

CALYX

PLEASANT RIDGE
WALDORF SCHOOL

Waldorf Education since 1980

Volume 32, Issue 1
Winter 2011
Annual Report



Within us
is the soul of the whole,
the wise silence,
the universal beauty, the eternal One.

Ralph Waldo Emerson



COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

21-25 Parent-Teacher Conferences & Prep Days—no classes

MARCH

3 Information Evening,
Co-Creating the Curriculum, 6-8 pm
5 Raffle Drawing, 9 pm. Optimo
18-19 Simplicity Parenting Workshop
with Kim John Payne
22 Parent-Child Session Begins
24-25 Inservice-no classes

APRIL

7 Information Afternoon,
Movement & Games, 3-5 pm
8 Kindergarten Morning
15 Spring Concert Festival
18-25 Spring Break

MAY

5 Information Evening,
The Imagination of the Child, 5-7 pm
6 Kindergarten Morning
6 May Day Festival
12 Pentathlon
27 Last Day—noon dismissal
Graduation

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Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School
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www.pleasantrydewaldorf.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.

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cynthia@pleasantrydewaldorf.org.

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NEW FAMILIES

Spring and summer enrollment this year was busy and productive! We have 9 new families joining the school and 7 returning families for a total of 25 new and returning students. Below is a list of our new parents, where they are from, names and classes of their children, their occupations, and some interests. I have also included a list of returning families, where they have been, and what they have been doing. I hope that this information will help new and old families find common ground for connections and conversations. Welcome to the new families and welcome back to the returning families. May we all have a fruitful and meaningful year!

—Maureen Karlstad, Admissions Coordinator

NEW FAMILIES

Brenda & Todd Fagley, Mound, MN
Calvin—4th Grade
Sophia—3rd Grade
Anika—Rosemary Kindergarten
Attorney (photography, Haiti, Japan, travel, scuba)
CEO, Medsource International (triathlons, water sports, music, travel, scuba)

Julia Henderson, Chicago, IL
Abigail Henderson-Fuentes—4th grade
Fundraising (walking, hiking, cooking, baking, reading, nature)

Joseph Fuentes, Chicago, IL
Abigail Henderson-Fuentes—4th grade
Telecommunications Engineer (photography, traveling, poetry, PCs)

Mitch Hopkins, Viroqua
Molly Hopkins-Sheets—7th Grade
Huck Hopkins—Rosemary Kindergarten
Landscape Contractor (ecological restoration, plants, farming, sports, camping, hiking, canoeing, understanding nature)

Jean & Dan Krings, Cottage Grove, MN
Matthew—3rd Grade
Emma—1st Grade
Systems Engineer (reading, art, music, nutrition, gardening, running, swimming, skating)
Stay-at-Home Dad (gardening, reading, cooking, woodworking)

Margret Lenarz & David Levin, Minneapolis, MN
Peter Levin—Violet Kindergarten
Physician (children, food, gardens, running)
Author, Musician, Communications Specialist
(singer/songwriter, aviation, running, downhill skiing, movies, computers/technology, public policy, remodeling projects)

Tracy Mangold, Viroqua
Josiah Mangold—Rosemary Kindergarten
Early childhood teacher (herbalism, music)

Richard Hobin, Brighton, IL
Josiah Mangold—Rosemary Kindergarten
Yoga/Martial Arts Instructor (rock climbing, biking, camping, English and history, speaking Japanese)

Giselle (Gigi) & Daniel Morton, Milwaukee, MN
Mia—6th Grade
Elena—5th Grade
Seamstress, Carpenter, Grower (handwork, farming/permaculture, goats, chickens, etc., Steiner lectures, politics, philosophy, theology)
Artist (art, history, ancient cultures, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, mixed martial arts)

Aja & Jim Neidel, Sycamore, IL
Lily—5th Grade
Stay-at-Home Mom (the outdoors, gardening, crafts, natural/organic food, cooking, child development)
Sales (the outdoors, sports, woodworking)

Tammy & Jim Olson, Viroqua
Fischer—Rosemary Kindergarten
Registered Nurse/Stay-at-Home-Mom (drawing, painting, sewing, running, hockey, gardening)
Self-Employed (hockey, nature, alternative energy)

Robyn Spector, Viola, WI
Parker Spector—4th Grade
College Professor (knitting, homesteading)

Jeremy Frandrup, Minneapolis, MN
Parker Spector—4th Grade
College Professor

RETURNING FAMILIES

Jill Dlugi, Viroqua
Annabella—2nd Grade

Teri & Steve Elfrink, Pennsylvania
Quinn—1st Grade
Zoe—4th Grade

Bernard Kuhn, Viroqua
Tangwyn—3rd Grade

Bjorn Leonards & Brie Lamers, Viroqua
Gianna Leonards—7th Grade

Eric Nordgren, Chicago
Mary Beth Flurry, Chicago
Annelise Nordgren—6th Grade
Micah Nordgren—8th Grade

Raven & Emily Stevenson, Westby
India—5th Grade
Caspian—2nd Grade

Julie & Joel Turino, Viroqua
Lydia—3rd Grade
Grace—7th Grade

SCHOOL NEWS

All-School Book Study

This year the Enrollment and Parent Education Committee is bringing to the entire school a study of *Simplicity Parenting: Using the Extraordinary Power of Less to Raise Calmer, Happier, and More Secure Kids*, by Kim John Payne. The author looks at the “four pillars of too much: too much stuff, too many choices, too much information, and too much speed.” Using many examples, the book discusses ways in which different types of families with children of all ages can simplify their lives. The results are better behavior by the children and calmer, less-stressed parents.

