

BURALARDA....

GET CRACKIN' ON THOSE BAYRAM DINNERS

The Arkadaşlar organization got started through the success of evening get-togethers organized by Dave Weinman for Washington-area Peace Corps/Turkey returned volunteers, held late in October at the time of Turkey's Cumhuriyet Bayram. Arkadaşlar members around the country are encouraged to hold their own Cumhuriyet Bayram dinners. Keep the spark alive!

THE GLOBAL REUNION

Arkadaşlar conducted the first ever "global" reunion for all former Peace Corps/Turkey volunteers and friends on July 14-16 in Washington. There were 160 attendees, and 100 others sent in written "hatiralar." Highlights of the event included:

- an up-to-the minute overview of current events in Turkey by Uğur Akıncı, Washington correspondent for the Turkish Daily News,
- a complete history of the Peace Corps program in Turkey, by Dave Weinman, Arkadaşlar's founding amca;
- a dynamic presentation by Chick Dalmbach, the Director of the National Peace Corps Association, and
- a wonderful slide show on Turkey by Tom Brosnahan [T-15], author of the Lonely Planet Guides tourbook on Turkey, the best one around.

Many members found the best part of the reunion was the opportunity to see people they hadn't seen in a long time. [SEE PAGE 5 FOR SOME TESTIMONIALS AND PAGES 6-7 FOR A LIST OF EVERYONE WHO COULD COME.] The two evening events also featured great Turkish food.

Another marvelous feature of the reunion was a one-of-a-

kind tee-shirt with a Turkish map, designed by Marianne Leach [T-4]. The back of the shirt, with a Turkish çay glass as background, displays the name of every location in Turkey that Peace Corps volunteers ever went to.

MARIANNE HAD 50 MORE OF THESE SHIRTS MADE UP. SEND HER A CHECK FOR \$15 IF YOU WANT ONE, AT 2147 COLTS NECK RD., RESTON VA.22091. FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED. (STATE YOUR SIZE.)

THE OTHER GREAT TAKE-AWAY ITEM FROM THE REUNION WAS A "DEFTER" CONTAINING THE 100 WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS FROM MEMBERS WHO COULD NOT ATTEND. 75 ADDITIONAL COPIES HAVE BEEN MADE. SEND A CHECK FOR \$15 IF YOU WOULD LIKE ONE, TO GEORGE WRIGHT, 201 LINCOLN AVENUE, TAKOMA PARK MD 20912.

The final session dealt with where Arkadaşlar should go from here. There was consensus that to approach this with a survey to all members. A yellow-colored insert is included with this newsletter. It is self-explanatory. Please spend some time with it, send it back by the end of October and help the Board figure out what our priorities should be.

Arkadaşlar

The purpose of Arkadaşlar is to foster communication, continued friendships, gatherings, and any social projects or other activities chosen by the members--those who served in Turkey as Peace Corps Volunteers, staff, and their family members.

As of Sept 12, 1995, Arkadaşlar had 294 dues-paying members--annual dues are \$15--and a checking-account balance of \$5,940.38

We are looking for someone who would like to design a "banner" or heading for this newsletter. It can either be in paste-up form or in Wordperfect. Suggestions are welcome. Call John Gallivan [T-2] at

At its September meeting, the Arkadaşlar Board decided to maintain financial support for the two causes in Turkey to which we also sent money in 1993 and 1994:

- The Development Foundation of Turkey was founded by Altan Ünver 25 years ago, with a purpose of stimulating economic and social development in Turkey's less developed regions. The Foundation's field staff are active in the Erzurum area and in the southeast. The \$500 contribution of Arkadaşlar goes towards a revolving fund which enables low-income village families to obtain beehives, at \$100 per hive.
- The "Sevinç Abla Özel Eğitim İlkokulu" in Adana is a pioneering effort to bring education to children with various physical, mental and emotional handicaps who would otherwise find no place in the public school system. The school is chartered by the Ministry of Education and receives some government support. A \$1000 donation by Arkadaşlar will be used in meeting a most pressing current need for equipment for the school's vocational training workshop.

IN MEMORIAM

Ward Jandl [T-16] died unexpectedly of a heart attack on March 18, 1995. He was a TEFL volunteer at Hacatepe. Ward had earned a wide reputation in the field of architectural preservation. He was honored in the U.S. Senate by Senator Bennett Johnston when he died. Ward's partner of 10 years, David Given, died of AIDS in August, 1994.

Should Arkadaşlar Undertake a Central Asian Initiative ?

by John Clark [T-4]

One of the brighter threads in the ravelled tapestry of the former USSR is the establishment of the Peace Corps in several of the successor Republics. Four of these new nations that now host volunteers--Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Türkmenistan and Özbekistan--speak languages related to Turkish. The Turks consider this region to be their ancient homeland. The region should interest Arkadaşlar members.

