

# THE VILLAGE VIEW

January 20, 2021

Colette Hoff, editor



## Upcoming Events, on Zoom:

Women's Program, Saturday, January 23

Pathwork, Sunday, February 14

Third Age, Friday, February 26

## The Beginning Is Near!

Colette Hoff

The word inaugurate *means to begin or introduce something new; to admit formally into public office; mark the beginning.* In a zoom phone call yesterday, Pedge Hopkins shared a quote that caught her, "The Beginning is near," and I am borrowing her phrase. Today is a day of celebration for all it means to have a new President and such a beautiful Vice President. The residents at Sahale were invited to a lovely brunch at Homestead Cabin by Pam and Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson to watch the festivities and celebrate. It was with a great deal of feeling we watched the events of this historic day.

President Biden brings to his office, the belief in relationship, family, and someone who will help heal our country. I was moved by his use of "**American Anthem.**" Written by **Gene Scheer** in the 1990's, it was used in the presidential inaugurations of 1997 and 2001. Most recently, it was preformed at Ruth Bader Ginsberg's funeral in 2020. A lovely version is available on YouTube: Denyce Graves American Anthem by Gene Scheer. The complete lyrics:

*All we've been given by those who came before  
The dream of a nation where freedom would endure  
The work and prayers of centuries have brought us to this day  
What shall be our legacy? What will our children say?*

*Let them say of me I was one who believed  
In sharing the blessings I received*



## 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

*Let me know in my heart when my days are through  
America, America I gave my best to you*

*Each generation from the plains to distant shore  
With the gifts they were given were determined to leave more  
Valiant battles fought together Acts of Conscience fought alone  
These are the seeds from which America has grown*

*Let them say of me I was one who believed  
In sharing the blessings I received  
Let me know in my heart when my days are through  
America, America I gave my best to you*

*For those who think they have nothing to share,  
Who fear in their hearts there is no hero there,  
Know each quiet act of dignity is that which fortifies  
The soul of a nation that never dies.*

It's true, I've been glued to the news a lot lately, but today it all feels very different. We have been reset back to our basic values and natural patriotism. Reminds me of the parades I marched in for the town of Westwood as a Girl Scout.

I want to integrate this sense of patriotism with the challenge presented in the last two issues of the eView which has highlighted the practice of love. Is there a way to express your appreciation of our country with an action? Perhaps a decision to write a supportive letter to a Congressman?

Consider adding the word *love* to some of your text messages or emails. Is there a way to express more gratitude to someone in your life? Do you know someone isolated who needs a phone call? Small acts do make a difference. The beginning is always near as each day provides a chance to begin again!

### **Surrender**

*The true meaning of opening our heart is that we no longer have fear of losing anything.  
It is a form of surrender, yet such surrender has no object.  
It is not like we are surrendering to something .  
What we surrender are our hopes and fears, and an investment in our misery.  
When we have reached the final point of that surrender there is nothing that we want to hold on to.*

~Anam Thubten  
(founder and spiritual advisor of the Dharmata Foundation)

## The Statue of Freedom had a Great View of the Inauguration

She has been standing stoically atop the Capitol building in D.C. since 1863. It is said that "The Goddess of Freedom" (as I like to call her) gets very little press or consideration. We are generally not taught about her in school. It could be said her cousin The Statue of Liberty stole her lime light. The Statue of Freedom is hard to see, she is sooooo high up and she does not communicate a clear visual message... so, many people don't know her. I did not meet her until about a decade ago. She is powerful and I adore her. The story of her becoming is actually very interesting. The statue is criticized for her visual lack of clarity, but when you read the "why," it makes her message even more powerful for the collaboration, intentions and modifications behind how she looks. *"She embodies the three principal figures produced by the new nation."* If you are intrigued, I offer this article for consideration. It is but one of many ways to learn about her: <https://picturinghistory.gc.cuny.edu/thomas-crawford-statue-of-freedom-1855-63/>

With Gratitude for MY/OUR Freedom today & all days. Draí



## January 20<sup>th</sup> 2021 – finally here!

Kirsten Rohde

Today we watched the Inauguration of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris. I remembered how, 4 years ago many of us were already thinking ahead to 2020 which seemed a long time away. Now we are here and while our country's future has many challenges, what a relief to have sane mature people in our national leadership. Who would have thought that just having sanity would be a goal? I tend towards cynicism but right now I think I'll hold to optimism. I also need to reduce my screen news time for my own sanity

I am grateful to have chances to learn from wise teachers some methods to stay in equanimity, not react so quickly, and work on holding a long view that includes a broader concept of what it means to be alive. I want to be a more positive presence and not dwell on every up and down.

