



Village eView

March 20, 2019

Colette Hoff, Editor

COMING UP
Pathwork, March 24
General Circle, March 25
Women's weekend, May 3 to 5

Relevance of the Goodenough Community

Colette Hoff

According to Wikipedia, *relevance* is the concept of one topic being connected to another topic in a way that makes it useful to consider the first topic when considering the second. The concept of relevance is studied in many different fields, including cognitive sciences, logic, and library and information science. the quality or state of being closely connected or appropriate.

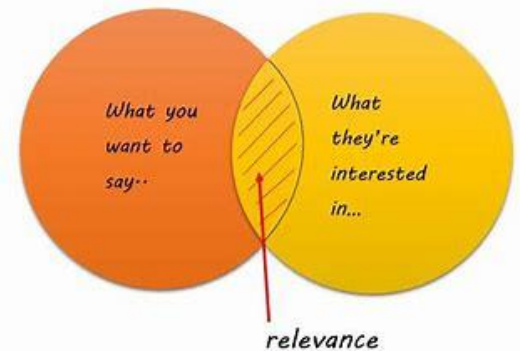
On Sunday morning of the Annual Goodenough Community Meeting, after reflecting on the land in a walking meditation, watching two powerful videos about children who are climate change activists and reading the article by Kirsten Rohde published in Communities Magazine about the salmon stream, the group was asked to assess the relevance of the Community and discuss what might increase our relevance.

The conversation was energetic among members of the General Circle (previously known as Council). The following are some of the points made:

- Our use of the governing model of Sociocracy is pertinent. It enables us to communicate more effectively with other communities and groups who use the same method. Sociocracy could grow us for a long time.
- Getting to know our neighbors maintains our relevance in Tahuya. Irene is volunteering to help with the Tahuya Day parade. Several Sahale residents have helped at the local Church to support their work with homeless teens. Skykomish tribal lands across the canal would be an example of a potential connection.

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

- John and Colette Hoff have maintained relevance in their work with us. They kept up-to-date in various fields with books, journals, and the web. And now Colette is continuing to bring new perspectives to learning experiences. John and Colette also kept themselves informed about the greater world. Colette is aware of what is happening in our lives and hearts which ensures relevance.



- Our current mission and goals for our organizations and Sahale can be studied through the lens of relevancy.
- Relevance helps me be conscious and have conscience about what I/we are doing as it relates to the situation we're in.
- Ecology and connection to the earth are deep values within the community. Stewardship of the land within relationship will always exist, so we'll always have relevance. Practicing permaculture principles and keeping up with the permaculture community is a way Sahale maintains relevance.
- Relevance is not doing business as usual without stepping back and observing. Welcoming all people here and watching the micro things we say and do is important. Diversity training is about white people being aware that words and phrases pop out of us and small sensitivities can make difference and add to our relevance in a changing world.
- Mental health and working with ourselves in relationships is always relevant. Mental wellness is more important than ever. Especially with the role technology plays in lives, relating intimately may become lost. We have a lot to offer.
- Bruce was appreciated for his role in the larger communities movement. He helped us host the West Coast Communities Conference, September 2018 and is on the planning committee for the 2019 Conference to be held at O.U.R. EcoVillage on Vancouver Island.

As the conversation came to a close, this comment seemed to sum up aspects of what many said: "In the future, we need to look for ways to represent to the world who we are and where we are headed so that we bring in and welcome those who can join us with their skills and passions for what we need heading into the future,

An article titled 4 Ways to Become More Relevant is located on page 11.



A Bright Annual Gathering!

Joan Valles

I was among the 20 or so folks who attended the annual organizational meeting of the Goodenough Community this past weekend at Sahale. I was so engaged by the action that I unfortunately failed to take notes. So from memory (84-year-old memory), here are some of the highlights for me:

