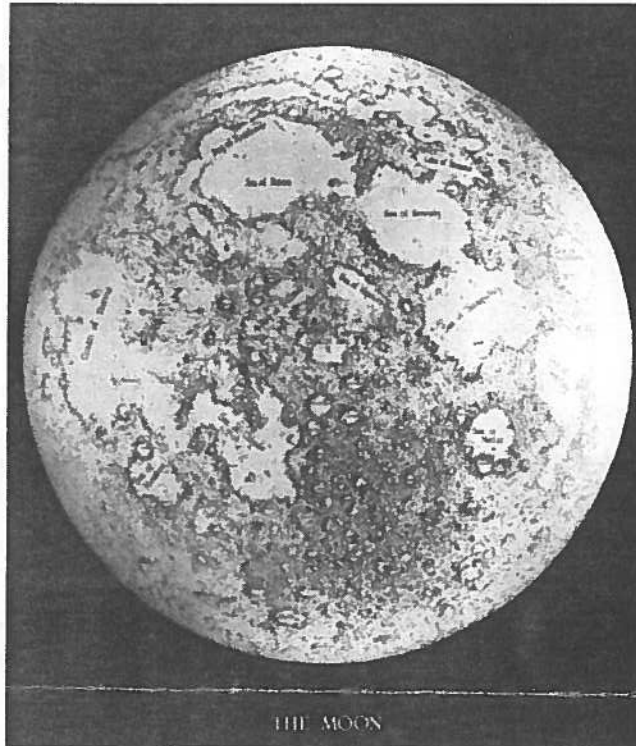


THE NODE

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"NEWCOMER" REFLECTIONS ON BRUSSELS AND ICAI EVENT

By Barbara Gallant

Excerpts from an interview with Jeanette Stanfield. Barb represented ICA Canada at the recent ICAI meeting and Development Network Meeting in Brussels. The IERD was her first introduction to ICA.

Well Barb what was Brussels like?

It was my first trip to Europe. And the first time I had traveled by myself internationally. The first thing that struck me came before I got off the plane. When we arrived in Amsterdam, I got a perspective of Holland. It was beautiful. Holland reminded me of my homeland - Prince Edward Island. The farms, the fields how they are laid out in the nice green. You could tell when you looked down on Amsterdam that the city was structured, there was a system to the city. We got there at 5 AM in the morning. I said to myself, "this is where you become an international traveller. You are on your own, kid."

Heidi Holmes had kept telling me, "Barb you have to become an international traveler. This was it: Amsterdam here I come. So I get off the plane. Amsterdam airport is just huge, so you are looking at every sign even though it is 5 AM in the morning. I found the gate for my next plane from Amsterdam to Brussels. The flight was only 35 minutes. However, in that 35 minutes you got a good view of Brussels from the air. It was one of the few days that the sun shined. We had three days of sunshine in the three weeks while I was in Brussels. That was one of the three days. You are looking down on Brussels and you say what in the name of God is this? There is no system. It is as if they plunked buildings, houses down everywhere. I wondered what kind of city this was. I'd never

experienced anything like this in my life before. It was rather interesting because as I toured Brussels it gave me an idea why it looked the way it did from the air. So many streets come into one. We counted up 14 at one intersection. This gave me a good visual idea of why Brussels appears such a jumble from the air. Anyway, that was my initial reaction.

One thing I discovered was that I was never getting tired. Why aren't I getting tired? So one night Russels Fouts and some others and I were going to a movie.

We walked up a different street than usual. All of a sudden the wind was blowing. I said to Russell "the wind!" He said yes this was one of the few corners in Brussels where you catch the wind. Then it dawned on me. It never blows in Brussels as a rule. That was part of the reason why I wasn't getting tired. It was interested the things you pick up.

We discovered the Grand Plaz early in the game. What intrigued me most about the Grand Plaz was you could go up there in the afternoon and there would be some kind of activity- maybe a concert - going on. They'd have all the bleacher seats up. Then that same evening you'd go back and the whole thing was dismantled and they were getting ready for something else. There was always something different going on in the square. We watched the Japanese drummers. There were all kinds of Japanese exhibitions in Brussels while we were there. We listened to the drum group as they went steady at the drums for 45 minutes. Then we watched the laser show which was really something. It was shown against the city hall. This building is 400 years old. While we were watching the show, the square was just full of people. Suddenly it dawned on me this building is 400 years old. Here we are 400 years after it was built doing a laser show against this building. Wow this is

really "progress"! I wonder what these statues of the people who built this building, are thinking now. The old and the new came together.

Another thing that impressed me was the streetcar and the metro system. There is a certain amount of trust. You could get on for nothing; it is very easy to do.

You just take your chances. If the spot-checkers catch you of course, it costs you a lot of money. I asked people, "why do you have only two cars on the metro?" "To save energy, was the answer. And why do you open the doors yourself: "to save energy."

Every night we went out and did something. It gave me a good opportunity to talk to other members of ICA. Since I was the only one from Canada, people were interested in what was going on in Toronto and what people in Toronto were doing. So it was a real confidence builder. People sought me out. It was great. Just to get the chance to talk to people I never had the opportunity to talk to one-to-one. George Packard and I went walking for two hours looking for ice cream. We found some, but it was too expensive. We refused to pay 150 francs. We ended up coming to our turf and buying *frites* (french fries) and taking them to a local pub. The guy met us at the door and said no, no you can't come in (with the *frites*). So George and I looked real sad so the guy said, "ok, you can come in and eat them tonight but no more." After all this is just a pub and it has its own food. We were being sort of brazen. There were no less than ten other ICA people there. They saw us and came and sat at the same table. Needless to say, George and I had about 10 *frites* each and the rest disappeared. I thought it was rather cute that George looked so sad that the pub man let us in. Those were the first things we discovered, the *frite* shop, the pub and the Grand Plaz.

One day, I went by myself to

Amsterdam. I saw Anne Frank's House and took a canal ride. It was just super. I walked the streets. Then it started to rain so I hopped the train and went back to Brussels. Another day several of us went to Brouge where we rode the canals. That was great. I got

Taipei Here We Come

a sense of history. I couldn't get much of that in Brussels. In Brussels, people are friendly. It seems to be a slower pace of life. But I can't get any feelings there. No sun. The dog poop was in the streets and the dogs were in the restaurants and at the pub. Brussels is like a dead city. I noticed lots of noise and pollution. Then I realized there were no trees to take up the sound.

