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Spring 2010

Institute of Cultural Affairs in the USA. 4750 N. Sheridan Road. Chicago, IL, 60640. (773) 769-6363. www.ica-usa.org.

Message From the CEO



Dear Colleagues,

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. It has articles on the Global Archives Project, Dorcas and Ken Rose's dynamic work in Troy, NY, a recap of the

opening of the Joseph Mathews Archives and Symposium at Wesley Theological Seminary, the greening of the 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. building, the renewal of an international initiative, a nonprofit tenant profile, and more. I believe that the ICA-USA can no longer be viewed as fractured, sluggish or dormant – it is vibrant and rapidly asserting itself as a contemporary organization.

The ICA's goal has always been to be a resource for schools, community groups, nonprofit organizations, churches, government agencies, and anyone seeking to find the will to change. ICA wants not only to facilitate but also to demonstrate its ideals. Therefore, the building is home to more than 30 nonprofit programs that serve the poor, the homeless, the sick in mind and body, and the immigrant populations of Chicago's Uptown community.

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Sojourners to be Welcomed in May

During the month of May, ICA-USA is seeking Sojourners to work on the Global Archives Project. The intent of this project is to take the basic steps necessary to create a digitized archive of the 170 five-drawer filing cabinets that contain documents, manuals, reports, course curriculum, letters, speeches, outlines, original songs/plays, publications, posters, pamphlets, meeting notes, photos, videos/audio tapes, and artifacts of the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA) and the Ecumenical Institute (EI).

In the social chaos of the 60s, 70s and 80s, ICA colleagues globally created, fashioned and refined facilitation and community development tools and methods that enabled consensus and action. The roots of those methods are now the ICA's trademarked Technology of Participation® methods that are currently being used throughout the world.

There is a growing national academic interest in these resources. For example, in the management field of Collaboration Engineering, there is interest in researching the consensus-building outcomes and community development projects

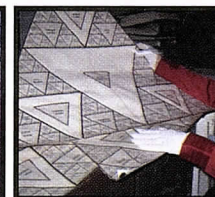
represented in the 5,000 community reports on the Bicentennial Town Meetings held in every county in the USA. Another audience for the ICA/EI documents would be social science educators with an interest in the challenges and perceived strategic directions of modern historical times.

Arrangements are underway to have many file cabinets and materials currently stored in the basement of 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. moved to the sixth floor in April. The task in May will be to sort through these materials in a systematic

way and to transfer them to new storage acid-free files and cartons on appropriate archivist shelving.

It is our hope to have a minimum of six people working at any one time throughout the entire month. We also hope that most Sojourners will commit at least one full week to the task or stay longer. We are planning a rich, but relatively light, community life consisting of discussion, study, and celebration throughout each week.

Room and board for Sojourners during their stay is \$30 a day. If you have questions, or would like to register, please contact Marge Philbrook at msphilbrook@gmail.com.



THE INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
IN THE U.S.A.

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I am humbled by the current passion, time, and energy I see many ICA colleagues committing to projects here and abroad. It renews my faith in our efforts to play a significant role in the creation of a civil society.

I am also very appreciative of the encouraging words and financial support that have been sent our way as we move forward with new program initiatives. ICA has been a 40+ year social experiment as a global, spiritual, intellectual, and reflective process. It is based on an intensely collaborative approach to human development. I hope through your participation in the 2010 Annual Fund, you will help the "social experiment" enter into a new phase of engagement based on proven success.

Warmly,



Terry Bergdall, PhD
Chief Executive Officer

Board Profile: Sandra True



What first attracted you to EI/ICA-USA?

While studying public health and starting a storefront health clinic with friends, I was concerned about input from those in the community. Fifth City was underway and had created a comprehensive plan for its future. The important part was the citizens had created the plan together. It was on the basis of Fifth City that I attended the Religious

Studies One course which resonated with my Catholic up-bringing and living a life of service for the sake of future generations.

What social issues are you currently most passionate about?

Poverty as it is reflected in Maternal-Child health.

What aspects of serving on ICA-USA's board do you find most satisfying?

I agreed to come on the board to learn more about and participate in healing the perceived break in values and mission ICA seemed to be suffering and to assure the safety and use of the Archives for the future. Both of these are now firmly on the road to recovery. This is very satisfying.

How would you briefly describe ICA?

The ICA-USA enables people to respond strategically and comprehensively to the underlying contradictions in society.

Efficient ToP® Administrator Keeps Facilitators On-Track



Anne Neal is ICA-USA's answer to many trainers' prayers. She is the ToP (Technology of Participation®) Administrator. Her work supports ToP trainers with their courses, website schedules, registrations, manuals, financials, and sorting out any problems. She also tracks course statistics as well as

active and non-active trainers. Anne said "With the guidance and thoughtful input from many trainers and registrars, I've updated the Trainer's Directory, the email list, the Course Statistics Report, the list of Current Registrars, the list of Certified ToP Facilitators, and several databases. We have a team of six registrars who are helping me to update the Registrar's Guidebook."

