



اصدقاء المغرب  
Friends of Morocco

## September 2017 Friends of Morocco Newsletter

Calling your attention to events, groups and information of possible interest to Friends of Morocco



Peace Corps has announced recruitment for 110 Youth Development Specialists to serve in Morocco. Apply by Jan. 1, 2018 know by March 1, 2018 and depart by Sept. 10, 2018.



More than 100 Peace Corps candidates departed September 13, 2017 for Morocco to start their 27 months of training and service



**Podcast interview on Friends of Morocco, Peace Corps and Peace Corps in Morocco** completed the Moroccan American Center for Policy is now available on their web site Maroc Talk at <https://soundcloud.com/user-467775163/maroc-talk-9717-peace-corps-morocco>. Time 23:36 minutes.

Morocco was one of the first countries to request Peace Corps assistance with its development plans, in 1963. Since then, nearly 5,000 volunteers have served in Morocco, and today it is the only country in the Middle East and North Africa to host Peace Corps programming. To learn more about the Peace Corps in Morocco, we spoke with Tim Resch and Meewa Mull. Tim Resch served as a volunteer in Morocco from 1970 to 1974, and is currently the President of the Friends of Morocco, a returned Peace Corps volunteer alumni group. Meewa Mull served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Armenia.

Maroc Talk is the official podcast of the Moroccan American Center for Policy, a non-profit organization based in Washington, DC whose principal mission is to inform opinion makers, government officials, and interested publics in the United States about political and social developments in Morocco and the role being played by the Kingdom

in broader strategic developments in North Africa, the Mediterranean, and the Middle East. The Moroccan American Center for Policy distributes materials on behalf of the Government of Morocco. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice in Washington, DC.

★ **What is it like to volunteer to serve in Morocco today?**

★ **Blogs from current volunteers** who have asked to include them are available on [Peace Corps Morocco](#) a weebly site created and maintained by current volunteers. They are sorted by area of Morocco and then by the volunteer's last name. The site notes "This website is not an official Peace Corps publication and does not reflect the position of the Peace Corps, the Moroccan government, nor the American government."

★ **Morocco PCV Podcast** by Mathew Crichton

A weekly podcast featuring short interviews (7 now) with Peace Corps volunteers serving in Morocco. This is an informal and unofficial way to get to know our fellow PCVs better, to hear us share our stories, and to give us an additional opportunity to connect with one another through our service. Disclaimer: The content of this podcast does not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government, the Peace Corps, or the Moroccan Government.

★ A **collection of Morocco Peace Corps Volunteer Blogs over time** residual on the web have been compiled by Friends of Morocco and are available on the [Friends of Morocco web site](#).

★ The **My Peace Corps Story Podcast** aims to tell some of the many diverse and rich stories of volunteers, in their own words. This podcast will create an oral history of the varied experiences had by generations of Americans when they devoted two or more years of their life to national service abroad.

Ep #007: [Liz Fanning, Morocco 1993-95](#) 40 min

Liz Fanning served in Morocco from 1993 to 1995 as Parks, Wildlife and Environmental Education volunteer. Twenty years after serving, she founded CorpsAfrica, which offers the same transformative experience as the Peace Corps to emerging leaders in Africa – giving them the chance to be a part of the solution for their own countries. [...]

★ **High Atlas Kaddish** is a Kindle Book by Louis M. Montgomery, Morocco RPCV 1988-1990 in Azilal

The grisly murder of Maurice Lerner, a French paleontologist who, after more than 30 years, has returned to Morocco in search of his Jewish roots, throws Mohamed el Haqq, the scandal haunted Prefect of Police in a provincial backwater, and Slidell Johnson, an American Peace Corps Volunteer, into the arms of the Assouline sisters and the murderer's cross hairs. Sex, drugs and murder in the High Atlas Mountains. This is the story that neither the Moroccan government nor the United States Peace Corps wants told.

