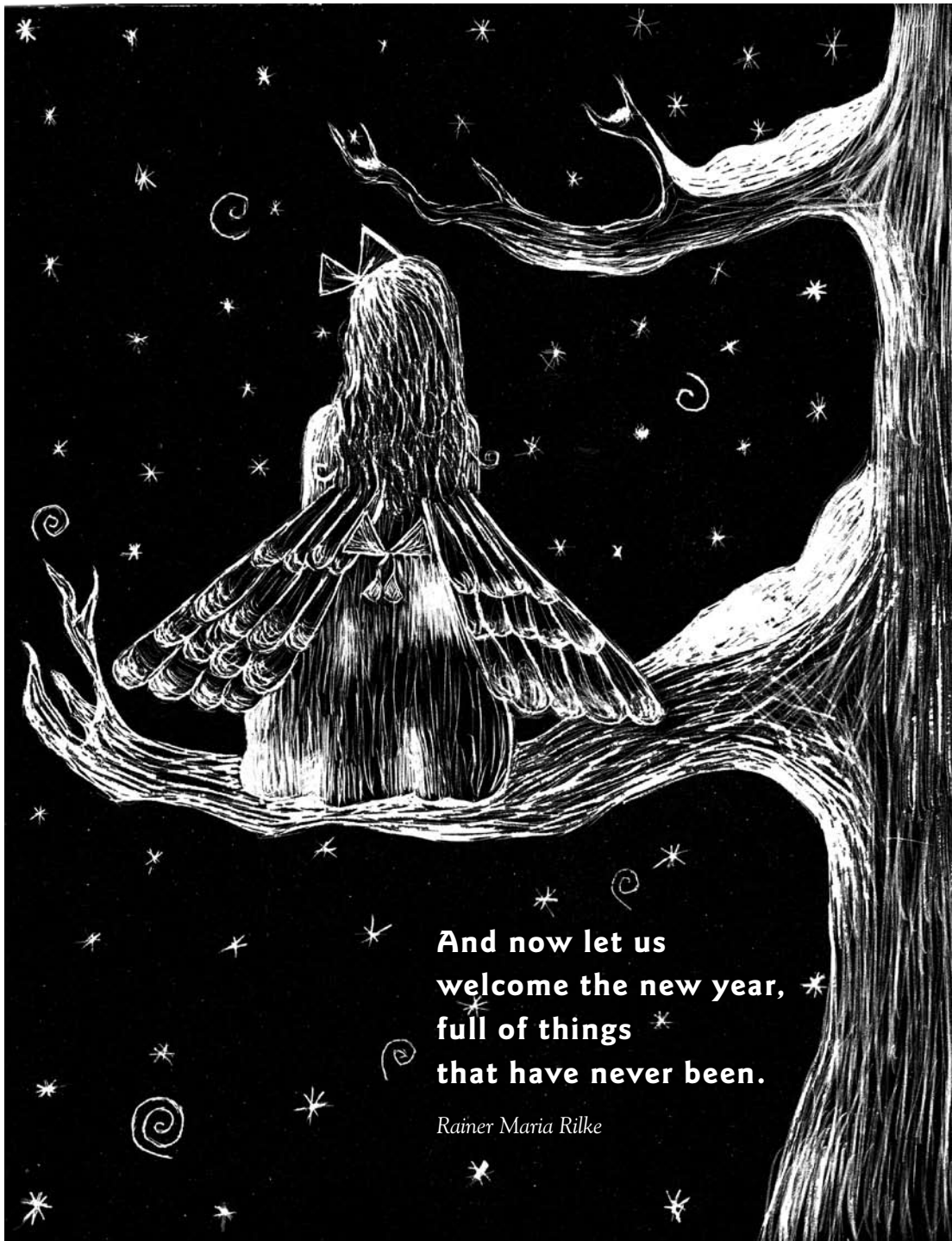


CALYX

PLEASANT RIDGE
WALDORF SCHOOL
Waldorf Education since 1980

Volume 31, Issue 2
Winter 2010



**And now let us
welcome the new year, *
full of things *
that have never been.**

Rainer Maria Rilke

Annie Caldwell, Grade 8



PLEASANT RIDGE
WALDORF SCHOOL
431 East Court Street, Viroqua

COMING EVENTS

February 15-19

Parent/Teacher conferences—no classes

February 26, March 5, 19, 26

Parent/Child play group

March 12

Kindergarten Morning, 10:00–11:30 am

March 18 & 19

Inservice—no classes

March 26

Information Evening, 7:00 pm

April 1

Spring Festival—noon dismissal

April 2-11

Spring Break

April 23

Kindergarten Morning, 10:00–11:30 am

Music Concert, 7:00 pm

April 30

May Day Festival

May 22

Benefit Concert: Duo Sureno

May 28

Last Day—noon dismissal

Graduation



The soul's creative might

Strives outward from the heart's own core

To kindle and inflame god-given powers

In human life to right activity;

The soul thus shapes itself

In human loving and in human working.

Rudolf Steiner, The Calendar of the Soul

CALYX

Volume 31, Issue 2
Winter 2010

Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School

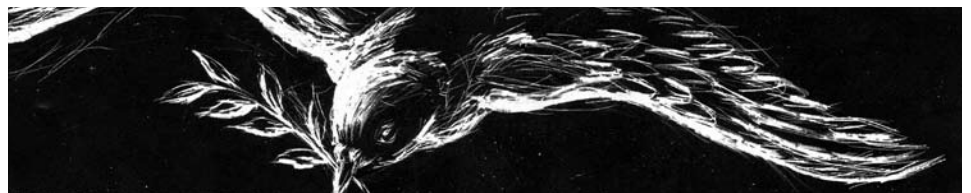
431 E. Court Street, Viroqua, WI 54665
info@pleasantrydwaldorf.org
www.pleasantrydwaldorf.org
(608) 637-7828
FEIN 39-1357578

Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School is a not-for-profit, 501(c)3 corporation supported through tuition, gifts to the school, and fundraising events.

Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School does not discriminate on the basis of gender, ethnic origin, economic ability, or sexual orientation.

In our efforts to reduce paper use, you may request an electronic copy by emailing cynthia@pleasantrydwaldorf.org.