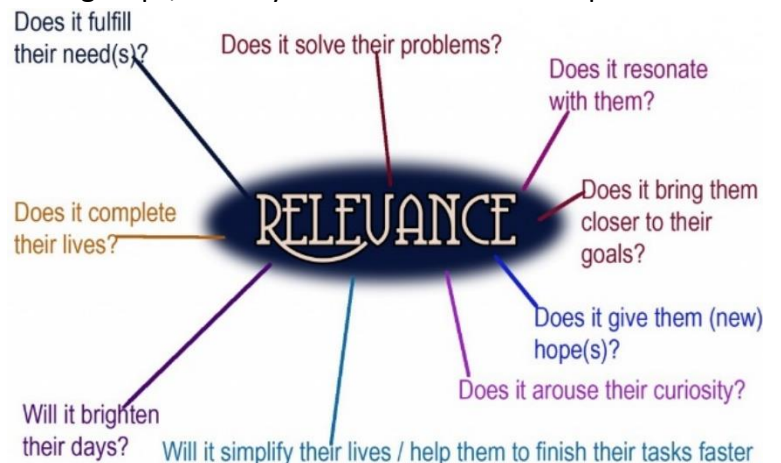


-- Demonstration of the Sociocracy system of governance in action. As a participant in the meeting, I liked how the work was carried out in circles and I was impressed with how skillfully facilitation was rotated among leaders. There are rules about the flow of the meeting and how to participate and I found that freeing. Friday night we went around the room with each person listing community and Sahale accomplishments from the past year. Impressive! (I hope someone has a list).

-- Demonstration of how the circles work. There's a General Circle and four other main circles (Communications, Community Economy, Sahale, Lifeways) and each offered an example of the kind of work they do. The Communications Circle, for instance, had ideas for improving the Village eView. The Community Economy circle offered annual financial reports for the community, Convocation, and Sahale. In the Sahale circle, Jim described a way to bring more electricity to the Swamp and lower campus. Among Lab and cultural groups, Lifeways also holds membership. And the need for a membership process generated a lively discussion and demonstrated how differing viewpoints are handled in the Sociocracy method.

--By dinner time on Saturday, all the planned business had been accomplished! Folks who have been around the Goodenough Community for many years (close to 40 years now for some) are familiar with the term "emergent design." What would we as a group do on Saturday night. With the spring equinox upon us, Drai, Marjenta, and Irene met over dinner brought us a ritual to move us from the dark of winter to the light and energy of spring.

Throughout the weekend I appreciated how differing viewpoints enhanced my understanding of how our community is faring these days, and the light-hearted touch with which the meetings were conducted. For me, it was a bright weekend.



Annual Members Meeting
or
Allowing Transition and Seeding Sustainability

Bruce Perler

The Organization of the Goodenough Community showed up at our own Annual membership weekend meeting. We have before and, were in a new time and are being the part.

Sociocracy has been seeping into us for almost a year and having good effect. I couldn't be happier for our progress and momentum.

The membership too noticed that are changed. "Warmth and efficiency ...", was one feedback from our evaluation experience.

Blessings on our transition to Sociocracy. Our proof is being pudding.



A Moving Experience

We are asking for your help to help us get our home ready to sell and our belongings packed.

We'll be a-packing again this weekend at our home from 10a to 2p on Saturday. If the continental breakfast or lunch choices are making you stay away, let me know and I can change the menu 😊 😊



If you have any time, we'd love it if you dropped in. I am sure we could tailor something to your desires. We're making progress but it's definitely all about slow, steady progress.

Thanking you in advance,

Your friends,

Pam and Elizabeth.

PS: Next opportunity is April 13 and April 27

Please let Pam or me know if you can join us (adventuredog@hotmail.com; elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com).





*You must give yourself to love if love is what you're after;
Open up your hearts to the tears and laughter,
And give yourself to love, give yourself to love.*

Kate Wolfe

You Are Invited to ...

The Goodenough Community Women's Weekend

Give Yourself to Love!

May 3-5, 2019

Sahale Retreat Center, near Belfair, Washington

In our lives we often feel surrounded by all things opposed to love, yet we yearn to be loved and to be loving. Wise people tell us to open ourselves to love, but how can we do that in "real life"? We are told we are by nature filled with love, yet at times we feel cut off from our own loving energy. With so much opposing our efforts to love and be loved, what's a woman to do?

Please join us for a weekend of womanly companionship as together we search out barriers to loving energy and explore ways to open ourselves to love. You can count on experiencing friendship and laughter, deep silence and introspection, warmth and nurture, all in the natural tranquility of Sahale Retreat Center. Enjoy hearty, healthful, home-cooked meals and rest in comfortable accommodations.

