



# Women's Federation for World Peace National Newsletter

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## Saying Hello To Say Goodbye

by Betsy Jones

*Betsy Jones, R.N., M.Ed., is a vice president of the Women's Federation for World Peace. In the following article, she talks about the field of hospice care and relates her experiences as a hospice nurse with St. Peter's Hospice in Albany, New York.*

Birth and death are two most significant times of our life. Lamaze training and birthing centers are approaches more recently developed to support the family in coping with birth and being part of the profound mystery and blessing of new life.

In the realm of death and dying there has also been a shift in trends. Rather than reliance on "experts" that often exclude communal participation in the events surrounding death, the hospice philosophy of care welcomes and depends on the participation of family members. Sister Jean Roche, hospice chaplain, states that "the greatest aim of hospice care is that of reconciliation: restoration of unity with self, with other persons and with God."

In the past four months I've become aware of the balance that hospice care for the

**Hospice, Continued on page 2.**

*Conference held in Washington, D.C.*

## Women of Vision: Leadership for a New World

by Nora Spurgin

From October 9 through 12 I participated in the Women of Vision conference held in Washington, D.C., and attended by more than 500 women. It was presented as "a conference coordinating the visions and actions of women from many different backgrounds, all holding unique perspectives of a new humanity." The purpose of this participatory gathering was "to build cooperative relations that will lead to the collective expression of a peaceful and sustainable world."

**Vision, Continued on p. 4.**

**Hospice**, Continued from page 1.

terminally ill offers. Death is seen as natural to human existence. As Elisabeth Kubler-Ross states, grief is a natural emotion. If children are not allowed to cry, they grow up and "marinate in self pity." She stresses the importance of dying patients and their families working on "unfinished business" prior to death.

As we know, many religions use rituals such as funerals and memorials to bring closure to families after death. In my work through St. Peter's Hospice program in Albany, New York, I have become aware of the importance of rituals that help strengthen the connectedness within families and thus help settle "unfinished business" and facilitate a more peaceful letting go process prior to death. I'd like to describe some of the rituals and practices I've witnessed and participated in.

**Family meetings.** Gatherings entitled family meetings include the person who has an advanced illness and those who mean the most to them. These are vital parts of the hospice work. As described by Dr. Michael Murphy, the "patient tells the assembly the story of his illness and the fears and worries which still accompany it, sharing the fears and worries and love which have usually remained locked within. The witnesses

simply listen and try to hear. If they really hear and allow themselves to come in touch with and be touched by the knowledge of their own shadow and death as well as that of the story-teller, a real connection in the well of the connective unconscious is made."

I accompanied Dr. Murphy to one particular family meeting. The patient was an elderly widow who had raised her husband's children as her own. In the room were the adult step-daughters, a granddaughter, a close friend, and the patient. Dr. Murphy took the patient's hand and while stroking it asked the patient to describe what it had been like for her to go through this illness and anything about her life and marriage she wished to share. He then encouraged her to tell stories about each of the assembled persons, some humorous, some painful, some loving. By the time she had gone around and told stories of each one in her family, we felt how much her life had been an instrument to bring love and joy to others. She became a teacher to each of us.

**Blessing with water.** Dr. Murphy then took a bowl of water and led the group in a blessing with water ritual. He dipped his fingers in the water and touched both her hands with it saying, "I wish to bless these hands for all the loving service that you performed for your children and grandchildren." He then invited each person to bless some part of her and share the reasons for their gratitude. As we left, there were laughter and tears in all of our hearts. I felt through the listening, the laughter and tears that the pain of letting go had been lifted because what needed to be said was said.

**Music.** Mary Dooley, hospice nurse, described the use of music in facilitating healing and reconciliation. She said sometimes when she visits the home where a death has already occurred, the family can feel "emotionally numb." Sometimes she has gathered the family together, offered a prayer, read a short scripture (such as Psalm 23), and played some music. She expressed that playing the music helps families to "feel, cry and often be able to do some reminiscing."

One family I visited right after the death occurred wanted to play Handel's "Messiah." The wife said to me, "You know, he's gone." It was as if she wanted to celebrate the release of her husband's spirit.

Some of the music Mary Dooley has used includes Bette Midler's "The Wind Beneath My wings," "Amazing Grace," "Our Father," "On Eagle's Wings," and "The Irish Blessing." She described a song sung by the monks at Weston Benedictine Priory in Vermont, "All I Ask of Me," as helpful for reconciliation.

Mary received the following communication from a family that had been separated from their alcoholic father for seventeen years. They wrote: "Thank you for helping Dad experience a peace that he probably felt little of in his life. And thank you for helping him to give us the gift of true relationship that he did. While we know that there will be much to cope with in the days ahead, what happened today and yesterday feels deeply important and will always be with us. We are so glad (fate, God, synchronicity) brought you to us when they did. You have touched our lives deeply and we are very grateful."

**Colored candle ritual.** The staff at St. Peter's deal with their own feelings of loss through a weekly colored candle ritual called a bereavement meeting. Such a ritual could also be used with the family. A central candle burns as music plays and a reading is given. Staff members associated with a particular patient share stories and/or their feelings associated with the loss. Each person involved chooses a particular color candle and shares the reason for the color. I lit a candle for one patient who had died whom I felt had helped me in a certain way. As I told the story about him and how touched I was by the love in his family, I could also get in touch and share with the group feelings about my own father's death.

Another form of a ritual involving a candle could be used after a patient has died. The facilitator says:

*Gracious God*

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WFWP is dedicated to uniting women to take action for the moral education and healing of our families and societies.



Betsy Jones and her youngest son, Farley O'Neill Jones, visit her mother, Mary O'Neill.

*Light Eternal,  
May this candle  
be a sign of  
your presence to us  
as we entrust  
[NAME]  
to you.*

As we pass the candle around, we invite each person to speak from the heart a hope, prayer, wish or message of gratitude. We close with a blessing prayer:

*May the Lord bless and keep you.  
May God's face shine upon you.  
May God be gracious to you  
And grant you peace.*

Prior to attempting any ritual it's important to establish an atmosphere of trust. Maureen Moran, R.N., a hospice chaplain, stresses the importance of tone setting prior to initiating a ritual. An atmosphere of trust and reflection are requisites. She states, "A centrally burning candle, reflective music, a moment of silence, a simple introductory prayer or poem are helpful to create an atmosphere of reflection."

Besides family meetings, Maureen suggests other activities that families can participate in: "This is your life gathering, the creation of a family coat of arms, the creation of a scrapbook or collage, writing letters or tape messages to loved ones, having memorials about past losses,

videotaping, writing friends, sharing a meaningful poem, symbol, prayer or object from nature."

In conclusion, I have been so struck by the family love I have witnessed. They have been my teachers. These ideas are offered to help families and those caring for families prepare to say goodbye. Ted Menton, in *Gentle Closings*, states, "Those with the knowledge of death are like couples standing together in the railroad station who take time to embrace and say goodbye. But when death comes suddenly, without warning, then the loved ones left behind may feel rage and helplessness, unable to hold their loved one a final time and say, 'I love you.'"

I'm grateful that before my father's death we had the thought to gather together and each offer a prayer of gratitude and love for my father's life. Although he could not speak, his eyes twinkled and a deep smile came upon his face. It was this moment of connection among us all that is such a comfort to me now. I guess we had a family meeting. ❀

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*Dr. Michael Murphy, Jean Roche, Mary Dooley and Maureen Moran are all on the staff of St. Peter's Hospice in Albany, New York.*

#### Musical Resources

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Rodgers, Kenny. "You Decorated My Life." New York: Liberty Records.

