

Roger L. Weiss

After completing a degree in Biology I was a volunteer in the DR (64-66). I was to follow up on marine fisheries projects started by one of the first groups in the country. I had a great tour of the country but many projects had failed and none needed more assistance because they were already over fishing. As some of us were about to fly to Haiti from Santo Domingo for a vacation the revolution broke out. I spent a month in the Capitol hauling food and medical supplies, and helping in a hospital. That was a violent experience of being under stray shooting, seeing the dead and wounded, and trying to explain Peace Corps, War Corps & US government to Dominicans. I then was assigned to school construction and a bit of agricultural development in Rio Seco de La Vega. The school was a success in augmenting a strong rural community. I have since connected with some of the people I knew in that area and have visited with some on recent visits to the DR.

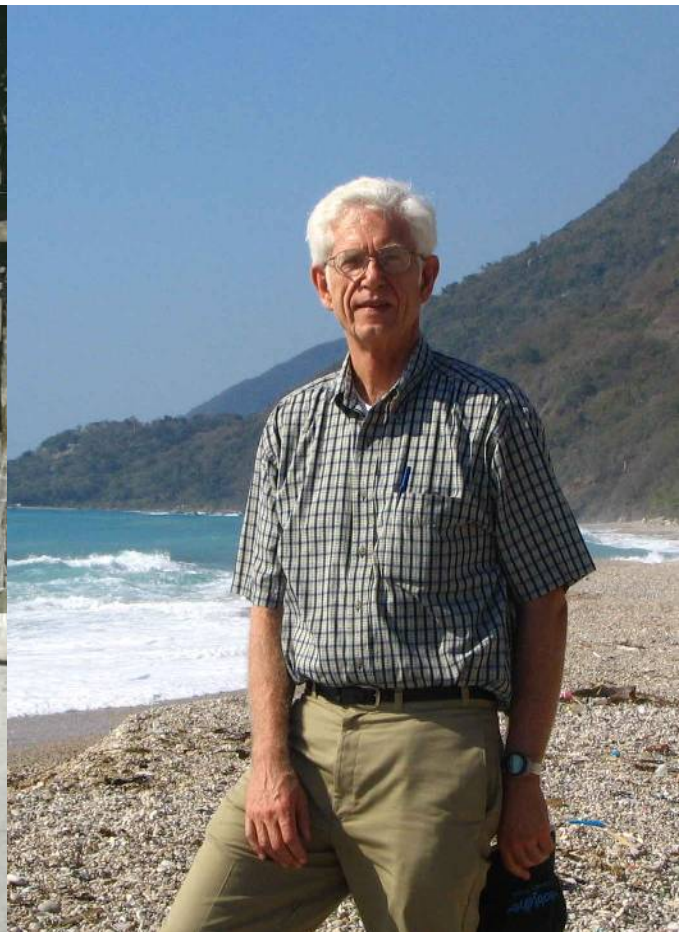
I then modified my career heading with a degree in animal nutrition. I was recruited by Quaker Oats in Chicago to be administrator of their farming operations all over the country, and started an MBA in night school. Five years of large corporations and the big city was enough. We got a farm, feed mill, and farm store in Wisconsin and I got back into agricultural development of various sorts. Later we had the chance to sell everything and move to my home area of Washington. I did some work for agricultural businesses but mostly did consulting in business management and nutrition.

In 1987 I got involved with Peace Corps again by attending the first Reunion in Santo Domingo. After a gap I attended the 2002 Reunion and met the FDR crew, joined the board, and was immediately appointed Membership Director. That led to becoming president in 2005.

Not all my time is spent on work and FDR, although sometimes it seems that way. I have always enjoyed biking, photography, boating, hiking, and camping. Camping evolved from backpacking to car camping to a pickup and camper. The current yacht is a kayak – a great way to poke around and see things.



1964



2005