



GREEN REVOLUTION

A School of Living Publication

215 Julian Woods Lane, Julian, Pennsylvania 16844

Vol. 62/No. 1 2005

*We are not alone ...
but sometimes I feel like I am.*

From the Editor:

I do not believe that I am a complainer ... but ... I need help

I want to thank all of the editors before me (the most recent ones the most, since I know them personally). Over the past four years, since becoming active with the School of Living, the Green Revolution has been struggling to get "caught-up." Pressure has been even been added further by the push that "'we' must get the GR on the street."

When I took this position, one short year ago this month, the GR was a year and a half behind. When the person before me took the GR over it was even farther behind. The constant complaint has been, "it is not putting the GR together, it is getting info to put in the GR."

I don't want to "just put the GR on the street." I want a publication that I am proud to say is a publication of the School of Living. Long, long, long ago the issues were like journals, big, meaty, and filled with valuable information. I don't expect that the GR will be the size they have been in the past, but it has the potential to grow, and should always have valuable information.

I was recently asked what it would take to get the paper out. There are some minor technological issues, but what is needed the most is individuals interested in researching, writing, drawing or finding stories of interest to our readers.

***Are you one of the people we are looking for ...** We are not asking for you submit something for every issue, but once a year, no matter how large or small, would be enough to fill the GR for years.*

This is a small issue filled with sustainable training and information that is out there in the world. We are truly not alone. The resources are growing. I would love any individual who would like to take any resource they find and write a review on a book, website, workshop, or program — good or bad, just as long as it is honest and it is your own work (collaboration is welcome and encouraged).

*I really hope to hear from a lot of you
Sheila Skidmore, Editor*

From the Editorial Staff

I believe I have probably said enough on the front page But ...

I want to share some of the good side...

I have received emails that have been encouraging ...

Thank you (and your current authors) for taking the care to bring the GR back to life

I wasn't involved in the School of Living back then. Thank you for the history. For those who don't know the rich knowledge first hand please continue to include writings from the past ...

I may not agree with all of the philosophy behind Ralph Borsodi but I do believe that we learn best by doing. I am an environmentalist and live on land trust land in Virginia. More people need to know the alternatives to development. Please continue to include more information on environmental land issues ...

Your comments and request are always welcome ... GreenRev@SchoolofLiving.org

The Editorial Staff

The information above is the opinion of the editorial staff and does not reflect the opinion of the School of Living Board or any other subgroup or committee.

Green Revolution Submissions

Who can submit articles, prose, art work, etc. to be published in the GR?

- All are welcome to submit their work for publication. It must be your own work with full right to be published.
- You can submit by mail or by email.
- If sending by mail please submit both a printed copy and in electronic format on a floppy disk or CD.
Mail to: Sheila Skidmore
Green Revolution
309 Highfalcon Road
Reisterstown, MD 21136
- E-mail submissions can be an attachment (no larger than 2 MB – please) or email text. You will receive a confirmation that your work has been received and opened (with a thank you of course).
Send to GreenRev@SchoolofLiving.org
- Acceptable formats for prose are Microsoft word, rich text, or within email composer. Microsoft word is preferred. Other processors can be used, but please save as a Word doc when possible.
- Images can either be gif, jpeg or tiff format.
- Intentional communities that would like to have events listed or would like to be included in our Community Notes page need only hold a current subscription to the Green Revolution.

GREEN REVOLUTION

Published Quarterly by the
School of Living

Editor: Sheila Skidmore
Assistant Editors: Kelly Skidmore & Shannon Bonafede
SOL Office Manager: Ann Wilken

The School of Living, founded in 1934 by Ralph Borsodi, is dedicated to the learning and teaching of personal responsibility and right living. It aims to foster self governing communities, which are democratic, humane, globally conscious and ecologically sound. All of its resources, especially the land it holds in trust, are held in responsible stewardship for all living creatures.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Articles for publication are greatly appreciated.

Comments can be sent to GreenRev@SchoolofLiving.org or the address below.

School of Living membership is \$20 annually and includes a subscription to *Green Revolution*.

Visit the SOL website at SchoolofLiving.org

SCHOOL OF LIVING
215 Julian Woods Lane
Julian, PA 16844
814/353-0130

The logo for Living Routes, featuring the words "Living" and "Routes" stacked vertically in a bold, sans-serif font, with a stylized wavy line above "Routes".

Living
Routes

ecovillage education



"A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimensions"

Oliver
Wendall
Holmes

What is an Ecovillage?

Ecovillages are intentional communities striving to create cooperative lifestyles in harmony with their local environments. There are thousands of ecovillages all over the world that are developing and refining social and ecological tools such as consensus decision making, inter-generational care, alternative economic models, whole systems design, permaculture practices, renewable energy systems, and alternative modes of education that offer positive visions and real-life solutions for humanity and the planet. These communities are part of an emerging, truly sustainable culture.

Living Routes offers accredited, experience-based study programs in Ecovillages in India, Scotland, Senegal, Brazil, Australia, Mexico and the United States.

In Ecovillages, people strive to create and model sustainable lifestyles in harmony with their local environments — restoring ecosystems, developing participatory models of governance, growing organic food, building “green” homes, and utilizing renewal resources such as wind and solar energy.

