



March 30, 2016

Colette Hoff, Editor

Calendar of Events:

Pathwork – Sunday, April 10

Council – Monday, April 11

Relational Group – Tuesday, April 12

Third Age –Friday, April 22

Women 's Weekend - May 13 to 15

A **miracle** is an event not explicable by natural or scientific laws.^[1] Such an event may be attributed to a supernatural being (god or gods), magic, a miracle worker, a saint or a religious leader.

Informally, the word "miracle" is often used to characterize any beneficial event that is statistically unlikely but not contrary to the laws of nature, such as surviving a natural disaster, or simply a "wonderful" occurrence, regardless of likelihood, such as a birth. Other such miracles might be: survival of an illness diagnosed as terminal, escaping a life-threatening situation or 'beating the odds'. Some coincidences may be seen as miracles.
~Wikipedia

As you move through life your hope in miracles, in luck, in happy accidents, in immunity, disappears, along with your dread of the opposite. The miracle is not something that happens to you—it is all around you, and you are embedded in it, moving through it, part of it.
~ Martin Barrett, Parabola, Winter 1997

. . . For whatever reason they occur, miracles are so common in Native American traditions that they are more readily accepted—or even expected—among American Indian nations that perhaps any other peoples in the world. Seeing the world as a place alive with miracles means being aware of the miraculous nature of life itself. The breadth, which carries words, stories, songs, and prayers, is also life itself. When the sacred tobacco is smoked, the breath becomes

The Village eView
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
The EcoVillage at Sahale

visible. As the stories {told in this article, including the White Buffalo Calf Woman story} indicate, when miracles happen, divine favor becomes visible to the people. It is visible and accepted, but not understood. Like the great gift of life itself, miracles remain a part of that which is wakan (among the Lakota means the mysterious, unknowable power of the Universe) the visible breadth of the Great Mystery.

~Joseph Bruchac, Parabola, Winter 1997

There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle.
The other is as though everything is a miracle.
— Albert Einstein

Miracles: Some Reflections from a Conversation with John

John Hoff with Kirsten Rohde

We had a good conversation at Pathwork, Sunday March 20 about miracles. We are in a process of each one of us selecting something to read, and sharing it for discussion on a Sunday night. Some of our reading comes from issues of the journal, *Parabola*. John Hoff chose the issue on miracles and here are some of his answers to our questions:

One of the articles in the journal is about Native Americans and their views on miracles. How did you experience this in your time with natives in the Yukon?

When I spent time with the Indian tribe as a boy, they liked to talk about the day that had just happened and what when on, describing things that they had seen during the day. They seemed to enjoy the small events during a day, and be grateful for them. It could be described as miracles of daily life. I remember taking walking trips with them that could be several days long. They were not sure there would be enough food but then hunting would provide or some of them would bring out small food offerings from their pockets and there would be enough. It could be seen as a miracle that this would always happen.

In my theological training, we were taught to use language that tried to talk me out of God and make God a topic for church not a part of common experiences. This is different than the appreciation of daily life, of the usual things of life that we could see as little miracles.

So are you saying that we limit ourselves if we think the only miracles are spectacular experiences, like are described in religious stories?

Yes, the little miracles that come about in our lives are what we can feel grateful for. Surprises that help us wake up or see our day differently. Miracles are more relevant to daily life if we'll let them describe everyday life. For instance, I think miracles are best thought of as natural and not just supernatural. For instance think of how much a smile from somebody who cares about you can change your mood and attitude.



Think about somebody's asking for forgiveness or saying they're sorry and how that can impact you and soften your own heart. Let these be natural miracles which I think happen every day in most of our relationships.

Each moment of worry, anxiety or stress represents lack of faith in miracles, for they never cease.

— T.F. Hodge, From Within I Rise: Spiritual Triumph Over Death and Conscious Encounters with "The Divine Presence"

Laws, Miracles, and Science, Excerpt Parabola, Winter 1997

Christian Wertenbaker, Parabola,

The term *miracle* has different meanings, all related be partially contradictory. In common usage, a miracle can be simply an unlikely event: "It's a miracle I managed to get here through all the traffic." Less mundane is the phrase "miracles of modern science," the miracle being the result of an understanding and manipulation of the world at levels beyond our natural visual and tactile comprehension. For the religious, a miracle implies an intervention by God or his representatives in which the laws we are subject to are suspended: a miracle must not be explicable by any law of nature.

