

THE NODE

Volume IV No. 2



Goddess of the Earth

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THE NODE is an informal publication intended to keep the Global Covenanted People informed on the journey of the transformation process. **THE NODE** is published six times a year by a small team in Toronto who collect news and reflections about this global group from whatever source.

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June 1990

EDITORIAL

We are now into the fourth year of publishing *The Node*. We are eager to hear from you on the role that it is playing presently and the directions for it in the future. At this point, we sense that the informal nature of this publication is a key. Letters, short reflections in the form of stories, poetry, witnesses on your own life journey, your family, your community, your work seem to be at the heart of *The Node*.

A recent tv program on a newspaper put out by the Amish and Mennonite community in the USA caught my imagination. This newspaper started in a small town and is still published there today. As the Amish and Mennonite people moved away across the country, they kept in touch through the paper. They shared what was happening through letters. In each place where people settled, someone decided to be a scribe and send in letters about the goings ons. The tv commentator made the comment that the newspaper was a key to enabling the Amish and Mennonite people no matter where they were to live the unique life style they had chosen.

Maybe some of you would like to be self-appointed scribes who tell us stories and reflect about what's going on in your "neck of the woods". Just send them to the Node.

Have fun.

Jeanette Stanfield

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ARTICLES

SUCCESS IN DEVELOPMENT CONTINUES TO EVOLVE: PHASE IV

By John Stringham

(Excerpts from a paper written by John for a Symposium of the 80th Jubilee Symposium of the Royal Tropical Institute)

The definition of success in development evolves. Each change in the social and economic climate changes the definition, and each change in definition then changes how those working in development view the social and political conditions within which they operate. And as the consciousness of the development community shifts, so do the criteria for measuring effectiveness.

However, institutions and programmes established in one phase often outlive the understanding which created them. Then, the newer understanding is glued onto the older one, - with mixed result because the methodologies and structures do not necessarily change to reflect the new understanding.

(John then walks through the history of development and creates a chart of basic images.) He calls the 50s and 60s a time when government was the engineer of development. The 70s and 80s have been a time when people were the agents of their own development.)

The chief problem in achieving the objectives of growth - equity- and participation is now the development system itself. Indeed, some have suggested it is high time to pronounce Development dead and give it a decent burial as quickly as possible, to talk about alternatives to development rather than development alternatives.

But even if we were to eradicate the word from our vocabularies, it would not do anything to deal with the large structural and methodological residues. International development agencies, block development officers, international development research centres, university degrees in development economics, administration, etc., private funding campaigns would continue to exist. And people, perhaps 100,000 professional developers in agencies, consulting firms, and universities, have their futures invested in the concept - for example, everyone invited to this symposium and all of us preparing it.

If development and consequently success is to be redefined one more time, the new definition will need to move us beyond the residues of the last 3 phases (1."The Plan and Trickle Down", 2."Integrated Regional Rural Development - Growth, with Equity", and 3."Small is Beautiful and People's Participation".) These residues are not only structures and people but also intangibles: perspectives, ways of operating.

The fourth phase is being called "An Enabling Environment - Sustainability". It has just begun and no one knows what it will finally be like. Bits are beginning to emerge. The understanding is there of "one planet -not first, second, third worlds" - not even North-South. It is a recognition that all are part of an organism whose life processes transcend artificial boundaries of nation, organisation, or political ideology.

And this is a very practical, painful understanding. For example, it requires in environmental matters, that western consumption patterns be given up by those who have them now and that

those who don't have them give up the wish to have them.

A key concept is creating an "enabling environment" - suggesting that development measures should foster a climate that nurtures the growth of people's capacities to decide what is the development they want, rather than be actions to implement objectives an outsider feels are necessary.

This new understanding makes those of us professionalised in the earlier phases uncomfortable. It feels vague, harder to quantify, harder to objectify, but that only indicates the work we have to do to cultivate a new way of seeing and working.

A few attempts toward a new definition and some criteria for measuring effectiveness of efforts do exist. Here are some of them.

Development occurs when:

1. All activities which sustain the community and the family are appropriately valued: e.g cooking, housework, childcare, care of elders, settling personal conflicts etc- usually called "women's work"
2. Meaningful work opportunities are created for the broadest possible range of people in the community, including the young, the old and people with disabilities
3. Tools can be owned and managed by those who use them
4. A natural environment is maintained, and resources are conserved, renewed and recycled, i.e. sustainability
5. The production of life-sustaining necessities occurs locally, and these

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in the "underdeveloped"
world would rate now as
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many in the "developed"
world.**

essentials are equitably distributed among members of the community

6. Local institutions are strengthened and local citizens enjoy the freedom and responsibilities of control over these institutions
7. Local production of necessities is done efficiently allowing time for creativity, invention, play, celebration and the exercise of citizenship

8. The production of goods and services for export from a community respects the principle that other communities should also maintain their natural environment and conserve their resources.

One interesting thing about this list is that by its criteria many communities in the "underdeveloped" world would rate now as better-developed than many in the "developed" world.

The key agents in this phase are not new actors, rather they are interactions of old ones - through forms of serious cooperation that go beyond labels.

Coalitions, consortia, networks of government agencies, non-governmental organizations and people's organizations will be needed. There will have to be a willingness to spend time creating such intermediary forms, time spent in getting to know each other's experience, time to come to value what the other brings to the cooperation, even when it calls into question one's own experience.

Such cooperation requires a willingness to let go: let go of crisis-oriented thinking, let go of attitudes of professionalism, of moral superiority, let go of the belief that "if only they were to do it our way development would succeed", let go of the belief that success can ever be defined "out there" and not in terms that implicate the actor as well. Another way of saying it is: the target group is now everyone. "We have met the enemy and they are us".

No agency, NGO or local group can go through this new decade existing as they have done. Organisational and professional egotisms are major obstacles to success in this fourth phase.

The fact that the issues are so interconnected doesn't allow for a continuation of a war mentality with its objectification of an enemy "out there" to be defeated, that the right approach, organisation, ideology, may triumph. Learnings from the last 40 years must be brought in by all of the actors, openly expressed and openly heard.

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REFLECTIONS

MAKING STONE SOUP IN SEATTLE, DENVER, AND PHOENIX

By Marilyn Oyler

I was wondering if you remember the story of stone soup. Once upon a time a long time ago there were many wars and people were starving. Then a wounded soldier came upon a village on his return home and asked for something to eat. It seems that no one had anything to give him.

His response was, "Well, at least we can make stone soup."

"Stone soup, what's that?"

"Well you need a pot of boiling water and a large stone."

