



## Insights from the Board

### ON MEMBERSHIP

As most of you are already aware, we are in the midst of a membership drive. Harlean Peterson and her membership committee have been hard at work with contests and challenges to existing members to enroll their friends and neighbors in the Windstar Global Family. Our Chairman, Ron Deuschendorf, has been personally involved in soliciting his wide range of friends and acquaintances to come on board. All of this is aimed at an ambitious short-term goal of 1000 new members.

The response from members has been encouraging, but to achieve our goal we will need to reach beyond our current membership. We will shortly be mailing a letter from Ron to former Windstar members from the 90's who have not yet rejoined, explaining the progress we have made in the last two years and asking for their participation. Among other things, the letter describes the role of the Advisory Group, the increase in the number of Connection groups and the great success of the EARTHcamp program.

What's not emphasized in the letter is another crucial role that membership plays in the rebuilding of a small organization like ours. Until we grow to the point of attracting major grant funding for our activities, it's mostly membership dollars that pay the office rent, the part-time staff and all the other overhead costs of operation. Yes, we want volunteers and project leaders, but it's all the loyal folks who send in their membership renewals that do the unglamorous work of keeping us alive financially.

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## EARTHcamp Leaders Workshop 2003

From June 24-28, under crystal clear Colorado skies and amidst the beauty and spirit of the Windstar land, folks gathered to participate in the EARTHcamp Leaders workshop. The goal of our time together was to learn all that we could about leading an EARTHcamp and then return home able to share the EARTHcamp experience with children in our local community. Indeed, our time together accomplished this goal and so much more. We were not only given a brilliantly conceived program with day-to-day schedules, tips and logistical information, but we were also given the confidence, motivation, reassurance and inspiration to know that we could go home and pass this gift along.

Under the capable and caring leadership of our teachers, Debbie Murphy and Hollie Carter, we became campers and participated in the "nature, visual and theater arts and a whole lotta fun" which describes the EARTHcamp program. Debbie and Hollie modeled with their warmth, expertise and wisdom just how one would implement these activities with children. The mantra of the week became "this is camp, this is fun!" Indeed, through our four days together we learned, laughed, sang, became

friends and re-connected with the creative process.

In the context of all this fun were activities which promoted an understanding and appreciation for the workings of our planet. As we adopted a tree, observed the life around us in stillness, created our vision of peace for the peace quilt, designed a billboard sending a message to the President, and participated in a myriad of other activities, the interconnectedness of life on our planet and the need to live lightly upon it became clear.

As I think about the mission of EARTHcamp: "... that every child who attends the Windstar Foundation's EARTHcamp will develop a love and respect for the Earth that will last a lifetime," I am humbled by this awesome responsibility. Yet, thanks to Debbie's and Hollie's gifts of time, talent, and creativity, I have been empowered and entrusted to pass this gift along to the children. I cannot imagine a better way to support the mission and goals of Windstar than to have the opportunity and privilege to bring this program to the children of my community.

~~Iris Feldman

## The Good Guys

The Rainforest Action Network released a list of polluters it calls the "dirty dozen" in May 2003. Polluters make headlines. We, the people of planet Earth, have a right to know about companies who are destroying our planet. This is undeniable. But, what about companies striving to make a difference? When is the last time you heard news about a company doing the right thing?

The good guys rarely make the news. There are companies that are "values-driven," as well as profit driven; are socially and environmentally responsible; are committed to and employ innovative practices that benefit workers, communities, customers and the environment. These are the companies we must make an effort to find and to patronize. These are the companies we must support whenever possible.

Many people immediately recognize certain types of companies as being "green." Companies who sell organic products are immediately recognizable, as are those who sell "free-range" meat, products made with recycled materials, products not tested on animals, etc. etc.

However, many companies make it their business to be a friend of the environment, peace, human rights, and many other social and environmental issues. Services ranging from telephone service, computer supplies, and banking are available through "green companies." Today, one can find many "green" alternatives to the big corporations when looking for services.

*Gandhi's words  
are true today  
and  
always,  
"You must be  
the change you  
wish to see in  
the world."*

Co-op America produces the *National Green Pages* and the *Green Pages Online*, a directory of those companies that meet their strict guidelines for social and environmental awareness.