The 200 volunteers in these countries face the same things we did. TEFLers deal with crumbling chalk, blackboards not fit to write on, freezing classrooms. Teaching materials of every kind are in short supply.

A group of nurses headed for Türkmenistan will have to take rubber gloves with them simply to give demonstrations; there are none there. The small business developers face the incomprehension brought on by 70 years of Communism. Volunteers working in environmental programs cope with 70 years of ecological devastation.

Since the Peace Corps left Turkey in 1971, we have been RPCVs without a country. Some of us on the Arkadaşlar Board feel that we would like to support volunteers in the field. Many things are possible--school to school programs, pen-pal or e-mail exchanges, or the shipment of books and teaching materials to volunteers who need them.

Also, the first groups of volunteers are returning to the U.S. in 1995. At that

time in our lives, we weren't thinking about organizing ourselves for the future, and it is fairly certain that they aren't either.

Several of us have thought that we could provide them with the nucleus of an organization that they would eventually take over. In those first years back, many of us got lost and about 400 remain so. By helping the Central Asian volunteers keep track of each other, we could help them avoid this loss.

Three board members, Jill Diskan, Jerry Leach and I, are active in Central Asia. Jill is working for the International City Managers Association, which has a project in the region. Jerry, working for Citizens' Network in Washington, is managing a project developing private farmers' organizations in Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan and Özbekistan.

I had a Fullbright in Kyrgyzstan for the 1994-95 academic year, and will return soon to be the resident Advisor at the Kyrgyz-American School in Bishkek.

We are in contact with Peace Corps offices both in Washington and in Central Asia, working to find out what they might need from us. Mark Holt, PC Director in Kazakstan, spoke to the July Board meeting and stirred a lot of interest. One question on the enclosed survey to members [the yellow insert you have received with this newsletter] asks if you are interested in assisting current and returning volunteers.

News of Turkey From the Online World

by Rick Beebe [T-16]

Like most of us, I've followed Turkey in the news, though somewhat remotely, over the years. But I became increasingly interested as my wife and I began to plan a return visit, and I began searching the online world -- which I had recently discovered -- for resources I could use to increase my understanding of what's going on there today.

Probably the most valuable source I found -- and one that is available to anyone with an Internet e-mail address -- is a mailing list called **TRKNWS-L**. One of thousands of automated mailing lists on the Internet, **TRKNWS-L** generates a steady feed of three to five e-mail messages a day with news items of interest to those following Turkish affairs.

TRKNWS-L includes wire service copy, announcements from government news sources, and stories picked up from mainstream U.S. and European media. There's coverage not only of events in Turkey, but also Cyprus, Germany, the Turkic Republics of Central Asia, and, these days, Bosnia. Also included from time to time are announcements of interest to the Turkish-American community.

To subscribe, send an e-mail message to **trh@netcom.com** with the following text: **sub trknws-l yourfirstname yourlastname**, and you'll find yourself added to the list. The e-mail address is the same if you want to submit material. You can request, as I've done, to receive only messages in English.

For those with World Wide Web access looking to augment **TRKNWS-L**, the Republic of Turkey's home page, at <http://www.turkey.org/turkey> includes links to news summaries

in English from the Turkish Daily News. To visit the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Web site, which also includes links to news items, point your Web browser to <http://www.mfa.tr/>.

Depending on your interest, your online service provider, and the depths of your pocketbook, you can also try any of the "search engines" available online, such as CompuServe's Executive News Service, or NewsHound or the "news search" feature on America Online. I've found **TRKNWS-L** comprehensive enough that I've not felt compelled to spend extra time using these services.

Another source of information on what's happening in Turkey is the **soc.culture.turkish** Usenet newsgroup -- one among the thousands of Usenet newsgroups available to those who have Internet access through a commercial online service or a dedicated Internet service provider. This newsgroup caters to a broad array of people with an interest in things Turkish. Subscribers can post a message for others to respond to, respond to others' postings, or simply follow along as others post and respond and create threads of text.

For my taste, there isn't enough value for me to spend a lot of time here -- too much ethnic mudslinging and old quarrels revisited--but when I've needed information related to Turkey and posted queries, I've gotten useful answers back.

If you come across any other valuable sources of news of Turkey, I'm at

(. Hayirli yolculuklar!

[Members can reach the Board of Arkadaşlar at TurkeyDost@AOL.COM]

ABOUT THAT REUNION...

