



Insights from the Board

The President of the Windstar Board of Trustees is pleased to announce two new members of the Board.

Pam Peterson...

"It is with great pride and an increased sense of responsibility that I have accepted a position on the Windstar Board of Trustees. As an outreach arm of all of you, I will try to represent the Windstar community in an ethical and committed manner. The goals and objectives of Windstar are very parallel to those of Challenger Center for Space Science Education, where I work as the Western Regional Director. Making responsible choices as an educated public engaged in effective communication and working as a team makes both Windstar and Challenger Center viable conduits to stewardship and understanding among our global community as well as those communities in which we all reside. To that end, I have worked with numerous communities with business plans, education plans, and fundraising to develop Challenger Learning Centers and hope that my experience along those lines will benefit Windstar as we work together for a sustainable future. Thanks for the opportunity to work with and for all of you!"

JoLynn Long...

"As a new member of the Board of Trustees of the Windstar Foundation, I would like to introduce myself to Windstar members that I haven't had the opportunity to meet. My name is JoLynn Long and my home is in Georgetown, Texas where I am a member of the Bluebonnet Windstar Connection group. I am proud to work with all Windstar members to help insure that the principles on which Windstar was founded are kept alive. In addition to serving the Foundation, I am on the Board of Directors of the John Denver Memorial Peace Cloth. I also work on other humanitarian projects which include producing a documentary celebrating John's legacy. It is important that future generations know the vision, the dreams, the hopes John had for Mother Earth and all her children."

WINDSTAR JOURNALS UNLOCK KEY TO FUTURE

Foundation's past magazine features still work

By Dreux DeMack

The concept of environmentalism is a kinetic thread that weaves from state to state, country to country, continent to continent. It is timeless and seamless. Thus, theories from the past most often apply to current applications for responsible conservation and progressive preservation.

The Windstar Foundation was founded on the belief that the future is sustainable and the environment can be healthy. Its vision to create unique global environmental research and education has been a work in progress. Those who voiced that vision in the Windstar Journal magazine in the 1980s would likely echo the same words in the 21st century. While some of those voices are silent now, their words remain simplistic in their teachings. The more things change, the more they *should* stay the same.

Consider some of these passages from the Windstar Journal archives:

"Every step, from initiating a global peace conference to picking up a piece of trash and putting it in a trash can, is important and does make a difference."

Carrie Click, Windstar Journal, Spring 1989

How simple a concept and how appropriate a value, no matter what year it is. While global peace conferences often result in stale policies, picking up a piece of trash is an endless contribution to a healthy planet.

The failure to recognize the constancy of change denies our evolution; denies the past, present and future; and denies the reality of our universe."

John Denver, Windstar Journal, Summer 1988

Lyrical at first glance, these prophetic words mirror the world today and could have been written even a hundred years ago. As we strive to perfect sound environmental policy and activism, we sometimes fail to realize that we are constantly evolving and perfection is unlikely. But we can certainly remember the environmental failures of the past and strive for sensible actions in the future.

"What we can do, besides beget our past, is to cheer our future opportunities. The most challenging of them all is the opportunity to try to restore as much as we can of what we and our immediate industrial ancestors have taken apart."

David Brower, Windstar Journal, Summer 1987

While environmentalist David Brower was addressing the recycling of nonrenewable resources (metals and fossil fuels), the principles he championed are critical to this planet's future. The focus today has only partially shifted to renewable energies like the wind, sun and hydrogen. Brower believed that "the green gifts of the ground beneath us will gladly send forth once again" resources that will restore essential ecosystems.

"We are members of a living ecosystem, an ecosystem that encompasses the whole of a planet. I firmly believe that if people all over this planet remembered the fundamental connectedness of all life forms, we would be better able to avoid polarizing disputes of war, racism, sexism, ageism and animosities among human beings."

Cheryl Charles, Windstar Journal, Spring 1988

Those synchronous words written just 15 years ago would serve our global leaders well today. Incongruity in our political systems worldwide have devastated budding democracies, shattered the growth of existing ones and left conventional cultures screaming for social inspiration. Between those apathies lay the ability of each of us to make a difference and sculpt the future. As Charles wrote, we all "encompass the whole of a planet."

