

# T H E N O D E

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# **THE NODE**

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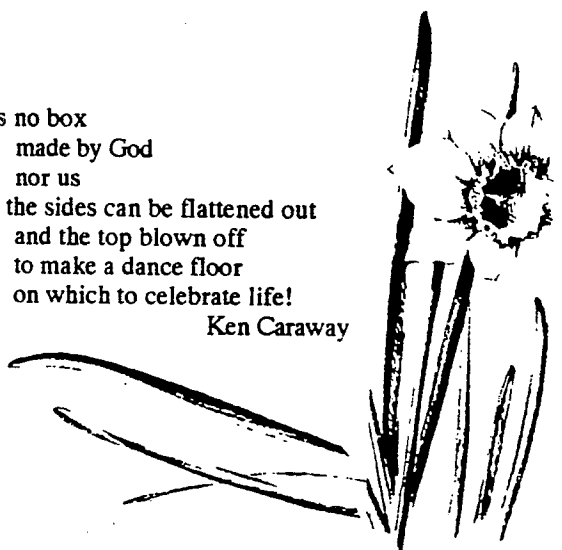
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## EDITORIAL

This issue of the Node includes the following themes: Creative Involvement in Society, Second Generation, Networking Lights Up, Rites of Passage, Transitions And Announcements, Book Reflections and Poetry. We have also included the celebration of the Completed Life of Patricia Mae Porter (Pat Scott) which was held in Hamilton, on April 4, 1996 at 3:30 pm. Sixty family, friends and colleagues were in attendance and many others sent wishes.

We thank you for your letters and contributions to this issue of the Node. For the next issue, we would like to introduce a discontinuous theme, vacation time - trips-hobbies-celebrations  
Sheighlah for the Editors

There is no box  
made by God  
nor us  
but that the sides can be flattened out  
and the top blown off  
to make a dance floor  
on which to celebrate life!  
Ken Caraway



## CREATIVE INVOLVEMENT IN SOCIETY

In the midst of my job --I am thriving. I celebrated one year of being on the staff of the battered Women's Alternatives. I like the agency and the kind of contribution I am making. My work centers around violence prevention education. I am one of the lead trainers in the agency which means I am the facilitator for the 40 hour state mandated domestic violence counselor training course that MFCC Interns and volunteers are required to go through before they can work with victims and perpetrators of family violence. I love the designing and delivering curriculum although curriculum design and delivery is not without its challenge in terms of integrating skill building, theory, personal growth, and modeling behavior

process. I welcome it. I've also written several proposals for conferences and been accepted to do workshops particularly around multicultural competence and domestic violence. I love presenting at conferences. In the midst of this I was promoted to a supervisory position. I now hire and fire, write grants-- and so the story goes.

I'm grateful for my network of friends who support me, love me, guide me, play with me and challenge me when I want to give up. This year I've facilitated retreats with these women and men, started writing regularly, renewed my fitness program at the gym, increased my intake of comfort (what would life be without this) and health food, backpacked and dreamed. I am thankful for them. ...Sharon Turner

This has been a year for rivers-protecting the watersheds, hiking and floating the canyons. Five great rivers-the North Platte, the Colorado, the Rio Grande, the Arkansas and the South Platte-rise in the high Rockies of Colorado and eventually flow to the Gulf of Mexico and the Gulf of California. Along the way they are the lifeblood of landscapes which support an incredible diversity of plant and animal species, including that most ubiquitous one - humankind. The rivers are much used and much abused, and we all are called to protect them, not only for ourselves, but for the future.

A major habitat protection effort was the organization of the upper Arkansas and South Platte unit of the Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project (SREP). Jean recruited, trained and coordinated 70 volunteers, and Art provided logistical support, as well as years of experience with wildlife. SREP's goal is to protect and restore the natural landscapes in the Arkansas and South Platte watersheds from the headwaters to where they break through the mountain barriers to flow off across the great plains toward the sea. Teams went out this summer to investigate roadless areas and look at places that have unusual concentrations of native plants and animals. Eventually this will result in a proposed system of core habitat reserves-most on public lands, but some private also-which are linked by wildlife migration corridors.

Another river-the Rio Grande in the San Luis Valley near the New Mexico state line-was our focus for a half dozen field research and

organizing trips. A Citizens' Management Alternative for protecting biodiversity on the Rio Grande River corridor was researched, written and submitted to the Bureau of Land Management. SREP provided the science and writing; Colorado Environmental Coalition (CEC) is providing the community organizing, and a task force of Valley folks did research and helped design the proposal. We both spent many great days hiking the rim and gorge of the Rio Grande, bushwhacking along the Conejos, climbing the volcanic hills which border the river and driving the roads. We looked for antelope, deer, elk, beaver, northern leopard frogs, ancient petroglyphs and modern historical sites, prairie falcons, sandhill cranes, ravens, golden and bald eagles, and we documented threats-roads which fragment, cattle which are allowed to overgraze and riparian areas which are stripped of native willows and cottonwoods. This kind of adventure is greatly enabled by our new camper truck. Its very simple-just spread the sleeping bags in the back and climb in; the food boxes fit in the cab, and we cook on the backpack stove on the tailgate.

...Art & Jean Smith

After seven years publishing ICA's Edges Magazine I finally saw the writing on the wall. The magazine was reduced to a newsletter. I shifted my time into facilitation, training and other profitable activities. I was sent 4,000 miles to Winnipeg, Vancouver, Regina and Ottawa to help the Government of Canada prepare to hand over its health system to self-governing First Nations. On the training front, the most gripping courses I taught were with nursing organizations, hospitals and health departments where severe staff cutbacks have intensified the need for human understanding and cooperation. I am also working with villages, towns and cities in New Brunswick generating public participation in economic development. This feels a bit like a time warp because it is in the county adjacent to the Lorne Human Development Project where I was director during the 'difficult' year of 1980.

This is my second year as president of the Toronto branch of the United Nations Association. I handed out Global Citizen awards with Ontario's Lieutenant Governor, made speeches at special occasions and learned a different style of leadership beside ICA's. Researching the final issue of Edges magazine, which commemorated the UN's 50th anniversary, gave me a deeper insight into our

emerging planetary civilization (from a bureaucratic perspective!). ...Bill Staples

At a Presbyterian Church in New Canaan, CT, there is a replica of the Dromenon such as the labyrinth on the floor of Chartres Cathedral in France. It is painted on canvas. I walked it shortly before Christmas with the intent of recovering VOCATION. It was an irrational journey to the center and an energy filled dance on the return. Life is new now, meaningful again, and everything's going to be all right now.