All these four years I have found it hard to use the title of President when referencing the now departed prior occupant of the White House. I didn't think he was living up to the title starting with delivering the most chilling inaugural address I had ever heard. Snarky of me but now it feels really good to say thank you, President Biden and Vice President Harris and all the people who have made hope a good thing again.



### **Women's Program, Saturday, January 23, 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m**

It is true that these are uncertain and turbulent times, and they are unsettling. Part of the unease many of us experience is because of isolation and separation from those who give us comfort.

On Saturday, let technology bring us together so we can once again enjoy opening our hearts to one another. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2052074501>

**\*\* Note – this is a new URL for the Saturday meeting \*\***

It would be helpful in our planning for our Zoom gathering if you would send an **RSVP to [elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com)**. As ever, however, please join even if you do not send an RSVP.

If you would like to make a donation toward support of the Goodenough Community and its women's program, please follow this link:

<https://www.goodenough.org/donate>

We are eager to see you on Saturday!

Warmly –

The Women's Team --



Hollis, Elizabeth, Marjenta, Rosemary, Joan, Hollis, and Colette



*Love the animals, love the plants, love everything.  
If you love everything, you will perceive the divine mystery in things.  
Once you perceive it, you will begin to comprehend it better every day.  
And you will come at last to love the whole world  
with an all-embracing love.*

*~Fyodor Dostoyevsky  
(1821-1881, Russian Author)*



**Now we (members and friends of the Goodenough Community) are taking a stand for love and equality over all the expressions of racism and injustice and inequality against Black people. We, as mostly white, will educate ourselves and learn to make a difference. We will continue to speak out about the racial injustice in our country.**

### **Honoring the Radical Evolution of Martin Luther King Jr.**

[PAUL HARVEY](#), Yes Magazine

Martin Luther King Jr. has come to be revered as a hero who led a nonviolent struggle to reform and redeem the United States. His birthday is celebrated as a national holiday. Tributes are paid to him on his death anniversary each April, and his legacy is honored in multiple ways.

But from my perspective as a historian of religion and civil rights, the true radicalism of his thought remains underappreciated. The “civil saint” portrayed nowadays was, by the end of his life, a social and economic radical, who argued forcefully for the necessity of economic justice in the pursuit of racial equality.

Three particular works from 1957 to 1967 illustrate how King’s political thought evolved from a hopeful reformer to a radical critic.

## **King's Support For White Moderates**

For much of the 1950s, King believed that White southern ministers could provide moral leadership. He thought the White racists of the South could be countered by the ministers who took a stand for equality. At the time, his concern with economic justice was a secondary theme in his addresses and political advocacy.

Speaking at Vanderbilt University in 1957, he professed his belief that “there is in the White South more open-minded moderates than appears on the surface.” He urged them to lead the region through its necessary transition to equal treatment for Black citizens. He reassured all that the aim of the movement was not to “defeat or humiliate the White man, but to win his friendship and understanding.”

King had hope for this vision. He had worked with White liberals such as Myles Horton, the leader of a center in Tennessee for training labor and civil rights organizers. King had developed friendships and crucial alliances with White supporters in other parts of the country, as well. His vision was for the fulfillment of basic American ideals of liberty and equality.

## **Letter From Birmingham Jail**

By the early 1960s, at the peak of the civil rights movement, King's views had evolved significantly. In early 1963, King came to Birmingham to lead a campaign for civil rights in a city known for its history of racial violence.

During the Birmingham campaign, in April 1963, he issued a masterful public letter explaining the motivations behind his crusade. It stands in striking contrast with his hopeful 1957 sermon.

His “Letter From a Birmingham Jail” responded to a newspaper advertisement from eight local clergymen urging King to allow the city government to enact gradual changes.

He argued how oppressors never voluntarily gave up freedom to the oppressed.

In a stark change from his earlier views, King devastatingly targeted White moderates willing to settle for “order” over justice. In an oppressive environment, the avoidance of conflict might appear to be “order,” but, in fact, supported the denial of basic citizenship rights, he noted. “We merely bring to the surface the hidden tension that is already alive,” King wrote. He argued how oppressors never voluntarily gave up freedom to the oppressed—it always had to be demanded by “extremists for justice.”

