

A R K A D A Ş L A R
GLOBAL REUNION

*** * * July 14-16, 1995 * * ***

Marriott Metro Center
775 12th St., NW
WASHINGTON, DC

Join Us!

*Reunite with friends - Hear about Turkey today - Swap stories -
Eat well - and Remember what it all meant!*

Register Now!

Registration deadline - July 1, 1995

Name:

Additional Family Members/Friends:

Address _____

Phone (home) _____ (work) _____

Your PC Group # & site:

Years of Service: 19__ to 19__

Job (CD, TEFL, etc.)

Send your \$50 registration fee (payable to Arkadaşlar) to:

Linda Scheffer

Make your room reservations by calling the hotel directly at (202) 737-2200, ask for the Peace Corps Turkey group. The Marriott Metro Center is located downtown at 775 12th St., NW in Washington, DC. A block of rooms is being held for us for a limited time at the special rate of \$91 (tax included), single or double occupancy.

Arkadaşlar

Arkadaşlar is an organization of returned Turkey Peace Corps Volunteers, staff, their family members and other friends of Turkey. The purpose of Arkadaşlar is to foster communication, continue friendships, organize gatherings and support service projects that benefit Turkey or the Peace Corps.

IN MEMORIAM

Two Peace Corps/Turkey staff members recently passed on to their eternal rewards --Rebekah "Betty" Shuey and Dr. Gene Mayer. Volunteers who knew them remember them as follows:

Gene Mayer, our Peace Corps doctor in Turkey between 1965 and 1967, died in November, 1994, after a brief battle with a rare form of cancer. Dr. Mayer received an M.D. from Columbia and joined the U.S. Public Health Service. In Ankara, he was an understanding friend. We came to appreciate the humor with which Gene approached our 14 trips to his office for daily rabies shots. After his stint in Turkey, he went on to become the Peace Corps regional medical officer for West Africa.

At a memorial service in Chapel Hill N.C. attended by some 800 friends and colleagues, speakers said that Gene came out of the Peace Corps with a sense of mission and direction to humanize and reorganize health care. He became the Associate Dean of the University of North Carolina's School of Medicine, and is most revered for his leadership as Director of a consortium of medical education centers which he used to dramatically improve the number of physicians serving rural communities. He helped tear down walls between specialties and was a leader in introducing a community focus to health care training and practice.

George Wright/Diana Pearce [T-9]

As I began to write about Betty Shuey many memories flooded my mind - I didn't know where to begin. there are many people who have stories that they could share - for she loved people and loved life to the fullest. Her work with Peace Corps/Turkey started with guiding 3 Turkey-2 volunteers who were "Nursery School Teachers", through the traumas of setting up Early Childhood programs. Originally she was working with AID, but later switched to Peace Corps staff. Her work with Peace Corps was primarily involved with child care, including programs with orphanages, community development, training for students in technical schools, and with home economics programs. She was a friend to many volunteers. Many people met her as she visited their training programs.

I have become aware that the way we live life is often the most important gift that we can pass on--Betty left a great heritage.

Melissa Stewart [T-2]

PRESIDENT'S KÖŞE

I'm really looking forward to seeing many of you this summer. There are two ideas I'd like to mention that hopefully we can explore in more depth at the reunion.

One is to encourage the establishment of a group of returned Turkey volunteers who would be available to help out during emergencies and other times. For example, if Turkey had an earthquake, we could accompany the Red Cross to serve as translators, etc. Other possibilities include being called as small business experts, working with CARE or on U.N. projects. If you are interested, call the National Peace Corps Association, (202-293 7728) to be entered on their Volunteer Data bank.

The other idea concerns the Turkic republics of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Özbekistan, which are emerging from the former USSR. (I would love to take a trip overland from Turkey and speak Turkish all the way to Mongolia.) More realistically, there's a possibility of a connection with Peace Corps Volunteers now serving in those countries. I'd like us to consider becoming their "Amca's" and letting them use Arkadaşlar as a vehicle for their own connecting, re-entry to the U.S., and support for their volunteer projects. I think we would enjoy the exchanging of old and new stories, and it would give us an avenue for being involved with today's Peace Corps activities.

Sonra Görüşürüz.

