

fructify



The Village eView

March 21, 2018
Colette Hoff, Editor

Coming Up:

Pathwork, March 25

Council, March 26

Women's Weekend, April 13-15 at
Sahale

Annual Membership Meetings,
Monday May 7

Fruc·ti·fy

- make (something) fruitful or productive.
- bear fruit or become productive

Fructify comes from Middle English *fructifien* from Old French *fructifier*. It ultimately derives from Latin *frūctificāre*. It entered English in the late 13th century or early 14th century.

Go Fructify!

Colette Hoff

"Grandpa is like a tree now, moving with the wind and he is everywhere," said granddaughter Lili as we were walking during the Celebration of Life for John Hoff. Lili let me know she understands that her Grandpa was a teacher and his teachings are like seeds spreading all over.

As Elizabeth and I were sorting and preparing for the Potlatch Give Away, we found buttons from the 1987 Human Relations Laboratory with the word *Fructify*. This word is useful to describe John's teachings and his desire for them to be integrated within each individual and

On-Line News of the Goodenough Community System

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then for the teachings to come back out in another form and in the words of the person who did the work of integrating. So many of the messages I have received value John as a Teacher and how he continues to work in their lives and the lives they touch – fructification!

Happy Spring! Spring is an especially good time to pay attention to the bees and their important work. (One-third of our diet is the result of bees.) Irene produced her first honey last week and of course it tasted wonderful and the process of its creation is miraculous.

*For bees, the flower is the fountain of life;
For flowers, the bee is the messenger of love.*

-Kahlil Gibran, poet

This issue is dedicated to the bees and the process of fructification. You will also read about the Celebration of Life, including some of the poetry which was read. Joan put her experience beautifully into words. Kirsten shares about John's connection to a certain tree and Mike also describes his experience. Throughout this issue will be some of the messages I received at John's passing.



Reflections on the Celebration of Life

Joan Valles

What a beautiful, deeply meaningful celebration of John yesterday. One hundred plus celebrants ages less than one year to late 80s; a web of relationships that withstood decades; so much love and appreciation expressed for how John's love, skill, and friendship made lives better; a living example of community which I think John himself would have envisioned. Somewhere in me is gratitude to John (and, of course, to you and his nearest and dearest) for giving us the time and opportunity to learn from his living and dying. With all his health problems he didn't just suddenly leave. And as difficult as that must have been at times for his caregivers and for him, it was, to me, a gift. (Thank you Joan, it was a gift to me as well. CH)

It was an exemplary team effort under your leadership, love, and vision. Thanks to all. Delicious dinner. Valet service. A feeling that there was always someone looking out for me. (Amie was right there, so present -- reminding me of Colette. Larry was the first to greet me.) Beautiful job! Last night at bedtime I read through the program, the words to the songs we all love, and the just-right introductory words about John.

I don't know quite how to describe this, but a feeling of calm was with me throughout the day, from the time I left home. It was the same feeling I had many times when visiting with John in his office--safe, sanctuary, spaciousness apart from the petty cares of life. I could feel the energy of the ground beneath my feet. Walking was easier and less

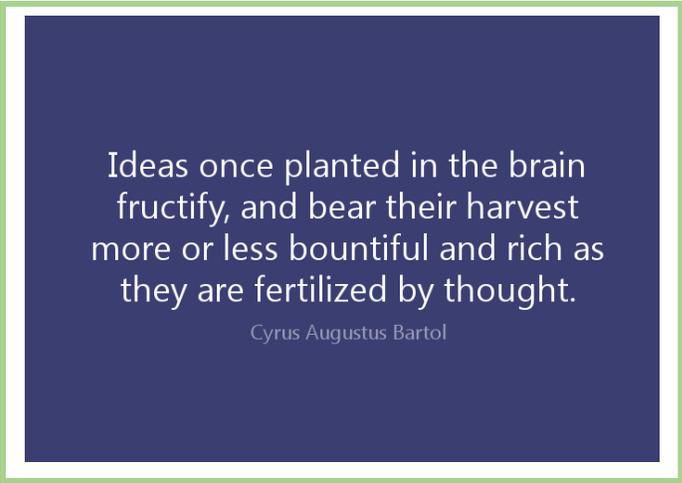
painful. I don't know if it was the spirit of John's presence that I felt throughout the day or the energy of being with a group of good people, or both. It was "non-ordinary" and a feeling of one-ness.

