

World Fellowship

PO Box 2280 Conway, NH 03818 (603) 447-2280 www.worldfellowship.org

Fall/Winter 2011/2012

From the Desk of the Directors

The newsletter in your hands was written in December, the “official” time of year for spreading moments of joy, tokens of love, and hopes of a peaceful tomorrow. For us, it is a period of the year when the swirl of tasks and peopled moments settles enough that we have time to reflect on our gratitude. This December, our gratitude is profound.

We are grateful for this political moment. We are grateful for those who, in words scrawled on cardboard or in orations echoed on the “people’s microphone”, have elbowed their way into the mainstream discussion. We are grateful, also, for the inspiration coming from popular uprisings across the seas.

Our most personal appreciation is reserved for all of you who lend a hand to move World Fellowship forward in this, our seventy-first year of becoming. The hands clasped together in our logo represent your active hands that do the work that needs to be done over and over again. We are thankful beyond measure for our good-spirited staff and volunteers as well as the presenters, performers and contributors who make it all happen in so many creative ways.

In this moment rife with both uncertainty and hope, we need our hands to be joining together and working together in ever wider circles. A project of the Institute for Policy Studies comes to mind; last summer, Chuck Collins told us about “Resilience Circles.” small groups which respond to economic insecurity by cooperating for mutual aid and social action. They are reminiscent of groups World Fellowship founders Charles and Eugenia Weller formed through the League of Neighbors during a period of comparable social upheaval in the early part of the last century. Indeed, there’s a way in which World Fellowship has always been sort of an extended Resilience Circle. It’s here that people recognize how we’re all in the soup together, and look for a way through it.

Our friend Beverly Woods, a frequent World Fellowship presenter and performer, recently spoke at the Unitarian Universalist fellowship in Tamworth about the Occupy movement. When discussing this time of societal transformation, she used an arresting metaphor.

According to Beverly, if you were to open a caterpillar’s cocoon partway through its transformation, you would not find something halfway between a caterpillar and a butterfly, such as a caterpillar with wings. Instead, you would find a messy mush, “caterpillar soup,” as the cells of the caterpillar need to be entirely disassembled and reassembled in order to complete the metamorphosis.

This political juncture is being defined by people who are no longer content to just put wings on the caterpillar. As Chris Hedges put it at Truthout.org, “Tinkering with the corporate state will not work. We will either be plunged into neo-feudalism and environmental catastrophe or we will wrest power from corporate hands.”

Every day, we receive news of World Fellowship folks who are figuring out how to do this business of “wresting power,” by occupying, getting arrested, organizing support rallies, or doing trainings so that the new activists can have the benefit of tools, tactics and lessons from past movements. We look forward to finding ways to offer ourselves to the service of this exciting movement, and we thank you all for the many ways you lend your hands to this work...and for taking your turn stirring the caterpillar soup!

Loving gratitude to each and every supporter – Your contributions of money, time, promotion, presentations, performances, and talent, all help promote social justice education, inspiration and action – in collaboration with nature and each other. Thank you for living the World Fellowship way by standing up for social justice and respecting all people. Staff and volunteers, donors, people who share our brochures and newsletters, who read and forward our emails, who wear our logo... Your support helps occupy the world and build true fellowship. Thank you for staying in touch, keeping connections, and forging new ones!





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office@worldfellowship.org

www.worldfellowship.org

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NEWS of the WORLD FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY:

2011 ARRIVALS: Welcome to the newest members of the World Fellowship community!
 Yaleciana Jazlee Molina, born Nov 5, to Yackie Garcia and Candido Molina. Liam, born Oct, to James Scanlon and Liz Murray. Grace, born May 5, to Paul and Bailey Whiteside Agakian (married at World Fellowship in 2010). Max Zeca and Millar Skye, born March 7 to Ben Vigoda and Lauren Stewart. Micky Lally Brownlow, born Feb 19, to Kieran Lally and Emily Brownlow. Zuzu Audrey born Jan 30 to Phil and Tania Schnapp Peterson. Landon Edward Shaida, born Jan 6 to Jaye Stern.

CONGRATULATIONS: Ivy Hest and Seth Leibson wed at World Fellowship September 17!