In April 2009 Anne was called by ICA to work on some ToP Trainer Network (TTN) projects that needed attention because of staff changes. It was clear that her organizational and management skills were needed. Anne continued to work on the projects and coordinated with the TTN Customer Service Team (Roger Alexander, Marti Roach, and Jeff Bracken). This summer she prepared documentation and information for the TTN Leadership team meeting. Since then, "Terry Bergdall and I have discovered we work well together...and it was a good idea for TTN to have a Qualified Trainer as their support person. So an independent contractor's agreement was signed." ICA and ToP trainers around the country have been smiling ever since!

Anne's first exposure to the ICA Methods was when Sunny Walker invited her to take the ToP Facilitation Methods course in Denver, CO in May of 2006. Anne said, "I totally fell in love with the methods. I've been involved one way or another ever since then doing marketing, becoming a Qualified ToP Trainer, serving as the Denver ICA Executive Director for two years, and then as a local volunteer."

Anne is also an Executive Coach and is working with Penny McDaniels of Collaborative Connections to build a cadre of experienced facilitators to support nonprofit organizations and government agencies.

DID YOU KNOW that Karen Sims, Director of Development and External Affairs for ICA-USA, was given the *Excellence in Service Award*, for recognition of outstanding service to Chicago's Uptown Community in 2009? She has been appointed to the Chamber's Board of Directors and serves as Chair of the Membership Committee.

Anawim Center Celebrates 28 years

In 1982 a group of Chicago American Indian Elders gathered with the shared vision of creating a place of prayer and support for their Indian community. With the help of two Sinsinawa Dominican sisters, that dream came true in a small storefront in Uptown. The Anawim Center is now a nonprofit tenant on the third floor of the 4750 N. Sheridan Building.

When you meet Sr. Patricia Mulkey, OSF, Director of the Anawim Center, you are struck by her calm and gentle nature. However, she is passionate about the Center's ability to change lives. She says that it is a "beacon of light, a well of healing and the conscience of the Chicago Native American community." The Assistant Director, Georgina Roy, who is an Ojibway, shares that it is "the fundamental pillar and main champion for all the Native Nations in the area."

Anawim is a center for Native American spirituality that integrates the Christian and Traditional way of prayer and life. With the combined efforts of Native Elders and community volunteers, it is a place for Indian people to practice their traditional form of worship. In addition to regular Catholic and Native services, there are celebrations of the seasonal Woodland and Great Lakes Nations and Tribes feasts.

The Center provides a variety of human services (food, referrals, wellness check-ups, etc.) to assist all Native American families with everyday urban life struggles. Anawim Center offers a place to work for treaty rights and social justice. It also provides education to non-Indian groups about Indian issues and cross-cultural sensitivity.

Dark Alleys? Not in Troy, New York



Colleagues Dorcas and Ken Rose have worked on the Troy, NY Alley Action Project for four years. It is designed to bring together diverse neighborhoods across their city of 50,000 in efforts to improve the appearance of communities while forging collaborative bonds. It has been a grassroots experience that has increased the quality of life by providing inspiration and guidance to accomplish alley improvement projects.

"ToP methods were used and modified to guide small groups through organizing an action plan. They figured out how to fund it, how to create a team, and how to accomplish a goal," said Dorcas. "Our workshops focused on alley and neighborhood problems. Troy has 43 miles of alleys with seniors, working poor or welfare families representing many ethnic minorities in 23 neighborhoods. There are many more renters than home owners. Often neighbors feel that they don't have a voice in community development. The Project gives them more than voices. It gives them courage and pride."

The team that the Roses work with have been "the most exciting collaboration we have ever undertaken, particularly because each of the partners have significant talents and connections and each pulls their own weight in the partnership," states Dorcas with enthusiasm.

Working with the Osgood neighborhood and Troy Area United Ministries

(TAUM), they developed and executed a mural on the alley side of the TAUM building. This wall was a primary target for tagging and graffiti, so they organized a design workshop with neighborhood youth to develop the mural design. They used a "paint-by-number" approach and the result was the involvement of 80 youth and adults.

The Project also partnered with the Hillside neighborhood to refresh an aging mural on the wall of a pocket park. There have been a dozen such vibrant projects over the last few years. The program won a small grant and received a free website (www.troyalleyaction.org). The funds will be stretched even further by allowing the Project to give incentive grants to neighborhoods to create future alley murals.