"Now, you could also add a carrot for a little extra flavor." Someone in the crowd indicated that she could bring a carrot.

"Well, maybe an onion would be nice." Another volunteer brought an onion. And on and on the story goes. Soon the soup was bubbling with many vegetables and a wonderful smell went forth through the village. Soon the whole village gathered for a great celebration and feasted on the stone soup.

On the recent trek that I made to Seattle, Denver, and Phoenix we did a vision workshop in each location. We had fun as we brainstormed carrots and onions and all kinds of good vegetables to add to the community life of the Global Order in the Western and Southwestern states. We invite additional images to be added to this adventure. (See next page.)

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MEXICO CREATIVITY CENTER An Update

By Rod and Rose Worden

Many of us seasoned development professionals are looking at a change in life style in the not too distant future. Having been nomads for much of our lives, and having honed our skills to a high point of refinement, we are asking ourselves how we can continue to share our knowledge and experience? What can we do with our still considerable energy? Where will we settle down? The solution may lie in Mexico, on the shores of the Pacific Ocean. We could

call it... *The Creativity Center*. Our plan is to build an attractive facility where we will live in our own homes in a near perfect climate where living expenses are minimal. We will also build a conference center where we will invite multi-national teams of experts to share their knowledge on social and technical issues of interest to Mexico and other developing nations. The facility could also be used as a retreat center for organizational development and human enlightenment course.

A permanent staff would be required who have skills in 1) Group participation, 2) Problem solving, 3) Attracting a global network of experts, 4) Training courses in sustainable integrated development. Residents and staff would also pursue their own creative projects ie. writing, painting, weaving, holistic health, etc. The center would demonstrate aspects of ecologically balanced housing, energy, and agriculture.

We have been researching possible locations in Mexico and have found that the state of Nayarit, just north of the Puerto Vallarta area, is interested in supporting projects of this kind. We have found an ideal spot and are now ready to raise money to buy the land. It will take \$50,000 US. to buy 2 acres of ocean front property to get started. Power and water can be put in place for about \$5,000. (No Mexican mortgages are possible.)

Construction of individual homes will range between \$5000-\$10000 using some volunteer labor. The conference center will require additional funding. We are open to creative financial solutions. One proposal is to offer stock in a time share facility, for example, one week per year for \$1000 investment. What others would be possible?

It is our hope to have the center up and running by 1995. Those who have expressed interest to date include Ken and Ruth Gilbert, Jack and Judy Gilles, Mary Lou Peterson, Evelyn and Larry Philbrook, Kay Townley, Donna Wagner, Donna Marie and George West, and George and Ruthe Yost. We need to hear from others of you who might be interested in this project within the next three months. Call or write us with your questions and ideas and we will give you more detailed information.

Rod and Rose Worden, Oriente 158
No. 232
Colonia Moctezuma, 15500 Mexico
D.F., Mexico
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PRACTICAL VISION - 1990

Seattle Community

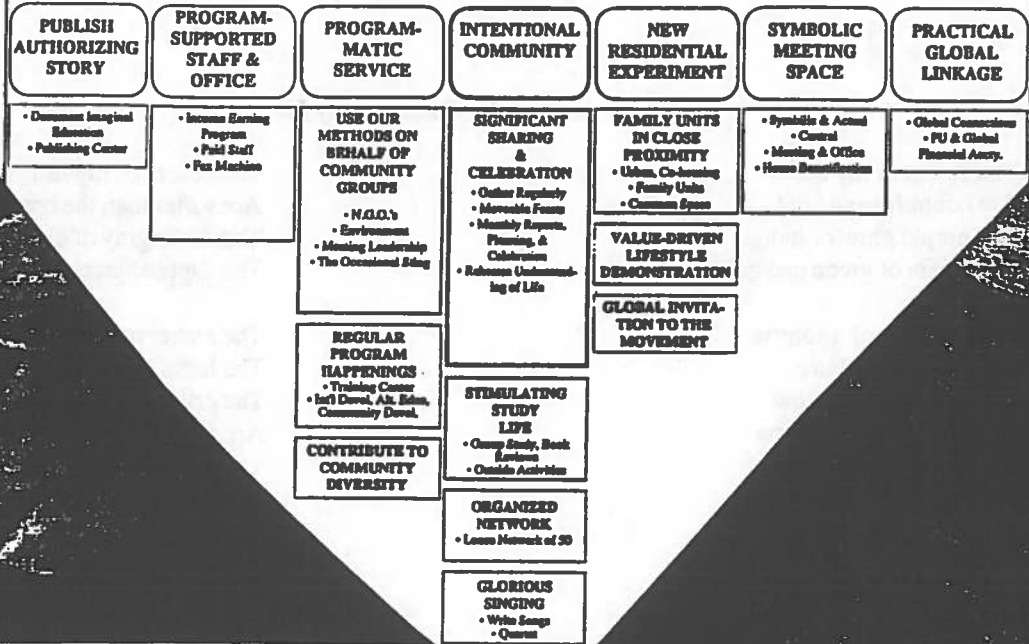
March 30, 1990

Personal Support Nets	Group Study	Visit W/ Fellow Travelers	Special Community Celebrations	Biocentric Living	Experimental Housing Patterns	Shared Expenditure	Sharing Service
Sharing Personal Growth Efforts	Ideas Sharing (Discussion Groups, Study)	Inter-Community Sharing	Retreat Events	Community Picnics & Workdays	Individual Living Spaces W/ Shared Commons	Garden Preservation Community Kitchen	Networked Sense of Service
Wellness Support Net	Documentation Mude	Visits With Fellow Travelers	Rites of Passage Events Across Generations	Experiment With Economic Forms, eg, LETS	Co-Housing Center & Housing Units On Site	Wilderness Challenge Retreats	Missional Focus
Monthly Men's Meeting	Flowing Dialogue	Dinner Guests	Gathering & Singing	Biocentric Mythology Workshops	Balance of Family & Community Space	Building Shelter Together	Linkages Into "Local Community"
	Occasional Study (E.g., Chaco)	New People Seeing Selves As Related To Us	Weekly Celebration	Nurturing Wildlife as Meditative Exercise	Independent Living Within Community (Co-Housing)	"Working" with the Land	
		Quarterly Celebrations	Special Celebrations	Greenpeace International Encampment ELC - 1991	Co-Housing Experiment		