...Judi White

I moved north of Toronto in August. I had been working up in this area with Mnjikaning (Rama) First Nation. I had worked with them ten years ago when I first came to Canada. They had finished their plan--90% of the vision was complete--so they called for a second planning session.) I enjoy small community living and had been looking for a new place for the last couple of years. Friends convinced me it would be better to pay off a mortgage than continue to pay rent----so I leapt into the 'new home owners' life.

My one day a week at Mnjikaning has spread to 5+. Last December the First Nation was selected as the only Native community to host a casino. Since then we have been in massive preparation for the opening May 1, 1996. This could be viewed as crisis or opportunity, but with 70% unemployment the community has chosen opportunity. I spent the first of the year doing a social impact study with community members. We went down to the states to visit with Native leaders who already had casinos. The key they said was to get your social programs operating on opening day. Se we are in the midst of training, research, and drafting proposals for social service, police, recreation programs, cultural development, new political forms and economic development. Its a 'whole system transition'.

One of the most exciting parts of the project are the murals that are being created for the outside of the casino. Ten artists from Mnjikaning are researching their heritage, bringing forth old bead patterns that had been stored in the museum, talking with the elders, and following their own dreams. The project feels like it is nurtured from generations past and is being beckoned by generations in the future. We had an elder come in and conduct a visioning session with the

artists. He reminded them of their ancestors who painted on the rock faces in the area. His thought was that the casino walls were the new rock faces and they needed to come at the project as communication with the spirit world. It is wonderful to 'hold the field' for this effort

I am in the midst of rethinking my retreat practice. Recently, I also participated in a sweat lodge at Mnjikaning the first one I've done in many years. For now, this is all germinating and will eventually be woven into retreats

...Jan Sanders

Our Retreat Centre has really taken off. The individuals and couples who have come, have enjoyed the place, our home grown veggies and gone away seemingly peaceful and very satisfied.

Betty has done wonders with the permaculture garden and the management of the earth of the place. We joined together with all the other permaculture people in the district early in the year. Each month the group visits a different property and works. We had a huge area mulched when it was our turn and enjoyed wonderful fellowship with the group.

Each month Janet travels to Rockhampton on the train and continues her work there for a week with individuals, groups and the Rockhampton Women's Health Centre.

We are only 3 km from the Bruce Highway (part of the main thoroughfare between Sydney and Cairns) so many of our friends and family have visited. They, as well as the wonderful people who have been part of the centre have contributed to a deep peacefulness in our beings. So amidst the inner struggles and becomings we are growing into deep spirit women on our special earth journey. ...Betty McGee & Janet Hughes

My consulting work with IRI/Skylight, an educational training and publishing organization, marked a five year anniversary in August. Work travels in 1995 have taken me to Canada, Hawaii, and many states in the mainland. I am especially pleased to have an article published in the upcoming Winter 1996 edition of the Journal of Staff Development. I'm excited with participation in men's movement called "New Warriors." ...Bruce Williams

Rob celebrated his fifth anniversary with the United Nations Development Programme (:UNDP) as Senior Programme Advisor in the Management Development and Governance Division and the global coordinator of the Local Initiative Facility for Urban Environment (LIFE). His work has taken him during 1995 to South Africa, Kyrgyzstan, Columbia, Egypt, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Berlin, Freiburg, Seattle and San Francisco. He especially enjoyed being a guest faculty member with the Whole System Design graduate programme of Antioch University in Seattle. He received a "wake up call" from God with an event of "atrial fibrillation" in Berlin.

...Rob & Mary Work



Change, change, change....And here I am just beginning to learn how to use Microsoft Word (my 4th word processing system). I am also learning a new operating system called Windows 95. For me this experience has captured and symbolized the intensification of both the unbelievable complexity of any given slice of reality and the rapidity with which any given reality comes and goes out of "being". Both Tony and I experience that all the dimensions of our life share in this awesome complexity - no matter how simple and uncomplicated it seems to be at first. This experience provides a continual challenge to integrate/interrelate and keep in balance the life we have been given.

...Ellery & Tony Elizondo

Larry says the highlights have been 1. the Community Building Workshop from the Foundation for Community Encouragement. (A Scott Peck originated foundation) FCE is an individual and group process for experiencing and building profound respect. 2. Organizational Transformation, particularly the work with mentoring, and 3. Eco-Cultural Tours which nurtures profound respect for the local environment and culture (two tours - one to Green Island and one to Taitong with Amis tribal group.)

Evelyn is still working for Taipei American School as the Upper School Office manager and

says this has been a helpful transition to objectify her relationship to the Order and the new ICA while working at TAS.

...Lawrence and Evelyn Philbrook

**B**oth of us have had changes and promotions at our jobs. Carol got a double promotion and is working for the boss she already had, plus another Assistant Dean. She is now Administrative Secretary. Cliff was offered (out of the blue) a position in another Georgetown University Medical Center contractor's office. He got a raise (no more overtime!) and a job that offers more learning experiences and a chance to finish his tasks from time to time!

A brand new involvement has been with the newly forming Mt. Rainier Community Development Corporation using our long experience in planning methods. Cliff has also been using those methods at Paint Branch Church for the Decisions for Growth Committee.

...Carol & Cliff Stocking

**I** facilitated a 2 week program in Tanzania with Jim Campbell & Renaud Houzlau from Brussels in December. We had 50 development practitioners and trained them in a participatory planning process.

Now I am consulting with CARE Egypt as part of a regional resource team to do Long range strategic planning. CARE created a resource team of consultants in Africa - ICA background plus others to basically fill the role that Sandy Powell did here.