He also identifies four realms of our lives that can be simplified, often with dramatic results:*

The Environment—uncluttering the home; when there is too much stuff and disorder, children (and adults) often feel overwhelmed. I help parents identify how much mess is creative for them and how much is too much; and then they choose one simple thing to change.

Rhythm—introducing rhythmic moments for pause and predictability and simple rituals. All Waldorf kindergarten teachers know so well the strength and beauty of rhythm in children’s lives. I help parents understand the connection between sturdy rhythms in family life, for example, at bedtime or in the rush of the mornings, and children being “biddable”—when the expectations for their behaviors are held in rhythm, they can follow along easily.

Scheduling is a realm that can cause a lot of stress to parents and children, so I support parents in creating a balance between stimulating activities and calming activities.

Filtering Out Adult Concerns and Media is what I have called the last realm. I think many educators and parents are increasingly concerned by the influence of media on children and families. I support parents to find the courage and persistence to reform or reduce their children’s exposure to all kinds of screen activity—it isn’t just TV and video anymore, is it? Young parents especially take the presence of media in their lives very much for granted. But I have noticed, for example, that children who hear the same bad news many times a day may not understand that it has actu-

Join us for a **Simplicity Parenting**

Workshop on March 18-19 with

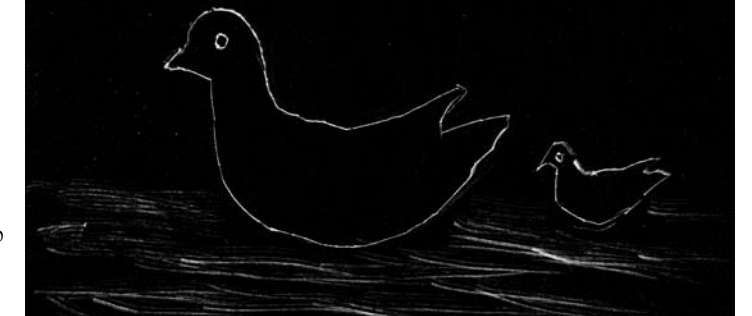
Kim Payne as the keynote speaker, seminars on

ways to incorporate simplicity into your life, and art

and handwork workshops. Please contact Maureen

Karlstad in the Enrollment Office at (608) 637-7828

if you have any questions.



ally happened only once—and this can flood them with anxiety. Parents are surprised at the difference it makes when they begin to protect their children from this level of anxiety.

*interview by Davine Muse, Fall 2010, “Steiner Books: The Education Resource Catalog—Books for Parents, Teachers, and Children,”

Throughout the year there will be many scheduled opportunities to discuss the book. In addition, parents are encouraged to discuss it in the hallways, during coffee, and at home with their spouses. Having a common topic helps build our strength as parents and as a community. People who don’t have time to read the book can still participate in discussions by sharing their own family experiences and listening to that of others. Books are available for purchase in the school office.

Alumni Reunion

Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School hosted its Alumni Reunion on December 22nd as part of the school’s 30th Anniversary celebrations this year. The event drew seventy-five people, many of whom were students or parents and teachers during the first fifteen years (1980-1995). Guests enjoyed refreshments while reconnecting and visiting, then the alumni gathered in the center of the gym to engage with their physical education teacher, Lerie Alstad Van Ells in performing the spatial dynamics movements which was the “warm up” of their classes. Some performed music to finish out the evening. This year there was also an art exhibit of paintings by Cedarose Siemon.



2010 Holiday Faire Acknowledgments



Ryan Evans and Katie Rynes on Friday morning carry in greens and branches to transform the space into a winter garden.



One of many vendors who provided Faire goers with a wide array of gifts.



Lars Bergan, John Porter and Julie Turino preparing for the lunch for Saturday.



Children enthralled with making knitting needles.

Parent Volunteer Leaders

Coordinators: Meg Hoversten, Paula Grenier, Julia Henderson
 Bake Sale: Alicia Leinberger
 Café: Kae Vogel & Daphne Kingsley
 Cash Box: Robert Hoversten
 Cheese Cake Table: Julie Turino
 Children's Activities: Monica DeClercq
 Children's Castle: Geri Shonka & Missy Hughes
 Children's Raffle: Erika Hodapp
 Clean-up: Matt & Kathy Shortridge
 Decorating: Sheila Sherwin, Ryan Evans, Jane & Shane Kouba
 Entertainment: Dodie Whitaker
 Kitchen Clean-up: Jim Schaller
 Lunch: Lars Bergan, John Porter & Allison Sandbeck
 Lunch Serving: Mary Beth Nordgren
 Pocket Person: Apple Corbin