The Practical Vision of the ICA in Denver for 1990

April 7, 1990



PRACTICAL VISION - 1990

PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

APRIL 6, 1990

Investment in Community	Biocentric Reproductive	Additional Space	A Touch Of Luxury	Demonstration Learning Community	Deepening Connections	Celebration	Expanded Participation	Seeing Us Being Us
Own Home	Biocentric: Count Trees and Birds	Corporate Living Rooms	Community Van	Model a Learning Society	Variety of Person-Person Communication Patterns	Nathan's Marriage Celebration	Transients Program	Twice As Many People & Multicultural
No Ownership Done	Demonstration in Urban Permaculture	Space for Temporary Visitors who want to Experience Community Living	Jacuzzi Under a Gazebo	Artist in Residence	Engagement in Facilitating ICA Events	Addressing the Culture of Phoenix?	Open Community/ Sojourner Program/ Expand Personnel	Multicultural and Multi-Generational Extended Family
\$50,000 from Public House	Someone Putting Flowers on the Table	Additional Housing &/or Office Space	A Pub for Those Who Share Friday Eve.	Computerized Learning Center	Annual Week-End Retreats	Multi-Age Celebrations	Young Interns & Volunteers	Video of Us Here
Individual/ Family Handle Own Expenses - 10% into Community	Demonstration of Simple Lifestyle	Studio Space	A Heated Swimming Pool	Occasional E.g. Curriculum	Connecting With Other Groups for Rituals			
Halving of Community	Shift From Cost Reduction To Enriching Facility	Purchase of Adjoining Property w/ Development of 1 & 3 Bedroom Apts.	Front Landscaping Done	Community Room Constantly Used	Annual Retreat Focused On Spirit Resources	Nathan's B.S. Celebration		
				Rich Man/Work time "Space of the Possible"				

*I have always known
That at last I would
Take this road, but yesterday
I did not know that it would be today.*

- Narihira

PROFOUND BALANCE

By Kay Townley

In Sydney, Australia in the spring of 1982, we saw Barnum, a small musical about the story of the life of P.T. Barnum, a man whose passion was to fill the world with humbug and magic because he felt that a "sucker was born every minute". By that he meant a sucker for wonder and delight. The show is about his efforts to give people the charm of eventfulness.

The song, The Colors of my Life, was from that show. For years I have had a lot of fun with the poetry of this song, filling my life with the rainbows, balloons, and power of the spectrum.

Recently, my sister recorded the movie, Barnum, for me. Seeing it again brought such quiet satisfaction. The journey of my life has softly bent its curve, so that I really heard the companion words to the The Colors of my Life for the first time. I thought you would like this lovely song with its profound balance.

The Colors of my Life

The colors of my life
Are bountiful and bold
The purple glow of indigo
The gleam of green and gold

The splendor of a sunrise
The dazzle of a flame
The glory of a rainbow
I'd put them all to shame

No quiet browns and grays
I'll take my days instead
And fill them 'til they overflow
With rose and cherry red

And should this sunlit world
Grow dark one day
The colors of my life
Will lead a shining light
To show the way.

The colors of my life
Are softer than the breeze
The silver gray of eiderdown
The dappled green of trees

The amber of a wheatfield
The hazel of a seed
The crystal of a raindrop
Are all I'll ever need

The reds are much too bold
In gold I find no worth
I'll fill my days with
patient browns – the colors
of the earth

And if from by my side
Your love should roam
The colors of my life
Will shine a quiet light
To lead you home.

MAKING HARD CHOICES

By Ruth and Ken Gilbert

This is a sort of a-change-of-address/-update-your-files letter for all of us in West Africa. But it is also a "get-back-in-touch" sort of letter as the Gilberts are in process of returning to the USA.

The official address of ICA Abidjan should be changed to ICA, BP 119, Brobo, Cote d'Ivoire. Attention Jann Barr. Normally it takes three to four weeks for letters to get there from Europe or North America.

Shirley Heckman, the other intrepid member of the "Abidjan Area" continues to amaze all with her traveling training team for leadership LENS competence with NGOs in Nigeria. Those in the USA may most effectively write to her via United Bank for Africa in New York. Enclose your letter to Shirley inside an envelope addressed to Mr. Feliz Akpe, c/o general manager, United Bank for Africa, 551 Madison Ave., NY NY 10022. The overnight pouch goes to Lagos twice every week. For other parts of the world, the address of PO Box 2524, Lagos, Nigeria probably makes most sense.

Project work in Cote d'Ivoire has been proceeding reasonably well. We are especially pleased with our increased contact with the government. With Delipro funding for the farm through 1993, the agriculture portion of our work seems to be finally on a good footing and moving from strength to strength. We entered the new year as confident as one can ever be of Rockefeller funding for our village health work. In mid-March, we were finally informed that Rockefeller was suspending all new health funding pending a re-evaluation of their objectives with the health programme. That created a problem for us, but we hoped UNICEF would provide enough support. But because claiming donors are behind in their commitments, UNICEF decided to focus what money it did have into government programmes. That really left us with a major cash short fall.

Before this happened, the Gilbert Family had made a decision to depart Cote d'Ivoire by September of 1991. That would have given us time to appropriately pull to a close much of the work of the last six years. Ruth has been thriving in her job as computer systems manager for USAID. Amara was anticipating attending Lycee Francaise for a year before entering an American High

School. For several weeks Jann, Ruth and Ken tried to come up with a way that we could all be in Abidjan for the next year. But we couldn't come up with a viable financial plan. In the end, we decided our best choice was to quickly cut our costs by consolidating the Abidjan administration center with the Brobo programme centre. Jann clearly stated her sense of call to continue as the administrator of our farm programme through 1993, and there is just enough administrative money in the Deipro grant to permit her to do that if she moved to Brobo. But we clearly couldn't hold onto our beloved Abidjan house and office.

What happens now with the village health programmes? The M'Batto Sous-prefecture village health programme had begun with the objective of organizing volunteer village health workers in each of the rural villages of the sous-prefecture. One village chose not to participate; all the other 28 villages have functioning health centres. The Ministry of Health have developed programmes in 100 additional villages, all based upon our model. There is every reason to believe that the Ministry of Health will be successful in providing the peripheral support needed by these systems which are designed to be pretty autonomous. We pulled away about six months earlier than planned, but feel ok about that. The next step in the Brobo sous-prefecture health programme is initiation of training for non-literate villagers. A USAID grant to do that appears to be on its way, and Ken will return in November-December to implement the actions. So while our departure was abrupt, we don't feel we abandoned any obligations in mid-course.

