

# EARTHSTEWARDS

# NEWS

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WWW.EARTHSTEWARDS.ORG

Members' Newsletter

Spring 2002

## LEADING TO THE EDGE: An Exciting Summer Conference

Earthstewards Niels Pilaar and Erik van Praag are organizing a July 20-27, 2002 conference in Maastricht, Holland, for those who want to make a positive difference. The focus is about expressing the greatest vision of who you are, inspiring others to do the same and stepping out of our comfort zones. You might want to do that for yourself, each other, the world or Unity itself. Needless to say, these actions are needed more than ever since 9/11/01, and since the war in Palestine continues and escalates.

Excellent teachers from all over the world, including Jerilyn Brusseau, Leah Green and Gail Straub (USA), Peter Goldman (UK), Mary Inglis (Finland) and Zhenya Alekseeva (Russia) will deliver a beautiful, abundant program. Topics will include: Compassionate Listening, Council of ALL Beings, A Leadership Game, a PeaceTable multicultural feast and more.

There will be numerous workshops and very good entertainment. Children are welcome and there will be a separate children's program.

We expect people from all over the world: USA, Canada, Western- and Eastern-Europe, Israel, Palestine, and more. Attendees will include people from both the mainstream and the undercurrent. It is a meeting place for people of good will and will create personal networks that will inspire and support you for years.

Combine this conference with a holiday (nature and beautiful cities nearby) or, considering the dates, combine it with Peace Trees Vucovar and the European ESN Summer Gathering (see page 3).

The conference is not cheap but offers great value for the money: \$3,500 for participants from the corporate world; \$1,800 for private individuals; \$900 for children under 18. Includes room and boards, but 19% VAT must be added. Earthstewards are offered a 20% discount if registered before March 1st.

For more information or registration forms, go to [www.Ltte.nl](http://www.Ltte.nl) or contact Ester Willems or Jose Jong at #31-40-2809805 or via email at [e.willems@coram.ni](mailto:e.willems@coram.ni) or [j.jonh@coram.ni](mailto:j.jonh@coram.ni).

## WEST COAST EARTHSTEWARDS GATHERING

August 15 - 18, 2002

The 2002 West Coast ESN Gathering will be held August 15 ñ 18 at Lost Valley Educational Center near Eugene, Oregon.

Lost Valley is an intentional community of conscious, sensitive folks just like Earthstewards! They are located on 85 acres of beautiful land on which we can either camp or stay inside a dormitory. First-class vegetarian meals are provided throughout our time together. For additional information, please contact Jim Brende at 707-823-7658. More details about the Gathering itself will be included in the next ESN Newsletter. Further information about all Gatherings can also be found at: [www.earthstewards.org](http://www.earthstewards.org).

## EARTHSTEWARDS NICARAGUAN TRIP

From February 7 - 21, Juanita Ruth One will lead a group to visit *Los Ositos* (Little Bears) C.D.I. (child development center in Spanish) in Leon, Nicaragua. This is the preschool and daycare center that Earthstewards' donations built in 1987 and continue to support.

The group will be delivering donations of Spanish-language children's books, school supplies, summer clothing and shoes for children of all ages, modest summer clothing for women, shirts and baseball caps for men, travel-sized toiletries and sample packets of over-the-counter medications.

They plan to video their Nicaraguan experiences in hopes of creating a fund-raising documentary upon their return. While there, they will also be connecting with and visiting other non-profit groups' projects in Nicaragua.

For information about the February trip or year-round donation opportunities, contact Juanita Ruth One at 410-243-8375 or via email [juanitaruthone@juno.com](mailto:juanitaruthone@juno.com).