I loved the duck pond and the park near the house. I have some pictures. Without the duck pond I would have been lost. As soon as I discovered the duck pond, I was there every day. Otherwise, there is no water. I just need to be around water. The day I went to that park, I also went to see the EEC building. Very impressive. That is where decisions are to be made about the European economic community. It is a big building. It has three L shapes to it.

What did you find out about the ICA network and what folks were doing?

I heard Jann Barr and Shirley Heckman talking and making arrangements so that they could be together during Christmas. I thought that was really nice. They are a 2 hour plane ride apart. Shirley is in Nigeria and Jann in Abidjan. I was talking to both of them about their particular projects. Jann's project is in latrines and ecofarming. They have big grants for ecofarming. They have a Dutch volunteer who was at the development meeting. Listening to Jann and then listening to

Shirley Heckman was fun. Shirley has a chauffeur; she has servants; and she is doing this two year documentation research project. Jann is walking wherever she needs to go while Shirley is trying to figure out how to gracefully be chauffeured and waited on hand and foot. This is quite a switch and quite an adjustment for Shirley. (You never know what your life will look like in the ICA network!)

I met Ann Epps. I'd never met her before. Ann is excited about the Taipei conference next year in November 1990. Our Common Future: Our Changing Environment? The Asian offices plan to get all the speakers from Asia. In our meeting, people at first really wanted to go to Shanghai. However, it looked like, visa wise, we could get people in there but it might be hard to get some people out. The group that looked at the conference decided it was not worth the risk. Taipei will be great. Josephine Thai was very excited.

What was the ICAI meeting like?

The ICAI assembly was really a business meeting. The celebrations reflected that mood. There was no big whoopdido. No dancing etc. At the closing celebration, the tables were set up beautifully; the food was great; Pam Bergdal sang several songs. Then we took pictures of the new Board of Directors and alternatives. We were standing up there for ten minutes and people were flashing light bulbs. And a thought went through my mind as we were standing there, this is not the ICA of the five or six years ago. The ICA would never take so many pictures. Why is this happening? Everyone was flashing and flashing. So I thought this meeting has meant more to the ICA staff than we anticipated. We came to Brussels with one thing in mind: to deal with the business at hand of putting in place an ICAI board. But there

was more in our unconscious and subconscious. That surfaced after we saw the work we had done. And we did a lot of work in that one week meeting. What surfaced was: "the glue is here or is still here." You know: the reassurance. You could see the difference in people.

The first few days it was very serious, very business like and with a subtle mood of fear, hesitation, maybe really doubt. The third day was the bog down. The big bogdown was in the workshop I was in -- on membership. The hotspot in membership was: how to have justice in voting. In the old legal structure of ICAI, each ICA office would get one vote. If we kept that structure, the USA would have the most votes. People did not want the USA to dominate the legal voting structure. This issue was a helpful and healthy hot spot because it got out lots of our feelings. It pushed us to come up with a new structure. This wasn't arrived at very easily. It took a lot of conversation. A lot of tempers were getting short. That was understandable. It was at the end of the week and we were not making much headway. When we had to throw the hotspot to the whole plenary, I could see more juice, more energy all of a sudden. Everyone jumped right in. Maybe people didn't realize there was so much involved. It was left hanging for the moment. Most of the next day was spent in workshops and then we had to make a decision. What do we want to do: plenary all day or go back into the workshops. Obviously, our work in membership was not going to get resolved in workshops as were some issues

The Healthy Hotspot

from other groups. So we decided that we would stay in plenary as long as it took to get the work done. It was then that we came up with a new legal structure for membership which said that legally each

nation would be considered as one member with three votes and that there be three categories of dues, \$1500, \$1000, and \$500. If you wanted to give more than that you could, but you would have no more voting power. We were referring to the USA because they have given over and above and probably needed to continue to do that. It took until about 10:30 P.M.

By Friday, everything was coming together - all the pieces. You could see the difference in energy level- wow, did we achieve all this! It looks good. The willingness of everyone to stay in their meetings that day fascinated me. We started at 8:00 A.M. and because I was an alternate board member, I was in all those meetings as well. I met right through lunch and dinner until 7 p.m. There was a willingness in all of us to do what it took. In the meetings as the board, there was a lot involved in deciding the role of the ICAI board, in deciding how many people we wanted in the secretariat, and in reviewing the ICAI budget. We went straight from the meeting to the celebration.

BRUSSELS, THE PLACE OF CONNECTIONS

By Ellen Howie

Excerpts from a report Ellen presented and taped.

Good morning everyone in the Rochester Region. I want to give you a sense of the jubilation and gratitude the general assembly of ICAI felt when I announced that George Walters, Rod Worden and I had successfully reached Dorcas Rose with the request that all of you be involved in the pulling together of the ICAI brochure. The whole room cheered when they heard that you had said yes because people felt that this region had contributed greatly to the documentation of the Mexico event. The tabloid has been powerful for all of us to use to talk to others

about what concretely went on there.

As I left home this morning, I intuitively picked up some of my Art work. Some of you know that I have been interpreting some of Mathew Fox's working, experiential definitions of Mysticism and of the Mystic. I took my paints to Brussels. I began to paint toward the end of the ICAI Assembly. I did not finish all the work in Brussels. In fact I think I did eight in Brussels and then I did several more as I came home and was trying to capture what was going on interiorly for me in Brussels. Then I did a couple more on the other side of this weekend which has been a very full weekend at work for me. I decided that I will send these paintings home with Dorcas. I'm standing here looking at one of the paintings I did to interpret Fox's definition entitled Compassion. It is very impressionistic. I'm going to tell you what I was thinking as I did it because for me it captures the heart and soul of ICAI and how the setting of Brussels came to be just the place to make this transition toward the creation of ICAI and the Board of Directors. In the centre of the buildings which makes up ICA Brussels is a beautiful garden. Some of you may know that these buildings were a convent at one time. The buildings form an L. If you are in any of the rooms which face inward, you can look down into the garden. There is also a doorway from the dining room into the garden. What was happening was that the beauty of the garden with the pink geraniums, the gold fish in the pond, the benches that are out there to sit on, would address us. Joan Seacord would put some of the flowers on the dining room table. In a way this painting is showing that the garden was coming into the dining room and that people were going out into the garden. There was a whole swirl if you will of coming in and going out. It symbolized the fact

that as a global people who gathered from around the world in Brussels and then went back out into the world that we are connected in so many ways and sustained by the universe.