For the summer, we will be at 404 Washington Street, Galax, Virginia 24333, USA. Ken will be working as a psychiatrist. As we have done for the past several years, we will take advantage of housing provided which gives our family a place to be together during the summer and also to earn the cash for school tuitions, etc. Just to fill you in on other family members, Luke has completed freshman year in Engineering at Pennsylvania State. Amara had a super four months in Brussels as part of the Residential Learning Center (RLC) ninth grade year and is now back in Bothell for the second semester. She will start High School wherever we are in September. Ryan is staying with friends in Conakry, Guinee to finish school there. He will join us in late June. He anticipates a year of school with us next year, followed by RLC as a seventh grader.

We aren't set relative to our longer term plans except for a pretty strong

preference for the East Coast. Your letters and suggestions about possibilities would be thoughtfully received. As noted above, Jann Barr can be addressed in Brobo. She will appreciate knowing people are thinking of her in the relative isolation of Brobo Village.

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ROBERT BLY SPEAKS

By ICA Earthcare
(from an Econet message)

Robert Bly was in Indianapolis last week. He reportedly made the point "that the time of manifest destiny for the United States of America was over and the time for grief had come. The gift in this "sensing" is that we, as a nation, are moving beyond denial to confession. The challenge for edge thinkers in this is how to paint a vivid, alluring, positive vision of the future that will bear us all through the pain and into the pleasure of another evolutionary leap."

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THE ISSUES OF SPRING IN OLD CROW

By Don Sax
(from an Econet conference)

It seems like it has taken a long time but Spring has come to Old Crow in the Yukon. With it comes a rush of activity that keeps everyone hopping. The Land Claims Negotiations are rapidly coming to a close, which means the Vuntut Gwitchin will have sole control over about three thousand square miles of land, and a strong influence over another fifty thousand square miles.

The issues are real and immediate. What will self-government look like? What kind of an economic system can we create that is ecologically sane and consistent with the bioregion in which we live? How do we move into the post-industrial age, with an appropriate use of the many tools of modern technology without becoming slaves to them? How do we avoid the many temptations to wasteful affluence, acquisitiveness, and sanctified greed that fuels the economic engine of the Western world? All of these questions are in the context of this community and my family- and under the shadow of powerful economic

forces that we neither know or understand.

Such are the questions. But the days are getting longer, the sun warmer, the summer birds are returning, the snow is melting, celebration is at hand.. Re-joice and be glad - we made it through another winter. What more can one ask?

.....

PEOPLE

CLEVELAND MOURNS RALPH DELANEY

By Karl Hess

Cleveland ICA veterans will be saddened by the death of Ralph Delaney, a colleague of many years. The first paragraph of the front page story in the *Plain Dealer* newspaper said: "Ralph D. Delaney, the rumped, bearded big bear of a man who had quietly made his mark in Cleveland as a friend to the poor, homeless and hungry, died yesterday. But even in death, Delaney who for 30 years provided food, housing, clothing and other help for the poor, continued his devotion of giving. His brother, Paul, advised the hospital that his organs would be donated." Services will be held in the Cathedral on Wednesday.

He died in the line of duty. He was leaving King-Kennedy estates on April 19 after delivering food to tenants when he was robbed of his wallet and video camera. The muggers held him upside down and beat his head against the sidewalk. He has been in a coma at St. Vincent's Hospital since then. There have been prayer services for him attended by the mayor and the newspaper has run daily articles on his life. A friend, Peggie Rooney, said that they would often sing together his favorite song: "I will raise you up on Eagles' wings, hold you in the palm of my hand and make you shine like the sun."

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EDITH MCKINLEY ELIZONDO'S 60TH BIRTHDAY

A letter from Tony Elizondo

This year is a double scoop, or double 60th year for the Ellizondos! (Tony celebrated his earlier this year.) Our "cup runneth over"!

On June 25, 1990, a certain Edith McKinley Elizondo, also known as "El-lery" will be celebrating her 60th birthday. Our immediate family will be at Cape Cod in Massachusetts on the 25th, having gone there to celebrate our son, Jon Mark's wedding to Susan Marcy on June 23rd!

We still believe, along with the Chinese, that the 60th birthday is of extra special significance. Therefore, we are creating an occasion for the wider community of our family and friends to join us in honoring Edith's unique and unrepeatable life in an event that will stand out in her memory and mythology. In addition, we hope our participation in this event gives each one of us a way to rehearse the greatness and unique significance of our own lives.

In joyful anticipation of this occasion, we are asking whosoever wishes to send in cards, anecdotes, I-remember-when stories, cassette greetings, poetry, photos, profound plaques, humorous homilies ... whatever your creativity bubbles up. Send these to the Elizondo Family, 4750 N. Sheridan Road, Apt. 829, Chicago, Il. 60640.

If you are in Chicago on Saturday, July 7th, you are invited to join us, on the 6th floor, for lots of visiting, celebrating, and a "substantial snack" ... starting at 4:30 PM until... whenever you need to leave. Just let us know ahead of time that you are coming so we can prepare for your presence with us on this celebrative occasion. Our apartment phone is 312-334-0668. A daytime phone number is 708-699-2990.

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SUMMER PLANS

By Nelson Stover

Elaine and I've formulated an initial travel plan for our summer. Subject to confirmation by all the various parties involved, I'll be in the USA from the 20th of July to the 20th of August. Elaine will be in the States from the 4th of August to the 4th of September. I'm planning to do some computer work on the East coast from the 20th to 28th July and then go to Chicago for the Earthwise Learning Seminar between the 28th of July and August 5th. On August 3rd, Elaine will finish teaching in the International Training Programme here in Brussels. She will join me in Chicago for the last day of the meeting. At the present time, we are planning to rent a car for two-weeks and drive to Detroit to see my family. Later in the week we will head down

to Greensboro, perhaps stopping off to see various people on the way. Elaine will stay in Greensboro for a while with her parents and I'll head back to Europe in time to be well prepared for a meeting in the Netherlands on 31st August.

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TOKYO OUR HOME

By Christina(Clark)Welty

Four years ago Matt and I returned to Tokyo, Japan as a way of settling into a stable situation of home, neighborhood, school and work. After a year's sabbatical in London of no work and lots of research, therapy and meditation, we made the journey back to Japan.

I've been working for a Japanese company, Saito International, since that time. Saito san took the first LENS course in Japan in 1977. I was hired as a cross-cultural trainer, to train Japanese businessmen in communication skills and perceptual shifts that will make their overseas work effective. So far I have developed 16 seminars and employed other people as trainers. Courses include presentation, negotiation, assertiveness, socialization, conference speaking, meeting skills, cultural awareness and personal awareness. Major clients are Mitsubishi Electric, Kirin Beer, Toshiba, Kajima Construction, McKinsey and Co., Canon, Japan Atomic Power, and many others.

