

Nicaragua coffee harvest draws Portland volunteers

by Robert Lothian

Nicaragua needs coffee pickers, and a group from Portland is going down to help.

Nancy Webster, a representative of the Portland Central America Solidarity Committee and co-coordinator of the Portland-Nicaragua coffee brigades, says that Nicaragua has had to shift workers and soldiers closer to the borders to defend against contra attacks. Also, she said, former coffee pickers now have land because of the country's revolutionary land reform programs. The revolution means they no longer have to pick coffee, she said.

Consequently, said Webster, Nicaragua has fewer pickers this year, yet because coffee is one of the country's essential cash crops, "It's critical for them to get the crop in so they can get their cash flow going." Production battalions have already been formed in Nicaragua, she said, made up of 25,000 volunteers from cities including students, government employees and housewives.

In addition, she said, the Nicaraguan government has put out a call for international volunteers, and fourteen from Portland are going. They range in age from late teenage to age 67, she said, and will leave Portland in two groups, one on January 29th, the other Feb. 12th. After meeting in Miami with other North American volunteers, they will leave for Managua on Aeronia, the Nicaraguan airline, which is offering special reduced fares.

Webster said volunteers pay for their transportation to Nicaragua, but once in the country the Nicaraguan government will pick up food, housing and transportation costs. She said the volunteers will work with Nicaraguans, and live as they do.

Conditions on the coffee farms are rugged and the work hard, she said. Food is mainly rice and beans, and volunteers can expect to go without electricity and plumbing. Work lasts from early morning until

about noon, she said, with afternoons set aside for educational and cultural activities. Total cost including transportation is expected to be \$500-\$700.

Webster said the brigades offer volunteers a chance to give while the CIA "trains and supplies the contras that are attacking the country." Also, she said, volunteers will be able to experience first-hand Nicaragua's revolutionary society. "It's really important to experience the people and the country," she said. "Maybe it's really good for us to step out of our culture sometimes. The ultimate thing is that you see people as people—then you're not going to want to send bombs and mortars."

Those who go, she said, are preparing to come back and talk about their trip with photos, slide shows, even films. One of their pre-brigade tasks, she said, is to organize material aid—medical supplies and clothing—which they will take with them and deliver to the Nicaraguans they work with. That will inaugurate an ongoing "sister city" material aid project between Portland and Nicaragua, she said.

Webster said Nicaragua needs a successful harvest to be able to purchase basic foodstuffs, medicine, spare parts for industry and transportation, and oil. Coffee production has been targeted by CIA-backed counterrevolutionaries who have already inflicted several hundred million dollars worth of damage against oil storage facilities and other parts of the economy. According to Webster, coffee brigade volunteers will not work in areas where there is danger from contra attacks.

Presently ten percent of Nicaragua's land is dedicated to coffee growing. The \$133 million income that Nicaragua generated from selling its 1982-83 coffee harvest accounted for 30 percent of exports. In addition, 100,000 jobs are created during the peak months of November and December.

(Those interested in joining the brigades should call 282-2407.)

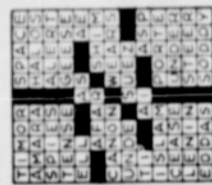


The Georgia Sea Island Singers—Frankie and Doug Quimby—will appear in concert at the Portland Art Museum, February 12th at 8:00 p.m. The film, *Say Amen, Somebody*, will be shown at 8:00 p.m. This is the last day to view the Black Labor Photographs exhibit. The concert is a benefit for the Black Educational Center. Tickets are available at the Black Educational Center, the Talking Drum Bookstore and at the door.

Artists plan reception

MEMBERS Gallery artists plan their "Opening Reception" for Sunday, January 29th, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., at the Al Goldsby studios at 825 N. Killingsworth. The exhibit will show works of photography, paintings in oil and acrylics, drawings in pen and ink and the metal sculpture of Goldsby, the host artist. The public is invited. Gallery hours are from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday through Friday,

and from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Art works will be on view from January 29th to February 26th.



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Community Calendar

"Musical Silhouettes" A program presenting some of the classical works by the late Richard Moffit will be heard in a concert featuring the talented pianist and composer Aszthemar Glenn at 8 p.m. Friday evening, January 27th, at the Auditorium of the Northwest Service Center at 1819 N.W. Everett St. Guest artist sharing the evening will be Thara Memory on trumpet. Both Glenn and Memory were students of Moffit and they collaborate to present some of Moffit's compositions. Friday's audience will hear the composition, *American Dance Suite* in its Oregon premiere. Sponsored by the Metropolitan Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, tickets will be \$4 for adults, seniors and children \$2.