Design by Geri Thompson Shonka
Printed at Dairyland Printing, Viroqua, Wisconsin
dairylandprint.com

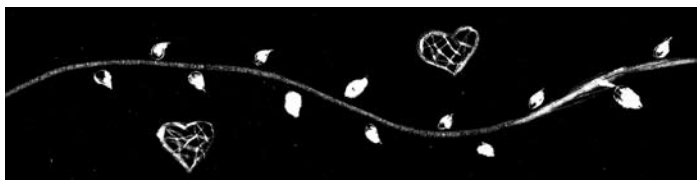


SCHOOL NEWS

Transitions

Barbara Peterson, former registrar, faculty secretary and librarian of Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School, moved to an assisted living apartment at Maplewood Terrace last spring. However, at the moment she is in Bethel Home recuperating from a fall. People are welcome to visit or call. She sends greetings to all and enjoys seeing people as well as hosting a monthly study group.

—*Mary Christenson*



Rose Barlow, former parent, kindergarten assistant, and friend of many in our community passed away June 13, 2009. Rose was much loved and cherished by many people not only here in the Coulee Region, but all over the Upper Midwest, for her work as an herbalist for over 20 years. She practiced a tradition of healing through optimal nourishment using simple, safe herbs found in our own backyards. She developed recipes for integrating wild foods into modern diet and lifestyle and encouraged people to develop a real relationship with plants through their own foraging. She always carried a strong reverence for mothering and led La Leche League meetings for several years, practiced midwifery for a time, and nurtured many small children at the Kindergarten. She was a year into studying to be a nurse when her sudden cancer of the bile duct was discovered and took her life within months. Her courage throughout the process was an inspiration to many.

—*Jane Marie Siemon*

Holiday Faire 2009 Acknowledgments

Coordinators

Paula Grenier
Meg Hoversten

Christiane Babb
Kate Bergan
Lars Bergan
Beth Blake
Aaron "Apple" Corbin
Vicky Eiben
Betsy Farrell
Joe Hart
Rebecca Hawklove
Jessica Hooper
Rob Hoversten
Janna Kottke
Alicia Leinberger
Jerry McIntire
Anne O'Connor
Kathy O'Rourke
Ted Parrish & Catherine
Hall-Parrish
Halle Pollay
John Porter
Allison Sandbeck
Valorie Schaefer
Jen Shepard
John Sherwin
Geri Shonka
Joan Tromp
Kae Vogel
Dodie Whitaker
Brian Woody

Donors/Volunteers

David & Diane Banner
Bramble Books
Driftless Organics
Ryan Evans
Green Man Music
Richard & Carol Goldthwaite
Dawn Hundt

Kickapoo Coffee
Frank Kroncke
Birgit Marko
Organic Valley Family of Farms
Ridgetones
John & Sheila Sherwin
Sibby's
Spotted Goat Bakery
Adrian Ugo

Auction Donors

Marie Agren
Ellen Arndorfer &
Bill Humphrey
Amy Arnold
Susan Barendregt
Angie Benetto
Corina Bergen
Kate Bergen
Paul Bergquist
Jo Block & Lori Dehlin
Bluedog Cycles
Richard Bock
Anna Lisa Bookstrom
Barbara Broser
Adrienne Caldwell
Greg Cheesebro
Chilito Lindo
Dr. Michael Corr/Holistic
Health Center
Cox Builders
Pete Cozad
Kathy Doerfer
Driftless Books
Driftless Café
Driftless Fair Traders
Driftless Folk School
Driftless Gymnastics
Driftless Organics
Dina Eakles/Echo Valley Farm
Marta Engel
Ryan Evans

Ewetopia
Paul Fairchild
Kay Fandel & Joe Rising
Fogelson Electric
Mike Foydel
Anne Marie Fryer
Raquel Geiger
Paul & Paula Grenier
Marcia Halligan
Nick Harring's Quality
Ford Mercury
Margot Hipwell
Erika Hodapp
Jessica Hooper
Mitch Hopkins
Meg Hoversten
Missy Hughes
Dawn Hundt
Jacob & Sofya Hundt
Iron & Ivy
Chris Jackson/Mt. Borah
Susan Johnson
Rev. Lindsay Jordan
Maureen Karlstad
Kickapoo Free Press
Will Kilkeary
Patti Knower
Jackie Kolenko
Janna Kottke
Richard La Martina
Brie Lamers
Jenni Larson
Jess Leinberger
Bjorn Leonards
Renee Lewicki
Kathy Lofton
Susan Louise
Macon Luhning
Dan Marko/VMH
Marty McElroy
Monty McPherson
John Murphy

Susan Nesbit
Organic Valley
Kathy O'Rourke
Parrish Music
Ashley Patton
Jillian Petersen
Pieces of the Past
Ximena Puig
Quality of Life Chiropractic
Vicki Ramsey
Read's Creek Nursery
Ellen Reyker
Kelsey Sauber-Olds
Jane Schmidt
Indigo Schneider of Seven
Springs Farm
Second Time Around
Jen Shepard
John & Sheila Sherwin
Geri & Drew Shonka
Sleepy Hollow Auto
Diane Splinter
Carrie Stanek
Felix Thalhammer
The Flower Basket

Carrie Treviranus
Joan Tromp
Uriel Pharmacy
Viroqua Athletic Club
Viroqua Heritage Inn B&B
Rebecca Wainscott
Beth Walker Stephenson
Caroline Waters
Frank Wildingway
Monica Woody

Raffle Donors

Birgit Marko
Paula Greiner
Geri Shonka
John Sherwin
Paper Scissors Stone
Galen Eiben
Missy Hughes
Corina Bergen
Kae Vogel
Robertta Ducharme
Jenna Krumenauer
PRWS Handwork classes/
Ms. Nannette Tuttle



Thanking our fabulous Holiday Faire Coordinators, Paula Grenier and Meg Hoversten.

CURRICULUM

Healing Aspects of Waldorf Education

Reprinted from the Calyx, May 1986, about the visit of Magda Lissau, who spent three days at Pleasant Ridge as an adviser of the Association of Waldorf Schools. She was a native of Austria and had 20 years experience with Waldorf education before her visit. Magda went on to found Arc-turus Rudolf Steiner Education Program, an adult education institute, in Chicago in 1992. She passed away last year.

