



SOUNDINGS

Volume 26, Issue 2

Fall, 2014

Homecoming Weekend a Heartwarming Celebration

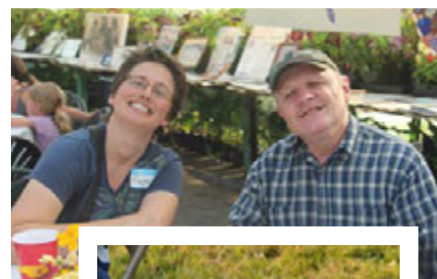
by David Rothrock, Development & Outreach Coordinator

L'Arche is all about "Home". The core members have a true home in L'Arche – a place where they can grow and be and give the gift that is themselves; and this is what makes L'Arche L'Arche. But, although L'Arche has been home for our core members and some long term assistants for many years, for other assistants, volunteers, board members and friends, L'Arche is home for a time - a year or two, or five, or ten. And, although the length of time may be shorter, often the impact that time has on a person's life is equally as significant. So it was fitting that, as part of the 50th Jubilee year of L'Arche International, L'Arche Tahoma Hope celebrated a homecoming weekend - "Come Home to L'Arche" - to welcome back the many people who made L'Arche home for a time in their lives.

The weekend began on Friday, August 1st with a lovely evening of sharing and reconnecting at the St. Ignatius Center at Bellarmine Prep, hosted by the L'Arche Tahoma Hope Board of Directors. On Saturday, August 2nd, there was a community-wide Open House in the homes during the day, and prayer was shared in the greenhouse on the Farm, followed by a barbeque, celebration

and dance into the evening. The weekend wrapped up on Sunday with a farewell reception at St. Leo's Parish preceded by a blessing after mass of all who have been part of L'Arche over the years. It was a happy and grateful time; a chance to see old friends and share stories. The prize for coming the longest distance was shared by Anne O'Sullivan who came from Dublin, Ireland, Carolin Bannwarth, who came from Bonn, Germany, and Nicole Becker, who came from Heidelberg, Germany.

(continued on page 3)



"Home is where we can laugh and cry,
Embrace and dance,
Sleep long and dream quietly,
Eat, read, play, watch the fire,
Listen to music,
And be with a friend.
Home is a place where
We can rest & be healed."

- Henri Nouwen

Memorial Contributions

We are grateful for the donations we have received in memory of the following people. They, along with their families and friends, are in our prayers.

Robert Bizak Inez Ellingson
Tom Brown Dave McCormick
David Carlson Jan Mortenson
Mary Sircello

We are also thankful for the donations we received in honor of:

Pietro Boffeli
Mark Drangstveit



L'Arche Tahoma Hope is now registered with the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program.

Visit www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards and designate us as your charity of choice (use our NPO # 80986). Then, when you do your regular shopping at Fred Meyer YOU earn your usual reward points AND Fred Meyer will also donate a percentage of your purchase amount to us.

Last quarter we received just over \$100 as a result of the shopping of just 14 supporters... think what will happen as more people sign up!

Remembering Others, Remembering L'Arche

by David Rothrock, Development and Outreach Coordinator

L'Arche Tahoma Hope is about relationship, and caring for one another. When Jean Vanier welcomed Raephael and Phillippe 50 years ago, he welcomed them into his home to share his life with them. This gesture symbolizes the heart of L'Arche – to share life together, to share work together – whatever our abilities or disabilities. It is the relationship, the bonds that unite us and give meaning to our lives.

For that reason, L'Arche Tahoma Hope wishes to invite friends and family to express their love and support of one another with a gift to L'Arche in memory of or in honor of a friend or family member.

Memorial Gifts

A memorial gift is a contribution to L'Arche Tahoma Hope made as a tribute to someone who has died. Such a gift honors the deceased and is a meaningful way to express one's love and gratitude for him/her. It is also a gift that gives life by making it possible for L'Arche to continue its mission of providing life giving environments in which people can grow and flourish.