Sandy (Comstock) Anderson [T-13]

BAYRAM DINNERS - Oct. 29, 1994

Wisconsin

Of the twelve volunteers in Wisconsin--now 14 since Mike and Susan Spitz moved to Madison recently--several of us gathered at the Tannyeri restaurant on a cool rainy Saturday night: Kit [T-10], Paul Kinsley [T-9], David Wilson [T-11], Russ [T-8] and his wife, myself and my son Kevin, age 9. We had the privilege of being joined by Professor Kemal Karpat, who lectured during our training program and who is now teaching at the University of Wisconsin. We updated each other on our present activities, shared a few war stories, received an update from Prof. Karpat about Turkey today, dined on delicious Turkish food, and enjoyed each others' company. I think everyone had fun. We hope to get together again next year.-
-Kevin Cronin [T-8]

New York City

Thirty returned volunteers from Turkey celebrated Cumhuriyet Bayram at the Turkish Kitchen on 386 Third Avenue in Manhattan. The event began with a brief cocktail gathering after which everyone settled in to enjoy a round of delicious appetizers and döner kebab on a bed of rice. Our host, Sedat, provided ample servings, and anyone wanting to take food home left with a doggy bag. Through the efforts of Leo Hogan, [T-13], newly returned to his native New York from Australia, Nisa Bayramoğlu, press attaché from the Turkish Mission to the United Nations, attended the

gathering. Returned volunteers from six different groups were represented in this first of our New York City Metro gatherings.--Bob McCord [T-8]

Northern California

The Northern California area saw 35 people in attendance at what was described as a delightful bayram dinner. They went to a Greek restaurant, "The Salonika," in San Francisco, where they had lamb şiş kebab, eggplant, dolma, börek, hummus, etc.

Penny Taylor and Barbara Konkle arranged the event, and those in attendance were: James Bertanshaw, Ken Dabbs, Colleen Doherty, Carol D'Ondrea, Kathy R. Griebner, Jennifer Tubbs Jennings, Lawrence Kessnick, Marcia Nelson, Nancy Trout Ozsogomonyan, Jack and Stephanie Prejza, Anne Takefuji, Danny and Joanne White, Gary Wishniewsky, Marie Zeller, Emily Hradec, Michael Shapiro, Dennis DiDonato, and Joan Schor Johnson.

The group had such a good time that they decided to do it again this spring.

State of Washington

Barbara VanDyke Shuman organized a mini Turkey 8 reunion/Bayram celebration at a Middle Eastern restaurant in Seattle, attended by Gretchen Nist LaTurner and Gary, Jerry Schipper and Renata, and Ed Elenbaas.

Oregon

Janice Bergman Katz [T-14] and her husband Stephen hosted a dinner for Melissa Stewart [T-2] at which pictures and slides were shared.

REVISITING THE CITY

John Gallivan [T-2]

April 3, 1995--We were at Anadolu Kavağı, near the Black Sea on the Asian side, where the Bosphorous tour boat stops for lunch. We had finished a great meal of assorted meze, sauteed shrimp, freshly caught sea bass, and a good Doluca in a restaurant overlooking the water. Many of the other passengers had gotten off the boat at Emirgan, so we almost had the restaurant to ourselves, and the service was as good as the food.

We needed to mail some postcards. I asked the waiter if there was a PTT nearby. He called over another restaurant staffer--Mehmet, a young man from Kars, who personally guided us through the winding streets to the Anadolu Kavağı post office.

When I offered Mehmet some money for helping us, he adamantly refused to take anything. "Vazife yaptim," he said--"I'm just doing my job".

Türkiye has undergone enormous changes in the 27 years since I had last been there. But, in the words of the old song, "the fundamental things remain".

New technology may be everywhere, the kinds of goods available in the stores have proliferated unbelievably for someone who remembered the bakkal of the 60s, but the underlying values of the people really don't change--and that's such a splendid thing to encounter again.

Playing Tourist

My reason for being in Istanbul was to visit our

daughter, Sara, who is teaching English this year in a small town in Bulgaria, through a Georgetown University program called Students for Eastern Europe.

Sara had come down to Istanbul for her spring break. We spent some time playing tourist in the city before returning to her town. Our older daughter and a friend also joined us.

Bemex Travel (A Turk-owned travel agency in the Washington suburbs) got us economical airline deals. Bemex also connected us to a beautifully restored Ottoman house now doing business in the Sultan Ahmet neighborhood as the Ayasofya Hotel. At \$40/night for a single, this hotel is a bargain, and the hotel staff constantly went out of their way to be helpful. When my daughter's friend had trouble with her camera, they brought it to a camera-repair shop and returned it the same day.

We did the usual things tourists do in Istanbul--Ayasofya, the Blue Mosque the Covered Bazaar, the Spice Bazaar, Galata Bridge, the Galata Tünel.

At the top of the Tünel there was a surprise. Istiklal Caddesi--which in the 60s was crowded, noisy and dirty--is now reserved totally for pedestrians. On a clear Sunday afternoon in early April, it was full of people--no cars, no animals, just people--frequenting the stores and practicing the Turkish

(continued on next page)

custom of strolling (I wish there was a better translation of *gezmek*, but I never could come up with one--maybe because we Americans just don't do it).