These communities provide ideal “campuses” for college students to immerse themselves in both academic and experiential learning about sustainability, and prepare for careers that make a difference.

To learn what students learn and experience day-to-day on one of our programs check out the Weblog.

(click through from the homepage <http://www.LivingRoutes.org> and check out Auroville).

Living Routes’ Mission

Living Routes develops accredited, college-level programs based in ecovillages around the world, which help students gain the knowledge, skills and inspiration to build sustainable lifestyles for themselves, their communities and the Planet.

The logo for Living Routes, featuring the words "Living Routes" in a sans-serif font with a stylized orange and green wave graphic above the word "Routes".

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Why Living Routes Exist

We are living in the most challenging, yet also the most promising era of human history. Given trends in climate disruption, overpopulation, habitat loss, and social injustice, our dominant global culture seems very much like the Titanic -- a gigantic, human-made enterprise headed for certain disaster unless its course is significantly altered.

Fortunately, as deep ecologist Joanna Macy would say, we have already begun this "Great Turning". Like lifeboats that have "jumped ship" in search of verdant lands, thousands of ecovillages all around the world are discovering and pioneering social and ecological systems that offer positive visions for humanity and the planet. Together, these communities are truly part of an emerging sustainable culture.

We now need to create new models of education that support this emerging culture. This is the vision behind Living Routes - to develop ecovillage-based educational programs that empower participants to help build a sustainable future.

Living Routes partners with leading universities around the U.S. to develop and continually assess our academic programs. Academic credit for Living Routes programs is awarded by our Institutions of Record: the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Pacific Lutheran University, or University of New Hampshire (please see the academic credit section on each program page for more details), and is widely transferable.

Students earn undergraduate credits and receive an official transcript upon successful completion of each Living Routes program. Faculty assign a letter grade for each course as well as an extensive narrative evaluation of the your academic work and development.

Credits are transferable to your home college or university according to individual school policies. Many schools require prior approval in order to transfer credits earned through study abroad. You should meet with your international programs office and/or academic advisor prior to application to determine the transferability of credit. Your study abroad office can give you guidance on how your experience overseas can be integrated into your course of study at your home institution. They are also instrumental in helping you arrange for the transfer of your federal financial aid.

Within six weeks of program completion, the Living Routes Institution of Record sends you a transcript, with letter grades for each course completed (either University of Massachusetts-Amherst for Living Routes programs in Senegal, Brazil and USA; Pacific Lutheran University for Living Routes program in Scotland; and University of New Hampshire for Living Routes programs in India). Living Routes faculty also provide an extensive narrative evaluation of the your academic work and development.

Living Routes

Study Abroad Programs for a Sustainable Future

<http://www.livingroutes.org>

India:

Sustainability in Practice at Auroville

<http://www.livingroutes.org/programdetails/geo/overview>

Build ecological skills and learn about Indian and community culture at Auroville—"the city the earth needs" and one of the world's largest and most diverse Ecovillages. Study and build field experience in habitat protection, systems thinking, and ecological literacy as you design and complete an internship in sustainable development.

Course Topics: Sustainable Community Design and Ecological Living, Cooperative Processes, Mindfulness Practices and Personal Sustainability

Field Study: Visit cultural and ecological sites including Periyar Sanctuary and Mitraniketan, a Gundhian community in Kerala.

Supervised Internship: Design a practicum in sustainable agriculture, renewable energy systems, reforestation, ecological literacy or another topic of interest.

Scotland: Human Challenge of Sustainability at Findhorn

<http://www.livingroutes.org/programdetails/findhorn/overview>

Examine the skills, creativity and understanding that are vital to community living at Findhorn—a human-scale Ecovillage on the dramatic north coast of Scotland renowned for its environmental consciousness, personal and spiritual growth, artistry, education and global responsibility. Learn about the integration of human ecology and natural system as you gain valuable field experience in areas including sustainable food systems, creative expression and group facilitation.

Course Topics: Human Ecology, Design for Sustainability, Psychology: Group Dynamics, Fine Art in Community, and Creative Writing.

Field Study: Explore Celtic culture, spend a week on extraordinary Erraid Island with a small farming community, and help regenerate the Caledonian forest through the Trees for Life program.

Supervised Internship: Become a part of community life by working in organic gardens, preparing wholesome meals, or another area of interest.

Senegal:

Sustainable Development at EcoYoff

January term (3 weeks)

<http://www.livingroutes.org/programdetails/senegal/overview>

Explore the impact of global trends and policies on the grassroots level at EcoYoff, a 600-year old fishing village in Dakar and a leader in sustainable community development. Build French language skills as you study the complex relationship between humans, development needs, and the environment. Partner with Senegalese university students and visit ancient and modern Ecovillages, from a seaside national preserve to the ancient capital of the Cayor Kingdom. You pursue research on a topic of interest as you enter into dialog with villagers and participate in their daily activities.

Course topics: Culture and Spirituality; Economy and Food Security; Populations, Health, and Nutrition; the Environment, Infrastructure and Habitat; French language (optional).