Honorary Gifts

Sometimes we just don't know what gift to give for a birthday, anniversary, holiday, retirement or any special occasion. Another tie or bottle of perfume is nice, but often not much needed. However, sending a gift to L'Arche Tahoma Hope in the name of the person we wish to honor is a very meaningful way to express our love and support for someone and at the same time support the mission of L'Arche. It truly is a gift that keeps on giving.

L'Arche Tahoma Hope will acknowledge the Memorial or Honorary gift by sending a letter to the family of the person memorialized or to the person honored. The name of the person being memorialized or honored will also appear in the Memorial / Honor section of the L'Arche Tahoma Hope newsletter (see above). L'Arche Tahoma Hope is a 501 (c) 3 tax-deductible organization.

It is important to remember those who have left us and to honor those we care for. And thanks to that act of kindness and thoughtfulness, L'Arche Tahoma Hope can better fulfill its mission.

Thank you for all the ways you support and care for L'Arche! As always, if you have any questions about this topic, or other development/outreach related topics, please don't hesitate to contact me via email at development@larchetahomahope.org or via phone at (253) 535-3178.

Welcome Cindy!

On June 26, 2014, Cindy Skarvold moved into Ananda. Cindy actually lived most of her life in her family home, just a few miles down the street on Vickery Avenue. Cindy is a social butterfly, who was eager to join the L'Arche community. She loves music, car races, cheering on the Seahawks and Mariners, and attending services at Lutheran Church of Christ the King. Please feel free to stop by sometime at Ananda and visit with Cindy. She would love to meet you!



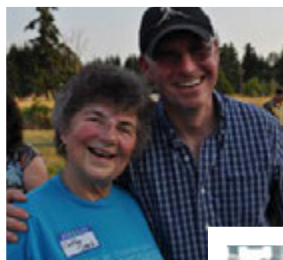
CHANGING SEASONS...

For many of us, the fall means fresh apple cider, crisp air and the changing colors of leaves... At L'Arche Tahoma Hope, it also means new assistants!!! Here are some of the new people who have joined the community:

- Michell Ruffin – InVia Volunteer at Hopespring
- AnnaLena Schick – InVia Volunteer at Farmhouse and Farm and Gardens
- Anna Bahnson – Lutheran Volunteer at Farm and Gardens
- Anne Lips – Lutheran Volunteer in Day Support
- Katrina Haller – Jesuit Volunteer at Farm and Gardens
- Kristina Orbe – Jesuit Volunteer in Day Support
- Megan Bent – new assistant at Anawim
- Ben Scott – new assistant at Ananda
- Grace Kretschmann – new assistant at Ananda
- Pietro Boffeli – new assistant at Farmhouse
- Peter Young - new bookkeeper

Homecoming Weekend a Heartwarming Celebration (continued from pg 1)

Many people worked hard to put on the weekend, but special thanks goes to our very own "Homecoming Committee": Mike Bianchi, Paul Borne, Abby Laxa-Anderson, Sue Hudacek, Tiffany Justice and David Rothrock. Paul Borne and the Board of Directors outdid themselves on Friday evening with a beautiful reception. Mike Bianchi and a team of former assistants turned chefs barbequed hamburgers and hot dogs for the crowd on Saturday evening, while Bill Hoskyn and Paul Borne coaxed great stories and memories from those gathered. The weekend offered a time for all of us to be home once again in L'Arche and to be grateful for the many ways that L'Arche teaches us the importance of home in our lives.



Come Home to L'Arche

Celebrating 50 Years of L'Arche in the world



2014 Community Vacations

As has been the tradition for many-a-year now, July is a special time in the community. After months of planning and anticipating, we mix and match community members and head off for a week long vacation. This year was no different. We had 5 groups spread out all over the Pacific Northwest. Here are some highlights from each group...

