



Play: To occupy oneself enjoyably

We do not stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing. Anon

Playing All The Time

John I. Hoff

The other day I was driving past a park on Capitol Hill where a fairly large group of young men were playing Frisbee. The energy of their running and the theatrics of their serves and catches grabbed my attention and I pulled over and watched them for over 20 minutes.

They were playing! I knew they were playing because they were liberated to transcend the maneuvers they were doing in favor of the **play**. As they leaped and ran after the disk I had a sense that in play they were freed. This week's Village eView is themed around the idea and the reality of **play**.

Let's get to the point—life is to be played, well-played, collaboratively played, happily played, and more. "Playing" is an invitation for you to become a player and to join into what is happening on the field of play. You can choose the role of being a watcher who gazes. This is the role of observer. The observer appreciates good players and a good game. Yet, the invitation is that we could choose to play the game of life and find happiness in it because of how skilled we have become at living. The observer can only enjoy second hand what the player knows and feels in the game.

And all of this is about you allowing yourself to get into the game of life, play by the rules and discover the transforming satisfactions of playing well with others. Being the parent of children teaches us about this. Being an administrator of a community project is very fulfilling. The fulfillment comes as a payoff for the collaboration accomplished. I thought of this the other day with regard to Kirsten's Rohde's administrating our True Holidays Celebration.

See Ad for a racey red car on page 26!

The Village eView

December 10, 2014

Colette Hoff, Editor

On-Line News of the Goodenough Community System

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

Upcoming events:

Pathwork, Dec14

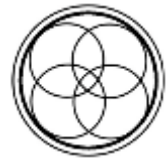
Relationship Group, Dec 16

Winter Solstice Bus Trip Dec 20

Christmas Day dinner at Sahale

New Year's Eve at Sahale

She was a joy to work with and there was an additional sense of mutual learning. Another way we feature play in the Goodenough Community is to perceive many of our events as an opportunity to play. The basic organizational text for our Council and Boards is called the “Game of Goodenough.” We are often helped by seeing organizational problems as opportunities for us to learn together. Would your own personal life be improved if you saw yourself as learning how to relate and learning how to develop yourself at whatever age you are? We are currently studying how to change gracefully as an organization. We have some very large changes to work with and we know that by keeping a learning frame we can be happier in our lives.



The first objective is to get your energy up and you can do it through play. It is one of the most powerful ways of breaking up hopelessness and bringing energy into the situation.

~ O. Carl Simonton

Play is the exultation of the possible. ~Martin Buber

In our play we reveal what kind of people we are. ~Ovid



A story on play from the book, *Healing Words*, by Caren Goldman:

O. Fred Donaldson, Phd is a play specialist whose “work” includes playing with autistic children, street gangs, wolves and grizzly bears. He believes that in early childhood we know, intuitively, that the game of life is there “to be one not won. While discussing the healing power of free, non-competitive play, Donaldson tells a story about a young man in his late thirties born with cerebral palsy:

We were in a ball room when I asked Doug if he would like to get out of his wheelchair and play with me. He answered yes with so much enthusiasm that I thought he might leap out of the wheelchair himself. After advising me how I could help him out of his chair and we both go down on the floor. There, like two boys playing on a lawn, we rolled around, tumbled over, and there resting on the carpet we hugged each other. Later, during dinner, Doug cried when he described his parents’ fear of touching him. He explained that he had always wanted his father, who had recently died, to play with him. “But he never did, Doug said. “No one ever did.”

Many years ago I watched from the beach as my very young children played gleefully in Lake Erie with a friend of mine. All three kept urging me to join them. But whenever I tried to stand up, old messages shouting, “No!” glued me to the ground. I realized for the first time that through most of my childhood my father had forbidden me to go outside to play. In turn, I had always found it difficult to frolic spontaneously with my children. “Never again!” I shouted to

the breaking waves and brushed away my tears and rushed into the water to play with my children and the child in me.

Try this affirmation: *It is never too late to experience the healing power of play.*



Sahale is a place to play!

Irene Perler

One of things I love about being at Sahale is that a lot of play happens here. We often talk about how country living is both hard work and a lot of fun. Living here is more about “PLORK” which is Play + Work. Sure there is a lot of work to do to take care of the retreat center and the facilities and gardens here, but generally speaking it is pleasurable and responsibilities are shared which lightens the load. Smiles and silliness abound, light-hearted approaches to what needs to be done are more evident than somber seriousness. Working together makes light the load as well.



