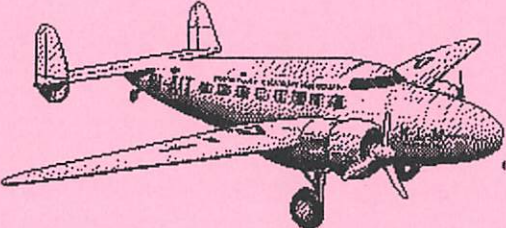
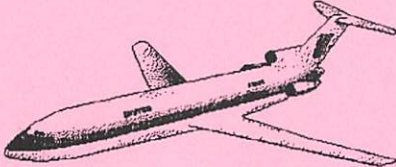


# ICA West Members Meeting 1992

What are major global, social innovations needed as we enter the next century • Where are some of these innovations already appearing • How do we, as individuals and as an organization contribute to and empower these efforts?

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p style="text-align: center;">ARRIVALS</p> 	<p>7:30 BREAKFAST</p> <p>8:30 THINKING GLOBALLY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guest Panel on ICA West's four program strategies</li> <li>- Whole group dialogue</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>12:30 LUNCH</p> <hr/> <p>2:00 ACTING LOCALLY</p>	<p>7:30 BREAKFAST</p> <p>8:30 COMMITTING PERSONALLY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Members Projects Interchange</li> <li>- Member Issues Task Forces</li> <li>- Plenary</li> <li>- Closing Reflection</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>1:00 LUNCH</p>
<p>6:30 BUFFET DINNER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Networking groups on the four program strategies</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">SELECTED MEETINGS</p>
<p>7:00 WELCOME &amp; PLANETARY AUDIT</p>	<p>7:00 SIT-DOWN DINNER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CELEBRATING OUR INNOVATION</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">DEPARTURES</p>
<p>9:30</p>		

## A Royal Performance — Phoenix, January 1992

*“Right now, I feel like I’m at the end of a great old Ecumencial Institute course. It seems like there’s an arrow in my stomach but it feels good!”*

*— Long-time ICA member*

*“I experienced a belonging and a commitment to ICA I didn’t imagine possible.”*

*— Brand new ICA member*

Two reflections, from two very different people, on the second annual **ICA West Members’ Meeting** just concluded in Phoenix. As the details fade, people will remember it as a time of high celebration, like the party after a grand opening night, plus the grand opening night, all in one. Lots of new actors were on stage, bringing freshness and vitality to the performance. But actors and audience kept changing places, as the audience kept changing seats. If ICA ever wanted to become a member-driven organization, it suddenly found it had!

From Salem to New Orleans, Santa Barbara to Santa Fe, over 75 people converged on the ICA Center in Phoenix for the weekend. A welcoming mood was set on Friday night as Jim Wiegel hosted the *Planetary Audit Game*, inviting people to take their places around one of the nine tables and immerse themselves in the life of that particular geo-social continent. Before the evening was over, one whole wall was covered with a kaleidoscopic montage of images portraying the rich diversity of our planet.

By 9:00 am on Saturday morning, there was standing room only in the house. Four panelists had been invited to spark our thinking and expand our imaginations on each of the strategies which guide the work of ICA West:

- Facilitating a New Consensus in Education
- Developing Leadership for a Multicultural Society
- Transforming the Quality of Human Services
- Inspiring the Next Generation of Social Innovators

Board member and community professional, **Anne Doshier**, led off the panel with a passionate presentation on the gaps in human services which are crying out to be filled. As participants were picking themselves up off the floor, **Alan AtKisson**, the 31 year-young editor of *In Context* magazine, cast a spell over the group as he became the living embodiment of his theme, “inspiring the next generation of social innovators.”

Not to be outdone, Denver colleague and winner of the American Math Teacher of The Year award, **OliveAnn Slotta**, used words and visual images to get people inside of some of the innovative educational programs in which she is engaged. Finally, as if to calm spirits and bring people back to earth, Crow tribal member **Lesley Jackson** of the Council of Energy Resource Tribes, reminded the assembly of the need to honor “the sacred” at the center of all things.