★ **Nuns, Nam & Henna: A Memoir in Poetry and Prose** by Larry Berube (Morocco 1977-79 in Beni Mellal)  
Peace Corps Writers Imprint January 2017 59 pages \$5.99 (paperback), \$1.99 (Kindle)

Nuns, Nam & Henna is an honest and straightforward account of the author's story told in poetry and prose. This chapbook starts under the guidance of Catholic nuns in heavy woolen habits and bonnets that covered all traces of hair. And ends with observations of equally modest dressed Moroccan women wearing cotton djellabas with pointed hoods. Sandwiched in between are sensual Vietnamese women with long black hair in black silk trousers. The author writes with humor when he can and writes with an absence of victimhood - all the time.

★ **Moroccan Arabic: Shnoo the Hell is Going On H'naa? A Practical Guide to Learning Moroccan Darija - the Arabic Dialect of Morocco** (2nd edition) (Educational Resources) Paperback – April 1, 2012 by [Aaron Sakulich](#) (Author), [Rajae Khaloufi](#) (Editor), [George F Roberson](#) (Producer)

For everyone going to Morocco, any age + skill level: language students to casual visitors and everyone in between. A straight-forward and easy to use primer for learning Moroccan Arabic, now improved in this 2nd edition. It incorporates reader suggestions and features more details on the transliteration system, additional words, new word lists, and the text has been completely revised and re-edited. Clear and easy pronunciation system, on-the-street utility and low price. All book sales go to support Moroccan-USA NGO for more community and education-based materials, activities and exchange. Produced by an all-volunteer bi-national team of experts - your chance to move beyond tourist phrasebooks and corporate textbooks. Best of all, and unlike the others, everything is provided side-by-side in English, transliteration, and Arabic. And it uses a simple real-word transliteration system that is simply written the way things sound without the use of exotic linguistic symbols.

★ Other books and writing by Morocco RPCVs can be found on our web site at [RPCV Morocco writers](#). More information at [Peace Corps Worldwide](#).

★ [Publications in the FOM Souk](#)

★ **Photography contest to honor Casey Coes Morocco 2008-10**

Casey Piper Coes was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Morocco 2008-10 in Boulmane Province. His Peace Corps Service is chronicled in his blog <http://caseypipercoes.blogspot.com>. Subsequently he was USAID Presidential Management Fellow (PMF) and analyst in Bureau for Resource Management. He passed away in 2016. Throughout his travels, Casey fully invested himself professionally and emotionally in the people and places he visited. He used photographs to memorialize the many lasting friendships made along the way. Casey's ability to engage with people and build genuine relationships enabled him to work effectively across different organizations, countries, and cultures. [Video](#) (2:14 min) of him.

This specific note presents one avenue for honoring Casey Coes by joining the Coes family in a photography contest to honor Casey Coes. This photography contest, titled "Building Relationships: The People Behind Development" is at the website: <https://cpcpc.net>. The theme of the photo contest is "Building Relationships." Submissions must pertain to the contest theme, and should be accompanied by a short paragraph explaining the subject matter and its connection to the theme. The first-place winner will receive \$1,000, the second-place winner will receive \$650, and the third-place winner will receive \$350. Contest entries will be accepted until September 30th, 2017.

★ **Rick Neal, Morocco RPCV 1988-2003 and a former international aid worker, is launching a campaign for Congress in Ohio's 15th District** against incumbent Steve Stivers.

"It's time we had a Congress that works for all of us," said Neal.

He joined the Peace Corps after college, working in Morocco for five years as a teacher and health educator. After earning a master's degree in public health, he went back overseas, going wherever the need was greatest. He launched a hospital reconstruction project in Afghanistan after the fall of the Taliban and made sure refugees fleeing ethnic massacres in Congo had access to clean water. In 2014, following the outbreak of Ebola in West Africa, he went to Liberia to join a team setting up a 100-bed field hospital that could treat patients in a safe and humane setting. "The most important lesson I learned," Neal offered, "was to not be afraid to stand up and take action when called, no matter the obstacles."

Neal has dedicated his life to service and advocacy. He is not a politician and this is his first run for elected office. "This district deserves a representative who will work hard for better-paying jobs, an end to the opioid epidemic and affordable healthcare for everyone. Steve Stivers left us behind last year when he took a new job raising money for his fellow Republicans in Congress—and then voted to kick thousands of his constituents off their health insurance. [Donate](#) and more information at <https://www.facebook.com/rick.neal.90/posts/10154796057722724> and <http://rickneal.com>.



