

## **BU NE ?**

**This is the third issue of a newsletter for people who were with the Peace Corps in Turkey.**

**Arkadaşlar, our association, had 180 duespayers in 1992, its first full year, and has \$2,425 in a bank account.**

**We had a neat get-together last fall in a Turkish restaurant in Washington. The restaurant has since gone out of business. We are hanging in.**

**Like the USA, Arkadaşlar has a new president--Ken Hill, a community-development volunteer in the Turkey-9 group, who served in a village outside of Tokat. You'll find his ideas on page 3 inside.**

**You'll discover on pages 5-8 our first shot at "NEREDELER", a compilation of sketches about long-lost colleagues, which Ken pulled together. You'll also find some other bits and pieces of interest.**

**1993 dues--\$15--are due. Please send a check to Treasurer Linda Scheffer, at the address on page 2. We are considering any money you sent in 1992 to have been your 1992 dues. It would be nice if these payments could be included with the deductions on your tax returns, but our best legal minds say you can't do it.**

**This sheet doesn't have a name. Anybody got any suggestions?**

## ARKADAŞLAR BOARD

Ken Hill (T-9)--President

Dave Weinman--Amca

Linda Scheffer (T-8)--Treasurer

John Gallivan (T-2)  
Newsletter Editor

Sandy Anderson (T-15)  
Membership Müdürü

Mike Jewell (T-1)--Past President

Heath Lowery (T-5)

Suzanne Grelson (T-5)

Sandy Pfunder (T-9)

Claudia Liebler (T-14)

Albert Nekimken (T-15)

Ed Block (T-8)

Mary Helen Madden (T-13)

Jerry Leach (T-4)

Jill Diskan (T-4)

### Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the organization Arkadaşlar is to foster communication, continued friendships, gatherings, and any social projects or other activities chosen by the members. Members consist of those who served in Turkey as Peace Corps Volunteers and Staffers, or who are friends and family of those former Volunteers and Staff. Particular means of furthering the purpose of the organization are not limited to, but include, those described below.

#### Newsletter:

In order to expand the network of the organization and enhance communications, a newsletter will be published at least two times a year initially. The frequency may vary depending on member interest and involvement. A contact person in each Group of returned Volunteers will be identified, to search for the location of members and news items on their Group, former staff and mutual friends.

#### Social Projects:

Arkadaşlar may undertake social projects that the organization chooses as a reflection of the continuing commitment of the members to social action consistent with the original purpose of the Peace Corps or the desire of the organization to address current issues of concern.

# WHERE TO GO FROM HERE ??

**Ken Hill, President**

I was very honored when the Board of Directors asked me to be the President for 1993. I accepted enthusiastically. Involvement with Arkadaşlar has been a real pleasure, and I look forward to helping guide the group during the next year.

Our Statement of Purpose says that Arkadaşlar exists "...to foster communication, continued friendships, gatherings, and any social projects or other activities chosen by the members." A number of activities are underway and will continue, such as perfecting the mailing list, increasing membership, and planning a social initiative project.

Where do we go from here? I suggest Arkadaşlar consider the following objectives for 1993:

- doubling our membership from 200 to 400,
- production of a Peace Corps/Türkiye directory,
- giving Arkadaşlar more of a national flavor,
- affiliating with the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, for advocacy on behalf of Peace Corps,
- consideration of the feasibility of a reunion in Türkiye within a few years
- more than 1 social event in 1993

What are your thoughts and ideas? Please let us know. Write or call me or one of your Board members.

Arkadaşlar is a reality, up and running solidly, the result of a great deal of thought and effort. Those responsible deserve our hearty thanks and congratulations, including Mike Jewell, Dave Weinman, Sandy Anderson, Linda Scheffer, John Gallivan, Suzanne Grelson, Claudia Liebler, Heath Lowry, Sandy Pfunder, Jill Diskan and Jerry Leach. It is reassuring and heartening to note that these people will continue to lead Arkadaşlar in 1993. In addition, Albert Nekimken (T-13) will join the Board.

Iyi günler to us all!

## DIKKAT

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Claudia Liebler, an Arkadaşlar board member, has accepted responsibility for pursuing the possibility that the organization might serve a larger purpose than re-connecting Peace Corps/Turkey people, wherever they are.