Every night since John passed, I read the dedication to Shantideva's "Guide to the Bodhisattvas way of life" dedicating it to John and to you--because it reminds me of your vision and dedication. It's long, 13 paragraphs; the first and last two:

"May every being in every direction,
Troubled by suffering, body and mind
Experience an ocean of happiness--joy!
Because of my positive deeds...

"May the frightened be fearless,
May the bound be free,
May those oppressed be strong.
May we each from this day on
be kind to one and all!

"For as long as space remains,
And for as long as living beings endure,
May I too remain
To ease the sufferings of the world."



Ideas once planted in the brain
fructify, and bear their harvest
more or less bountiful and rich as
they are fertilized by thought.

Cyrus Augustus Bartol

There is probably not a day that has gone by in the past ten years that I have not thought of the Goodenough Community and my experiences at the center in Seattle or at Sahale. I saw both John and Collette in Columbia City a few years back. My current path in Hillman City (The Black and Tan Hall) has roots in me that reach back deep into those experiences.

With Gratitude

Colette Hoff

Thank you Joan for your reflections of the Celebration. I am also grateful to Pedge Hopkins for leading Sahale residents to prepare the space so well. Thank you to Kirsten, Irene, Hollis, Drai, and Nan for participating in leadership of our ceremony.

John asked me to have George Jameson say some words at his passing as part of his Five Wishes and my heart was full to fulfill John's request so completely. John was instrumental in shaping services around Beaver Chief's passing as well as his mother Marion. I am so pleased that Beaver Chief's son is doing the work of his father as a healer.

Everyone appreciated our valet service, thank you to all who participated and trusted. Pam and Bruce are to be commended on the organization of the process! I am very grateful to Tracy Agar, a friend from the Long Dance community to stepped in asked what she could do and coordinated a very fine meal with the help of Kathy Rado and Phil and Rose Buchmeier who provided the salmon.

Thank you to all who came to celebrate John L. Hoff. I know he was very happy. I especially enjoyed our give away and hearing people talk about what of John's things meant something to them.

I am very grateful for the life I have and the wonderful people surrounding me.

This morning when I went to log in, my photo slideshow was playing and who was staring at me but John in a great picture I have of him looking like his jolly self. And I warmly greeted that photo and thought how glad I was to have it for when John was no longer here. And in no time, that was reality. Strange how spirit works. My heart goes out to all of the many esp the inner circle and Colette. Know we'll come together soon to hug and give our remembrances. So glad I got to see him once last time in November. May John's spirit fly so very high for all the blessings and teachings he gave us.

John Hoff and the Empress Tree

Kirsten Rohde

The celebration of John Hoff on Saturday had many experiences all built into a day of honoring and remembering John. We used four different places on the land at Sahale as locations to honor John, tell stories, and share our thoughts and feelings. With over 100 people present, it was quite a day! Among other things, I was so excited to see some people I hadn't seen for a long time.

One of the four places we visited was the Empress tree just outside the white tent when it is up. We dedicated the tree to John with the story of how he envisioned shady spots for people right near the tent. Originally there were several Empress trees planted, with this one being the survivor. With help from gardeners, the Empress tree was selected as a tree that grows fast and provides ample leafy shade. This is an example of John's capacity to see a space and develop a vision of how it might look with some creative additions. All over Sahale are places that John helped create with his ability to design in his mind what would enhance the beauty and usefulness in integrity with the land. John also listened to many of us who also had visions of what might work somewhere at Sahale and he helped these dreams come true also. Walking around Sahale brings John present as we remember how this spot was created, those terraces built, or this indoor space created. Now in the spring the Empress tree graces us with beautiful very large white blossoms.



Sitting under the tree is a sculpture by Max Fain that he gifted to John recently. Max describes it as a "teddy bear" image of John and this is a great place for this "John bear" to sit.

As we stood by this tree we began our process of sharing with inviting children to share. John's granddaughter, Lili, read a poem she had written to start us off. Thank you Lili.