*The booklet  
"Insights into the Afterlife:  
30 Questions and Answers  
on What to Expect,"  
by Nora Spurgin,*

*is a helpful resource for terminally ill people and their families. It provides non-judgmental, gentle and insightful comfort. Now in its second printing, the booklet is available through WFWP. Prices are \$2.00 each (plus \$1.00 postage and handling), and \$15.00 for ten (plus \$3.00 postage and handling).*

**Vision**, Continued from page 1.

The conference began with a World Peace Prayer Ceremony, during which the flag of each country was presented, one by one, and the conference participants repeated in unison, "We pray for [country]. May peace prevail on earth."

Attended by women from all walks of life and many different countries, the underlying theme of the conference was the spirituality which unites women in the common efforts of nurturing, healing, changing and educating. Whereas twenty years ago women were talking about liberation, today these women are talking about partnership and cooperation, of leading with a higher vision.

An interesting quiet presence was the group of twelve Native American "grandmothers" who came to lend their support in prayer throughout the three days. They were given a prominent space, as they sat on the stage in a semicircle.

At the closing of the conference each participant was offered an opportunity to come to the stage, make a personal commitment to the betterment of humanity, and receive a special prayer and blessing from these ladies of America. As a token of this commitment, each was given a wooden stick painted in black, white, yellow and red, representing the unity of the races. Many women were openly in tears as they pledged their commitment.

The conference was structured around plenary sessions featuring keynote speakers. Breakout leadership groups were held in the morning and afternoon, centered on the following topics:

**Women, spiritual values and government:** reflecting our common humanity, global and self governance, a global cooperative society, a living democracy.

**Global ecology:** Earth Restoration Corps, ending the war on nature, environmental education, nature and spirituality.

**Religion and spirituality:** the emerging new role of women in spiritual

and religious tradition, the feminine spirituality movement, spiritual healers.

**Peace making and peace keeping:** Africa, the Middle East, post cold-war Russia, former Yugoslavia.

**Women and economic transformation:** humanistic and sustainable economics, global networks, ecology of commerce, meaning and work.

**New frontiers in health and healing:** healing ourselves, national health care reform, social change through wellness, healing alternatives.

**Media literacy:** redefining socially responsible media, countering violence in the media, creating a global interactive network.

**Education for a new world:** revolutionary educational technologies, holographic education for social and self transformation, conflict resolution skills for youth.

**Science and technology:** interactive communications, ongoing dialogue through video conferencing, alternative technologies, science and spirit.

**Human values, human rights, social justice:** consequences of war on human rights, sanctions and medical neutrality, human rights for women and children, media and arts in human rights implementation.

**Peace through the arts:** visual and performing arts as a bridge between people and nations, expressions of the universal feminine, healing through the arts.

**Youth, the next generation:** innovation in creating meaningful work, seeking life purpose, integrating multiple disciplines into a single application of positive experience.

The conference was an experience with women who believed that a higher power was bringing us together to help create a new and better world:

*Politicians* spoke of being led by God to seek offices in which they could effect change.

*Scientists* spoke about the use of technology and energy which is "planet friendly."

*Therapists* and health professionals spoke of alternative treatment methods.

*Educators* spoke of mentoring and the need for values, as well as the need to teach the whole child.

*Businesswomen* talked of a global community of service rather than self-interest, where life and livelihood are one.

*Journalists* talked of striving to create and produce with integrity and to listen and receive with discernment, realizing that both of these energies reflect the heart.

It would be impossible to share even a few of the nuggets given by many of the speakers. I am, however, including excerpts from Marianne Williamson's opening speech under a separate title in this newsletter, for I found her speech to be empowering, deeply insightful and meaningful to all women. Marianne Williamson is the author of *Return to Love* and *A Woman's Worth*.

It was an inspiration to me to be representing Women's Federation for World Peace in an atmosphere where so many of our own aspirations were shared by other women, giving me much hope for bringing about reconciliation and peace through networking with women of like interests. ❀

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## WFWP Newsletter To Appear Quarterly

Beginning with this issue, the Newsletter of the Women's Federation for World Peace will be published every quarter. Hopefully this will enable us to cover in greater depth the issues of concern to the Women's Federation. ❀

*Excerpts from opening speech at the Women of Vision Conference*

## Personal and Global Transformation

by Marianne Williamson

In the last two or three decades, feminism unfortunately become somewhat anti-feminine. We thought liberation meant that we could go out into the world and be just like men – which means there are twice as many problems today. To me, feminism is not just about women out in the world. Instead of saying, "I'm going to find a place for myself in the world," we want to shift into, "I want to find a place in myself for the world."

Each of us has been schooled in a very patriarchal order, an order which sees material power and external power as THE power. We as women have fought in terms of the women's movement and of feminism as going out there and sharing that power. We have to ask ourselves, "What is that power?"

There are women here from Tibet, Vietnam and China, as well as Native American women. The difference between women from those cultures and American women is that we have no mystical tradition here. For 300 years there was a systematic effort by the early church to eradicate the free-thinking woman. Historians now believe that anywhere upwards of several hundred thousand people were burned at the stake; eighty-five percent of them were believed to have been women. Those were the midwives, those were the healers. Do you think that the angelic hierarchies gave their knowledge to the orient and didn't give their knowledge to the west? No, they gave it to the west. Yet the carriers of the mystical tradition of the west were mainly women, and that's why they were killed.

We still have to ask ourselves, "Have I given up the hatred in my mind? Have I given up the judgment in my mind? Have I given up competition? Have I given up ambition that is false?" I don't believe

that we can give birth to a world except out of ourselves. I don't believe that we can give what we don't have. In the Talmud, it says that we receive from God and then impart to others. And in the Tao Te Ching it says that to be a leader is to profoundly be a follower. So if we are now going to think in terms of women with vision, we have to ask that God's vision be born in us – that we are the womb.

There is something that happens with people who had been enslaved for very long periods of time, as women have. Once they are given power, they need to develop the graciousness that must go along with it. The work has just begun. Now that we have some power in the world, what are we doing with it?

We in America live in a society that does not like anyone to look anywhere deep inside ourselves. That is why we deny our pain, and that is why we deny our joy. That is why we deny anything other than mechanistic, scientific reasoning and statistical logic. And yet we want to reclaim our vision, our sense of the sacred, our sense of the mystical journey.

It is not even so much what we do any more. It's completely and entirely who we are. That is what we must look into deeply. A little hatred is like a little cancer. If you go to the doctor, the doctor doesn't say, "Oh, you'll be fine; it's just a little cancer." A little cancer left unchecked becomes a big, big cancer. I believe that the greatest benefit that we can receive from our being here tonight is to ask God to make of us vessels that we can receive what we learn here.

The masculine force is aggressive, the feminine force is passive. The masculine force is the giver, and the feminine force is that which receives. So as we begin tonight, let's not just be excited about

what we are going to hear. Let's ask God to make us people who can hear deeply. We want those principles that begin as intellectual constructs to trickle down from the head to the heart. When we see women of wisdom who are truly our sacred elders (they are among us at this conference), we know that we can't wait. Some of these women who have been through so much are now fifty, sixty and seventy years old. They have accrued wisdom. The planet can't wait for us to become sixty or seventy. We must receive from them so deeply now. We must do an awesome work. We must create an American mystical tradition. Mystical traditions normally take thousands of years to create. We had better do it fast!

We do it as much through our silence as through our words. We do it through prayer rather than position papers. We have to give up the insidious pseudo-spiritual, pseudo-mystical ways in which we talk and get things done with selfishness and narcissism. Each of us has to ask ourselves whether we are an empty vessel through which God's love can come. When we ask to be empty vessels through which God can operate, plenty will get done. More will get done than you can possibly imagine. It will not, however, be done by us but through us.

