



*Amanita Muscaria appeared on the path to Tod's Memorial on October 21*

# **The Village View**

**November 6, 2023**

Hollis Guill Ryan &  
Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson, Editors

## Coming Up:

**Community Weekend & Jim Tocher's 88<sup>th</sup> birthday – Nov 10,11,12 – @ Sahale Pathwork, Sunday November 19, 7pm via Zoom**

## **An important Goodenough Community Weekend: November 10-12, 2023, at Sahale Learning Center**

**F**rom a weekend in March to its summer gathering in August, the Goodenough Community has been working on its collective future. The next opportunity to continue this important work will be November 10-12, 2023, here at Sahale and we would love to have you join us – whether or not you were at the community's annual August event.

A goal of the weekend is to continue reviewing community finances and where we are in work groups that were established at the August event, each with a different focus: Governance/membership; vision and mission; fundraising and business development; and Sahale.

The General Circle, our community's governing body, has identified some outcomes for our weekend:

1. To continue the community's redevelopment started after the death of Colette. Processes to date: hired a consultant Sky Blue in January 2022, Alt-Lab 2022, feedback training and session Fall 2022, March Retreat 2023, Steering Committee Spring 2023, Summer Gathering August 2023.
2. To develop the Sociocratic circles further and garner interest in joining those circles
3. To develop shared understandings among us from which to make decisions
4. To build energy for governing the community
5. To maintain connections with members and friends
6. To maintain and increase our community's culture

**In preparation for the weekend**, we have a couple of articles for you to read, "A Humanist Manifesto," by David Brooks from the *Atlantic* website; and "Community Types and Definitions," comprised from items collected from the internet. Both selections are intended to stimulate our discussion of developing our vision and mission for our community. See attached links.

We welcome your ideas and energy and, most importantly, it will be an opportunity to connect and enjoy one another's company. We will also be celebrating Jim Tocher's 88<sup>th</sup> birthday!

Please let Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson know by Wednesday, November 8, of your plans to attend if you haven't already and she will send you the remainder of the details for the weekend.

Sincerely,

The General Circle of the Goodenough Community – *Rose Buchmeier, Tom George, Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson, Pam Jarrett-Jefferson, and Jim Tocher*

**On-Line News of the Goodenough Community System**

[www.goodenough.org](http://www.goodenough.org)

American Association for the Furtherance of Community Convocation: A  
Church and Ministry / Mandala Resources, Inc.  
Sahale Learning Center / The EcoVillage at Sahale

## Remembering Tod Ransdell



**F**riends gathered in Sahale's sacred Cedar Grove on October 21 to remember and honor Tod. Phil Buchmeier invited all who were present to call out to Tod to let him know who had gathered, and the ceremony ended with a lovely, honest, and loving tribute from Tod's partner Claudia Fitch. An excerpt from Claudia's words:

Tod was not an easy person to live with. But he gave his love through food. I started hanging out with Tod because he had camping gear and I loved to camp. He loved the practical side of life, and so did I. He loved the pleasures. And yes indeed, so did I.

But ... our communication styles were vastly different, our emotional hang-ups impossibly similar.

Tod and I came together more out of convenience, rather than in the excitement of a found romance. And in this arrangement, love grew. It snuck up on me. Tod could also be bull-headed and super pissed-off at me. OK, dear, I hear you. And I love you. I love you.

Tod knew how to listen and reflect back, to give support to a troubling moment, my own and others'.

We were companions, entwined in the larger forces of shared community and family celebrations. Love snuck up on me. Love grew.



## Event Tent Take-down and Men's Weekend @ Sahale

*Norm Peck*

Pam Jarrett-Jefferson and the Buddhist meditation group's work exchange were instrumental in getting the Big White Event Tent and dance floor panels down and stored. These wonderful Sahale guests had taken down, cleaned, and folded the side curtains and removed most of the screws from the dance floor panels, usually a day's work in itself, before the community take-down crew began its work. We were also blessed by amazingly good weather, clear and sunny with little wind. The date: October 20-22.

The old adage, many hands make light work, certainly applied as Russ Pogemiller, Michael deAnguera, Douglas and Connie DeMers, Jim Tocher, Ace Haynes, Tom George, Phil Buchmeier, Pam Jarrett-Jefferson, and I got to work on Thursday. By the time Happy Hour began at 3:30 on Friday, the job was done and everyone was indeed happy, if a little tired after the intense flurry of work.