Readings at the Empress Tree

Read by Barbara Brucker

"This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being thoroughly worn out before you are thrown on the scrap heap; the being a force of Nature instead of a feverish selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy." ~George Bernard Shaw, July 26, 1856 –November 2, 1950

When Death Comes by Mary Oliver

Read by Amie Aylward at the Empress tree and to her father during his last weeks.

When death comes
like the hungry bear in autumn;
when death comes and takes all the bright coins from his purse

to buy me, and snaps the purse shut;
when death comes
like the measles-pox

when death comes

like an iceberg between the shoulder blades,

I want to step through the door full of curiosity, wondering:
what is it going to be like, that cottage of darkness?

And therefore I look upon everything
as a brotherhood and a sisterhood,
and I look upon time as no more than an idea,
and I consider eternity as another possibility,

and I think of each life as a flower, as common
as a field daisy, and as singular,

and each name a comfortable music in the mouth,
tending, as all music does, toward silence,

and each body a lion of courage, and something
precious to the earth.

When it's over, I want to say all my life
I was a bride married to amazement.
I was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms.

When it's over, I don't want to wonder
if I have made of my life something particular, and real.

I don't want to find myself sighing and frightened,
or full of argument.

I don't want to end up simply having visited this world.

John had such a profound impact on many people's lives including my own. He will be missed, and his presence will always be in the hearts of those who loved him.

Dear Colette,
I have been thinking of you since I heard of John's passing. Knowing the community you have built, I know you are being supported well. But it is not easy to lose such a powerful force. I will not be home in time to attend the memorial in March but send prayers from India. Please tell David, Larry, and Amie that I am thinking of them, too, and send my love. Sheila

The Grieving Tree in the meadow at Sahale

It was an honor to take part in John's memorial and celebration of life. At the Grieving Tree, I read this quotation from Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German theologian who was executed for resisting the Nazis. Hollis Guill Ryan

Separation from Those We Love

Nothing can fill the gap when we are away
from those we love, and it would be wrong
to try and find anything. We must simply

hold out and win through. That sounds very
hard at first, but at the same time
it is a great consolation, since leaving
the gap unfilled preserves the bonds between us.
It is nonsense to say that God fills the gap;
he does not fill it, but keeps it empty
so that our communion with another
may be kept alive, even at the cost of pain.
Dietrich Bonhoeffer ; 4 February 1906 – 9 April 1945

At the River

Read by Draï Schindler

Gone From My Sight

Henry Van Dyke 1852-1933

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship, at my side,
spreads her white sails to the moving breeze and starts
for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength.
I stand and watch her until, at length, she hangs like a speck
of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then, someone at my side says, "There, she is gone."

Gone where?

Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast,
hull and spar as she was when she left my side.
And, she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her destined port.
Her diminished size is in me -- not in her.

And, just at the moment when someone says, "There, she is gone,"
there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices
ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!"

And that is dying...

And a reading Draï found from the kabbalah about rivers:

The Four Winds correspond to the Four Rivers that emerged from the single, unnamed river that flowed through the Garden of Eden: River of Simple Unity, River of Fruition, River of the Mouth of Transformation, and River of the Belly Flow (Genesis 2:10–14). In each of our life journeys, we are to follow these rivers, blending our life walk with simplicity, realization, change, and passion. Following these rivers will lead us to the unnamed wellspring of all Being.

The Cedar Grove

Read by Nan Krecker-Scott

Do not stand at my grave and weep
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there. I did not die.

Mary Elizabeth Frye (*13 November, 1905 - 15 September 2004 / Dayton, Ohio*, a Baltimore housewife and florist, best known as the author of the poem "Do not stand at my grave and weep," written in 1932. She was born Mary Elizabeth Clark, and was orphaned at the age of three. In 1927 she married Claud Frye. The identity of the author of the poem was unknown until the late 1990s, when Frye revealed that she had written it. Her claim was later proven by Abigail Van Buren.

On Sunday following the Celebration, George and Fred blessed those present and also sang, The Swan Song. It was a mutually appreciated experience.



The deAnguera Blog: New Birth



Last Saturday over 100 people came to honor John Hoff and his work. His ashes were spread in several places including the Tahuya River.

