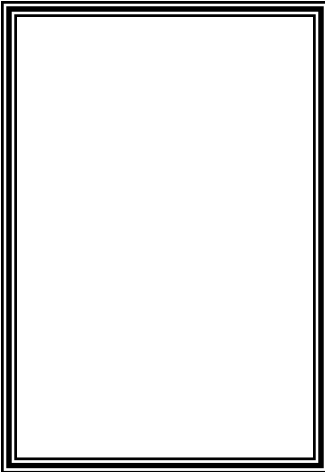


# the 4 Seasons Reports of Camphill Village MINNESOTA



## From the Ground Up

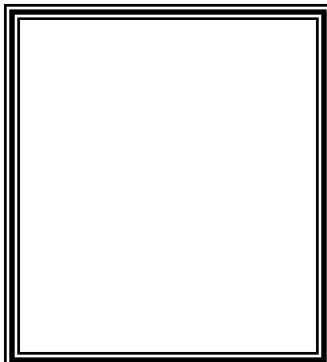
*(The conference described in this article was organized by the North American Council for Curative Education and Social Therapy (NAC), a membership organization comprised of anthroposophic schools, life-sharing households and communities and other related endeavors, and forms a link to the Curative Education and Social Therapy Council of the Medical Section at the Goetheanum. Many Camphill communities, as well as other households and communities throughout North America, make up the NAC membership.)*



Plenary session at the Conference.  
Werner Barfod and Karen Davis-Brown at left.

“From the Ground Up: The Therapeutic Value in Nurturing the Land” was a three-day conference offered in early March at Triform, a Camphill community committed to training young adults with special needs in upstate New York. Over 70 people with special needs and coworkers from life sharing communities from all over North America came together to explore how their everyday work can bring even greater health to each other and their communities.

Camphill Village Minnesota is a member of NAC, and as CVM’s delegate, I had been involved in planning the conference for almost two years. Aspiring gardeners Robert Rivers and Kelsey Grant-Jenkins also attended the conference from CVM.



The keynote speaker for the conference was Werner Barfod, the head of the Performing Arts Section at the Goetheanum. The morning plenary sessions opened with singing led by Veronica Jackson of Camphill Ontario. Then Mr. Barfod worked through the twelve zodiacal signs and their corresponding consonantal gestures, helping attendees experience the connection between the gesture, the sound of the consonant, and various everyday movements. For example, the human capacity associated with the sign Leo is enthusiasm and the accompanying eurythmy gesture/consonant is “T”, which we create

*(Continued on page 3)*

*We thank the following individuals, organizations, businesses and foundations that have contributed to Camphill Village Minnesota from November 1, 2005 to April 1, 2006.*

**Individuals**

Michael Behr  
William Belford  
Randy and Ann Brown  
Elna Campbell-Wade  
Jack and Theresa Cotter  
Nick and Annie Cronin  
Dennis and Marianne Dietzel  
Lowell Dittberner  
William and Marsha Driscoll  
Thomas Dwight  
Jeffrey and Cheri Ellison  
Larry Entner  
Patty Erickson  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Essler  
Michael Fitterer  
Skip Fitterer  
Mike Flan and Susan Lawlor  
Frank Fondell  
Fred Friswold  
William Gamber  
John Geertz-larson  
Stephen and Anne Goddard  
Gerald and Ellie Goplen  
Edith Greene  
Eric Gunlogson  
Timothy Hahn  
Robert Hall  
Robyn Hansen and John Clarey  
Harold Hanson  
Merlin and Karen Hanson  
Carol Haskins  
Robert Hennen  
Bill and Betsy Herman  
Deborah Howell  
Tony and Marlene Jennissen  
Douglas and Mary Jones  
John Kaiser  
Jan Kaul  
Mary Ellen Kaul  
Yumi Kayama