Sahale is the host to many events and the summer camp for children aged 9 to 12 is a week of natural play...play in nature and friendship. Play is most notable when friends come together and get creative and feel free to express their feelings of joy. When friends open their hearts to others, there is much more room for play and inclusion. This kind of playfulness draws out the best in everyone and a relaxing happens where



natural humor emerges. Playfulness happens when people don't judge themselves or others and where all kinds of ideas are welcome. Check out some of the photos from summer camp where small groups found many ways to play and include each other in games, skits and artistic endeavors.

Play and humor often go together and include seeing things in absurd ways. Take this picture of some squashes. I was feeling rather playful when I arranged this squash on the counter and took its picture to highlight its familiar form. It makes me laugh and smile whenever I look at it.



I sure have enjoyed the play that has emerged this summer as interns work together during the days and “hang out” together after hours. Their work is often playful as new ideas are tried out. This year Josh’s hugelkulture project was an example of a playful project always full of surprises and beauty. Many of our garden improvements that had a playful and creative approach to the design process. Having younger friends at Sahale this year has increased the playfulness. In the last month I’ve enjoyed several friends joining together to play music, shoot some hoops down by the greenhouse, kicking around a soccer ball, petting cats and dogs and throwing balls to catch, circling around a fire, doing a crossword puzzle, watching funny video and telling stories of the encounters of the day. I’m very grateful for friends to play with! I look forward to other forms of play over the holidays. I hope some of you will find your way to Sahale over the next month and join in the fun.



Play's the Way

Bruce Perler

This last summer, at Lab 2014, a fabulous musical group, [Sarungano](#), came to visit on Friday afternoon, swept up Dyanne Harshman and took her away for a performance elsewhere after laying down some wonderful, danceable grooves for us.



I love to dance and have since college where I was first turned on to the group form - cutting it up to the [Almighty Dread](#) at the State Street Tavern in downtown Bellingham. Whether its

contra dancing at the Lakecity Community Center or our own True Holiday's celebration or swinging my honey, Irene, at the odd club, I do love to dance. The Goodenoughs and friends seem to love their dancing too. In fact my first encounter of this community was at a New Year's party with live bands made of people there at the event mixing and trading as the band and dancers exchanged and the music morphed. I knew then I'd met some people I could enjoy!

This love of dance is part of the good stuff of community life. There's just something essential about dancing in a group; the ecstatic, chaotic, primal play of it! Us humans really need to play to keep our wholeness in good working order. Sure is true for me.



, Sarungano



ANNOUNCEMENT:

We now have a post box in Tahuya for all organizational correspondence including donations. If you use automatic bill paying, please change the address to: **American Association for the Furtherance of Community, Convocation, or the Goodenough Community**

P.O. Box 312

Tahuya, Washington 98588

Thank You!

Really a good way to start the season: True Holidays

Kirsten Rohde

Saturday night we sure did have fun together! From what I've been hearing, our True Holidays event was a good time for all. We had a great turnout, new and old friends — some we hadn't seen for a couple decades! Some of the new guests that I talked to were very happy to have been there as a first experience for them. My thanks to everyone who came and contributed your goodwill.

From contra dancing to a time for reflection on the holiday season, we offered a unique and valuable experience. I've enjoyed working with our team and the experience and skill in roles made for a good time. As a relative newcomer to the team and certainly as focal for the event I am so appreciative. We are building each year on our positive experiences of years of doing this event. I also appreciate the support shown for our community through participating in the silent auction and cake raffle, as well as all the people who helped out during the evening. We doubled our net income this year which is a big help for the Goodenough Community. Thank you.



See Ad for a hot car on page 26!

Reflections on the True Holiday Celebration, 2014

John L. Hoff

I have been asked to share my reflections of the True Holidays Celebration on December 6. I had a really good time and enjoyed seeing old friends and new. For instance, I enjoyed meeting Kai who attends a Waldorf School and with whom I share Summer Camp at Sahale. I love having my family present each year and it was also wonderful to see my old friend Tim Manion with whom I worked in the late eighties and early nineties. It was good to see Nancy Lanphear although I winced with a sense of loss when I remembered how we had both lost Fred.



I think the True Holidays event offers us all an opportunity to come together in singing and dancing and supporting each other. Kirsten Rohde and her team (Bruce, Marjorie, Elizabeth, Catherine, Irene, Jim, Barbara, Douglas, and Connie as well as many who helped at the event. It takes many hands to pull off an event like this. The evening offers us a chance to intentionally start celebrating the holiday season. I sense people were appreciative for our doing this

and were glad to be a part of a community event



The deAnguera Blog: True Holidays 2014



Contra dancing led by Sherry Nevins. Yee-ha! The spirit of the Old West lives on. In and out. Around and about. I loved the dancing but found I did not have much endurance. Aging a possibility? Noticed a lot of gray heads dancing all the way to the end. Maybe I just need some practice throughout the year? This year's turnout was fantastic. A lot of folks we hadn't seen in a long time showed up including Nancy Lanphear from Songaia Community. She was cheerful as always and the two of us even danced for a few minutes together.