Claudia's challenge is to identify specific opportunities through which we might renew the intent we all once shared of trying to be of assistance to Turkey--whatever that might mean.

She has had contact with an organization called Türkiye Kalkınma Vakfı (TKV)--the Development Foundation of Turkey. TKV is a private, non-profit organization, founded by Altan Ünver (who made presentations back in several PC training programs). TKV promotes rural and agricultural development among Turkey's rural poor, and currently runs a wide range of projects in 20 locations throughout Turkey, mostly in the East.

TKV reports noteworthy success over the years in helping villagers improve traditional agricultural patterns in field crops and animal husbandry. The Foundation works through local shareholders' companies to promote income-generating activities in areas such as livestock, bee-keeping, kilim and rug weaving.

Should Arkadaşlar establish a relationship with TKV? Are there other ways to do this? Claudia needs to hear from people. Her address is on page 2.

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Bob Robertson, a PC/T staff member from 1966-68, is looking for people who might want to join him and his wife on a one-week cruise from Bodrum to Marmaris early this fall. Last summer the Robertsons did a white-water rafting trip in Idaho run by a small company, which they thought did a great job, that also organizes excursions along the Mediterranean Turkish coast. Anyone interested in getting full detail should call Bob, on (614) 587-0769. His mailing

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Ronnie Allexenberg, a volunteer from 1966-68 and a staff member from 1969-71, is conducting a major research project which she is looking for help on. She is trying to assess the impact and influence of returned Peace Corps Volunteers on the United States. More specifically, she seeks to evaluate how well the third goal set out in the peace Corps legislation--"to help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of the American people"--is being accomplished. She believes that "achievement of this goal has always been and remains today the central riddle of the Peace Corps." Arkadaşlar members who want to know more about Ronnie's research and possibly participate in it should send a stamped, self-addressed long envelope to her, ve.,

## NEREDELER???

Ken Hill, T-9

Whew!!!, the response to NEREDELER and the Missing Persons List has been very heartening. So many have responded that I've had to edit more than I hoped, But I think we're able to capture the essence. As problems go, a delightful one to have. Beginning with the earliest (i.e. the oldest), the column is organized alphabetically within group. Next time we'll reverse the order.

[Albert Nekimken, a T-13 TEFL volunteer, will put together the next "NEREDELER???". His address is on page 8. Those of you who'd like to send us news of yourselves, or just want to re-connect, should send a note to Albert.]

TURKIYE-2

LYLE BJORK, taught college for ten years, now sells real estate. Lyle and wife have a son and daughter in their twenties, has been back to Turkiye twice - '67 and '85 - are amazed at the dramatic changes. Keeps busy with community politics, church work, sailing, soccer and singing with the Seattle Opera Chorus. Would love to hear from colleagues.

MELISSA STEWART, Portland OR, teaches ESL in public school and gave us valuable address information on missing arkadaslar. Would love to hear from others, especially Sally and Al Poland. Contact her at

PAUL and SHARLENE (HAGEMANN) MAGNARELLA live in Gainesville, Florida where Sharlene is a speech/language pathologist. Paul is Professor of Anthropology and Legal Studies at the U. Of Fla. and President of the Association of Third World Studies. He has authored numerous articles and two books on Turkiye ("Tradition and Change in a Turkish Town" and "The Peasant Venture"). Would welcome word from arkadaslar colleagues, particularly Jim Meeder. Write to

CAROLYN WILSON ANDERSON saw her name on the "missing" list and was quick to correct, also sharing information about Emily Hradec and Betty Hanks. Write Carolyn at

HELEN L. BLACKMORE, a nurse in Ankara and Izmir in T/2 and T/3, is 89 years old!!! She shares information about Loretta Dostal and Harold Woods and wishes ARKADASLAR all the best. Anyone wishing to contact her let us know.

JOANN ROSELER laments that she couldn't join her arkadaslar for the October 31 dinner, hopefully next year and she provides address information about a number of "missing" arkadaslar including Allison (Cindy) Wardle, Marianne Kane Bartin and Shirley Schimmel.