In addition to tent take-down, the young men, Cooper and Jensen, helped prepare for Tod Ransdell's Remembrance, setting up chairs and tables. Thursday and Friday afternoon and evening, the men present gathered to catch up on each other's lives and talk about topics ranging from the state of the world to the future of the Goodenough Community.

### Coming up but still uncalendared

A men's service weekend to move Hal Smith's donated woodworking equipment from the Belfair storage unit to the new Sahale Woodworking Shop. Stay tuned!

## Moving On

*By Jim Tocher*

**My house at 3535 South 126<sup>th</sup> Street in Tukwila, in** which Joan Valles, Barbara Brucker, and I lived for more than 7 years, has been emptied out and sold, and new owners are moving in. I have moved into the Wesley Terraces retirement village – into a unit slightly larger in size than a studio apartment. (Quite a change from all alone in a 2000-square-foot house, into 400 square feet.) However, all meals are provided, there are washing machines next door, lots of other amenities, and lots of friendly people around. My new address is: 816 South 216<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, WA 98198, Box 113. Hollis Ryan and Hal Smith live right across the street in an adjacent building. For some time, they have been encouraging me to make the move. So now I'm here. No longer a homeowner with lots of responsibilities.



## You Are Invited: Second Annual Community Holiday Open House

Saturday, December 16, 2023, drop in anytime - 4PM until 10 PM

**Location:** Home of Tom George, 8708 182<sup>nd</sup> Place SW, Edmonds WA 98026

*By Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson*

Some of our community traditions are also in transition. Instead of our True Holidays celebration, which has been held annually in December for many years, our community is now hosting a holiday open house---designed to carry forward our time honored traditions of connection, relationship and peace---so that you may drop in at your leisure, relax, see friends, have a good conversation, share stories, or simply enjoy a libation and holiday treat. Family, friends, and children are all invited. Please bring your favorite holiday treat to share as well as your favorite libation (some will be provided as well). We hope to see you!



*Nontraditional Holly*



*Traditional Holly*

### ***Are you interested in the future of the Goodenough Community's women's program?***

***An Invitation from the Women's Leadership Circle***

We invite you to a women's gathering **from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on January 20, 2024**. Please mark your calendar now and look for a Zoom link from Elizabeth Jarrett shortly beforehand.

This event is shaping up to be a milestone in the life of the women's culture of the Goodenough Community. If you have enjoyed the women's programs, **you will want to be part of this**.

Like the community as a whole, the women's program is refreshing itself, seeking insights into what participants find most valuable, and encouraging participants to step into design and leadership roles.

In this interval until January 20, please be thinking about the women's program.

- What have you enjoyed most?
- What would you like to see in future programs?
- Who would you like to see in leadership?
- How would you like to contribute to the future of the women's program?

Your thoughts and dreams will shape our January event and the future of the women's program. We are looking forward to learning what is in women's hearts.

## Programs and Events of the Goodenough Community



*Community is about adapting to change, and that has been the case with Covid 19, the pandemic, as we adapted many of our ways to connect, most of which have been held on Zoom. This has enabled people from outside our area to participate in community events. Now we are adapting to change following the deaths of four community legacy members in the last 18 months, including our community's co founder.*

Throughout the year we offer programs and events that help you participate in your own development, learn about relating well with others, and help you discover your potential for having a good time in life and with others. As we work through this period of transition, we have limited or changed our offerings, but check this page for the latest information. Information about future programs and events also will be found on our website: [www.goodenough.org](http://www.goodenough.org) and in future *Village Views*.

### **The Goodenough Community's governing body, the General Circle**



Currently meets weekly on alternate Monday evenings, 7 PM on Zoom. 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. *Please see information about our January 20 zoom meeting (above).* For information, contact [Hollis Ryan](#)



**The Third Age** - Those aged 60 and older have customarily been gathering every other month, Friday evenings, at 7 PM by Zoom. Contact [Kirsten Rohde](#) for more information.



**The Men's Program** - Our Men's Circle is an expression of brotherhood and practice, with wisdom gathered from our own lives, other men's work, advocates, and the founders of this circle. A men's service weekend at Sahale is coming up – TBA date. For information, contact [Norm Peck](#)



**Pathwork, A Program of Convocation: A Church and Ministry.** Pathwork offers a spiritual home in which to rest and to share your heart and mind as you move through these unpredictable times.

Participants come together and find support and encouragement, gaining wisdom from

the world's faith and wisdom traditions. All are welcome to join. Meetings are held via Zoom on alternate Sundays: 7 to 9 PM.



**Work and Play Parties Throughout the Year.** Traditionally, the Goodenough Community sponsors work and play parties over Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends 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.