### **Earthstewards Projects Contacts:**

*Nicaragua Day Care*

*Juanita Ruth One, 410-243-8375*

*juanitaruthone@juno.com*

*Essential Peacemaking*

*Betty Greene, 781-340-0564*

*begreene2@mediaone.net*

*Publishing*

*Rosemary Jones, 800-561-2909,*

*HealingPgs@aol.com*

## ESSENTIAL PEACEMAKING: WOMEN & MEN

*Raising Questions and Opening Doors*

By Betty Greene

Participate with almost anyone in a conversation about gender communication and you'll surely find some differences of opinion and varied ideas on how to solve the *problem* of not feeling heard or dealing with conflicts. Even within same-gender conversations, there are many approaches offered and discussed. EP/WM continues to explore these questions and more through its One-, Two- and Three-day gatherings and trainings. These in-depth interactions of men and women have been going on now for the past ten years. People in Europe and the USA are still offering workshops to men and women interested in and ready to allow the intimacy and discovery to take place.

In keeping with the theme of co-leadership, Ian Murray has agreed to join me in coordinating the US EP/WM network. I welcome the added energy and opportunity to work with him in yet another way. We have so enjoyed presenting the EP/WM workshops and are planning to offer more in this area of Massachusetts.

If you have any questions about EP, want to reconnect with some other co-facilitators, or want to sponsor an EP in your area, feel free to contact us at 781-340-0564 or via email: imurray@mediaone.net or begreene2@mediaone.net.

## ESSENTIAL PEACEMAKING/ WOMEN & MEN

### Schedule of Trainings

#### 1-day Sat. Feb. 2

Unity by-the-Bay Severna Park, MD USA  
John Shuford, Juanita Ruth One  
410-243-8375 or juanitaruthone@juno.com

#### 1-day Sat. Mar.2

Genevieve Lane Natural Healing Center  
Norwell, MA USA  
Ian Murray, Betty Greene  
781-340-0564 or begreene2@mediaone.net

#### 3-day Apr 2-5

Gut Daudieck 4 D21640, Horneburg Germany  
Ursel Kammann, Martin Dronsfield,  
Ian Murray, Betty Greene  
49-4163-6730

#### 3-day Aug 15-18

Latinovac  
Harry Troelstra, htroelstra@wish.net

### Special EP Happenings

Leo Sonneveld is organizing a big One-day EP/WM Gathering for 80 adolescents from different cultures in Holland. Co-facilitators are Erik and Carien; Leo and Veronique; Marije and Wout; Diuewke and Nils. Contact: Diuewke via email Begemann@Antenna.NL

On March 22, a workshop about EP is being organized at

a conference of mediators for childcare settlements around divorce. Facilitators: David-Jan and Diuewke Begemann. Contact Diuewke via email Begemann@Antenna.NL

EP Co-facilitators' Gathering, April 5 - 7, in Germany. Contact: Susanne and Thomas Schluep-Ganter via email schluep-ganter@datacomm.ch.

## Children's Village of Sonoma County

By Lia Rowley

You may remember the Earthstewards' support for The Children's Village! Three and a half years ago, ESN stepped out and offered to be our umbrella organization during our birth process and what a godsend that was! It enabled us to get started on this very important project.

Our mission is to build a cluster of family homes for children in foster care that offers them permanent placement with their brothers and sisters. We all know the vision is a sound one. In the current system, children are moved through numerous placements during their early years - on the average they move eight times! Not only are they taken away from their parents, but they are often also moved away from their brothers and sisters.

For the past four years The Children's Village has been making good progress towards its goal of providing a wonderful alternative. We recently received a \$100,000 grant providing us with a big boost. We have also been promised a land donation and have a developer who wants to donate valuable resources. An increasing number of people are joining our effort, offering their time and resources to make it happen.

People joining us are visionaries, who believe that we, the *ordinary people*, have the power to do great things! The children in our nation deserve nothing less than a safe, permanent and loving home in which to grow up. If you would like to join our effort or want to receive our newsletters, please e-mail me at lia@thechildrensvillage.pon.net or feel free to call me at 707-566-7044. We would love to hear from you and have your support!