The other painting which I did after I got home is called **connection making**. In the center of it is the iron cross. It reminds me of who we began as, something of who we are, and of what we will always be. It is kind of that connection. Yet we won't show it visibly in a lot of what we are doing right now. George Packard opened the general assembly with a few words and closed his remarks with the quote: "even though you do not acknowledge me I am still the Lord." I asked him if this was Isaiah and he kind of laughed. Several others chuckled here and there about it during the week.

I had the great privilege of being in the development network meeting for four days of their ten day meeting. There was a lot of talk in that network on these questions: what is development these days and as we look at ourselves as a group of people, what are we called to do? What do we have to say to the development community? What is integrated development all about?

I ran into the copy room to make some copies of this report to send home to you and while I was waiting for them to be done, I glanced up at the bulletin board and here is what was sitting on the bulletin board- I could not resist making a copy of this. It is entitled Seventeenth Century Nun's prayer:

Lord thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make

me thoughtful but not moody, helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end. Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details, give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweet as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others pains but help me to endure them with patience. I dare not ask for improved memory but for a growing humblity and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint. Some of them are so hard to live with but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people and give me oh Lord the grace to tell them so.

Amen.

There is a lot of talk around the edges about how we cope with ourselves, how we cope with each other, how we serve the world in this in-between time. It seems to me that this prayer points perhaps to the essence of how we are making this transition from the no longer into the not yet.

I WILL ALWAYS FIND YOU

By Kay Townley

The great whales live on the surface and in the deeps. Their undulating lives are spent breathing life, giving oxygen from our atmosphere, and seeking food for their lives in their own unfathomable depth. One wonders at the cosmic discipline forced into those lives whose forms ceaselessly contain the journey between two disparate worlds. What wisdom they must have to share from such experience!

Others of us are left to invent our own processes of exploring the worlds of our lives. Often we leave to chance the perception of a nourishment in our own interior and the renewal of life around us.

Our human capacity is so vast but it is so fragile. We are surrounded by the option of consciousness; the patterns of the new abound. Yet we feel inadequate to web together the experience of change that is our own life-changing lot. We hide from the enlightenment that is to be found in the hundreds of journeys of joy and grief out there and in here. Our fragility needs the comfort of the constant and familiar.

Yet, seeking the familiar constant is illusion. The constant that gives new life is invisible and encompassing. The ancients claimed that what abideth - what remains - what is constant - is to Declare The Integrity, Cherish The Now and Empty the Soul; and that the greatest of these is the Emptying. Our human response remains fearful and puzzled, unless we also remember that those same seers suggested that emptying our lives into the world's chaos fills our lives with renewed overflow. It is the form for seeking this constant it is necessary to be about.

Richard Atcheson wrote this piece of transparency in Lears'

"What We did for Love".

"Times are hard for our country now, and it seems to many of us that it's because our national heart is hard. I hear the laments from my kids and many friends, how vexed they are to find some breed of moral strangers in our courts and congresses, and in the public oratory no voice they quite recognize. Where, we wonder, are these people coming from? Apparently they didn't read the same civics books we read in high school, when there was still civics. How is it that the national leadership seems so divorced from the pain of so many people? What are we to make of a chief executive whose references to a "kind, gentler nation" ring hollow to those who care to watch our works abroad and see our streets at home?

In a time when Russia is to have 'communism with a human face,' what happened to the human face we thought we had by ancient birthright all along? We who worry along these lines are none of us particularly consequential people except in the sphere of family and friends, but I learn that I am not alone in lecturing the furniture in my living room and making inaugural remarks to my bathroom mirror.

Many of us who were active in social, political, and cultural change in the sixties aren't sure what to do now. Fashions come and go, but it was never our intention to pack up peace and love along with our old bell-bottoms. The issue is very personal. Are we ourselves still kind? Are we still just? Are we able to do a thing for no better reason than because it is right? That is how we must be in our own lives, even when - we feel morally disenfranchised by a national consciousness that is going some other way.

Mine was the Silent Generation - phlegmatic but sneaky, seldom what we seemed. Fear of individuality, fear of standing out, homogenized us and made us dull. I

never could like us in the mass. But many of us must have been doing what we could, in and out of our protective coloration, or the mighty changes of the last two decades could not have happened. We must have been at some ballot boxes and on some marches somewhere, somehow. We must have opened our arms in love and fellowship more than once, and offered shelter to some vagabond ideas they used to teach in civics class.

I will always find you. You promise? I promise.

In the land of the free it can still take an act of bravery to be who you are and to speak your piece. Freedom is not yet secured to everyone. We have not made the peaceable kingdom yet, and I dare say we never will, for there will always be periods when the nation retreats from the call of democracy and snoozes to the croon of sloganeers and flag-wavers. Their primacy will pass. It is in doing what we can that we will hasten the day.

It is no joke to say that the people of my generation have seen fire and rain, because that's what it costs to guarantee that today anyone in this country who has a thing to say may say it, and any boy who cares to dance is dancing. And I am proud of it too, for what little my life may have meant toward making it so.

Let us, for God's sake, not forget what we did for love. Unless we remember what used to be and what we've done, we'll have no heart to keep on going."

R. Atchison

What is it, then, we have done for love? What is that to which our hearts will always be true? What is it, though we do not know why, we love the way we do?

On the occasion of the death of his spouse, Ken Wilber makes a precious tribute to his wife, Treyna, a love story so sacred I

can scarcely refer to it. The tribute pulls again at the wonder of the ebb and flow of the human journey:

"Visions don't mean anything at all - it's a simple matter of presence and awareness.