. . . A view of the miraculous which neither defies logic, nor denies the existence of higher levels to which we can be attuned, is expressed by Gurdjieff:

The manifestations of the laws of one cosmos in another cosmos constitutes what we call a miracle. A miracle is not a breaking of laws, nor is it a phenomenon outside laws. It is a phenomenon which takes place according to the laws of another cosmos. These laws are incomprehensible and unknown to us, and are therefore miraculous.

This definition of the miraculous is worth exploring, because it suggests the possibility of a reconciliation between the scientific and religious approaches to understanding. . . .

What is Miracle?

Colette Hoff

A miracles is . . .

- A beautiful sunny 65 ° day
- Finding property with a cedar grove and walk-in cooler
- The chair of our board buying the property next to Sahale
- A new set of stairs to access the Log Building
- A blooming orchid
- Spawning salmon
- Interns at Sahale
- The right parking place that opens up
- New life in all forms
- What happens at a Human Relations Laboratory
- Home baked bread
- Baby chicks who are about to be released to their new home
- A nap in the afternoon
- Connection
- Grandchildren
- 3610 SW Barton, our new community center
- A group of people enjoying working together
- Life in a supportive community

Pay attention to the miracles in your life and let's share them.



The Miracle of Sahale

Kirsten Rohde

Driving away from Sahale early this morning while it was not yet dawn I saw the Olympics, lit up golden by the rising sun. I started thinking of everything I love about Sahale. Watching the heron whose territory for years has been the stream that runs into the Tahuya River. The eagles who sit on the tallest cedar in the winter. Hearing a song sparrow in the early morning. Seeing vegetables grow up from tiny seedlings until we can harvest and eat them. Deer annoyingly eating our plants but such cute fawns. The surprise of a river otter poking its head up out of the water. Or rare glimpses of a tawny bobcat. Misty sunrises and the reflection of sunsets all along the river valley.

The best part about Sahale is that we are stewards of this place in order for others to also enjoy these experiences and many more. Families, friends, friends of friends, and strangers who heard about Sahale and want to visit: there is always a meal, and perhaps a place to stay over. Children are free to explore the natural surroundings as well as learn about caring for the land. Retreat guests are offered many ways to have the best experience: family reunions, board meetings, weekend and weeklong retreats, weddings, and other events. At Sahale there is an atmosphere of welcome and inclusiveness. Many good conversations happen over dinners and around the “pit-to-go” fireplace outside Potlatch.

Finding Sahale that spring 15 years ago was a miracle. Many Goodenough Community folks had listed out over the previous decade the things that were essential to any property we would buy for our rural extension of community. The property we now call Sahale had these essentials and many more. That first day itself was a brilliant sunny day. By the time Cap, the owner along with his wife Sue, showed us the Tahuya River by taking us through the cedar grove, we were in love.

Now we are in a time of transition as we expand the numbers who are living at and utilizing Sahale. We need to tend to the **upgrades** that will ensure Sahale's vision and mission into the future. Those who visit us from time to time remark on the many positive changes they can see in the work on land, buildings, gardens, and more. Our site planning is based on a balance of human use and protection of the land and other beings living here. Now we have identified a list of essential improvements that are necessary in order for us to continue to offer this quality of space for everyone who uses it. At the annual meeting we had consensus that it is time to make these improvements. Some examples are: to upgrade the white tent (in its last year) with a permanent roof and other changes, to similarly upgrade the Swamp structure so that it doesn't have to be rebuilt from scratch each year, and to outfit Potlatch, our common kitchen, with a commercial hi-speed dishwasher in order to accommodate larger gatherings. In all we have nine structural improvements on our list. A fundraising plan is in process and more information will be shared in the next few weeks. Please contact me to find out more information or to talk about ways you can help. krohde14@outlook.com or 360 275 5117.