### Dues Are Due For 2002: Renew Your Membership

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: ESN, PO Box 10697, BI WA 98110  
(Renewal for USA Memberships Only)

1 YR US MEMBERSHIP (\$40) \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION \_\_\_\_\_

ESSENE BOOK OF DAYS 2002\* (\$10) \_\_\_\_\_

WARRIORS OF THE HEART\* (\$10) \_\_\_\_\_

\*book sale prices include shipping TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_ CHECK \_\_ VISA \_\_ MASTERCARD (FILL OUT # BELOW)

EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

## European Gathering 2002

The 2002 Gathering will be in Croatia and will overlap with the nearby 3rd PeaceTrees project. The Gathering will be held in Vukovar on the Danube at the Croatia/Serbia frontier near Hungary.

PeaceTrees Latinovac will be near Caglin and Poszega, Ecovillage-Project-Latinovac. The two places are about 80 kilometres distance from each other.

Gathering accommodations will be in the hotel Dunav in Vukovar with meetings taking place in a nearby hall.

### *The Agenda*

The Gathering starts on Thursday, August 8th at 14.30 hours (2.30 pm).

Participants of the PeaceTrees project will join us for the opening of the Gathering including such traditional elements as an Opening Circle.

During the first evening we will co-create the schedule for the Gathering and the days after by identifying the topics people want to discuss and who offers what.

We do want to organize a tour to the PeaceTrees project, hoping to rent a bus (or two) to travel the 80 kilometres to where the project takes place. That day trip will start shortly after breakfast and we will return before dinner.

On Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday we will continue our program as co-created on Thursday evening. Of course, part of Sunday will be dedicated to the Closing Circle and the planning of the 2003 European ESN Gathering.

The important dates are:

Sat. Aug 3 - Sun Aug 11 — PeaceTrees Latinovac/ Vukovar 2002

Wed. Aug 7 — EP 1-day (included in the PeaceTrees program)

Thur. Aug 8 - Sun, Aug 11 — ESN European Gathering

Mon., Aug 12 - Tues., Aug 13 — EP 2-day

Thur., Aug 15 - Sat, Aug. 17 — EP 3 day

### *How to get there?*

By airplane: Munich, Wien, Budapest are all possibilities. By train: Muchen-Zagreb-Osijek (bus to Vukovar). Information regarding the cost of the Gathering and directions for coming via car will be available later.

### *Participating in PeaceTrees*

Young people who want to participate in PeaceTrees are welcome! If you know of any young people from Western Europe or the US who might want to go to Croatia for the PeaceTrees project, please let us know. If enough youngsters would like to go, we can probably arrange transportation from Germany to Croatia. Please contact Katharina Sander, mediation@t-online.de, for details.

## **PEACE TREES UKRAINE 2002**

Plans are moving forward to organize a PeaceTrees project in the Ukraine in the summer of 2002. After 70 years of communism, the organizers believe it is time for concerned stewards to embrace these CIS regions. Ukraine is in a strategically good position that could attract participants from neighboring countries as well as western countries. Besides, the country has a lot of rich cultural and historical sites that make it an interesting place to visit.

Now is the time for youth across the globe to join their colleagues in these regions to work Peace, celebrate Peace, dance Peace and experience Peace in the Earthstewards' PeaceTrees tradition. We need your ideas, support and active collaboration. Please contact: Charles Asante-Yeboah via email charlesasante@hotmail.com or +380-44-2660062.

Progress Links/CRIM

Zabolotnogo st.3

Box 110

Kiev 03187

## **European Gathering Organizers**

Those involved in organizing the European ESN Gathering 2002 include: Branka Drabek-Milekic, Osijek, HR — eko-selo-latinovac@os.tel.hr; Katharina Sander, Steyerberg, D — mediation@t-online.de; Anne Werner, Lange Str. 11, D-31582 Nienburg, 05021-889436 — mediation@t-online.de; Chris Gardner, "Kel Penty", North Road, Goldsethney, Penzance TR20 9JY GB — GardnerCRW@aol.com; Karla Quint, Krastel, D — BuC.Ronnefeldt@t-online.de; Rodrigo Springer, DRodrigo.Springer-@directbox.com; Harry Troelstra, Zoetermeer, NL — htroelstra@wish.net.

