



The Village eView

November 2, 2016

Kirsten Rohde, Guest Editor

Legacy: The importance of community support in raising families

Coming Up:

Third Age – Friday November 11

Pathwork – Sunday, November 13

Council – Monday, November 14

Men's Weekend – November 18-20

Women's Culture – Saturday, Nov 19

I have long appreciated the energy that John and Colette Hoff have put into supporting families in their work as family life educators and as communitarians within the Goodenough Community. They have created experiences and opportunities for families to enjoy and learn from each other. This has included working with parents and children in a therapeutic environment, providing retreats for families, and hosting social events that are family friendly.

When I lived in Ann Arbor, I lived in neighborhoods where mostly students lived and after awhile I realized that I missed seeing families around. I don't think a community can be fully alive without families. When I think of legacy, I'm grateful for all that Colette and John have done to encourage families to be in the culture of a community where they can learn and contribute and where we can learn from them. Our future as a community depends on a continuation of family involvement and therefore we must be a family friendly community. The following article contains some of John's thoughts about this subject.

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



Families in community

John L. Hoff with Kirsten Rohde

John, in my time in the Goodenough Community, I've seen you and Colette invest a lot in helping families. You've talked about the value of families growing and learning through being in a community where they are with other families and people of all ages. Could you say more about how you've worked with families and the value of community?



The tendency in our broader culture is to focus on the individual and not on relationship between and among individuals. In the Goodenough Community we are committed to rebalancing that in life and to emphasizing the importance of featuring relationship in a way that's different than in the broader society. When Colette and I work with families within the community we help parents know that their family is a place to organize, communicate and ritualize better than they do. They may not have talked these things through themselves so we create opportunities to talk it out between them and with their kids. For example, at this time of year what does each family member want to do over the holiday season and how can the family make a plan that works for everyone. Kids have a lot of good ideas. Sometimes they are the ones who want to do something for the homeless or give to a food bank, for example. Children need to be listened to more; sometimes they have some pretty good ideas.

For instance as a child I had a wonderful time shopping during the holiday season – we'd go shopping as a family and think about what each family member wanted and how we could help make it happen. I remember one time, Marion, my sister got a bike when she was about 8. We had to get a new bike and it needed to be a girl's bike because she was the first girl in the family. The bike came from the whole family. Different members contributed to its purchase.

How did it come about that we have the Solstice bus trip? That has turned into a great experience for families.

Most of what we do in the community comes out of listening to what people need. Many requested a number of things to happen during the holiday season. One was a bus trip into the snow, an experience of winter and a celebration of sorts for the time of year. Solstice is intended to be a family adventure, out in the snowy countryside feeling the winter day and night. Kids learn about needing warm clothes and being prepared. A lot of city kids may not

feel the season changing as much as they might in the country. The True Holidays event is another attempt to resource parents and families regarding the importance of the holiday season for relationship, remembering enjoyable traditions together, and planning celebration in our lives.

One of the things working parents talk about is how difficult it is when their kids have birthdays and they can't take the day off to take them to a park or a party. I grew up in a household where everybody's birthday was a special day. As a birthday person you got to say what you wanted — favorite foods, for example. I remember my mother would make up my bed fresh on my birthday. I would climb in and realize that my mother had gone to all that trouble just so I could enjoy it. I had a lot of good warm feelings for her. My Dad would always take me on a drive, as I got older I'd help driving — steer the car. To sit on his lap and "help" drive was quite a privilege.

When you work with families, do you find you help them know about such ways of being with their children?

Yes, parents tend to do what they experienced when they were kids. In the Yukon our family was two families together. So we had a deep connection as a larger family and developed a culture together. It came out of conscious discussion — my mother and aunt were at the heart of it. My father was a pastor and he would talk about families that weren't going as well and he felt sorry for them. I got so I was sensitized to whether a family was respecting each other and talking well to each other or not. I think that was my beginning interest in community. I noticed that in the community around where my Dad was pastor, he helped there be more learning about relationship and about family.

You have helped families discover what it means to have a good relationship. You've created social times where parents can talk about their children and share ideas. And where children can be around other families and other adults.

Yes and to help families develop good traditions. The community is a very good place for families to be because they can see the advantage of making some decisions together. For example teens want to have freedom to make some of their own decisions. In community, we can help teens focus on doing things that include joining with the family as opposed to reacting against the family.

How does community help with this?

It's easier for families to learn with other families than when they are alone. You can say things to a group of families about what works and what doesn't work. Each family can hear these ideas more easily when they are with others. In a community, other adults can interact with the children and parents can observe different ways to interact with their children.