Fernando Laires, internationally acclaimed Portuguese pianist, will make his first appearance at the Portland Civic Auditorium on Saturday, January 28th, at 8:00 p.m. The program will include works by Chopin, Beethoven, Debussy, Rachmaninoff, and Liszt. For more information, call 222-5229.

Members Gallery Opening Reception, Sunday, Jan. 29th, 2-5 p.m., 825 N. Killingsworth. Members Gallery is a group of Portland artists who have individually displayed their works around the state, and who have now come together to work in the community with young people interested in art. Call 234-1703 for more information.

"Let Your Light Shine," Open House for Holy Redeemer School, Monday through Thursday, January 30 - February 2, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., in celebration of National Catholic Education Week. Holy Redeemer School is located at 127 N. Portland Blvd.; call 283-5197 for more information.

Using Computers in Non-Profit Organizations, workshop, 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14 and 4 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 16, at the Menucha Conference and Retreat Center, Corbett, OR. Intensive workshop designed for managers of non-profits to make informed decisions about the use of computers in organizations. Cost is \$225; registration deadline is Feb. 7th. For more information, call Center for Urban Education, 221-0984.

Citywide Neighborhood Meeting, Tuesday, Jan. 31, 7:30 p.m., Room C, Portland Building, 1120 S.W. Fifth. Agenda: Adoption of operating rules for citywide organization; discussion of issues for citywide action.

Portland School Board meeting, Thursday, Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m., Blanchard Center, 501 N. Dixon.

Community Energy Project. Free workshop on low-cost home energy conservation for low income Southeast Portland residents, 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 26; call 234-8132 for more information.

Town Hall program: "The Street People," Sunday, Jan. 29th, live from Baloney Joe's, 6 p.m., Channel 2.

Raising a Child Conservatively in a Sexually Permissive World, workshop with Dr. Sol Gordon, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11, at the First United Methodist Church, 1838 S.W. Jefferson. Sponsored by Planned Parenthood of Portland/Vancouver and the Multnomah County Health Department and several cooperating agencies, panel members will include Dr. Gordon, Dr. George Russell, (deputy superintendent of the Beaverton School District), State Sen. Nancy Ryles, and Rev. Rodney Page (executive director of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon). For more information, call 775-3918.

Bethel goes 'round the world

Bethel A.M.E. Church, Sagittarius group of the Zodiac, will sponsor a "Trip Around The World," Saturday, January 28, 1984 in the Church Social Hall at 5828 N.E. 8th. Avenue at 6:00 p.m. The public is encouraged to come and visit countries such as China, Mexico, and others with us. Script will be sold at the door for \$1.00 each, minimum of five. Plenty of good food!

Obituary

Marvin B. Jones

Marvin B. Jones was born March 12, 1935 in Houston, Texas. He was formerly employed by Building Environmental Systems of Portland, Oregon. Mr. Jones died on January 20, 1984 at Emanuel Hospital. He is survived by Trudy Marie, mother of his two daughters, Sherry L. White and Jennifer M. Jones of Portland,

Oregon; two brothers, Curtis A. Hicks of Portland and Kenneth Jones of Oceanside, Calif; two grandchildren, Vernon L. White, Jr., and Crystal N. White of Portland, and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held on January 25th, 1984, at Vann and Vann Funeral Directors. H. B. Daniels officiated.

ALLEN TEMPLE CME CHURCH

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Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Worship 11:00am
Christian Youth Fellowship 6:00pm
(second and fourth Sundays)
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John H. Jackson, Minister, M. Ed., M. D.
9:30 A.M. Church School
11:00 A.M. Congregational Worship
5:00 P.M. Vesper Service
10:00 A.M. Baptism Fourth Sunday
11:00 Communion Each First Sunday



The American Baptist Convention, American Baptist Churches of Oregon: Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention: National, Oregon, Portland Ecumenical Ministries, American Bible Society, M.&M. Board.



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Wednesday: Choir Rehearsal 7 pm
Sunday: 9:15 am Sunday School
11:15 am Morning Worship
6:30 pm YPWW
8 pm Evangelistic Worship
Tuesday-Friday: Noon Day Prayer
Friday: 7:30 pm "The Pastor Speaks"
Saturday: 9 am Morning Prayer
9 am Showers of Blessings
10 a.m. Broadcast Station KLIQ 1290 AM DIAL

Community Directory and profiles
Ads On This Page Are Of Local Businesses That Are Helping Build A Better Community

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