Since healing is not usually associated with education, Ms. Lissau described some qualities in human beings that show the need for healing. Humans now find it increasingly hard to interact in a healthy way. Tolerance is absent or minimal. People seem to lack the ability to make decisions based on experience, and often irrationality seems to govern their actions and decisions. "Terrorism" was given as an example of this type of break in logic. When there are breaks between reasoning powers and emotional powers, or between volition and emotional powers, results can only be irrational.

Wholeness—an integrated psyche—is not easily obtained in the environment our children grow up in today. Adults may think, "What has happened to my time, to the quality of my time?" And yet, looking back, we can remember a time that was beautiful, good, and right. It may be harder for our children to experience this now.

A healing education helps children find this experience of peace and beauty, as it involves a child's emotional capacities. Traditional goal-oriented education doesn't train and develop all the faculties of the child, but focuses on the intellect and motor skills. The capacity of being able to compare, to make judgments, depends on maturity of the emotional life.

Ms. Lissau described how there lives in each human being the capacity or quality of a "healer." This part of the psyche that is able to create balance works physically in our breathing and circulation. This hidden healer works in our thinking: Whenever one is able to understand different points

of view, the healer is at work. There is healing at work through music, as rhythm revives one. It also works through the artistic process, hence "art therapy."



Some Thoughts on Feelings in First Grade

Reprinted from a 1994 Calyx when Maureen Karlstad was teaching her first Grade 1 class. Maureen's current Grade 8 class will graduate this spring.

In Waldorf schools, we are concerned with the development of the whole child—spiritual as well as mental and physical. We often talk of education in terms of the heart, head, and hands. An important aspect of this outlook is to maintain balance among the different aspects of a child's development.

It's not enough to just know something and it's not enough to just do something. There must be strong feelings behind our thoughts and actions; the heart must be involved. We may talk on and on about how we feel, but we don't take the time to really live in our feelings and use their strength to guide our thoughts and actions. In our present day we tend to intellectualize everything. And when we are tired of that, we rush in to do something.

But we seem to consistently leave out a crucial element: How do we feel about what we are thinking or doing? In fact, it seems that there is a tendency to dismiss as unimportant or irrelevant how we may feel about something, as if it doesn't count for as much as hard facts or decisive actions. But when there is no heart, our thoughts become irrelevant and our actions are

empty. So much unhappiness in our day comes from this unbalance.

First-graders are very much in tune with their feelings. They are still living from the heart and all their thoughts and actions come from the heart. When they come up to me to share something—a bumped knee or a lost tooth or a new trick on the swings—what they want most is for me to acknowledge how they are feeling. If I am in sympathy with them, then my thoughts and actions play a secondary, although still very important, role. They need to know that I understand how they feel, and then they can deal with the situation, often without much help on my part at all.

Many a time I have acknowledged an injury on the playground simply by repeating back to them what they came up to tell me—"Oh, you fell down and bumped your

knee”—only to have them rush back into the thick of the game! They only needed to have their feeling acknowledged—the rest they could take care of themselves. They don’t have the same need to talk about their feelings in an intellectual way that we do as adults. And when we frame our response in terms of questions (“How do you feel?”) rather than acknowledgment, we are asking them to think about something that isn’t really within their conscious realm yet.

In our Main Lesson time, we begin in the feeling realm. We sing beautiful songs with accompanying gestures. We move around the circle to any number of verses and action songs, all of which help bring the children together into a harmonious group. And when we tell stories, the children are always caught up in the excitement of the fairy tales, from dastardly deeds of assorted evil-doers to the heroic acts of great princes and princesses. I have watched the faces of the children as others have told stories in our class, and they are right there in the story, feeling each action as if they were participating in it themselves! All of the artistic work that we do—painting, singing, flute playing, dramatic presentations, beeswax modeling, storytelling—is aimed at arousing in the children a deep range of feelings that they will carry into their actions. Academic work based on feelings will become a living force in the children and will continue to grow with them for the rest of their lives.

When I share and acknowledge all feelings—pain, anger, excitement, or joy—with the children, then their feelings take on a new shared reality that can become an integrating force in their lives. Through a deep understanding and acceptance of their own feelings, they will be able to join together the thoughts and ideas of their spiritual world with the forms and actions of their physical world. And in so doing, they will be able to achieve a balanced life. Such is our hope as Waldorf educators.

Maureen Karlstad
Class Teacher, Grade One (1994)

FROM GRADE EIGHT

During the study of Revolutions, one of the 8th grade history blocks, the students learned about the connection between Martin Luther and Martin Luther King, Jr., both revolutionaries in their own ways. The charcoal drawings were inspired by a famous photograph of MLK, and “I Have a Dream” essays were inspired by his famous speech.

I Have a Dream

I have a dream that one day, we will all work together to change this world. Is it possible that we can forget our differences and opinions? We spend our lives sometimes pretending or forgetting the obstacles and struggles we face, but we can’t keep ignoring the black clouds of pollution and the starvation that fogs our life with pain. From the beginning our races have lived in vile contempt and blood shed. We can try to ignore the midst of pain we live in, ignore the sound of sirens, screams, and gunshot as life after life is taken. These are times when we love too seldom and hate too often. I hope that some day we will look around a room of people of every country, not caring what color skin they have, or what language they speak, and smile, knowing the only way we can change our world, is for all to set aside our disagreements and work together.

Aurea Bergquist

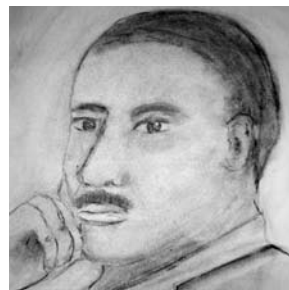
I Have a Dream

I have a dream that modern buildings will reflect the beauty of the world. That stiff brown apartment blocks will become colorful murals of art. That people will pass by and be inspired by the bright colors and create their own rainbows. Big skyscrapers will soar with maroons and indigos. children’s parks will be littered with colorful statues and art won’t be trapped only in stuffy museums, but will walk the streets with the people and fly the skies with the birds.

I have a dream that my art might change the world forever. That the colors on my palette will spill off into the back streets and slums. That the worn fingers of the hobos and homeless will trace the lines in my drawings and find peace. That the lonely and lost will hold tight to the smiles they find tucked into the corners of a painting.

I believe art can change the rich and poor, the lonely and greedy. I believe art can change everything. I have a dream...

