

Going Global Workshop

A residential opportunity to explore our personal and collective creative potential for acting globally

When: June 1st-June 6th 2011.

Where: West Mountain Inn, Arlington, Vermont, U.S.A.

If the time comes when our culture tires of endless homicidal feuds, despairs of the use of force and war as a means of bringing peace, becomes discontent with the half lives that it's members are living, only then will our culture seriously look for alternatives... When that time comes they will not find a void...They will find that there are ways of being that do not involve power over persons and groups. They will discover that harmonious community can be built on the basis of mutual respect and enhanced personal growth.
- Carl Rogers, A Way of Being

We believe that time is now. We invite you to join us in a gathering of open-minded people interested in creating a more compassionate, creative future by learning to engage the challenges of dizzying change and find a personally and socially constructive way forward.

Each of us has been intimately involved with the exhilarating process of facilitating in temporary, international, person-centered communities. We have learned first hand that this approach in its original form remains radical. It challenges the prevailing political, authoritarian system that we have introjected. It questions all the tried-and-not-true, worn-out policies of power and control.

The Learning Process in Groups

"The most personal is the most universal." Carl Rogers (20th Century Humanist Psychologist.)

"The most universal is the most personal." Ibn-El-Arabi (12th Century Sufi Mystic.)

"The personal is political." Carol Hanisch (20th Century Feminist)

These quotes express the inextricably linked nature of our common human experience. In the community we will create together, our personal story will be interwoven with the emerging story of our shared humanity.

The community will serve as a learning laboratory where aspects of our own use of power and control, as well as our personal, global and spiritual concerns arise from the unpredictable turn of events rather than from imposed agendas. The facilitators will assume the role of learning partners rather than experts. The carefully structured, undirected process will foster the personal and social impact of a person-centered climate, enhance participants' capacity to suspend established ways of seeing, and strengthen the courage and wisdom to generate undiscovered solutions to our runaway global crises.

In this interactive and egalitarian process, blending person-centered theory and experience, participants will discover new and courageous ways to respond to social and personal conflicts. The group will engage the depth of learning, wisdom, and personal empowerment that proliferates when the 'freedom to learn' (Rogers, 1969) takes precedence over reliance on expert guidance. It is our belief that such an endeavor can nurture the seeds of enhanced human possibility and profound social change.

Registration Information

Our intention is to create a large, diverse community. In keeping with our values, we have chosen a self-select fee structure with fees between \$390 and \$790. Those who can pay more than the average will help those who cannot, and can help ensure the event will not be cancelled. The costs of room & board are additional.

Housing will be at the West Mountain Inn (<http://www.westmountaininn.com>) but numbers, especially for single rooms, are limited. Additional lodging will be arranged if needed. Special rates for residential room and board at the West Mountain Inn (including breakfast and lunch) are as follows: \$135/day single room, \$101/day sharing double, \$90/day sharing triple, \$84/day sharing quadruple.

To Register:

Write a brief letter stating what you want to learn and how you can contribute to the experience.

Please include the amount you have chosen as your self-selected fee.

Enclose a deposit of \$100 (non-refundable after reservation is confirmed).

Send your letter & deposit to: Carol Wolter-Gustafson, 21 Arborway Terrace, Jamaica Plain, MA, 02130, USA

For more information, please email or call any of us:



Colin Lago (U.K.)

Colin Lago was Director of the Counselling Service at the University of Sheffield, U.K. from 1987 – 2003. He now works as an independent counsellor, trainer, supervisor and consultant and visiting lecturer to the Universities of East Anglia and Strathclyde. Trained initially as an engineer, Colin went on to become a full time youth worker in London and then a teacher in Jamaica. Colin was profoundly influenced by the writings of Carl Rogers long before he trained as a counsellor. Deeply committed to “transcultural concerns” he has had articles, videos and books published on the subject. He has recently been awarded a D.Litt for his contributions to the literature on multicultural therapy. email@colinlago.co.uk, <http://www.colinlago.co.uk>



Peggy Natiello (U.S.A.)

Peggy Natiello has worked with the theory and values of the person-centered approach since 1978 as professor, therapist, consultant, parent, and friend. Her relationship with Carl R. Rogers, founder of that psychological approach, ran the gamut from primary supervisor of her doctoral work, to co-facilitator of groups, to cherished friend, to theoretical sparring partner. Peggy sees the search to integrate the values of the person-centered approach, ever more deeply, as equivalent to a spiritual practice. Her book, “The Person-Centered Approach: A passionate presence”, was written to clarify the importance of this often misunderstood and radical approach to psychotherapy, education, group work and life. At present, the focus of her writing and study is in the field of consciousness. ranacom2@aol.com, <http://www.person-centered.com>, 928-204-5509



Carol Wolter-Gustafson (U.S.A.)

Carol Wolter-Gustafson received her Ed.D. from the Department of Humanistic and Behavioral Studies at Boston University. She first met Carl Rogers as a graduate student in a nine-day residential workshop in New York, and later she worked on staff with him. Carol values the unique opportunities for learning that we create together in the week long, residential, large group format. Her personal and professional life centers on cultivating a pathway out of the “us-versus-them” thinking and rhetoric that fuels violence locally and globally. Her writing, workshops and courses (In the USA, Mexico, Europe and Japan) are concerned with exploring those themes, the person-centered approach, and how to move through the illusion of the body-mind split to help create more fully-functioning persons. Carol maintains a Client-Centered practice in Boston. carolwg@earthlink.net, <http://carolwolter-gustafson.net>, 617-524-5373