He wrote how he was “gravely disappointed with the White moderate ... who paternalistically believes he can set the timetable for another man's freedom.” They were, he said, a greater enemy to racial justice than were members of the White supremacist groups such as the Ku Klux Klan and other White racist radicals.

## **Call For Economic Justice**

By 1967, King's philosophy emphasized economic justice as essential to equality. And he made clear connections between American violence abroad in Vietnam and American social inequality at home.

Exactly one year before his assassination in Memphis, King stood at one of the best-known pulpits in the nation, at Riverside Church in New York. There, he explained how he had come to connect the struggle for civil rights with the fight for economic justice and the early protests against the Vietnam War.

He proclaimed, "Now it should be incandescently clear that no one who has any concern for the integrity and life of America today can ignore the present war. If America's soul becomes totally poisoned, part of the autopsy must read 'Vietnam.' It can never be saved so long as it destroys the hopes of men the world over."

He remained, to the end, the prophet of nonviolent resistance.

He angered crucial allies. King and President Lyndon Johnson, for example, had been allies in achieving significant legislative victories in 1964 and 1965. Johnson's "Great Society" launched a series of initiatives to address issues of poverty at home. But beginning in 1965, after the Johnson administration increased the number of U.S. troops deployed in Vietnam, King's vision grew radical.

King continued with a searching analysis of what linked poverty and violence both at home and abroad. While he had spoken out before about the effects of colonialism, he now made the connection unmistakably clear. He said, "I speak for those whose land is being laid waste, whose homes are being destroyed, whose culture is being subverted. I speak for the poor in America who are paying the double price of smashed hopes at home, and death and corruption in Vietnam."

King concluded with the famous words on "the fierce urgency of now," by which he emphasized the immediacy of the connection between economic injustice and racial inequality.

## **The Radical King**

King's "I Have a Dream" speech at the March on Washington in August 1963 serves as the touchstone for the annual King holiday. But King's dream ultimately evolved into a call for a fundamental redistribution of economic power and resources. It's why he was in Memphis, supporting a strike by garbage workers, when he was assassinated in April 1968. He remained, to the end, the prophet of nonviolent resistance. But these three key moments in King's life show his evolution over a decade.

This remembering matters more than ever today. Many states are either passing or considering measures that would make it harder for many Americans to exercise their fundamental right to vote. It would roll back the huge gains in rates of political participation by racial minorities made possible by the Voting Rights Act of 1965. At the same time, there is a persistent wealth gap between Blacks and Whites.

Only sustained government attention can address these issues—the point King was stressing later in his life.

King's philosophy stood not just for "opportunity," but for positive measures toward economic equality and political power. Ignoring this understanding betrays the "dream" that is ritually invoked each year.

This article was originally published by The Conversation. It has been edited for YES! Magazine.



### **Mindful Mike's Blog: Inauguration**

*Mike deAnguera*

Today a new President was inaugurated: Joe Biden. We all watched it eagerly on TV at Pam and Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson's house. It came on 8:30AM our time so Pam and Elizabeth fed us breakfast. Scrambled eggs with bacon. Notice how food oriented I am.

No disorder this time although 20,000 troops surrounded the Capitol Building. For once I felt united with Joe Biden and Kamala Harris, something I have not felt in 4 years. The last administration left a bad feeling inside me.

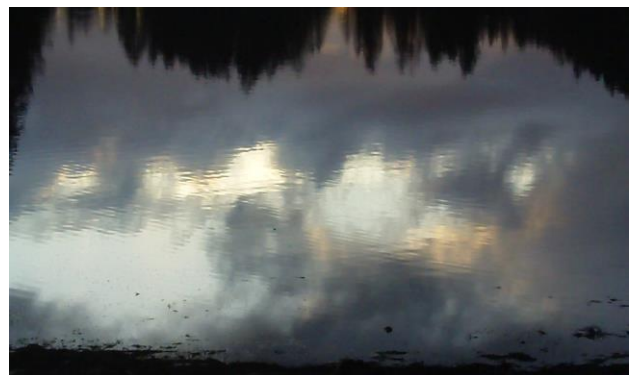
I did not attend Barack Obama's Inauguration because I was living in Bellevue at the time and seldom watched TV. I may have been getting ready to move out of my condo to Sahale.

When Donald Trump was inaugurated I participated in the Women's March. I don't think any of us watched his inauguration. We were all in a state of shock that he could actually win and be President.

Just thinking of 2016 brought back memories of Kathleen Notley, my best friend. She had died that same month. Barack and Michelle Obama met a lot to her. She would be happy to know Barack's Vice President is now President.