George, brother of Beaver Chief, and Fred Jameson , Beaver Chief's son and partner Lily, came to pay their respects to John and lead us in drumming in the Cedar Grove. Their presence was a powerful connection to us all. We are all family.

Our connection is through the heart. Imagine a whole world being built through heart connections. That's the way I live now. We are a living demonstration of heartfelt connections being the way to build a life, community, and world.

Thank you John for showing us the way and thank you to the Tlingits up in the Yukon for taking John in and showing him your ways. Otherwise none of us would have been here to honor John.

Our current society only values making money. We all become factors of production and compete with each other. The competitive struggle begins in school as early as kindergarten where we first learn to make good grades. It continues through life as we search for places to employ us. Our hard work enriches those at the top but does not contribute to our security. Good friendships are rare and fleeting.

John Lawrence Hoff showed us another way. We are just beginning to learn what we can do together. I wonder what would happen if all the energy spent competing against each other were used to help each other instead. We can help each of us be the best version of ourselves.

Cooperative living is much easier on the wallet than maintaining individual households. Even housekeeping is easier. I can still see my mother slaving away in the basement of our Magnolia home doing laundry and starching my dad's business shirts. Living in a Seattle neighborhood like Magnolia in my own home no longer interests me. Too much work requiring a lot of money to maintain.

Cooperative living makes possible the social economy. Less resources are required and I have more friends. People actually enjoy cooking and dinner is always available in Potlatch. Having spent a great deal of my life in the market economy, I much prefer the social economy.

Visionaries like John Hoff are needed to help establish the social economy. They can see another way to live and offer it to us. Our social economy always starts with the Human Relations Laboratory. That's where I initially joined in. It was so good I hated to go back home to Bellevue afterwards.

Think about it! I have in addition to my room two houses and an eating area as well as two hot tubs. Looks like the good life to me doesn't it?



Ashley Shields and Lilli Hoff building the social economy through their hula hoop skills.

Goodenough Community Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 7th in Seattle

Kirsten Rohde

Originally scheduled for March 17th, we have rescheduled the community's annual meeting for **Monday May 7th from 6:00 - 9:30 PM** with dinner included. The meeting will be in **West Seattle at the community home, 3610 SW Barton St.**

This year we are having an in-town more brief annual meeting to cover reports and plans for Convocation: A Church and Ministry, The American Association for the Furtherance of Community, and Mandala Resources, Inc. This is a good time for everyone who is able and wishes to attend to come. Our community is entering into a new phase of its life. John Hoff, founder of the community has recently died. Colette Hoff has increasingly been assuming the central organizational role for our community life especially over the last two years. We intend to present an updated role description for her and provide all our support for her willingness to step-up even more. As the cofounder of the community, Colette demonstrates her commitment to community as a healing and activating focus for good lives.

The Community's cultural, financial, and spiritual life will all be brought present at this annual meeting. Sahale is entering into a busy season which include 5 events with a specific focus on community. This includes the Sociocracy workshop in April, a retreat by our sister community, Songaia, and a retreat for the Northwest Intentional Communities Association (June 1 to 3). In the fall two events are scheduled, one of which is the West Coast Communities Conference (Sept. 14 to 16). These are all events that will bring other communities and people interested in community together at Sahale. This will no doubt increase interest in our work as a community.

On May 7th we will also evaluate the program year that concludes with the Human Relations Lab in August and look at the upcoming program year 2018-2019. The Sociocracy workshop will be before this annual meeting and we can use what we learn at the workshop to look at our organizational life and method of governance. Your input on what you would like to see will help us shape our future.

Please RVSP and for more informatio, please contact Kirsten Rohde, krohde14@outlook.com



Pathwork

Our Pathwork Circle will meet again on **March 25**. Due to the nature of the time we are in, all are encouraged to come. Pathwork provides many with a feeling connection so necessary for a good life. We will continue to talk about dying, death, and grieving and the impact on our work with our selves. Please consider coming if you are a little curious.



We meet at the Barton Street community home, 3610 SW Barton, West Seattle from 7-9:30.



You are invited . . .

To join the women of the Goodenough Community's cultural program for the

Women's Weekend, April 13-15, 2018

Come to the Women's Weekend and spend a full weekend celebrating who you are as a woman!

