



The Village View

October 12, 2022

Marjenta Gray & Joan Valles, Editors

Taking Stock

Marjenta Gray

The fall equinox has come and gone, as has the October “Hunter’s” full moon last Sunday. The days are shorter, and finally cooler, with an apple crispness to the air.

In the Goodenough Community, the summer and early fall guest season is almost over. Such a lot of effort and collaboration went into serving numerous groups who presented their transformational programs on the Sahale land! Read about the work of the many people who served guests and tended to Sahale Facilities in Joan’s report from the Sahale Circle, page 4.

There is electricity as fall activities start up, adjusted to accommodate the transition, but with an intention of reaching out to our other friends and supporters not seen so frequently during the busy summer guest season. The Women’s, Men’s and Third Age groups will be gathering soon, and Pathwork is convening every 2 weeks, with guidance from a new advisory team. The Goodenough Community Board met for the first time in years and celebrated a new President. See the Board Report, page 6. See also Joan’s interview with Kirsten Rohde, page 7, as she steps down from her decades-long reign as GEC President. Thank you for your amazing service, Kirsten!

In August, legacy members participated in an “Alt Lab,” reviewing our 50-year past with John and Colette; the healing learning, as well as manipulation and collusion. That work continues as we move into the season of darkness and Samhain, the Celtic New Year celebration that was the precursor to the modern, commercialized Halloween.

Coming Up—

- **General Circle**, October 17, 7pm
- **Tent Take-down**, October 21-23
- **Women’s Gathering**, October 22, 10am
- **Pathwork**, October 23, 7pm

On-Line News of the Goodenough Community System

www.goodenough.org

American Association for the Furtherance of Community
Convocation: A Church and Ministry / Mandala Resources, Inc.
Sahale Learning Center / The EcoVillage at Sahale

Samhain is a time of honoring those who have passed. It seems fitting to be approaching this time while still grieving Colette. The fire festival of Samhain celebrates the end of the harvest season and the beginning of the quieter, inward-turned winter season. It is a time of taking stock of what went well as we harvest learnings from the past almost-6 months since Colette departed. We are completing a flurry of work before entering a season of reflection and evaluation.

As Mary Shackleford so adroitly states in her poem, *Winnowing*:

“I seek
the true seed to save,
the one that is whole,
strong and necessary,
particular to this time.”

Her last words describe well the work of the season, and the work of the Goodenough Community:

“I select a few strong seeds ...
and let the rest go.”

What seeds will you save this season, tending in the coming cold months? What seeds do you think the community should nurture, to burst forth in the spring? Women’s Gathering spoiler: we’ll be working with these very questions Saturday, October 22.



Winnowing

I enter the darkness of this new moon.
Blood Moon. Hunters Moon.
In my garden the tumult of summer
lies now in a profusion of disarray –
a shambles to most eyes.

Poles collapse
under the grip of
spiraling bean vines.
Spent seeds ooze like tears
from aging yellow eyes
of drooping sunflowers.
Husks of corn and ends
of cob lie castaway amid
torn and broken stalks.
The lone cabbage gapes,
split wide to an exposed heart.

In this Hunters Moon, I do not track
wild animals for my table.
Amidst the chaos of overabundance
and a dying garden, I seek
the true seed to save,
the one that is whole,
strong and necessary,
particular to this time.

For there, amid spent vegetation,
I find the kernels which
I will put aside. Treasure
kept safe through the darkness
in a room that is dry and fallow –
uncluttered with dreams and expectations.

In my overgrown garden
in the new moon
in the growing dark of autumn,
I select a few strong seeds ...
and let the rest go.

Mary G. L. Shackelford

Sahale Circle

It takes all hands to serve the land, the residents, and our guests

Joan Valles

With the hosting this week of ARCC (Americans Rolling Cross Country), a group of young people engaged in gap year learning experiences, the Sahale May to October guest season is coming to a close. Donations from the groups who use Sahale for retreats provide income to help sustain Sahale throughout the year. It takes strong organizational skills and lots of hard work to pull this off.