The idea of Mary in the Christic philosophical model is that God says to Mary, "I will impregnate you. Will you receive Me?" The abortion of self is what we want to avoid. When we say to God, "You can come into me and mystically merge with me," through us there is born that which is neither masculine nor feminine, male nor female, but rather that which has been fathered by spirit and mothered by our humanness.

I believe that for us to dedicate ourselves to a feminine vision is to dedicate ourselves to the purpose of receiving. We are a generation of women who ironically enough, in the name of our own liberation, did not learn how to receive. We have not learned how to surrender, and many of us are wounded because of it.

*Transformation*, Continued on p. 16.

# The Healing Circle

by Lisa Lay

The field of medicine today seems to be dominated by men, perhaps because it interacts so closely with the sciences, traditionally a masculine field. But the field of healing is entirely different. This is the domain of woman. We can see strong evidence of this everywhere and in vast variety, from the mother's care of her family's ills to the more sophisticated "new age" healing techniques which are rapidly finding mainstream acceptance in our society. Healing is an integral part of this age of women.

"Women were always healers," one woman pioneer of natural medicine and spiritual healing has said, "naturally born healers. They hold the crying child and soothe their needs (psychiatrist). They dig out the thorn from the finger (surgeon). They ease the fever (internist) and dress the sores and bathe their loved ones in herbs (herbalist). They dry the tears (minister)."

One such outstanding woman healer in this country today is San Antonio, Texas WFWP Chairwoman Beatriz Steeghs. Born to Mexican parents and raised in south Texas, Beatriz was steeped in Native American healing arts from early childhood. After years of study and prayer she has helped thousands of people all over the world recover their health and, more amazingly, heal their spirits. It was through this course of prayer and study, particularly her study of the Divine Principle taught by the Reverend Sun Myung Moon, that Beatriz came to discover *The Healing Circle*.

Beatriz's weekend seminars include lectures describing the ideal way of life and the interrelationships among human beings as well as a clear explanation of why things go wrong. "The Spiritual Causes of Illness," the title of one lecture, gives a wholistic view of where disease originated and why certain maladies recur

in families. It is almost like studying spiritual genetics. In her healing work over the years, Beatriz came to realize that unless the sins of past generations are forgiven and resolved, it is difficult for that lineage to grow beyond those problems.

For example, Beatriz found that if a person has chronic respiratory problems (i.e., pneumonia, bronchitis, lung cancer), there is often a lack of love in the lineage. "In the spirit world, people breathe in love as we would breathe in oxygen," noted Beatriz. "If someone's ancestors suffered from a lack of love, the lungs may become a point of weakness for that person in the physical world." She also found that the crimes of rape or sexual abuse in the past often manifest themselves as infertility or reproductive diseases, such as uterine, cervical or breast cancer in women, or prostate cancer in men.

Emotional problems can also have an origin in the lineage. Depression, chronic behavioral syndromes, or uncontrollable rage may be more than the problem of the earthly sufferer.

Based on the "Formula for a Life of Faith," a concept repeatedly taught by the Rev. and Mrs. Moon, Beatriz leads the Healing Circle participants in creating individual affirmations to set goals. Then she brings them to the Healing Circle Prayer. The circle (actually two circles, one inside the other) is based on the Native American medicine wheel, with the vision of unifying Eastern and Western healing traditions by addressing both the spiritual and physical person. It gives participants the opportunity to pray, repenting for the problems of their past and for the sins in their own lineages, in order to shake free from the shackles created by these wrongs. Then, by coming into the inner prayer circle, they can release the past and enter a new realm, one where God's love can flow freely over them.

Finally, each person who has gone through this healing process is naturally inspired to become someone who lives not for self but for others. This is key.

Whatever healing occurs within each person can grow and thrive only if concern for others supersedes everything else. Spoken and written reflections of each person's experience within the Healing Circle complete the weekend's activities.

"At this moment, for my whole family I can understand the emergency of growing my heart, by serving my husband and family, bringing them joy and reaching out to our community with the love of God," wrote one participant in her reflections. Another woman wrote, "As I entered the Circle, I did not know what to feel or expect. I felt close to God in a way I had not felt before. I feel that a gate has opened and now I must walk through to serve others. I'm at a beginning point."

"Through my repentance in the Healing Circle," wrote another participant, "I could accomplish in one night what I have been struggling to accomplish for many years. This morning I am standing in a new place. I can believe that I am a dignified daughter of God."

Up until now, the Healing Circle has focused on individual participants. However, Beatriz has great hope that this process of affirmative visualization, prayer and action can help heal the wounds of the world. Why not hold a special seminar focusing on the devastation in Rwanda or Haiti, or other places where human suffering cries out for healing?

The Healing Circle can be a valuable tool, in this age of broken marriages, abuse, human rights atrocities and frighteningly deadly diseases, not only for what good it can do for those directly experiencing it, but also for those who are touched by Circle "graduates" afterwards, creating a healing, unending ripple effect. It is our responsibility as women to be initiators of this change. ❀

For more information about the Healing Circle Seminar, please write to:  
Beatriz and Peter Steeghs  
c/o The Healing Circle  
PO Box 1027  
Centerpoint, Texas, 78010

## WFWP Businesswomen Receive New York Award

by Ann Graf

Elizabeth Schnee and I are two women with children who run a business in New York City. News of the HIP Small Business Spirit Award contest was broadcast over the radio throughout the New York area. The award recognizes companies for their customer service, staff empowerment and community involvement, and we felt it described our business exactly.

After submitting our essay, we found out that we were finalists. Invited to an awards dinner at the Plaza Hotel in New York City, we attended with our employees and guests.

Our newly-opened enterprise, Townsend Glass, Inc., does custom etching in glass and crystal with minimal set-up fees and no minimum quantity. This provides the opportunity for smaller companies, associations and individuals to have their company logo, event or idea captured in the timeless quality of glass or crystal and provides a tangible expression of their creativity. Our customers want good, reasonable quality at a low price. Our years of experience have established a track record of timely delivery.

The flexibility of a small business has allowed Elizabeth to take responsibility as president of the Parents Association of Public School 178Q, where her children attend, and to serve as co-chairman of the President's Council of Community School District 26 in Queens.

Elizabeth and I consciously create an environment which supports the autonomy of each person in the company. We have all worked together through thick and thin and have real respect for and appreciation of one another. We consult each other in all stages of the business and value that input and experience.

Elizabeth and I both felt the reason we won is because we have learned to treat others as valuable human beings, and we get out and serve the community. The development of a sense of ownership has empowered us to meet the challenges and grind through the difficulties of running our business. Without it, we couldn't succeed.

When we received our award, we were re-inspired to do even more community work, especially since that was the difference between us and the grand finalist in our category. ❀



Ann Graf and Elizabeth Schnee display their award.

*A creative idea:*

## The "Book of Your Life Club"

by Debbie Gullery

A woman in my town put up a few flyers last year in the local library and area supermarkets. She was inviting people to her home for a discussion group which she called the "Book of Your Life Club."

Each month the group decides on a book to be read for the next month: a book that inspired them or was beneficial to their spiritual life. Flyers are sent out to members and a notice inserted in the local newspaper. There are some new people each time, friends of friends who have heard about it, and some regulars.

It's a wonderful and unique experience, and even if I miss a few months, I always feel comfortable and at home there. Because we choose books that are spiritually meaningful to us, we are shar-

ing very deeply within minutes.

Interesting enough, although never specified, the attendance is overwhelmingly female. We have created a place to share honestly, philosophically, personally, and meaningfully.

Afterwards, there's tea and coffee of course, and time for networking, connecting and making friends. It's a great and easy way to meet a group of women in your local area with a common interest in spiritual growth. I share it in hopes that others will be inspired to begin similar groups!