In the company of other women, you will find time for deep and stimulating conversation, a chance to become better acquainted with yourself and with other women, and encouragement to reach a greater connection with your inner source of feminine strength.

This weekend workshop will take place at the **Sahale Learning Center**, near Belfair, Washington. The natural setting of Sahale invites you to periods of relaxation and reflection as well as invigorating activity. Our program will start with **dinner from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday evening, April 13**, and our weekend will formally end at **3 p.m. on Sunday, April 15**.

Please see registration information on the other side.

Please Join Us!



Editor's note: Mike's article from last week is being re-published because he wrote about fructification. We had three sets of workaway friends return and for one couple it was their third time. This is another form of fructify. We are making a difference in the lives of these wonderful young people so eager to learn.



Asley who left Sahale on Sunday arrived safely in Hawaii and is working at a mango farm.



The de Anguera Blog: Bearing Fruit

Editor's note: I mentioned to Mike that soon our word would be *fructify* so this article anticipates that word.



Are we bearing fruit as a community? Yes. People find out about us through Air Bnb and Work-away. Three of our Work-aways returned for a few weeks: Peter, Mattie, and Ashley. Now they are like family.

This week Draï Schindler's daughter Ashley and her son Shane visited and pitched in helping to make a dinner for us. This is their first visit with us.

Two more Work-aways Avi and her friend will soon arrive for a few days.

The butcher that employs John Schindler in Denver will also be paying us a visit.

We are definitely becoming popular. People are finding out about us and liking what they see here. As a result they are telling others about us.

It seems that the Human Relations Laboratory has given us the ability to attract new friends who fit right into our culture. That is success!

As Peter pointed out to us in the upper right photo we could figure out some really cool things for people to do adding to our marketability as a community such as hikes to nearby forests and views. We could also have classes on raising chickens and pruning trees. Each

would have its own set of directions which could be plugged in for any group we host. We could feature such events on the Web.

Raising chickens and pruning our fruit trees is part of food security for us. It will give us something to contribute to the larger community building efforts going on. We need this security because our society's current food production system is not sustainable. Mass production anything is not sustainable. What is desired is production by the masses.

My favorite idea teaching others how to do what we do. Anything worth learning is worth teaching. When I teach what I have learned, the learning goes in deeper and I grow as a person. I am no longer just a passive recipient of material but now can incorporate it into myself.

The more successful we become the more we will value our work and tell others about it. Relationship is so important for it is the key to everything else in our society.

Sahale has allowed us to be a living demonstration of what Lab teaches us. That is what our community has needed. Without it we would not have had the opportunity to show what Lab could do for us. Much of Lab would have remained just a dream enacted one week per year. This is not enough to attract new followers.

Is it possible that religions like Christianity originally started as experimental communities but became centered on a few ideas used to control people's minds? That's what our authorities specialize in. Our authorities use people's spiritual beliefs and create religions out of them to keep us under their thumb.

Our secret is we draw people out so we know how we can work for them. We can bring together people of differing viewpoints so we can appreciate each other.



We can have such a good time at Lake Wheeler and share that good time with our visitors. This is one of the ways we have been fruitful as a community.



Spatialist for Hire

Pam Jefferson

Do you need help with organizing a room for more efficient storage and use of the space? Do you need help sorting and organizing your stuff? I can do all of it for you or just give you some ideas for you to work with. My hourly rate is \$25.00. You can reach me at 206 372 9801.



❖ **Tommy O'Connor** – March 21. Happy birthday Tommy!

NICA Monthly Meetings

We've been having NICA Board Meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month, usually meeting @6:30 PM at Bengal Tiger, an Indian restaurant in the Roosevelt/Grn Lake area of Seattle. We settle in and order food, then start the business meeting at 7:00 PM, and try to wrap up by 8:30.



Communities magazine – Life in Cooperative Culture

I'm writing to request your help spreading the word about our new issue (#178, Spring 2018), "Class, Race, and Privilege." For the first time, we are making the **digital edition available for [download by donation](#)** of any amount (starting at \$0). We are hoping to spread this content--focused on themes of critical importance in today's world--as widely as possible while we experiment with a "gift economy" approach. Please share this news with your friends and networks, however you are able, so that we can expand readership, increase the impact of the magazine and the FIC, and hopefully transition to a new model where expanded donor support for our efforts allows us to offer our resources more freely.