I'm also working with the communication development team of ICA MENA which is responsible for the publication of Ru'ya and our external training programs

...Judith Hamje

**F**or Jo and Wayne, this has been a very special year. We have both had wonderful opportunities to work with Native Canadians. Jo facilitated planning of development strategies with the Yellowkives Dene Band in NWT on their traditional land on Great Slave Lake. Tim went along on that one (thanks to frequent flyer points) and had the chance to go fishing with the Chief. We participated in: 1) Training facilitators for public consultation in the Lake of the Woods area of NW Ontario. 2) Planning with the Iqaluit Board of Education on Baffin Island. 3)

Planning strategies with a NW Ontario band that returned to their education on Baffin Island. 4) Planning strategies with NW Ontario band that returned to their traditional land to establish their community again. 5) Facilitating conflict resolution between a major utility company and a Native community in Eastern Ontario. Working in this cross cultural context has provided us with minute by minute opportunities to be totally conscious, flexible and inventive.

We have also focused a great deal of energy, along with our colleagues in Canada and the US on developing the discipline of facilitation. We have been expanding our facilitator training at ICA. We are doing quite a lot of training in organizations as people strive to gain skills to enable effective communication. We have also been involved in developing networks of facilitators in Canada and the US. We held our first Canadian conference for facilitators in October this year and discovered a genuine surge of energy toward creating this new field. Jo continues her research into the competencies and training necessary for excellent facilitators.

...Jo & Wayne Nelson

**R**od began 1995 by participating in a medical mission team to the Dominican Republic sponsored by our church, Village Presbyterian. For eight days the nurses and doctors on the team visited the bateys (villages) around La Romana providing medical attention to over 1000 villagers. Rod's assignment was to document the sojourn with his video and camera.

Rod joined an International Rotary team led by friend Rex Cook from Scotland in April for a Rotary site visit in Ghana, West Africa. The project entails the establishment of a reconstructive plastic surgery unit at the large Korle Bu hospital in Accra. The unit will handle burn victims and corrective surgery for children with cleft lips and palates and other deformities.

...Rod & Priscilla Wilson

**W**ork continues to challenge and excite. I am now a partner in the firm which will soon have 14 people. We have had good growth in assets this past year, and it has been a real pleasure to work with a great group of talented and committed people. My men's groups continue to be a source of inspiration and support, and running provides nurture for my body and spirit.

...Robert Rafos

Ellen Changed jobs, moving from staff Physical Therapist at University Hospital to Rehab Department Head in a 156 bed nursing home. She is about to move with the same rehab services company to a larger facility which also offers independent living and will have a larger rehab department. She enjoys combining the skills of PT with her facilitation/management experience. Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church continues to be an important place to spend time and energy, as clerk of session and a variety of other roles including co-producer with Dave of a talent show "Cabaret".

David has moved his office from the dining room of our former house to a real office building and now has a part time assistant. Business is building with a number of new clients and a great variety which keeps him interested and challenged - everything from telephone cable installers in Puerto Rico to a travel agency and sandwich shops. He has also been very involved at church as a member of Session and chairperson of the Church and Society Department. One of his local projects has been a neighborhood agency which provides services to pregnant teens and teenage mothers and is developing a pregnancy prevention program for pre-teen girls. He also sings in the choir and enjoys especially the variety of South African and American Negro Spirituals.

...Ellen and David Rebstock

In addition to doing the store, John filled the pulpit of some of the little mountain churches while their pastor was recuperating. These little stone churches were built back at the turn of the century by a Presbyterian minister who wanted to see churches in the "backwoods" of these hills. A book, "The Man Who Moved a Mountain" has been written about his work. It was delightful to be in those old structures which are being so beautifully cared for by family members, and to learn of the work they continue to do in serving their communities.

...John & Lynda Cock

Simplification Labs which we began in 1992 have burgeoned into a national program of the Institute of Cultural Affairs. Events were also conducted in Pune, India during our trip this year and in Guam. A college student interned with us

this summer and helped develop high quality materials for LifeStyle Simplification programs.

Nelson installed management information systems for four associations as well as setting up an Internet connection for a major foundation. In November he officially became a Certified Network Engineer. Problem solving and management skills combined to release the potential of associations across the state.

...Elaine and Nelson Stover



## A CELEBRATION OF THE COMPLETED LIFE OF PATRICIA MAE PORTER

August 14, 1940 - April 1, 1996

Patricia Porter's celebration of her completed life was held Swackhamer, Blachford & Wray Funeral Home in Hamilton, on April 4, 1996 at 3:30 PM attended by 60 family, friends and colleagues. A reception followed the service.

### FORMING THE CIRCLE

I have a braid of Sweet grass here. Sweet grass if you don't know is one of the grasses of this part of the world. For thousands of years it has been braided by the Native people. It is used as a symbol, braided like this it becomes very strong. When it is burned, the smoke arising from it is a purifying smoke. A smoke carrying our prayers for Patricia upward, outward, downward.

### EULOGY

We want to now stand present to the journey that Patricia was on, the thresholds that she crossed, the accomplishments, the friends, Patricia slipped into this world August 14, 1940. That's the way her autobiography begins. She wasn't quite clear about her assignment in this world. She wanted loving parents & said "I'd rather

have brains than beauty" and so she came into the world to the parents of Lilly Belle and Ralph Porter in Birmingham, Alabama. She grew up with a lot of affection. She was a wanted child and she then gave that to the rest of the world. She lived in a fairly strict house hold. She had a Methodist upbringing with a lot of you don't do this on Sunday and you don't do that on Sunday. But, in the middle of that was her father who kept the balance. He would say "If you can't do it on Sunday, you can't do it any other day of the week".

In the South in the 40's & 50's when Patricia was growing up, she had a sense of all people are important. She tells the story of going into a washroom in the South with one of her relatives. There was a "colored women" in there. She handed her a towel when Patricia washed her hands and Patricia said "thank you very much Maam". Her aunt said "you don't call her maam, that's not right she's colored". Patricia replied "she's my elder and I'm going to call her maam. Colour doesn't make any difference." That was Patricia at eight. She had already charted out and knew for her what was right.

When Patricia graduated from high school, she didn't think she was smart enough to go to university. She decided to go to secretarial school. Well she lasted one week. At the end of the week she went to her father and said "this isn't for me dad." She was concerned that she had spent \$60 of his hard earned money for tuition. He said, "Your right Patricia. What do you want to do?" So Patricia decided that if her friends could go to university so could she. She enrolled in the University of Alabama.