By the way, last month the book, *The Celestine Prophecy*, by James Redfield, brought a very big turnout and provided for a very lively discussion. ❀

# WFWP Planning Meeting Convened in Manhattan

by Ellen Goldstein

On September 5, 1994, a regional Women's Federation meeting was held in Manhattan. We were honored to have the presence of several of our national representatives – Nora Spurgin, Betsy Jones, and Yoko Kobayashi – as well as New York Representative Debbie Gullery.

Mrs. Jones began with a prayer, and Debbie Gullery opened the meeting. The focus of the discussion was "Where Does Women's Federation for World Peace Fit into Our Current Lifestyle?"

Mrs. Spurgin then shared her vision of the direction Women's Federation should be taking. Rather than waiting for direction to come from someone else, we must define our course. We must see ourselves as leaders. "Don't think of yourself as a member; think of yourself as a leader," Mrs. Spurgin asserted, encouraging us to become more aggressive in communicating. We need to cultivate a spirit of helping one another. "Find your place and fulfill it!" Mrs. Spurgin added.

Several suggestions were offered, including giving speeches locally on such topics as women's issues, parenting, and the family. Mrs. Spurgin feels that world peace will be achieved through helping families. We should make ourselves available as resources for families in difficulty.

We should reach out to others and become an international network of women who can heal the wounds of society. The focus of Women's Federation for World Peace should be public relations, education and social service.

On college campuses, we could hold monthly meetings to form a network of "moms" to reach out to the young people. We could develop an organization for the parents of college students, helping them to understand their new roles.

We should work with youth on campuses, developing videotapes and initiating service projects that college students can participate in. With the limitations of today's job markets, young people can participate in service projects and give new hope and inspiration to our nation's youth. Women's Federation can also be instrumental in establishing intergenerational meetings, bringing together the many generations that make up our society.

There are great needs in this country. American women are not mobilized by theological speeches or philosophical treatises to fill these needs. Rather, they are inspired by what they see other people doing. We must love and serve, teaching peace through our example. Use Operation Heal Our Nation to connect people and get them involved.

We can make use of new educational materials, including Richard Panzer's

slide presentation for college campuses on surviving the sexual revolution and Teri Lester's "Healthy Love" program. We should call upon the resources of members in our local chapters to organize programs on health issues, education, parenting, etc. The Women's Federation offers a wellspring of experience.

Various service projects are being implemented around the nation. Nancy Oldenettel went from Seattle, Washington, to Belarus, where she arranged for thirty children suffering the aftereffects from the nuclear fallout from the Chernobyl explosion to come to the United States to spend some time decontaminating. Nancy organized local churches and families to pay for the children's airfare and take them into their homes for a few weeks. Individual chapters of Women's Federation can take this information to local churches and arrange sponsors for more children.

At the International Relief Friendship Foundation in New York, Rev. Kathy Winings has been coordinating the shipment of fish powder to Rwanda. Several years ago, the Rev. Sun Myung Moon inspired the efforts to develop a

*Nora Spurgin addresses the September 5, 1994, planning meeting. With her on the platform are (from left to right): Debbie Gullery, Yoko Kobayashi, and Betsy Jones.*



high-protein fish powder. Now the fish processing plant in Kodiak, Alaska, has perfected a fish powder which is eighty to ninety percent pure protein. It can easily be shipped and reconstituted to supplement the diet of people at risk of starvation. To date, IRFF has sent 15,000 pounds of this powder to Rwanda through the Christian Disaster Response. Local WFWP chapters can raise funds to send more fish powder to Africa.

Last year the Women's Federation for World Peace collected 500 pairs of shoes and boots for Russia.

Each local chapter should sponsor at least one charity event per year. Furthermore, each region or state should also make an approach book advertising the things that we are doing.

The International Women's Federation for World Peace has been registered as a legal entity, and we are applying for status as a Non-Governmental Organization at the United Nations.

Debbie Gullery spoke about encouraging people to join or renew membership. She urged us to create gatherings that we are excited to attend, a place to go where our needs are met. She urged us to support events such as the fundraiser held at the Manhattan Center to raise money for Rwanda relief.

Mrs. Spurgin concluded with a few additional suggestions. Within our regions we should set up committees to develop service projects. The feeling of being responsible and having responsibility is empowering. We should give the power to our sisters.

Get the name of Women's Federation out! Wear T-shirts and sweatshirts with our name and logo, as well as carry WFWP bags. These are available from Women's Federation headquarters. Make it your personal goal to bring one woman to join the Women's Federation before the end of the year. 🌸

## Hawaii WFWP Holds Second Youth Tennis Tournament

by Richard Rubasch

Except for an occasional gusty trade wind, Hawaii has unbeatable weather for tennis. Hawaii's competitors can be seen heading for the courts any time of the year, anxious to try out a new racquet or break in a pair of court shoes. Private clubs cater to serious players who prefer professional instruction and a pristine environment. Stepping onto one of these courts you can feel the spirit of competition and perhaps hear the cheers of an imaginary crowd. To some it's the closest they'll ever get to the big time.

The Hawaii WFWP worked with the management team at the Maunalua Bay Club in Honolulu, which provided the location for WFWP's second annual Hawaii Youth Tennis Tournament. This lovely facility just east of the famous Diamond Head crater is landscaped and meticulously manicured with the natural beauty of hibiscus, plumeria and bird of paradise flowers. Palm trees line the six courts, creating a natural boundary and a sense of privacy. This exclusive tennis club provided the perfect atmosphere for our competitive young players.

Preparation began almost a year ago at the planning meeting which determines U.S. Tennis Association (USTA) tournament dates in Hawaii. I attended this meeting with the youth director at the Maunalua Bay Club, and August 10-14, 1994, was selected for our tournament.

Young people from across the state were invited to compete for trophies which included special Governor, Mayor and Tournament Chairwoman awards. Players of all skill levels between the ages of ten and eighteen were eligible to participate, and several champions and finalists from the 1993 tournament returned this year to defend their title or improve their standings. In all, fifty-four players signed up.

Hawaii's USTA sanctioned tournaments give young players a chance to earn points toward a national USTA ranking. This makes the competition attractive to top players, as well as younger players looking to increase their USTA point base. In either case, tough competition between the best players is expected.

A single-elimination tournament such as this one will practically run itself, once the draw sheets are made and court times set. Players and parents were notified when they needed to arrive, and a referee was hired to oversee all matches throughout the five-day tournament.

WFWP members welcomed everyone at the entrance to the club, checked in players, distributed T-shirts, and handed out programs. James Garrett, Hawaii's Macintosh computer nut, spent late nights preparing the program, which included sponsor logos, photographs, and letters from the governor of Hawaii and mayor of Honolulu. Such an event program is a rare treat at youth tournaments.

Another first for the kids was the award ceremony held on the last day of the tournament. Participants were encouraged to return to the club after the final matches to celebrate with the winners. Also on hand to recognize WFWP efforts were representatives from the offices of the mayor and governor. A donation was made to the Honolulu Boys and Girls Club. Everyone got a chance to win door prizes contributed by local sporting goods stores, and we all munched on pizza donated by Pizza Hut.

We encourage any region to organize a tournament such as this. WFWP is especially suited to provide for our communities the kind of event which cultivates community, caring, sharing and love. All it takes is planning and enthusiasm! 🌸

# Colorado Women's Summit

by Shirley Chimes

A two-day conference in Denver really opened my eyes. No matter what direction we are coming from, we all want world peace. I want to give an overall perspective and then report on various sessions I attended. I have a burning desire to go to the NGO Forum in Beijing next year. And I'll do it.

I believe there will be many women presenting papers and pushing the idea of worldwide distribution of condoms. I am concerned that there will not be enough voice about abstinence-based education or just plain abstinence. I want to be one of those voices.