Elizabeth Jarrett Jefferson is the acting manager of Sahale and is known for her talent for administration. Her spouse, Pam, is recognized as a wizard at organizing, identifying, and working on projects related to the physical plant. As part of guest services, each Sahale resident has a role that befits a need and their particular skill. For example, Draí Schindler cooks and handles kitchen issues. Mike DeAnguera oversees garbage and recycling collection and makes sure the water and hot tubs keep running.

Elizabeth took on the role of acting manager of Sahale when Colette Hoff was ill and died this past spring. Elizabeth contracts with guests and meets to discuss projects with visitors. She's the one to contact about coming or going from Sahale. She directs housekeeping, seeks extra help in the summer, and coordinates the workforce for the week.

Community member volunteers supplement the workforce—for example, Barbara Brucker managed the kitchen services this past summer; Hollis Guill Ryan did a lot of cleaning, laundry, and remaking beds. Some of the work is hired from outside.

Under the Sociocracy system of governance organizational work is done by various circles. All residents of Sahale are in the Sahale Circle and the operations team is what's called a daughter circle of the Sahale Circle. Pam is the operations leader for the Sahale Circle.



Elizabeth & Pam, on a much-needed vacation in Mexico

The operations team meets every Monday at 11 a.m. to let all know what's coming up for the week. "It's a relational circle," Elizabeth says. "We have check-ins, run an agenda, and celebrate accomplishments. This summer we charted and coordinated labor and staff. All of us are doing house cleaning and kitchen work. Everybody knows they are in a supporting role. I feel the team-ness of it."

Elizabeth is beginning to project income for next year. "The guests we have are mostly return clients," she says.

During a time of difficult transition, the May to October guest season has been a success. Thank you all who did the work. We are grateful!

2022 Tent Down

The Goodenough Community Men's Culture is sponsoring the take-down and storage of the large white event tent the weekend of October 21-23, 2022. With many bookings through the summer and early autumn, the tent is an important feature for many guests, as well as our own Community. Norm will convene a Men's Circle Gatherings Friday and Saturday evenings after supper. Please contact Norm Peck (shkwavrydr@aol.com) and Elizabeth Jarret-Jefferson (elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com) with your plans to attend, arrival and departure times. Weather can vary widely; sturdy shoes or boots, gloves and raingear are strongly suggested. Drill-drivers, T-25 Torx bits and ½" combination or ratchet wrenches are also helpful. It is especially helpful to have a good crew on Friday to get a start on dance floor preparation for storage and beginning the tent wall cleaning and folding.

Anyone identifying as He-Him or other pronoun preferences with a significant masculine component are welcome to join the Men's Circle. All are welcome to join us in taking down, cleaning, folding and storing the tent fabric panels, disassembly and storage of the tent frame and dance floor panels, where many hands make lighter work.



It is a longstanding quip that it takes a village to raise a child, and it certainly takes a community to raise and take down an event tent. The 40' x 60' event tent and 40' x 40' dance floor are critical infrastructure at Sahale for community events, weddings and retreats supported by the Goodenough Community. On October 21-23 you are invited to join as part of the crew gathered to take down the event tent for 2021. A suggested donation for each day at Sahale to cover food and upkeep is \$35 per day.

The Men's Program - Our Men's Circle is an expression of brotherhood and practice, with wisdom gathered from our own lives, other men's work, advocates, and the founders of this circle. The Goodenough Men's Culture will be sponsoring and leading an inclusive gathering on October 21, 22 and 23, 2022 for the annual Take-Down of the "Big White Tent" at Sahale. Contact: [Norm Peck](#)



Goodenough Community Board Report

Marjenta Gray

The Goodenough Community Board met on Thursday, October 6, for the first time in years. As a board member and participant, I'd say the meeting was energetic and positive. Kirsten Rohde, as the outgoing President, facilitated most of the meeting, until we officially nominated and elected members to roles. Then, Tom George, the new President, took over. We all appreciated Kirsten's leadership, which was inclusive and gentle, with playful humor interspersed between her teaching from decades of experience and knowledge of finances and board specifics.

We welcomed Norm Peck, the one new member to the board.



Kirsten explained the role and purpose of a non-profit board, and what it means to be a board member. (See the following interview of Kirsten, by Joan Valles).