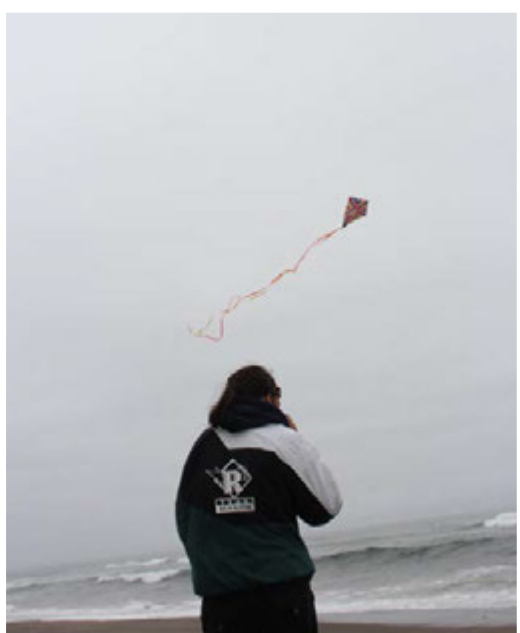
Bellingham: The Bellingham crew had a fantastic week. There were trips to the pool and a day at the lake. We saw whales in the Sound and went for a scenic drive along the shore to end with a picnic on the beach. We're already looking forward to next year.

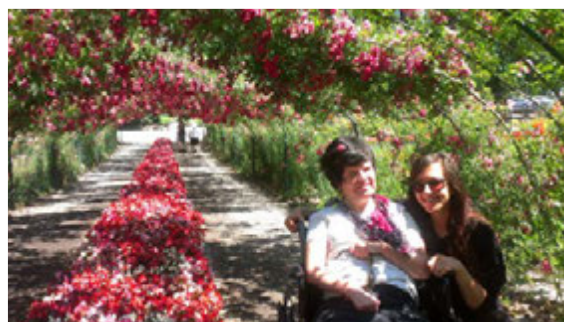


Portland: The Oregon Vacation group began the week exploring the city of Portland. They joined some members of the Portland L'Arche community for a welcome dinner and were very thankful for their hospitality at one of the homes. After spending time hiking Mt. Tabor and perusing through Powell's Books, the group headed for Pacific City on the coast. After a few wonderful days camping, hiking, walking on the beach, and enjoying delicious meals near the campfire, all were happy to return home to Tacoma!



Olympic Peninsula: We had a wonderful vacation to the Olympic Peninsula and Forks, WA. Our adventures included visits to the ocean, rainforest, hot springs, and of course running from the vampires! One of the greatest triumphs was hiking to the tip of Washington—Cape Flattery!





Ocean Shores: Shann, Stacie, Amanda, Hannah, and Vicky escaped the Tacoma heat for a fun-filled week in Ocean Shores. We kept busy with bowling, swimming, going to the movies, coffee outings, the farmers market, and hanging out with the townies at the local IGA. Don't worry, we weren't always busy. We made sure to leave time for relaxing and eating ice cream too.



In Town: Santa Claus came to T-Town this year to help the Tacoma staycationers celebrate Christmas in July, complete with decorations, carols, and presents for all!

But while the yuletide celebrations lasted only one day, our group was in good cheer all week long with new adventures around every corner. Free from the stress of their usual daily responsibilities, Carie, Nancy, Ricky, and Shari Lynn were able to explore our hometown more fully with exciting trips to the local swimming pool, rustic Pioneer Farm, Point Defiance Zoo, and numerous coffee shops along the way. When asked about her favorite part of vacation, Nancy Tyson smiled and signed, "We all loved each other." Indeed, we did, and we all loved our vacation time in Tacoma!



Weekly Markets

6th Ave Market: 3 - 7pm, Tuesdays through Sept. 30th

Broadway: 10am - 3pm, Thursdays through Oct. 30th

Proctor: 9am - 2pm, Saturdays through Dec. 20th

Harvestfest - October 11th, 2014, 10am - 3pm



Purchase Pumpkins for Pies and Porches

Visit the Chickens & ET the Horse • Honey from Our Hives

Berry Bush and Edible Plant Sale

Bring 2 cans of food for the Food Connection
and receive a free 1-gallon perennial.

(additional cans are welcome)



Holiday Sales at the Farm

Evergreen Wreaths and Swags

\$25.00 each (ensure yours by ordering ASAP!)

All of our arrangements are made from scratch using local
mountain fresh greens and will be available from

November 10th - December 20th.

Holiday Cards and Ornaments - Greeting Cards,
Holiday Cards, Ornaments, Journals, Picture Frames and
Paper Beads - all crafted from our handmade paper.