Companies ranging from telephone services to real estate to financial consultants are listed in the directory. So, when you are tired of giving all your money to the big corporations that care nothing about the customer or the world—only about profits, check out the *Green Pages*. We must support those companies who care. The price may be a little higher (although many times it is not) but what price can we put on our world.

~~Susan Haymore

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While seeking new members to achieve greater stability, we need to pause and thank all of you, our current members, for your support. Without you, we could not function at all. If you are like me, then Windstar means something different to you than many other organizations you may support. Please know that you mean something special to Windstar as well. Thank you for being a part of the Global Family.

~~Marge MacDonald  
Windstar Foundation Board of Trustees

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."

**For information about participation in the Windstar Global Family**, please contact:  
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## Advisory Group Reports

### The Peace Cloth

The Peace Cloth traveled far and wide this past year, both in the US and abroad. We participated in a peace rally in Aspen, attended EARTHcamp, went to a nursing convention and had fun with Brownies and students.

The cloth, prepared in memory of September 11, 2001, was completed and plans are underway to share it with the police and fire companies in NYC and elsewhere who donated badges, shirts and hats to honor their fallen.

We are proud to be a part of the advertising for the new Dawn Publication's book "Sunshine on My Shoulders" and celebrate their efforts to bring John's music to children the world over. Currently, we are gearing up for our annual fund-raising event in Aspen on October 8, 2003, and will present this year's Vision Award to Donna and Terry Lipman for their dedication to John Denver's legacy and The Windstar Foundation.

~~Ann Schnitz

### Membership

Our goal to increase Windstar's membership is gaining momentum!

Examples of the things our members and friends have been doing:

- Wildlife Creations, (Susan Moyer and Diana Taylor) sponsored an essay contest, with Windstar memberships as the prize.
- Nancy Anglin held a JD trivia contest. The person who got the questions correct won a Windstar membership.
- Jim Curry and Ron Rich have distributed Windstar brochures at some of their concerts.
- Ron Deutschendorf has challenged everyone to enroll more new members than he does before the end of the year. (see the Summer 2003 issue). To be eligible, you must be a Windstar member. Send an email listing the people you have enrolled this year and your name to [harlean@wstar.org](mailto:harlean@wstar.org). The person who enrolls more than Ron by the highest number, will win.

If we each have 3 friends join us, we *will* reach our year's goal!

~~Harlean Peterson

## Melissa Poe.....

In 1990 over 250 billboards were put up around the country expressing 9 year old Melissa Poe's concerns for the environment.



Response to those billboards led to Melissa forming an organization called Kids For A Clean Environment. Her involvement with KIDS F.A.C.E. led to Melissa receiving the 1995 Windstar Youth Award at the Choices for the Future Symposium. Through video, her acceptance speech outlining the "power of one" inspires our EARTHcampers every year.

Melissa wrote us recently to tell us what she's been doing since then. "After my graduation from Wake Forest, I campaigned for my congressman who was running for Senate. I went to work for him in his congressional office in DC as a Staff Assistant. Being in this environment

gave me the chance to see how the backbone of our country works. However, after acting as support for my congressman, I realized what I liked so much about politics is how the Senators and Congressman are leaders and that I wanted to lead.

When my Congressman did not get elected to be Senator of our state, I saw it as a great opportunity to try something new, to find something I could be more passionate about and put my skills to better use. I found what I believe to be a pretty good match for me at this time. I'm working as a Development Assistant for The Nature Conservancy, working in the division of Central America and the Caribbean. I started this job in February and have been working ever since to help "save the last great places." Actually my job is to help keep track of gifts and help the team I work with stay in touch with those individuals who are giving to our programs that help protect areas in Central America and the Caribbean.

I'm really enjoying my job at The Nature Conservancy. It gives me a chance to see how a really large organization operates- its a lot different from how a grassroots organization like Kids F.A.C.E. works! "

Kids F.A.C.E. began with 6 members and today their membership numbers over 300,000 , with 2,000 chapters in 15 countries. This organization is now the largest youth environmental organization in the world. Please visit their website at <http://www.kidsface.org>



## A word or two on EARTHcamp

The Year 2003 is a year of memories for me. It was the year I graduated from high school. It was the summer of adventure. A summer I will never forget.