I will always find you.

You promise?

I promise."

RETURN TO INDIA By Duncan Holmes

Duncan completed a lengthy assignment to India in December 1986 and returned to India in October 1989 to initiate a CIDA grant for work in Panvel.

There are many subtle and obvious changes in India. There is much more **congestion and pollution** in Bombay. I noticed it, for my eyes were red after a day in Bombay. I particularly noticed changes while travelling on the bus to Panvel. The advertisements on billboards were but one indication of India's movement towards the **consumer society**. How many types of TVs are for sale now - at least 15 or more. TV advertising has dramatically changed in the last three years. A lot more commercials more like North American advertising - for example, the same company repeating their advertisement twice in the same period. During prime time there are often long periods (10 - 15 min.) of continuous advertising which people seem to enjoy watching. I was told that there was a lot more canned goods available in all the stores. As well, many more ready-made clothes were obvious in all the clothing stores. The automobile industry has changed. Three years ago people still waited for 1 - 2 years to get a car they had ordered. Today cars are plentiful - you go in and buy one off the lot. Motorcycles are the same. And there are plenty of both around. Maruti (a Japan-India collabora-

tion) is the leader followed by Padmini.

In Panvel there is, perhaps, the most dramatic change obvious in the present and portended for the future. More money will be spent in the industrial area around Panvel over the next 10 years than in any other area of India. The new computerized port for container ships is being built at Panvel. The local train will be running through to Panvel by June '90. Travel time to Bombay will be 45 minutes instead of 2 hours. The CIDCO area between Vijay Lokhande's factory and the Panvel bus stand is totally developed with a massive number of new houses. This is the area where the Panvel office is and where the staff live. There are three new hotels in Panvel and there will be eight hotels built in the next three years. Travelling from Bombay to Pune I also noticed the increased number of houses and industries stringing out from Panvel and starting earlier before you reach Pune. Even the road up the Ghats is totally paved without potholes and much of it is now one-way. Quite a change.

National elections were called in India just prior to my arrival. The call was a surprise for everyone as they are not due for four more months. Rajiv hoped to get ahead of the opposition and clinch his victory by keeping the opposition divided. When the election was called it was clear that Congress I would win again. By the time the nominations and time for withdrawal of candidates had passed the situation had totally changed. The main opposition parties had agreed to field only one candidate in over 400 of the seats - 85%. This one-to-one battle will probably change the election picture significantly. Rajiv now is only given a 50:50 chance of winning a majority. There is no big motivation in this vote such as the sympathy vote when Indra was shot. So this will be fought on a much more even basis. The key

issue seemed to be rising prices of basic commodities.

The Bombay HRDC (Human Resource Development Centre)

In Bombay there are the Gilles, the Wests, the Gavai's and the C.P. Shrivastava families. The house, as most of you no doubt have heard has changed. Now it has tiled kitchen and bathrooms, indoor water tanks that provide 24 hour running water (hot and cold), closed rooms and excellent ventilation and plenty of space. Vijay Nair, a young advertising marketing man has just moved into the house. He works for an aggressive creative advertising company. Gavai is setting up a training seminar for development personnel from Egypt and the Sudan in conjunction with the Near East foundation. He has been given the opportunity to attend the Cody Institute for a six months to 1 year training. He has not yet decided whether to take this up or not. He is also handling all the government and visa issues for Bombay. The Gilles and Wests now have two year visas.

Corporation Services is working with 12 businesses. Some of these companies have allowed them to do programme with their total staff from top management to all the workers. A recent group of companies which went to Japan to look at what the Japanese were doing in management included one of the executives from a company the team had worked with. When asked what he thought of the Japanese approach, he said he thought it was good. It was exactly what the ICA had told his company to do and had trained his company in. This has resulted in the development of a new client base.

The Panvel HRDC

In Panvel there are the Bhattacharya, Prasad, Prakash families and in Chikhale, Ravi She-lar. Ravi is a graduate of the last HDTI and has stayed on to continue working with the education programmes being done in Panvel

District. Monu is up and around after his fall. He says he has continuous low-grade pain and it is difficult for him to travel by bus or rickshaw. The doctors are very pleased with the extent to which he has recovered from the fall. He should rest some every day, but, knowing Monu you will appreciate how difficult this is.

Panvel has a series of programmes going. One is the Ashramshala which is a tribal school cum hostel for 31 tribal students in first standard. It is located presently in the village of Nere, 15 minutes north of Panvel by bus. The students come from 12 tribal villages that are about two hours from Nere. The ashramshala is housed in 6 rooms in a two-storey building in the village. There is one teacher who is a recent graduate and a resident of Chikhale. They plan to expand the school by one class each year. Marcus and Jaya Salve are looking after the hostel. The work with the tribal people has received support from the Panchayat Samiti in Panvel. This is the first time we have received government funding for any of our work in the area. The department responsible for tribal affairs has visited twice and submitted excellent reports to the Maharashtra government on the programme. They have asked for funding for the school and are hopeful that it will be approved. During the next week they are holding a sports and culture day for tribals in Nere.

A second programme is with unemployed youth. Panvel is obviously dramatically changing from a rural area to a highly industrialized area. New industries are having to bring in people as employees as the people in this area do not know how to work in a business. In response to this the team has designed a Human Potential Training School to train unemployed youth in the culture and style needed to work in industry. This includes a focus on

what is happening to their society and workshops that allow participants to look at their future and their vocational choices. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has agreed to fund 4 Human Potential Training Schools as an experiment and then decide on future schools. This is also funded in part by CIDA.

----- **Training Programmes with 12 high schools to change Images of education to enable 9th and 10th year students to make the rural-urban transition** -----

Also in this line, the team has submitted a proposal to IDBI (Industrial Development Bank of India) for doing LENS with a group of small industries in the Panvel Industrial Park. The LENS would focus on issues faced by these businesses, and on learnings needed for the future. They have a tentative agreement to implement this proposal and will be working directly with IDBI to schedule and recruit the programmes.