Bulk orders can be made with advance notice.

Place your order in any of the following ways:

- Email us at farm@larchetahomahope.org
- Visit us at a Holiday Fair Trade Event (see below)
- Come out to the Farm to place your order and see how it all happens.



Fair Trade Events

Shepherd of the Hill Fair Trade - Nov 1st, 9am - 3pm

St. Leo/Urban Grace Fair Trade - Nov. 21st - Nov. 23rd Friday 3- 7pm, Saturday 3-7pm, Sunday 9am- 2pm

Redeemer Lutheran in Fircrest - Sunday, Nov. 30th 9am - 2pm

St. Mark's Lutheran by the Narrows - Sunday, Dec. 7th 9am - 2pm

Bethany Presbyterian Fair Trade Sunday - December 7th 12 - 3pm

Not all events are confirmed - Please visit our [Facebook page](#) or [email us](#) before making a special trip to see us.



Heading South to Mexico... L'Arche Style

by Patrick Toohey, Farm & Gardens' Coordinator and Long Term Assistant

Those of you who are familiar with the Farm might be confused by the picture of Doug and me that you see here as the sombrero is the typical sending hat for those leaving the Farm. We are leaving, but with the plan to return after we have headed to our twinned L'Arche community in Querétaro Mexico. Our pilgrimage is part of many events throughout the world celebrating the Jubilee of L'Arche. Doug and I were chosen to be part of a delegation from the Western Region that will travel in early October to share in community life in another L'Arche community in a different part of the world. We will be traveling with Patty McNally our Regional Coordinator and Todd Rothrock a board member from L'Arche in Spokane. Visiting the community of Querétaro we will spend time helping out in their workshop and possibly in the dirt helping to enliven their gardening efforts. We both are excited to enjoy all the cultural and geographic sites the city has to offer. We will also be assisting with spreading the word about L'Arche in the city of Querétaro through a number of events as well as taking time to join them in a mass held in honor of the L'Arche Jubilee.



We are both excited and blessed to be sent as representatives of the Western Region of L'Arche. We invite you to follow our adventures through our website (www.larchetahomahope.org) and also to come by the Farm during Harvestfest Saturday October 11th to see pictures and hear about all that we will have experienced and brought back from this opportunity. There is a strong desire within L'Arche to increase solidarity between all communities through opportunities like this.

Gratitude... During our Homecoming Weekend (see cover), we invited people to share their reflections on gratitude in relation to L'Arche Tahoma Hope... and now we'd like to share some of them with you as a reminder of our many blessings.

In my experience of L'Arche I am grateful for... acceptance • unconditional love and life-long friendships and values that outlast the years and miles • all the amazing assistants that have passed through L'Arche, all of whom have richer lives because of the core members at L'Arche • for our son having worked for 27+ year • the opportunity to experience wisdom and love - would that I might carry it with me!

In my relationship with L'Arche I am grateful for... friendship that is woven together by love, challenges and laughter • every smile • the chickens • the people, laughter and love • being accepted and loved for who I am • life, Anawim and picnics • the wonderful care of the core members, meeting their physical, emotional and spiritual needs. Life is a celebration in L'Arche! • celebration, Seabeck, Bobby's joy, Swanny's dancing, Becca's laughter • the welcome we've felt from core members and assistants • long lasting friendships • connections that transcend distance • authenticity, laughter, faithfulness, feeling at home • silly moments and genuine friendships • learning that I was accepted in community • the greatest welcome I've ever experienced.



L'Arche Tahoma Hope Community
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Tacoma, Washington 98446

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L'Arche Tahoma Hope is a non-profit organization.

Your donations are tax-deductible.

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Farm & Gardens
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www.larchetahomahope.org

e-mail: info@larchetahomahope.org

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

L'Arche Tahoma Hope's 21st Annual Auction



Email auction@larchetahomahope.org to find out how you can help!



The Mission of L'Arche is:

- To make known the gifts of people with developmental disabilities, revealed through mutually transforming relationships;
- To foster an environment in community that responds to the changing needs of our members, while being faithful to the core values of our founding story;
- To engage in our diverse cultures, working together toward a more human society.