A hard act to follow, would be an understatement. To help digest the yeasty stuff of the morning session, people spent the afternoon meeting in groups related to the four strategies. It was a chance to connect the morning's mind-stretching presentations to the everyday situations from which people came to the meeting. Saturday night was a gala affair, with skits and singing late into the night. Alan AtKisson, whose talent with a guitar would put a lot of other singers out of business, scored top points with his very own "Dead Planet Blues."

A strong sense of ritual permeated the entire weekend. Seattle colleague Ted Lew led the gathering in experimenting with Indian mudras and Native American incantations. Our very own "poet laureate", David Dunn, fresh from his trip to Russia and Czechoslovakia, scintillated his audience with some of his image-filled gems. A small group created a dragon myth to encapsulate the experience of the weekend and Phoenix colleague, Ann Stewart, led a closing reflection using readings from Catherine Bateson, accompanied by music from the Celtic harp.

After the curtain was drawn and the theater had emptied, a small group sat down and tried to make sense of it all. Several pearls dropped:

- **The notion of ICA West being a member-driven organization has certainly become more real, but it's also more confusing** because of the passion and depth it is releasing. Should "the staff" be mentors or managers of this new movement?
- **The team of ICA West is real.** For example, Beret Griffith and Sandra True took responsibility for conducting the Advanced Facilitator Training the day following the meeting, while Phoenix colleagues Linda Vogelsong and David Wayne took charge of the discussion on submitting a proposal for "The New American School."
- **The regional identity of ICA is emerging**, with strong representation from New Mexico, New Orleans and southern California.
- **The ICA corporate culture was declared** as one which is open and inviting, where differences are valued, which practices what it preaches and which makes strong use of reflection in all activities. However, we need to find ways of "inducting" new members into this culture.
- **The four strategies of ICA West reflect the cultural dynamics of the social process triangles.** As pictured in the following diagram, *Facilitating a New Consensus in Education* relates to the Common Sense triangle, *Transforming the Quality of Human Services* to the Common Style triangle and *Developing Leadership for a Multicultural Society* to the Common Symbol triangle, which points to the sacred dimension of life. In the center of the larger triangle is *Inspiring the Next Generation of Social Innovators* — those who are committed to carrying out the other three strategies.

Pondering these and other insights from the weekend, questions tend to outnumber answers. But one thing is clear, the movement of spirit is afoot and crying out to be given form. Was there ever a better time for an institute of cultural affairs?