Auction Donors

Ellen Arndorfer	Hopkins Landscaping
Amy Arnold	Marci Lau
Susan Barendregt	Alicia Leinberger
Nadine Beezley	Renee Lewicki
Angie Bennetto	Susan Louise
Corina Bergan	Jess Murdock
Kate Bergan	Risha Murray
Paul Bergquist	Parrish Music
Bluedog Cycles	Susan Nesbit
Richard Bock	Meg Newlin
Bramble Books	Anne O'Connor
Mackenzie Burke	Kathy O'Rourke
Pete Cozad	Peg O'Rourke
Pete Daniels	Optimo Café
Kathy Doerfer	Uriel Pharmacy
Driftless Angler	Ximena Puig
Driftless Books	Vicki Ramsay
Driftless Fair Traders	Read's Creek Nursery
Driftless Folk School	Nancy Rhodes
Driftless Gymnastics	Joe Rising & Kay Fandel
Driftless Organics	David Romary
Galen Eiben	Ethan Schandelmeier
Jim Elliot	Jane Schmidt
Brenda Fagley	Jen Shepard
Adrienne Fox	John Sherwin
Anne-Marie Fryer	Sheila Sherwin
Green Apple Inn	Joanne Shird
Paul and Paula Grenier	Drew & Geri Shonka
Erika Hodapp	Cedarose Siemon
Peter Hodapp	Emily & Raven Stevenson
Kathy Hofmann	Felix Thalhammer
Missy Hughes	The Flower Basket
Bill Humphrey	Annette Thiede
Dawn Hundt	Carrie Treviranus
Maureen Karlstad	Joan Tromp
Kickapoo Coffee	Colleen Troy
Patti Knower	Tulips
Jackie Kolenko	Organic Valley
Janna Kottke	VMH Wellness Center
Dan Krumenauer	Beth Walker-Stephenson
Rick LaMartina	Frank Wildingway
Brie Lamers	Monica Woody

CURRICULUM

Initiative, Bullying, and Kindness: Seventh Grade Perspectives

One of our November spelling words in the seventh grade was initiative. All the spelling words of that week included the letters t, i, j, or x, which needed to be dotted or crossed. But for us, initiative was more than a spelling word that needed a little extra attention when we wrote it. Initiative is a word that excites. It excites teachers and parents, especially, when they see their students and children acting with it. I love to tell out-of-town visitors that Youth Initiative High School was founded by its first students. Initiative is impressive because it has power. It indicates movement both on the inside (we have the resolve to act) and on the outside (we are doing it!). When you take initiative, you are already in motion, and things are bound to change.

In October the seventh grade students took initiative on the issue of bullying. One Monday afternoon two of the girls announced, "Everybody should wear purple tomorrow." When asked why, they said, "In support of the gays." They had been reading in news magazines and on the Internet about teen suicides that have occurred because young people were teased so much that they believed dying was better than living with the pain of persecution and being socially outcast. My students made their announcement to the class and wrote it up on the chalkboard.

The next morning, 9 out of the 20 students remembered. Perhaps more did, but we didn't all have purple in our wardrobes. A few students raised their hands to ask questions about why our class was doing this, and why it was being done nationwide.

I gave them a short course on different lifestyles, explaining a few new words, and a very general picture of what a gay or lesbian person might struggle with, in our society. The class was aghast that there could be a church, or even a family, that would reject one of its members because of sexual orientation.

Following this discussion, all seventh graders chose to show their support of GLBT

students by wearing purple, and they did. We went to the handwork room where students freely cut pieces of purple cloth and yarn for bracelets, belts, armbands, and necklaces. A week later the local monthly paper, the Kickapoo Free Press, ran a cover story on bullying and teen suicide. The students listened to me read editor Anne O'Connor's plea for kindness to all people. That weekend, each student wrote a short essay on "What We Can Do to Stop Bullying, in Our School and in Our World." Following are three samples.

Jaia

How to prevent bullying.

Just don't care. Don't care if they're a different race, don't care if they're gay or straight, skinny or fat. But people do care, that's why there is bullying. It doesn't make sense why people make fun of others for something they can't help, or something they enjoy that you don't. It's so awful to hear these stories about bullying and suicides. There was one boy who was only thirteen who killed himself because he was being made fun of for being gay. A thirteen-year-old boy should not be having to make the decision on whether or not he wants to keep his life. So I hope the bullying stops and people start being treated with respect.

Althea

In September a few people committed suicide for being teased and bullied because they were gay. I think when someone is bullied they should stand up for themselves, and not let the bullies bring that person down. I think everyone should be kind to one another, and no matter if you are gay, lesbian, black, or white. We are all human in this world, and we all have to treat one another with respect, that means we have to stop the teasing. Some people may think it's "cool" to bully one another, they might think it's the only way to find happiness.

Will S.

What actually is a bully? A bully is somebody who is actually afraid of being left out or alone, and someone who is probably uneducated and has not had the opportunity to meet and get to know different types of people. Sometimes a bully is just someone who is being mean because they think it feels good or they have a hard life.