Beverly Kesphol  
Robert Kovell  
Andy and Geri Kowalenko  
Ruth Krafty  
Anthony Kroll  
JoAnne Kudrna  
John Leddy  
Tom Lowe  
Kenneth and Dorothy Lukaska  
David Mample  
Marguerite Manley (Estate)  
Michael and Sheryl March  
Jerry McCarter  
Dan and Tammy McKanan  
Joyce Montgomery  
Mark and Marcia Munson  
Robert Nemcik  
James Nicholson  
Stuart and Kate Nielsen  
Donald and Mary Olson  
Henry Paetzel  
Eugene Poechmann  
Dwight and Chris Porter  
Marty Primus  
Debra Pullen  
Lorraine Randall  
Dennis Ringsmuth  
Carol Robson  
Susan Rosenthal-Kraus  
Erna Rust  
Lowell and Carol Sanvik  
Patricia Schaffer  
Bob and Betty Schenk  
Thomas and Joyce Schlough  
Bob Schmiesing  
Katrina Schumacher  
Richard Scutter  
Margaret Shryer  
Tom Sinning  
Morris and Anne Smith  
Donald Steinkraus

George and Shirley Torrey  
Vern Tschida  
Bob and Ileen Waldron  
Don and Jan Watkins  
Russ Weeks  
Jim and Kathy Wiant  
Rose Yurek

**Foundations, Corporations and Organizations**

American Express Foundation  
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Little Sauk American Legion Post  
Long Prairie American Legions  
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Long Prairie Plumbing & Heating  
Layman Lumber Co.  
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The Pentair Foundation  
Rinke Noonan  
Rudolf Steiner Foundation, Inc.  
Sauk Centre Area Combined Fund  
Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict  
Stearns Electric Association Trust  
Tastefully Simple, Inc.  
United Methodist Women  
Ziegler Inc.

In the last fiscal year, Camphill Village went over budget for the first time. Although we raised the amount we had intended for our operating short fall, it didn't cover what was needed. This was due to ever increasing costs, especially insurance, gas, utilities, medical costs and vehicle maintenance. The cost of living increases that we receive from government sources simply do not keep up with reality.

We were able to meet the shortfall by drawing on reserves, but we do not want to turn to that source again. Rather, we are exploring other ways to secure the continued security of our operations. Some possibilities include changes in government funding (i.e. different licensure), requesting larger cost of living increases and raising more dollars from outside contributors.

This precarious situation brings home to us again the importance of the Endowment which is meant to help meet such needs. We thank all who have contributed to the Fund or support us through other contributions. Hopefully within a year we will have found ways to avert future shortfalls.

*Hahn Challenge Met*

Thanks to all our friends and supporters we met the Hahn Family Challenge gift. We are grateful to our supporters who rose to the occasion to ensure we would meet the challenge and continue vital maintenance and development of Camphill. By the end of the summer, along with much needed building renovation throughout the village, we hope to have a paved road around St. Martin's Hall with outdoor lighting, making the building more accessible.

Mary Gruber, Development Office.

*(Several people at Camphill receive “Waivered Service” -- a special program that provides workers who take people with special needs out into the community for a variety of experiences. Chrissy Klotz here writes about her experience.)*

Twice a week, two special people come and either pick me up or stay at Camphill Village. They help me with errands and other activities.

Some of the activities they help me participate in are: therapeutic horse riding; Special Olympics; shopping; bowling; dinner out; moving.

I have been to the Renaissance Festival, Mall of America, parks, Old Wadana and even the Horse Expo in the Cities. The Horse Expo is an event that I have always wanted to go to. Last year was the first time and we are going to go again this spring.

Chrissy Klotz

*(Continued from page 1)*

when we drive a nail or smith a piece of metal. With this knowledge, it then becomes possible to work more consciously, perhaps providing work of a certain type for someone who needs to develop a larger capacity for enthusiasm by incorporating the gesture into his or her work.

After each morning’s movement, large group discussions provided opportunities to clarify with Mr. Barfod certain points or to discuss how this new knowledge may be used to bring more conscious meaning and spiritual awareness to our work lives.

Saturday afternoon offered a variety of interactive workshops related to farming, gardening, weaving, baking and cooking, which provided a chance to explore on a practical level what participants had learned in the morning.

Saturday evening was the highlight of the conference, with a slide show presented by Mary and Asgar Elmquist and Carl Wolfe, who were the farmers and the gardener at Camphill Copake for many years. As they shared how they brought together meaningful work and a caring for the land in their work, the slides reflected many of the work gestures that attendees had explored through eurythmy and hand-on workshops earlier in the day.