To thrive in a community, parents find themselves talking about their parenting philosophy and their goals and problems in parenting. Colette and I could look at parenting style and where it is effective and ineffective. To hear from other adults about one's family processes and parenting is sometimes more effective than the same messages just within the family.

For example, as a young parent I heard from other parents that I was overly strict, that the way I approached something wasn't quite like I thought it was: sometimes I was too clinical and sounded more like a teacher than a father. I was so busy working on how you do this as a parent that it was harder to apply it to my personal life in the way I'd like.

Bringing two families together with a new marriage brings two different parenting styles and two different cultures and traditions.

Thinking about our community going forward, what would you most envision for families?

Parents need to organize to make sure that the community helps them use their family times well. One of the things I wish for this community is that you always select somebody in leadership who has appreciation for the importance of family and providing the opportunities for families to get together and talk about what they'd like to see. It's not necessary to have professionals, rather parents sharing what they do that works.

Whose idea was the Family Enrichment Network?

Colette and I created that as a space and time for families to get together and talk about experiences that would work for families. Observing a good family with good processes, good communication – I've learned a lot. Seeing a family work well is a very beautiful thing.

“We are living in an interdependent world where what our children hear, see, feel, and learn will affect how they grow up and who they turn out to be.”

— **Hillary Rodham Clinton, *It Takes a Village***

Save these Dates !

Joining Together for Peace

True Holidays - Dec 3:

We invite you to The Goodenough Community's **True Holidays celebration** this year on **Saturday, December 3**, from 6 to 11 PM, at the Mercer Island Congregational Church. Please save the date – and watch the *eView* and your email for more information to come.



The True Holidays party is a fun and family-friendly community event that has become an annual tradition for many, including those beyond the Goodenough Community.

During the evening, we will have the chance to reflect on the kind of holiday season we'd like to have as well as being able to spend time with friends, co-workers, and families (all in one place!) There are planned activities for children, plus food, libations, and a fun silent auction.

**This year again we are happy to be led in contra dancing
by Sherri Nevins and her musician friends!**

Can you hear sleigh bells?

Winter Solstice Bus Trip - Saturday, Dec 17: With your friends and family, enjoy this day-long journey that embraces the longest night of the year.



We will board a chartered bus and travel over Snoqualmie and Blewett Passes to the beautiful Bavarian Christmas village of Leavenworth. Then we'll head to Eagle Creek Ranch, just outside of Leavenworth, where a horse-drawn sleigh ride awaits us, followed by a buffet dinner. [Please register with Elizabeth now at http://www.goodenough.org/solstice.htm](http://www.goodenough.org/solstice.htm)



Announcing . . .

Save the date

A Weekend for Men and Women . . .

February 24 to 26, 2017

**Men and Women Together: A New
Relationship**

Join the Conversation!

Third Age Third Age: A context for exploring legacy

Joan Valles

Our next Third Age gathering is **Friday, November 11** (and yes, we will celebrate Jim Tocher's birthday). Third Age gives us an opportunity to update each other on our lives and have a good conversation on topics related to aging. Third Age is for people about 60 and older and newcomers are always welcome.

Our gathering will start about **6 p.m.** at the Community Center in West Seattle (3610 SW Barton St.) with a potluck meal. Please bring a side dish or dessert and beverages to share; a main dish will be provided. An RSVP to Joan (joanvalles70@yahoo.com) or phone at 206 819 1089 would be helpful. (And if you forget, we'll be glad to see you anyway.) Looking forward to seeing you and will be sending a reminder closer to the date.

Pathwork, Sunday, November 13, 27, December 11 and 18.

On Sunday evenings for many years, John and Colette Hoff have invited individuals interested in personal growth and sharing their spiritual journeys to join in a process of "Pathwork." These evenings provide good opportunities for individual exploration in relationship to others. It is a process in which we coach and share insights with each other. This fall our focus will be on what is happening in our lives in relation to the themes of sanity, maturity, proactivity and creativity. **All are welcome** even if you are just a little curious.

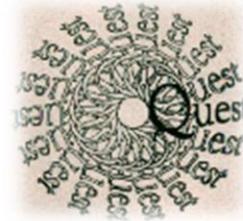
Pathwork is sponsored by Convocation: A Church and Ministry, which promotes an interfaith exploration of the journey of life. Individuals share practices that have worked for them and we often spend some time in meditation together.

Colette Hoff provides guiding leadership to the evenings and is joined by John in helping each person deepen their understandings. Email Colette at hoff@goodenough.org if you're coming. Pathwork meets at **7:00 p.m.** at the Community Center at 3610 SW Barton Street, typically every other Sunday evening.