PASSAGES: We offer condolences to families and friends whose names are listed below. We remember:

In 2011: Jim Sheridan, 67, Nov 2, of Intervale, NH, past Board member, flower garden designer, and volunteer. Manna Lowenfels-Perpelitt, 77, Aug 14, of McMinnville, OR, Judy Jacobs' twin sister. Martin Bloom, 95, July 1 of NJ, a gentle soul who left a legacy of questing for peace and justice and enjoyed many WF visits with his son-in-law, Milt Horowitz. Peter Marsh, Feb, Brooklyn, NY, father of Ian and husband of Carol - A gentle man who loved people and the wilderness. Don Booth, 94, Jan 21, Concord, NH, a pioneer designer/builder of solar homes and a lifetime pacifist activist. Felice Yeskel, 57, Jan 11, Amherst, MA - a peaceful warrior for economic justice and human rights. In 2010: Bernard Stein, Dec 8, NY. Lil Dimow, 94, Nov 25, of New Haven, CT, a feisty lifelong progressive and gifted teacher who worked winters with Willard Uphaus; dearly missed by Joe, her husband of 67 years. Christopher Dennis Paul, 37, April, cousin of Diane Crowley. Augusta Cunningham, father of Valerie Cunningham. Helen Charpentier, 88, Nov 2009, of Sunapee, NH. Shirley Nissenbaum, Oct 2009. In 2008: Sid Resnick, Oct, and Arlene Resnick, Dec 2007, who visited WF from the 70's - 90's - see historical archive of articles JewishCurrents.org Victoria Olds, of NY. Anna Goldberg. Lottie Gilpatrick, Chappaqua, NY. Irving Zuckerman of NY. Sarah Brockington of Philadelphia. Edith McKelvey of Cambridge, MA.

World Fellowship is honored by people who include us in end of life plans. 2011 included receiving commitments for perpetual care at our Memorial Wall from Ilene Lerner and Anita Shapiro. Through bequests and posthumous gifts of 2011, our mutual legacy of progressive activism continues. Thanks to: Helga Herz, Willard Uphaus, Seymour and Sylvia Rothchild Family Foundation, Thomas Todd Foundation.

Introducing World Fellowship...
 The Board's Outreach Committee invites your help to spread the World Fellowship word! Distribute brochures, display fliers/share info at events in your community, write an article for your local paper, host a house party, or contact organizations about a place for their next training or retreat... All ideas and time commitments welcome! Contact Norma Wassel at norma@cambridgecohousing.org to volunteer or to share ideas.

What folks say: "World Fellowship seems to me so much a way of life - really the way of life."

Thanks to all photographers who share their perspectives with World Fellowship!

The Lowenfels-Beckett Dilemma

--Andy Davis

I was browsing not long ago in The Little, Brown Book of Anecdotes, and was pleased to come across a story about a significant figure in World Fellowship community history.

Walter Lowenfels was a communist poet and anthologist. He died 35 years ago, but his legacy survives here, as he's the father of Judy Jacobs, and the grandfather and great grandfather of a vibrant clan that gathers at World Fellowship each August.

Lowenfels was born in New York City in 1897 into a well-heeled family of butter merchants. After returning home after World War I, he went into the family business, but he also started writing poetry, which began to inexorably derail him from the capitalist track. In 1926, he decided that he needed to be part of the expatriate literary scene in Paris, so he went along with his soon-to-be-wife Lillian Apotheker, and fell in with a bohemian crowd that included Samuel Beckett, Nancy Cunard, Henry Miller, and Anais Nin.

During the time he was in Paris, Lowenfels was finding himself politically as well as artistically, and that's what gave rise to this story in The Little, Brown Book:

One day he was with Beckett, going on at length about his concern over the state of the world and his theories on the relationship between art and politics. Beckett nodded but sat silently for quite some time. Finally Lowenfels reached a peak of frustration and burst out, "You sit there and say nothing while the world is going to pieces. What do you want...what do you want to do?" Beckett crossed his long legs and drily replied, "Walter, all I want to do is sit on my arse and fart and think of Dante."

This exchange illustrates a phenomenon I've been looking to pin a name on for years, so I'm glad to be able to call it...the Lowenfels-Beckett Dilemma.

Last summer, as this line of thought was developing, historian Peter Eisenstadt came to World Fellowship and gave a talk on the lawn introducing Howard Thurman, the African-American theologian who was a critical link between Gandhi and the civil rights movement in this country. The next morning I went trolling for a "quote of the day" from Thurman, and fished up this:

"Don't ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and go do that. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."

For seventy years, World Fellowship has been providing an atmosphere in which people are able to discover what makes them "come alive." For some of us, this involves time spent on our backsides thinking about Dante...or whoever's version of beauty and/or truth moves us. So, yes, many are able to at least temporarily solve the Lowenfels-Beckett Dilemma, realizing that we don't have to choose between addressing the pressing issues of the day and feeding our own passions. At World Fellowship we can do both.

And, really, isn't that an ultimate goal of all our social change work, to birth a society in which everyone can fulfill themselves both as citizens and as creative individuals? As the Gorky quotation on the Uphaus Lodge living room wall says:

"Then we shall live in truth and freedom and in beauty, and those will be accounted the best who will the more widely embrace the world with their hearts, and whose love of it will be the profoundest; those will be the best who will be the freest; for in them is the greatest beauty. Then will life be great, and the people will be great who live that life."