The most challenging endeavor was a six week course (thirty 8-hour days) to globalize overseas candidates for Kirin Beer, the world's fourth largest beer company. They asked me to design the whole thing, giving little guidance as this was their first step to internationalize their employees. Don Hinkelman came down from Sapporo to help with a business simulation for the last three days.

On the home front, Matt and I now live an hour west of Tokyo in the semi-countryside near the American school which he attends. He is now a high school freshman especially enjoying basketball and football. He is big and standing out as the second largest on the football team of 33, including seniors. He's fluent in Japanese and learning reading and writing as well. We've taken many trips out of Japan to Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, and the USA. Last summer we had a wonderful reunion with the Bonells in England who had come from Toronto to attend Clare's parents' 50th wedding

anniversary.

Last October my company assisted Peter Russell with his first visit to Japan. We set up several key appointments and interviews and enabled the publishing of his new book, *The Creative Manager*, in Japanese. Peter returns in August for a second round.

In addition I've cared for myself through meditation, daily swimming, intense spiritual reading and attended a holotropic breathing workshop led by Yoshifuku Shinichi.

My company has just completed a corporate identity project, changing its name to GLOBALINX. There are new brochures, a logo, office decoration and furniture and a new mission statement drawn together in triangles.

Please come and visit or drop me a note:

Christina Welty,
Momijigaoka 2-25-29,
Fuchu Shi, Tokyo 183 Japan.

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THE WONDERS OF APARTMENT LIVING

By Frank, Sandy and Alison
Powell

(Excerpts from the Powell Family
Newsletter)

This newsletter marks the completion of three and a half years in Kenya. The news of our family is *big* news. Sandy was offered a job with CARE and started it 1 April 1990. In January, she made a trip to New York for an orientation for new employees and for a meeting of Regional Technical Advisors. Her job is that of Regional Technical Advisor for Training for Eastern and Southern Africa. Her responsibilities relate to 11 countries and they read like a list of all the trouble spots in this part of the world - Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, Mozambique, Lesotho, Swaziland... Hopefully, she won't have to spend too much time outside the capital cities.. Mapputo, the capital of Mozambique, is a beautiful and modern city, but no one drives more than a very few kilometres beyond the city itself. For CARE to visit its projects in the rural area, they must hire a plane at \$500 per hour - it simply is not safe to drive - so this obviously limits the development work that they can undertake there at present.

Among other benefits, this job provides housing and a company car. We've had cars before, though certainly not in Africa, but this marks the first time in over 17 years of marriage that we've ever had more than a room to ourselves as a couple, with Alison usually sharing another room with 1-4 other girls. On February 2nd, we moved into a 3-bedroom flat all by ourselves. It's not a large place, though it is certainly adequate for our meagre needs. On arrival, we spread out our furniture, which basically meant one piece in each room, with mattresses on the floor and boxes of accumulated junk filling up about 1/25th of the space in the living room. It had always seemed like we had accumulated so much in our one room in Rose Avenue, but it all got swallowed up in our flat..

Fortunately, CARE also provides furnishings, so after about six weeks we had furniture out of their storage rooms to fill up the space. Among the more surprising items were a washer and a dryer, so unless the water or electricity go out, no more hand washing!! Prior to getting the furniture however, Sandy and I spent several evenings hand-scrubbing every floor tile in the place, getting up accumulated grime and paint splatters. After the floor tiles, we painted all the closets and put in shelf paper. Then we sat in our two chairs and listened to our voices in the empty space. The furniture is all the knock-down type, so it comes in pieces, all numbered so that you can eventually figure out which pieces go together. The exercise was like a huge puzzle, but it went faster as we went along.

Then we spent what seemed like weeks getting things framed to put on the walls, selecting and potting a small forest, getting a few throw rugs to cover a bit of the floor space and getting curtains made. Now, three months later, we have all of the major stuff done, including finally receiving our new phone.

Our landlord is a man named Bharat Patel. He has spent a lot of time and some money as well to help us settle in.

Some of his help goes way beyond the duties of a landlord. For instance, he offered us his car on Allison's birthday since Sandy didn't have her car yet from CARE. He has quickly become a good friend..

Our next door neighbor is named Ashok Grover. He's an Indian expatriate from Pune and is here on a two-year contract as General Manager of a furniture company called Tobina. He's a fine guy and we like him a lot. His family finally arrived after he had been here alone for 3 1/2 months. His wife is a doctor, a leading cancer research in

India.. She is one of the finest women we've ever met, just a delight to be around.

That about covers all the move details except for Shakespeare, our cat. While we were thoroughly enjoying moving into our own place for the first time ever, Shakespeare was busy having one of the greatest traumas of his young life. On the move day, Frank grabbed him and headed for the truck, but Shakespeare escaped and disappeared in about 0.124 seconds flat. After a bit of a search, he was recaptured and put into a cardboard box, and Frank got into the cab of the truck with him. In about another 0.124 seconds, he was coming out of the top of the box, so Frank used his chest as a top and pressed hard. That kept Shakespeare inside, though just barely; but it left Frank with a thoroughly clawed chest. On arrival at our new apartment, we placed the box in the center of the living room and let Shakespeare out. He immediately found the bathroom, crawled into the bathtub, and cried for two hours solid. He then scrambled up into the top of one of the bedroom closets and slept for the rest of the day. He followed this "top of the closet" pattern for virtually the whole first week before he began to venture out and explore the rest of the flat.

Our big worry was Alfo, a huge mostly German Shepherd dog that prowls the compound at night. Since Shakespeare was mostly an outdoor cat, we were worried about whether or not he would survive his first encounter with Alfo. He did, but it was a very close thing. Alfo chased him from the front of the flat around to the back of the flat next door, at which point Shakespeare reversed his field just like Gale Sayers and darted back to our back porch, where he climbed a concrete post, fell, almost got swallowed whole by Alfo, then climbed the concrete post again, where he somehow managed to cling until we could persuade Alfo to go for a long walk elsewhere. Shakespeare then dashed inside and reclaimed the highest place he could find in the flat, a storage area above one of the closets.

After several hours, he began to very tentatively venture around the flat again and seemed almost normal by the time we went to bed. About 2 am, we heard a cat screeching in the hall, but it turned out to be the tomcat from next door. He'd come inside and eaten all Shakespeare's food, and in the process nearly given our cat heart failure. Poor Shaky -- in one day he'd had it clearly demonstrated to him that he was not safe either outside or inside the flat. We had a hard time getting him out of the storage closet for

the next three days.