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



Men's Weekend

I'm looking forward to a **fall men's gathering on the weekend of November 18 to 20.** We'll be having a mix experiences together including; hang out time, conversation about our real lives, some outdoor work and free time to enjoy Sahale's fall gifts.

There will be a hot meal to welcome you on Friday evening, followed by a time together to catch up and re-connect. We'll enjoy Saturday and Sunday in a mix of experiences and will close our weekend on Sunday afternoon by 3 PM.

RSVP Please let me know if you are able to attend for our meal and space planning by **November 1st.**

Warmly,

Bruce Perler bruce_perler@hotmail.com 206-419-8361



*Rejoice with your
family in the
beautiful land of life.
Albert Einstein*

Post Cards from our Traveling Friends

Greetings from the Travelers of the Northeast

Colette, Elizabeth and Pam



Colette: It is thrilling to share this experience with Pam and Elizabeth! We had a wonderful trip to DC with our friend Janet Walker driving us around the first day. It was so amazing to see my dad's name on display in the Smithsonian. His legacy of courage continues to be an inspiration to many. We were able to meet Jane Rogers, a museum curator,

and hear the story of how she received my dad's things. She felt his story needed to be told.

We were very aware of the legacy left to citizens of the United States by our founding fathers who are memorialized throughout the DC area. Also touching was the Native American museum as well as the Holocaust museum.



Connecting with my cousin, Doug Starr, after 25 years was a highlight. He's an interesting, intelligent guy who is now the last living blood relative from my growing up years. Many family stories were shared and we heard his story of surviving hurricane Sandy. We were blessed with a beautiful day on the Jersey shore as we drove north toward our destination at Closter, NJ, near the town of Westwood where I grew up.

Elizabeth: I'll use the word "thrilling" to describe our being able to take this "roots trip" with Colette and Pam. Roots because I'm experiencing the thrill of exploring with long-time friends, particularly in the Northeast area that was formative to Colette and to our US legacy. This is the first experience I've had in exploring the area up close and personal, and it was wonderful to go to DC again, visiting places I'd not been before and seeing Ray Werner's exhibit. Today we'll head into downtown New York City and see areas I've only read about for 60+ years. Traveling is an art form, and I am learning from two of the best. Cheers!

Pam: I'm proud to be an American especially when I'm in Washington, DC. If we think our fellow citizens aren't interested in our history and government, we would all be wrong. The city was teeming with tourists taking in all that is there. The Holocaust Museum was poignant and difficult but well worth it.

To finally see the Jersey coast was great and to have such great weather: We are fortunate! Cousin Doug was a delight to meet and watch, as he and Colette reminisced. I learned a lot about them each and both.

EJ and I have always wanted to see New York City with someone who has lived here and now we're getting our chance with Colette as most excellent of tour guides. (Better than the one in DC but that is another story!) With another day in NYC ahead of us I look forward to all the sights we can possibly take in. What an adventure and so great to be here with such dear friends. Where and what is posted on Facebook if you're curious. EJ is especially all over it!





Josh DeMers doing parking duty for the Barter Faire, Tonasket in the Okanogan Valley.

News from Hollis and Hal's Magnificent Road Adventure

Editor(Joan Valles): Our dear Hollis and Hal launched their two-month "Magnificent Road Adventure," on Thursday, Oct. 18, from their home on Mercer

Sent Sunday, October 20.

We're in Utah!

We've been taking a vacation from our vacation the last couple of days. As we came in to Vernal, Utah, on Friday, I realized I needed a day or 2 of staying in one place, doing nothing much at all. For several reasons, not the least of which is that the Super 8 here costs only \$40/night when booked through AARP "Points for Good," we decided to stay until tomorrow (Monday). Hal's been watching

sports, and I've been catching up on laundry and proofreading, and even took a snooze yesterday.

Overall, we have become genuine slug-a-beds, sleeping now until 7:00 or even later, instead of automatically awakening at 5:30, as we did the first few mornings. Some mornings we have to scurry to get to breakfast in time.

There are a lot of attractions around Vernal, but we have not taken any of the dozen day trips that are suggested. Tomorrow on our way out of town we will detour for a partial trip to see petroglyphs. Petroglyphs have interested me ever since I first saw them as a child in Juneau. There were some petroglyphs that we could reach by boat, north of Juneau. There are more “glyphs” (that’s what my family called them) south of here on the way to Moab but we may not be able to go that way, so we’ll see these easily accessible local petroglyphs.