True Holidays allows us all to get into the proper spirit of the Christmas Season and is an antidote to all the commercial Christmas stuff being flung at us. The commercial theme is always, "Buy, buy, buy."

Our theme is about coming together. For me it is a way to prepare for Solstice when the Sun will shine the fewest hours.

The kids sang some great songs for us in the photo at the right. Christmas would never be complete without them.

I am reminded of the festivities taking place in Milpa Alta, a Mexico City borough. The folks there are in full festival mode for a number of weeks prior to Christmas Day. There are almost continuous feasts during that time. The festive mode remains active throughout the whole year with over 700 feasts.

Anybody who has participated in some way can partake of the feasts. The result is a culture where everybody can get a least one meal a day as well as other forms of support. The irony is that Milpa Alta is Mexico City's poorest borough with 50% of the population living below the poverty level. But the local residents don't see themselves as poor.

I would love to live in a festive culture like that of Milpa Alta and our True Holidays Campaign is a step in the right direction. As I reflect on the state of community here in our country as well as around the world, festivals and the sharing of food represent a good way to come together giving each other a positive reason to be together.

John gave each of us a card to help us see how we can have a better Christmas. One of the ideas I finally put down was to buy myself a present. That felt selfish but others told me that's one thing I can do. I think each of us needs to do something for ourselves.

The setting up and taking down of things were just as important as the Campaign itself. Like the setting up and taking down the big white tent for Lab, these are stages in we do some of our best work in coming together supporting each other.

When I think of what can be done to help communities like Ferguson, Missouri and others, one of best tools is festivals and the sharing of food which can lead to other forms of sharing. The more powerful the message of community, the more people will share together.



Some inspiring words by John. Bruce Perler was also a great MC.

Thank you to the Bakers!

Irene Perler

There were four gorgeous desserts created for this year's True Holidays dessert raffle. Only in its second year, the dessert auction was a success with four lucky winners who took home one of these four amazing delights:



- A rich chocolate raspberry truffle cake topped with a mountain of fresh raspberries Crafted by Amie Hoff who is known for her beautiful and delicious cakes
- A flourless chocolate gateau with pistachio crunch and tangerine highlights created by chocolatier and pastry chef Sarah Benner Kenagy
- A timeless Bouche de Noel or Jule Log holiday cake created by Colette Hoff complete with mushroom creams and ridged frosting to look like a log.
- A "humble" but classic apple pie with flaky crust and buttery brown sugar cinnamon sauce created by Irene Perler who was trained by an 95 year old pie expert.

Thank you so much for these generous and creative donations to this year's raffle. I've heard many stories of how these desserts have made it to meetings and parties or savored piece by piece, over several days! YUMMY Congratulations to our winners: Joan Valles, Larry Hoff, Gretchen and Rhiannon Whitlatch and Gordon Hogenson.



Watchcare News: Community Members & Friends

Supporting one of our Mercer Island Households, Can you help?

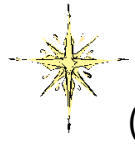
Kirsten Rohde

Hollis Ryan has had knee surgery and is returning home soon. Meanwhile, **Tod Ransdell, staying at the same house**, is doing well in his recovery from a quadruple bypass surgery. So it's a good time to send some good energy to the household and this includes checking in about visits to Tod and later to Hollis as well as some food support. I have agreed to help coordinate this process for our community.

First, Tod: he is happy to take calls or email. Call him to arrange a visit and go for a walk (he is working up to walking 2 miles a day so we can all take our exercise with Tod!): 206 409 9793/todransdell@yahoo.com

We would like to help provide some food for the household and are recommending portions for 2-4 that can be heated or frozen for later. Please contact me if you'd like to offer some meal help and I can let you know about dietary needs.

I will keep us all informed each week. Please contact me with offers to help or questions at 206 719-5364 or krohde14@outlook.com



Christmas Day Open House at Sahale

John Hoff

This fall has been a time of transition and Colette and I are not opening our home in Seattle for some portion of the season. Instead we will be returning to Sahale on Christmas day in the afternoon and **welcome** others to join us there. We will provide food and drink and invite any one coming to bring a dessert or a side dish.

Please RSVP at hoff@goodenough.org. You are welcome to spend the night and join a brunch on Friday morning.



