

CUSO THAT INVOLVEMENT LASTS A LIFETIME

Recently Fr. Megannety received a letter from Marion White, a former student of U.P.E.I. Marion, a member of C.U.S.O. based in Nigeria, graduated with a B.A. in '76 and a B.Ed. in '77. Pat Foley and Jean McCardle (Class of '77) are also based in Nigeria but not in the same area as Marion.

This past Thursday, Oct. 20, a meeting was held in the Faculty Lounge for all persons interested in joining C.U.S.O. (Canadian University Students Overseas). Approximately 20 people attended this meeting. Not all were students at U.P.E.I.; there were several graduates from other universities, Dave Dickie of the Manpower Office, Jim Griffith from Student Services, people who had worked for C.U.S.O. in the past, as well as members of the C.U.S.O. Committee in attendance.

A lively discussion followed with a film on Cuso services in Ghana, which was both interesting and informative.

What is Cuso? Cuso provides skilled Canadians to work with the people of developing countries. Cuso works with these people, not out of pity or charity, but because Cuso believes that cooperation is the route to a better, more just and equitable world.

Cuso doesn't offer much money, fringe benefits, or promotional opportunities. Cuso does offer INVOLVEMENT.

Cuso needs qualified professional and technical people, primarily in

education, health, agriculture, and technology.

Assignments are given in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Latin America, and run for a two year period. Training, transportation, medical and life insurance is provided.

My dear friends,

First I must apologize for not knowing how to spell your name. Most embarrassing! Well, believe it or not I finally made it to Wamba and am well settled in to my apartment. It sure has been a long and hard trip from Donagh to here. First I spent time out visiting family and friends. Then Ottawa for an Orientation session. There were 91 of us in all and we were really worked by day and had the night to get acquainted with the 55 going

to Nigeria. After two weeks there, we were more than anxious to head to Africa. I really felt great those last days in Ottawa after I got over the initial shock of leaving home and landing in Kano, Nigeria, was a definite climax. I had got myself all psyched for a culture shock and nothing happened. Kano is a typical African city -- beggars, crazy

drivers, mosques, 1 million people, the very rich and the very poor. We were there for 10 days taking language training in Hausa. Most of us were sick for most of the time -- guess the food and new climate. I'm glad I got it over with early so now I will be free to work. Then last week a man from our state's

Ministry of Education came up and picked up the 3 of us going to Plateau. We were treated royally at the best hotel in Jos, the capital city. I figured this is unreal -- sooner or later things have got to be as bad as I had planned for. One week ago yesterday we arrived in Wamba; another C.U.S.O. girl will teach at the Gov. Sec. Since she has no housing they put her with me in a 3-bedroom apt. on my school compound. Well, I would never have expected it to be so nice since we were warned Wamba was considered Bush Bush. My principal is new and quite nervous when I'm around. I'm the only white and I've heard they figure we know everything and are quite hard to please.

All the better for me, I guess! So we had a day or so to get settled -- last Friday was our first day at the Market. We attracted crowds wherever we went since we're the only Whites in town. We hear there are 2 male U.S.O.'s coming.

Could be interesting!! All this week we have cleaned up the compound -- all the teachers and students have yet to arrive. Our school is new and quite impressive. I

found out last week I'd be teaching Education to Form IV instead of English as I was told in Canada. Roy Campbell would be shocked; I'm rather excited cause it seems more along my line - Psychology. Classes won't likely begin for another week. Next Tuesday and Wednesday is the Moslem Salla (a celebration after 1 moons fasting). Oh - I found some Irish nuns in Akewanga and I hear there's a white priest there too. Our house boy is Catholic and is going to take me to church Sunday. It will be in Hausa. All in all I'm doing quite well for myself - I think I can make this my home for 2 years and really enjoy it.

This weekend Susan (C.U.S.O.) and I are getting a drive to Jos for some shopping and some Party maybe! Pat Foley has a good set-up with a very nice roommate. I haven't seen Roy Taylor yet. Guess you are trying to get the Freshment excited these days

Good luck. Do write and give me your news. Love to hear from y'all cause I miss "yous".

Love,
Marian



Concerned? Qualified? Adaptable?

Contact your nearest CUSO committee, or write:

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