The women's program of the Goodenough Community 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.

More information will be posted on our website, Goodenough.org. You may let us know you plan on attending by sending an email to Elizabeth Jarrett, elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com

We hope you will be with us May 3 – 5!

The women's leadership team:

Colette Hoff (Key Faculty), Hollis Guill Ryan, Elizabeth Jarrett, Joan Valles, Marjenta Gray, and Rose Buchmeier



Pathwork, March 24

Colette Hoff

Our Pathwork Circle will meet again on **March 24 at 7:00 p.m.** We will be gathering at the home of Barbara, Joan and Jim in Tukwila. The address is 3535 S. 126th St, Tukwila, 98168. Barbara's cell phone is 206 412-9417.



Pathwork is an excellent context for instituting new spiritual practices, support for maintaining current practice and provides many with a feeling connection so necessary for a good life. Currently, we are exploring the God/Goddess in each one of us.

Pathwork will continue to meet March 24, April 7, 28, May 19, June 2 and July 14.



The Communications Circle is coordinating the eView, identifying themes, and sharing the editor function.

Future themes of the eView include:

March 27 -- **Culture**, Colette editor

April 3 -- **Consistency**, Marjenta editor

April 10 – **Environment**, Colette, editor

April 17 – **Patience**, Elizabeth, editor

Spring Equinox

A contribution from Marley from “We’Moon – Gaia Rhythms for Womyn”

She comes, the Girrl Goddess, smart with heart, and girl enough for the work of world healing. She communicates heart-to-heart teaching us “ishin-denshin”, a Japanese expression for communicating through unspoken understanding, now a technology using the body for sound transmission.

The Sun sits vertically above the equator, magnanimously giving all of us equal day and night, whether vernal equinox in the Northern Hemisphere or autumnal equinox in the Southern. She dances us to equilibrium, balancing light and dark, reuniting the Mother Goddess and Girrl Goddess.

The reunion within each woman and within the world births hope, which is no flimsy wish but is a ferocious stance — a conviction that our vision is fully possible: a planet without national boundaries where all the children of the world have food and clean water and shelter and love, where all are aware that we are the co-creators with Gaia of the stunning earth. When we are done with dancing, we watch the flames and then the embers of our ritual sun fire, for further visions sent by the mother.

Mike deAnguera has been under the weather this week, so here is a glimpse of what is happening at Sahale.

To acknowledge the Spring Equinox, a couple of women (Amanda and Colette) took on thoroughly pruning the grapes at Sahale. It was quite an undertaking that turned out well!

In the evening, Irene Perler provided a lovely celebration of Spring with Greek lamb for dinner, Spring peas, falafel and a great lemon cake made by Amanda. Our new friends, Julie and Russ joined us. In the evening, Irene led us in a ritual to deepen our experience of the full moon and the Spring Equinox.



Help Needed! – Household Management, Cook, and Household Maintenance

We are looking for 1 or more individuals who are reliable, patient, and able to take direction. Duties include 3 focuses: (1) organizing and cleaning our home; (2) cooking 3 or 4 meals a week; (3) repairing and maintaining our household and yard.



If you are proficient at one or more of these sets of duties, we want to meet you! Altogether, the work might take 10 to 20 hours a week. We will pay \$15-30/hour, flex, depending on your experience.

Preferred contact: Please text April at 425 591 9796 or call Sam Staatz at 206 550 5932.

Our new Whiz Bang Apple Grinder



This new apple grinder is amazing as Jim demonstrates. Tod came up with the plans many years ago. This fall, after some difficulties with the motor to the existing cider press, we made the decision to go for it. Also, we just happened to have a carpenter/craftsman, named Paul Rave, who together with Tod Ransdell put it all together. Currently, Pedge is protecting the finish.

\$\$ This project couldn't come out of the general budget and we were not sure how much it would cost all together even with some things available here. So, while it's not our usual way, we built it and now two people are carrying the \$650 it cost. HMM that doesn't seem right.

While we have a donation for \$200, with \$450 to go any contribution would be wonderful. And another \$25.00 has come in. Will you join?