Pathwork - Sunday December 14, 2014

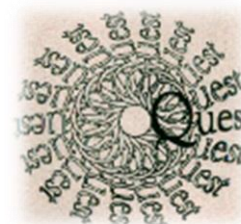
On Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. John and Colette Hoff are providing leadership for a "Pathwork" which is about sharing our own faith journeys and our focus in human development. This week as we move toward Christmas we will celebrate the second Sunday in Advent. It is a process in which we coach each other and elicit insights from those who have done psychological and relational work with themselves. John and Colette Hoff have been asked to provide leadership and to resource us thematically. *John and Colette would welcome meeting with anyone interested in attending.* Email John or Colette at hoff@goodenough.org to RSVP and/or if you are interested in attending. Pathwork will be meeting in West Seattle at the [home of Joan, Phil, Barbara, and Jim at 7723 13th Avenue SW, Seattle 98106.](#)

Pathwork is for those persons who have consciously decided to develop themselves and improve their lives. The group supports each other in doing this. John and Colette have always made sure that this process is offered in our community and we rely on ancient guidelines for human development.

On **Sunday, December 21**, all are welcome to celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent and Solstice. The festivities will begin at **6:30** with snacks and caroling.

Quest: A Counseling and Healing Center

Our belief is that mental and emotional health are prerequisites for spiritual well-being, collaboration, and the expression of compassion. Quest's counseling and education programs, open to all interested individuals, focus on empowering individuals, couples, and family groups to be happier and be more effective in relationships. **Call John (206 963-4738), Colette (206-755 8404).**



Where are you working, you might ask?

Currently, John and Colette are doing home visits and utilizing community homes for individual sessions and group meetings. We are especially appreciative to Pam and Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson and the West Seattle household of Joan, Phil, Jim and Barbara.

Culture in and around Relationship:

Tuesday evening series on relationship

By Pam and Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson

John and Colette Hoff are offering a series on learning-in-relationship that meets Tuesday evenings. This series is open to couples and committed friends who understand that personal growth and learning is exponential when done within the context of relationship. Following is our experience and synopsis of the gathering on Tuesday evening, December 2.

Culture both shapes and is shaped by relationship. Therefore, to manage the influence of culture on your relationship, it's best to know your relationship's inner culture that has been developed by each of the members of your relationship; once that is discerned, you can then choose what you want to let in for the purpose of sustaining and/or growing yourselves in the relationship. It's also true that once you identify and understand your relationship's culture, you can decide how you want to influence the culture for the good of the whole.

John encouraged us to spend 30 minutes in our couple relationships to identify elements of our culture. Pam and I love to talk about culture; it both fascinates and intrigues us. We want to understand what it is, how it's created, and how it shapes us, each and together. Obviously, for us, the most visible example of our relationship's culture can be seen in the expression of the **Swamp**. The Swamp was born of our relationship's culture that wants to have fun, help people relax, offer hospitality, and serve our friends. Over the years, it has become mutually beneficial both to our relationship and to our community.

A story comes to mind to illustrate. Several years ago, Pam and I had a doozy of a fight at lab, and we weren't sure that the other was going to show up at the Swamp that night. We each arrived within minutes of each other because we each knew that "the show had to go on." Already in place was an understanding



between us and the lab community that we were offering to host the Swamp each night. Ours was a social contract of an experience that we would offer---and the lab community wanted---so we had to be there. And while the tension hadn't subsided initially between us, it had by the end of the evening as the environment of our friends having a good time helped us relax and warm up to each other again. In other words, fulfilling our role of being hospitable required us to be warmer and friendlier than we actually felt inside and between us.

That experience certainly raised our awareness about knowing our relationship's impact on our community. We understand that we are visible, that our presence matters, that the energy between us speaks volumes, and we must therefore be intentional about what we demonstrate.

It is a challenge to find the words to describe our relationship's culture, even after we've known each other for so many years. We look forward to next week as we continue to explore the culture in us and around us.



Oh no! – the hot tub is at the end of its life cycle

(but we have the solution)

Thirteen years ago we installed the first hot tub at Sahale—We all have enjoyed this wonderful hot tub – after a day of hard work, for recreation and healing, for good conversation and more. We are pleased to provide hot tubbing to our guests.

*Jim Tocher and Wesley Boone
installing the first tub in 2001.*



Well that hot tub has worn out and we are going to replace it. We need to raise \$5,000 for the next hot tub. If you have appreciated the hot tub or look forward to the new one, you may be some of the early investors in our new hot tub. Some of us have ordered the new hot tub in the faith that **together** we will find a way to pay for it.