Community Project: Partner with a local Senegalese university student and make a lasting contribution to local education, infrastructure or the environment.

Field Study: Visit species preservation programs for chimpanzees and migratory birds.

Brazil:

Permaculture at Ecoversidade

Summer term (3 weeks)

<http://www.livingroutes.org/programdetails/northamer/overview.html>

Investigate new ways of creating sustainable human habitats at Ecoversidade—a grassroots ecological institute in tropical central Brazil. Learn permaculture principles as you examine lifestyle choices and participate in community-based activities including Capoeira,

(Continued on page 6)

Sustainability Around the World

Living Routes

Educational Opportunities for Creating Successful Living

(Continued from page 5)

a native mix of acrobatics, sacred dance, self-defense.

Course Topics: Sustainable Shelter, Acquaculture and appropriate architecture, Community Development, Urban Renewal Strategies, and Portuguese language (optional).

Field Study: Visit the Cerrado Forest, A World Heritage Biosphere home to rare flora and fauna, enjoy local waterfalls, option to attend Bioconstruindo, a renowned natural building course.

Community Project: Create your own unique ecological design and become a Certified Permaculture Apprentice.

USA:

Permaculture at Sirius

Summer term (3 weeks)

<http://www.livingroutes.org/programdetails/summerinst/overview>

Learn how to integrate plants, animals, buildings, people, and communities in a design for ecological living at Sirius—an educational and spiritual Ecovillage in scenic western Massachusetts. Study the interrelationship between personal, social, and ecological sustainability as you immerse yourself in the richness of one of North America's most dynamic ecological communities.

Course Topics: Reading the Landscape, Water in the Landscape, Building a Healthy Soil, The Cultivated Ecosystem: Urban Renewal Strategies, Community Support Systems.

Field Study: Visit old-growth forest, community-supported agricultural projects, eco-homesteads.

Community Project: Create an ecological design and become a Certified Permaculture Apprentice.

Australia: Permaculture at Crystal Waters

Summer term (3 weeks)

<http://www.livinggroups.org/programdetails/crystalwaters/overview.html>

Learn about pioneering ways of low impact, sustainable living at Crystal Waters—an award-winning Ecovillage and wildlife refuge in beautiful, subtropical Australia. Highly interactive classes in eco-building techniques are often held outdoors where you study human interaction as an ecology of organisms in a complex web of interrelationships.

Course Topics: Patterns in Nature, Ecological Design, Introduction to Soil Science, and Water and Waste Management.

Community Project: Create your own unique ecological design and become a Certified Permaculture Apprentice.

Field Study: Visit a rainforest, pristine beaches, and Fraser Island, a World Heritage Site.

Mexico:

Participatory Leadership at Huehucoyotl January term (3 weeks)

Learn the communication and leadership skills needed to create a common vision and keep a group together in the face of internal conflict and external challenges. Located in the volcano belt of central Mexico, Huehucoyotl was founded 20 years ago by a diverse international group of nomadic artists and musicians, political activists and ecologists. Since then the community has evolved into a living laboratory for permaculture design, consensus process and cross-cultural understanding.

Course Topics: Design and implement a project chosen by the group either in Huehucoyotl, the adjacent national forest or neighboring village.

Field Study: Visit local sites dating from the Aztec empire, the Spanish conquest, the Mexican Revolution and the contemporary fight against globalism.

More information, scholarship links, etc. can be found on the <http://www.livingroutes.org>

Schedule of Events

School of Living Quarterly Meeting

Common Grounds
October 7-9, 2005

Please call (540) 463-1070 if you are planning to attend
and if planning to bring children.

School of Living Quarterly Meeting

Birthright Center — Cochranville, Pennsylvania
January 20-22, 2006

Please call (814) 355-8026 if you are planning to attend
and if planning to bring children.

School of Living Annual Meeting

Heathcote Community — Freeland, Maryland
April 28, 29 & 30, 2006

Please call 410/343-DIRT if you are planning to attend
and if planning to bring children.

School of Living Quarterly Meeting

Julian Woods Community — State College, Pennsylvania
July 21-23, 2005

Please call (814) 355-8026 if you are planning to attend
and if planning to bring children.

Twin Oaks Communities Conference

Twin Oaks Community — Louisa, Virginia
August, 2006

please call (540) 894-5126 or conference@twinoaks.org.

Twin Oaks Women's Gathering

Twin Oaks Community — Louisa, Virginia
August, 2006

For more information contact Women's Gathering
please call (540) 894-5126 or gathering@twinoaks.org.

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**For Over Half a Century,
The School of Living Has Been....**

- Assisting individuals to become more responsible and self-reliant
- Nurturing healthy, Community Land Trust Communities
- Promoting ecological use of land and natural resources
- Empowering inquiry and action on local and global problems
- Working to develop and implement approaches to a more just and free society

Mission ...

The School of Living is an educational organization dedicated to learning and teaching the philosophy, practices and principles of living that are self-empowering for individuals within the general aim of establishing decentralized, ecologically-sound, self-governed and humane communities. All its resources, but most specifically the land it holds in trust, are held in responsible stewardship for present and future generations.