*John Burbidge*

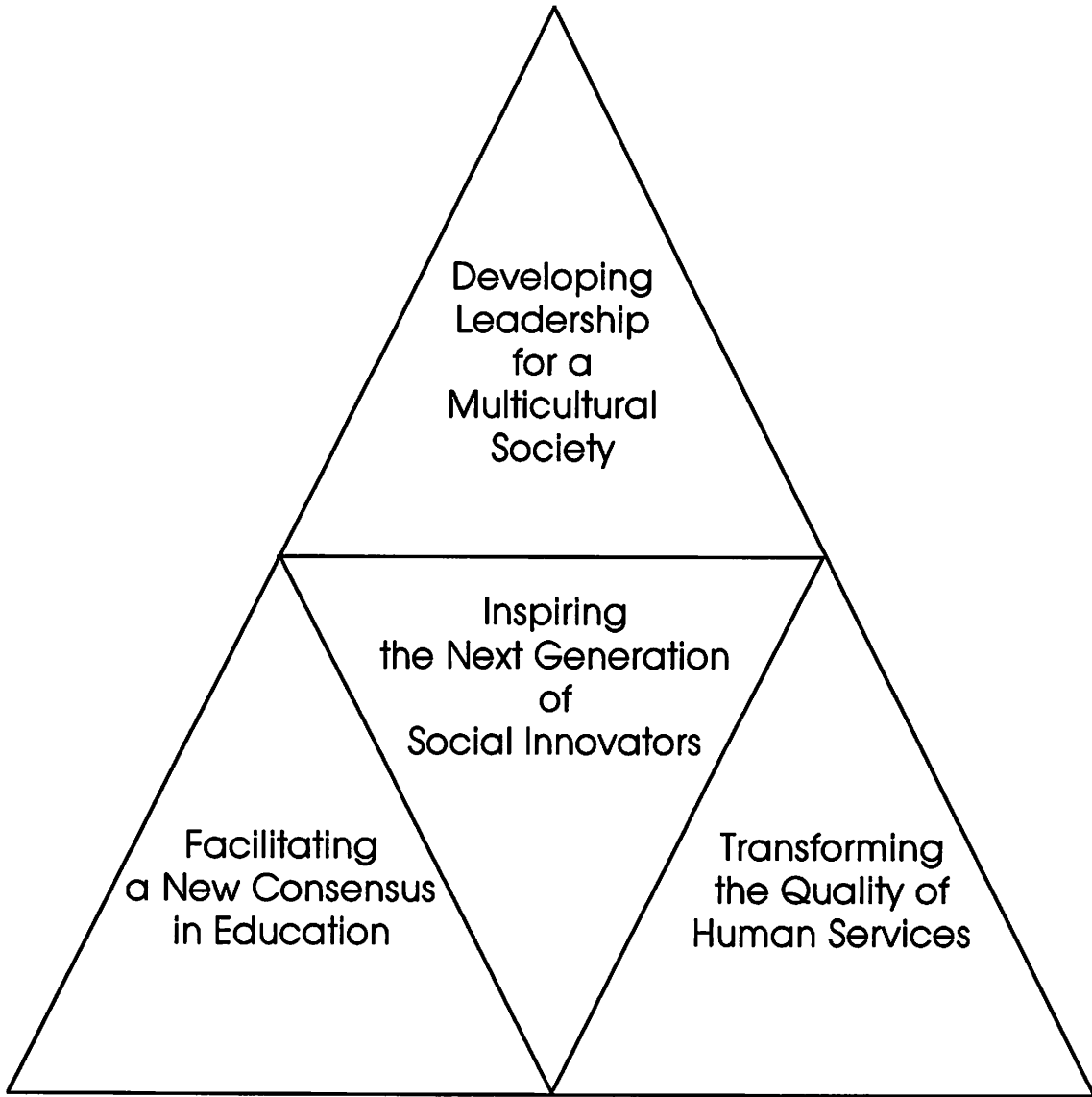
I really believe, I have always believed, that we are doing something important, and I would like to try to communicate to you what that is. In working with ICA, you and I have been sent to corners of this planet that the 'real world' never heard of. This organization is planet wide and global. Never forget globality. It is the answer, in a way, to the whole thing.

It is easy to close out the rest of the world, just save the whales, or spray paint on fur coats, or go about your own personal life. But, with a global perspective, you feel the fellowship you have with everybody and with everything on the planet and that allows a different way of prioritizing problems. There is no one to blame. We are simply responsible because we care. We are a most fortunate people. We owe so much to everyone. Keep the blinders off. See world wide and set priorities from there. Learn not to be overwhelmed.

very rough paraphrase of comments by David Wood former president of the ICA board.

We live in the universe  
We live in the universe  
On the planet Earth  
On the planet Earth  
We look for life in the sky so blue  
And down in the ocean for something new  
Look at the world we have on our hands,  
What shall we do?  
What shall we do?  
-- Fifth City Preschool

*Common Symbol*



*Common Sense*

*Common Style*

## THE DRAGON HAS ASCENDED

**The dragon has ascended.**

In many cultures, the image of the dragon is the image of a balancing of power and continual self-renewing. The dragon, with all of its creative energy, resides in its own deep waters, at the very center of the sacred. It is in embracing the dragon, that we become aware of our own internal power.

**The dragon has ascended.**

To each of you extraordinary people, an invitation is extended to feel the fire of your dragon, to allow the unfolding of your body, and to feel the expanse of your wings and your heart.