Clara Zinky



ALUMNI NEWS

Sofia Arnold, 2000

It felt almost otherworldly as my friend and I crossed the farmyard behind Avalanche Looms in Westby. Golden, glistening snow covered the rolling hills while the temperature dropped to a record low, and the sun barely reached above the horizon. The depth of midwinter's stillness penetrated us while we walked towards the studio of the newly famous artist, Sofia Arnold.

When Sofia, a valedictorian graduate from Westby High School (2004), began her studies at college it was with the intention of getting a degree in chemistry. As a former Waldorf student, she loved creating artwork and enrolled in studio art classes as well. Seeing her promising talent, her art teachers soon encouraged her to change her major—and so she did!

Now, just half a year after graduating from the University of Wisconsin in Madison with a bachelor's degree in art, her artwork is displayed at some of the finest galleries in the state. One of these is the highly respected Tory Folliard Gallery in Milwaukee, which gave Sofia a solo show. Her work also appears at the Copro Gallery in Santa Monica, California. A few days after our visit, the curator of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Madison traveled the long way through the Driftless region to view Sofia's artwork for an upcoming show. What is it that captures the interest of the audiences in these top-notch galleries?

warm smile, also a bit myopic and vain. They are in the first stages of the long and awkward process of determining their society's structure and norms. Although living in rural places, the people do use technology, she continued, but sparingly and inventively, and their implements often take on a mysterious life of their own.

While Sofia draws her inspiration from her parents' lives and her own life growing up in the hills of southwestern Wisconsin, the world of the narrative she is describing in her paintings exists on the periphery of her subconsciousness at all times. "My work is to edit and compose the information of the life of these characters in a way that is visually interesting and aesthetically pleasing," she explained.

Before we said goodbye to Sofia, we asked what her future vision for her artwork is. She laughed and said with a twinkle in her eye, "My plan is to simply expand on this narrative and see how exactly it evolves." And so far her vision has started her on a journey that promises to be incredibly exciting.

Filled with awe and warmth from our visit, we walked back across the farmyard through the deep, frozen landscape. As our attention once again was drawn to the snow-covered hills, the goddess of the night gently made her way across the sky, bathing the hills now in colors of purple and indigo. No doubt Sofia was inspired by the mystery and changing moods of this artistic landscape in which she grew up. Art has many wonderful faces!

*Anne-Marie Fryer,
kindergarten and class teacher
Sofia Arnold attended her class*



Lynne Warren, the curator of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, said in her comments on Sofia's artwork in *New American Paintings #83*, "I was particularly taken by Sofia Arnold's sweet imagery of strange beings. This sort of folk and manga infused work is fairly widespread, viz Marcel Dzama and Clare Rojas, but Ms. Arnold's work had an appealing freshness and disturbing dark quality." Although only 23 years old, Sofia has managed to get her artwork in places few could dream of in a lifetime.

When we asked her what "the sweet imagery of strange beings" is depicting, Sofia told us that her artwork is showing images from one and the same narrative. She explained that her work uses a fictional folk iconography to create an ongoing imaginary world about people and places and how they interact with one another. Each painting is like a fragmented, superficial glimpse of this larger narrative.

The characters in her paintings exist mostly as transients, settlers, subsistence farmers, criminals, spiritual pilgrims, and people-animal hybrids living in a rural environment. The people are resourceful and passionate but, she said with a



The following tidbits are just a taste of what our alumni are doing. Please send us news to print in the next Calyx!

Aaron Bland “graduated” before PRWS had an 8th grade, and later graduated from UW-Madison with a degree in engineering. He is the engineer of the hybrid motorcycle, Brammo Enertia; he was in the news several times in the past year as the company placed the bike in Best Buy stores and conducted a national PR campaign. Read about it at <http://brammofan.wordpress.com/2009/10/27/shockingbarack-smartest-roadie-aaron-bland/>.

Class of 1997

Deborah Ecklund gave birth to a baby girl, Ariel Staum, in November and lives in the area with her husband and twin boys, Baeric and Xavier, who are nearly six. She works at the Viroqua Food Co-op.

Julia Hundt and Adrian Ugo were married in August and reside in Viroqua. Julia works at Organic Valley and Adrian works at Youth Initiative High School.

Keely McDonald and husband Steve recently moved to New York where Keely is studying textile design.

Ximena Puig and Noah Engel were married in August and reside in rural Soldiers Grove where Noah operates Driftless Organics CSA. Ximena teaches first grade at Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School.

Class of 1999

Hanna Agar graduated from UW-Eau Claire with a bachelor of fine arts degree and is returning to India this winter to design products for a women’s cooperative that focuses on economic development.

Robin Bland is studying for a master’s degree in educational psychology at Boston College.

Cory Gambrell gave birth to a baby girl a year ago. She and her partner, Jason, plan a wedding in Sheboygan this June. They reside in Colorado.

Eli Jansen graduated from UW-Madison in May 2009 with a degree in molecular biology. He has also completed EMT training and is working as a paramedic.

Amanda Walter Wright graduated from Burlington College, in May 2007 with a BA in art, culture and community. After working at Studio STK in Burlington, she began a new job that takes her all over New England, doing graphic work, advertising, recruitment, and on-the-ground organization for fine art festivals. She also does freelance website design while continuing to pursue her own artistic interests, some of which can be seen at her website www.wrightarts.com.

Class of 2000

Annie Aaker graduated from Lawrence University with a degree in English and art. She currently teaches English in Spain.

Sophie Arnold graduated from UW-Madison in May 2009 with a degree in art and resides in Madison.

Katelyn Banner graduated from Evergreen State College in December with a multidisciplinary liberal studies degree. She lives in Seattle.

Class of 2001

Alex Aaker graduated from St. Olaf College in May 2009. Her degree is in environmental studies and she received magna cum laude honors. She is currently working with the Student Conservation Association on a desert restoration project in southern California.

Luke Jansen completed his training at Minnesota Technical College in the Wind Technology program in May 2008. He is currently employed by Siemens, traveling throughout the country constructing wind generators.

Caitlin Koons graduated from UW-La Crosse in May 2009. She is currently enrolled in a master’s program at the University of Minnesota.

Amanda Rubasch graduated from St. Olaf College in May with a major in environmental art. She is currently a teaching assistant at St. Olaf.

Sonja Walter Wright graduated from Chapman University in December 2008 with a degree in television and broadcast journalism. She immediately went to work doing freelance work in Los Angeles during 2009. In autumn 2009 she went to work at Chrysalis Studios in West Hollywood.



