



Village eView

October 30, 2019

Colette Hoff, Editor

COMING UP

Women's gathering, November 2

Pathwork, November 3

General Circle, November 4

Meditation Retreat, Nov 15 to 17

True Holidays, December 7

Winnowing



A **friend** is one to whom one can pour out all the contents of one's heart,
chaff and grain together,
knowing that the gentlest of hands will take and sift it,
keeping what is worth keeping, and, with the breath of kindness,
blow the rest away.

~Arabic Proverb

Winnowing is a great word for the fall. Removing the chaff from grain is the primary definition. An additional definition of finding or identifying the valuable part of something can be a powerful metaphor for sorting what is important. Taking stock in the fall to what wants to grow over the dark winter season is a worthy discipline for inner work. Identify what inside wants to sprout in the spring.

This week, Bruce Perler writes about the work of the General Circle which met for an all-day meeting Saturday, October 26 to evaluate our use of Sociocracy as a governance model for our community. We spent time sorting what we value about the Sociocratic model.

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

My good friend, Mary G.L. Shackelford, wrote the following poem that describes the process of winnowing. This poem is one of a collection of poetry Mary self-published and handmade the book.

Winnowing

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

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

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

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

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

--- Mary G.L. Shackelford



**Reminder: Daylight Savings ends Sunday
November 2 at 2:00 AM.**

Set your clocks back!



Sociocracy Adoption – assessing our progress

Bruce Perler

The study group that formed on the weekend of April 27, 2018 has been practicing, debating, discussing and leaning into learning sociocracy while continuing the flow of our lives. In these 19 months since that initiation, we've created a partial, trial, Goodenough specific, implementation. Members of the General Circle include: Kirsten Rohde, Barbara Brucker, Pam Jarrett-Jefferson, Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson, Tom George, Hollis Ryan, Marjenta Gray, Jim Tocher, Bruce Perler, Rose Buchmeier, Pedge Hopkins, and Draí Schindler. We were also joined by Phil Buchmeier.

More simply, we've been learning this new-to-us game by playing it. By now, we've practiced many, but not all, of the aspects of the game and, in my opinion, have persisted with a mix of enthusiasm and skepticism. It's right for us to be skeptical as we've not known another method of governance and decision-making process in our community. I have seen at work and heard stories of groups that attempt consensus-based models and, the tales of these have not been encouraging. Differently, sociocracy using a consent decision-making process with a primary goal of creating equivalency of influence while expediting forward motion. As promised by our trainer, Diana Leaf Christian, we've experienced getting more done and having more fun at it. I wouldn't speak of 'we' this way if I'd not heard those gathered to practice repeatedly appreciate the efficiency and balancing effects of consent decision making and the way it ensures all voices are heard, bias of personal preferences limited, and service on behalf of the vision and mission of our organization effected.

At the all-day meeting of our Sociocracy Study Group this last Saturday, our experience to date was thoughtfully reviewed, both the pros and the cons. We worked to tease apart the gaps in our implementation and practice as different from inherent shortcomings of Sociocracy. If there are any, we've not learned enough to have them be roadblocks. And, as a community based in a founder's initiation, we've made some adaptation of the process, grounded with our trainer, to allow for our actual transition from what has been a primarily hierarchical model to one that is purposely flattened, organizationally and more balanced in its power dynamics.

As a student of Sociocracy and long-time member of this community, I'm satisfied both by our evaluation of our implementing to date and encouraged by the increased sense of ease and

joy with which we manage the work of our community. We'll be looking again at our progress in the spring of 2020 with the goal of completing our trial implementation over this winter. I feel hopeful that our experience will continue to satisfy and encourage us and look forward to sharing more with the broader circle of members and friends of this community at our **annual meeting** in the early spring of the coming year. I hope to see many of you there and am eager to share more personally what we've been learning.



Women's Culture

Hollis Ryan

Our next women's gathering will be on Saturday, November 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., followed by a baby shower at 3:00 p.m. for Brittany Pettit, who is expecting a baby boy at the end of November. Congratulations to Hal and Hollis too!

As is usual, we will mingle over coffee before settling in for conversation, laughter, introspection, movement, companionship. We'll serve a light lunch toward the end of our time together.

I hope you will plan to attend! Let me know whether you intend to come. RSVP hollisr@comcast.net



Third Age, November 8

Kirsten Rohde and Joan Valles

Our next Third Age gathering is now scheduled for Friday, Nov. 8. As is customary, we will be meeting at the home of Barbara, Jim, and Joan in Tukwila starting around 6 p.m. with a potluck dinner and conversation. A main dish will be provided and we suggest that you bring a side dish and a beverage of your choice to share. It's will have been a long time since we've met, so we'll have lots to talk about!