The following excerpts are taken from letters received from various Arkadaşlar members on the Global Reunion:

- The reunion was fantastic! I'd do it again in a New York minute. I hope you're basking in the warm glow of successful feelings---Jim McHenry [T-13]

- Thanks again for your hard work. We really had a wonderful time seeing everyone. It couldn't have been better!---Tony Venegoni [T-2]

- You folks are truly phenomenal. What a remarkable job you all accomplished by organizing the weekend's activities. The entire affair enabled me to revive a valuable period of my life which I had almost let slip into oblivion. Surely the bulk of the credit must go to one Linda Scheffer. How could such an event succeed without the data that she has managed to persistently compile over the years. If Dave Weinman is our amca, Linda has to be our teyze (even though she is too young for a traditional teyze).

---Gary Gilmer [T-8]

- Thank you, Sandy, and the Committee for all your hard work in putting together the Turkey Peace Corps reunion. It was a memorable event for all of us.

Pat Riefenrath Fındıkoğlu [T-16]

- The planning committee certainly worked hard to make for a successful Peace Corps Turkey reunion. For me attending the reunion, my first time at any kind of a reunion, was a deeply gratifying experience. I'm very glad I was there.---Dick Denda [T-13]

- Congratulations and thank you for organizing a memorable Turkey reunion. It was fun seeing old friends and making some new ones. In all, we have mellowed well, and I am pleased to see there is still a strong interest and regard for the country that brought us together.---Gene Zajac [T-13]

Attendees at the Global Reunion - 1995

Staff

Rifat Bayer
 John Bordie
 Mary Teasler Giesecke
 Nesibe Howard
 Ernie Hurst
 Don & Maggie McClure
 Al Shannon
 Dave Weinman
Turkey - 1
 Steve Allen
 Ken Dabbs
 Carolyn Holm Emmerson
 Allan Gall
 Jean Zettlemyer Gerber
 Joan Hammer Grant
 Mike Jewell
 Warren Kinsman
 Ron & Cathy Jorgensen
 McCutcheon
 Terry Nichols
 Carl Olson
 Warren Pritchard
 Walter Salmen
 Nina Selz
Turkey - 2
 Carolyn Wilson Anderson
 Marianne Kane Bartin
 David Bloch
 David Bringedahl
 John Gallivan
 Ann Loghran Hearn
 James Hogan
 Emily Hradec
 James Lay
 Betty Hanks Leonard
 Patricia Mitchell Lowther
 Gene & Susan Garlick
 Paslov
 Jo Ann Roseler
 Kay Markley Scruggs
 Melissa Meacham Stewart
 Tony Venegoni
 John Wintrol
Turkey - 3
 Carol LaMotte
Turkey - 4
 Judith Havens Altug
 Susan Bayley
 Eugene Blanchard

Marcia Bordman
 Colleen & John Clark
 Tom Collins
 Joyce Davis
 Jill Diskan
 Pat Blute Fesci
 Jim & Beth Johnson Healey
 Carl Helms
 Judith Rusnock Jenkins
 Dennis & Judy Venezia
 Kavanagh
 Sean & Madeline Paul
 Killeen
 Marianne & Jerry Leach
 Howard Leshtz
 Joanne Omang
 Sara Parker
 Margaret Hamill Patterson
 Leslie Peirce
 Ginny Schramm
 Richard & Ann Zimmerman
 Sherrington
 Jim Shugerts
 Joe Stork
 Thomas Stubbs
 Dave Wesselink
Turkey - 5
 Tana Jones Dugan
 Sally Rivinus Meigs
 Janet O'Hare
 Douglas Shifflet
 George Wilson
Turkey - 6
 Marilee Coleman Fuller
 Dorien Grunbaum
 Ginny Pearsall Kirkwood
 Frank Neubauer
 Al & Sally Poland
 Barbara Spangenberg
 Lael Swinney Stegall
 Susan Amidon Wilt
Turkey - 8
 Larry Best
 Pat Corcoran
 Myles Denny-Brown
 Frank Drumheller
 Gary Gilmer
 Mike & Judie Jerald
 Gerry Karey
 David Kerman