This conference broke new ground in bringing together movement, land work, and therapy in a way that supported those who attended in developing a new level of consciousness and intention to their work. CVM will benefit from having Robert, Kelsey and myself attend this important event, which we will now share with our community and apply in our home and work relationships.



Karen Davis-Brown

Werner Barfod demonstrates a gesture

# Exploring Art

Every Saturday afternoon a group of enthusiastic would-be artists gathers in the painting room for two hours of exploration, creativity and fun. It is the weekly art class, taught by our long-time friend and neighbor, artist Ann Luloff.

Before we began the actual projects we gathered our ideas about what we would like to do. We made a long list – clay, drawing, silk painting, collage, stained glass, pressed flowers, lino prints, portraits -- much more than we could accomplish in the weeks allotted for the classes, but we bravely started, knowing that we could always save the rest of the list for later.

We kicked off the series with making tissue paper stars. The project required attention and careful work with the delicate tissue but the beautiful end products were well worth the effort it took to make them. Next we did stained glass which involved making a design on paper and then transferring it to a piece of plexiglass and applying the appropriate paints. Everyone was proud of their achievements.

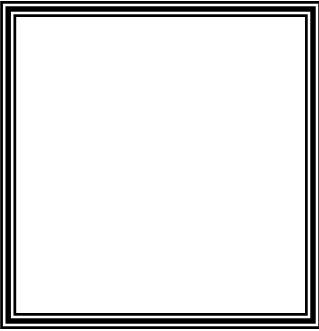
Several sessions were dedicated to improving our drawing skills. One time we made various geometric shapes – cubes and pyramids – and then stacked them up and drew them, learning to see where there was shadow, where there was light. Other times we drew still lifes that Ann created for us with objects and cloths. We even tackled doing portraits of each other, which most agreed was pretty challenging.

Then there was the day that Ann passed out to each of us a small 3 by 3 paper with what looked like some sort of abstract drawing – lines, curves, shadows, etc. – and we were taught how to copy that form on to a larger piece of paper. What a pleasant surprise when we had finished and put all the pieces together. We discovered that we had recreated a photograph of a gargoyle. It was also a lesson for life – we each do our little part, even if it doesn't seem to make much sense, but when we combine it with everyone else's efforts, who knows what wonderful things we might create.

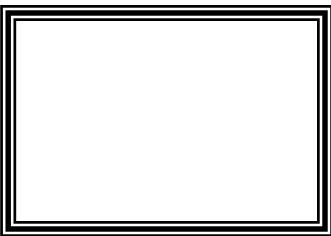
By this time, we found we needed a place to store our drawings and we each made a personal portfolio and decorated it.

Then perhaps the all-time favorite: tie dying. What gorgeous tee shirts were created that day! It makes one wish that our newsletter could be in color.

One of our more recent sessions was devoted to doing a painting with acrylics. We were free to choose our theme, but many were inspired with the spring season and we had many examples of flowers, Easter Bunnies, eggs and new growth.



Sarah Derkey models her tie-dyed shirt and Chrissy Klotz displays her stained glass piece.



The group shows off their acrylic paintings. The classes will be suspended over summer, when everyone's

thoughts turn to the outdoors, but before we end we have two more projects: Finding the alphabet in Camphill. We will go out in teams looking for objects that form each letter of the alphabet, photograph it, and then make a display of our Camphill alphabet. This will be part of our exhibit of all the work we have done, which is the other project before we close for the season. We hope to mount this display sometime in May.

Trudy Pax

Participants in the Art Classes: Adam Ellison, Amanda Leonard, Ben Cotter, Chipeta Difani, Chrissy Klotz, Danny Goan, David Tack, Evelyn Keacher, Jeffery Krafty, Jerry Yurek, John Weingartz, Katie Reed, Kelsey Grant-Jenkins, Leonard Obst, Mike Jennissen, Sara Munson, Sarah Derkey, Tony Hanson, Trudy Pax

## Friendship Tea

It is five minutes before three o'clock on a Sunday afternoon. One by one and two by two, people are beginning to fill in the circle of chairs in the St. Martin's lounge. Sara arrives and saves a seat for Sarah, who saves a seat for Ben. Soon villagers and a few co-workers fill all the chairs and fill the room with positive energy. Welcome to the Friendship Tea.