He still hasn't figured out that Alfo is chained up during the daytime, so he sits inside nearly dying to get at the birds that land in the yard just outside the door, but can't bring himself to take more than one or two steps beyond the door. He's settled in pretty well, but as a totally indoor cat now -- he's using his litter box for the first time in two years. Without the outdoor exercise, he turns into turbo-cat about 9 pm every night, zooming around the flat at very unsafe speeds, skidding into walls, relocating all the rugs by several feet, and generally attacking any unguarded fingers, toes, or elbows.

With all of this moving in and with a schedule that will have him in Swaziland for eight days and Nyeri, Kenya for three weeks during May and June, Frank decided not to register for any MBA courses this quarter. He only has six courses to do to receive his degree, but it may be January before he can re-enroll. In the meantime, he is adding further refinements to his Mr. Mom skills. With Sandy's travel demands, he and Alison will be batching it a lot. Since Alison has pretty firmly put her foot down about having sandwiches five nights a week when Sandy is gone, both she and Frank will have to be more creative with their menu planning.

Fortunately, Alison still doesn't mind eating beans and weiners often, so that continues to be there as an emergency fall-back menu.

For Alison's 14th birthday, we rented a TV and video for the weekend, then let her and her two girl friends go select videos. Sandy and Frank picked a couple, but the rest were the girls' choices. Friday night, one friend finally went to bed around 4 am, but Alison and the other friend were still going strong when we woke up in the morning. Finally, the other friend conked out completely in front of the TV about 9 am, but Alison never flagged a bit, still going strong at 11 pm on Saturday night, when we finally stood our ground and forced her to go to bed. Anyway, they had a good time overdosing on videos, and from all appearances, the party was a great success.

After much discussion and even more time manipulating figures, we have decided to send Alison to the States for the summer. She will leave on June 28th and fly to Dallas with Pam Bergdall, who is also going home for a family visit. After a few days there, Alison will go to a summer programme at the Residential Learning Centre in Seattle for about four weeks, where among other things, she will participate in a week-long, 200 mile bicycling trip around Puget Sound. She will have a

few days in Mobile, where she will get to see lots of old friends and the rest of the Powell clan. The rest of her time, two weeks or so, she will spend in Texas where her grandmother and grandfather will take her on a trek around Texas. The trek will have to be frequently interrupted by all-important shopping trips, pigging out on such nutritious food as M&M's, Chitos, Fritos, and picante sauce, and of course shopping for "awesome" clothes to bring back to Kenya. She returns to Kenya on 11 August probably 30 pounds overweight, though hopefully all of that will only be due to bulging suitcases, not a bulging waistline. Anyway to say the least, she is very excited, already two months into a day-by-day countdown; we expect the hourly countdown to begin sometime around the middle of May.

While she is gone, Sandy will probably go on the road again and Frank will be working on a couple of contracts with USAID and going to two weeks of class for his last year with Azusa Pacific University.

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FROM CARACAS TO NEW YORK CITY

A letter from
Rob and Mary Work

After a nine year assignment to the Caribbean in Kingston and Caracas, our family has relocated to our native country. We felt that it was an appropriate time for ICA Venezuela to shift to Venezuelan management. We are very pleased that ICA Venezuela has a strong Board of Directors, a strong track record and funding base and that Tony Beltran is the new Executive Director. With the selling of Quinta Los Bosquecillos at over twice what we paid for it, ICA Venezuela will be a debt free institution able to recreate itself within Venezuelan society.

We also felt that it was time for our family to launch the next twenty years of our life and service. We have chosen New York City to begin that process because of the concentration here of cultures, institutions, problems and opportunities. Also, after living 17 years of the past 20 years outside of the USA in Asia and Latin America, we feel at home in this city of immigrants from all over the world. We have an apartment on the Lower East Side of

Manhattan in the ICA's apartment building at 629 E. 5th Street, New York, NY 10009. Our phone number is (212) 260-8366.

Rob is doing research and consulting with the New York City Megacities Project of New York University's Urban Research Center and the ICA. Mary has applied to teach in the New York City Public School System. Both of us are looking into graduate schools. Christopher is finishing the 8th grade here and will go to a Catholic High School next year. Benjamin is completing High School in San Francisco and will go to the University of California at Santa Barbara in the Fall.

We are falling in love with New York City - in all of its glory and pain, the bizarre and the beautiful. When you are in New York, we would love to see you.

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TO CATCH YOU UP ON THE STONER FAMILY

Excerpt from a letter of
Margaret Stoner

Howard is teaching mathematics at Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC) and on school holidays doing testing for Enable Software and getting into network marketing. For his informal times he gardens in our Community Gardens organic plot, and enjoys skiing across country in years we have snow. This year was a good one. He is president of the trustees at church and active therefore in facility maintenance and other church interests. We are Presbyterian.

Nancy is 16 years old and in year 11. She works in a private college after school in a biology lab. She played basketball years 9 and 10, studies very hard, is active in church and youth groups and is in French Club at school. We hosted a young French lady of 14 years for two weeks. Nancy currently has a broken finger gotten as she and Lyle her brother were working out whose turn it was *not* to do Sunday dinner dishes!

Lyle is 19 years old. He works in an autobody shop as a painter and enjoys his current employment very much. He has gone to HVCC a number of semesters but is undecided what he really wants to study. Originally he was in business management. Both he and Nancy are quiet by nature but fun to be with.

I am executive director of Troy Area United Ministries, a combination of urban ministry and council of churches.

ban ministry and council of churches. It has an active board of lay and clergy. By committees they do programs or work in mediation, housing, criminal justice, meals for the homeless, shelter, nursing homes, worship service coordination, campus ministry on two campuses, and ecumenical -interfaith events sponsorship. There is much connecting with community agencies and other ecumenical bodies. I am at all times "stretched". Grant proposal writing and budgets are a significant part of my job.

My father died last July after six weeks in intensive care following surgery. My mother died on our anniversary the day after Thanksgiving. These were not sad deaths, but celebrative of lives well lived. However, the grieving process must happen, so Christmas last year was quiet. I didn't send cards and letters.

MY TRIP TO VENEZUELA

By Jerry (Jeremy) Shaw
(Excerpts from a letter)

I learned about the politics, economics, history and social life of Venezuela.

I traveled around the city by bus and subway. I interviewed people, read the newspaper daily, and got lots of practice using my Spanish. I also learned a lot about the people by watching movies and TV.

There were two other teenage boys in the house where I lived. We played football, baseball and went swimming with some of the Venezuelan kids in Caracas.

I really missed Thanksgiving this year. Turkey was too expensive, but we got ice cream which was good!