To stop bullying, confront the bully and make them aware of the fact that they're a bully. Tell them how they're really acting. You do not need to be mean (if you're mean that means you're a bully too and that won't do anything) or you can be a friend or a supporter of the person being bullied.

Bullies make me feel that a lot of times they're nice people that have never had a real friend.

On November 9 the New York Times published an article about bullying. They were relating the findings of some new research showing that bullying can be "cured," and one of the greatest influences was simply the presence of a little baby. Researchers, parents, and teachers joined in a program that brought infants to elementary and middle school classrooms. The article explained how in what might otherwise be a difficult environment to direct (e.g., a seventh grade classroom), the presence of a little child triggers chemical responses and instinctual compassion. We might have guessed.

Our seventh grade has two baby siblings—Griffin, age five months, brother of Sequoyah; and Zora, age 15 months, sister of Gianna. Whatever unkind impulses exist for us at school (and the seventh graders are honest to admit they have them), when we see one of our babies, our hearts melt and we remember kindness once again. May all our initiatives and impulses be colored with kindness.

—Drew Shonka, Class teacher, grade seven

The Voyage of Childhood and our Role as Parents

The inspiration for this article comes from my ongoing experience as a mother of two beautiful children, as a Waldorf kindergarten teacher, and the book, *Parenting with Spirit: A Waldorf Guide for the Three Phases of Childhood* by Cindy Brooks, Joya Birns, Joan Agostinelli and Scott Olmstead

The words “back to school” take on a whole new meaning for me as a parent this year as my oldest daughter, age 14, heads off to high school. Little did I know I would be as nervous about it as I was on her first day of kindergarten, if not more. When my daughter was kindergarten age, my role was to be the “captain,” sailing and rowing the boat while my daughter sat lovingly and trustingly behind me and watched and learned as we sailed together. Now, my daughter is embarking on a new journey and she is going there in her own ship while I sail alongside her. Once again, I find myself sailing in the sea of parenting unknowns and questions, longing to be clear about how I can best meet the beautiful individual my adolescent daughter is clearly becoming.

I turn to Rudolf Steiner’s picture of the developing human being for clarity and support. Steiner describes human life as a series of seven-year cycles, with opportunities for growth in the body, emotions, thinking, and individuality throughout each cycle. As I become more acquainted with this picture of development, especially the first three phases of childhood, I learn what developmental forces are at work, which not only helps me use age-appropriate communication and discipline techniques but also makes me more apt to react to my children from a place of patience, tolerance, love, and understanding.

If I had known about Steiner’s view of the young child when my daughter was in her first seven years of life, I’m quite sure I would have been less inclined to treat her like a little adult—always asking questions, explaining everything scientifically, and giving her an abundance of choices. In the first seven years, children learn by doing, imitating, and absorbing everything around them. The impressions they take in create the structure of their physical body. Children do not even begin to develop logic and abstract reasoning until about age 12. Of course, my intent was not to harm my daughter in any way. In fact, it was just the opposite. It was out of a deep place of love for her

that I wanted to share my “adult self” with her. However, this was really my daughter’s time for experiencing security, nurturing, and warmth, not intellectual conversation. A rhythmic home life with lots of loving authority, good food, plenty of rest, time for outside play, worthy role modeling, and healthy movement is typically sufficient during the first phase of childhood.

More and more, through my ongoing experience as a mother and a Waldorf kindergarten teacher, I understand that what my daughter, son, and students need most is for me to be the loving adult and for them to be the children. So there was really no need for me to “explain” the world or “teach” my daughter at such an early age. This would require that she be capable of thinking and self-reflection at the age of three!

In fact, it’s not until recently, at the age of 14, that she is more receptive to adult dialogue. Steiner refers to the third cycle of seven years, ages 14 to 21, as a “time

for individuation and thinking.” I see the truth of this as I now talk with my daughter more in the world of reasoning and judgment. She responds well rather than feeling overwhelmed when I begin my sentences with, “What do you think about...?” She still needs my parental guidance, but I can clearly see she seeks to have conversations that foster the development of her emerging thinking and independent sense of self.

It is important for parents of teenagers to remember that what a child thinks in these years contributes to who the child becomes in adulthood. Teenagers not only grow in their own emotions but they become much more connected to their parents’ emotional worlds. They can see our weaknesses and unresolved emotional or life issues. Therefore, our role as parents is to maintain healthy thinking, to let go of our criticisms and judgments, to communicate without attacking, and, most important, to have inner strength and integrity.

0-7

Parent steers and rows boat. Child sits behind, trustingly enjoying the ride, watching and learning.



7-14

Parent steers and rows boat, with one hand always on the rudder. Child now “helps” to row, testing out his skills.



14-21

Parent accompanies teen, who now has his own boat, and is learning to steer it. Parent remains close by to help guide the process.



(Voyage of Childhood continued)

My son, on the other hand, is in the second phase of childhood. He is 10 years old and is still “sailing” in the boat with me. My hand is on the rudder but now he helps to row, testing out his skills. He is clearly growing in responsibility. Steiner refers to the 7- to 14-year-old as “living in the world of admiration and feeling.” I sense that my son is not only aware of what I do now but is also becoming more aware of what I say. He is clearly more sensitive, questioning my authority, and orienting himself in the emotional world. Yet, when he is upset, asking him to share his feelings with me is not effective since he doesn’t always have the words to describe how he feels, or even know exactly what he is feeling. Talking about feelings in the second seven years requires self-awareness, which, we learn from Steiner, also does not begin until adolescence.