Next week's eView theme:
Receiving

*Receiving is a powerful—
and intimate—practice,
for we are actually inviting
another person into ourselves.
Rather than focusing
on our own practice,
or on our own virtue,
we can focus on providing an opportunity
for someone else to develop generosity.
That moment itself is unsullied.
For that reason it is said
that generosity is the discipline
that produces peace.*

*~Judy Lief
(Buddhist teacher, author, and editor of Buddhist texts,
Serves on the Board of Trustees of Naropa University)*

Goodenough Men

Bruce Perler

Twenty of us, age 20 something to 80 something, gathered at Sahale this weekend. We worked and played, hung out and ate well, and most of all shared our hearts and minds towards the purpose of being men learning and maturing together. We were blessed to have John Hoff join us several times; met with good questions, he shared his Elder's perspective on men's work and the real and learned effort it is. He encouraged us to support each other and to build for ourselves a clear valuing of men's ways of growing and passing it forward.

A method of learning we employ is reading a selected book. A friend had mentioned he'd picked up his copy of 'Iron John' by Robert Bly and was provoked and enjoying it. I began reading my copy and mentioned this in an email to some other men friends. By the time of the gathering, several others had begun reading. Through archetypal themes we were able to dig into our own stories, curiosities and developmental markers. "Do you know when you stole the golden key from under your mother's pillow?" asks Bly.

I feel honored to have been present to numerous thoughtful and feeling-full conversations. Our brotherhood was evident and our appreciation of the circle well spoken. Something fine is alive among these men!

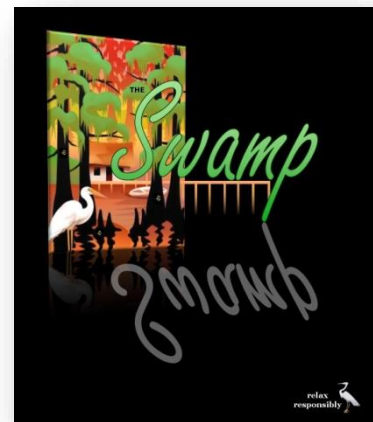
Armfuls of Thanks

Pam & Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson

The tail end of winter was hard on some trees near the Swamp. The kind gentlemen at their recent weekend together helped us by removing a few trees that had been taken down by the wind and rain. One was leaning into the Swamp but got hung up on another tree, causing it to lean as well. After suffering my concern about the trees not crashing into the bar, the men told me that they succeeded at removing the trees without damage whatsoever.

We are especially thankful for the men and their efforts on our collective behalf. Not only did they remove the trees, but they cleaned up the area afterwards. We look forward to seeing their handiwork this weekend!

Again, kind friends, thank you. We hope it was an enjoyable and bonding task!





The deAnguera Blog: Men's Weekend 2016



It is not often a group of men have the courage to get together and be real. Last weekend the Men's Group met at Sahale to do just that. As you can see from these photos we can have fun working together. In fact the work done around Sahale is one of the things bringing us closer together. You should have seen the work we all did! We brought down a large fir tree hanging precariously over the Swamp. We sawed up the logs and carted them off. All the brush including large branches were hauled away. You can see Elias Serras and Joe Buchmeier perched on the back of the Blue Truck as it hauled wood away. Thanks Goodenough men!

I can't imagine men not wanting the support we give to each other. Life can be a pretty rough journey at times. Family life can be stressful. Our men have each other to help sort things out. We can help our young teens become responsible men. I wish I had this kind of mentorship when I was young. The older adults in my life were either parents or teachers. The only interaction they had with me was to order me around. I never got to know my dad, Earl as a friend and mentor. I miss that now and am glad Jim Tocher is willing to be a mentor for me.

Modern American culture says men have to be strong to face life alone. A real man can handle anything like the Lone Ranger and other super heroes. My mother's German wisdom told me to "clench your teeth and endure. Laugh and the world laughs with you. Cry and you cry alone." Men do not cry or express emotion. We have to keep it inside. By contrast our men's circle gives us a chance to show our emotions.

In Native culture men could meet with each other and so could the women. How unlike the isolated nuclear family which often has no other resources. My family didn't even know the neighbors on either side of us when I was young. The nuclear family is forced back on

itself whenever difficulties arise. A husband can't turn to other men. He has to wear a mask. Who can he be real with? The folks at work? Church? I doubt either of these places can offer men the environment they need.

I need a place where I can get help with the soft spots in my life. The tribe is much stronger than the nuclear family. A forest can withstand strong winds but isolated trees can be blown down quite easily.