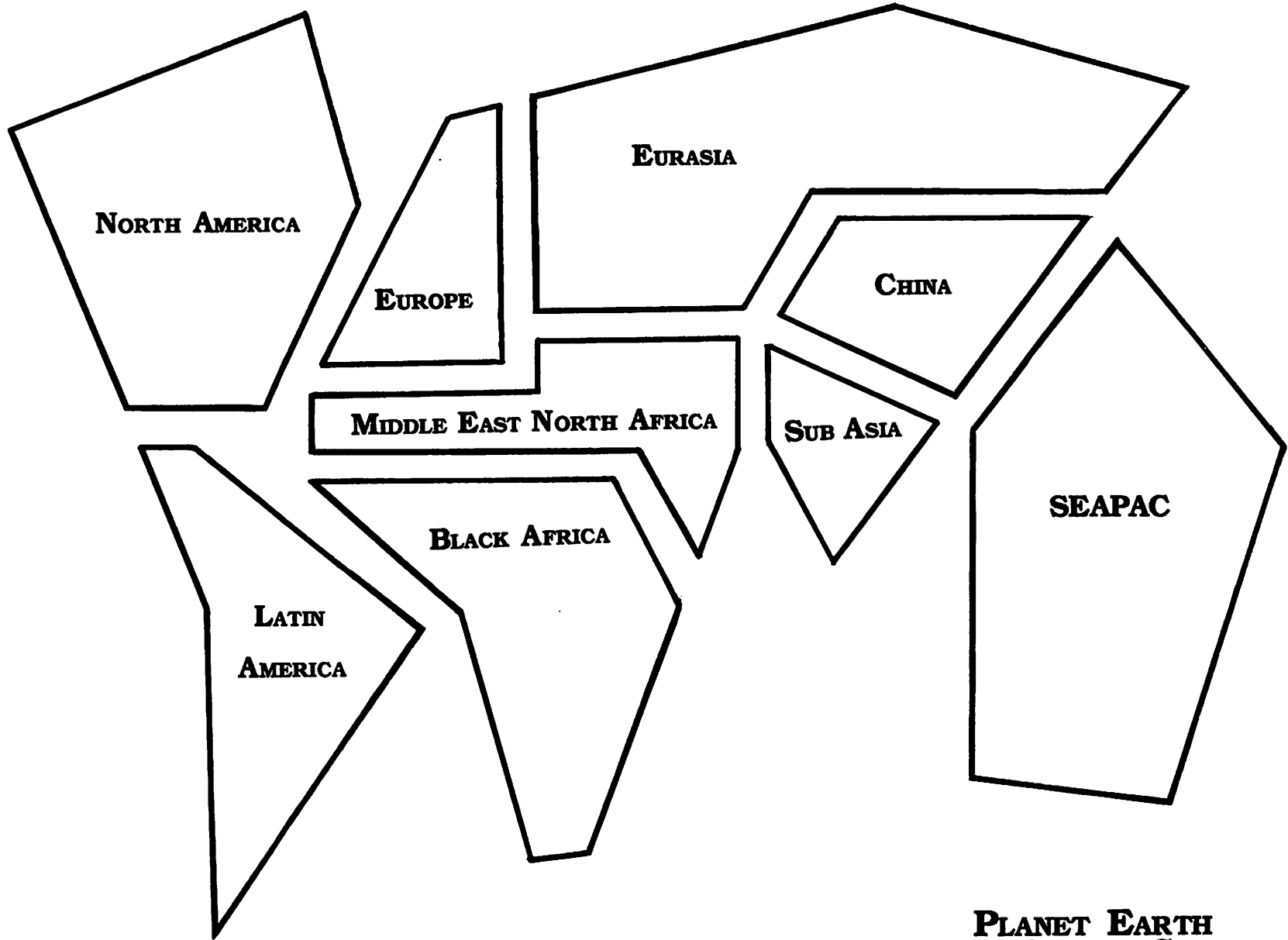
**The dragon has ascended.**

Because the dragon has ascended,  
we know the power of delight,  
we believe that all of life is good  
we believe that the sacred is within  
we believe that we are both creativity and creator

Because the dragon has ascended,  
we gather to sustain community, to reflect, to share, to build and  
experiment with models of participation that tap the depths of humanness and  
release creativity and Spirit  
we build teams of local people whose power is drawn from a synergy of  
their gifts, insights and skills  
we facilitate positive social change through group processes which  
create an environment for consensus, honor the wisdom of each member in  
all its diversity, and which free human communities to transform their  
relationship to their environment.

The dragon is not alone. The dragon unfurls her wings and reaches out to the cosmos around, connecting with spirit. And with each connection, the dragons ascend together, forming an extraordinary association of extraordinary dragons.

**The dragon has ascended.**



**PLANET EARTH  
NINE GEO-SOCIAL CONTINENTS**