Another focus is on rural high schools that are part of the rural urban transition. They will be doing training programmes with teachers and grade 9 - 10 students in 12 schools to change their images of education and to give the students an opportunity to understand the transition and to make new vocational decisions in light of the situation that is rapidly evolving. It is hoped that these programmes will allow more students to continue their education beyond grade 10 and even into college and university. This programme is in a research and design phase and will be developed in conjunction with the teachers and head masters of these schools. This is being funded through CIDA.

The third focus of the CIDA grant is the training of women. Two Skill Training Schools will train 30 women in each school in income generating skills, home

science skills, family life and leadership skills. These programmes will be done in conjunction with Khadi Gram Vikas, the Family Planning Association and a Bombay College. In conjunction with these programmes there will be a series of Women's Institutes for the Mahila Mandal (Women's Associations) in each community.

Each of the families in Panvel lives in a separate flat and they have a separate office to work in. There is great delight in being able to have extended family stay with them.

While I was in Pune, Bhimrao Tupe came to visit. He and his wife and KK have moved to their village near Aurangabad. Bhimrao and KK will come back to Panvel to do the formal education sections of the work. KK is doing farming and Bhimrao's wife, Shakuntala is looking for work in a nearby factory. Bhimrao has tried a number of things but is now looking at setting up a printing industry in Aurangabad.

The Pune HRDC

In Pune there are Shankar and Shakuntala Jadhav, Hiranman Kokane and Ashok Patil. Suman and the kids are also there but she is not working full time on the ICA staff. The kids continue to grow and are doing well in school. Their English is quite good. Shakuntala is expecting a child in February. I also saw Raghunath and Ratnamala Jadhav. Raghunath is a manager cum accountant for a petrol station. Ratnamala is looking after the home. Rahul Kamble lives with them and is working for Colgate Palmolive. I talked by phone to Vijay Khaire who is an a bookkeeper with a company in Pune.

As well as the Madhua cluster project, they are consulting with development organizations and small corporations in the Pune area. Shankar markets to corporations and Hiranman to development agencies.

Shakuntala's focus is on funding

and the cluster work. Ashok continues to do the continental finances which is getting to be a smaller task as the continent decentralizes finances. Hiranman as well does two weeks of training each month with the Church of North India, Social Service Committee. He is part of a staff of six who are doing this three year training programme. The scope of what is being taught is surprising. It includes development approaches, methods, history of development in India, an overview of all the different -isms in history and their role in India.

Hiranman plays a significant teaching role in all of these areas.

The team is also doing work with several Rotary Village Committees to help them do effective village development programmes. and are also doing work with the Bank of Maharashtra.

Delhi

I talked to Cyprian D'Souza for a few minutes on his way to the airport. He has a separate business set up - "LENS services pvt. ltd." which does all the facilitation and strategic planning for companies out of Delhi. He has programme every day but Sundays for the first 17 days of this month. Laura Spencer has been helping him do the programme while she was in India. Mukesh Taksande is doing finances for ICA Delhi and for LENS services pvt. ltd. Yeshoda (Varma) is working as a senior housekeeper at the Taj hotels. She just recently got a promotion and raise.

It was indeed gratifying to see the high level of engagement in India and to greet old colleagues again.

Hot off the wire!

The D'Souzas just celebrated the birth of a daughter. Congratulations!

GREETINGS FROM THE WEST COAST, USA

By Stan Crow

Transcription of an Audio-tape made by Janice Ulangca for a New York Area Meeting in September

Greetings to all my friends in the New York area or the East coast. It certainly is good to be able to talk to you. Janice has asked me to share with you some of the things that are going on on the West coast. We have two major centres on the West coast. One is in Seattle and the other is in Phoenix. In Phoenix there is a heavy emphasis on work with Native American Nations and with other communities especially immigrant communities. There has been a large emphasis on facilitating the resettlement of some of the more recent immigrants into Arizona and New Mexico. Very recently we have been very involved with the Navaho Nation and the Hopi Nation. Those of you who know Sandra and Bob True know that they have been working very closely with the Hopis. They have just recently moved to Oregon where they will continue working with some Native American groups there. We met Larry Emerson, a Navaho, several years ago at the New Horizons for Learning Conference. Larry and our staff in Phoenix have been working together. They have been doing a facilitation of Navaho nation councils recently just having completed a proposal for leadership development which has been submitted to a number of funding agencies.

In addition to the two offices in Seattle and Phoenix, we do have people who represent ICA in field offices in Oklahoma City, Denver, Houston, and Los Angeles. On Memorial Day Weekend we had a great event. There were over 50 people all the way from Louisiana to British Columbia who gathered together at our new centre in

Phoenix. These were folks who have some relationship with ICA and who came together as a part of what we laughingly call our \$25 club. In Oaxtepec, Mexico last November, we decided that it was important that we get together just for collegiality, to find out what is going on, and to look at the future. Everybody pitched in \$25 a month into a travel pool and then those who could come made it to Phoenix on that weekend. Now we are going to continue that actually and a number of additional people have joined the group. Part of that money will be paying some of the expenses of Marilyn Oyler's salary for her role as community coordinator.

Marilyn gets out information to people all over the area on what is going on in ICA. She keeps people informed and is a real great spirit for keeping the network of those who care on the west coast informed of what people are doing. ICA West (USA) is continuing to facilitate all sorts of groups. One of our major groups is the Food For All Program. We have been working with it for a number of years as it helps local communities decide what their priorities are for paying out the money collected in the Food For All drives in local grocery stores.