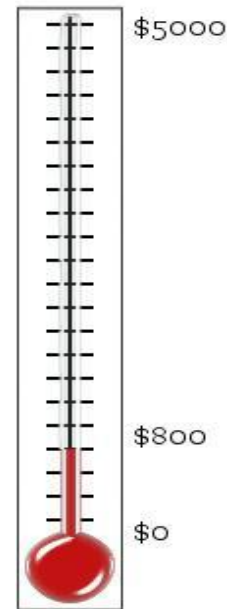
Donations of cash are welcome and checks can be made to The Goodenough Community. Mark your contribution to the New Hot Tub Fund (NHTF). You will notice the thermometer is rising.

Donations of any amount are welcome. Please join us in continuing to provide one of the most valued amenities we provide at Sahale!

The Goodenough Community is part of The American Association for the Furtherance of Community, a 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable corporation.



Max and John christening the new hot tub!



Sirens on a

Shelf: Claudia Fitch at the Greg Kucera Gallery

Nov. 6 through December 24

The Greg Kucera Gallery has announced its [seventh exhibition of sculptures and drawings by Seattle artist Claudia Fitch](#). The show, titled *Sirens on a Shelf*, presents a stylized representation of the artist's own female form cast in ceramics and bronze. Claudia's show runs Nov 6 through December 24.

Hours

Tuesday through Saturday 10:30 - 5:30 Closed Sunday + Monday



Last week, we published a holiday story titled Christmas day in the Morning by Peal Buck. This week, the Gift of the Magi, is included. Editor's note

Gift of the Magi

By O. Henry

One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied. Three times Della counted it. One dollar and eighty- seven cents. And the next day would be Christmas.

There was clearly nothing to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it. Which instigates the moral reflection that life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles, with sniffles predominating.

While the mistress of the home is gradually subsiding from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home. A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad.

In the vestibule below was a letter-box into which no letter would go, and an electric button from which no mortal finger could coax a ring. Also appertaining thereunto was a card bearing the name "Mr. James Dillingham Young."

The "Dillingham" had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, though, they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D. But whenever Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called "Jim" and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young, already introduced to you as Della. Which is all very good.

Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a gray cat walking a gray fence in a gray backyard. Tomorrow would be Christmas Day, and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present. She had been saving every penny she could for months, with this result. Twenty dollars a week doesn't go far. Expenses had been greater than she had calculated. They always are. Only \$1.87 to buy a present for Jim. Her Jim. Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him. Something fine and rare and sterling--something just a little bit near to being worthy of the honor of being owned by Jim.

Continued page

Bit O' Holidays

By Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson



Birthdays

- Russ Pogemiller – December 14. Happy birthday, Russ!
- Tessa James – December 15. Happy birthday, Tessa!

Martha Stewart Holiday Calendar

December 1

Blanch carcass from Thanksgiving turkey. Spray paint gold, turn upside down and use as a sleigh to hold Christmas Cards.

December 2

Have Mormon Tabernacle Choir record outgoing Christmas message for answering machine.

December 3

Using candlewick and handgilded miniature pine cones, fashion cat-o-nine-tails.

December 4

Repaint Sistine Chapel ceiling in ecru, with mocha trim.

December 5

Get new eyeglasses. Grind lenses myself.

December 6

Fax family Christmas newsletter to Pulitzer committee for consideration.

December 7

Debug Windows '08

December 8

Decorate homegrown Christmas tree with scented candles handmade with beeswax from my backyard bee colony.

December 9

Record own Christmas album complete with 4 part harmony and all instrument accompaniment performed by myself. Mail to all my friends and loved ones.

December 10

Align carpets to adjust for curvature of Earth.

December 11

Lay Faberge egg.

December 12

Erect ice skating rink in front yard using spring water I bottled myself. Open for neighborhood children's use. Create festive mood by hand

making snow and playing my Christmas album.

December 13

Collect Dentures. They make excellent pastry cutters, particularly for decorative pie crusts.

December 14

Install plumbing in gingerbread house.

December 15

Replace air in mini-van tires with Glade "holiday scents" in case tires are shot out at mall.

December 17

Child proof the Christmas tree.

December 19

Adjust legs of chairs so each Christmas dinner guest will be same height when sitting at his or her assigned seat.

December 20

Dip sheep and cows in egg whites and roll in confectioner's sugar to add a festive sparkle to the pasture.

December 21

Drain city reservoir; refill with mulled cider, orange slices and cinnamon sticks.

December 22

Float votive candles in toilet tank.

December 23

Seed clouds for white Christmas.

December 24

Do my annual good deed. Go to several stores.

December 25

Bear son. Swaddle. Lay in color coordinated manger scented with homemade potpourri.

December 26

Organize spice racks by genus and phylum.

December 27

Build snowman in exact likeness of God.

December 28

Take Dog house apart. Disinfect. Reassemble.