Some of the logistics of planning – or of *not* planning! – our trip include figuring out meals and meds. We are in a sparsely populated part of our country, and towns with services are quite a distance from each other. We find that we like eating a large (free) breakfast at our motel, and then eating a large, late lunch. Then we aren’t hungry for a dinner, and just have some cheese and apples, or some other light stuff that we are carrying with us in our car fridge. It doesn’t always work out that way, of course. For example, we were driving from Cody, Wyoming, to Casper, Wyoming, and saw the towns of Moneta, Hiland, and Powder River on the map. We figured we’d stop at one of those little places for lunch. The first town we came to had a welcome sign that read: “Population – 10” – and the other towns didn’t even have population signs. No lunch along the way that day!

I cannot find words to describe the scenery we have been seeing in Wyoming and Utah. It constantly takes my breath away. In Wyoming, we seemed to be often traversing a flat, immensely wide valley encircled by snow-tipped ragged peaks and flat-topped buttes of many colors. We drove through amazing canyons, and visited a disappearing river outside Lander. The stream rushes over rocks, then pirouettes and disappears into a crevice. A quarter mile later, it begins to emerge again, seeping into a pool where immense trout hang out. Scientists have learned that it takes 2 hours for the water from the cheerful stream to travel $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to the pond where it quietly reappears, and that more water comes into the pool than leaves the stream. Mystery!

We stopped at Independence Rock where pioneers inscribed their names. It’s huge! Pictures don’t show how large and out of place this rock is. It’s a distinctive landmark, and gained its name from the fact that wagon trains knew that if they reached the rock by Independence Day, they had a good chance of

reaching their destination before snowfall. We visited a museum honoring the Mormon hand-cart pioneers, who walked from Missouri pulling hand-carts with 17 pounds (only) of goods. Two of these parties left late and did not reach Independence Rock until October, and were snowed in by the middle of October. Rescue teams were sent from Salt Lake City to find them and help them, but many perished in the blizzard, not only of cold but of starvation, as the parties had used the last of their flour by the time the snow hit.

At the Mormon museum, we agreed to watch a film touting the importance of family. One scene sticks with me, sweetly: The little girl asks her grandmother, “Grandma, why are your hands so wrinkled?” And Grandma gently responds, “Because Grandpa is always holding them.” Now I turn to Hal and say, “Wrinkle my hand some more, honey” – and we walk hand in hand.

We have seen very little wildlife, which seems to disappoint Hal, but finally we began seeing antelope. The flocks were feeding, not playing, and the few buffalo we have seen were feeding and not roaming, but the skies are not cloudy all day!

Tomorrow, as I said at the beginning of this note, we’ll drive up to the local petroglyphs, and then go over Douglas Pass in Colorado. Since the pass is about 8,000 feet, I was wondering whether we would need to worry about snow but Weather.com tells me that today the pass temperature is 71 degrees. I don’t anticipate a problem with snow!

Wednesday, November 2

After an extra day in Grand Junction, Colorado, we are leaving today for Canyonlands, Utah. We’ll make our “base” in Moab for 2 nights and explore Arches and Dead Horse Point and Island in the Sky.

This is the trip of a lifetime. We’re hoping we can take 3-week road trips in the coming years. By staying in the less expensive motels and by eating lunches instead of dinners, we are keeping expenses lower than we budgeted, which gives us hope that we can continue to afford some trips in the future.

Colette keeps counseling me to take an electric frying pan so we can easily cook our own meals but, honestly, I am very happy not to cook a damn thing!

Thinking of you!
With love,
Hollis

To be continued ...



The deAnguera Blog: Tools for Peace



Security and cooperation are two very important tools for creating peace. As you can see from these pictures we know how to cooperate in working as well as having fun together. Both reinforce our effectiveness in both areas. Thus we achieve security for each other in living out here at Sahale.

If I am secure I am unlikely to have fears that can be manipulated by politicians. Racism, sexism, and bigotry are all manifestations of fear. I know from past experience that I am quite capable of manifesting these forms of fear. I remember while living in Bellevue seeing women in saris pushing baby carriages. I also remember hearing of Asian Indians being trained to do our jobs and then sent back to their homelands. Would I have listened to a politician who talked of making all these people go home so they would not compete with me for jobs? Maybe.

Living alone can cause me to feel insecure. I am at the mercy of the world around me. Security lies with my friends. As a result I feel an inner peace, a very necessary ingredient for outer peace.

Peace is not just the absence of war. It is a whole way of life as demonstrated by our community.

My only wish is that we could have people from different racial and ethnic groups living with us. Such diversity of lives and stories! Bringing them together in our particular way could unleash a lot of creativity. This is something we could offer to others in our Human Relations Laboratory. I still fondly remember Dyanne Harshman playing the music of Zimbabwe on her imbera. As she urged us to “come to the well –it’s where the water is” I felt a lump in my throat. The Divine was telling me something. Others urged me to share my feelings though I tend to keep them inside. I wanted to be by the well with everybody!