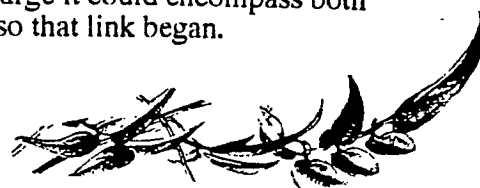
And that's where a whole other formation began. Creating plays, traveling, It was there she met David, who was later in 1962 to become her husband. Their honeymoon was driving up to Chicago. David was enrolled in theological school. Patricia got a job as a temp and she walked into the door of the people who hired her for half a day (seven gentlemen in something called the "Ecumenical Institute"). That's where she met Joe Mathews, Joe Pierce and some of the others who were sitting around the table and. They were thinking great things. Through friends of David and the Theological School they became more acquainted with the Ecumenical Institute.

Several of the people gathered here met Patricia at the Ecumenical Institute back in the 60s, 70s & 80s. It was a radical experiment in profound living and that was what attracted Patricia. People who were doing, not only saying. They were people of action. When Patricia and David first sat down with the Ecumenical Institute my understanding was they were a group of about 30 people. The group grew rapidly through courses teachers & ministers.

In the mid-60s, Patricia was part of a team who developed & trained teachers in depth in Imaginal Education. Many of these teachers became staff members of the Ecumenical Institute. Imaginal Education continues to be taught around the world and is integrated into many school systems.

I met her in 1972, at a summer research program that had attracted a 1000 people from across the world doing social research; exploring what it would take to create lasting change. As I got to know Patricia, I said "I want to be part of an organization that has women like her in it". It was her style, humour, sense of passion and action which are needed to create change. You don't want any wishy washy stuff. She was very clear about how to create change. Her time with the Ecumenical Institute and later the ICA, was spent in places like Chicago, Singapore, Hong Kong.

To Patricia and David were born two children, Sean coming into the world November 16, 1969 & Allison came into the world November 15, 1971 and they were a blessing to both Patricia and to David. Their journeys, they decided in 1980 to leave the Institutes and move out on their own and create a new style of caring. Patricia got a job with the American Hospital Association in Chicago which was to become the cornerstone of the rest of her work. In July of 1983, the family crossed over into Canada to Hamilton. She took the skills she had learned and her worldwide experiences in being a leader and built the Leadership Institute which was the cornerstone of her economic development. In the midst of that time here in Hamilton, she and David decided to separate. They remained friends and intellectual colleagues. She said of Margaret David's 2nd wife that "she had a heart and it was so large it could encompass both families" and so that link began.





At this time she began to intensify her spiritual quest. She felt she had found her spiritual home with the work of Michael Harner's "Core Shamanism". We were developing a series of seminars on the "Wise Women" tradition. We found each other in those times of questing.

She talked about three blows this last year. May 18th was when she had the seizure, June 14th was her operation at which time she knew she had a brain tumor and June 22nd it was diagnosed. She talked about June 22nd as being the crucifixion for her when she had that announcement 'a death' and she wasn't sure she was going to come out of it. She had encouragement from Patti and Friends, but it wasn't until three days later when she woke up that morning and said "I could live fully if I wasn't consumed by my timeline". And so she lived fully. Part of that change was reclaiming her name. I have to read this to you. This was her letter where she was talking of letting go of the past 'Scott' and picking up her family name Patricia Mae Porter. Most of us also knew her as Pat. "I have come to believe deeply and profoundly that I will be lost to myself if I do not reclaim my birth name so I am now Patricia Porter. Patricia means to be noble born. To be noble born and a Porter seems contradictory, yet I have found a definition of noble born that I like and does not speak of rank and privilege. It means belonging to what is considered as exceptionally fine. I would like to think that is what I have become and continue to grow towards. Porter means one stationed at a gate or doorway to assist people entering. My new path stations me at the gate to wholeness assisting people to meet it. I must travel this road myself if I'm to be of service to others." Indeed in the last ten months that was her journey.

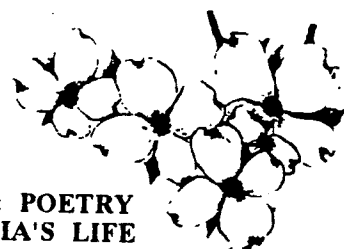
She reflected with me that the last gift she wanted to give us was a good passage. She wanted to understand death and so she renamed death passage to the light. And this was going to be her journey of understanding that. It was going to be the last gift she left her children, that they would not have a fear but understand what a gift death was. She spent the last forty days in her final retreat, summoning her powers to move on into her next journey and that happened with a great deal of care from her "sisters" and family so she could have that journey at home. She passed into the light April, 1, 10:45 p.m. at home. That

was her day. And that was the life we celebrate today.

...Jan Sanders



## STORIES & POETRY OF PATRICIA'S LIFE



Recently I went for a job interview, and was asked what's my management style? I said I have a problem solving style, if there is a problem you have to solve it, that's how things work. I learned that from mom. I remember the day I realized that's how she dealt with me. Mom had this dress. It was like big and fluffy and white on the top and there was this white gauze skirt. I hated the top but loved the skirt part, being fifteen and thinking that I had God's given right over all my mother's clothes, I cut off the top of the dress. I used to stuff the skirt in the bag, take it wherever I was going and put it on and take it off when I got home. One day I walked in the door and mom was standing there with the top part of the dress. I anticipated her thoughts and I said "I got a problem and I have to solve it" and Mom said "That's right". I took it and I tried to fix it.

When all this came down ten months ago, everybody said you know you've got to get things settled, you've got to talk to your mom and get all of the past stuff out of the way so you can enjoy the ten months. I didn't have to do that because for our entire life it was we got a problem so we better solve it now then we can move on. For that reason the last ten months were really wonderful and special. One of the things we used to go and do and please don't think this is morbid but we have a cemetery next door and we used to go for long walks in the cemetery and we used to sing songs together and one of the songs we used to sing was Those Who Wait On The Lord.

...Allison Scott

I had the extreme honor of being Patricia's medical coach and I've known Patricia since May of 1990. I received lots of power and inspiration from her. I was going through some of my notes that I've kept over the years & found two quotes of Patricia's which I thought I would bring and

give to you as a gift today. Both quotes are from the summer of 1991, long before she knew she had the tumor. ...