Kirsten introduced a proposal, which we all approved, to formally change the name of our community to The Goodenough Community, rather than its current impossibly long, mouthful name: The American Association for the Furtherance of Community. (Did you know The Goodenough Community is not the official name?) The name change needs to be voted on by the General Circle, but when it was suggested there several weeks ago, the idea was

greeted with cheers and sighs of relief.

Since the board is closely connected to the organization's finances, responsible for submitting the annual IRS 990s*, Kirsten and Tom, both members of the Economy Circle, gave us an overview of the Economy Circle's recent work. The Goodenough Community's finances are in good shape, after helpful pandemic low-interest loans and a full, profitable guest season. (See Joan's report for the Sahale Operations Team.) The Economy Circle is working with a lawyer to get a mortgage for the property Colette willed to the community. They are also working with Mason County on legal issues.

We nominated and approved the following board member roles:

- Tom George: Board President
- Marjenta Gray: Vice President, Communicator
- Kirsten Rohde: Vice President (and Consultant)
- Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson: Secretary (and Communicator)
- Norm Peck: Treasurer

As with all community leadership roles, we each agreed we would approach our roles with a learning focus. Kirsten assured us all that none of us would be alone in our roles and duties, that there is lots of support for us. We appreciated Tom for taking on a role Kirsten has held for decades and deserves to pass on to another. Colette endorsed Tom's taking on this role before she died, a kind of angel blessing. Norm also was warmly appreciated for taking on some of the responsibilities our beloved,

aging Jim Tocher has faithfully fulfilled for decades. We all expressed some variation of, "It's an honor to serve on the Goodenough Community Board."

The board agreed to meet monthly, and have already scheduled our November meeting.

Kirsten said she wants the board meetings to be fun and connecting, as well as accomplish business. I'd say the October meeting fulfilled that intention.

* Form 990-N (e-Postcard) is an annual notice. Form 990 is **the IRS' primary tool for gathering information about tax-exempt organizations, educating organizations about tax law requirements and promoting compliance**. Organizations also use the Form 990 to share information with the public about their programs.

Thank you, Kirsten

Joan Valles

This month, after more years of service than she can remember (probably since some time in the 1990s), Kirsten Rohde has stepped down as President of the Goodenough Community (American Association for the Furtherance of Community). See Marjenta Gray's report about the new GEC board (pg. 6). Kirsten will remain on the board as vice president and advisor but is relieved of the responsibility of being in charge. We asked her about how she developed the board and her role as president. Then we asked about roles she is continuing and what in her heart she would like to accomplish as a community activist, friend, neighbor, and conservationist.

What has been the purpose of the board and what has been your role in developing it?

A board has the responsibility of being an organization of people in the community. It is required to conduct the legal business of 501/c3 non-profit organization. "At first it was hard to get regular meetings. Every July we had to re-up the 501/c3 status and do 190 tax forms. At times I tried to help with financial reports at annual meetings. I wanted to be sure we were in compliance with the laws.

"I cared about how the community appeared and often represented the community at events. I served



Kirsten, in her natural habitat, the garden

What goals and roles do you have for the future?

"I intend to stay on the Economy Circle. I'm interested in the Communications Circle--how we represent ourselves--and I want to help with that. I'm interested in conservation of the land and working with a land conservancy group that includes property owners along the Tahuya River. I'm interested in a salmon group. And I want to get to know our neighbors.

"I want Sahale to be known as a friend to people ... We're good enough people doing good enough work."

Thank You, Kirsten!



Memorial Trees for John and Colette at Sahale

This week we have the ARCC youth group at Sahale helping out with projects and learning about Sahale, our community and permaculture. These are young people in a “gap year” three- month travel adventure between high school and college. They are a very enthusiastic group, many of them already with skills and knowledge about the environment, conservation and more. Today they helped us plant two Dawn Redwoods in memory of John and Colette Hoff.



We also planted two elderberries gifted to us by the Svaha Community in memory of the Hoffs. Pamela Ware from Svaha joined us and contributed her expertise about tree planting. Draai Turner led a lovely ceremony in the Cedar Grove where we shared some of our history, talking about John and Colette, sharing songs and more. After the planting, in the afternoon everyone helped weed and mulch the previously planted coastal redwoods and sequoias planted all around the far edge of our field. The young people decided to name each tree!