For me, men joining with other men is nothing less than a miracle. It is a major part of the transition our culture is making. I feel so fortunate to live at such a time as this. We can best experience the transition together.



Now here is a man who knows how to wear his rope. He is John, the partner of Draí, a good friend from Long Dance.



Community News

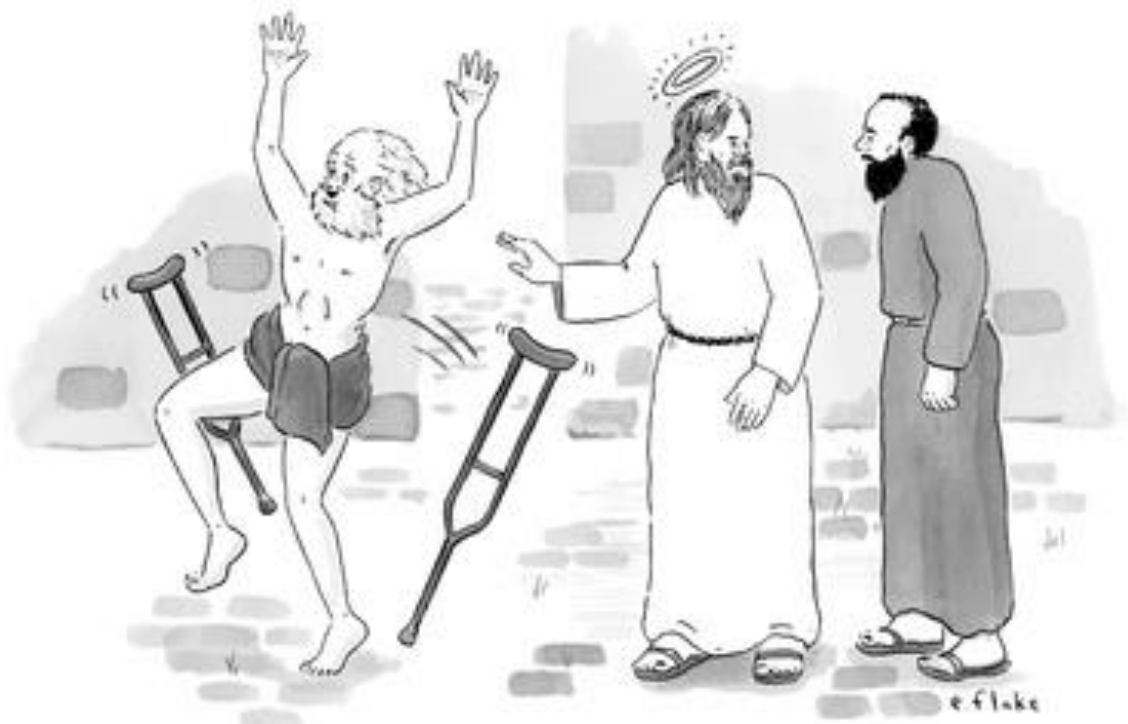
By Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- ☐ **Happy birthday, Chris Harshman! – March 30**
- ☐ **Happy 27th anniversary, Phil & Rose Buchmeier! – April 1**
- ☐ **Happy 50th birthday, Larry Hoff – April 6**
- ☐ **Happy birthday, Bruce Tarlo! – April 6**



shutterstock: 31229804



"Yeah, but good luck getting it peer-reviewed."

Cultural Programs & Events in 2016

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

“Community is a word that captures the fullness and wholeness of humans together.”

■ Colette Hoff

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:

Third Age Gatherings	Women’s Culture
The Men’s Culture	Human Relations laboratory
Family Enrichment Network	Sahale Summer Camp

Third Age Gathering: Next Meeting Friday, April 22, 2016

The next Third Age gathering will be on Friday, April 22, at the Community Center in West Seattle (3610 SW Barton St.). The evening will allow time for conversation and what we'd like for the Third Age culture.

As has become customary, our gathering will start with potluck dinner at 6 p.m. A main dish will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert and beverages of your choice to share. An RSVP to me at this email address or at 206 819 1089 would be helpful.



Goodenough Community Women’s Program Further Along the Path to Freedom

Friday, May 13 – Sunday, May 15, 2016

The women’s program of the Goodenough Community 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.