Carol Kocan
 Gaynell Scalise Markowski
 Richard Naylor
 Jeannine Tonetti Pavao
 Linda Scheffer
 David & Peggy Neville Sloan
 Gwen Ellen Cattle Solyom
 Jura Strimaitis
 Paula Franke Von
 Bechtolsheim
 Darrell Zimmerman
Turkey - 9
 Ephraim Frankel
 Jean Stern Lavid
 Sandy Pfunder
 Joan Strickler Weeks
 Robert Robertson
 Robert & Sylvia Telford
 Staab
 Gerry Swanberg Wilson
 George & Diana Pearce
 Wright
 Bill Surbaugh
Turkey - 10
 Alice Austin Antwine
 Bill Czarlinksy
 Donna Dailey
 Bruce Eberle
 Leo Hogan
 Mary Helen Madden
 Ken St. Louis
 Tom Dunn & Son
Turkey - 12
 Joe Daley
 Peggy Fearey
 Stanley & Kathleen Finn
 Grossman
 Janice & Jock Gum
 Helen Johnson
 Robert Joplin
 Judy Kilmartin
 Pauline Homko McMurchie
 Paul Quirk
 Dan Rafferty
Turkey - 13
 Sandy Comstock Anderson
 Davis Baris
 Barbara Bryan
 Donna Chmara
 Andy Coughlin

Arkadaşlar Resource Library

The following resource materials have been made available to Arkadaşlar through various sources. Members wishing to use them should contact Sandy Anderson, who can be reached by e-mail at TurkeyDost@AOL.COM. If you wish to use the old-fashioned telephone for this purpose, call her on (703) 758-8113.

Spotlight on Turkey: Continuity and Change An interdisciplinary curriculum with pictures and slides

My Name is... A cross-cultural resource book for Grades 1,2,3 and up

Keeping Wilderness in Sight RPCV's environmental speaker's packet

Speaker's bureau kit A handbook for returned Peace corps volunteer groups

The World in My Classroom An annotated bibliography for a global education curriculum

How to Reach Washington A Manual for advocates of sustainable development

Reconnect Trainer's manual to help returning volunteer with re-entry and career assistance

HER TARAF'TAN

A group called the Friends of the Kanuni Süleyman Profesörship in Ottoman History at the University of Chicago has asked Arkadaşlar to publicize their fundraising effort. Any amounts are appreciated. More information about this may be obtained from Sel Erder Yackley, whose home phone is (312) 263-1991.

The Kennedy Library in Boston has a collection of Peace Corps memorabilia. Donations of any kind are accepted. Jim McHenry [T-13] can provide more information; Jim's phone number is (913) 232-8382.

March 1, 1996 will be the 35th anniversary of the signing of the Peace Corps Act. The National Peace Corps Association is organizing a celebration in Washington and other locales. One of the many events will be a walk from the Kennedy eternal flame with flags of Peace Corps countries. Bill Day, at (202) 554-5063, can supply details.

We are planning to publish a new directory to go to members who pay dues for 1996. If you do not want your name, address, and/or home phone number published, please contact Linda Scheffeer at

NEREDELER?

If you really want to know where somebody is, you should check the "Hatiralar" volume that was put together for Arkadaşlar's Global Reunion. See directions for obtaining a copy on page one. Inevitably, however, several submissions that were intended for that volume did not make it in time for publication. This edition of "Neredeler" is comprised of snippets from those materials.

Al Hall [T-12] writes from P.O. Box 1070, Friday Harbor in Washington state, 90 miles north of Seattle, where he lives with his wife and 7-year old daughter, about his adventures since leaving Turkey 12. He has practiced architecture and managed a construction company, with stops along the way including the Virgin Islands, Washington DC, Saigon, and Texas. He passes along the following gem of wisdom, gleaned from the Turkey 12 experience:

"Altruism is effective only when all parties mutually understand what is to transpire, what is the full meaning of donor, recipient, donor's ability, recipient's need, and especially that the need is acknowledged, the wherewithal to fill the need is in hand, and the time is right."

Mimi Jones [T-3] writes from Portland, Oregon, where she and her husband, who have a 10-year old girl, spend their free time keeping an old church building in repair. Mimi teaches dance in the church, and performs in a Mask and Myth dance group--Mythobulus--that does shows for children with myths from around the world. They are looking for a good story from Turkey.

George Wright and Diana Pearce [T-5] live in Takoma Park, MD. Diana some years ago wrote an obscure article that coined the phrase "feminization of poverty", and led to her running her own center, the Women and Poverty Project.

George learned that there is a lot more money in analyzing our dysfunctional health care system than in doing development economics, and is a health economist with a major Washington consulting firm.

Along the way they have managed to raise seven children--four of them unaccompanied Vietnamese boat kids.

Diana sees the time as a Peace Corps volunteer as a "real experience of empowerment, ironically in that Turkey is a Muslim country. In Turkey, we could move between levels of the society in a way that we could not in the U.S." She also remembers that her having been treated equally with male volunteers by the Peace Corps became a basis for outrage when she returned to the US and did not encounter a similar level of equality.

George looks back to "a sense of adventure, purpose, engagement, a time when I felt truly alive...We couldn't have become foster parents without that experience."