Libby Parr, 1997 gave birth to a baby girl, Macey, on December 21, and is living in La Crosse.

Class of 2002

Cole Agar plans to graduate from the American University in Cairo, Egypt, in May 2010. He is applying to law schools in the Midwest.

Adam Cox studies anthropology at Lawrence University. He was in Romania last summer on an archeological dig.

Silas Hundt began studies this year at the University of Chicago after completing two years at Deep Springs College in California. He also studied painting in France for two months.

Cora Lewicki released a new CD this year and continues her studies in economics at College of the Atlantic.

Class of 2003

Anna Chotzen was attending Hampshire College, including a semester in Senegal. She studies international relations. She is currently taking a year off from college, living in Paris, studying French, volunteering for an NGO called Earth Rights Institute, and working as a nanny.

Helen Beutler is just beginning a semester abroad in London, a program of Earlham College where she has been studying English for the past two years. A portion of her time will be spent working with an NGO as an intern.

Aleata Calkins attends the College of St. Catherine, studying psychology. Last year she studied in Greece and Ireland.

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2008–JUNE 2009

Annual Gifts

Anonymous (2)	Chris & Toddie Getman	Charles & Denee Mattioli	Mary Helen Shortridge	Rose Siri
Philip & Kathleen Aaker	Lee Goodhart	Russ & Arlene Maxwell	Matt Shortridge &	Peggy Pearl
Lerie Alstad Van Ells	GoodSearch	Bill & Sara McDonald	Kathy O'Rourke	
Daniel Arnold &	Ole & Judy Gulbrandson	Pat & Mike Mehr	Jane & George Siemon	John Shortridge
Susan Johnson	Elenor Gundlach	Stacey & Charles Mehr	Diane and Greg Splinter	Mary Bruesch & Eric Nudell
Robert & Dorothy Arnold	Dave Hackett & Ellen Brooks	Beth Moore	Merrilee Stahler	Bobbie & Jack Nordyke
Mary & Neil Bard	Joanne Hart	Dr. Michael Mosling	Dr. Robert & Janet Starr	Performing Arts Dept. & Friends
Susan & Tomas Barendregt	Nat Hart	Fred & Elizabeth Nelson	Julie & Alain Tave	John Schutz
M. Kate Barnhart &	Mark Heffernan	Eric & Caroline Newman	Gail & Bob Toerpe	Matt Shortridge &
William Knox	Gil & Julie Hoel	Anna & Kevin O'Donnell	Susan & William Townsley	Kathy O'Rourke
Paul Bergquist & Carole Austin	Kathleen Hofmann	Cynthia Olmstead	Ron & Karene Uhe	
Bill Brooke Realty	Marjorie & Bob Horan	Julie Kienitz Peak	Dave & Erin Varney	Lois Threlkeld
Beth & Cornelius Blake	Allen & Lenice Hoversten	John & Emily Pfitsch	Vernon County Fair	Mary Finley
David & Jenelle Boyer	Bill & Carol Ilstrup	Nancy & Gordon Poer	Viroqua Food Cooperative	
Reese & Tony Brenengen	Sarah Kamin	Francis Pratt	Joan & Alan Vogel	Margaret Warner
Barbara Broser	Rhoda Binley Karusaitis	Linda Pritzker	Tom & Danelle Weston	Ben Agar & Julee Caspers Agar
Robert Caldwell	Ruth Kittleson & Dan Peper	PRWS Class of 2009	Brian & Monica Woody	
Bruce Carlson &	Dr. Philip Larkin	William Putze &	John Zehrer	
Annette Thiede	Bud & Katie Lemley	Colleen Kinsey		
Steve & Mary Christenson	Joe Lenarz & Janna Kottke	Cameron & BJ Ramsay		
Kathleen Danner	Michael & Bernadette Link	Marjorie & Conrad Rehbach	In Memory of	
Fred Dick	Richard & Mary Lofton	Michael & Kristen Rice	Frank Agar	Ursula, Sophia & Carl Arnold
Marjorie Dick	Ben Logan	Lara Roberts & Ken Carlson	Ben Agar & Julee Caspers Agar	Robert & Dorothy Arnold
Dennis & Mary Ann Dietzel	Dennis & Cathy Lund	Charles Rodriguez		Christiane Babb & PRWS
Thomas & Doris Dolan	Ariane Lydon & Janet Pumo	Rich & Pat Rubasch	Jonathan R. Balkowitsch	Class of 2008
Trish Dougherty	Diane & Kurt Mamroe	Aaron Schmidt &	Nancy & John Balkowitsch	Clara & Jack Sherwin
Noah Engel & Ximena Puig	Daniel & Birgit Marko	Jessica Hooper		
Jim & Betsy Farrell	Theresa Marquez	Judy Schultz	Sen. Otto Bang	Vedarose Bernstein
George Franklin	Roger & Pat Martin	Patricia & Rick Seyfarth	Roy & Mary Lou Terwilliger	Roy & Mary Lou Terwilliger
Lewis Fulton	Linda Mathes &	John & Sheila Sherwin		
	Robert Cwiertniak	Drew & Geri Shonka	Edward Booth	Caroline & Noah Carlson
			Nora Booth	Cynthia & William Roberts

FINANCIAL REVIEW	2008-9*	2007-8*
Revenue		
Pledged Tuition & Fees	\$535,953	\$562,384
Hot Lunch Program	\$35,437	\$36,876
Contributions	\$110,791	\$74,583
Fundraising Events	\$103,875	\$124,095
School Store	\$5,190	\$6,132
Investment Income	\$1,978	\$2,336
Other	\$4,768	\$3,963
Total	\$797,992	\$810,369
Expenses		
Educational Faculty Salaries & Aides	\$471,115	\$469,183
Classroom Instructional Costs	\$23,919	\$26,215
Administrative & Development Salaries	\$130,878	\$133,255
Administrative Expenses	\$23,153	\$20,922
Development Expenses	\$6,468	\$6,945
Fundraising Expenses	\$10,578	\$35,878
Building & Capital Expenses	\$86,543	\$82,390
Hot Lunch Program Salaries & Expenses	\$35,781	\$34,395
Professional Fees/Misc	\$12,469	\$17,021
Total	\$800,904	\$826,204