December 29

Hand sew 365 quilts, each using 365 material squares I weaved myself used to represent the 365 days of the year. Donate to local orphanages.

December 30

Release flock of white doves, each individually decorated with olive branches, to signify desire of world peace.

December 31

New Year's Eve! Give staff their resolutions. Call a friend in each time zone of the world as the clock strikes midnight in that country.



The family of Elizabeth and Pam Jarrett-Jefferson at Elizabeth's mother Memorial Gathering

The Goodenough Community:

Cultural Programs & Events in 2015

For the Goodenough Community, cultural life is an arena for creative expression. All programs and events are open to the public. We welcome your interest and participation.

Over thousands of years human communities have organized not only their work life but also their relational and cultural life. The Goodenough Community organizes its cultural life around encouraging human development—through our programs for men, women, committed couples, families and around age groupings. Cultural programs usually encourage maturity, responsibility, and the development of valued relationships. Some of our programs bring everyone together with a seasonal emphasis. Following, are program offerings for the next period on our calendar.

Programs & Events in 2015

Third Age Gatherings	Women's Culture
The Conscious Couples Network	True Holidays Celebration
Family Enrichment Network	The Winter Solstice Bus Trip
The Men's Culture	New Year's Eve Weekend at Sahale



New Year's Eve Weekend at Sahale!



This year New Year's Eve is on **Wednesday** night. You are invited to come to Sahale for the weekend to bid farewell to 2014 and to greet 2015. You may arrive as early as Friday. We plan to have our usual times in good conversation, winter walks, hot-tubbing, making meals together and celebrating the change of year. **Dinner will be served at 7:30pm** on New Year's Eve. Of course, we will have our **7th annual** Train Dominoes Tournament. Time will also be given for serious reflection and joyful celebration.

Email Kirsten or Elizabeth: krohde14@outlook.com, elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com

Third Age Gathering, Next Meeting Jan 16, 2015

The Third Age group is for older adults, approximately age 60 and older, who are interested in exploring the issues of living well while aging and supporting each other in this "third stage" of life.



The meeting schedule for 2015 is: Fridays, Jan 16; February 27; April 24; Sept 18; October 23; November 20.

We meet at the home of [Phil, Joan, Barbara, and Jim](#) in West Seattle. We start at 6 PM with potluck supper. An RSVP is always helpful – either by phoning us at 206-763-2258 or by emailing me at joanvalles70@yahoo.com

Women's Culture, Upcoming Next Gathering:



In 2015, the women's culture will meet Saturdays; January 17, March 14, September 11, October 24 and November 21. Will have a weekend May 1 to 3. We Mark your calendars! We meet 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

at the home of Rose Buchmeier:
9033 13th Avenue SW
Seattle, WA 98106

For directions, call Rose: 206 764 0193

As is our way, we will gather at 10:00 a.m. for a brief social time before sitting down together. We will have time together in the large circle, as well as time for individual reflection and time to share with one or two other women. And we will provide lunch.

We love it when a woman can attend every gathering throughout the year, and believe that the experience is richer when you can do that. However, **each program is discrete**, and you need not commit to attending every time.

While we do not charge a fee, **we welcome contributions**, and suggest a donation of \$20. We trust that you will contribute what is right for you.

An RSVP is not necessary, but we like to know about how many women to expect, so please write to hollisr@comcast.net if you know you are coming. But don't stay away just because you didn't send an RSVP!

All the best, Hollis



The Conscious Couples Network presents: An Evening for Committed Couples

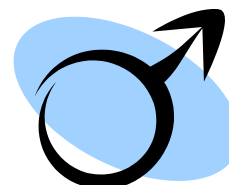
We will explore the joys, challenges, and effective processes for committed relationship and offer the kind of support that can only come from a network of couples. This group will meet at the home of Pam and Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson on Mercer Island.

New dates for 2015: January 23, May 29, Sept 11, October 6 to 9, November 13.
A weekend for couples will be March 6 to 8.

Men's Program

Theme: Friendship among Men

The men of the Goodenough Community will be meeting for a weekend this spring. **May 8 to 10, 2015** is the date suggested for the men's weekend.



Introducing . . .

A Workshop offered by John and Colette Hoff

April 17 to 19, 2015

Saving your Own Soul . . .

Growing your self up . . .

Maturing . . .

This is a weekend for remembering your own journey and your story of trying to develop your self. Each individual will review where they are in their story and in their growth. We will become a supportive circle. Guided meditation on our lives will be a primary method the Hoffs will be using to in leading the workshop and we will practice meditation as a whole group. Small group interaction will also be utilized.

Email hoff@goodenough to express your interest.