At Christmas, the Venezuelan people have a big meal and go to a public place to party. We did have turkey at Christmas. After that, we attended midnight mass at a Roman Catholic Church. After the service, all the people went to the front of the church and kissed the baby Jesus doll. We saw a tree made of lights at Plaza Venezuela.

I went back to the village for one week and learned how the cocoa bean is harvested and produced into chocolate and cocoa products for cosmetics and other things.

When I got back to Bothell, Washington, my teammate and I gave a report to the Residential Learning Center about our trip.

In a few weeks, I will be moving back to live with my family. By June 15, we will be leaving the ICA community and living in a house by ourselves. Our new address will be: 10808 NE 24th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98125.

REFLECTIONS ON LEARNING AND BECOMING

Excerpts from participants in Annual Retreat of Global Order in the West and Southwestern states. Phoenix.

What Have You Learned or Come to Understand over the last Year?

Responses:

- The importance of creating a balance in my life: mind, body, spirit to improve effectivity.
- The 40th year journey in the wilderness is my journey and I'm still at it
- Everything I learn comes from or is filtered through 8000 years of patriarchal dominance
- What you believe is what you do
- 50 years of fulfilled living provides energy for visioning the next 50 years of significant service and engagement of one's life
- One never knows when a 4 by 4 will stop your world
- I can take responsibility for my own health

What are You Becoming or have become over the last year?

- I've grown to love the land
- A more patient and perceptive listener.
- A teacher who becomes teachable
- Pushing for the possible rather than illuminating the limits.
- Becoming aware of the multiple perspective that people operate out of and able to appreciate them.

- I've become a solitary achiever, which has made me a better team member
- More clear about what I really want
- Aware of real possibilities for fourth lifetime career
- Healing the child within (finding my lost child: the destinal, creative self)
- I have learned to rename my vulnerability as sensitivity and affirm it as a gift.

(The Node would be glad to share your reflections on these questions or any others as you reflect back on the year.)

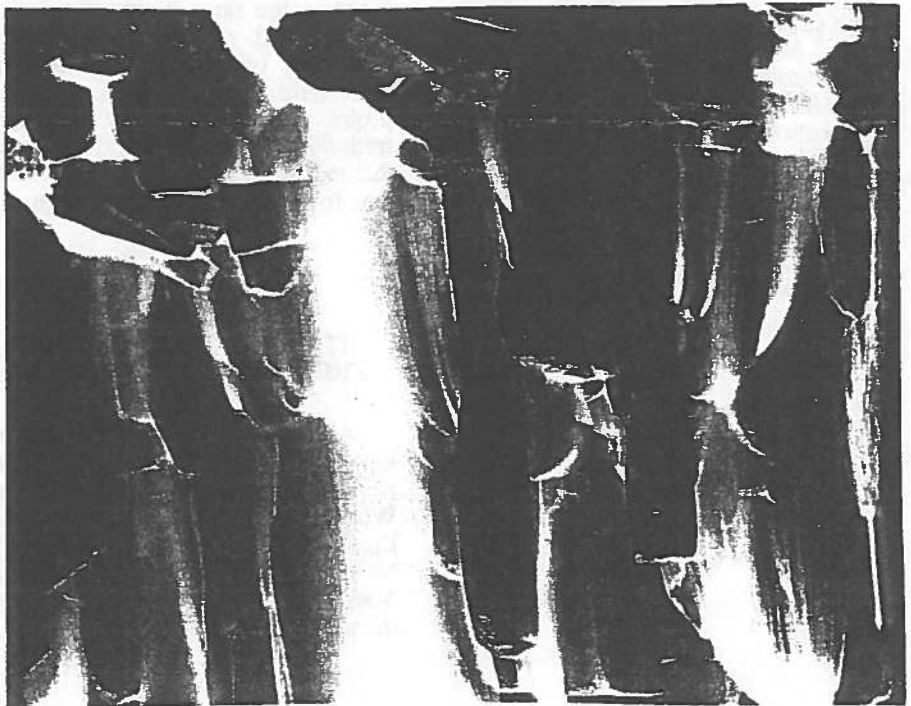
EVENTS

SUMMER THINKTANK ON EARTHWISE LEARNING SERIES

July 26 - August 6, 1990 Chicago

In a ten day event, there will be a premiere of four modules of the Earthwise Learning Series: Making Sense of the World, Personal and Group Creativity, Myth and the Human Journey, and the Learning Enterprise. The first three modules are being created by colleagues across the USA heartland. A group gathered in Cincinnati May 25th to 27th to share the work they had done.

In Phoenix colleagues are gathering June 1-3 and June 29-July 1 to work on the Learning Enterprise Module. All of this work will be piloted in July. If you see yourself involved in the Earthwise Learning Series, please come. If



you can't make any of these dates but want to participate, dialogue with Jim Wiegel in Phoenix about possibilities. The Earthwise Learning modules are also scheduled to be presented at the Taiwan event in November.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ICA CANADA

September 29, 1990
Toronto

All members and friends are invited to the first big annual general meeting in ICA Canada's history. People are being asked to share displays of what they are doing, to witness to how ICA has been helpful to them and to share visions for the future. It will be a time of music, colour, great conversation, good food, and celebration. **Join the Transformation** is the theme for this year. Board members and staff are creating this event together.

OUR COMMON FUTURE in an Environment of Change

Taipei, Taiwan
November 1-11, 1990

The brochure is now out for this global gathering. Get one from Taiwan or a nearby ICA office. A steering committee of 15 ICA staff and colleagues has been formed in Taipei to begin work on the conference. It is confirming presenters and registrations, arranging activities and organizing the logistics for **Our Common Future**. The conference is divided into 3 modules. Module I focuses on the Asian Perspective for the 90s. Module II will have four simultaneous meetings focusing on life learning, global ecology, organizational change and sustainable development. Module III will have a day of cultural excursions and project site visits and two days of ICA International planning. The cost for the conference is \$250 fee and \$250 - \$300 for food and lodging.

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ICA CONTINENTAL NETWORK MEETING

November 30 -
December 2, 1990
New Orleans, Louisiana

The ICA Continental Network Meeting will be held Friday night through Sunday noon at the Dominican Conference Center and at the Loyola Law School next door. There will be a strong beat on current ICA work with innovative education and facilitation. What training, certification, marketing and interchange steps are needed to make what we have available for wider service? Hear reports from the global conference in Taipei.

The cost of \$75 per person will include meals and a great New Orleans celebration with a Cajun band. This amount does not include room. Some accommodations are available with colleagues at no cost. Reserve early! Fine two-person rooms with connecting bath are available at the Conference Center for \$17 per person per night. To register, send \$25 per person with choice of Conference Center room or room with colleagues to Jean Watts, 1629 Pine Street, New Orleans, LA. 70118.