Calendar of Programs and Events, 2017 - 2018

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 newfound friends ... working together in a creative endeavor ... collaborating in 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.

In the Goodenough Community, we recognize such ways to connect as expressions of living life fully and in communities of all kinds. Throughout the year we offer programs that help you participate in your own development, learn about relating well with others, and discover your potential to have a good time in life and with others.

We welcome your interest and your participation, and hope that you will join us at any – or many! – of this year's events. More information about programs and upcoming events can be found on our website: www.goodenough.org



The Third Age: Those of us age 60 and older have been gathering every other month, Friday evenings in Seattle. **Future meetings: June 1.** Contact Kirsten Rohde for more information: krohde14@outlook.com

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. Contact Hollis Guill Ryan for more information and directions to our West Seattle community home: hollisr@comcast.net. Dates: **Saturday 10 – 2 in West Seattle: June 9. Women's Weekend: April 13-15 at Sahale.**



The men's program is an expression of the best wisdom men have gathered from their life together—about what is a good man and how he could best express that in his own life. The fall gathering at Sahale will be combined with the white tent take down and continue into the rest of the **weekend as a men's gathering. October 6-8, June 8-10** at Sahale. Contact Bruce Perler for more information: bruce_perler@hotmail.com



Pathwork, a program of Convocation: A Church and Ministry. On alternate Sunday evenings an interfaith circle of practice meets between 7:00 and 9:30 p.m. under the leadership of Colette Hoff. This is a time to learn together about our personal development, to talk out our chosen practices for the development of a spirit filled life, and to learn the skills of joining with others in service.

Gatherings are at the Community Center in Seattle: Mar 25, Apr 8, 22, May 6, 20, June 3, 17. Contact Colette Hoff for more information: hoff@goodenough.org



Summer Camp for Youth, June 24 – 30, 2018

A wonderful opportunity for children 9 to 12 to have a full camp experience in a beautiful setting with loving leadership.

Contact: Irene Perler, Irene_Perler@hotmail.com

Human Relations Laboratory, August 5 to 11, 2018

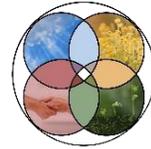
This intense and joyous week-long event is a communal experience of personal growth, and has been presented annually and is now in its 49th year! Contact: Colette Hoff, hoff@goodenough.org



Annual Community Day at Sahale: Monday, May 7, 2018. This gathering is foundational to all programs and events within the community.

Come and be curious! Please contact Kirsten Rohde krohde14@outlook.com for more information.

The Goodenough Community Council meets alternate Monday evenings in Seattle to discuss the day-to-day activities of the community and engage in planning, evaluation, and more. Contact Colette Hoff if you are interested: hoff@goodenough.org
Council meetings are Mar 26, Apr 9, 23, May 7, 21, Jun 4, 18



True Holidays Celebration, Saturday, December 1, 2018

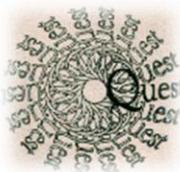
Be part of this fun-filled family-oriented evening, and prepare yourself for the winter season (whatever faith tradition you follow) that fills your heart.

Contact: Kirsten Rohde, krohde14@outlook.com

Work and Play Parties throughout the Year.

Traditionally, the Goodenough Community sponsors work parties over Memorial Day weekend (May 25 – 28, 2018), as well as other times throughout the year, to express gratitude for the presence of our beloved retreat center, Sahale, and to experience the satisfaction of playing and working together.

We often gather at Sahale on the Labor Day weekend to enjoy the end of summer and you are welcome to join. This is also a great time for those who attend the Human Relations Laboratory to reconnect. We will have good meals together, relax, and possibly do some early harvesting of apples or other produce depending on what is ripe. To confirm your plans to come out to Sahale contact: Colette Hoff, hoff@goodenough.org



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 more effective in relationships.

Call Colette (206-755 8404) or at Sahale – 360 275-3957. In Seattle, Colette meets with clients at the community center, 3610 SW Barton Street, Seattle 98106, as well as at Sahale.

It is important to plant the seed of enterprise in the students and when the time is ripe, the seed would root, blossom, and **fructify**.