** financial figures based on a certified audit review from Franke, Weisbrod & Turnbull, CPAs.

Dennis Coleman	Mary Christenson
Bob & Karen Pfeiffer	Adrian & Kathleen Hendrickson
Ethan Danforth	Annette Conlon
Ben Agar & Julee Caspers Agar	Erika & Peter Hodapp
Robert Ducharme	Mike & Lucy Danforth
Jaz Gikling	Robert Ducharme
Kim Hammer	The Daniels Family
Mickey (Grandma) Grenier	Gail & Bob Toerpe
Paul & Paula Grenier	Misa & Justys Grenier
Kenneth Heck	Thomas & Doris Dolan
Lois Heck	Moira Halbauer
Arthur Heide	Wil & Anne-Marie Fryer
Russ & Arlene Maxwell	Grace Hallberg-Cain
J.J. Jordan, Sr.	Herman & Evelyn Hallberg
Jerry & Natalie McIntire	Jim Hallberg
Anita & Morrie Lang	Erika & Peter Hodapp
David & Diane Banner	William & Rowan Heath
Doreen Riley	Donald and Adele Skolaski
Christine Violet & Hilda Richey	Mattejah Hodapp
Joan Rodriguez	Mike & Linda Cantrill
Charles Rodriguez	Valdene Hodapp
Clement Rukamp	Rev. Margaret Eiben Hoversten
Jim & Dorothy Thompson	Bonnie & Jack Rath

Emma, Harry, & Tucker Hughes
Ann Hughes
Aimee D. Larkin. M.D.

Maureen Karlstad
Erika & Peter Hodapp
John & Mary Ann Synk

Elijah Kolenko
Steve & Barbara Kolenko

Katie Mae Lamb (Greenhouse)
William & Joyce Lamb

Barbara Von Nostitz Peterson
Norma Herz
Carol Siyahi Hicks
Sven Midelfort & Petra Ressler
Nancy & Gordon Poer
David White
Michael Wright & Kate Walter

Vicki Ramsay
Cameron Ramsay Family

Sheila Sherwin (Music)
Toddie & Chris Getman

Truman Shortridge
Margaret O'Rourke
Paul & Pam O'Rourke

Eleanor Staffanson
Don & Elsie Pothén

Janie Tippins
Susan & John Gesslein
Kathleen Hofmann
Barbara Peterson

Luna & Violet Vogel
Joan & Alan Vogel

Isabella Sage Walker
Thomas & Ellyn Walker

Sidney, Reese, & Silas Westerhoff
Eileen Westerhoff-Young &
Chuck Young

Evergreen Wildingway,
Rowan Hemingway &
Rose Mary Wildhack
Elizabeth Wildhack

Endowment

Anonymous
Leigh Anders
Sheila Andersen
Citizens First Bank
John & Annette Conlon
Nicole Elliot
David & Marta Engel
Vincent & Dawn Hundt

Ariane Lydon & Janet Pumo
Jerry McGeorge & Susan Nesbit
Jem Moore
Prudence & Steve Tippins

Barbara Peterson Children's Fund

Ben Agar & Julee Caspars Agar
Steve & Mary Christenson
Marjorie Dick
Vincent & Dawn Hundt
Barbara & Marvin McNeal
Kathy Neidert
Patricia & Rick Seyfarth

Foundations/Corporations

Amazon School Rewards
GoodSearch
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
Organic Valley Family of Farms
PAXAM Foundation
Paul E. Stry Foundation
Rudolf Steiner Foundation:
Midwest Shared Gifting Group
Target
U.P.S. Foundation (matching)
Wal-Mart

InKind & Restricted

David & Diane Banner
Bill Brooke (Library)
Dairyland Printing
Kathleen Hofmann
Kickapoo Free Press
Duane Koons & Maureen O'Connor (Music)
Ariane Lydon & Janet Pumo
Jerry McGeorge & Susan Nesbit
Paper, Scissors, Stone
Viroqua Heritage Bed & Breakfast
David White (Library)
Frank & Arwyn Wildingway

SCRIP

All Creatures Animal Care
Art Vision
Avalanche Looms
Bill Brooke Realty
Bramble Books
Bright Life Center Chiropractic
Burkes Tire & Auto Repair
City Styles-Jenni Larson
Delap Tire & Service Center
DiSciascio's Restaurant
Driftless Café
Driftless Fair Traders
The Flower Basket
Greenhome Solar



Holistic Health Center:
Susan Barendregt,
Dr. Michael Corr &
Jennifer Banowetz
Home Green Home
Homestead Helpers
KWIK TRIP
Moondance Metals
Nelson Agri-Center
One Sun Farm

Otherwise
Paper, Scissors, Stone
Parrish Music
Quality of Life Chiropractic
Read's Creek Nursery
Rising Sun Animal
Wellness Center
Rockweiler Appliance & TV
Matt Shortridge-Music Lessons
& Carpentry

Schlicht Auto Repair
Sime Furniture
Southface LLC
Tapestry Yoga
Viroqua Computer &
Office Supply
Viroqua Public Market
Viroqua Village Market

DEVELOPMENT

As I write for this Annual Report issue, we are looking back over the past school year and midway through the current school year. Many of you ask, “How is the school doing given the economic climate?” On one hand we are at the lowest enrollment in 10 years and have made significant cuts in salaries and positions in order to deal with the loss of income. And parents have generously matched those cuts through contributions and increased commitment to utilize our fund-raising programs. We need each other, and we are acting on that awareness.

On the other hand we find ourselves, especially as a faculty, pulling together to “weather the storm,” feeling ever more commitment to our experience that at the core of Waldorf education lies a gift to develop humanizing forces that our world so needs. When Rudolf Steiner founded the Waldorf school movement in 1919, it was his understanding that education offers one of the primary vehicles to combat anti-social forces that cause the disturbances in social life. As early as 1905 he articulated a maxim he called “the Fundamental Social Law” that was drawn from ancient spiritual wisdom, and he felt it is a law that works as surely as the laws of nature. One way to express this maxim in contemporary terms is as follows:

*The more an individual works for the benefit of society or the needs of others, and the more society ensures that each worker is supported sufficiently to lead a dignified existence, the greater the well-being and prosperity of society will be.**

Steiner maintained that the Fundamental Social Law should be viewed as a law of human interaction that needs to become the foundation for a new economy based on associative cooperation, not merely as an ethical aphorism. That means that in our school we work with this principle in decisions around salaries, tuition, the tuition adjustment process, and volunteerism. We work together in many, many ways to fund-raise so that all the children can be here and so that we do not upset the financial stability that we’ve worked to maintain for these 29 years.