You're invited! Place a brick on the walkway to the Schmauch Meeting Room
Honor those in whose footsteps we follow... The brick walkway to the Schmauch Meeting room marks the connections and love shared within the World Fellowship community. Please join by including your name(s) or those you love and admire.

Please reserve ____ Brick(s) at \$100 each (3 lines with 13 spaces each)
____ Double Bricks at \$200 each (up to 6 lines, 13 spaces each)

Note: There are 13 total letters/spaces available per line. No commas,- hyphens okay. All letters and lines will be capitalized and centered. Please use "&" instead of "and."

#1#2

Line 1 _____ Line 1



Line 2 _____

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

Line 3 _____



World Fellowship Center
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Sharing the gift of World Fellowship...
Education, Inspiration, Empowerment, Action

"Hope is not what we find in evidence,
it's what we become in action."
— Frances Moore Lappé

World fellowship is possible... and we need your help!

Help Wanted – Volunteers and Staff

Do you want to:

- ❖ Live and work for peace and social justice?
- ❖ Grow in an educational, diverse intergenerational setting?
- ❖ Be with incredible, inspiring people?
- ❖ Have fun?

If so, consider living and working 3-12 weeks between June and September in Albany, NH.
Visit www.worldfellowship.org for all the details.

Community Support and Outreach Opportunities

Spread the love:

- ❖ Share this newsletter with a friend
- ❖ Invite us to an Occupy Wall Street event
- ❖ Find us on Facebook
- ❖ Sign up for our E-News & Updates
- ❖ Call or email to unsubscribe
- ❖ See inside to sign up to help with Outreach

It's our loss if you toss. Before your recycle -
Contact us if you don't open this and we'll remove your name from our list

Call: 603-447-2280 • Web: www.worldfellowship.org • email: info@worldfellowship.org



World Fellowship Center Celebrates the first 70 years!

From the 1941 founding summer's theme, 'In a time of war, prepare for peace', we've provided seven decades of educational programming in a unique wilderness environment for individuals, families, and movement organizations to reflect, recreate and re-energize. We appreciate the support each of you provides to help make this 'Second Home' of the progressive Left a continuing reality. World Fellowship is possible and it's happening in Albany, NH.

Over the past two years, your support has helped:
Hire professional assistance, resulting in:

- ◆ Completion of Facilities Assessment
- ◆ Life Safety Plan approved by local fire chief. Implementation of recommendations begun
- ◆ New database management software developed
- ◆ Website upgrade
- ◆ Draft Campus Plan created with input from community survey and board/committee discussions
- ◆ 2010 Financial Review conducted by independent Certified Public Accountant

Continue facilities improvements:

- ◆ Complete installation of Lloyd Lodge and Uphaus fire alarm system
- ◆ Complete repainting of Lloyd Lodge with shingle repair
- ◆ Complete construction for egress from dining hall, some Lloyd Lodge and Weller House rooms
- ◆ Farmhouse deconstruction completed
- ◆ Children's Fellowship building and playground upgrade
- ◆ Cleared additional land for growing organic vegetables; tractor purchased
- ◆ Continued forest management for species diversification and wildlife forage

Implement management improvements:

- ◆ Hired year-round Administrative Assistant/Office Manager
- ◆ Board of Trustees training and professionalization resulting in improved governance
- ◆ Gatherings held each weekend of the summer for Board members to Meet & Greet guests
- ◆ Successful summer educational program with expanded Recreation, Arts, and Body Movement
- ◆ Positive hospitality measures received in evaluations from summer guests
- ◆ Implementation of development initiatives improving capacity to fund overall improvements

The World Fellowship 2010 Annual Report is available at www.worldfellowship.org. This report is based on independent accountants' (Leone, McDonnell & Roberts) review for the year ending December 31, 2010.

World Fellowship Income & Expenses

	2010
Summer Guest Fees	\$274,730
Donations, Events, and Major Gifts	\$116,777
Other (conferences, sales)	<u>\$22,842</u>
Total Income	\$414,349
Program/Guest Services	\$104,383
Staff wages/benefits	\$78,835
2 FT salary/benefits	\$77,436
Insurance, Taxes, Fees	\$51,840
Life Safety, Repairs, Farm	\$57,162
Consulting & Board	\$19,748
Other	<u>\$6,006</u>
Total Expense	\$395,410
Assets	
Land, buildings and equipment	\$560,388
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$73,803
Investments	\$19,658
Inventory	\$11,109
Accounts Receivable	<u>\$2,053</u>
Total Assets	\$667,011