"I resolved that I wanted to die well, I have a desire to cooperate so there is a gentle cooperative passage. Among other things this desire has led me to shamanism. and previewing my own death. I have tried to be awake as I learn about dying so I can be a partner in my own dying".

"For all your truth there is equally valid truth that is yet unknown. I want to pursue other aspects of truth". ... Patricia Porter, 1990

I'm a friend of Patricia's as well as colleague. On Monday night something very spiritual occurred. I think I would use that word good but it's often used tritely, it's not a fancy word, it's a simple word. In it's most profound sense of the word that was Patricia. She was truly good.

I met Patricia when she came to the organization I was working with as a teacher. She was going to take our group on a personal development course for ten weeks. We heard about this course, and thought it would be good because we had never had a course like this. We knew that this woman was with the Ontario Hospital Association. We thought they are sending women who is probably a very corporate, very professional looking and very business like in her way. Indeed, when we did finally meet her, there was a tremendous strength about her while the other side of her which was crystal clear was this Alabama and then that quirky wit that went along with it that was very self deprecating and probably all of you have seen her make this face (where she crosses her eyes) when she's kind of into a corner and its a way of saying its okay we're all the same people no matter what our titles are. Near the very end of that course, many of us were so moved by what she shared with us that a number of us took a huge leap forward in our own personal and professional lives. It was something that had never happened to the group of women in our 35 or 40 years of life. But somehow Patricia with her gift to find the best had us move forward. Some of whom decided to quit the work they were doing and made a career change, others took a very personal decision to change their marital status perhaps or actually move from the city.

Patricia always believed in the potential of every human being and no matter who you were, to her, you were the best because she believed in you as a human being, a human spirit. Of all her gifts which were many, this is what she gave to people. What Patricia gave me as a legacy among many things was this notion that no matter who the person is there is something great about them and if you believe in them they might believe in themselves. This will stay with me forever, for the work I do now which is very similar to Patricia's, this has been a great treasure. On Monday something very good left the earth but she also left something behind. ...Vida Masa

I had no idea of what a profound effect July 3, 1983 was going to have on my life. Patricia was without a doubt the best friend I've ever had male or female to this point. I could tell her anything and she could tell me anything. Believe me, sometimes we did. But there was unconditional love and we always found our way back to each other. She was the mother model when I was having a very difficult time with my own relationship as a mother. She was my playmate. She encouraged me to own my own business. I was a Revenue Canada auditor, why would I leave that fat pay check. She thought I could make more money by myself, and I did. She convinced me of that. That was part of our journey too and she became one of my best clients as I did financial planning. I was very pleased to be able stay so close to her and help her develop her business. She had no respect for Revenue Canada what so ever. I had to teach her some because she would have ended up in Jail with her children.

Our families were very close and we cared for each others children back and forth. So we had a lot of those kinds of experiences.

I bought a house first in 1987 and we put in a beautiful back yard. Patricia and I had a picnic table in the middle of it. It was a really tough time back in 1987. Each of us found ourselves building our lives anew. So we used to get together on Sunday mornings on my back yard. We had one of those little wee tiny bottles of champagne with a big bottle of orange juice and we would sit from 6:30 in the morning and talk until my children would get up with their blankets and dolls and their this and their that and

the chaos would start and Patricia said "I'm out of here". She would wave goodbye to me at the door and be gone.

When the seizure happened, where did I have to be except right there beside her as quickly as I could go. Every day since then we have been in touch. She started saying this is going to be an incredible journey Patti. What am I going to need, what am I afraid of? She had the first stage fears of her life. We had the intuition one day that she didn't fear what she didn't have. She didn't fear where she was going when she passed the light. I think she feared what she was going to miss. Her heart was breaking with the thought of the possibility of Sean and Nadia getting married and her not being there. She was grateful that she was able to participate in this wonderful event in November. Another fear was that Allison was going to have this weird and wonderful wedding out in the bush somewhere. Then there was the thought of missing the grandchildren and watching them grow up because we were that close to each others children. I think that is what you are afraid of. Afraid of what you are going to miss. So let's put in order everything that we can. Let's have everything that you can possibly have and know that the children may not have grandchildren. We made that up. We expect this all to happen. She said "What am I going to do hang around & wait for another forty years to see if they do." No she said I've got to let that go because I can't control that. What can I control. I can control what is going to happen in the next year can I suggest. We can control that you are not going to be a bag lady when your sixty-five, we've got that under wraps. We can control that the house would be here as long as the children would want to have it. We can control that you have lots of time to meditate and music and you can have alternative healing, we can control that. Is there anything else? And she said "my children need parents, my children need more caring and a strong support system". So this incredible woman went and got the tools that she needed. She didn't have sisters so you go get them. She sent this invitation and it said I have never had a sister or a brother for that matter, relationships can be biological or by decision. In all the world if I could chose my sisters they would be Kim Campbell, Beth Campbell, Shelly Dunduiy, Eleanor Morino, Vida Masa, Jan Sanders and Patti Vigna. Then you go on and read what this communication says practically in

the spirit of Marilyn Walker, Marilyn Walker crone and accomplished Wise Woman. My deepest admiration and profound gratitude go to Marilyn for having gently led me into the life when I thought I had no meaning left. Her presence itself was a great teacher of life. (Marilyn Walker called me from California this morning at seven o'clock, that's four o'clock her time and she said "Patti make sure that you take me with you and that I am present" and I said "I will"). As my sisters you can be aunts to my children and grandchildren. Jan Sanders reminded me that the mother role gets the big press while the Aunts' role is obscured. I want to empower the great undervalued archetype role of the Aunts. So if you are agreeable let me know. We will ritualize by singing Goddess chants and feasting and next you could borrow my stuff if I could borrow yours.

The incredible journey begins. I was present at the passing, with the children, and friends and it was very beautiful. She wanted very much to die or pass consciously. And from what I figured she did. She made a decision. She made the decision that it was time to go. She had a very difficult morning, she was in a lot of pain and the one fear that she had throughout the whole thing was I don't want to vomit and I don't want pain. So we got through the part of not being sick. When the pain came on Monday morning we got her to a point where she was comfortable. Patricia consciously decided to leave and her passing went very very peacefully.