TURKIYE-4

**LARRY COLBERT** and wife Christina are in Spain, he's with the foreign service. One daughter is a West Point graduate and a commissioned officer and the other is a Sophomore at UC/Santa Cruz. Enjoying Spain but wishing he could have flown over for the Bayram dinner, Oct. 31. Maybe next year...

**TOM STUBBS** (His priceless epistle in response to the announcement of the October 31 Bayram dinner is provided in its entirety)

"Dear Friends,

If I were there I would kiss your eyes. But I am here, turning 50 on Halloween, wondering when the dolmus will come by again to take me from Taksim Square or Dolmabahce to Robert's College.

So what happens to the corn flakes kid from Middletown, Ohio. He raises children who go off to study the environment and/or actuarial sciences so they won't overload the laundry basket anymore. He makes plans for when the last of the Mohicans completes the course and he can draw Social Security. He runs a marathon once a year to make sure that he's too old for such things. He listens to the litigants in divorces as if it were the Akhisar Lise's teacher's lounge again and the local imam was burning books. He thinks of *Eugene Blanchard* and how much fun a reunion could be if we who are lost are found.

Best wishes, Tom Stubbs"

TURKIYE-8

**SHIRLEY "CORKIE" McCORKLE KEMPTON** provides corrections and updated addresses for the "missing" list. She wishes her arkadaslar the best and hopes to hear from folks, particularly *Sandy Love Mensch* and *Tom Doerr*. Corkie's address;

**JACK AND STEPHANIE (STRELKAUSKAS) PREJZA** are compelled by all the recent communications to join in. They married after Peace Corps and remain "hitched". With son Christian off to college, Stephanie is working on a Masters in Occupational Therapy, Jack is still teaching English and drama and writes textbooks in his spare time... They're in contact with *Penny Taylor* and *Mary VanOwerkirk* and would like very much to hear from *Diçk Schollmeyer*. (Contact NEREDELER for their address).

**JENNIFER TUBBS JENNINGS** sends greetings to T-8 arkadaslar, maintains contact with *Penny Taylor*, *Anne Takefiji* and *Claire Edwards*. Jennifer has two "delightful, adult-like kids" in college and celebrated a 25th anniversary in November. She coordinates health education for a large San Francisco Bay area school district which nets her an annual jaunt to D.C. where she hopes to contact more arkadaslar.

**JERRY SCHIPPER** sold his business in California and now enjoys solitude in Fall City, Washington with his wife and three year old son. He sends greetings to *Joe Stork*, *Howard Leshtz*, *John Gallivan* and yours truly. Greetings to you, Jer!

TURKIYE-9 (now we're getting to quality)

*HUGH O'NEILL* and wife *Sunan* are Houseparents (and grandparents) at the Milton Hershey School, Hershey PA. Hugh is President of the Child Care Assn. of Pa. and ~~has~~ began work on his PhD in June. They welcome your visit, letter or call: Milton Hershey School - 17033.

*ANN RINGLAND* is coordinator for a statewide Georgia safety program encouraging citizens to "buckle up" and use child safety seats. Also works to prevent child injury through the SAFE KIDS Coalition. Daughter *Claire* is in college and Ann is a member of the Atlanta RPCV group which is very active and will host the Nat'l Council of RPCVs' national conference in 1994! Everyone can stay at Ann's... Welcome and greetings, drop a line to   
 (Included a picture of she and her lovely daughter. How can someone just not change in 25 years...?)

*JEAN STERN LAVID*, Superintendent of Schools in Stockton, Kansas, is actively seeking another position elsewhere (outgrown Kansas...?) in education or other professional situation. Can relocate quickly. Alert her to any opportunities. Greetings to Peace Corps colleagues. Contact her at

*KEN HILL* (yours truly) consults for non-profits, small businesses, etc. Owned and operated a marina from '82 to '91 when he took the opportunity to sell the business and lease the property (much easier...) Wife *Winnie* (RPCV-Nepal) is CPA, Director of Finance & Administration for AT Int'l, a development R&D non-profit. Ken enjoys ARKADASLAR and renewing friendships. Friends at October dinner who he hadn't seen in years included *Terry and Marty Hedrick, Mike and Jan Basile*.