Memorial Day Weekend, May 22-25, 2015

at Sahale Learning Center

Join us for a weekend of well-organized work parties balanced with play, wholesome meals, hot tubbing and relaxation. The only charge is a donation for food.

Sahale Summer Camp



June 22 to 28, 2015

<http://www.goodenough.org/camp.htm>

Sahale Summer Camp is entering its 10th season! We invite youth aged 9 to 12 to join us for 6 nights and 7 days of fun living in nature at Sahale Learning Center.

We enjoy a program rich in experiences just right for this age zone. Youth enjoy traditional camping experiences with our tent village set up around a giant campfire pit for evening programs complete with stories, singing, s'mores and friends under a canopy of stars.



We teach skills of outdoor living and provide experiences which help you get to know yourself and have confidence making friends. We also impart a gentle sense of responsibility for caring for each other and the land. We do this through natural activities of taking care of camp and being part of small clans that spend time together each day getting to know each other and working together.

A training program for 13 to 17 year olds is also included and is an excellent opportunity for leadership training. For more information, see [The Junior Staff Training Program](#).

Please contact Irene Perler for more information - 206.419.3477 or irene_perler@hotmail.com.



Mark your calendars for 2015!

Human Relations Laboratory

August 9 to 15, 2015

The best event to experience the Goodenough Community

Seven Fun-filled Days of Social Creativity & Experiential

Learning about Friendship and Effective Relationship

Sahale Learning Center

A 68-acre retreat on the Kitsap Peninsula

Family Enrichment Network Parent Group

If you are interested in developing a supportive parent circle for study and conversation about family life, please contact *Irene Perler* at 206-419-3477 **or email**

irene_perler@hotmail.com. Topics could include simplifying and organizing life, creating a family culture, development stages and sibling dynamics, understanding roles within the family.



The Gift of the Magi, *continued from page 14*

There was a pier-glass between the windows of the room. Perhaps you have seen a pier-glass in an \$8 flat. A very thin and very agile person may, by observing his reflection in a rapid sequence of longitudinal strips, obtain a fairly accurate conception of his looks. Della, being slender, had mastered the art.

Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass. her eyes were shining brilliantly, but her face had lost its color within twenty seconds. Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length.

Now, there were two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride. One was Jim's gold watch that had been his father's and his grandfather's. The other was Della's hair. Had the queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out the window some day to dry just to depreciate Her Majesty's jewels and gifts. Had King Solomon been the janitor, with all his treasures piled up in the basement, Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed, just to see him pluck at his beard from envy.

So now Della's beautiful hair fell about her rippling and shining like a cascade

of brown waters. It reached below her knee and made itself almost a garment for her. And then she did it up again nervously and quickly. Once she faltered for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet.

On went her old brown jacket; on went her old brown hat. With a whirl of skirts and with the brilliant sparkle still in her eyes, she fluttered out the door and down the stairs to the street.

Where she stopped the sign read: "Mne. Sofronie. Hair Goods of All Kinds." One flight up Della ran, and collected herself, panting. Madame, large, too white, chilly, hardly looked the "Sofronie."

"Will you buy my hair?" asked Della.

"I buy hair," said Madame. "Take yer hat off and let's have a sight at the looks of it."

Down rippled the brown cascade.

"Twenty dollars," said Madame, lifting the mass with a practised hand.

"Give it to me quick," said Della.

Oh, and the next two hours tripped by on rosy wings. Forget the hashed metaphor. She was ransacking the stores for Jim's present.

She found it at last. It surely had been made for Jim and no one else. There was no other like it in any of the stores, and she had turned all of them inside out. It was a platinum fob chain simple and chaste in design, properly proclaiming its value by substance alone and not by meretricious ornamentation--as all good things should do. It was even worthy of The Watch. As soon as she saw it she knew that it must be Jim's. It was like him. Quietness and value--the description applied to both. Twenty-one dollars they took from her for it, and she hurried home with the 87 cents. With that chain on his watch Jim might be properly anxious about the time in any company. Grand as the watch was, he sometimes looked at it on the sly on account of the old leather strap that he used in place of a chain.

When Della reached home her intoxication gave way a little to prudence and reason. She got out her curling irons and lighted the gas and went to work repairing the ravages made by generosity added to love. Which is always a tremendous task, dear friends--a mammoth task.

Within forty minutes her head was covered with tiny, close-lying curls that made her look wonderfully like a truant schoolboy. She looked at her reflection in the mirror long, carefully, and critically.

"If Jim doesn't kill me," she said to herself, "before he takes a second look at me, he'll say I look like a Coney Island chorus girl. But what could I do--oh! what could I do with a dollar and eighty- seven cents?"