Let's move to Seattle and to the program I am most intimately involved with here- the Residential Learning Center. We have a ten acre farm where our three year rite of passage program is coordinated. Students in our program usually enter after their sixth grade experience. Once they have completed sixth grade, students attend a month long Rite of Passage Trip. This is a way of symbolizing the shift in consciousness from childhood to youth. Obviously in olden days when they sent the youth out to kill the lion or the lion to kill the youth, it was a bit more dramatic, but we try to put drama into the event. We are using Joseph Campbell's

Hero's Journey as the basis for this trip. They go through the same journey that Campbell describes. In the midst of it is a vigil in which they spend all night, just symbolizing to themselves the shift, sitting up and tending the fire all night, keeping a journal of the 24 hours of solitude and having a reflection with a counsellor at dawn the next morning. After that trip, some of the youth join us here in Bothel, Washington for a continuation of that three year rite of passage journey. For two years, the youth attend the public school and live in our residential facilities along with staff and other members of the ICA community located here. Part of what we do is begin to develop skills of independence, self-discipline, reflection, and study so that during the 9th grade, youth who elect to spend a semester living with families in another country Here they do a 9th grade project we call cultural immersion. Currently we have three youth in Venezuela and two youth in Belgium. They are living with local families, learning to speak the local language, writing a report about the economic, political, and cultural aspects of the country as well as a report about what family life is like in those countries. They are taking lots of slides so that when they come back they can put together a videotape of their slides and a script which explains what life in

The Junior High School in Bothel has been helping us to design the 9th grade cultural immersion programme

that country is all about. This is then presented in a number of ways, one of which is at the international day and fair at the junior high school they attend in the 9th grade. The Junior High School has been excited about this and has been cooperating with the program and helped us to actually

design it so that youth could get their 9th grade credits for the semester. Then, the final semester of the 9th grade the youth come back to Bothel, put together the video, make sure their report is complete and attend school. Toward the end of that semester, we do a final rite of passage program in which they go away for a weekend and reflect on what their three year journey has been. Part of that is writing a letter back home. This is the new person that is coming back to be a part of the family. "I am a different youth than I was when I went away." This is very similar to the kinds of activities which the ancient rites of passage included. Then at the end of the 9th grade, they head back to their families to form that new relationship.

I am a member of the New Horizons Board. We have been doing a lot to encourage new styles of learning to be integrated into the public schools. I think this is one of the reasons we are excited to be in the Northwest and especially in the Bothel area because of the large amount of experimentation going on in the classroom, with encouragement from the school administration here who are clear that the old style of school isn't working, that new models are called for. They are very willing to work to create these new models. We have currently in Washington State about 100 schools who are a part an experiment called "Schools for the 21st Century". They have been cut free of most of the red tape and legislation that ties schools down. They are working with a special group within the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to invent what the schools for the 21st century need to look like. So we are very excited about what we are doing. We would invite any of you who are out our way either to Phoenix or Seattle to drop in to say hello, see what we are doing. I think you will

be pleased by what you see.

DREAMS AND ANTICS FROM THE HEARTLAND

By Judy Lindblad

Transcription of an Audio-tape made by Janice Ulangca for a New York Area Meeting in September.

It has been 10 years since we uprooted our family from the banks of the Mohawk and transplanted our hopes and our dreams and our activities to the banks of the Ohio. These days it is called the heartland. Last weekend we had a gathering, of people from this part of the USA who are connected with ICA or have been friends over the last couple of years. We had 80 people for a weekend that included people from this geography- from the Canadian border to Florida, and from Ohio out to Nebraska. There are 17 states in our area. We didn't have representatives from every state but there were a good number around the table to talk about "*Clues toward activating Our Common Future*".

As the Gibsons, John and Anita put the weekend together, they discovered that people were primarily working in four different areas: (1) faith communities and the religious (2) myth and media, (3) housing and environment and (4) education. I thought I might give you some highlights from each of these arenas both from what happened at the conference and from other things that are going on in various places.

We had a number of folks who were working in local churches. In fact some of the myth work is one of the things that is happening - particularly here in Cincinnati.

Ellen and David Rebstock, Norm and I are planning to present a proposal to the education department of our church for a series which would include *The Power of Myth*. We are finding that to be an exciting possibility.

Marge Tomlinson and I have been working with religious orders in helping them do some of their planning. And at a recent conference in Louisville for the leadership of religious orders in this country, We had a nice conversation with Marcia Allen who had been a part of our conference in Mexico last November. She came up to our display and said simply "what do you have to save my life this year?" She also said that her *EDGES* magazine subscription was something she valued so much that when people came to borrow her magazine, she gave them a subscription blank to get their own because she didn't want hers to disappear.

We have also worked with the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine up in Cleveland for 18 months helping them to make plans for their chapter which happens every four years. We are going to be working with a Dominican community in Akron. They have a farm that they are wanting to develop into a model of sustainable agriculture. We begin that work in October and we are really excited about the possibility of that and the way it relates to the future of the whole planet.

Now the myth and media emphasis that got focused in Indianapolis was led by Ray Caruso, who did advertising for McDonald's and now handles Wendy's advertising, and Dr. Bruce Lanphear from here in Cincinnati, son of Fred and Nancy Lanphear who are now living in Seattle. They helped to bring a little of the marketing perspective to some of the concerns that we had in that workshop, created slogans and pithy propositions to assist in sharing with us our concerns and helping to build the myth that is emerging in our time. Some of the things that they came up with included a call for inner spirit health and the slogan was: "Meditate, don't

medicate." Also, one on the survival of the human species: talking about "How do you define an endangered species" and "Is this the last generation?"

Meditate, don't medicate.

They really helped to enliven the whole conference as you can imagine. In fact they were able to help as we were getting more acquainted with some of the work we have been pulling together with the help of Case Western Univerisity on an appreciative inquiry regarding the Institute of Cultural Affairs. As we named some of our commission themes and perspectives out of interviews with colleagues, we were beginning to put some of those into pithy proposals and propositions to guide us in our work as the institute toward developing our myth and focus. I think there have been 80 interviews done in this inquiry.

In housing and environment, we discovered that we could get underway rather quickly with some collaboration between locations in the geography. Indianapolis has a very exciting programme that they are doing related to ownership, using volunteers to increase the housing staff for low income housing.

We are also doing some work here in Cincinnati. We are helping with a conference on housing for the north central jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church. We will be facilitating the directions plenary at the conclusion of this conference on housing. We think this is going to help with both networking and changing the situation in housing. We are looking forward to having a debriefing workshop with colleagues in Indianapolis. They have been turning "blight into beauty": houses that will sell for \$25,000 or less which is quite amazing, and doing it with volunteer labour. So we think that will help in Cincinnati.

Our church is very much involved in housing rehab and all toward truly affordable housing for those with very low income. We were excited to hear that the core in Louisville is doing self esteem training with the homeless. And we hope to have some of the models that they are using to share here in Cincinnati.