Glenn Blumhorst, President and CEO of the National Peace Corps Association writes ***the Senate approved a spending bill that includes level funding of \$410 million for the Peace Corps for fiscal year 2018.*** This is great news for America's efforts to partner with communities around the world through the Peace Corps in peace, progress and understanding. As America and the world face familiar and new challenges, an improved and expanded Peace Corps is needed now more than ever. Level funding will better enable the agency to pursue its goal of 10,000 Volunteers in the field and improve support services for Volunteers.

*Though the Senate's decision to restore the Peace Corps to level funding is a big step in the right direction, plenty of work is still needed on behalf of the Peace Corps community. In July the House met the president's request of \$398.2 million for the Peace Corps, a nearly-\$12 million cut. In the coming weeks, the House and Senate will need to negotiate their budget differences before sending a spending bill to the president's desk. It is up to all of us to engage our House Members to urge them to meet the Senate's mark, and engage our Senators to urge them not to budge.*

*The Senate's work to save the Peace Corps from cuts is the result of all of our efforts. Our champions in the Senate—Senator Thad Cochran, Senator Patrick Leahy, Senator Lindsey Graham, Senator Johnny Isakson, Senator Dianne Feinstein and many more—have demonstrated once again their commitment to America's leadership on the world stage, and the Peace Corps' critical role in that leadership. NPCA's partners, especially Liz Schrayner and her team at the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition and Shirley Sigawa and her team at Service Year Alliance, have been indispensable to the cause. This good news would not have been possible without them.*

Action is now delayed under the Continuing Resolution that allow for the continuation of vital government programs and services at FY 2017 levels until December 8, 2017.

Contact your local [NPCA Advocacy Coordinator](#) for the latest updates and news, and check out NPCA's [#ProtectPeaceCorps campaign page](#) for resources, materials and more ways to help ensure the Peace Corps has the resources it needs to fuel the next generation of American leadership. Need help getting started? Please contact J.M. Ascienzo, NPCA's government relations officer, at [jm@peacecorpsconnect.org](mailto:jm@peacecorpsconnect.org). The future of the Peace Corps is in our hands. #ProtectPeaceCorps

NPCA has established a "click to send" feature that will allow you to [Email Your Elected Representatives](#)



Michael Toler (El Jadida, Tangier, Ifrane 90-94) is working on a **collection of recordings of Moroccan music made by Paul Bowles between 1959 and 1962.** Some of you may know the recently released boxed set of four remastered CDs, but there are 70 hours of recordings in total, all of which will eventually be available in Archnet at <https://archnet.org/collections/872>. For this project, I need images of all the villages in cities in which Bowles recorded. I am wondering if you folks might be able to help. The complete list of locations is below. I have photographs of most of the bigger cities, but not of the more rural locations. Images should show built structures of any kind: housing, schools, government buildings, mosques, synagogues, etc. This includes informal architecture, including tents and huts. There can be people in the photos, but they cannot be only of people. In fact, images do not need to be photographs. Maps and artwork would also be helpful, provided they are not too fanciful or abstract. I am wondering if any of you can help. Below is the list of places made by Bowles. Names and

the spelling thereof may be outdated. For example, some of these places are villages that have been subsumed into larger urban areas. For example, Ain ed Diab is now a suburb of Casablanca; and Segangan, now Zeghanghane is in the western part of an urban area that spreads inland, more or less uninterrupted, from Nador. I'd be very grateful for any assistance you can provide. I have photographs from some of these places, but you may have different, more interesting images. Let me know if you think you can help. Michael A Toler [mtoler@mit.edu](mailto:mtoler@mit.edu)

Ain ed Diab

Ain Leuh

El Hajeb

Essaouira

Tamanar

Goulimine

Tafraout

Tiznit

Tanger

Arcila

Tetuan

Einzoren

Segangan

Taza

Tahala

Ouezzane

Meknès

Khenifra

Ait Mehammed

Marrakech

Ait Ourir

Amizmiz

Ouarzazate

Zagora



In the Boston, MA area

9<sup>th</sup> Annual **Amazigh Film Festival** Saturday, September 23rd 3:00 - 10 30 pm at the Cohen Auditorium, Tufts University, 40 Talbot Ave. Boston (Medford) MA.