Laura stands up to write with a marker on the giant post-it notes that now hang where an art print used to be. The group brain-storms to remember the goals we set at our last meeting two weeks ago. After listing the goals — be friendly with everyone, respect others' personal space, reach out to others — everyone takes a turn at sharing his or her personal progress. After that there will be time to voice new questions and concerns: what to do when friends disagree; how to work out compromises, how to balance work and play. Laura writes everything down. We listen to each other's stories and feelings. Sometimes we share stories of the nice things we do for each other.

"I set the table all by myself and no one had to ask me. I beat 'em to it! I think Phil was kind of shocked," says Leonard when asked about his new relationship skills.

The group works on pertinent concerns like how to respect the personal space of others and what is the best way to reach out to a friend in need. Some concerns are specific to Village life, but most are universal. We are learning how to be better friends to each other.



The Sunday Friendship Tea participants leaving for an outing to see a Prairie Players performance.

"We're talking about what we do with our friends and we talk about the spaces between people," say Chrissy. "I think it's fun!"

At the end, everyone gets a cookie and a cup of tea and returns to the circle. Talk becomes less formal, though it is clear that people are making an effort to listen to each other and show respect. This is the time to just chat and perhaps process some of what we learned this afternoon. Then we have two weeks to practice some new friendship skills before the next tea.

Stephanie Rivers



the community in St. Martin's Hall. Karen has been working with the Thursday group to prepare a dramatization of two fables that will be performed for the Village in May. A few weeks ago we ventured out into the 70-degree sunshine to look for the first signs of spring. Our efforts were rewarded when Jacque discovered a pair of glorious crocuses hiding in the Sacred Garden!

These Arts and Movement groups have provided a challenging, fulfilling and fun-filled experience for the participants and the workshop leaders alike, offering a cultural and educational balance to their busy weekly work schedules. Much laughter has been shared together during the movement and games times, and much joy and enthusiasm engendered by the artistic activities we have engaged in. It has been a pleasure to be a part of these groups.

Phil Drake



An early spring walk

TonyHanson, Jacquee Bieringer, Leonard Obst,  
Danny Goan, Chrissy Klotz, Jerry Yurek

## *A Visit From DHS*

On January 30, 2006 the Village hosted a visit by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Human Services, Kevin Goodno. Commissioner Goodno has made it his task to visit every county in Minnesota during his four-year tenure. When he inquired with Todd County about visiting, Frank Sandelin, Director of Social Services for Todd County, suggested that he come to Camphill Village rather than have a meeting at the County Commissioner's room in Long Prairie. Mr. Sandelin thought that it would be fruitful for the Commissioner to tour one of the unique programs in Todd County, like Camphill.

So on the afternoon of January 30, Commissioner Goodno and six other officials (Frank Sandelin of Todd County Social Services, Minnesota State Representatives Mary Ellen Otremba, and Dallas Sams and Todd County Commissioners Dean Meiner, Mark Nelson and Randy Neumann) toured the Village. On this bright winter's day they visited the weavery in action, saw a classroom for arts and movement that was preparing the production of a fairy tale, ate fresh cookies while seeing the bakery and learned about our cultural and food processing outreach efforts centered in our community building, St. Martin's Hall.

We were very happy to host this occasion, to show aspects of our life and work in the Village and were honored to have been chosen to represent a part of Todd County.

Bill Briggs

# *the 4 Seasons Reports of Campbell Village* **MINNESOTA**

On April 22 the Village celebrated Earth Day with maypole and folk dancing. The dancing was led by Terrence Smith of Duluth and the music was provided by Tim Jenkins, Kelsey Grant-Jenkins, David McGee, and Ben Cotter. This wonderful event — greatly enjoyed by all who attended — was made possible by a grant from the Five Wings Arts Council with funds through the Minnesota State Legislature.



Dancing in St. Martin's Hall



Terrence Smith jamming with Mike Jennissen, Ben Cotter, Chipeta Difani, Chrissy Klotz, Saray Derkey, Sara Munson.



Maypole dancing.