I was asked to be a counselor for Windstar's EARTHcamp. It was the time of my life. My mother has been involved in the Windstar program for some time now, so I've always known about it and the great things it does. Up until this year, I could never attend because I was in North Georgia at a Boy Scout camp. Well, this time, I finally got my turn to make the drive out to beautiful Colorado! I was really excited!

I met the other counselors, who I could tell immediately I'd get along with. The week started. We did many activities and played many games throughout the week, but the highlight was the EARTHcamp play that we performed in Aspen. The kids sure seemed to love it! The second biggest event of the week was the overnight. We set up two tipis to sleep in. There was a camp fire and songs and I played my guitar. We all had a very fun time!

The kids all walked away from camp with a better understanding of the environment and the harmful things that people are doing to it. By the end the week we all realized that everyone of us can make a difference in our world. Even I learned a thing or two. I cannot wait for next year to come and for the kids to come out and learn about the planet again! It was definitely a summer I will never forget.

~~Luke Carter  
Snowmass, Colorado EARTHcamp



Going to EARTHcamp was a truly enriching experience! I enjoyed the people and the activities. Everything was really fun. My friends and I have learned how important our Earth really is.

Simple, but fun demonstrations showed us many amazing facts. I realized how money is not important through a fun group project. Everything was hands on. We even got to dissect owl pellets!

We were all bewildered when we were asked to untie a giant rope full of knots, without using our left hands! We were immediately put to the test!

The counselors and campers worked with the space we had wonderfully, and we felt that we were in a safe place to share our ideas and opinions.

On our nature hike, we were given an opportunity to view nature in a different way. I looked forward to every day of it! All of the campers got along great, and we've all become closer than ever before.

On behalf of all of the campers, I think that the best part was the performance, "The Potter's Message." Practicing was fun and exciting. We all enjoyed showing our parents the fun things that we had worked on and played with.

Since this wonderful experience, all of us have come out with a better understanding of the world around us. We have the tools and the power to stand up for what we believe in. And last, but not least, we have come across some amazing role models!

~~Emily Johnson  
Rifle, Colorado EARTHcamp

## Environmental Studies Scholarship 2003

The recipients of the 2003 Environmental Studies Scholarship Awards have been chosen. We thank the many qualified college students who submitted applications. We believe each and every one of you will play an important part in making this world work!

In this issue, we would like to introduce you to one of the recipients, Noah Munro.



"I am a junior at Green Mountain College in Vermont, majoring in Environmental Sciences. I am fortunate to spend the fall semester in 2003 at a program in sustainability called Living Routes in Auroville, an ecovillage in Southern India.

I learned to love the outdoors, camping as a young kid, canoeing at summer camps and hiking with my family. My

junior year in high school I learned about global climate change and knew that I wanted to learn how to contribute to the solution. I've written a book for young children on the problem, as I feel it is critical that kids learn what they are facing so they can learn how to live in ways that support life.

I don't know where my career path will lead me exactly. I only know that what we do matters to this earth we all share."

We congratulate Noah and wish him much success on his work towards the sustainability and health of the planet.

*It's amazing how much mystery and magic there is out there. If there's one thing I've learned on this semester so far...it's that life is unending learning. Any conclusions I draw are non final and there's so much out there in the world to learn about.*

~~ Noah Munro



### And the Winner is.....

The winner of the drawing for the trip to Aspen is Camille Freitas of Dallas, Texas. Congratulations Camille!



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## Wish List

- U-matic 3/4 inch video player

## Many THANKS to...

- Cheryl Markvart (member) and Daniel Pohlman (of Baycom, Inc.) for three Panasonic Laptops.
- Jeanne Macisco for the mini-digital camera and software.
- Kathy Campbell for the Polycom Conference phone and the Nikon digital camera and software.
- George and Yvonne Clapp for the office paper cutter and printing calculators.

## eScrip

We would like to remind you to join eScrip. This fund-raising resource contributes a percentage of your grocery cards, credit cards, and debit/ATM cards to organizations of your choice. Simply go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com), designate the Windstar Foundation (ID# 151323804) as the organization being supported and eScrip does the rest. Every time you use your card, Windstar benefits. You pay nothing extra! More information can be found on the Windstar website. Please consider signing up today!

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