## **CIS: Commonwealth of Independent States**

CIS means Commonwealth of Independent States. This is the name given to the states (countries) which together with the Russian Federation, formed the USSR, and which has become independent states (countries) since the collapse of USSR.

Wishing you the very best of success in all your endeavors in this New Year and the years to come.

Kindly contact me again should you have any other questions or require further clarifications.

Peace,

Charles

### ***Earthstewards Network/PeaceTrees Vietnam***

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*206-842-7986 Fax 206-842-8918*

*Earthstewards email: outreach@earthstewards.org*

*PeaceTrees Vietnam email: info@peacetreesvietnam.org*

## PeaceTrees Vietnam Six Years of Reversing War's Legacy

December 9th in Washington DC marked a memorable moment in US Vietnamese history. In honor of improved US Vietnamese relations, Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung and a 100 person high level Ministerial delegation visited the United States for the first time. Their timely visit honored the signing and implementation of the US Vietnam bilateral trade agreement. PeaceTrees Vietnam was highly honored to be invited to attend this prestigious event at the Embassy of Vietnam. In his first speech in the United States, the Deputy Prime Minister remarked "Today, the war is over". Thirty years ago, these words were unimaginable.

It was only six years ago, on January 1, 1996, that we left Seattle for Hanoi, Vietnam, bound with a bold idea for healing....a model project of working with the Vietnamese people to heal the wounds of war. From the moment of our arrival, we were met with warm and friendly greetings by the Vietnamese people who expressed their sentiments of "It's time to close the past and open the future". Within a few days, we were invited to Quang Tri Province to create PeaceTrees Vietnam to address the devastating legacy of war in one of the most war ravaged areas of Central Vietnam. The 19th international PeaceTrees project was born.

Today, work of PeaceTrees has grown deep and strong, as a model for ordinary people to work together to reverse the consequences of war. Still in Quang Tri Province, the area known as the DMZ, the ravages of the war live on. Nearly every week, at least one child is killed or injured by tragic explosions from bombs and landmines.

With the cooperation of the Vietnamese people and the generosity of friends around the world, PeaceTrees has sponsored clearance of more than 80 acres of land and safe removal of more than 1500 landmines and unexploded bombs. On this safe cleared land, the Danaan Parry Landmines Education Center for Children stands as the first accident prevention education center in Vietnam....to help children stay safe midst these lurking dangers. Eight citizen diplomacy trips of volunteer tree planters from many nations, including American veterans and their families, have joined the Vietnamese people to plant more than 9000 indigenous trees to begin healing this once fiery battleground in wartime. Hundreds of lifelong friendships have been forged through the planting of these trees.

On this safely cleared land of the former US Marine Corps Combat Base, the PeaceTrees Friendship Village is now being built for 135 families, many

of whom have suffered a tragedy from landmines or unexploded bombs. This village will provide homes, running water for the first time, electricity, a kindergarten and a micro credit lending program to help families grow their livelihood. In September of 2001, the first 30 homes were completed, with the entire village completion set for September 2002.

In mid-March of 2002, PeaceTrees Vietnam will host it's ninth citizen diplomacy tree planting trip to Quang Tri Province, to plant the next grove of indigenous trees and to create even deeper understanding and cooperation.

There is something we can do at this difficult time in history...we can continue working to reverse the lingering legacy of a war which ended long ago for many people, but which lives on everyday for the people of Quang Tri Province. We invite you to join us in this life changing adventure. Please call Kathy Matulys at 206-842-7986 for more information.

*by Jerilyn Brusseau*

*PeaceTrees Vietnam On The Web:*

*www.peacetreesvietnam.org*

*Jerilyn Brusseau, Co-Founder*

*jerilynbru@aol.com*

*Chuck Meadows, Executive Director*

*chuckm@peacetreesvietnam.org*

### **EARTHSTEWARDS NETWORK**

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