The Windstar Journals of the 1980s offered the philosophies of brilliant activists and experts in human potential. A glimpse through the pages will offer insight into the future more than a peek into the past because theories of global unity will never fade. They will simply evolve and self-tweak. But no theory is relative if ignored by those who need them most...us.

Environmental Studies Scholarship 2003

The Windstar Foundation has consistently sought ways, "To inspire individuals to make responsible choices and take direct personal actions to achieve a peaceful and environmentally sustainable future." With this mission in mind, the Windstar Foundation awards three \$500 scholarships, each year, to qualified college students majoring in Environmental Studies.

In the last issue of the Vision, we introduced you to Noah Munro. In this issue, we are pleased to give you a little background on our other two recipients for 2003. We congratulate and thank these incredible students for the work they are doing now and the possibilities for all that they will accomplish in the future!

John Varghese

John attends the University of North Texas, Denton, TX, majoring in Environmental Biology with an interest in environmental policy. Among John's achievements are his work on environmental planning with the Centennial Olympic Park Landscaping crew; researching environmental topics with relation to hypoxic zones and fish health with the U of TX Environmental/Developmental Physiology Lab; committee member of the U of TX/TAMS Earth Committee, assisting in campus clean-ups, EARTH Day programs and promoting increased awareness of environmental issues; worked as a volunteer with the Lewisville Lake Environmental Area, planting trees to help restore the landscape. John also received a Morris K. Udall Foundation nomination from the U of TX, was a finalist for the Environmental Institute for Golf/Scotts Company Scholars and received the "Keeping Lewisville Beautiful" Award for Volunteerism.

Katherine Rowden

Katherine attends Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA, majoring in Environmental Engineering. Katherine has worked as Vice President for the Gonzaga Chapter of Engineers Without Borders, working on sustainable engineering solutions for impoverished communities worldwide, Chairperson of the Zero Waste Committee, promoting a "Zero Waste System" for Spokane; member of the Board of Directors for PEACH (People for Environmental Action and Children's Health) working on fund raising, financial oversight and goal setting; worked with the Washington Environmental Council to help track local issues.

And the winner is.....

It's a TIE!...Both Ron Deutschendorf and Shari Sullivan enrolled 7 new Windstar members during our 2003 Membership Challenge! So, we now have a New Challenge! Ron will take both Shari and her guest AND whoever beats Ron and Shari's 7 new members between now and October 1, 2004 out for an evening of fine dining and fun! Good luck!!

Challenge rules:



- 1) People you enroll must be NEW Windstar members
- 2) All new members must be enrolled between March 1 and October 1, 2004
- 3) Membership info as well as the e-mail/snail mail stating the total number of your new members, must be received in the Windstar office by October 1, 2004. Please include your phone number and send your mail to: WindstarCO@wstar.org or the Windstar Foundation P.O. Box 656 Snowmass, CO 81654

Speaking of Membership...With the help of our 2003 Membership Drive and Ron's Challenge, our membership numbers have increased from 318 on April 1, 2003 to 613 as of this printing! We thank each and every one of you who have made the financial commitment to the work of the Foundation and the personal commitment to the Windstar spirit!

The Windstar Foundation is a not-for-profit environmental education organization founded in 1976 by John Denver and Tom Crum. The mission of the Windstar Foundation is "To inspire individuals to make responsible choices and take direct personal actions to achieve a peaceful and environmentally sustainable future."

Administrative Contact: Windstar Foundation, PO Box 656, Snowmass, CO 81654.
Phone/Fax 970-927-5430 e-mail WindstarCO@wstar.org

Board of Trustees: Ron Deutschendorf, President & Chairman • JoLynn Long • Pam Peterson • Cheryl Charles, Member on Sabbatical • Beth Miller, Board Member Emeritus

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THANK YOU!

- To Nancy Anglin and the "Just John Denver" Internet group of friends for sending us our "wished for" U Matic tape player. This is one giant step towards the tremendous archive work that needs to be done!
- To our ever generous Kathy Campbell for the Polycom phone and Nikon Digital Camera. MANY THANKS!! Both of these will enable us to stay connected with our membership...thru conference calls and those images worth a "thousand words"
- To Windstar friend and member Sherrill Schoepe, for her more than generous donation, giving Windstar the opportunity to purchase the much needed equipment necessary to transfer the vast quantity of 3/4 inch video tapes accumulated over the years, including the Choices Symposium tapes, and put them on DVD for archiving and use.