Also along the lines of the environment, we are co-sponsoring with twenty five other organizations a workshop here in the Cincinnati area in November with Thomas Berry. Some of you may know of his work. He calls himself a geologist. He is concerned about the biology of the planet or that sphere as well as the human sphere and the way in which this comes together. He has challenged the church at many points. He has suggested that the church is a part of the problem when it comes to humans trying to conquer the earth.

And in education in the heartland, we are working on things like the Earthwise Curriculum. We think that though the initiative is being taken by our colleagues in Phoenix, some of the cores here want to participate in developing the modules and trying them out in weekend courses. We are looking forward to participating because we definitely feel that pulling together what we have known and what we are learning toward a curriculum is very important.

ICA in Chicago is working with one of the worst school systems in the country. They will be doing some Sharing Approaches that Work programs with people in the Chicago School System particularly at the administrative level.

And just before we left Indianapolis, Don Bushman received a phone call direct from Dick Celeste, the governor of Ohio. His request is that we meet with him to plan for a drug summit that would help begin a focus on a local community plan for drug abatement

addressing the incredible need that we are experiencing across the country. The initial meeting is to be scheduled in the next couple of weeks and he is wanting to have a summit at the end of October. We are waiting further word. We are excited about the opportunity and frankly are a bit honored that the governor who actually was our honorary chairperson for the state of Ohio in the Town Meeting Campaign remembered us and knew our work to be something helpful in terms of releasing participation of local people.

We share that and wish you well as you gather and identify the pathways that you will be taking in the Eastern United States. Good talking to you.

NEWS FROM THE TORONTO NETWORK By Brian Stanfield

Duncan Holmes is now Executive Director of ICA Canada and is just back from India where he has been doing the groundwork for a grant from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Duncan also keeps the books for Kanbay, and can heal aches and pains with his "healing touch". A full Board of Directors with seven new members just been elected. Anne and David Patterson have been very helpful and catalytic in the process of the last few months. Anne is president of Patterson Kirk Wallace, a consulting company. Brian Williams and Lorraine Purdon are on the staff of "PKW". David Patterson is president of New Castle, a capital management company. Bob Rafos is on his staff. Together, they inhabit part of the 39th floor of the Scotia building in downtown Toronto. Anne Patterson has been very catalytic in the writing and promotion of *Winning Through Participation*. Meanwhile, Jim Patterson is a partner in a company marketing "Astronuts": a nutritious snack food made with

crunch soybeans and Belgian - quality chocolate.

Ronnie Seagren works for Technology Transfer, Ian Gilmour's consulting company, and is the one who "vets" Edges for typos, blunders, and unprintables. Brian Griffith works by day as a financial researcher and by night works at his labour of love: cross-cultural anthropology. Jake is now three and loves sleeping over at Tim's house. Barb Gallant, the no-nonsense lady from Prince Edward Island (PEI) was proud to represent ICA Canada at the Brussels Meeting of ICAI. Read her interview on another page. Barb keeps the accounts of ICA Canada and is a fanatic recycler.

Bev Parker is the guardian of the community at 2269 Queen St in "The Beaches" section of Toronto. She regularly works with shut-in elders challenging their lives with images of possibility. Sheighlah Hickey is weekend manager of "Cultures", a holistic cafe. You can puzzle over her Planetary Crosswords in EDGES and discover her purchasing books on the Goddess in a nearby bookstore. Deanna Hickey is in a machinist programme as an apprentice and just loves it. Heidi Holmes is a nurse at Doctors Hospital and has been permeating the holistic health network. Rachel Holmes has celebrated her 16th birthday, is in grade 10, and is in the Army cadets.

Bill Staples generates energy like a locomotive and keeps a full head of steam under Edges Magazine and is property manager of the 2269 Building. Under a grant from the Canadian Employment and Immigrant Commission, Bill trains Yvette Marchand, Dwight Baptiste, and Jim Wemagwans in computer arts related to Edges Magazine. Yvette is French Canadian, Dwight is from Grenada, and Jim is a Native Canadian. Ilona Staples is heavy into the Zen of calligraphy as her spirit exercise, and is researching a new-look

layout for our quarterly.

Jan Sanders bought out PEOPLEnergy, the consulting company that she and Ian Graham put together. (Ian Graham has taken over his father's business.) Jan also acts as the convener for the book-writing project on Whole Systems Transition which meets regularly in New York. Her office is in the same complex as ICA Canada.

Sharon Turner and Wayne Nelson have just finished their fourth conference, "Myths for the Heartlands", featuring Jean Houston, Peggy Rubin, and Don Campbell. There were 150 attentive participants. The next conference March 9-11 will feature Thomas Berry. Riane Eisler is also being invited to present in 1990 or 1991 and ICA is looking for co-sponsors of that event. Sharon is attending the Mystery School for her fourth year, and Wayne is in his second year of "MS". Sharon conducted a successful development training week in Portugal, and acts as workshop guide to a Battered Women Centre in Sacramento, CA.

Jeanette Stanfield and Jo Nelson have successfully launched a first weekend "Learning Lab" and are planning a series. Jeanette puts together THE NODE and is also working on curriculum with Dave Burman and others for the LETS (Local Exchange & Trading System) program that Kate Sutherland and Michael Linton are spearheading for Toronto. Recently Connie Reemstma and Jeanette were invited to a private evening gathering with Margarita Papandreou and talked with her about Oaxtepec and the partnership conference to be held in Crete, now projected for 1991-92, depending on the stability of the government in Greece. Brian Stanfield slugs away on his Mac and scouts out "copy" for the 1990 Edges themes.

Jo Nelson leads workshops and conferences for a wide-ranging clientele with particular focus on the rural networks and

organizations. She is also the expert on composting. Aaron Nelson is presently in Brussels doing a three-month cultural exposure sojourn with a Belgian family. Eight-year-old Tim Nelson is a budding artist, and entrepreneur in the newspaper delivery business.

Sandra Rafos has just completed a major conference for Health Inspectors across Canada, and has received her Certificate for Psychophysical Instructor from Robert Masters of the Human Capacities Training Program. She has conducted several Toronto workshops researching the vision of "A Centre", and another series on "The Power of Myth".