As a centering point, each gathering builds upon a theme which, this year, is “Further Along the Path to Freedom.” The theme opens up a way for us to look inside ourselves and to share whatever we want our companions to know.

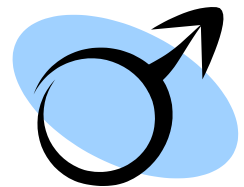
Our weekend in May is at Sahale, the community's retreat center near Belfair, Washington. Accommodations are comfortable, the food is delicious, and the company of women is refreshing, relaxing, and energizing.

Our program will start with dinner from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday evening, and our weekend will formally end at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Cost for the weekend is \$250; limited scholarships are available. To register, please complete the registration form below and return it with a \$50 deposit, or register online at www.goodenough.org/ If you have questions, please call me or send me an email: Hollis Ryan 206 232 7027 hollisr@comcast.net

Men's Program

Theme: Friendship among Men

Men's Program



We're an open gathering of men friends, some old and some new. Have a look at our (slightly outdated) [men's page](#) on the website to know a little more about our culture.

Let me know of your interest: bruce_perler@hotmail.com or 206.419.8361

Memorial Day Weekend, May 27 to 30 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.

Putting Up the White Tent one more time!

On the weekend of Friday June 10 and Saturday June 11 we will put up our Gathering Tent. Mark your calendar!

Sahale Summer Camp for

9 to 12 Year Olds

June 26 to July 2, 2016

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



Sahale Summer Camp is entering its 11th 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.

Human Relations Laboratory

August 7 to 13, 2016

Transformation Happens Here

**Seven days of rich experiential learning and
social creativity within a community**



Sahale Learning Center

Kitsap Peninsula

Register now at www.goodenough.org – space is limited

Useful for marriage, a resource for families, and
a kick in the pants for personal development.



Sponsored by

The Goodenough Community:



The 48th Annual Human Relations Laboratory

An event designed to encourage human development

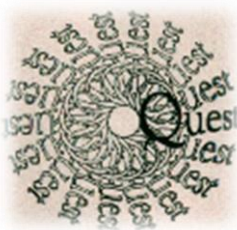
- Inspire your desire to be a better person.
- Facilitate your personal mastery and relational development.
- Practice interpersonal skills and experience community formation.

“Transformative and rejuvenating!” Lab participant, 2015

Enjoy social creativity in play, drama, dance, music, song, and conversation. Each day includes time to explore the magical land of Sahale.

To register: www.goodenough.org

To learn more: (360) 275-3957



Quest: A Counseling and Healing Center

Our belief is that mental and emotional health is a prerequisite 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) or Colette and John at Sahale – 360 275-3957. In Seattle, John and Colette meet with clients at the new community center, 3610 SW Barton Street, Seattle 98106, as well as at Sahale.

About AmazonSmile

The Amazon Smile program – a way to donate to the Goodenough Community

Kirsten Rohde

Several people have commented that figuring out the Smile program is slightly complex. The following is an explanation excerpted from the Amazon site. The short version is to login to Amazon, enter Amazon Smile in the search and then follow directions to select The Goodenough Community. Then when you shop at Amazon enter "smile.amazon.com" in your browser instead of "amazon.com". This takes you to a site on amazon very much the same as usual except your purchase will automatically gain a donation to our community.

Some of us may think, "Hah! This is just a way for Amazon to get us to use their site for our purchases." Well at least I've had that thought. So how I work with this is that I do shop in real local stores first or even on other online sites first. But if after driving to 2-3 stores and not finding what I'm seeking, yes Amazon is an option especially for us rural folks. More gas vs using a BIG company....

I hope this helps. As we've always known, small donations over time do make a difference and this is one way to contribute to our community's overall well-being.



(Go to <https://smile.amazon.com> before placing order)

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

➔For example, select The Goodenough Community**Can I change my charity?**

Yes, you can change your charity any time. Your AmazonSmile purchases after the change count towards your newly selected charity. To change your charity, sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser and simply select "Change your Charity" in "Your Account."

What charities can I choose from?

You can choose from almost one million eligible 501(c)(3) public charitable organizations.

How much of my purchase does Amazon donate?

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, we may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations. Special terms and restrictions may apply. Please see the relevant promotion for complete details.

Can I receive a tax deduction for amounts donated from my purchases on AmazonSmile?

Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you.