Connecting Connections... Good Work from Good People

- **Arizona Connection:** Planning a 2004 EARTHcamp with funds provided by their third annual John Denver Tribute held last October, inspiring people in the audience to seek additional information on the work of Windstar!
www.azwindstar.org
- **Colorado Connection:** Held their summer retreat at the Windstar Conservancy lands last July and are currently helping with restoration work at the Murie Ranch in Moose, Wyoming. More information on their work can be found in this issues insert.
www.geocities.com/highpeak_99/WindstarColoradoConnection.html
- **Minnesota Connection:** Held its first EARTHcamp last August with 30 kids experiencing the world in a new way! In addition, Detroit Lakes is currently a test town for our new EARTHcamp After School Program.
www.bwca.cc/windstar
- **Heart of Ohio:** Working on plans for their 2004 EARTHcamp, led by Sandy Wilmore who attended the EARTHcamp Leaders Workshop last summer.
www.howc.org
- **MidSouth Connection:** Reaching out to their community, the group is involved with recycling programs and road clean-ups. In partnership with a local school, they constructed 15 bluebird houses and gave them to the school children to maintain and monitor.
- **New England Connection:** Raised over \$800 to help with their summers EARTHcamp plans. Locally, they held a playground clean-up in conjunction with their summer business meeting.
- **New York Connection:** Celebrated ECO-DAY on Pier 63 Maritime, music provided by long-time Windstar friend Michael Mish! The Connection continues it's work with student interns from the High School for Environmental Studies.
- **John Denver Memorial Peace Cloth Connection:** Panels of the cloth were on display at the production of "Almost Heaven" in Denver, CO. Pam Beasleys' panel for the Challenger was at the opening of the Challenger Learning Center in Toledo Ohio. The cloth continues to grow thru the beautiful, heartfelt contributions.
www.johndenverpeacecloth.com
- **Pacific Northwest:** They are reaching out into their community, having adopted a stretch of highway on the Columbia River Gorge that proudly displays the name of "John Denver's PNW Windstar" to over 2 million visitors a year!
- **Spirit Windstar Connection:** The newest of our Connection groups, this was formed by friends who met mostly through the Internet and searched for ways to continue John Denver's work. Windstar was their chosen avenue!

WINDSTAR SYMPOSIUM 2004!

As I indicated in the last newsletter, one of the many things I am excited about this year is our "Symposium"! I am very pleased to announce that we have set the date for September 24, of 2004. Though this is also *Yom Kippur* which I feel is a good omen, (and we will be making arrangements to accommodate our Jewish colleagues,) this is a Friday allowing the students and teachers who participate via one of the avenues we have put in place, to set homework for the weekend! We are making our symposium available to any school in the country which chooses to connect via the 26,000 video streams which 'Kidzonline' have so generously offered. This will allow our Windstar teachers to structure curriculums (based on our speakers platform) for teachers across the nation to download during the summer thus allowing them to participate on an interactive level, giving students a hands-on experience, with speakers such as Amory Lovins, CEO of the Rocky Mountain Institute, and Thomas Zung of the Buckminster Fuller Institute, to name just a few. The symposium will run all day long, and I expect make a certain amount of history. So be sure and mark your calendars, as this will possibly be the biggest fun we at Windstar have had in some time!!!

Ron Deuschendorf...Chairman/President Windstar Foundation Board of Trustees

In Memory: Mardy Murie



Margaret Elizabeth Thomas, born August 18, 1902 in Seattle, Washington died recently, or should I say went home finally, to join her family and husband Olaus who passed some forty years before, on October 19. She had been ill for some time and so this would seem to be a blessing now for her to be released from the earthly ties that bind us, and allowed to be free, her spirit soaring with so many others before her. Her friends, like John Denver, who cared equally about the environment, and president Lyndon B. Johnson who signed the Wilderness Act in 1964 while she stood by his side having campaigned so hard for the bill. So many others, members of the Walton League, the Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society, all having made trips to her ranch, like many past presidents, having been both enlightened and educated about the environment, the wilderness, conservation, and so much more just by visiting her, by being in her presence, listening and learning from her. President Clinton bestowed the Presidential Medal of Freedom upon her in 1998 for her work. Her ranch has been designated a National Historic District for its conservation history, and the Murie Center was created in 1997 to carry on the Murie's work. Yes, friends Mardy Murie passed recently! I personally am saddened by my loss as I, unlike my brother, never made the trip to the ranch to visit Mardy. I will now at least make the trip to the ranch and I hope others will also, in Mardy's memory. For we at Windstar have lost another friend of the environment who believed as we do. Bless you Mardy Murie on your future travels, and say hello to my brother, John. Tell him we at Windstar will carry on!