At 7 o'clock the coffee was made and the frying-pan was on the back of the stove hot and ready to cook the chops.

Jim was never late. Della doubled the fob chain in her hand and sat on the corner of the table near the door that he always entered. Then she heard his step on the stair away down on the first flight, and she turned white for just a moment. She had a habit for saying little silent prayer about the simplest everyday things, and now she whispered: "Please God, make him think I am still pretty."

The door opened and Jim stepped in and closed it. He looked thin and very serious. Poor fellow, he was only twenty-two--and to be burdened with a family! He needed a new overcoat and he was without gloves.

Jim stopped inside the door, as immovable as a setter at the scent of quail. His eyes were fixed upon Della, and there was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her. It was not anger, nor surprise, nor disapproval, nor horror, nor any of the sentiments that she had been prepared for. He simply stared at her fixedly with that peculiar expression on his face.

Della wriggled off the table and went for him.

"Jim, darling," she cried, "don't look at me that way. I had my hair cut off and sold because I couldn't have lived through Christmas without giving you a present. It'll grow out again--you won't mind, will you? I just had to do it. My hair grows awfully fast. Say `Merry Christmas!' Jim, and let's be happy. You don't know what a nice-- what a beautiful, nice gift I've got for you."

"You've cut off your hair?" asked Jim, laboriously, as if he had not arrived at that patent fact yet even after the hardest mental labor.

"Cut it off and sold it," said Della. "Don't you like me just as well, anyhow? I'm me without my hair, ain't I?"

Jim looked about the room curiously.

"You say your hair is gone?" he said, with an air almost of idiocy.

"You needn't look for it," said Della. "It's sold, I tell you--sold and gone, too. It's Christmas Eve, boy. Be good to me, for it went for you. Maybe the hairs of my head were numbered," she went on with sudden serious sweetness, "but

nobody could ever count my love for you. Shall I put the chops on, Jim?"

Out of his trance Jim seemed quickly to wake. He enfolded his Della. For ten seconds let us regard with discreet scrutiny some inconsequential object in the other direction. Eight dollars a week or a million a year--what is the difference? A mathematician or a wit would give you the wrong answer. The magi brought valuable gifts, but that was not among them. This dark assertion will be illuminated later on.

Jim drew a package from his overcoat pocket and threw it upon the table.

"Don't make any mistake, Dell," he said, "about me. I don't think there's anything in the way of a haircut or a shave or a shampoo that could make me like my girl any less. But if you'll unwrap that package you may see why you had me going a while at first."

White fingers and nimble tore at the string and paper. And then an ecstatic scream of joy; and then, alas! a quick feminine change to hysterical tears and wails, necessitating the immediate employment of all the comforting powers of the lord of the flat.

For there lay The Combs--the set of combs, side and back, that Della had worshipped long in a Broadway window. Beautiful combs, pure tortoise shell, with jewelled rims--just the shade to wear in the beautiful vanished hair. They were expensive combs, she knew, and her heart had simply craved and yearned over them without the least hope of possession. And now, they were hers, but the tresses that should have adorned the coveted adornments were gone.

But she hugged them to her bosom, and at length she was able to look up with dim eyes and a smile and say: "My hair grows so fast, Jim!"

And then Della leaped up like a little singed cat and cried, "Oh, oh!"

Jim had not yet seen his beautiful present. She held it out to him eagerly upon her open palm. The dull precious metal seemed to flash with a reflection of her bright and ardent spirit.

"Isn't it a dandy, Jim? I hunted all over town to find it. You'll have to look at the time a hundred times a day now. Give me your watch. I want to see how it looks on it."

Instead of obeying, Jim tumbled down on the couch and put his hands under the back of his head and smiled.

"Dell," said he, "let's put our Christmas presents away and keep 'em a while.

They're too nice to use just at present. I sold the watch to get the money to buy your combs. And now suppose you put the chops on."

The magi, as you know, were wise men--wonderfully wise men--who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents. Being wise, their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of duplication. And here I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these two were the wisest. O all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the magi.

THE END

Classy, Racy 32-year-old Looking for New Digs!



1982 Mazda RX-7, good condition, one owner.

After 3 decades of fun with my sports car, I am ready to part with it. This car is fun to drive, even by very tall people! My 6'3" son is able to drive it with comfort. I've driven it mostly around town, with 2 cross-country trips, so it has low mileage for its age. The car needs some work done, but nothing major, and is in good condition overall. I've treated it with care, so it has had regular tune-ups, check-ups, and oil changes. I am selling it as is, and am asking \$2,000.

Please call: 206 232 7027 and ask for either Hal or Hollis

