assistance grant. The initiative aimed to increase income generation potential of NGO members comprised of women and unschooled youth by expanding their existing product development skill-sets and shifting marketing goals towards the local economy. As part of the project Olga led a variety of craft classes, which culminated with the production of screen-printed jellabas (traditional Moroccan dresses). After returning from Peace Corps Olga began working with CMPartners, a conflict management firm, where she remains today.

Elise Simons, Zambia ‘10-‘13
Communications Co-Chair
info@barpcv.org
Elise served as an Agriculture and Environment Volunteer in Zambia. She taught agroforestry, organic gardening, conservation farming, and tree planting to farmers in her village in order to promote better health and nutrition as well as environmental sustainability. She also took on secondary projects in appropriate technology innovation training and HIV/AIDS prevention education. Elise extended for a third year as PCVL, leading workshops and providing volunteer support. Upon returning to Boston, Elise started working at the Product Stewardship Institute as a waste management policy and programs associate. She is currently earning her graduate degree in urban and environmental planning from Tufts University.

Kevin Sparrow, Georgia ‘04-‘06
Events Co-Chair
events@barpcv.org
Originally from Georgia (the state), Kevin served as an education volunteer in Georgia (the country) from 2004-2006. Kevin taught English to children in grades one through eleven. Kevin also offered business English classes for adults in the community, started an English language conversation group, and helped to organize regional teacher training events. After Peace Corps Kevin worked as a Recruiter in the Los Angeles Regional Office and in fundraising for various non-profits in the San Francisco Bay Area. Ordained as an Episcopal priest in 2012, Kevin now serves as Priest Associate at St. James Episcopal Church in Teele Square, Somerville.

Rachael White, Philippines ‘10-‘12
Community Service Chair
service@barpcv.org
Rachael served as an education volunteer in the Philippines from 2010-2012, where she taught at a university and managed USAID grant-funded projects. Focusing her service on youth empowerment and leadership opportunities, Rachael advised two student organizations, including an arts organization and a literacy-promotion club, and managed the creation of a peer-tutor training project and an HIV/AIDS awareness training camp. Now back in Boston, Rachael continues to work in the field of education at an international NGO, supporting education development in Cambodia. In addition to serving as the BARPCV Community Service Chair, Rachael also leads volunteer and outdoor events through Boston Cares and the Appalachian Mountain Club.
BARPCV HISTORY

BARPCV was founded by Carol Ball, Marjorie Harrison and Nancy Tiedeman in 1978.

**Former BARPCV Presidents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Ehmann</td>
<td>1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Walsh</td>
<td>1981-1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brad MacDonald</td>
<td>1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pixie Martin-Sharifzadeh</td>
<td>1984-1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Ghattas</td>
<td>1986-1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Doherty</td>
<td>1989-1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Kuder</td>
<td>1991-1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doane Perry</td>
<td>1994-2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kendra Gray</td>
<td>2007-2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine Claypoole</td>
<td>2010-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Frederick</td>
<td>2012-2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erica Baker</td>
<td>2015-Present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Boston Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Inc. (BAPCV) is a non-profit organization founded in 1978 with approximately 400 members concentrated in Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. BAPCV seeks to connect with and support Returned Peace Corps Volunteers as well as those thinking of serving and to carry out the third goal of the Peace Corps, as stated in the 1961 Peace Corps Act: “to promote a better understanding of other people on the part of American people.”

BAPCV is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with employer identification number 04-9036514. All charitable contributions are fully tax-deductible to the extent of the law. Proceeds support our small grants program and programming for members.
Contact us at info@barpcv.org.

© Boston Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Inc.