It is an interesting contemplation to know that many years into the future there will be very, very tall trees all around the edge of the field. We all hope and pray that they will find the Pacific Northwest habitable for them.



Drai is providing dinners for the group with help from Mike deAnguera.



Mindful Mike's Blog: Life Cycle

Mike deAnguera

My life's story would occupy a whole book. Since I don't usually journal it's quite probable that the book will never get written. I have tried journaling in the past but all that paper eventually got thrown away. I mean my journals were taking up a box and I only have 170 sq. ft.

Fiction seemed a better deal because then I could make up lives a whole lot more interesting than mine. Also it was a way to make up the kind of people I'd like to encounter.

An article is just a slice of my life and view of the world. Looking at my profile picture in this article I realized I look like Dr. Wes Browning who writes Adventures in Irony for "Real Change." That's Seattle's homeless paper. He lives in public housing. I live in a tiny house on community-owned land. All I had to do was grow a beard.

What do I feel like? Well, I wish I had an intimate partner to share my life with. Why didn't I find one earlier? Well, I felt just like chicks sliding down a chute on a factory farm. I bump into people along the way. Maybe I should get to know them better? That's hard to do when one has just a brief moment as we all go down the chute through life's stages.



This week we have an ARCC group of young people helping us out with all kinds of projects. I love their energy. It's something us older folks no longer have so I envy them.

Here are Alex and Mimi processing our grapes into grape juice. Definitely adds value. They put a lot of love into making the juice.

Julia was also processing elder berries.

We had a bountiful harvest this year. I wish the same was true for the grapes but the raccoons or bears seem to have gotten most of them. They always come at night and unlike us humans they never raise their own

food. Wonder why not?

They just eat what they find and find it very strange to own anything at all. Even the local rodents never grow anything. Maybe they all expect to get fed by us.

Mass production of grape juice is very different from the way we do it. It is all done by machine. Separate machines are used to destem, wash, and sort out the good grapes from the damaged ones. Eventually the grapes are crushed by another machine and then cooked in yet one more machine. All these machines are lined up so the grapes can easily move from one station to the next until the grape juice is eventually bottled or further processed into wine. That requires the addition of yeast. Then the wine ferments in casks in cool cellars.



Would any of the ARCC young people want to work in this kind of industry? They sound idealistic and I think it is better to process fruit by hand than by machine. Processing by machine robs us of the ability to actually connect with the fruit we are processing. Draí Schindler usually sings to the fruits she is picking and processing.

Machines make the processing of anything abstract and can disconnect us from the Earth as a result. I think of the clear cutting of forests by timber companies. Those that do this work simply get a paycheck and have no relationship to the trees.

I am formed by the work I do every day. If I work with machines on an assembly line long enough I will think and act in machine like ways. I will treat other people as simply factors of production. This is how I have lived most of my life.

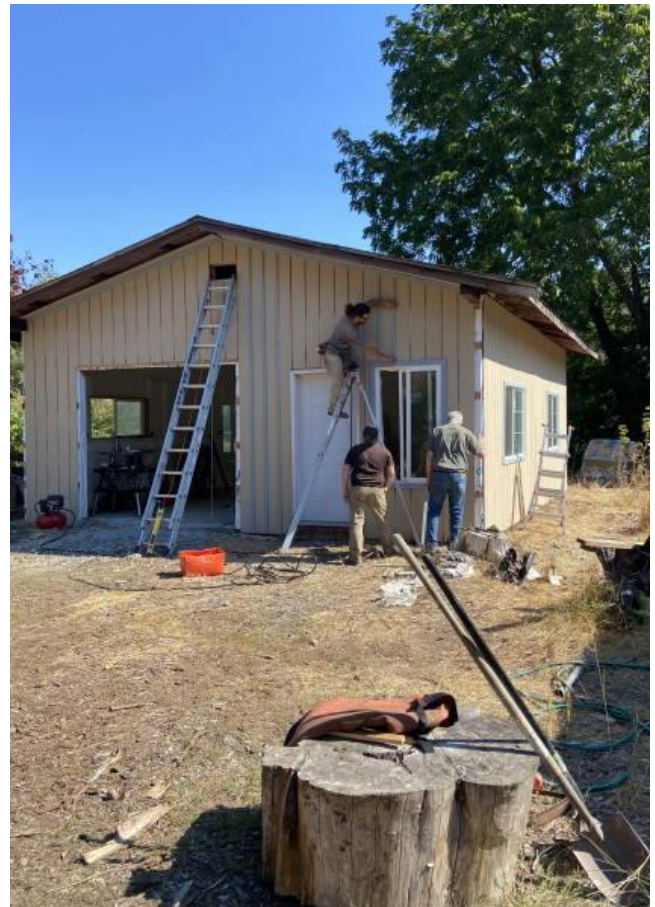
Pamela Ware, a friend of our community from Svaha, taught our ARCC people about planting and singing to our new dawn redwoods. I heard them singing the Cedar Tree song taught to us long ago by Beaver Chief, a Lummi friend.



