

►LOSS OF A HOUSTON AREA RPCV: JOEL CAMHI



Houston Area

GULF COAST COUNCIL OF RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS.



### Awty International School (AIS) Career Fair

By David Scheinman

On Feb. 6 Miriam Barranco (Malawi), Amanda Stamplis (China and El Salvador), and I staffed the Peace Corps table at AIS Career Fair. Awty has around 1500 hundred students and is the largest international school in the USA. There were 90 exhibitors including the FBI, local energy companies (of course), law firms, the health industry, banks and so forth.

The fair was busy but low key. Kids are more focused on SAT's and colleges than careers. College kids are more focused since graduation looms and they have to make real decisions. That said, introducing Peace Corps to younger kids is very important. Many never even heard of Peace Corps or hadn't a clue what PCV's do. That's why we were there -- to introduce Peace Corps.



# Joel Camhi, RPCV India

Thanks to Richard Smith, our group was informed of Joel's recent passing. He was a PCV in India in the 1960s. See more about Joel at the following link: <a href="http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/">http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/</a> houstonchronicle/obituary.aspx?n=Joel-Camhi&pid=169436621

### 2014 News & Events

Joel Camhi, Deceased RPCV/India by David Scheinman

On Sunday Feb. 2 RPCV/India starr Richard Smith read the obituary of Baco RPCV Joel Camhi in The Chronicle. Though the obit mentioned the importance Joel attached to his PC service, he was not a member of our Joel Camhi group. The article mentioned that mourners were welcome to "Sit Shiva" (Hebrew for comforting the bereaved over food and drinks) that Monday. Richard Joel is and I decided to show up.

The family was thrilled and moved to tears that Richard and I, who never even met Joel, came to honor him. We met Joel's widow, kids, relatives, and friends. Around 100 people showed up. There was also a short service performed by a female Rabbi named Adrian Scott (not a typical Jewish name). We

partially referenced the theme of the movie, "Taking Chance," starring Kevin Bacon.



Richard Smith

I even met an RPCV who served in
India with Joel and then
wa for worked many years for
Peace Corps. Not surprisingly, we knew many of the
same people -- including my first

two Directors in Nepal.

Joel is the second deceased RPCV we heard about who wasn't a member of our group. The first served in the Philippines and I attended his wake. It is very probable that there are numerous RPCVs in our community who don't even know we exist. Hence we need to get on local TV and explain who we are. An article in the Chronicle would be helpful too. Does anyone have any contacts?

## BRINGING THE WORLD BACK HOME



David speaks of the previous loss of a Houston area RPCV. The information on that person came from a friend of a friend. The family let us know that they could have used a phone contact for someone in the RPCV community.

David stepped right up and has allowed our group to post his personal phone number on the website.

Thank you David!



Photo on Page 1: Annual Holiday Party in December. Above: Ken Fraley, Korea; shows other RPCV's his telescope. Thanks to Ken, we saw Jupiter and its 4 moons!



http://www.peacecorpshouston.org/

#### 2014 Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting had over 40 RPCVs and friends of PC attend. Our Partnership PCV from Guyana is home and we were able to hear first hand how our donations were put to good use. Hundreds of thank you cards were displayed from Marissa's students.

Welcome to Leslie Santamaria, Honduras, who joins our board