Please mail donation checks to Box 312, Tahuya, WA OR go on line to the Goodenough Community donation button.



Michael Pilarski of Friends of the Trees Society is launching a Go Fund Me campaign to put on the first-ever Global Earth Repair Conference which will bring 500 people together to envision a thriving planet for our descendants seven generations from now and strategize the many steps it will take to get there. Here is the Go Fund Me link.

<https://www.gofundme.com/global-earth-repair-conference>

More info at <https://www.earthrepair.friendsofthetrees.net>



Spatialist for Hire

Pam Jefferson

Do you need help with organizing a room for more efficient storage and use of the space? Do you need help sorting and organizing your stuff? I can do all of it for you or just give you some ideas for you to work with. My hourly rate is \$25.00. You can reach me at **206 372 9801**.



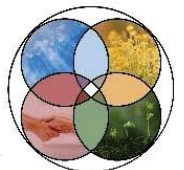
Programs and Events of the Goodenough Community

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 ... and more.

In the Goodenough Community, we recognize such ways to connect as expressions of living life fully and in communities of all kinds. Throughout the year we offer programs that help you participate in your own development, learn about relating well with others, and discover your potential to have a good time in life and with others.

We welcome your interest and your participation, and hope that you will join us at any – or many! – of this year's events. More information about programs and upcoming events can be found on our website: www.goodenough.org

The **General Circle** meets Mondays at 6:30 for light dinners & business at hand. The next meeting will be March 25 at the home of Tom George (8708 182nd Place SW Edmonds, WA 98026). Future meetings are April 8, 29, May 6, 20, June 3, July 15.



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. We are announcing the annual women's weekend, **May 3 to 5 at Sahale Learning Center**. Contact Elizabeth for more information.



The Third Age - Those of us age 60 and older have been gathering every other month, Friday evenings in Seattle. Stay tuned for the next meeting. Contact Kirsten Rohde for more information: krohde14@outlook.com

The Men's Program

Our **Men's Circle** is an expression of brotherhood and practice with wisdom, gathered from own lives, other men's work advocates and the founders of this circle. In the fall of 2018, during our annual *event-tent take down project*, we began preparing for a men's *right of passage* experience preceded by a smaller group vision quest. These two events will be scheduled for this spring, the vision quest component centered around a small group backpacking trip into the Olympic National Park.



For more information, contact me: bruce_perler@hotmail.com



Pathwork, a Program of Convocation: A Church and Ministry On alternate Sunday evenings an interfaith circle of practice meets between 7:00 and 9:30 PM under the leadership of Colette Hoff. This is a time to learn together about our personal development, to talk out our chosen practices for the development of a spirit filled life, and to learn the skills of joining with others in service. **Gatherings are in Seattle, Mar 24, April 7, 28, May 19, June 2 and July 14.** Contact Colette Hoff for more information: hoff@goodenough.org

**New dates for Summer Camp 2019:
Wednesday, June 27 to Tuesday July 3, 2019**



Summer Camp for Youth

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

Contact: Irene Perler, Irene_Perler@hotmail.com



Human Relations Laboratory, August 4 to 10, 2019

This intense and joyous week-long event is a communal experience of personal growth and relational development within a rich culture with art, music dance, song, drama and more. This summer we will celebrate 50 years! Contact: Colette Hoff, hoff@goodenough.org

True Holidays Celebration, Saturday, December 7, 2019

Be part of this fun-filled family-oriented evening and prepare yourself for the winter season (whatever faith tradition you follow) that fills your heart. Contact Elizabeth for more information.



Work and Play Parties throughout the Year

Traditionally, the Goodenough Community sponsors work parties over **Memorial Day weekend (May 24 to 27)** 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. Please email hoff@goodenough.org with information about what may be coming up. It is a great time to bring friends to share Sahale!



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 more effective in relationships. Call Colette (206-755 8404) to make arrangements.



4 Ways to Become More Relevant

By **Geoffrey James** *Contributing editor, Inc.com*

Relevance is the only job security that exists in today's uncertain business world.