...Patti Vigna



Well lest people think that Patricia only had women friends. I guess I first met Patricia in 1970 when she was with the Institute where they used to do these weekend courses and I happened to attend a weekend course that Patricia was teaching in Cleveland, Ohio. Now these were relatively intense, like you started at six o'clock Friday evening and ended about 3 in the

afternoon on Sunday. They not only were intense but like Patricia they were very intentional. So you had to do certain things at certain times and you only had so many minutes to do it in. This woman who showed up at the first supper (it included meals) came out in this rather flamboyant dress, made some very startling remarks about what was going to happen over the weekend and what her role would be and what our would be and then as soon as the meal was over she disappeared. We all gathered again and somebody else showed up and made a presentation and then this lady would be back in the flamboyant dress and she leads us in a seminar and a paper and as soon as its over she disappears. Well this happened at each session and by the middle of Saturday, I was convinced that she that she had a bottle stashed somewhere. As soon as the session was over she'd run and get the bottle. I came to find out on Sunday morning that it wasn't the bottle that Patricia had it was a case of diarrhea. First of all the fact that none of the participants knew that this was going on, but, secondly the fact that she displayed the kind of charisma and energy before the whole group and made the course an incredible success. I'll always remember that experience as her energy and commitment to doing something and getting it done. And it turned out that this rather fantastic woman in the flamboyant dress, I happened to go where she was living in Chicago two weeks later. As I was walking down the hall I saw this grubby old lady in a pair of blue jeans and a sweat shirt, with a mop and a bucket. And there was this fabulous teacher fitting in her new role for that weekend. Those are the kind of images I have of Patricia

...Robert Rafos

### Song of Consciousness

Consciousness is every-thing and no-thing  
In the beginning is  
consciousness  
and all things flow from it

Consciousness is energy  
I am energy

Energy is patterned  
I am patterned energy.

Energy is imminent.  
I am imminent.

I am masculine and feminine.

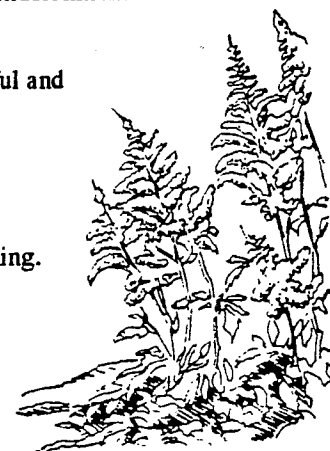


I am light and sound.

Yet amid this primordial simplicity,  
I confuse myself  
I become ensnared  
with the many manifestations of energy and  
myself.  
I search for the one me and the single energy as though I  
and it are unknown.

Consciousness is every-where and no-where.  
It is unity in diversity.  
I an unity in diversity.  
I pursue my allurements and disillusionment's  
to reach the one.  
I preoccupy  
myself with the uniquely beautiful and  
grotesque. Yet,  
I am one. I am, I...

And the journey ends  
where it began  
in consciousness...in the beginning.  
*Patricia Porter, 1987*



### SECOND GENERATION

Lloyd Philbrook is in Baton Rouge with Roy, Geni, LeRoy, Micah, Mathew, and Maryann Philbrook for his year abroad. Lloyd has never lived a whole year in the United States and this was a grand opportunity to go back to some cultural roots in the south. He is in a magnet school for the Gifted and Talented called McKinley Middle School. He is in the concert band there playing the tuba, as well as the Louisiana State Youth Orchestra and the East Baton Rouge Parish Band. Little did he think he would have all these chances to play the tuba! Lloyd reports that he is doing fine, is 5'9" tall, age 14 since last October and goes to the Y to exercise 3 time a week. He visited the Kuriharas for Christmas in California and caught his limit of rainbow trout, one of them being 18" long and over 2lbs. in weight! Then at the Otto Paw Paw Michigan Farm, he reported that toboggans are fantastic along with ice skating! We miss him dearly, and await his return in June 1996.

Lela is 5'2" and will be eleven on February 21, 1996. She has begun Tai Chi Chuan this year and completed the 13 posture of the Yang Family

style in December. She says that successfully completing her weekly Krypto assignments has been a great accomplishment. Kryptos are a math exercise where the teacher gives them 5 numbers which are to be used in the formula of equaling the target numbers while using any of the following math terms like: summation, factorial, square root, cube root, etc. Lela reports that living without Lloyd, one of her best friends, has been lonely. Her back cat Tom has grown to full size and his care is one of the biggest accomplishments of last year. He has been with us for exactly a year. The other big accomplishment is playing her flute. She is now in the Fifth Grade Advance band and is doing very well. ...Larry and Evelyn Philbrook

**K**athryn is now a Sophomore. Her most exciting event last year was receiving the "best First Year" award from her Drama Club and being inducted into the Young Thespians. She was in 5 shows and was nominated for best supporting actress in "The Dining Room". Kathryn also was the milkmaid and a pick-pocket in "Oliver!" at a local semi-professional theater. Her biggest source of support and activities are various church activities. She attended a Chrysalis retreat which had a deep spiritual effect. Her Sunday School class and youth group both helped her adapt to her new community and she now feels very much at home here. Kathryn is also now dating (we think Sophomore year pressed a "go button somewhere") and we have constant phone calls home! She looked just beautiful for her Homecoming Dance. Kathryn's church work team trip in July to Cherokee, North Carolina was an incredible encounter with a Native American culture and the heat. Piano and art round out her busy schedule.