In one session called Circles of Women, we were given an exercise on decision-making and planning. In order to get anywhere, three things are necessary: a goal, a focus and a strategy. I would like to propose that WFWP go to Beijing with a goal, a focus, and a strategy. My area will possibly be abstinence. Someone else can take another area, and so on and so forth. I feel we need to be there in full force. My husband is completely united with me, and my nine-year-old son is begging to go with me. I am planning on fund-raising to get there.

I participated in the conference's Health Forum. Fire and ice attended this meeting. Emotions were flying all around the room: condom failure rates, condom success rates, etc. I met a woman who was so on fire about abstinence she scared me. Another woman became very excited when I talked to her about Reiki. Healing is so important to me, and I want to continue on to the third level of Reiki.

Participants in the Health Forum discussed how women fare in the area of health. They raised the following concerns:

*Omission of women in medical research*

*The devaluing of women's bodies*

*Insurance companies short-changing*

*women's needs*

*National health care*

*Women's emotional health*

*Over-medication and under-treatment of the elderly; osteoporosis and estrogen replacement*

*Reproductive health, including abortion counseling, post-abortion trauma, sterilization, female condoms, birth control counseling, natural family planning, forced c-sections, support for pregnant women and new mothers*

*Substance abuse*

*Eating disorders*

We were asked for suggestions about how to achieve successful health care. Responses included contacting legislators, developing community-based programs, mentoring, networking, basing health providers in schools, improving literacy, and distributing information in various languages.

What does not work is focusing on illness rather than wellness, treatment rather than prevention, consequences rather than behavior, or treating symptoms rather than causes. Participants pointed out that STDs and AIDS are often not taken seriously, nursing homes and orphanages seldom meet expectations, punitive damages awards have been exorbitant, and the radical religious right has been disseminating mis-information. People complained about economically-motivated health campaigns, stereotypical media images of women, the pervasiveness of eating disorders, bitter fights over abortion, lack of women health providers, lack of women's voices in making decisions about women's health, and lack of support groups.

The group leader then asked us to close our eyes as she led us through a visualization exercise leading up to a glimpse of what the world will be like in the 21st century. Here are some of the responses: emphasis on wellness and holistic health; more women in politics;

greater respect and value given to women and children; celebration of healthy lifestyle choices; more money for human services; dying with dignity; strong family values; all children are wanted; everyone living more simply, and without fear, violence or racism; emphasis on local/global connection, interdependence and equality.

The world needs transformation, conference participants asserted. We are on a fast-moving train. Local leaders need a global perspective. Women need to make new networks and develop new paradigms.

One woman from the University of Colorado at Boulder asked me to speak on campus for the International Women's Week in March. It would be a good idea for all of us to register WFWP on university campuses at their Women's Resource Center. ❀

## Creative Ideas from Boston

by Paula Fujiwara

An eight-week after-school cultural exchange program in Dorchester, Massachusetts, is planned for the fall. Young adults from Russia, Japan, Germany, Mexico and Latvia will introduce their cultures through storytelling, song and dance. Possible Saturday outings include a field trip to the Children's Museum in Boston, which is noted for its cultural displays, as well as the Black Heritage Trail on Beacon Hill. Participants may also help clean up the playground of a local school. Certificates of completion will be awarded at the end of the program. There is no charge for the program, and parent participation is encouraged.

In collaboration with social worker Kim Jones, WFWP is organizing workshops for young mothers in Dorchester. Phyllis Loum will teach nutritional cooking and grooming. Other potential topics include bereavement, non-traditional healing, and abstinence. ❀

# Manhattan-Harlem WFWP Chapters Hold Anniversary Luncheon

by Shirley Miho



**“H**appiness is Service.” This is an old adage, but it is as important for our focus today as it was yesterday, and it is vital for the outcome of all our tomorrows. It was the message and call to action for all those who gathered in Manhattan to celebrate the second anniversary of the Women’s Federation for World Peace.

This International Luncheon Gala was held on Saturday, October 22, 1994, for the New York City and Harlem chapters of WFWP. Participants gathered to celebrate the founding of WFWP and reflect on the projects begun over the previous year. It was also a time for sharing where we’ve come from and where we are going, with updates on current projects and news about new projects.

Some participants had come for the first time and were curious about how women can work together to bring hope and relief to the problems which afflict our city and society. Other participants came to pledge their continuing support

for the excellent work already begun in the community and world by offering financial support and continued service efforts.

The program began during dessert with a presentation of the video “Women Hold Up Half the Sky” (which documents Mrs. Moon’s thoughts and inspiration on the creation and purpose of WFWP). A heartfelt introduction was given by Ms. Bandela Bicaise, who has been working with WFWP since its inauguration in 1992. Mrs. Debbie Gullery, regional chairwoman for WFWP in the New York area, followed with the keynote address. She emphasized that as women, united in heart and service, we can and will make a difference. She continued by saying that if we can discover the joys of service and spread this message, we can change the world. Debbie gave an exciting overview of what WFWP has been doing internationally, nationally and in the New York region since January. In explaining the identity and purpose of WFWP, she emphasized

the two different but complementary aspects of our work – the invisible, internal growth of each woman which takes place as we try to become more loving, and the visible work which happens as a natural result of that growth and which translates into service. The keynote address ended with the official launching of “Operation Heal Our Nation,” with every woman reflecting on her special contribution and filling out a determination form.

At this point WFWP was happy to announce its co-sponsorship with the International Relief Friendship Foundation of a relief project for Rwandan refugees. To launch the program, Rev. Kathy Wittings, executive director of IRFF, addressed the issue of world hunger. Having just returned from Kodiak, Alaska, she introduced the newly developed concentrated fish powder, a product which promises to provide a viable solution to the worldwide problem of hunger.

Plans were then announced for regional WFWP programs for the upcoming months, including a central location for collecting donations for Rwandan relief.

All the women (and men too!) enjoyed the afternoon, especially the wonderful food and the great company. Everyone felt inspired to make a new start, both personally and with the WFWP Manhattan-Harlem chapter. Special thanks to the Manhattan-Harlem chairwomen and the hardworking WFWP members who helped make the occasion such a memorable one. ❀



## *The Children of Chernobyl Health Stay Program* **Humanitarian Aid Delivered in Seattle Area Homes**

by Nancy Neal-Oldenettel

To begin any kind of successful project it is important first to find a source of personal insight and inspiration: The path with a heart lies within. To lead others to God, one must search for God within oneself. This is a simple cliché but nonetheless an often forgotten reality. This is a journey which no one can walk for another. The external project is simply a reflection of the ideas, hopes, dreams, concerns and desires within the internal world of heart. As Jesus said, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

No project in the world will be successful if it did not originate from the sincere desire to be of service to others and to one's own conscience. In my experience since beginning to work with humanitarian aid programs such as the Charitable Fund for the Children of Chernobyl, I have reflected time and again on the fine line that exists between true, unconditional giving and the human tendency to feel self righteous because of the "great good I am doing." "The road to hell is paved with good intentions," is a phrase which comes to mind.

In any project, whether highly successful or not, it is of great importance to do internal evaluations daily. I have concluded that it is enough if we have helped even just one person. I sometimes imagine the day of my funeral and wonder if there would be anyone who would come and tell those who thought they knew everything about me a story about some seemingly insignificant deed which had come at just the most critical moment and changed their life forever. Many times one person leads to the next like the ripples in a pond which we will never see. If we lose sight of the one person at any given time, then the chance of losing

sight of the purpose of the whole project is inevitable.

The beauty of the Chernobyl health stay program for the children who have been exposed to continuous doses of radiation in their food and environment is that the participants are meeting each other face to face and living together through a six-week period. This personal give and take requires investment of time, attention, money and energy. These are all ingredients of living from the heart. The families are forced to open their boundaries and make room for the needs of others. This makes the family bigger forever.