Just like the child in the first seven years, the child in the second seven years longs for our connection empathy. Often, simply mirroring a child who is in distress, with words like, “You want to...,” or “You wish you could...,” is all that is needed. The child feels better and is more likely to hear our requests and directives. They see that we are striving to be worthy of admiration by understanding their needs, by being a loving authority, and by following through with our requests.

As we can see, the relationship of the child to the adult is unique in all periods of childhood. Understanding where children are throughout their voyage helps parents meet them and their needs. It is essential that we examine our approaches to parenting and whether we are encouraging the growth and development of the child’s fullest potential throughout all phases of childhood, as each phase builds on the previous ones. Even young children can sense whether their parents are striving to improve their approach to life and to parenting. Through our own striving we become more in touch with ourselves and more connected with our own spirit, which permeates the parent-child relationship. Not only do we grow toward becoming our highest and best selves, but so do our children!

—Heidi Burke, Kindergarten teacher

BOOK REVIEW

Love and the Soul *Creating a Future for Earth*

This book is one of the most appropriate and magnificent books of our time. Its magnificence lies in the way the author, Robert Sardello, so elegantly and reverently invites the reader into perceiving the world and the human being as embodied soul- spiritual activities. And in so doing the reader is able, in full consciousness, to witness the creative forces of the human soul as being primary in the creation of the world: the earth, humanity and the future. As the human being witnesses these creative forces within the world, the world is nourished and so is the embodied soul-spirit human being. The aspiration of this book is to consciously participate in this most beautiful circulation of ongoing creation—for the unfolding of the destiny of the world and of humanity.

In order to witness this holy and ongoing creation within the world in which we live and within the embodied soul-spirit human being, we must first, Sardello says, find and enter the doorway to Silence. He leads us to experience Silence as a kind of touch in which our whole body is the sensory organ. Silence is felt simultaneously all around and also within the body and has a quality of complete otherness. We sense a radical receptivity and subtle presences within this unmistakable, utterly real otherness of Silence that is, simultaneously, us too. Within Silence separate events and phenomena are felt as a holy wholeness. It is within this holy wholeness of Silence that the world reveals itself as soul-spirit activity and the very essence of the world is felt as Love—Love as a world force.

Sardello explores with the same clarity the individuality, our I, as the world force of Love, not in a general, abstract way or as a known feeling of love, but as the embodied, incarnated individual in the world. By entering deeper into Silence, into the Silence of the heart, the human I is felt as a concentration of the whole of the world. In Silence we experience how the world expresses itself first as feeling-filled. Feeling is not narrowed to emotional life but enlarged to the realm of the soul where life first crosses into experience. The world lovingly seeks to become consciously felt within us. When we in everyday activity experience the feeling-filled world as the spiritual essence of Love the world leaps with joy. We begin to know ourselves through the world and the world is enhanced with our every act of self-knowledge. Now, Sardello says, we are entering into a time when we are giving birth to our own essence as spiritual human beings rather than human beings who do spiritual things now and then.

This book is highly practical and not at all theoretical, mystical or abstract. In taking up the simple and profound practices suggested in the book, we learn to merge the inner and outer world without losing the sense of the world or ourselves. We begin to live ever more into the world. Living within this embodied soul-spirit awareness is what changes the world, not on our terms but entirely on the terms of the world. The simplest activity such as washing dishes or more complex activities like engaging in child observations and scientific research can at every moment be experienced as participation in the holy act of creation. And as Sardello says, the results in the world are an unmistakable sense of being with the world as an actual subtle presence with whom we are engaged in a great and mysterious destiny rather than our usual stance of seeking to use the world for our desires and needs. These practices of active observations within the realm of Silence bring about a total transfiguration of bodily being in which we feel our unity with the world.

In this new, expanded and revised edition of *Love and the Soul*, Sardello addresses many other sensible aspects of life meeting us today such as our relationship with fear, education, artistic activities, life purposes, faith and hope, friendship, community, grieving, the human senses, time, space and much more. This book is destined to become a companion for the rest of our lives and each time it is read our lives will feel renewed with a startling new meaning. It leaves us with the urgent feeling of the necessity to offer ourselves in service, service as world activity that takes place through our presence. We are earth’s consciousness individualized.