We have not arrived at the vision that I had with Dyanne’s music. I have to admit I feel a certain resistance. Is it possible that resistance could increase the closer I came to realizing my dream? Of course because this is one of the points where the story of my life gets created. It is easy to just go with the flow. But if our community is to be a truly

visionary one we must all be contributors. It will be necessary for each of us to stick our necks out. I don't want to do that, it might make me unpopular. I am by nature an introvert. Then I wonder why change doesn't happen.

Change always starts with dissatisfaction. Lab is supposed to make me feel uncomfortable because it reminds me of how things could be. We really need to make a change. Just don't ask me to be a change agent. Let somebody else do it.

Okay, Mike.....



Even Cody and Cooper wanted to help out although they both have all feet and no hands. Are they change agents?



Community News *By Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson*



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy birthday, **Colette Hoff** - November 10

Happy 80th birthday, **Jim Tocher** - November 11

Happy birthday, **Norm Peck** - November 14

Happy birthday, **JR Fulton** - November 14



Cultural Programs in the Goodenough Community are created for visitors and they are developed as opportunities for our members and friends to practice our lifeways and apply them to contemporary issues and problems in our lives. For instance, the men’s program must be 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. Similarly, women must return to the essentials of being a good woman in this day and age.

Calendar of Programs and Events, 2016-2017

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 ...

In the Goodenough Community, we recognize such ways to connect as expressions of **community culture**. Throughout the year, we offer **cultural programs** so that you can engage with the community, participate in your own development, and have a good time. We **welcome your interest** and your participation, and hope that you will join us at any – or many! – of this year’s events.

Human Relations Laboratory, August 6 to 12, 2017

This intense and joyous week-long event is a communal experience of personal growth, and has been presented annually for more than 40 years.



Focal Person: Colette Hoff, hoff@goodenough.org

Men’s Culture



Men’s Weekend, **November 18 to 20**

Focal Person: Bruce Perler, bruce_perler@hotmail.com

Women's Culture

Saturday November 19

Mark your calendar: Women's Weekend, May5-7, 2017

Women of the Goodenough Community have been gathering intentionally and regularly since 1983 to discover in themselves and each other the essence of womanhood at any age and the presence of the Divine Feminine.

Focal Person: Hollis Guill Ryan, hollisr@comcast.net



Third-Age Gatherings

Next gathering will be in November 11.

Focal Person: Kirsten Rohde, krohde14@outlook.com

True Holidays Celebration, Saturday, December 3



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

Focal Person: Kirsten Rohde, krohde14@outlook.com

Winter Solstice Bus Trip, Saturday December 17, 2016

Board a bus, play in the snow, shop in Leavenworth, have a horse-drawn sleigh ride and enjoy an abundant dinner

Focal Person: Colette Hoff

New Year's Eve Weekend at Sahale

New Year's Eve at Sahale!

This year New Year's Eve is on Saturday night. We plan to continue our tradition of good conversation, winter walks, hot tubbing, making meals together, and celebrating the change of year. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. on New Year's Eve. Time will also be given for some personal and shared reflection and for joyful celebration.



Women and Men Together: a New Relationship

Join the Conversation!

A Weekend for Men and Women

February 24 – 26, 2017

Work Parties throughout the Year

Traditionally, the Goodenough Community sponsors work parties over Memorial Day weekend (**May 26 to 29, 2017**), 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.

Focal Person: Colette Hoff, hoff@goodenough.org

Summer Camp for Youth, June 25 to July 1

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

Focal Person: Irene Perler, Irene_Perler@hotmail.com



Watch this page – or visit our website at goodenough.org – for information about these and other events and programs. Some are in town at our Community Center in West Seattle, and others are held at Sahale, our rural retreat center near Belfair, Washington.



It takes a whole village to raise a child.

Igbo and Yoruba (Nigeria) Proverb

This Igbo and Yoruba (Nigeria) proverb exists in different forms in many African languages. The basic meaning is that child upbringing is a communal effort. The responsibility for raising a child is shared with the larger family (sometimes called the extended family). Everyone in the family participates especially the older children, aunts and uncles, grandparents, and even cousins. It is not unusual for African children to stay for long periods with their grandparents or aunts or uncles. Even the wider community gets involved such as neighbors and friends. Children are considered a blessing from God for the whole community. This communal responsibility in raising children is also seen in the Sukuma (Tanzania) proverb "One knee does not bring up a child" and in the Swahili (East and Central Africa) proverb "One hand does not nurse a child."