My desire to bring children to the United States from the contaminated area near the Chernobyl power station began in 1990 when I watched a television program from Germany about one of the first groups to be sent out. I watched it with my mother, and as the credits flashed by on the screen at the end of the program I saw an address. I called the television station. They froze the screen and I was able to write to the founder of the Chernobyl Children's Fund in the Soviet Union. The fact that my letter reached him and that his reached me remains, in my mind, a minor miracle of my lifetime.

I visited the group in Minsk, Belarus, in 1991. I admired their sacrificial spirit and dedication to help the people to help themselves as well as their daily struggles to overcome opposition by the governmental officials who had covered up the Chernobyl disaster. Though it has taken me four years almost to the day (I wrote the first letter on September 1, 1990, and thirty-one children arrived in Seattle on September 8, 1994), I never forgot my promise to do my best to assist the efforts of the Children's Fund. It all started with

my personal promise to one person. Since then, many miracles have unfolded which made it possible for me to get the community support to raise the \$30,000 needed for the project.

We now hope to send an air supply of vitamins, aspirin, medical supplies, and hopefully even fish protein powder to children's hospitals and orphanages in Belarus. WFWP created a window of opportunity and an appropriate format to do concrete community outreach. The 501C status is absolutely mandatory to begin to raise donations from corporations and individuals. It will be a great loss should this avenue narrow down and come to an end.

I am always happy to hear from anyone interested in initiating a project of their own, and I can send a package of information upon request. My address is 27704 - 23rd Ave. S., Federal Way, WA 98003. Telephone (206) 946-9241. FAX (206) 839-6375. ☪

## **Background on the Chernobyl Project**

The explosion of the nuclear power plant Chernobyl on April 26, 1986 was the worst nuclear accident in the history of humankind. Thirty-one people were killed instantly and another 8,000 died shortly thereafter from injuries and radiation poisoning. Prevailing winds blew the dense radioactive cloud northwest over Belarus, dumping seventy percent of the fallout there on its ten million inhabitants.

Bombarded by radioactive particles in the air, soil, water, and food, people's immune systems are highly susceptible to infection and disease. Physicians have dubbed the condition "Chernobyl AIDS." Children in Belarus suffer from extraordinarily high rates of birth defects, heart disease, leukemia and thyroid cancer. They tire easily; their gums and noses bleed frequently; they are prey to colds, the flu and pneumonia. To accommodate the children, the school year has been

shortened in Belarus. Parents and officials try to shield the children from knowledge of their vulnerability.

The collapse of the Soviet Union and economic problems have left the country short of food. Vitamins, aspirin and especially antibiotics are rarities. People feel helpless, but there is hope for the children.

The children's only hope for partial recovery is a six-week stay in a non-radioactive area where they can eat fresh fruits and vegetables and play outside. Physicians have determined that such stays will reduce the amount of radiation in their bodies by 50 percent. Their visits abroad improve the children's health. When they return to Belarus they are sick less frequently, and they miss less school.

Since 1991, more than 57,000 Belarusian children have been given health stays in Germany, Canada, New Mexico, Austria and now Seattle. The families of some of the children still live in contaminated areas, while others had been evacuated. Still others are the sons and daughters of people who cleaned up Chernobyl after the accident; many of those parents are now dead or hospitalized.

The eight- to eleven-year-old children travel with interpreters. Most of the host families don't speak Russian, although they soon learn "da" and "nyet" (yes and no). "The boys are so well behaved," remarked one host family. "They make their beds in the morning, then play quietly in their room until they are called for breakfast."

When asked to name his favorite American food, nine-year-old Denise said, "Everything!" He and eight-year-old Oleg eat a bunch of bananas a day, a treat which would cost a week's wages back home.

Host families raised the \$750 airfare cost per child through car washes and spaghetti suppers. They also sold nesting dolls and painted eggs produced in Belarusian villages. ❀

## Nuns Call Women Leaders To Alleviate Rwanda Crisis

*Ecumenical News International*

**T**hirteen Roman Catholic nuns in Bukavu, Zaire, have called on prominent European women, including the queens of Great Britain, the Netherlands, Spain and Belgium, to bring pressure to bear to save Rwanda's refugees from starvation and death.

In a letter in French, the nuns warn that the Rwandan tragedy is not over. "We see it continuing daily in front of us," the nuns wrote, calling, "in the name of the voiceless people of Rwanda," for the international community to wake up to the continuing suffering and death of Rwandan refugees.

"Each day we see hundreds of starving children wandering in the city, refugees walking until they drop, searching for a spot which is more viable, while the vehicles of organizations which call themselves humanitarian drive past them almost empty," the nuns said in their letter.

"Often a feeling of powerlessness overwhelms us as we see the misery of the refugees," said the nuns, working in Bukavu, on the border with Rwanda. Many thousands of Rwandans have fled to the region this year, fearing for their lives.

The nuns, from seven different countries, including Zaire, France, Spain, Canada, Italy and the Netherlands, condemn the slowness of international organizations in the area to transfer the refugees from the city to safe camp sites.

"The number of refugees, often underestimated, and the unjustifiable slowness of their transfer from the city to the campsites cause slow death to the young children and seem to us a crime against humanity," the women said.

"The refugees want to return home.

But there is no authority which can assure them of security if they return. We know that people who have returned to Rwanda full of confidence have been arbitrarily massacred. . . . Those who escaped have come back to Zaire terribly mutilated."

The nuns sent their letter to the following people:

Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain  
Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands  
Queen Sophia of Spain  
Queen Paula of Belgium  
Queen Fabiola, widow of Belgium's King Baudouin, who died last year  
Princess Astrid of Belgium  
Grand Duchess Josephine-Charlotte of Luxembourg  
Daniele Mitterand, of France, president and director of France-Libertes. ❀

## WFWP Projects Raise Funds for Rwanda Relief

**WFWP of Ohio** sponsored a benefit garage sale to raise funds to alleviate suffering in Rwanda.

**WFWP of New Jersey** has sponsored a food drive for Rwanda, collecting over 200 pounds of rice, beans and milks.

**WFWP of New York**—members have been going door to door and have put up posters seeking donations of blankets, beans, rice and milk powder. They are planning a benefit sale in which they hope to raise \$400 to buy fish concentrate to send to Rwanda. ❀

*For more information, write to:*  
*The International Relief Friendship Foundation*  
*c/o Rev. Kathy Winings*  
*4 West 43rd Street*  
*New York, NY 10036*

# Woman on the Move

## Interview with Josette Shiner, Part 2

*This is the second selection of excerpts from an interview with Josette Shiner, Managing Editor of the Washington Times, on February 23, 1994, at Barrytown, New York. Brett Moss asked the questions.*

**Brett:** Recently President Clinton has been emphasizing family values. Do you see any substance behind President Clinton's words?

**Josette:** One of the top Democratic operatives said that the reason why they fought Quayle and Bush when they were bringing up family values was political, but now they can embrace these values because it won't be helping the Republicans. That is really sad because almost every problem in America stems from the disintegration of the family. People committing the crime never had the kind of love that would make them appreciate what human life is.

The more time I spend in Washington the more it just gets down to real simple things. I'm having a problem going on CNN and these programs because I'm losing my ability to be complicated. Families is where it is at, and if you don't have love you're not going to appreciate life. America has gotten away from the basics.

I hope there is substance behind the Democrats, I really do, because it is at the heart of the debate we need to have in this country. How are we going to get back to the basic building blocks that made this country great? It is not what ethnic or religious background you come from. It's a loving family, a willingness to take responsibility.

There is a huge battle in the Clinton administration that relates to the counter-culture. It's the culture that dominated when I was in the university. These are my friends in power now, the kinds of

people I went to school with who thought that there can be sex without responsibility, that we can have it all and we don't have to be responsible for our actions. This is my generation.