We hope that other corollaries that Steiner articulated to this maxim are well imbedded in the organization that is the Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School. Here are a few that seem relevant for this message:

- Social institutions and communities are a reflection of the attitudes, thoughts, and feelings of the people who created them and who continue to be a part of them.
- Interest in others is the foundation of social life.
- Organizations and communities need a spiritual mission that can be experienced by all participants.
- For cooperation and effective group collaboration, every thing depends on the disposition or attitude with which people meet and interact.

One thing I’ve noticed, especially as the winter season brings its additional challenges to our adult lives, is that it’s a bit more difficult to maintain a buoyant spirit or positive attitude that is so needed to fuel this commitment. For we who work at the school, our meetings for study, to share a meal or our life stories, and to organize the

children’s activities provide sustenance as well as a focus on the “big picture” of why Waldorf education is important to us.

Parents find similar support in the committee work, volunteer projects, socializing outside of school, the community potlucks and informal gatherings around school. We support individuals in need; we share child care, meet at the hockey arena or the Park Bowl, or share dinner at Chilito Lindo or the Driftless Café. There are so many other ways to engage to foster the warmth of community and commitment to the altruistic ideals embodied in this education. By working in this way we model for our children something of the future that they will be called upon to create for themselves and in their communities.

The love of work and a concern for humanity and social life are essential learning goals in an educational system working in harmony with the Fundamental Social Law. The service projects that the classes take up provide this opportunity to serve others, which should give real joy to a person. Also, strengthening imaginative thinking provides the capacities to develop greater interest in others.

Another principle that derives from this philosophy is that it is a healthy social instinct to feel an obligation to give back to society at least in proportion to what we have received from it. Looking out to another formidable ring of community that surrounds our school, we find grandparents, relatives, former parents, staff and students, and friends who also show their support and feel moved to do their part to acknowledge the school’s mission and accomplishments. We have been very, very blessed with donations of all sorts: financial, in-kind services and goods, volunteer time, contributions from local businesses, and attendance at our fund-raising events. In this time of extraordinary need, we have been lovingly supported and are grateful.

We feel confident that we will rebuild enrollment which will strengthen our financial position most quickly. The development of the Grateful Grains business to bring sustaining funds to the school will take some years, yet has been very favorably received by our various communities.

We thank each and every one of you not only for the material contributions you have made to Pleasant Ridge, but for also for holding the school’s endeavors with positive enthusiasm and encouragement for success. This is very apparent and clearly stated in your special notes of gratitude on the donation envelopes. We appreciate that the levels of giving have stayed strong. We apply for grants, but it remains true that the greatest level of giving and the most stability in giving comes from individuals. So we are truly grateful to you for your continued commitment to our work.

** I am grateful to Gary Lamb, whose articles on Rudolf Steiner’s social ideas have provided inspiration to me over the past 15 years. I will provide references on request to those who want to read more.*

Mary Christenson, Development Director

We Many thanks to those who have given to our Annual Appeal in Support of our School & the Development of Grateful Grains – from October 29, 2009 to January 16, 2010

Sheila Andersen
 Anonymous
 Robert & Dorothy Arnold
 Daniel Arnold & Susan Johnson
 Amy Arnold & Kelsey Sauber Olds
 David & Diane Banner
 Mary & Neil Bard
 Tomas & Susan Barendregt
 M. Kate Barnhart & William Knox
 Lars & Corina Bergan
 Kate Bergan
 Paul Bergquist & Carole Austin
 Arthur & Angie Bernstein
 Bill Brooke Realty
 Beth & Cornelius Blake
 Bramble Books
 David & Jen Breitbach
 Reese & Tony Brenengen
 Bill Brooke
 Bruce Carlson & Annette Thiede
 Mary Lynn & Burley Channer
 Greg Cheesebro & Anna Rodriguez
 Daniel & Kim Chotzen
 Steve & Mary Christenson
 Georgene Christenson
 Aaron (Apple) Corbin
 Peter & Gabrielle Daniels
 Barbara Danner
 Monica DeClercq & Jason Cole
 Fred Dick
 Marjorie Dick
 Jill Dlugi
 Chuck Doerr
 Roberta Ducharme
 Katie & Ben Fassbinder
 George Franklin
 Wil & Anne-Marie Fryer
 Cameron Genter & Daphne Kingsley
 GoodSearch
 Ole & Judy Gulbrandsen
 Elenor Gundlach
 Dave Hackett & Ellen Brooks
 Lisa Hawklove
 Adrian & Kathleen Hendrickson
 Kathleen Hofmann
 Paul Hofmann
 Michael & Diana Horan
 Meg and Robert Hoversten
 Cyndy Hubbard
 Vincent & Dawn Hundt
 Daniel and Lauren Hunt
 Bill & Carol Ilstrup
 Sarah Kamin
 Dr. Mark & Kathleen Kamsler
 James Kangas & Nan Marshall
 Kickapoo Coffee, Inc
 Jane Lofton Kouba
 Gary & Dian Krause
 Dr. Philip Larkin
 Marci Lau
 Chris Leinberger
 Joe Lenarz & Janna Kottke
 James & Renee Lewicki
 Penny Lindstrom
 Michael & Bernadette Link
 Bill & Sara McDonald

Jerry & Natalie McIntire
 Barbara & Marvin McNeal
 Elliot Medow & Connie Poelstra
 Diane & Kurt Mamroe
 Stacey & Charles Mehr
 Ken Meter
 Ron Moilien
 Fred & Elizabeth Nelson
 Sue & Gary Noble
 Eugenia & Michael Nordskog
 Ambra & Robert Perry
 John Porter
 Rich & Pat Rubasch
 Mark & Jen Shepard
 John & Sheila Sherwin
 Matt Shortridge & Kathy O'Rourke
 Mary Helen Shortridge
 Sibby's Ice Cream
 John Synk
 Felix Thalhammer & Catherine Young
 Jim & Dorothy Thompson
 Madelyn Townsley
 Mark & Colleen Troy
 Scarlet Welander & Keven Schmidt
 Vernon County Fair
 Viroqua Food Cooperative
 Alan & Joan Vogel
 Tom & Danelle Weston
 Dodie & Gino Whitaker
 Frank & Arwyn Wildingway
 Carol & Peter Willis
 George & Allison Wilmes
 John Zehrer