Dorcas is energized by the ongoing impact of the ICA. "I have found that the magic of the ToP methods is related to the power of story. It is important to share stories of successes in community development. It is also important to take our current passions and new skills and combine them with ICA training. That crucible makes for remarkable outcomes. Most former ICA staffers are doing incredible things in very quiet ways. Let's applaud and congratulate ourselves."

International Initiatives Task Force Meeting

March 26-28, 2010

Approximately 30 people attended a meeting that explored rekindling international program interest. Its purpose was to consider ideas about ways that ICA-USA might assist in connecting human and financial resources from the United States with national ICAs, and other projects, in developing nations.

The participants formulated a practical vision about ICA-USA's re-engagement in this area, reflected upon challenges, and worked through scenarios of possible action. Sue Laxdal, a ToP colleague from Minnesota, facilitated the process. Rob Work, recently retired from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) -- now teaching international development in New York and Malaysia -- made a presentation on Saturday morning about the current realities and urgency of global development.

The entire event was dedicated to the memory of Don Elliott, former board member and long-time colleague, and his passion for international work. Jim Wiegel led a reflection Friday evening on Don's legacy and the implications it has for us today. Watch for a more extensive report on our website www.ica-usa.org.

Peace, Poverty and Planet Earth Living Archives Event

July 12-14, 2010

Plans are underway for a co-sponsored event by Oikos and ICA-USA to be held on the campus of Oklahoma City University, Monday-Wednesday, July 12 – 14, 2010.

It will honor ICA's "Living Archives". The archives are an enduring manifestation of a community of people who responded to the 20th Century. Through Oikos, that effort can be accessible to the 21st Century's attempts to make a similar response.

Oikos is an honors program at several universities which has the aim of preparing students to address the challenges of PEACE, POVERTY, and PLANET EARTH. The purpose of the conference is to draw upon the legacy of ICA experience, and forge new innovations, in response to the moral responsibilities and spiritual implications of today's challenges.

Mark Davies, Dean of the Petree College of Arts and Sciences at Oklahoma City University (OCU), has provided background comments about his interest in the Living Archives of the Ecumenical Institute of Chicago and the Institute of Cultural Affairs on this site <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6lnudx4e3w>.

Contact Terry Bergdall (tbergdall@ica-usa.org) to let him know if you are interested in attending and/or being a part of the preparation process and which of the topics (Peace, Poverty, Planet Earth) is of greatest interest to you. Watch for details about the cost and the final agenda of the conference on the website www.ica-usa.org.

"Every time in history is a unique and special time and ours is no exception. At this moment, our country and our planet cry out for ways in which all of us can engage in thoughtful and respectful discourse, find common ground in the midst of our differences and collaboratively build and implement important plans for our future. Those of us who find ourselves facilitating groups in their efforts to accomplish these ends have the chance to make a vital contribution to our social capital – indeed to civil society itself. We've been given a great challenge and a great opportunity."

Gordon Harper
ToP® Facilitator

The Greening of ICA-USA

Since the early 1960s environmental consciousness has grown and today is accepted as more than merely a nice concept. Since then, it has increasingly become an imperative in both an ecological sense and a business and economic sense. However, despite the increasing number of persons and organizations committed to green intentions it remains difficult to get a handle on how to be green and to point to demonstrations where individuals and organizations have created sustainable and viable green cultures.

To begin to get a handle on how to be green, the ICA-USA is committed to have the 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. building take the journey to become LEED certified. LEED

is the acronym for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and is the Green Building Rating System developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. The model was developed in 1998 to encourage environmental awareness amongst government agencies, architects, engineers, developers, and builders.

However, retrofitting an old and large building is a major undertaking. ICA sought the help of Temur Akhmedov, a specialist in LEED, to pre-assess the building and make observations and recommendations. During February and March, ICA held meetings with stakeholders to announce our intention, seek advice, and gather support

for the effort. Meetings were held with the Keystone Ecological Community, all tenants, alderpersons, the EPA, Chicago's Green Building Council, and neighborhood businesses and nonprofits.

The economic crisis and shift in governmental priorities to provide stimulus funds and incentives, coupled with the realization that it is time to shift to a new green paradigm lends new meaning to the historic symbol of ICA's mission as a wedge into the future. It is time for the ICA's wedge blade logo to be a "Green Wedge" into the future. Updates and developments will be posted on the website www.ica-usa.org.

DID YOU KNOW that ICA-USA's 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. building has a *Nonprofit Incubator Program*? Fledgling and emerging nonprofits can be tenants in the incubator as they refine their program services, find donors and build a client base.

Mathews Brothers and Their Works Honored

By John W. Coleman

“Excerpts from the *UMConnection* newsletter of the Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church”



With the theme, “Transforming the Legacy: People of the Spirit in the 21st Century,” the symposium that was held at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. December 17 – 19, 2009, ...celebrated the seminary’s opening of the Joseph W. Mathews Archives at its campus library. The collection of published and unpublished writings are available for use in graduate and scholarly research. A ribbon cutting ceremony outside the library highlighted the event.