Jennifer started Middle School (6th-8th grade). Although we all were a little nervous about the change, Jennifer seems to be adjusting very nicely. Jennifer continues to play piano and loves it. We never have to remind her to practice and she is starting to really sound lovely. She also takes viola, but requires some nagging to practice! Jennifer enjoyed being an orphan and pickpocket in "Oliver"! Her favorite activity is her art class. She and Kathryn both exhibited some of their works at the Ohio State Fair! We think they are both wonderful artists. A highlight of Jennifer's summer was "Clown Camp" run by the Methodist church. We don't think she

actually needed any further instruction in how to be a clown! ...George & Eileen Howard

**P**eter moved with us to the new house and also moved into Industrial Design as a major at University of Cincinnati. That move must have been right as he made the Dean's List last term. A fender bender accident with his 1975 BMW 2002 resulted in the car being totaled. The insurance company gave him more money than he paid for it. So he bought a newer BMW and continues to work at the Just BMW garage. ...Ellen and David Rebstock

**M**ost exciting family event. After 8 years in England and Ireland, our youngest daughter, LouAnne with her daughter Enya moved to Eugene, Oregon in July. Trained as psychotherapist, she's taking some time during this transition to work with her hands as a construction worker for a friend. She is quite happy to be back in the US and in the same town as her sister, Lynde, who is utterly delighted to have her sister and her niece so near after all these years. Enya is an avid pupil at the local Waldorf School. ...Sharry & Wesley Lockman

**G**randbaby Kaitlyn has mesmerized us since November 14th. We see the miracle of her through Jeremiah's countenance and announcement (It's a girl!) carrying her out of the delivery room. She is brand-spankin'-new, filling us with wonder and awe. She comes ready or not, forcing us to respond to her in all her utter vulnerability with our fumbling care. She tries to see us who are loving her, but accepts our love blindly. She does nothing useful; no one asks her what she does for a living. She knows almost nothing; no one judges her for her lack of education. She is sheer being, just there to be cared for and loved. The miracle is that her "job" of just being transforms those around her: relatives that were alienated are reconciled; stranger become friends; great-grandparents are rejuvenated; grumpies show compassion; judges show mercy. Where did she learn to do all this? She has mysterious power. She must be a bit of being itself--like all God's children--bringing with her a bit of the new creation, new reality, or new eon. ...John & Lynda Cock

**M**arsha Hahn and Patrick Moriarty were wed on November 18 in Evanston, Illinois. The

wedding, which took place at the First United Methodist Church Chapel, included Charles as officiant, Shelley, as attendant, Erin, as usher and reader, Doris as mother, and a host of friends and colleagues in other active and supporting roles. From the rehearsal dinner through the reception, it was a profound and memorable event.

Shelly continues as a researcher with St. John Associates in Bloomington, Indiana, studied Italian this past year, and is about to turn her direction to education (formal that is) again. Scott is tutoring and teaching at Ivy Tech while he completes work on his degree at Indiana U.

...Doris and Charles Hahn

Jenny Wiegel graduated from Hampshire College, MA, with a degree in community change. She is starting a year in Nicaragua as a Fulbright Fellow.

This was my third time on the Rites of Passage trip. Eleven years ago, I first went on it as a participant. Five years ago, as a peer mentor, I watched and helped other make the same journey I had made. It was not until this year, as I took on a greater leadership role, that I realized something more than an adventure was taking place. I was better able to appreciate and recognize the ICA's skill in creating this kind of structured journey during which each individual is transformed and grows, nurtured by the group.

It allows participants to break away from the idea that they are being carried by life and helps them realize they can choose to actively shape the future and their own lives. ICA Rites of Passage raise crucial questions and provide the occasion to pause, reflect and make self-conscious decisions about what comes next. The twelve youth who hugged me good-bye as the program closed were privileged to be part of this profound experience. The challenge is to figure out how more young people can share in it.

...Jenny Wiegel

From the creative power of life  
we derive food and harvest.

We eat not simply to satisfy our own appetites.  
We eat to sustain ourselves in the task of world  
repair. May we never lose touch with the  
simple joy and wonder of sharing a meal.

...Rami M. Shapiro



## NETWORKING LIGHTS UP

David and I have enjoyed hosting Roy Stansbury and Raymond Spencer when they have come to Hong Kong to work with John Patterson at Kanbay. In the early summer Roy brought his son, Erin, and Carol Bobroff, and Raymond brought his wife, Tina. We have delighted in the arrival of Dan and Pat Tuecke and Fred Buss. Pat and Fred work with John at Kanbay Resources and Dan is working at Jim Oberg's place of business, Finexco. We bid fond farewells to Jim and Sue Oberg as they moved to Oregon and to Larry and Dianne Greenwald as they move to Hartford, Connecticut.

News from here. Pat and Dan Tuecke were in the US for nearly a month following a year in Hong Kong. Ron and I had an open house for them while they were here and over 40 people came. Everyone brought food and drink and folks had a hard time leaving. The conversation and company were wonderful. We invited people who knew Dan and Pat well, who knew them through their work and quite a few people they didn't know at all, who we thought they would like to meet. Some of the perhaps familiar folks who came were: Margaret Krauss, Barbara Prather, Chrystina Hanson, Marshall Jones & Jan Latham. ...Beret Griffith

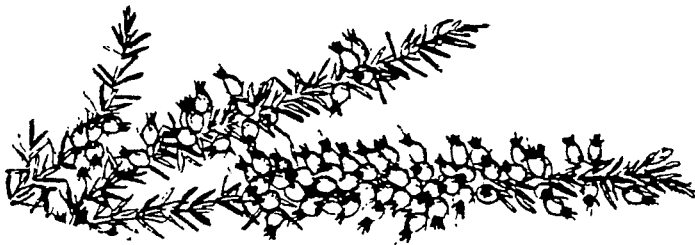
My India visit was like a pilgrimage back after an 11-year absence. Reconnecting with former co-workers in Bombay and Pune and their growing children was a great delight, as was a brief stopover with a close friend in Bangalore. In Seattle, we played host to guests from Australia, India, Kenya, New Zealand and Chicago. ...John Burbidge



A book on the **Life of Liza Todd** is being planned by NSW colleagues. If you have any reminiscences about Liza or photographs of any of her experiences, please send them to Mary Rhodes, 22 Kuroki Street, Penshurst, NSW, 2222.

...Mary Rhodes

It means someone is hearing  
The outcry and the birth-cry  
Of new life at its term.  
It means, once in a lifetime  
That justice can rise up,  
And hope and history rhyme.  
Seamus Heaney



## **rites of passage. transitions & announcements**

This was a year full of reflective moments and wonder-filled explorations. A wonderful week in the Colorado Rockies. A 30th year high school reunion for Eunice and wedding anniversary of her AFS parents opened doors to reconnect with friends. A two-week vacation in Maui with lush tropical surroundings, magical waterfalls, cold streams, the narrow road to Hana kept us at full attention. We enjoyed nourishing sweet fruits of the earth-fresh from tree to table, snorkeling, a helicopter ride, walking on the crater, and a luau. We reminisced with Joyce Quimby, savored bagels and Kona coffee with Vince and admired a young couple from Germany building a guest house business.