—Anne-Marie Fryer, Kindergarten teacher

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2009-JUNE 2010

Operations and Grateful Grains

Anonymous (2)
Sheila Andersen
Robert & Dorothy Arnold
Amy Arnold & Kelsey Sauber Olds
Daniel Arnold & Susan Johnson
Christiane Babb & Jim Schaller
David & Diane Banner
Mary & Neil Bard
Susan & Tom Barendregt
M. Kate Barnhart & William Knox
Terry & Jean Beck
Linda & Clark Beier
Lars & Corina Bergan
Kate Bergan
Paul Bergquist & Carole Austin
Arthur & Angie Bernstein
Bill Brooke Realty
Beth & Cornelius Blake
Bramble Books
David Breitbart
Reese & Tony Brenengen
Bill Brooke
Heidi and Dan Burke
Sarah Caldwell
Bruce Carlson & Annette Thiede
Mary Lynn & Burley Channer
Greg Cheesebro & Anna Rodriguez
Georgene Christenson

Steve & Mary Christenson
Aaron (Apple) Corbin
Peter & Gabrielle Daniels
Barbara Danner
Monica DeClercq & Jason Cole
Fred Dick
Marjorie Dick
Jill Dlugi
Anna Jo Doerr & Shawn Lavoie
Chuck Doerr
Roberta Ducharme
Vicky Eiben & Randall Kahn
David & Marta Engel
John Fandel
Katie & Ben Fassbinder
George Franklin
Wil & Anne-Marie Fryer
Cameron Genter & Daphne Kingsley
Ole & Judy Gulbrandson
Elenor Gundlach
Dave Hackett & Ellen Brooks
Johannes Halbauer
Lisa Hawklove
Carol Hemingway
Adrian & Kathleen Hendrickson
Paul Hofmann
Michael & Diana Horan
Meg and Robert Hoversten
Cyndy Hubbard
Loma Huh

Vincent & Dawn Hundt
Daniel and Lauren Hunt
Bill & Carol Ilstrup
Geraldine & Raymond Jessmon
Sarah Kamin
Dr. Mark & Kathleen Kamsler
James Kangas & Nan Marshall
Sue Kastensen
Jane Lofton Kouba
Gary & Dian Krause
Dr. Philip Larkin
Marci Lau
Alicia Leinberger
Marc LeMaire & Allison Sandbeck
Joe Lenarz & Janna Kottke
Chris & Gary Leinberger
James & Renee Lewicki
Penny Lindstrom
Michael & Bernadette Link
Richard & Mary Lofton
Dennis & Cathy Lund
Ariane Lydon & Janet Pumo
Russ & Arlene Maxwell
Bill & Sara McDonald
Jerry & Natalie McIntire
Barbara & Marvin McNeal
Elliot Medow & Connie Poelstra
Stacey & Charles Mehr
Ken Meter
Ron Moilien
Beth Moore

Dr. Michael Mosling
Fred Nelson
Eric & Caroline Newman
Sue & Gary Noble
Eugenia & Michael Nordskog
Anne O'Connor
JoAn O'Connor
Cynthia Olmstead
Ambra & Robert Perry
John & Emily Pfitsch
Nancy & Gordon Poer
PRWS Class of 2010
William Putze & Colleen Kinsey
Vicki Ramsay
Michael & Jill Roberts
Rich & Pat Rubasch
John Schutz
Mark & Jen Shepard
Clara & Jack Sherwin
John & Sheila Sherwin
Drew & Geri Shonka
Matt Shortridge & Kathy O'Rourke
Mary Helen Shortridge
Eric & Kris Snowdeal
Daniele Soltis
Diane and Greg Splinter
Dr. Robert & Janet Starr
John Synk
Felix Thalhammer & Catherine Young
Jim & Dorothy Thompson
Janie Tippins
Madelyn Townsley
Susan & William Townsley
Mark & Colleen Troy
Ron & Karene Uhe
Vernon County Fair
Joan & Alan Vogel
Scarlet Welander & Kevin Schmidt
Tom & Danelle Weston
Dodie & Gino Whitaker
David White
Frank & Arwyn Wildingway
John Zehrer
Robert & Lori Zeman
James Zinky

In Memory of

Alcy Alstad
Lerie Alstad Van Ells
Jonathan R. Balkowitsch
Nancy & John Balkowitsch
Hansjorg Broser
Erika & Peter Hodapp
Thomas G. Dineen
Carol & Peter Willis
Chuck Doerr
Ben Agar & Julee Caspers Agar
Charles Glatzhofer
Francis Pratt
Dennis Coleman
Cele Wolf

Ethan Danforth
Robert Ducharme
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
Mary Ann Synk
John Synk
Arrow Wildingway
Susan & John Gesslein

In Honor of

All Children
James & Janice Erdman
Christiane Babb
Ariane Lydon & Janet Pumo
The Balkowitsch Family
Neal Balkowitsch & Donald Nelson
Maris & Raina Bock
Judy Schultz

Mary Christenson
Carol Siyahi Hicks
Mike & Sherry Knapp
Paul A. Dahl & Andrew Neckar
Charles & Karen Dahl
Soren & Miles Daniels
Gail & Bob Toerpe
Lucy & Mike Danforth
Roberta Ducharme
Noah, Gabriel, & Amalia Gullion
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
Valdene Hodapp

The Hoverstens
Bonnie & Jack Rath

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

Elijah Kolenko
Steve & Barbara Kolenko

Katie Mae Lamb & Sirsha Erikson
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Carol Siyahi Hicks
Mike & Sherry Knapp
Sven Midelfort & Petra Ressler
Nancy & Gordon Poer
Janie Tippins
David White