A 7-11!

We found a little store with a large selection of maps and old prints. The ladies checked out fashions in several boutiques. We came across an international bookstore, where Sara bought several recent novels. There is even a 7-11 store on one corner! When we got tired of shopping, we took in an American film at the Avrupa Cinema.

The week before there had been an incident in the Gazi Osman Pasha section of the city, in which religious groups had battled with each other. Events like this get a lot of coverage in the Western press. What doesn't get covered, of course, is what is going well--such as the transformation of Istiklal Caddesi, the subway construction that is underway from Taxim out to the northern suburbs on the European side, or the presence at the Istanbul airport of companies such as Royal Thai Airlines.

Sure, Türkiye has big problems. What country doesn't?

But Turks of every persuasion retain a belief in themselves, a basic pride and self-reliance, an elemental honesty, and a delight in solving practical problems that we all remember from when we lived there as *Bariş Gönüllüleri*. Such traits remain evident in countless ways every day to a foreign observer. These core qualities will certainly see

the country through its current and future difficulties.

Targovishte, Bulgaria

Istiklal Caddesi seemed far away when Sara and I were in Targovishte, the town where she is working in north-central Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian people I met there couldn't have been more hospitable, but their daily lives are difficult, as their institutions try to make the shift to a free society. Unemployment levels are huge. Sara has found some very capable students at her school, and is trying to link them to universities in the States.

There are evidently enough ethnic Turks in that part of Bulgaria to support a daily bus run to Istanbul (and even on to Bursa), by a company called *Özavar Turizm*, whose buses have Istanbul license plates and whose passengers all were speaking Turkish on the day that I joined them.

A week earlier, Sara had purchased a ticket for this *Özavar* bus to Istanbul, but could not use it when a snowstorm forced her to change plans.

On my last day in Targovishte, I approached the *Özavar* office to purchase a ticket for my return to Istanbul. Sara was with me. The ticket seller, a Turkish woman, remembered immediately that Sara's ticket from the previous week had not been used. On the spot, without Sara's saying a word, she refunded the price of the ticket.

The fundamental things remain!

NEREDELER?

*Neredeler is edited by Gerry Karey [T-8]. His address is
Please let Gerry know where you are and
what you are doing, so he can spread the word.*

Turkey IV--**Barry Colbert** is consul general in Jaurez, Mexico. He transferred there from Madrid, where he held the same position. He writes, "I was disappointed we got no former PCV friends visiting us while we were in Madrid; well maybe in Jaurez."
Turkey VIII

Warren and Susy Carter are in the Canary Islands for the next two years where Warren is serving as a counsellor to a new mission president for the Mormon Church. They can be reached c/o Harry Vern Payne, Avenida Rafael Cabrera 4 6 A, 35002 Las Palmas De Gran Canaria, Spain.

Mike Paige and his wife, Susan (Malaysia 13), visited Turkey for two weeks last summer. It was Mike's first visit back.

Turkey IX--**Ann Pollinger Haas**,
is eager to reconnect with old friends. Her 23-year old son is a volunteer in Namibia, teaching English and math.

Turkey XIII--**Maija Siktars Gazur** recently published a 130-page manual titled "Global Business Challenges: Am I Ready?". The manual uses "Maija's Model", a series of exercises aimed at orienting corporate staff headed for assignments on other countries to the cross-cultural roller coasters they face, both in going and in coming back.

Turkey XIV--**Anita Ferber Nasra**,
is assistant director of Kit Clark Senior Services, an agency for the elderly in Boston.

Isabel (Izzie) Hemingway, a nurse at the American hospitals in Gaziantep and Talas would like to hear from volunteer friends, including Enid Eliot. Write
38678

GIFTS IN KIND

Peace Corps headquarters runs a program called Gifts in Kind. Volunteers overseas identify specific needs at their site that small material or financial contributions would meet, and the Gifts in Kind staff try to find donors and facilitate delivery. For example:

Four TEFL volunteers in Türkmenistan really need a mimeograph machine or other copying equipment, with which to reproduce teaching materials at a regional resource center for Türkmen English teachers where they are assigned.

David Simpson, a volunteer in Tashkent, Özbekistan, found the local Cherchik basketball team playing at a level comparable to college ball in the States. Sneakers and basketballs are in very short supply, however, and Simpson says that donations of such equipment would substantially boost morale.

Volunteer George Stackpole in Taldykorgan, Kazakhstan needs cartridges and toner for a photocopier that was donated to his school without any supplies.

Persons interested in finding out more information could call Alex