We live in a time of vast and uneasy change, where economic, social and political turmoil has become the rule, rather than the exception. Nowhere is this clearer than in the world of business. The tsunami of change is hitting everyone:

- Gen-Y unemployment is approaching a staggering 25 percent, according to the [Wall Street Journal](#).
- Gen-X is "on track to be the first generation to do worse in retirement than their parents," according to [NPR](#).
- Baby boomers are more likely to remain unemployed if they lose their jobs, according to the [AARP](#).

Everyone seems lost and unmoored in a world where promises of the past--a stable job, a clear career path, a comfortable retirement--have become impossible dreams.

Not everyone, however, is caught in this miasma of helplessness. Many people--regardless of their age--are rising to the occasion, creating and renewing their role in a shifting world, according to [Philip Styrlund, CEO of the Summit Group](#) and [Tom Hayes, founder of the ad firm Riley Hayes](#).

Their secret? They've figured out how to be relevant.

The Meaning of Relevance

The Oxford English Dictionary defines "relevance" as "the state of being closely connected or appropriate to the matter in hand." To be relevant is thus to be important, but the term implies more than that.

Trivial things--appointments, events, accidents--that intrude themselves into life can easily become "important," at least for a time. To be *relevant*, an action or person must be connected to a larger scheme, a grander plan--the ultimate "matter in hand."

In the business world, to be relevant means being an integral part of your organization, of your company, of the economy, and of the future. It means being the kind of person on whom others depend, whether for leadership, expertise, acumen, or emotional support.

Put another way, being relevant means never worrying about losing a job or being able to find another. Because you are valued. Because you are relevant.

Styrlund and Hayes are working on a book (I helped with the book proposal, but am not involved in the project now) that provides a "recipe for relevance." Here it is:

1. Be More Authentic

Being authentic entails knowing who you are at the deepest level, "being" that person in your internal thought processes, and finally appearing to others as you are, without pretense or phoniness. Authenticity is the foundation of relevance because if you don't understand who you are, and where you're "coming from, you can't possibly lead or influence others."

You achieve authenticity through a rigorous inventory of your strengths and a systematic mapping of the moments in your life when you've been both highly effective and extremely satisfied. When put into practice, authenticity allows you to "be real" and "in the moment," to effortlessly practice the fine art of listening, and to have the courage to speak the truth, without "signing up" for how you think others might perceive you.

2. Achieve More Mastery

Mastery is essential because, if you have no useful skills, you cannot be useful to others. Mastery goes beyond mere competence and skills. It means approaching one's life and relationships as an act of creation, rather than a reaction to people and events. It means approaching lifelong learning with a sense of fun that adds pleasure and energy to the tasks at hand. It means expanding your principles and practices so that they serve a greater purpose.

You achieve mastery through a process of continuous improvement of your talents and abilities, combined with a life model that stresses the importance of both the professional and the personal. Developing mastery requires the ability to put first things first, to take action before it is forced upon you, and to stay mindful while taking action. This requires a clear view of reality, a

willingness to get beyond deeply rooted beliefs, awareness of your subconscious desires, and a commitment to truth.

3. Be More Empathetic

Empathy is the capacity to recognize and, to some extent, share feelings (such as sadness or happiness) being experienced by another being. It is the source of compassion, caring for other people, and the desire to help. It means the ability to experience the same emotions that another is feeling, without unnecessary judgment. Empathy creates relevance because it creates the deep connection that brings people together.

In business, there are three levels of empathy. The first is "on-demand" empathy, which is the ability to sense what customers want. The second is "solution" empathy, which entails understanding a customer's problem and figuring out how to address it. The third is "transcendent" empathy where *you create solutions to problems that customers don't even know that they have.*

4. Take More Action

It is your actions, ultimately, that make you relevant to others. All the authenticity, mastery and empathy in the world remain sterile, until and unless put into motion. It is through action that you change yourself and change the world. Without action, even a great and brilliant mind and soul remains entirely irrelevant.

Action has four elements: **impetus, vector, acceleration and velocity**. Impetus determines whether you consider the action important enough to take. Vector is the direction your action takes you: either towards your goals or away from it. Acceleration reflect your level of commitment and how much action you're willing to take. Velocity is the energy that carries you forward, even when you're not fully aware of it.



SEEK RESPECT AND
RELEVANCE, NOT
ATTENTION. THEY LAST
LONGER, AND FEEL MUCH
'MUCH' BETTER .