PRWS Calyx staff over the years
Patricia & Rick Seyfarth

PRWS Class of 2010
Brian & Monica Woody

PRWS Faculty & Staff
Barbara Broser

Vicki & Kele Ramsay
Cameron Ramsay Family

Truman & Kit Shortridge
Paul & Pam O'Rourke
Matt Shortridge & Kathy O'Rourke

Heron Splinter
Russ & Arlene Maxwell

Monika Sutherland
Heidi & Dan Burke

John G. Symons & Edith Rice Symons
Molly Symons

Janie Tippins
Kathleen Hofmann

Bill Townsley
Francis Pratt

Charlie & Arlo Townsley
Anonymous
Francis Pratt

Luna & Violet Vogel
Yvonne & Mike Foydel

Isabella Sage Walker
Thomas & Ellyn Walker

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

Evergreen Wildingway
Elizabeth & William Wildhack

Michael Wright
Sofya & Jacob Hundt

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Vincent & Dawn Hundt
Kevin Lamb
Shawn Nadeau
Sara Tedeschi
Vernon Memorial Healthcare

Barbara Peterson Children's Fund

Marjorie Dick

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Kickapoo Coffee
Organic Valley Family of Farms
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Viroqua Food Cooperative
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Daniel Krumenauer
Sheila & Lee Kupersmith
Marc Lau
Marc LeMaire & Allison Sandbeck
Penny Lindstrom
Ariane Lydon & Janet Pumo
Barbara & Marvin McNeal
Monte McPheron
Bill Neil
Anne O'Connor
Cynthia Olmstead
Organic Valley Family of Farms
Ted Parrish & Catherine Hall-Parrish
PRWS Class of 2010
Paper, Scissors, Stone
Project Fourth Stream
John & Sheila Sherwin
Drew & Geri Shonka
Felix Thalhammer & Catherine Young
Janie Tippins
Prudence & Steve Tippins
Carrie Treveranus & Noel Kegel
Viroqua Heritage Bed & Breakfast
Reese Westerhoff
Sidney Westerhoff
We the People Freedom Bookshelf
David White
Frank & Arwyn Wildingway

SCRIP

All Creatures Animal Care
Avalanche Looms
Bill Brooke Realty
Bramble Books
Bright Life Center Chiropractic
Burkes Tire & Auto Repair
City Styles-Jenni Larson
Delap Tire & Service Center
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Driftless Café
Driftless Fair Traders
The Flower Basket
Greenhome Solar
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Home Green Home
Homestead Helpers
KWIK TRIP
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
Matt Shortridge-Music Lessons & Carpentry
Schlicht Auto Repair

Sime Furniture
Tapestry Yoga
Viroqua Computer & Office Supply
Viroqua Public Market
Viroqua Village Market

In lieu of space, we would like to extend a special thanks to all of our volunteers, donors and supporters for the 2009 Holiday Faire, and the 6th Annual Good Energy Raffle.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

2009-10*

2008-9*

Revenue

Pledged Tuition & Fees	\$513,526	\$535,953
Hot Lunch Program	\$30,831	\$35,437
Contributions	\$94,018	\$110,791
Fundraising Events	\$110,994	\$103,875
School Store	\$6,516	\$5,190
Investment Income	\$2,388	\$1,978
Other	\$3,903	\$4,768
Total	\$762,176	\$797,992

Expenses

Educational Faculty Salaries & Aides	\$445,844	\$471,115
Classroom Instructional Costs	\$20,205	\$23,919
Administrative & Development Salaries	\$120,509	\$130,878
Administrative Expenses	\$19,322	\$23,153
Development Expenses	\$9,703	\$6,468
Fundraising Expenses	\$19,830	\$10,578
Building & Capital Expenses	\$76,937	\$86,543
Hot Lunch Program Salaries & Expenses	\$32,909	\$35,781
Professional Fees/Misc	\$11,547	\$12,469
Total	\$756,806	\$800,904

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

The Calyx Newsletter Not Enough?
Then "like" PRWS on Facebook.

DEVELOPMENT

We have been working on this issue of the Calyx since before the winter break and hoped it would go to press then, but somehow it took longer for all the pieces to come together. Thank you for your patience, and I hope you enjoy what we have to offer.

In this, our Thirtieth Anniversary year, we are blessed to offer a full Waldorf curriculum, taught by gifted and experienced teachers, surrounded by a fabulous group of parents who show their dedication through many hours of volunteering their precious time. We are also blessed to have you, our friends and family, who support our school through gifts, offering your time and encouragement, and supporting our events.

We have held several special events and festivals since the start of school. Michaelmas festival was followed by Grandparents and Special Friends Day, where we welcomed sixty-five guests! We appreciate everyone who attends this annual event and brings that very special energy into the school for that day. Martinmas, the lantern festival, was held at Sidie Hollow in spite of the cold that night. Winter came early to us this year, and with it, the Holiday Faire in early December. Next, the eighth grade accompanied Santa Lucia from classroom to classroom, then over to the Youth Initiative High School, and finally to Maplewood Terrace Assisted Living Apartments, singing Swedish songs and serving special rolls. The semester ended with lots of snow and the Festival of Light in the late morning on December 22. That evening the Alumni Reunion drew about seventy-five former students, teachers and parents. That is a time when many former students are in town for the holidays. The mood was one of appreciation and excitement to see old friends, to sing together, and to experience Spatial Dynamics with Lerie Alstad Van Ells. We are grateful to all who celebrated these events with us.