Event includes new films and documentaries, a panel discussion, Moroccan tea break and live Amazigh music. Free and open to the public with required [RSVP](#). The festival is presented through a collaboration between the [Amazigh Cultural Network in America \(A.C.N.A\)](#) and the [Tazzla Institute for Cultural Diversity](#), and sponsored by BMCE Bank Foundation of Morocco. The mission of the Amazigh Film Festival is to promote and celebrate the North African Amazigh (Berber and Tuareg) culture, by offering documentaries and films which are created by Amazigh artists, directors and producers, sub-titled in English, to various Anglophone audiences of America. Each year, a selection of the best productions from Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, the Canary Islands (Guanches), the Sahara Desert, Mali and Niger (Tuareg people) has been presented in Los Angeles, New York and Boston. Click [here](#) to learn more.



In the Washington, DC area

**Morocco: Gateway to Africa** to be held on historic Freedom Plaza from September 26 – October 1, 2017, in Washington, D.C. The festival seeks to further the vision of King Mohammed VI by transforming the image of Morocco typically portrayed in the media as “desert, camels, and couscous” to a dynamic, modern business hub and a significant player in socio-economic development on the African continent. The days will be an excellent opportunity to forge co-operation, partnerships and business ties for sponsors and exhibitors. The Moroccan American Network, in collaboration with the Moroccan Center for Peace and Sustainable Development, present an

unusual four-day festival celebrating the longstanding Washington-U.S.-Morocco-Africa connection through business, media, and cultural heritage, The Freedom Plaza is an open place northwest of Washington, DC, at the corner of 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW (between the White House and the Capitol).

[Program](#) [Facebook](#)

---



#### **In Memoriam:**



Harriet E. Storzer, age 85, of Ripon, WI, passed away on Thursday, July 20, 2017. Harriet was born on January 1, 1932, at Angelica, Shawano County, WI, the daughter of Richard and Lilly (Schmidt) Wunsch, and the youngest of their nine children. She became a child of God through baptism on January 10, 1932, and was confirmed August 12, 1945, both at St. Paul Evangelical Church in Zachow, WI. On August 1, 1959, Harriet married John McClain Storz, also at St. Paul Evangelical Church, and she has lived in Ripon since that date. She graduated from Pulaski High School, Pulaski, WI, and then went on to attend the University of Wisconsin. She also served in the Peace Corps in Beni Mellal, Morocco from 1989 - 1991. She served a Medical Technology Internship at Milwaukee County Hospital. Harriet was employed in hospitals and clinics in Madison, Green Bay, Ripon, and Oshkosh.



Carol (White) Abel passed away at home in St. Charles, IL, on June 22, 2017. Carol was born in Chicago and grew up in Oak Park and Park Ridge. Carol graduated from Maine Township High School and Carroll College in Wisconsin. She was Peace Corps in Morocco 64-66. She spent a year in a small village high in the Middle Atlas Mountains and a further year working at the Institute of Hygiene in Rabat. Toward the end of her tour she was approached by the American School in Rabat, where she remained and taught second, seventh, and eighth grade for the next two years. In Morocco, she met her future husband, John. Carol taught elementary school, was a bank trust officer, a university faculty secretary, and a legal secretary and legal recruiter. She was a lifelong volunteer with community library and arts groups. work in community-based programs for women.