In Memory of

Alcy Alstad
 Lerie Alstad Van Ells
Jonathan R. Balkowitsch
 Nancy & John Balkowitsch
Hansjorg Broser
 Erika & Peter Hodapp
Dennis Coleman
 Bob & Karen Pfeiffer
Ethan Danforth
 Roberta Ducharme
Thomas Dineen
 Carol & Peter Willis
Charles Glatzhofer
 Francis Pratt
Kenneth Heck
 Lois Heck
Florena Johnson
 Elliot Medow & Connie Poelstra
Robert Mathers
 Philip & Kathleen Aaker
Jim "Jumhammer" Smith
 Lerie Alstad Van Ells
 Maura Otis & Barry Jensen

In Honor of

All children
 James & Janice Erdman

The Balkowitsch Family
 Neal Balkowitsch & Donald Nelson
Maris & Raina Bock
 Judy Schultz
RoseMarie Bonfield
 Roberta Ducharme
Paul Dahl
 Charles & Karen Dahl
Lucy & Mike Danforth
 Roberta DuCharme
Chuck Doerr
 Ben Agar & Julee Caspars Agar
Aiden Farrell (13th Birthday)
 Ann Foorman
The Gullion Children
 Helen & Ed Gullion
Schuyler Hawklove
 Blanche & Thane Hawkins
Our Heberlein Cousins: Padraic, Eamon, Mollie & Brendan
 David Heberlein & Sarah Kessler
Tejah & Ruby Hodapp
 Mike & Linda Cantrill

The Hughes Family
 Emma, Harry, & Tucker Hughes
 Ann Hughes
 Aimee D. Larkin. M.D.

The Landis Family
 Carol & Peter Willis

Andrew Neckar
 Charles & Karen Dahl

Barbara Von Nostitz Peterson
 Orion & Zoe Coleman
 Norma Herz
 Nancy & Gordon Poer
 Janie Tippins
 Carol Siyahi Hicks

PRWS Faculty & Staff
 Barbara Broser
Kele & Vicki Ramsay
 Elisabeth & Cameron Ramsay

Heron Splinter
 Russ & Arlene Maxwell

Monika Sutherland
 Heidi and Dan Burke

John G. Symons & Edith Rice Symons
 Mollie Symons

Charlie & Arlo Townsley
 Anonymous
 Francis Pratt

Foundations/Corporations

Amazon School Rewards
 Midstates Shared Gifting
 Program of RSF Social Finance
 Organic Valley Family of Farms
 PAXAM Foundation

*Receive the children in reverence;
 educate them with love;
 let them go forth in freedom.*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

- Annual Giving
- Barbara Peterson Children's Scholarship Fund
- Endowment

Please accept my/our gift or pledge of:

- \$1,000
- \$500
- \$250
- \$100
- \$50
- Other _____

Please circle one: _____
 In memory of / In honor of _____



PLEASANT RIDGE
 WALDORF SCHOOL
 431 E. Court St., Viroqua, WI 54665

Paul E. Stry Foundation
 Target

Endowment

David Bruce & Sarah Tedeschi
 Vincent & Dawn Hundt
 Kevin Lamb
 Shawn Nadeau

SCRIP

All Creatures Animal Care
 Avalanche Looms
 Bill Brooke Realty
 Bramble Books
 Bright Life Center Chiropractic
 Burkes Tire & Auto Repair
 Carpentry, Matt Shortridge
 City Styles-Jenni Larson
 Delap Tire & Service Center
 DiSciascio's Restaurant
 Driftless Café
 Driftless Fair Traders
 The Flower Basket
 Greenhome Solar
 Holistic Health Center: Susan Barendregt, Dr. Michael Corr & Jennifer Banowetz
 Home Green Home
 Homestead Helpers
 John's Family Floor Services
 KWIK TRIP
 Jerry McIntire
 Moondance Metals
 Music Lessons, Matt Shortridge
 Nelson Agri-Center
 Otherwise
 Paper, Scissors, Stone
 Parrish Music
 Quality of Life Chiropractic

Read's Creek Nursery
 Rising Sun Animal Wellness Center
 Rockweiler Appliance & TV
 Schlicht Auto Repair
 Sime Furniture
 Southface LLC
 Tapestry Yoga
 Viroqua Computer & Office Supply
 Viroqua Public Market
 Viroqua Village Market

In Kind & Restricted

David & Diane Banner (Library)
 Hal Bergan
 Con Blake
 Daniel & Kim Chozen
 Aaron Corbin Family (Library)
 Dairyland Printing
 Kay Fandel & Joe Rising
 Frank, Weisbrod & Turnbull, CPA
 Friends of Vernon Memorial Hospital
 Mark Heffernan
 Kathleen Hoffman (Library)
 Lauren & Dan Hunt
 Kickapoo Free Press
 Jackie & Ray Kolenko (Library)
 Lee Kupersmith (Music)
 Marci Lau
 Penny Lindstrom
 Barbara & Marvin McNeal
 Cynthia Olmstead
 Paper, Scissors, Stone
 PRWS Class of 2010 (Library)
 Geri Shonka
 Viroqua Heritage Bed & Breakfast
 Dodie & Gino Whitaker



SIXTH ANNUAL

GOOD ENERGY RAFFLE

GRAND PRIZE

\$4,000

\$2,000 to winner & \$2,000 to charity chosen by winner

SECOND PRIZE

\$1,500

\$750 to winner & \$750 to charity chosen by winner

THIRD PRIZE

\$1,000

\$500 to winner & \$500 to charity chosen by winner

\$20 PER TICKET OR 3 FOR \$50

Raffle drawing held Saturday, February 27, 2010

To purchase tickets, call Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School at 608.637.7828, visit www.pleasantridgewaldorf.org, or contact any Pleasant Ridge parent.

License #R0009 463A-02769

PLEASANT RIDGE WALDORF SCHOOL

Visit us online at
pleasantridgewaldorf.org

PLEASANT RIDGE
WALDORF SCHOOL
431 E. Court St., Viroqua, WI 54665



CALYX

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
VIROQUA, WI
54665
PERMIT NO. 7