Both Mathews brothers were lauded as pioneers and change-agents in the tradition of Methodism’s founder, John Wesley. The gathering of about 150 included seven members of the Mathews family. James Mathews served as a missionary in India, a bishop in the U.S. and an interim bishop in Zimbabwe, as well as head of world missions for 14 years for the denomination’s former Board of Missions. Today he is “Bishop-in-Residence” at Metropolitan Memorial UMC in the nation’s capital.

The Rev. Joseph Mathews also broke new ground five decades ago by teaching

practical theology and congregational renewal as a seminary professor and founding dean of the innovative Ecumenical Institute in Chicago. The Institute attracted thousands of members and visitors, modeled interdependent, Christian community living and community organizing. It grew to become the Institute for Cultural Affairs (ICA) with a global presence in more than 40 countries, offering training, human development activities and community building strategies.

Joe Mathews died in 1977. His surviving heirs and the Institute donated his personal archives - including letters, research and dissertation materials, books, manuscripts and other writings - to Wesley in 2008. The seminary’s library is working to ensure their preservation and availability for academic research, including plans to digitize much of the collection and add presented papers and video recordings from the symposium.



In praising Wesley for creating the archive, along with its other initiatives, Washington area Bishop John Schol used words that seemed to refer to the Mathews brothers themselves. He commended the seminary for “narrowing the distance between biblical scholarship and biblical living, between church history and present-day reality, between theological thinking and heart living.”



Schol commended Joseph Mathews for shepherding an “Acts 2” community in the troubled neighborhood known as Fifth City, on Chicago’s West Side, “in which they shared all things in common and gave to any who had need.” He also praised Bishop James Mathews for stimulating change through his cultural sensitivity, his “inquisitive mind” and his keen influence on the Council of Bishops and on the episcopal areas where he served.

The symposium also featured six multi-session workshop tracks that addressed the church’s role in urban mission and human development, interfaith engagement, environmental stewardship, global health, education and corporate social responsibility.

“We plan to publish the papers that were presented but also content from these workshops in the coming months for the benefit of seminary students and scholars,” said the Rev. Maynard Moore, who coordinated the symposium’s planning and execution. “We want to draw attention to the Joseph Mathews collection and the important contributions of both these brothers to making the church more vital and relevant.”

DID YOU KNOW that Catholic Charities of Chicago partners with ICA-USA through a government-funded employment and training program for low-income residents 55 years and older? The program is called Senior Aides and five seniors work part-time at 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. as receptionists, file clerks and help with general maintenance.

THE INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS *in the U.S.A*

The Global Archives Project (GAP)

THE POWER OF THE PAST-THE PROMISE OF THE FUTURE

The Global Archives document the research, programs and reports of the Ecumenical Institute, Institute of Cultural Affairs and Order: Ecumenical from 1962. Some drawers are devoted to the work of the Faith and Life Community dating from 1954. The 170+ filing cabinets are currently organized by various programs and events. Most notable are the Academy files, Summer Research Assemblies, Local Church Experiment, Global Town Meetings, Global Human Development Projects, New Religious Mode and New Social Vehicle. In addition, there are cabinets full of photographs, audio tapes, film, and video.

Beyond the desire to preserve the past, the world cries out for the learning, structures and wisdom to help create solutions to the current contradictions facing people and the environment. Oklahoma City University (OCU) is actively seeking the wisdom contained in the Archives to fuel research for clues to building the future through a Living Archives Initiative.

Many of you reading this flyer participated in the creation of these revolutionary papers, participated in the programs and experienced a life bigger and deeper than ever dreamed. You and new colleagues are needed to:

- bring the 40+ year history of the research, curricula, demonstration projects, life experiences and seminal writings into a practical form for future service to religious and community leaders, academia, and world populations.
- discover, recover and deepen relationships with current and potential collaborators.
- assure the wisdom gleaned from thousands of social pioneers who invested their lives releasing the capacity to create positive, sustainable futures for communities worldwide.

The Institutes catalyzed a global spiritual, intellectual, social, and structural revolution. They demonstrated the value of intense collaborative approaches to human development based on deep spiritual values. We need your support in moving the Global Archives Project forward by:

- volunteering to join colleagues in Chicago to sort, separate, organize and classify the archives now in the basement.
- provide financial support to purchase the appropriate acid-free boxes, file folders and shelving, and setting up the system to digitize the archives.

THE INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS *in the U.S.A*

YES, I (we) would like to be on the Global Archive Project team!

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I (we) intend to donate time. I (we) intend to donate time and money.

I (we) intend to support the GAP. \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other

Send to: Karen Sims, ICA-USA, 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. Chicago, IL 60640. Email: ksims@ica-usa.org