Ron Deuschendorf
Chairman/President
Windstar Board of Trustees

In memory of Mardy's life and to celebrate her work, the Colorado Connection has put together an opportunity for Windstar members to work on a cabin at the Murie Center in Moose, Wyoming this coming Memorial, at our annual Volunteer Work Weekend. More information and registration details can be found in this months insert or by going to the Windstar Website and clicking on "Volunteer Work Weekend!"

The Windstar Celebration By Michele Phillips

On the type of day that John seemed to love best, his family, friends and fans gathered at the home of his vision, Windstar, to remember him and to work towards keeping his dream alive. Harlean Peterson was the organizer for this year's Windstar Celebration, and the line up of activities gave plenty for all visitors to see and explore.

Information kiosks were set up for Connections, EARTHcamp, the Skills Roster, and general Windstar information. Deb Perry of Illinois once again organized volunteers and was sitting at the welcome table to greet the 275-300 guests with her "Sunny" smile. A new feature this year was the availability to join Windstar at the welcome table. With this new endeavor, 53 new members were signed up.

Connie Young once again provided a light snack table, and there was a Windstar Members Market table set up offering products from various vendors. Christopher Canyon was onsite with his new book, "Sunshine On My Shoulders", signing copies and chatting with the guests.

Shari Sullivan organized a great craft project, incorporating wood plaques, a photo of John, and pieces of the original Buckminster Fuller biodome. Guests designed their own layout and chose a phrase to remember John with, inscribed on parchment paper. Many happy people carried home a piece of Windstar history, with a personal touch.

Down in the Aiki tent, the Peace Cloth hung proudly as a backdrop to the musical entertainment for the day. The musicians started off at 11:00 a.m. with Cottonwood Stone, also known as Cindi Martin. Jim and Anne Curry with Diane Ireland, Ron Rich, Mark Cormican, and Chris Collins followed her performance. The music wrapped up with Roy Rivers, who also donated the use of his sound system. Roy also wrote a special song, "Windstar" for the occasion:

**"To be honest and whole in my heart
Is the best place I know of to start
The response that I make
To this world that I see
To its hurt or its health
It begins here with me...Windstar."**

When asked about his thoughts on Windstar, Roy responded, "If the world is to be enriched, changed, helped, healed and even saved...It's up to us. As John so often said, it's 'Each one of us...*together*', doing what is within our own capacities and abilities that will make the difference. Windstar is life affirming, environment affirming, peace affirming and universe affirming. I'm proud to have been asked to sing there."

Inside the RMI building, a silent auction was held and several Windstar products were available for sale. Aileen Blomgren and others took care to help out with any and all questions about products and silent auction items.

Dreux DeMack and Steve Gorman hosted a photo walk that traveled from Bucky's dome to the Aiki tent. For approximately 45 minutes they discussed techniques and formats for framing and taking great picture.

Several of the guests walked down to spend time with Spirit, the inspirational statue by Sue DiCicco. 145 of the 155 memorial bricks were put in place the day before the celebration. The layout is stunning and the smiles and tears came out as guests found bricks donated by themselves or by friends or loved ones.

One of the day's visitors was Harold Simpson of Hoopes-ton, IL. "All I can say is the day turned out to be as perfect as one could hope for." He said, "It encompassed environmental education, top-notch entertainment and the nourishing of friendships. It makes me proud to be a Windstar member along with such an outstanding group of individuals."

As the four o'clock hour closed in, the celebration wound down to a close. New members and old left with a renewed sense of goal, a piece of Windstar's history in the plaques and a piece of Windstar's future in the products and information. The global family looks now towards 2004 and the beginnings of a great year for Windstar and the planet.

EARTHcamp Leaders Workshop July 19—23, 2004

Windstar Land Conservancy in Snowmass, CO
Registration is FREE for all Windstar Members
Please see our website at www.wstar.org for more information or contact Debbie Murphy at debbie@wstar.org



Windstar Foundation
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