How do we straighten out our thinking in America? The 1960s brought in new strains of thought, a lot of which is debunked, disproved, and shown to be a failure. However, people still really believe in the values of the 1960s. More and more they are coming to power in Washington. It is a very important debate and a very important time in Washington. The debate over values is the defining debate of the 1990s. That is why the *Times* is trying to cover it.

**Brett:** Can you say something about the issue of America being for the sake of the world? We see it portrayed in many newspapers today and on television that we should focus on America first, end hunger in America first, rebuild families in America first and then, maybe, we can help other countries. Are we really more concerned about ourselves than the world, or is there some hope that America can live for the sake of the world?

**Josette:** This is another huge debate, and this one falls not along political lines. In the Democratic Party you find protectionists and those who believe we should pull inside, build up our industry and almost get into trade wars around the world. You also find a big strain of conservative Republicanism that is very anti-immigration and anti-foreign policy involvement. On the other hand, the coalitions that came out in support of NAFTA and in support of involvement in Bosnia were Democrats and Republicans who believe in an assertive role for America abroad. So, it doesn't fall along party lines as the values debate often does.

Where are we headed on it? Fortunately, the Clinton administration made

the right decision on Bosnia, finally, and we have seen an alleviation of the worst of what was happening there. It took just a little backbone on the part of the United States; often it doesn't take that much. However, there is something to be said for the work that we have to do at home and some valid criticism of Bush for not taking on some of the tough issues at home. Therefore, you see the attraction of someone like Clinton during the campaign. Politicians and those on the Hill need to keep a dual focus. The pressure is on to focus inward. Nonetheless, we have a role to play in this post-cold war era, and it's not the end of history. As a matter of fact, it may be the most dangerous time that we have faced. Especially through this decade America has to be really vigilant. I think this argument is winning out by a slight edge.

There has been very rarely in American history a newspaper that in ten years had the impact that *The Washington Times* has. We are told by the Associated Press that we are third most quoted newspaper in the world after *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*. The *Times* is read on Capitol Hill, the White House, everywhere. We have a very young staff and get about 200 resumes a week from reporters who like our kind of "in your face" style. There are no issues we won't tackle when the dominant media says it's not important, like family values. We think it is important. We cover it and we get a tremendous response. We like setting our own agenda and doing aggressive reporting, like on the House Bank scandal which we broke. Part of what we bring to Washington is kind of this average American sensibility. What we are finding now is that the radio talk show hosts are picking up our stories as populist issues. All over the country you've got these Rush Limbaugh-type of programs that pick up our stories and spread them around.

When I think back, I cannot believe where we have come in ten years. This is a great story to be told someday, in full. I think it has been a great service to America and the world. ❀

## WFWP-Related Speeches

## Recent WFWP Projects

<u>Title of Event (Presenter)</u>	<u>Date</u>		
"Preparing for Parenthood – Before Conception and Prenatally" ( <i>Mary Jane Anderson</i> )	10-27-93	Anchorage, AK	Prayer and discussion meetings on marriage
"America's Destiny for the Next Century" ( <i>Mary Jane Anderson</i> )	10-31-93	Eagle River, AK	Luncheons on topics such as "Tools for Building Good Relationships"
"Women's Role in World Peace" ( <i>Mary Jane Anderson</i> )	11-17-93	Los Angeles, CA	Conferences on "The Role of Marriage and Intercultural Harmony" and "The Community's Role in Intercultural Harmony"
Free Teens Presentation ( <i>Jeannette Henry</i> )	11-23-93		
"How TV Affects Our Children" ( <i>Peggy Weller</i> )	01-27-94	San Francisco, CA	Seminars on "Spiritual and Emotional Healing," "Natural Healing," and "Parenting"
"Women and Their Role in World Peace" ( <i>Kathy Burton</i> )	01-29-94		
"Family Ethics" ( <i>Mary Jane Anderson</i> )	02-01-94	Atlanta, GA	Collaboration with "TAP Into Peace"
"Women and Healing" ( <i>Susan Nishio</i> )	02-26-94		
"Nature of the Spirit World" ( <i>Glenn Willis</i> )	03-23-04	Honolulu, HI	Fundraiser for Belarusian Women's Committee to Aid the Victims of the Chernobyl Disaster; Youth Tennis Tournament
"Introduction to WFWP" ( <i>Mary Jane Anderson</i> )	04-01-94		
"The Physical Causes of Illness: A New Perspective on Health and Healing" ( <i>Beatriz Steeghs</i> )	04-21-94		
"The Healing Power of Gemstones" ( <i>Wyn Bradley</i> )	04-30-94		
"Introduction to the Use of the Pendulum for Healing" ( <i>Beatriz Steeghs</i> )	04-28-94 & 05-05-94	Boston, MA	"Toys for Tots" distribution; after-school cultural exchange program
"Healthy Love" ( <i>Teri Lester</i> )	05-01-94	Omaha, NB	Videotape: "Women Hold Up Half the Sky"
"Creative Visualization: Actively Creating Your Destiny" ( <i>Beatriz Steeghs</i> )	05-05-94		
"Go, See and Act" ( <i>Joy Pople</i> )	05-06-94	Baldwinsville, NY	Parenting classes; WFWP leader directs the Baldwinsville branch of the Volunteer Center, Inc.
"Life as a Bridge between Japan and America" ( <i>Yukiko Irwin</i> )	05-14-94	Hyde Park, NY	Women's Leadership Series
"Japanese Tea Party" ( <i>Chiyo Aparo</i> )	06-11-94	New York, NY	Seminar on "God, Women and Our Changing Times"
"Women Who Contributed in American History" ( <i>Shirley Wilson</i> )	06-25-94	Rome, NY	Art Auction to Benefit Salvation Army Youth Program
"Montessori in the Home: 15 Minutes a Day with Your Child" ( <i>Shirley Miho</i> )	06-28-94	Syracuse, NY	"Women Who Make a Difference" luncheon forums
Nature of the Spirit World" ( <i>Rosemary Yokoi</i> )	06-29-94		
"Natural Home Healthcare for Today's Family" ( <i>Drs. Bergman and Cabrera</i> )	07-06-94	Columbus, OH	"Japanese Summer Night" dinner and lecture
"Healing the Emotions through Age Regression" ( <i>Nora Spurgin</i> )	07-09-94	Medford, OR	Picnic to commemorate Parents' Day
"Understanding the Spiritual Causes of Illness" ( <i>Beatriz Steeghs</i> )	07-14-94	Portland, OR	Twice yearly beautification of grounds at a women's shelter; "Wings of Love Ministry" prayer meetings
"God's Hand in the Discovery of America" ( <i>Noriko Pearson</i> )	07-21-94		
"How to Accomplish Our Dreams"	07-27-94	Houston, TX	"Rally for God"; roundtable discussion on "Bringing God Back into Our Schools"
"Spirituality and Health: A New Perspective on Health and Healing" ( <i>Beatriz Steeghs</i> )	08-11-94		
"Is There an Absolute Standard for Living?"	08-19-94	Kirkland, WA	Picnic to commemorate Parents' Day
"Sunrider Foods: An Evening of Regeneration"	09-14-04	Seattle, WA	Seminar on "God, Women, & Our Changing Times"; "Healing Circle" gatherings; hosting children from Belarus
The Healing Circle Weekends ( <i>Beatriz Steeghs</i> )	May, June, & July 1994		

**Transformation,** Continued from p. 5.

**Prayer:**

In recognition, dear God, that we cannot give what we do not have, that we cannot create a world any different than the world which dwells within us, in recognition of the holy, sacred responsibility and challenge we have as vessels of peace, we now invite the spirit of the father-mother God to enter into us. We look inside ourselves and ask, whom do I not forgive? Recognizing that our thoughts of judgment and anger are little pieces of cancer for which we can take full responsibility, we release any judgment, attack, anger and unforgiveness into the transformative fires of God's holy genius....