CONVOCAATION: A Church & Ministry Invites YOU!

Quiet Your Mind, Open Your Heart A Meditation Retreat

NOV 15-17, 2019

Sahale Learning Center



[This picture was taken by Al Brown, a recent guest.]

**This retreat will help you build or renew
your own personal mindfulness practice.**

**Being fully present to life... opening to and allowing what
is, without judgment... This is mindfulness. And the central
practice for achieving mindfulness is meditation.**

WHAT. Unique to this retreat is the long-established sponsoring interfaith community which is dedicated to enhancing personal development and spiritual awareness through the mindful practice of relationship. You will be supported and encouraged by the community's open and inviting ambience.

During this retreat, which is thoughtfully designed for experienced seekers as well as for novices, you will be encouraged to try a variety of forms of meditation:

- 🌿 Periods of silence when you can become centered in yourself
- 🌿 Experiences of heart-opening connections with others
- 🌿 Conversations where you can share your experience, ask questions, and learn from others
- 🌿 Skillfully led guided meditations, sensory experiences, chakra toning, and movement, with time in the natural world.

WHO. Your central leader is Colette Hoff, M.Ed., a pastor of Convocation: A Church and Ministry. Colette is well respected for teaching with her life and for her practical strategies for mindful living. For 40 years she has been teaching and leading successful workshops, human relations laboratories, community cultural programs, and spiritual exploration experiences. Her leadership is supported by the team of Hollis Ryan, Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson, Joan Valles, Barbara Brucker, and Rosemary Buchmeier. Contact Colette Hoff (hoff@goodenough.org) or call 206-755-8404 with questions.

WHEN. The retreat will begin with dinner Friday, November 15, at 6:00 p.m. and will conclude at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday.

COST. Your registration fee of \$220 includes the weekend experience, the priceless natural beauty of the Sahale Learning Center, AND

2 nights lodging Abundant meals All learning materials

Register Today Space is Limited!

Please register online. www.goodenough.org. Select the Convocation link.
The registration button is at the top of the Convocation page.



Save the Date

"A Joyful Celebration of the Holidays"

The Goodenough Community's annual True Holidays Celebration

Saturday, December 7, 6:00 to 10:00pm

Mercer Island Congregational Church

Come and spread joy this holiday season! We will once again have Sherry Nevins joining us, guiding us around the (contra) dance floor and accompanied by a new musical group, the Geoducks. There will be a silent auction, a raffle, storytelling, and treats/libations aplenty.

**It's not too late to be Happy! We'll help you choose it.
For additional information, contact
Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson, Colette Hoff, or Kirsten Rohde.**



Joyfully Announcing the return of a traditional event . . .

Winter Bus Trip to Leavenworth Saturday, January 11, 2019

Dashing through the snow, fun for all ages...

Join friends and family for a day-long journey into the mountains. By passing the traffic we encountered a couple of years ago, and although it will not include a Solstice celebration, we are choosing January, to bring this cherished experience back! We will acknowledge the New Year!



Eagle Creek ranch <https://www.eaglecreek.ws/>

Colette Hoff will be our guide. Be sure to wear and bring extra warm clothing, a packed lunch, bottled water and snacks to enjoy and share. We encourage you to bring sleds, skis, inner tubes, or other equipment for snow play

Our cost includes transportation, sleigh ride, and a hearty dinner:

\$95 – Adults (18 and older)

\$75 - Children (13 to 18)

\$55 - Children (3 to 12)

Children under 2 free

For more information or to register by phone, please call Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson at 206-313-9803 or email at elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com. Family rates are negotiable.

A time of play and relaxation with family and friends!

- At the Eastgate Park & Ride, we board a heated bus and travel through snow-laden trees, craggy mountains, and icicled streams over Snoqualmie and Blewett Passes
- Along the way, we will stop at Blewett Pass for sledding, snow play, and walks in the woods.
- A horse-drawn sleigh ride awaits us at Eagle Creek Ranch near Leavenworth, followed by an early dinner and brief program in the lodge.
- We will then re-board the bus and go to the Bavarian Christmas village of Leavenworth to enjoy the lights, shops, and treats.
- You will be informed what time to return to the bus.
- Our warm bus returns us to the Park and Ride lot around 10:30 to 11:00 PM





Mindful Mike's Blog: Fall Arrives

Mike deAnguera

Fall is here. Temperatures are descending into the lower 30s and upper 20's during the night. Time to put more blankets on my bed to stay warm. Thanks to all who worked on the Klawie bathroom including Bruce Perler and Max Fain, I now have a warm bathroom.

The last two nights I have had to dribble water in various faucets to prevent freezing.