Sprinkled between these school-wide celebrations, the classes had their own family-oriented activities. We feel these are important ways to strengthen community life and surround the children with joy and appreciation. We hope you feel inspired and encouraged to participate in this thoughtful, full-hearted experiment that is Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School.

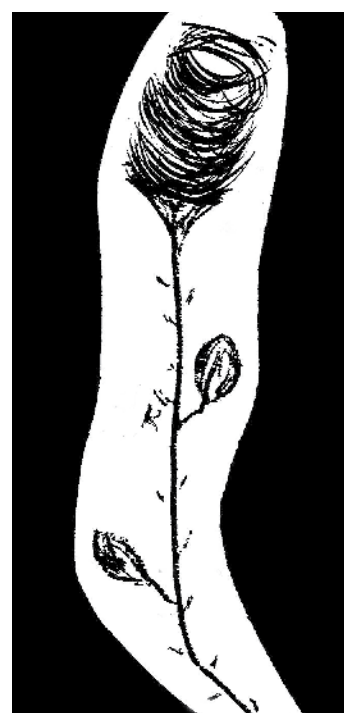
Recently I found a quote that inspired me and one which I feel captures the spiritual dynamic that happens when we take time to celebrate each other:

“All of us have special ones who have loved us into being. Would you just take, along with me, ten seconds to think of the people who have helped you become who you are; those who have cared about you and wanted what was best for you. Ten seconds of silence. I’ll watch the time... May God be with you.”

(Fred Rogers, acceptance speech for a Lifetime Achievement Award, Daytime Emmys, 1997)

Thank you for loving us into being.

—Mary Christenson, Development Director



ARE WE IN YOUR WILL?

Name the Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School in your will or trust to leave a lasting legacy of support for the school.

A bequest can be for a specific dollar amount or for a percentage of the remaining balance in your estate after other bequests have been fulfilled.

Our tax ID is #39-1357578. Call Mary Christenson at (608)637-8504 if you’d like to find out more, or if you’d just like to let us know about your bequest.

DONORS

Many thanks to those who have Supported of our School & the Development of Grateful Grains – June 23, 2010 to February 2, 2011

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Jonathan R. Balkowitsch
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Clement & Gene Rukamp & Robert Thompson
Jim & Dorothy Thompson
John Shortridge
Mary Helen Shortridge
Mary Ann Synk
John Synk
W. Margaret Warner
Ben Agar & Julee Caspers Agar

In Honor of
The Balkowitsch Family
Neal Balkowitsch & Donald Nelson
Vedrose Bernstein
Roy & Mary Lou Terwilliger
Philothea Bezin
Linda Mathes & Robert Cwierniak
Maris & Raina Bock
Judy Schultz
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Ariane Lydon & Janet Pumo
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Geraldine & Raymond Jessmon
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Blanche & Thane Hawkins
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Valdene Hodapp
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Evergreen Wildingway
Elizabeth & William Wildhack

Foundations/Corporations
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Chilito Lindo
GoodSearch
Organic Valley
Paul E. Stry Foundation
Paxam Foundation
Target

Endowment
Vernon Memorial Healthcare
Paul Bergquist & Carole Austin
Mark Hemdon & Raelene Roberts
Vincent & Dawn Hundt
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Viroqua Heritage Bed & Breakfast
David White
Arwyn & Frank Wildingway

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

Name _____

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

Please accept my/our gift or pledge of:

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

Please circle one: In memory of / In honor of

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431 E. Court St., Viroqua, WI 54665

Connections

The ALUMNI Corner on the Why Waldorf Works website is waiting for you! Sign up now (www.whywaldorf-works.org/alumni/index.php) and join the many Waldorf alumni, alumni parents, alumni grandparents, and alumni teachers and staff who have already signed up on this protected site for our Waldorf Community. Stay in touch with others, find the latest news on alumni from Waldorf schools, and be among the many identified as part of the Waldorf community. Also, find the many friends (over 1,000!) on our Why Waldorf Works Facebook page.

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Bramble Books
Bright Life Center Chiropractic
Burkes Tire & Auto Repair
City Styles-Jenni Larson
Delap Tire & Service Center
DiSciaccio’s Restaurant
Driftless Books & Music
Driftless Café
Driftless Fair Traders
The Flower Basket
Holistic Health Center:
Susan Barendregt,NT
Homestead Helpers

KWIK TRIP

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
Tapestry Yoga
Tulips
Viroqua Public Market/Optimo
Viroqua Village Market

SEVENTH ANNUAL

GOOD ENERGY RAFFLE

30 YEARS OF GOOD ENERGY

30 PRIZES

\$30 per ticket or 2 for \$50

Raffle drawing held at the Optimo Farm Market Restaurant & Cafe on Saturday, March 5, 2011, 9 p.m.

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

License #R0009 463A-02769

Visit us online at pleasantridgewaldorf.org

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