Born December 8, 1982, Evan Anthony Franklin passed away on Wednesday, May 17, 2017. Raised in Torrance, CA, Evan attended Lincoln Elementary, Perras Middle School, and Redondo Union High. Although his life here was very short, Evan made an impact on his family and friends. He also served in the Peace Corps in Morocco 2008-2010. While in the Peace Corps in Morocco, Evan organized and delivered reading glasses to children. Evan was often the one to teach children how to do something for the first time – ride a bike, find a constellation, swim, etc. It was not uncommon for Evan to have a child hanging from his strong shoulders. In times of conflict, Evan took everyone's side and brought humor to the resolution of the conflict. Evan was an avid reader of books on science and philosophy. He earned a B.A. degree in Philosophy at San Diego State University, where he was a proud Tau Kappa Epsilon brother. A man of many talents, Evan was at home dancing on stage, making tackles on the football field, and singing in a church choir.



David Jenkins McCaa, formerly of Harleysville, PA died March 24, 2017, in Brookings, South Dakota after a brief illness. He was 80. David spent much of his career in the research and development laboratories of CertainTeed Corp. in Blue Bell. He retired in 1999 and served in the Peace Corps in Morocco 1999 to 2001 before moving to South Dakota in 2003. Community and church activities were David's lifelong commitments. He attended Zwingli United Church of Christ of Souderton, SD where he served on the church council and sang in the choir. He remained active in Boy Scouts for more than 60 years and received a Silver Beaver Award for distinguished service to youth.

---



NPCA **Next Step Travel to Morocco**: From the Desert to the Sea - The Medinas, Mountains (and more) of Morocco

The first trip April 30 - May 13, 2017 under the NPCA banner was a smashing success. The next three trips are all sold out (October 2017, spring April 22 - May 5, 2018 and fall October 7 - October 20, 2018). The majority of travelers are Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) – mostly from other Peace Corps countries as well as Morocco - and their family members. Tour operator and tour leader is Kristy of Morocco operated by Kristy Larson,



a Peace Corp Volunteer in Essaouira Morocco from 1982 to 1984 and now a Meknes resident. She has been a tour leader or operator in Morocco for almost 35 years. She has led more than 200 trips throughout Morocco. Collected best images from the spring 2017 2017 trip are on a [Google Photos album](#).



**Maroc vu du ciel (Morocco from the sky)** is a glorious 80 min video in French by France-TV by Yann Arthus-Bertrand

Yann Arthus-Bertrand flew over Morocco with his cameras. To accompany the images he captured, the director asked Ali Baddou to write and record the comment in the first person. The journalist spent many years in this country, where a part of his family lives. The shooting was an opportunity to find familiar places and to discover fabulous landscapes. The journey begins in the imperial cities, such as Meknes, Fez, to continue along the Atlantic coast, before reaching the Atlas Mountains, Marrakesh, Rif and the Mediterranean.



**The Kingdom of Morocco BBC Documentary** 58 min



**Best of Morocco Documentary 2016** Published on Aug 5, 2016. 69 min

This is a documentary about beautiful places in Morocco and amazing culture. It shows different parts of the country, different people, great food and fun activities.



**What is a Sister City?**

A sister city, county, or state relationship is a broad-based, long-term partnership between two communities in two countries. A sister city, county, or state relationship is officially recognized after the highest elected or appointed official from both communities sign off on an agreement. A city may have any number of sister cities, with community involvement ranging from a half dozen to hundreds of volunteers. In addition to volunteers, sister city organizations may include representatives from nonprofits, municipal governments, the private sector, and other civic organizations.

Sister city relationships offer the flexibility to form connections between communities that are mutually beneficial and which address issues that are most relevant for partners.

[Agadir, Morocco](#) Friendship City with [Oakland, CA](#)

[Casablanca, Morocco](#) Sister City [Chicago, Illinois](#) Contact: Boubker Mazoz [mazozboubker@gmail.com](mailto:mazozboubker@gmail.com)

[Chauouen, Morocco](#) Sister City [Issaquah, Washington](#)

[El Hajeb, Morocco](#) Sister City [Council Bluffs, Iowa](#)

[El Jadida, Morocco](#) Sister City [Tacoma, Washington](#)

[Marrakech, Morocco](#) Sister City [Scottsdale, Arizona](#)

[Taza, Morocco](#) Seeking New Sister City

[Tiznit, Morocco](#) Sister City [Somerville, Massachusetts](#)



**MGourmets: Recipes and Cooking lists** **10 Best Moroccan Restaurants in U.S!**

Moroccan food lovers are everywhere in the World. They are always looking for the best of the Moroccan food and restaurants, let me tell you that authentic Moroccan food and restaurants are even found in the U.S.A where delicious Tajines and Mint tea are beautifully made! [Web site](#) and [FaceBook](#).