What a relief it will be not to have a narcissist for President. It is quite possible he or his minions may be back in the next four years if he doesn't get impeached. TV drama is not the way to run the country.

I have never been a fan of politics. Clear thinking needed to guide the country can get messed up pretty badly. Makes wish we all lived at Walden Two. I think B.F. Skinner was at least partly right.





Here are some nice Thoreauvian scenes. Very restful. On the left I captured some cirrus clouds in our pond. On the right a glorious sunset reflected in Hood Canal. Henry David Thoreau often felt the same way about politics that I do.

All the ugly realities of our foreign policy will confront Joe and Kamala. I pray they will make the right decisions and not get taken in by corporate money.

A story goes that the devil was lying under a tree. So someone went to check it out and found a huge pile of money. The money of course consumed him and lay in wait for its next victim. Could I be that victim? Yes of course. I am not immune. Money worries can leave me on pins and needles.

More Black people are in power than during Barack Obama's 8 years. That makes me very happy. They have had to struggle so hard to succeed in our country.

Of course, I would love to see cities replaced by little villages like ours. For me it is the healthier way to live. I suppose cities have some positive features but living in them can be very isolating. Having a mate can certainly help. But I am satisfied with my community friends. They can be so talented at many things. Here is another picture of Marley Long displaying an amazing talent.



## **Programs and Events of the Goodenough Community**

***Includes dates for Winter 2021***

***Because of our unpredictable times, dates and descriptions shown represent our plans for now.***

**What makes community meaningful and fun?** The richness of life in community comes in many ways – getting together informally over a meal ... celebrating a significant birthday with long- time and new-found friends ... working together in a creative endeavor ... collaborating during a work party ... thinking deeply with others about what it means to be fully alive and connected with ourselves, each other, and Spirit ... and more.

Of course, community is about adapting to change, and that has been the case with the pandemic as we have adapted many of our ways to connecting, many of which are via Zoom.

Throughout the year our intention is to offer programs that help you participate in your own development, learn about relating well with others, and help you discover your potential to have a good time in life and with others.

Information about programs and upcoming events can be found on our website: [www.goodenough.org](http://www.goodenough.org)



**The Goodenough Community's governing body, the General Circle,** meets monthly, 7:00 PM, via Zoom. Below are dates for our winter meetings:

- February 8
- March 1

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. For more information, contact [Hollis Ryan](#). *Our next Zoom gathering will be Saturday, January 23, 10 AM to 1:00 PM.*

*We will publish a zoom link and invitation in advance.*



**The Third Age** - Those age 60 and older have been gathering monthly, Friday evenings. 7:00 PM. With the pandemic, meetings are virtual. The next scheduled meetings are below. Contact [Kirsten Rohde](#) for more information: February 26.

**The Men's Program** - Our Men's Circle is an expression of brotherhood and practice with wisdom, gathered from own lives, other men's work advocates and the founders of this circle. A weekend is planned from June 4 & 5, 2021. Stay tuned for details.



**Pathwork, a Program of Convocation: A Church and Ministry** – Pathwork offers you a spiritual home in which to rest and to share your heart and mind as you move through these unpredictable times. We come together under the leadership of Pastor Colette Hoff and find support and encouragement as we clarify our personal goals and develop the practices we choose for a spirit filled life, gaining wisdom from the world's faith & wisdom traditions. You are welcome to join.

Meetings are held via Zoom on alternate Sundays from 7pm to 9pm. Contact Colette: [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org) for Zoom information.

February 14 and 28  
March 14 and 28

### True Holidays Celebration, Saturday, December 4, 2021



We are planning our 2021 event! Hold this date on your calendar. We traditionally hold this event on Mercer Island. Stay tuned for details.



### Human Relations Laboratory, August 8 to 14, 2021

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. This summer we will celebrate 52 years! Contact: Colette Hoff, [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org)

**Work and Play Parties throughout the Year.** *Traditionally*, the Goodenough Community sponsors work parties over Memorial Day weekend 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. Please email [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org) with questions during these times of the Pandemic.



### Quest: A Counseling and Healing Center



Our belief is that mental and emotional health is a prerequisite for spiritual wellbeing, 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 more effective in relationships. *Call Colette (206-755 8404) if you find you need to talk out your feelings regarding the pandemic crisis.*

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To Register and for Complete Event Info [www.fairycongress.com](http://www.fairycongress.com)