Connie Reemstma combs Canada for funding for ICA and its overseas development partnerships (with CIDA) in Zambia, Jamaica, and India. She also acts as court translator and is training as a second language instructor, a yoga practitioner, and keeps in touch with the Jungian network in Toronto. Tom Reemstma sold 5000 dollars worth of books at the Myths for the Heartlands conference, and is a thorough permeator of the alternative networks in Toronto. He is chief maintenance expert at "2269". "Toby", the dog, is growing hair on his denuded tail again, and is still hungry as ever. The two cats live in peaceful co-existence. Nine computers at the office, and the nine computers in the residence hum away daily at the information revolution. Twenty-three and a half bicycles serve for aerobics, local tourism, and as shopping vehicles. The tomatos, lettuce, and spinach from our mini family garden plots have been harvested, and the trees have lost their raiment.

ICA Canada is passing through an exciting-fearfilled time of contextual reweaving and structural integration involving at the same time the webbing of new contacts and members coming to us through programs, conferencing, and

Edges. We are putting in place an active Board and active committees through which members can help form the directions and implementations of ICA Canada. At the same time we are undergirding fulltime ICA staff with salaried positions in the organization and finding ways to engage the increasing number of people who want to volunteer.

As for the larger network, Claire Bonnell shows up at Monday night yoga sessions at the house. She is executive director of a Toronto-based international development agency. Bill Bonnell is a writer. Stan Gibson and Miriam held an at-home in their Mississauga backyard earlier in the year for Joe Thomas and his wife who were "in town" from Georgia. Pat Moriarty was there, together with the Gilmours, Bonnells, Richard Kitney, Tim Caswell, James and Jennifer Latrobe, Jim Patterson and the Stanfields. After dinner we sat in a circle and told stories of Joe Mathews and HDPs for three hours. An increasingly wider network of colleagues in the spirit drop into the office, and visit the community.

Extranationals have submitted their applications for landed immigrancy and have secured temporary visas for the next two years.

ICA also intends to take on development education featuring the Machakos Game, and perhaps the "LETS System" game, and pursue the sale of the IERD series of books.

We hope these vignettes will give you some sense of what's happening in Toronto.

UPDATES FROM ABIDJAN By Ken Gilbert

My trip to Brobo recently revealed that the organic farm is now fenced very securely, - all 20 hectares - with a reasonable start towards

growing up rows of leguminous trees which are supposed to serve as green manure. We have a young Belgian assigned as alternative military service to work with us. (The farm is basically Belgian funded.) He is managing all the farm accounts as well as directing day to day work on the farm. We also have a Dutch woman agricultural engineer on site. Her specialty is erosion control. A local language training program for the women farmers has been a real success in stimulating them to try new approaches to maintaining soil fertility. Their enthusiasm has now raised the question of what shall we focus on next. Hopefully the organic farm experience will be informative.

We are hoping that the farm work we are doing may help to influence the national government policy on development. The government tends to emphasize the developing of crops with export potential. We are emphasizing the developing of crops which form the basis for self-sufficient village life

M'Batto pharmacy box program was the subject of a featured article in EDGES magazine for September. 22 villages now are operating the program which has grown very rapidly. Volunteer indigenous staff do about 5,000 treatments per month in these 22 villages. The medicines are sold at cost from the boxes and two of the village workers collect the resulting money each two months and carry it to Abidjan to purchase the needed supplies. The project officer for M'Batto, Sean Phalan, is a paid staff person. She has previous volunteer experience with ICA in Venezuela and speaks excellent French.

Jan Barr and Ruth Gilbert seem to thrive in the hot climate. Ruth continues to be challenged by her work as computer systems supervisor for the US government.

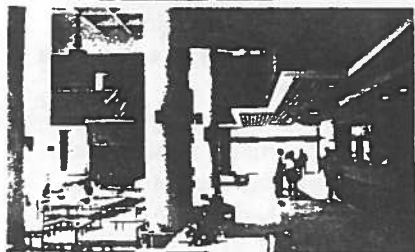
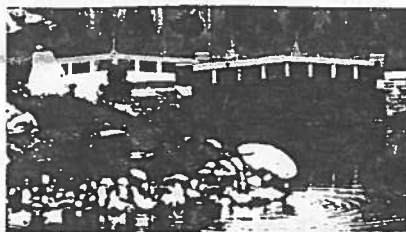
All of us here in Abidjan love to hear from all of you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 1990 gathering of the global network will be held in Taipei November 2-11, 1990. It will be a time of encountering the richness of the Chinese culture and futhering the development of the four networks of development, education, economics, and global integrity. An integrating theme related to the work of ICA Taiwan will be Our Common Future and Ecology. Guest speakers may come at this from numerous perspectives including the inner ecosystem of planetary consciousness as well as the external global ecosystem. The event will be held at the Chien Tan Centre near the center of Taipei City, Chien Tan Centre is a landscaped compound with ponds and grassy spaces for meditation and walking. There are facilities for swimming, skating, tennis and exercise.

Art treasurers from the Mainland are at the Palace Museum not far away. Chinese opera, music and cuisine are available.

For more information, contact Taiwan through Peacenet: cdp:icataiwan or 53-3 Chung Shan N. Road, Sec. 7, Tien Mou, Taipei 1136, Taiwan, Republic of China ph. 886-2-871-3150. Some pre-registration fees of \$250 are needed by Jan 1st, 1990.



服務台

THE ROAD TO ECSTASY By Barry Oakley

memory – lost
anticipation empty
hope destroyed

take flight
leave your body
leave your mind
leave your passions
let your consciousness of the mind
take care of the mind –
take care of thought until
you can no longer see

then
see without eyes
hear without ears
dance without feet

let your understanding be
annihilated
in the mystery of the unknown
and experience ecstasy

face the reality that cannot be
grasped
with the effort of the mind
let go and let yourself be shattered
rejoice in the shattering of your
being
rejoice in your annihilation

for then you are free
free to know
the totality of being
to be all that being is

dance in that ecstasy
dance in the rubble of your dreams
dance in your brokenness of life
dance like the dervish
for from these you have
been freed!