Editors Note: Plausible choices but a larger listing of known restaurants (some bad links) is on the Friends of Morocco web site at **MOROCCAN RESTAURANTS in the United States**



**Friends of Morocco and the National Peace Corps Association** are now dues-free (contributions welcome) One can join NPCA and Friends of Morocco at the [NPCA membership page](#). Membership in the NPCA is complimentary for everyone in the Peace Corps community – serving Peace Corps Volunteers, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, current Peace Corps staff, former Peace Corps staff, host country nationals and anyone who shares Peace Corps ideals, so long as we have accurate service and contact information for you. If you are a part of the Peace Corps family, then membership in the National Peace Corps Association is important for you! Alternatively, one can fill out the [Friends of Morocco Membership Application](#) and email it to [timresch@gmail.com](mailto:timresch@gmail.com).

The [National Peace Corps Association \(NPCA\)](#) is connecting and championing Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and the Peace Corps community. It provides service and education opportunities that build on the Peace Corps experience, and is also the longest-standing advocate for an independent and robust Peace Corps. The National Peace Corps Association is a nonprofit organization encompassing a network of over 50,000 individuals and more than 140 member groups. The NPCA and its member groups produce global education programs and advocacy campaigns, and provide community, national and international services. Friends of Morocco ([Social Network, group website](#)), the [High Atlas Foundation \(Morocco\)](#) are affiliate groups of NPCA. Read the [NPCA Annual Report for 2015](#)

[Become a Mission Partner](#) by contributing \$50 or more and you'll automatically receive a one-year subscription to WorldView. Your contribution to NPCA's [Community Fund](#) supports our core programs. You'll be helping to increase our community's development impact, provide transition assistance to recent RPCVs and advocate for a bigger and better Peace Corps. You can also get WorldView on a subscription-only basis for \$25 per year.

Not sure when your membership is due for renewal? Check out the new National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) website to find out - and then to easily renew NPCA (for free!) and all of your affiliate groups in one easy step. While you are logged in, update your profile, sign up for NPCA e-newsletters and support the Community Fund campaigns. On your profile, you can add a photo, share your story and send messages to your Peace Corps friends. Visit the events calendar to find community programs near you.

Signing in for the first time? Go to [www.peacecorpsconnect.org](http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org) and click "log in." Type in your preferred e-mail address associated with your NPCA account and click "Forgot password." Then simply follow the prompts from the sent email to activate your account.



**Friends of Morocco (FOM)**, active since 1988, is an organization of Americans, mostly returned Peace Corps volunteers (RPCVs), with experience in Morocco, Moroccan-Americans and Moroccans in America united with an interest in promoting educational, cultural, charitable, social, literary and scientific exchange between Morocco and the United States of America.

FOM seeks to:



unite Americans with experience in Morocco, Moroccan-Americans and Moroccans in America;



improve the awareness of Americans regarding the culture, needs and achievements of Moroccan peoples;



keep members and others current on events in Morocco;



organize and implement development education and outreach activities;



support projects of the U.S. Peace Corps and private charitable organizations in Morocco;



fund and support scholarship on Morocco and Moroccans.





This message is sent BCC to Friends of Morocco members for whom we have email addresses. BCC to prevent well-intentioned (or malicious) SPAM. Feel free to forward onward to your friends who might appreciate knowing about these events and who may not be on our email list. Have them contact us at [timresch@gmail.com](mailto:timresch@gmail.com) if they would also like these periodic updates. Advise if you would NOT like to receive these infrequent email alerts.

---

Tim Resch, President  
Friends of Morocco  
PO BOX 2579  
Washington, DC 20013-2579

<http://friendsofmorocco.org>  
[timresch@gmail.com](mailto:timresch@gmail.com)  
skype: tim\_resch  
Twitter: @timresch  
C 703 470 3166

---