I helped Jim Tocher, Pedge Hopkins, and Josh DeMers winterize our irrigation system today. Maintaining our beautiful Sahale requires a lot of work from all of us.

Fall can be beautiful. The leaves all turning from green to yellow and finally brown. Each leaf is a masterpiece. Wish I could frame them but these pictures are all I can do.



I have started riding my 40 year old bike out here in Tahuya for the first time. It certainly changes my perspective from driving my car. I get to feel the road going uphill like I never did before. Sometimes I have to walk my bike. I have ridden all the way out beyond the St. Nicholas Church to Summertime Resort. I thought I could get some oyster stew or clam chowder but they have no restaurant. Cottages can be rented by the night. RVs and campers can rent spots by the month. Boats can tie up at the dock. People can also dig for clams and oysters. They have Friday night cookouts in the summertime. Nice view of Hood Canal.

A bike is really a great way to connect with folks along the road. Nearly everybody said "Hi." Cars isolate me from the outside. Thanks to all the inventors who worked so hard in the 19th Century to develop the bike from Baron Karl von Drais to the Englishman James Starley.

The first cars used the chain drives of bikes and so did the first airplanes. Orville and Wilbur Wright were bicycle mechanics.

The first paved roads in Seattle were for bikes. A good example would be Lake Washington Boulevard. Before that time many streets were made of cobblestones and bricks like the one in front of my first childhood home on Queen Anne Hill. Imagine riding a bike on cobblestones!

Hmm.....tomorrow I need to go to the VA Bremerton Clinic for a blood draw. Must fast. I am also expected to come in a Halloween costume as they will be in full Halloween mode. Christina who does all my blood draws will naturally be a vampire. I will be Marvin, the depressed robot from The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. This will be my second Halloween this year. My first one was painting pumpkins with the kids at St. Nicholas Church.

Life can be such a mystery. Earth going through her seasons. All life prepares for them everywhere from plants to us. How do I feel about this mystery? I tend to see it through a Christian lens although I love the views of others.

Likewise the Buddhists have taught me the value of meditation and mindfulness, something Christians through the ages have also done.

I am reminded of the journeys of people like St. Francis of Assisi. He stands to greet visitors right outside Potlatch and reminds me to be peaceful and calm just like the Buddha in Central Park.

How about another picture to inspire calm, a medicine for our world of stress and worry. Here it is. I can see myself right by this pond with the shining sun even on these cold Fall days.



We're close -- You can help!



The roof on our gathering tent has been patched and help together beyond its life expectancy. It is essential that it be replaced for next summer's season. The gathering tent serves many functions including weddings, other organization's retreats and conferences, and The Goodenough Community's programs including Children's Summer Camp and the Human Relations Laboratory.

A generous donor has pledged \$1000 in addition to an original donation when we reach \$5000. We are close to that mark. You can help compete this fund

drive and ensure a new roof for the tent.

Here are some details about the tent and new roof:



Manufacturer: **Rainier Industries**

\$14,000 when originally purchased in June 2002 with a life expectancy of 10 years.

40 X 60 with a wood dance floor 30 X 30.

Aluminum structures are in good condition!

3 top sheets will cost: \$6,700.00.

Donate now at www.goodenough.org

Scroll down to the donate button for Goodenough Community. In comment section, please note tent roof.



Programs and Events of the Goodenough Community New Dates are included.

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 **General Circle** meets Monday evening for light dinner & business at hand. The schedule is as follows: November 4 , 18; December 2, 16.

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. We meet Saturday mornings from 10:00 to 2:00 with lunch included. On November 2 we will gather at 10:00 and meet until 2:00 followed by a baby shower for Hollis and Hal’s daughter Brittany. In 2020, our first gathering will be January 25 at Hollis’ home. For more information, contact Hollis Guill Ryan, hollisr@comcast.net



The Third Age - Those age 60 and older have been gathering every other month, Friday evenings in Seattle. November 8 will be the next gathering. Contact Kirsten Rohde for more information:

krohde14@outlook.com


True Holidays Celebration, Saturday, December 7, 2019

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 Elizabeth for more information.



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. For more information, contact: 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 PM 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 in Seattle** -- November 3, 17; December 1, 15. Contact Colette Hoff for more information: hoff@goodenough.org
A meditation retreat, **Quiet your mind, open your heart**, will be offered **November 15 to 17, 2019**

Summer Camp for Youth NEW DATES for 2020!

In 2020, Camp will begin Monday June 22 and will close on Sunday, June 28.

Summer Camp is 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 2 to 8, 2020

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 50 years! Contact: Colette Hoff, 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 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. Please email hoff@goodenough.org with information about what may be coming up. It is a great time to bring friends to share Sahale!



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) to make arrangements.