TURKIYE-13

*JEFF THOMPSON* heard of ARKADASLAR in the Chicago RPCV newsletter and wrote to join up. Has lost contact with his group and would like to hear from compatriots. Write to

*DONNA CHMARA* was delighted to discover ARKADASLAR and is anxious to hear from her fellow group members, has always been jealous of other RPCV country groups but no more... Discovered an arkadaslar in a nearby town and promised to include her. Contact at

*RAY & KAROLYN BRAGG* and *KAREN HAGEWOOD* celebrated their Peace Corps 25th anniversary with a visit to Istanbul and journeys by each throughout Turkey to visit old friends and observe the changes. The reunion idea was hatched 5 years earlier at a 20th anniversary of the group. They highly recommend it!

TURKIYE-16

LYNN C. MAICHLE now works with GTE International in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Got a copy of the newsletter from a fellow group member and thought ARKADASLAR a marvelous idea. She provided valuable information for our "missing" list and looks forward to the next newsletter.

TEFL/68-70 (Group unknown)

MAXINE M. MULLINS shares loads of information about our "missing" persons, she stays in contact. Husband Raynor heads the education unit for the U. of Kentucky College of Dentistry, son #1 is a National Merit Scholar and headed off to college. Son #2 is an aspiring high school athlete. Maxine looks forward to hearing more about her Turkiye RPCV colleagues.

OTHER SEARCHERS...

Doctor Cengiz Aygun, M.D., now practicing medicine in Baltimore is anxious to locate RPCV's who taught him at Diyarbakir Maarif Koleji between 1964 and 1970. Dr. Aygun doesn't remember their full names but recalls a Ms. Latch (sp?) and Mr. McKinley. Please share any info you may have with NEREDELER.

Finally, we note with regret the following arkadaslar who are deceased;

Corrine Thompson, T-3

Bernice Woods, T-3

Mary Klotz, T-3

1. Albert Nekimken, T-13, has volunteered to handle "Neredeler" duties while Ken Hill is attending to his presidential responsibilities. Albert asks that material for "Neredeler" be sent to him at 1748 Albermarle Drive, Crofton Md. 21114.

2. We are thinking about putting together a directory of all the current addresses we have on former Turkey volunteers. We are assuming that anyone who has told us what their address is wouldn't mind us putting that address in such a directory. If anyone does mind, please tell us. If you don't object, and we really get a directory done, your address will be in it as we have it.

## OKUDUNUZ MU?

The following is a brief review of a novel called Place of the Dawn, written by Gordon Taylor, a Turkey 8 TEFL volunteer. It was published in 1975 by Holt Rinehart Winston of New York (a company that isn't quite in business any more), and is a quick, 184-page read. The book is out of print, but I found it in the public library. To the best of my knowledge, this is the only piece of fiction in which a central character's situation stems from having been a Peace Corps/Turkey person. Or are there any other books out there with one of us in a central role?

John Gallivan

One of Place of the Dawn's narrators (there are three, all Americans who have come to Turkey for various reasons) is a former TEFL volunteer. At the time of the story, this character has been living in Istanbul for five years, TEFLing privately-- "like some forgotten Japanese soldier, wandering inanelly in the jungle when everyone else has gone home."

The story centers on events associated with a mountain climb deep in the mountains south of Lake Van. Taylor's descriptions of both the topographical and social scene are so vivid that he must have spent some time in that region and made such a climb. His narrative powers are also impressive; a harrowing chase on the mountain is truly suspenseful.

Most Turkish readers would hate the book. They would tend to lump it in with Midnight Express and the many outrightly defamatory accounts of the country that tend to surface in American media. The story involves an early '70s social milieu in the rural southeast where köylü Turks and Kurds fight to the

death over imagined insults, marriages are arranged, women work in the fields while men loaf all day in the çayhane, and roads are rutted washboards.

At one point, during a judicial proceeding, an American character is accused by a local prosecutor of being at fault for bringing on the incidents under investigation. She responds:

"Its not my fault that your women are slaves! It's not my fault that you treat them like cattle! I didn't tell you to stare at me...Stop trying to tell me that its my fault for turning men into beasts! You were beasts to begin with!

Readers of Place of the Dawn who have lived in Turkey will make their own judgments on why someone would want to say something like this and whether it is warranted.

Like Bill Clinton, Turkey has shown a remarkable ability to take heavy hits and keep on standing.