The Sahale Woodshop is Coming Along!



Josh, Hal and Bruce, working on new woodshop



Programs and Events of the Goodenough Community

Community is about adapting to change, and that has been the case with Covid 19, the pandemic, as we adapted many of our ways to connect, most of which have been held on Zoom. This has enabled people from outside our area to participate in community events. Now we are adapting to change following the death of our co-founder Colette and our need to learn from the past and look toward the future of our community.

Throughout the year we offer programs and events that help you participate in your own development, learn about relating well with others, and help you discover your potential for having a good time in life and with others. As we work through this period of transition, we have limited or changed our offerings, but check this page for the latest information. Information about future programs and events also will be found on our website: www.goodenough.org and in future Village Views.



Human Relations Laboratory, August 2023

This event was cancelled in 2022. Please look forward to Human Relations Laboratory 2023

This intense and joyous week-long event is a communal experience of personal growth and relational development within a rich culture with art, music, dance, song, drama, and more.

Contact: [Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson](#) or [Kirsten Rohde](#)



The Goodenough Community's governing body, the General Circle

Currently meets weekly on Monday evenings, 7 PM on Zoom. Next meeting **Oct. 17**. For additional information, contact [Elizabeth Jarrett- Jefferson](#)



The Women's Program is a long-established and ever-growing way for women to enjoy each other's company, learn about themselves as women, and even perhaps to experience the Divine Feminine. The Women's Program will meet from 10 AM to 1 PM on Saturday, **Oct. 22**, via Zoom. For information, contact [Elizabeth Jarrett- Jefferson](#).



The Third Age - Those aged 60 and older have customarily been gathering every other month, Friday evenings, at 7 PM by Zoom. We are proposing a gathering of Third Agers on Friday, **Nov. 11**. That's Jim Tocher's birthday and the day after our dear Colette's birthday. Contact [Kirsten Rohde](#) for more information.



The Men's Program - Our Men's Circle is an expression of brotherhood and practice, with wisdom gathered from our own lives, other men's work, advocates, and the founders of this circle. The Goodenough Men's Culture will be sponsoring and leading an inclusive gathering on October 21, 22, and 23, 2022, for the annual Take-Down of the "Big White Tent" at Sahale. Contact: [Norm Peck](#)



Pathwork, A Program of Convocation: A Church and Ministry.

Pathwork offers a spiritual home in which to rest and to share your heart and mind as you move through these unpredictable times. Participants come together and find support and encouragement, gaining wisdom from the world's faith and wisdom traditions. All are welcome to join.

Meetings are held via Zoom on alternate Sundays: 7 to 9 PM.

Next meeting: **Oct. 23**. Contact: [Brucker Brucker](#) for Zoom information.



New: Founders Day Celebration This new event is designed to celebrate our shared community life and to honor our founders, John and Colette Hoff. The first Founders Day celebration is scheduled for the weekend of **April 22, 2023**, at Sahale.



Work and Play Parties Throughout the Year. Traditionally, the Goodenough Community sponsors work and play parties over Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends as well as other times to express gratitude for the presence of our beloved retreat center, Sahale, and to experience the satisfaction of playing and working together.