PS. from Jan Ulangca: Last December there was a terrific ICA Network meeting in Pittsburgh, thanks to the hard work of Vance and Beth Engelman and others. People were there from across the U.S. and from Canada. The sharing was phenomenal. Marilyn Crocker, Bob Shropshire, Jean Watts, Mirja Hanson, Beret Griffith and I agreed to work on plans for the next meeting, the same weekend this year. We are just getting our planning in gear. By late summer we will have more information on the program, and probably a one-page flyer with a registration blank. Everyone is welcome at this meeting, and we hope we will have new folks as we did in Pittsburgh.

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THE DIRECTORY MOVES FROM NAIROBI TO DENVER

A year ago Frank and Sandy Powell with the support of colleagues in Nairobi, Kenya started a Directory of Those Who Care. The idea came out of the *Our Common Future* Meeting in Oaxtepec, Mexico. This year George and Ruthe Yost in Denver, Colorado, USA will manage **The Directory**.

In a recent letter to Directory subscribers, Frank and Sandy restated the intent and purpose of the Directory. "The basic intent is to provide the means for the network of Those Who Care to maintain contact with one another. This does not limit subscription in any way to those who are or were once part of the ICA, though that is obviously the mailing list we began with. However, it has already expanded beyond that base, and we sincerely hope it will continue to do so. Staying in touch with one another, or at least having the means to do so, is no longer a simple matter. Many of us are moving frequently as we find the jobs, etc., that will carry us into the future; many are moving into homes that they have decided to purchase. We are still somewhat mobile, but becoming increasingly less so. Keeping track of address and career changes is not easy, but it is critical if life-long relationships are to be maintained. This was our original motivation for launching it.

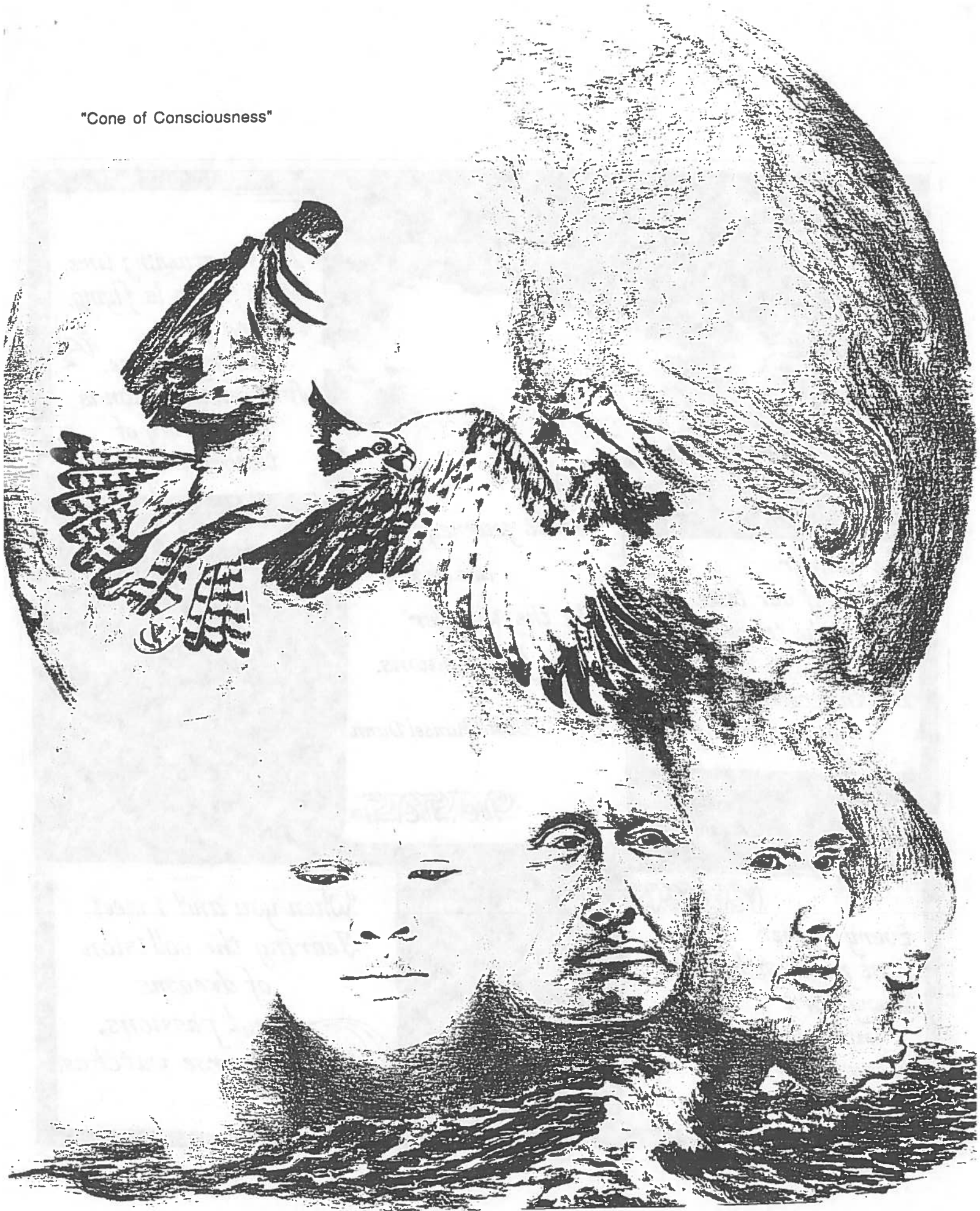
The Directory was not intended to be a newsletter, a magazine, or anything else other than a directory, a very specific publication to meet a very specific need."

Within *The Node* there is a copy of **The Directory Registration Form**. Please use it and share it with friends. Send forms to:

George and Ruthe Yost,
2880 South Locust, N708,
Denver, Co. 80222, USA.

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"Cone of Consciousness"



Ilona Staples



*It is a stunning time,
 When falling is flying,
 Letting go is
 taking charge,
 And anticipation is
 the memory of
 tomorrow's promise*

*The danger
 of our time
 Is not the terror
 of the abyss,
 But the ecstasy
 of the crossing.*

*Great journeys
 are begun
 In the wonder
 of fiery dawns.*

David Mansel Dunn

*Every corner
 is filled with grace,
 Every turn
 with adventure,
 Every vista
 with promise.*

*When you and I meet,
 Fearing the collision
 of dreams
 and passions,
 The universe watches.*