...Eunice & Sherwood Shankland

Sarah Rose Worden joined the Pam and John family on January 20, 1996 at 5:02 am. She weighed 6 lbs and is 18 1/2 " tall.

...John and Pam Worden

Our second daughter, Ellen, was born on October 10, 1995 at a healthy 2875 grams. Her name means "bright Light" and she has been

exactly that since arriving. We are blessed to have her peaceful presence--she is an amazingly quiet baby.

Aileen is now treating her new sister quite gently, but learning how hard it is to lose being the center of attention. She sometimes wants to be fed and treated like a baby again. Last summer, she took a trip to Pennsylvania alone with her father to visit relatives--both survived. After turning four years old on November 20th, she is getting ready to start kindergarten next April.

...Don & Manami Hinkelman

In July, Shelley, Marsha, Patrick, Erin, and we took a three-day Hahn Heritage Trip to visit Charles's side of the family in Dallas and Oklahoma, including Charles's Aunt Minnie Huddleston, the only remaining person from our parent's generation on either side of the Hahn/King or Schulze/Whitson families. We visited Perkins School of Theology at SMU, where Doris and I met, and the University of North Texas, where Doris did her undergraduate work. Nurturing riches were discovered at every stop, and each was linked in fresh ways to the family history. Perkins surprised all of us. We anticipated a rather mundane stroll around old buildings, but the spirit of Joe Mathews and other great teachers invaded us and transformed the hallways, lecture rooms, library, commons, and chapel into luminous hallowed spots. Long forgotten events sprang to consciousness for both Doris and me; and each family member was awestruck in her/his own way.

...Charles & Doris Hahn

Many people who have lived at 13 Sankli Street, Byculla in Bombay will remember Charlie the leper who was a beggar in front of the Robinson Church gate from the time we first came to live here. Yesterday afternoon, Charlie died. He had been ill for some weeks. For the last few days, there had been a vigil for him. Incense was lit and a few people watched over him as he lay under his blanket. About 2pm, a police van came and picked up Charlie, his blanket and cup and drove him away from Sankli Street for good.

"Charlie" as we affectionately called him, was a symbol for us of the long-suffering people in India. He was a contemplative reminder of the mystery. When you would be gone for some time, Charlie was always there to welcome you



back with a big hello. Over the years he lost more and more parts of his anatomy-nose, ears, fingers and toes. In fact, he was missing his right arm up to the shoulder and his left arm had only a few stubs where his fingers used to be. But he could fold up the blanket he slept on each morning with the use of his chin and knee and somehow he'd get it right.

He was the only person who ever called Judy "mummy". When she would walk past him, he would call out "Hi mummy!" He once asked us where Lingo was. He never expected those of us from the ICA to contribute to his needs. Somehow he knew we cared in different ways. As a symbol of saying good-bye, I placed a Rupee in his cup an hour before they took him away.

...Jack & Judy Gillis

## BRIAN STANFIELD CELEBRATES 65TH

Brian Stanfield celebrates his 65th on July 4th, 1996. This will not be a retirement party! He hopes to be part of ICA Canada for some time yet. He would love to hear from all of you who have worked and played with him around the world. Stories, pictures, memories, poetry, jokes would all be great. Send them to Brian Stanfield #107 - 757 Victoria Park Ave, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4C 5N8 ...Jeanette Stanfield

## BOOK REFLECTIONS

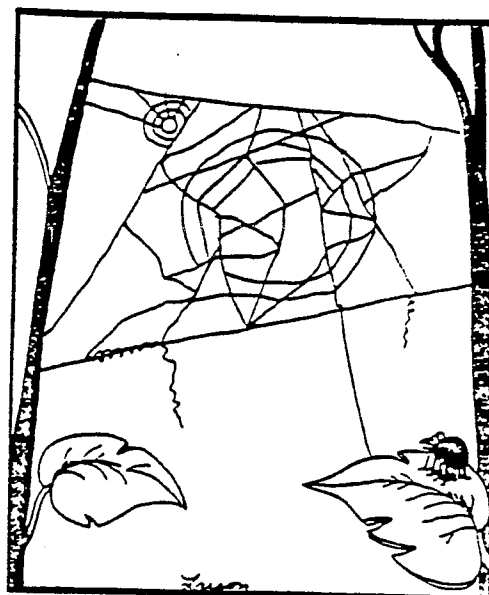
**The Summer of the Great Grandmother** by Madeline L'Engle has been a book that has cared for me this year as we are facing the transition of one generation and the coming of another

...Evelyn Philbrook

This year we developed deep colleagueship with a several new and rediscovered "friends" including Charles Handy in **Empty Raincoat** and **Beyond Certainty**; Recardo Semler in **Maverick**, Rollo May in **The Cry for Myth**; Len Dighton in **Faith and Hope**; William Shakespeare in **Henry V** and **Henry IV, part 1 & 2** and Mark Twain in **Huckleberry Finn**. This is also the year we became surfers on the Internet, and have enjoyed especially browsing in the Louvre and seeing what passes

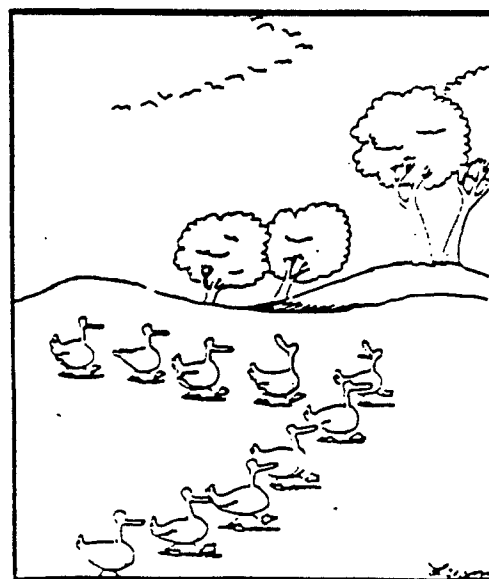
for theology/philosophy among the cyber-civilisation. ...Ann & John Epps

## PROBLEM SOLVE



"Whoa! ... That can't be right!"

## INVESTIGATE NEW METHODS



"Say ... look what they're doing."