We ask you dear God those of us who are Americans, to forgive us, to forgive this country for the transgression against the African-American people, against Native American people, against any others who have been violated by this nation now or in its history. And, dear God, we now surrender to you the places in which we block love and deny peace, gentleness and harmony....

We invite your spirit to enter into us, and we give the world at this time our greatest gift: new women. We ask to be turned into new men, to be turned into new women. We ask for the transformation of this planet by asking that you transform us. Where we have been in pain, may we now know peace; where we had held to fear, may your love now wash that way; where we have been small, may

we now be large. Where we have been weak, may we now be strong. As we walk through this world, may you use our minds to bless those that we see, to bless those that we think of, to use every opportunity to feel more deeply our love for others and for you. As we transform, may we become transformers. May we follow you, that we might lead in the world. May we receive from you, that we might give to the world....

Dear God, heal this nation. Dear God, heal this world. May a great vibration of peace go out from this place to heal all mankind. Our deepest prayer, dear Lord, is that we might become people who aid you in your work.✿

*New Program Available:*

**"After the Sexual Revolution"**

The 1960's and 70's brought profound changes in attitudes concerning sex, gender roles, and sexual relations outside of marriage. "After the Sexual Revolution" is a slide presentation which deals with the consequences of this twenty to thirty-year period in terms of family breakdown, divorce and out-of-wedlock births. It discusses the benefits of marriage in terms of health and sexual fulfillment. The cost of this new slide program and its accompanying manual is \$127, including shipping. Write to: *The Center for Educational Media, c/o Richard Panzer, PO Box 37, Emerson, New Jersey 07630.*✿

**WFWP Statement of Beliefs**

1. We believe that both men and women are created in the image of God, and are equal in value and should be given opportunities to contribute their unique qualities and perspectives to leadership in the larger society.
2. We believe in the sanctity of marriage and that the nuclear family should be held as the ideal norm for a healthy society.
3. We hold that chastity before marriage and fidelity in marriage are desirable goals and will help re-direct our youth to more constructive and healthier lives.
4. We believe that self-centeredness is the root of many personal and societal problems; correction of these problems will begin with teaching true love and the value of living for others.
5. We believe that through educating families in true parenting skills, they can be enabled to practice true love within the home and on every other level of society.
6. We believe that women of all nations are entitled to recognition of their true value. We support women's desires to take leadership in society and reject practices in which women are oppressed or discriminated against.
7. We believe that women can transcend religious traditions and doctrines and racial and national barriers to join together with men in facilitating global peace.
8. We believe that conflict resolution should be achieved whenever possible through dialogue and reconciliation, empathy and compassion, repentance and forgiveness, rather than by violence.

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# Father Reports on Projects

by Betsy Jones

When Father and Mother returned from Korea on September 20, 1994, Father shared some of his activities in Alaska. He spoke about training twelve Korean directors in the beginning of August and then sending them to the Unification Theological Seminary.

Between August 27 and September 1, thirty-six lawyers from our worldwide movement went to Alaska for training under Father. Father said he plans to create the healthiest and biggest law firm in the world.

On September 1, Father called to Kodiak representatives from forty nations where Mother spoke. He had arranged for them to be trained as boat captains by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Recently Father began preparing the Family Federation for World Peace in Japan. Since Father declared True Parents and the Completed Testament Age, he can establish the Family Federation for World Peace to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Father spoke about the new Family Pledge. He said that only those blessed couples who are united in mind and body with God, with each other, and with their children can recite the Family Pledge.

Father told us that the following day was the Choo Suk Festival, a time when Koreans pay respect to their ancestors. He asked everyone present to come to East Garden the following morning and bring their eldest child and youngest child, representing their descendants.

Father described the three major projects in Alaska:

**Fish powder.** Father instructed technicians to work on developing fish powder. It has been proven that our fish powder is ninety-eight percent better than others. The ultimate goal of the fish powder production is to save the twenty mil-

lion people who are dying of starvation each year.

**Seaweed project.** The goal of this project is to stop pollution.

**Timber project.** Many islands have beautiful spruce trees which can be harvested for timber.

Father's ultimate goal is the restoration of humankind, which includes spiritual and physical restoration.

Each family needs True Parents' spirit. From now on we should launch a campaign. Each family should have True Parents' picture in their home and the Unification Church flag on their house. When Father looks at America he sees the absence of true family values and pervasive individualism. Father calls this "aloneism." If we want to save this country, we need to utilize "True Parentism."

Beginning on October 3, Father plans to educate 50,000 Japanese women, resulting in a total of 160,000 world leaders educated by Father. This will establish the national foundation for the "Bride" culture.

Father asked Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak to explain more about Choo Suk. In Korea everyone goes home for the three days of this festival. Each family prepares an offering table and visits the *wonjun* of their ancestors. Since it occurs at the time of the grain harvest, the festival is something like the American Thanksgiving holiday.

Rev. Kwak then reported on activities in Korea. Ever since he became president of the Unification Church in Korea, he says he is living in a state of blessing. He feels "reborn." Rev. Kwak further stated that God's blessings will transfer from Christianity to the Unification Church. Some prepared groups are being led by spiritual revelation to the Unification Church. For example, one church was directly guided to change their

church sign to HSA-UWC. One woman in the congregation found our church and urged others to join.

Mr. Dong Moon Joo spoke about the Washington Times and the visit they received from Sir Edward Heath (former British prime minister), who came to help launch the Youth Federation for World Peace in Washington, D.C.

Father explained the significance of the Family Federation for World Peace in Japan. Mr. Hideo Oyamada is in the Adam position and Mrs. Erikawa in the Eve position; they are united in front of True Parents. Mr. Takeru Kamiyama's family is to represent True Parents' family on the national level. Father explained that True Parents' family is in the center, and in each nation a senior blessed couple will represent True Parents' family. Father will set up a similar organization in 160 nations.

The most difficult obstacle hindering the accomplishment of this goal is individualism. It's time to turn the family around 180 degrees. Father urged us to ask ourselves if our family has reached the standard which Father expects. The Family Pledge is the compass by which we should orient our lives.

Father gave us two points of focus: keeping our family intact and saving our country. Satan has continually worked to dominate people's bodies. We must rid this world and this country of the atmosphere of drunkenness, homosexuality and drugs, turning people back in the right direction.

The next day was a beautiful celebration with True Parents. After prayer and breakfast, Father called up all the parents who had children with them and told them to tell True Parents the points they were proud about their children. Father and Mother listened to each family's report until 3:00 pm. Then Father called up all the second generation. He gave gifts of money first to them and then to everybody present. It was a day of great blessing. ❀

# **Women's Federation for World Peace**

## **Addressing World Hunger**



### ***WFWP Provides Aid to Rwandan Refugees***

The Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP), a non-profit organization, has begun to offer aid in the form of fish protein concentrate to be used in the Rwandan refugee camps. Working with the International Relief Friendship Foundation (IRFF) and Christian Disaster Response, another U.S. based relief agency directed by Dr. Ron Patterson and headquartered in Winterhaven, Florida, WFWP has provided some of the monies for the delivery of an initial shipment of one ton of fish concentrate.

The fish protein concentrate, a product of International Seafoods of Alaska, Inc., is made from fresh fish and is processed using a new technology which not only de-bones the fish, cooks and then dries it, but also preserves other valuable by-products of the fish for future use.

Beyond the fish concentrate, WFWP has been collecting contributions of food, clothing, blankets, medicines and other necessary items. All donations are being used to help all displaced Rwandans, regardless of tribal affiliation.

For further information or to offer contributions, contact: