

AERO-GRAMME #16

The Alternative Education Resource Organization Newsletter

417 Roslyn Rd., Roslyn Heights, NY 11577 * ISSN # 10679219

516 621-2195 FAX 516 625-3257 E mail: jmintz@igc.apc.org Summer 1995

HANDBOOK TO APPEAR IN PAPERBACK!

WILL BE PUBLISHED BY MACMILLAN/SIMON & SHUSTER THIS FALL

The Handbook of Alternative Education will be released in paperback this fall by the Macmillan Publishing Company, which is now a part of Simon and Shuster. The paperback title is The Almanac of Education Choices. It will have many new and different articles, the latest updated lists and descriptions of over 6000 alternative schools and homeschool groups, and will include 150 new Charter Schools, with two descriptive essays. There will also be special essays on organic education and how to start an educational alternative by Jerry Mintz, essays on homeschooling by Pat Montgomery and religious homeschooling by Kathy Duffy, as well as essays by Dave Lehman on public alternative schools, by Mary Ann Raywid on research, and Ron Miller on the history of alternative education.

There are several ways in which our readers can get involved with the distribution process of the new Almanac:

1. Buy one
2. Wholesale
3. Organize seminar

TEACHERS, JOBS, AND INTERNSHIPS

Karen Locke, a certified teacher in Music Ed, Special Ed. and Learning Disabilities is looking for a staff position in a student-centered or democratic school. She can be reached at 5535 Richmond Curve, MN. Tel. 612-925-9819.

High school science teaching position is available at the Bedford Public Schools. Please send resume to Donald Slater, Assistant to the Superintendent, Bedford Schools, PO Box 180, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549.

Teaching positions available at Northport High School require an interview, desire for alternative learning and working with a group within a public school. Focus is on projects which include science, social studies and art with emphasis on group participation, camping and community involvement. The school is located at Laurel Hill Rd., Northport, NY 11768. Tel. Bob

Benner at 516-261-9000.

In May, 1996, Geoffrey Kurtz will be graduating from New College, University of S. Florida, with a BA in Political Science. At that time, he hopes to work in an alternative school in any position anywhere in the country. Write to him at Box 503, 5700 N. Tamiami Tr., Sarasota, FL 34243.

PUBLIC ALTERNATIVES

We received a copy of a speech from Kathleen Damiani which she delivered to the Ithaca School Board on March 28, 1995, in favor of expanding the Ithaca Alternative Community School (ACS). In it, she related that she believes that for students like her 7th and 8th grade sons neither traditional education nor homeschooling is the best option. That ACS and the Learning Web have long waiting lists indicates that both are serving an ever-increasing need in the community and that this need should be recognized and addressed. ACS is a program of the Ithaca School District of Ithaca, NY.

A special issue published by Rethinking Schools entitled Funding for Justice: A Special Report on Finance and Equity was recently released. This report explores the inequitable funding that plagues our public schools with the hope that it can help stimulate dialog on how to implement our "experiment in democracy" as it relates to our schools. To receive a copy or for more information about Rethinking Schools, contact them at 1001 E. Keefe Ave., Milwaukee WI 53212. Tel 414-964-9646. Fax. 414-964-7220.

Issues in Restructuring Schools Report No. 8 addresses the issue of enabling students to become "active learners" but adds that instruction/assessment must place emphasis on high standards of intellectual quality. Referred to as "authentic pedagogy", this report offers criteria for it, specific standards, examples of tasks/lessons, and student performance scores. Published by the Center on Organization and Restructuring of Schools, School of Education, Wisconsin Center for Education Research, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1025 W. Johnson St., Madison, WI 53706.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS AND COMMUNICATIONS

INDIA

Postcard from India: Daniel Greenberg wrote letting us know the Geocommons program is going very well and that after his trip around India, he would be reconnecting with Jerry to share notes and visions for the future.

SWITZERLAND

Kat Kenwell of Switzerland dropped a line to tell us about a few

alternative school programs in India which seem to show great promise. They are: Ankur, 1D-183 Lajpath Nagar I, New Delhi, India 110024; Tel. 534259. Mirambika, which she says is located in Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi, India. And Rishi Valley School, 517352 Madanapaffe, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh, India; Tel. 08571/22037; Telegram 22037.

RUSSIA

Misha Maranov wrote thanking Jerry for putting up the group from Tubelsky's School when they visited the US this January. He expressed hopes that the group "did not completely ruin the house and there is still something left for you to live in. To be fair, once you're in Moscow you'll be entitled to devastate a better part of Moscow." I'm sure Jerry would love to take him up on that! (JM: In fact, I did stay at Alexander Tubelsky's house in April, but did not ruin it, I hope!)

We received a letter from Igor Tchapkovski telling us about the progress which has been made in legalizing homeschooling in Moscow. His family-run homeschool organization began in 1989 as he and his wife began teaching their son at home and it now has 70 students and five teachers (in addition to the students' parents.) He is interested in learning how others resolved preparing coordinators and teachers for the supervision/support of homeschoolers and how to build up a library of texts and other educational aids. Igor can be reached at tel./fax 7-095-314-5352.

The Summer 1995 edition of the Public School Montessorian included two articles on Montessori schools in Russia and the Ukraine. Stanley W. Corbett describes the collaborative efforts of groups from the West in helping maintain Russian summer camps in his piece "An American in Yakutsk." Involved were religious groups, businesses, and educators. Mr. Corbett has been working since 1991 to bring Montessorian education to Russian students. In "Government Opens a Montessori School," Boris Zherbovsky relates that the current interest in Montessori teaching methods is actually a "second wave" of interest, the first one occurring in 1917. Back then, N.D. Lubenets introduced the Montessori method to the Ukraine in her publications. With the building of the Soviet Union, humanistic pedagogy was destroyed. Only after the break up of the Union were these ideas able to take root again. Jola Publications, 2933 N. 2nd St., Minneapolis, MN 55411.

JAPAN

We heard from John Potter who renewed his subscription to AERO and told us about how the January Kobe earthquake left him, his wife and son without gas and water for three days. They stayed at a friend's house for two weeks after which they returned to their home which still has cracked walls

and a leaking roof. He says that Kinokuni Children's Village was undamaged by the quake and began its fourth year in April. John is now teaching Western Educational Philosophy at Kansai University concentrating on the ideas of A.S. Neill and John Dewey.

6-18, 1-chome, Kitano-cho Chou-ku, Kobe 650.

HOME EDUCATION

According to an article in the Snakefoot newsletter, their newly-created apprentice program is proving to be a success. In fact, they report that "many more adults were ready and willing to take on apprentices that we had students!" PO Box 189, Lexington, VA 24450.

This is the 25th Anniversary of the Modern Home Education movement, says the Moore Report International in the May/June, 1995 issue and they are going to celebrate. Everyone interested is invited to join them in Colorado Springs this coming fall. Contact them for more information at 129 West 2nd, Suite C, Hutchinson, KS 67501.

HELP Grand Junction has a 2-hour video of a talk given by Pat Montgomery at Mesa State College in April. Pat's presentation focuses on interest-based learning with recent scientific data which supports this approach. It is available at a cost of \$17 prepaid from HELP GJ, PO Box 4865, Grand Junction, CO 81502. Tel. 970-241-4137.

We have heard news that Shiloh Moates was accepted and is now attending Radford University, in VA He just recently returned from six months in Africa in a self-designed homeschool project and misses the friends he made there. He just turned 15 in May, and was accepted in Radford without SAT scores, or a high school transcript! He was invited to go through initiation with the AmaXhosa tribe in December, but is not sure if time constraints and finances will allow it.

The National Homeschoolers' Travel Directory is now available. The directory is free to members, \$5 for all others interested. Meg and John McClorey, PO Box 275, Somerset, KY 42501.

A letter sent to us from Kathi Lomuscio reports that she and her son went to the Georgians for Freedom in Education Homeschool Conference. While the children's activities were somewhat disappointing, Kathi says that the parents programs were very good. Dave Marks, creator of Writing Strands, was a speaker at the conference. He compared teaching writing to teaching a child to ride a bike. "Could you imagine teaching a child to ride a bike by having him look at a diagram of a bicycle and having him underline the pedals and circle the handlebars?" What a great analogy!! Kathi is

looking for creative resources for teaching her son World History. Send any ideas to her at 5657 Bay Island Cay, Acworth, GA 30101.

In Growing Without Schooling #104, Day Farenga relates her experiences organizing her homeschoolers' detective club for her daughter and other girls aged 7 to 10. At their last meeting of the season, the club used Jerry's videotape to learn Morse Code. "We were all amazed and impressed with ourselves that we suddenly knew the whole Morse code in an hour." We are so glad you enjoyed this unique learning experience! Write or call us at AERO for information or to order the Morse Code Video.

Winners in the Colorado Homeschooler's Writing Contest sponsored by Great Books and Gifts and Hajek House recently visited Governor Roy Romer in his office. The contestants had submitted ideas for protecting the environment. The winners were Kira Ryden (3rd place), Jeremiah Medrano (2nd place) and Lucas Koepke (1st place). Congratulations to all of them! Hajek House Publishers, 12750 W. 6th Pl., Golden, CO 80401.

Jerry Mintz participated in the New England Homeschool & Family Learning Conference in Massachusetts this past June. He discussed the diverse landscape of educational alternatives throughout the US and other countries. The conference was sponsored by Homeschool Support Network and Home Education & Family Services, PO Box 1056, Gray, ME 04039. Tel. 207-657-2800.

At the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association voted 171 to 18 to grant eligibility to home educated students. However, as Nicky Hardenbergh states in Issue #105 of Growing Without Schooling, the guidelines contain some troublesome points which may prevent homeschoolers from participating in school sports. Nevertheless, they are "cautiously optimistic that revisions will be made and more equitable guidelines will be instituted next fall." Nicky's group would be happy to help homeschoolers in other states in their efforts and has prepared a packet of materials which include the Massachusetts guidelines. PO Box 1514, Manchester, MA 01944.

Unschooling Ourselves will be suspending publication of the newsletter so that Grace Llewellyn can focus her energy on writing, dancing and gardening. The newsletter will be missed, but as Grace points out, Growing Without Schooling offers a wealth of unschooling information, as do state support groups and local experts. Good luck, Grace! Her Teenage Liberation Handbook is now in its 5th printing and is available from Lowry House Publishers, PO Box 1014, Eugene, OR 97440.

Bo Nilmad, Journal of Jewish Home Education includes the 1995 Directory in their Issue #18. The Journal offers support and resource information to

Jewish homeschooling families. Contact them at PO Box 300, Benton City, WA 99320.

The Home School Researcher (Vol. 10, No. 4) reports In Differences in Critical Thinking Skills Among Students Educated in Public Schools, Christian Schools, and Home Schools that "children who were taught by parents at home were not academically disadvantaged, as some school boards have claimed. On the contrary, these children appeared to have made greater progress at home than in school." The report goes on to say that there were no appreciable differences in grade equivalent SAT scores for kids whose parent were certified teachers and those who weren't or based on education level of parents. National Home Education Research Institute, c/o Western Baptist College, 5000 Dear Park Dr SE, Salem, OR 97301.

A study called Predictors of Academic Achievement in Home Educated Children: Aptitude, Self-concept and Pedagogical Practices by researcher Richard Medlin has been published. Medlin studied 36 homeschooled kids and their parents. He found that higher scores couldn't be attributed to ability alone and that the lower the level of direct instruction, fewer grade rewards and shorter teaching year, the higher the achievement level. Parents, however, were generally more likely to be satisfied with more intensive programs. The findings were published in Natural Life, RR 1, St. George, Ont., Canada N0E 1N0 or PO Box 60, Lewiston, NY 14092.

Ç@, Code Crash, Several readers of GWS ordered Code Crash after reading that story. The Code Crash video is \$20 plus \$3 postage from AERO. T We received a letter from Herb Snitzer, éNYïñ.=ÏÏa''Ú\$,B[hæfiÛ . 8

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fia founder-director of Lewis-Wadhams School, based on Summerhill, which
rann for 13 years during the 60's and 70's. Hetells us he is interested in
participating in workshops or conferences which would want "a gray-haired
former alternative educator involved." He would enjoy talking about the
present state of education as well as what he and others (including Jerry)
did in the sixties, which as he observes: it "still boggles my mind that
we did what we did ... so young, so broke." He can be reached at 6016B
Lynn Lake Dr., S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712.

Ramona June McNabb wrote asking for advice and/or referrals to alternative and homeschool collectives which would be open to a dance program. She now teaches a multicultural creative movement class. Please call or write her at POB 1442, Gainesville, FL 32602-1442. Tel: 904-375-0682.

ENGLAND

Congratulations to Barbara Leeds on the submission of her dissertation on Nellie Dick. Barbara is interested in locating a contact person for a large anarchist archive on the Internet. She plans to continue her post-graduate studies in alternative education and anarchist studies. She can be reached at The School House, The Heathland School, Wellington Rd S., Hounslow, Middlesex, England TW4 5HU.

MAIL AND COMMUNICATIONS

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Daniel Greenberg of Sudbury Valley School reported in the 2/8/95 Middlesex News how Alexander Tubelsky used his "extensive training, his connections with friends in the bureaucracy, and his considerable personal charm to convince authorities to allow him to fund a radically new kind of school in Moscow." His School of Self Determination has been in existence for ten years. Since then, he and Alexander Adamsky, founder of Eureka Free University have continuously held seminars throughout the former Soviet Union promoting innovative ideas in education. Tubelsky's recent visit to Sudbury Valley School served as a reminder to all that the pursuit of excellence in education is a global trend today in widely divergent cultures. SVS

The March 1995 Puget Sound Community School Newsletter included an essay entitled Take Note by Andy Smallman. In it, he expresses his concerns about Goals 2000, which will require testing to demonstrate competency of students in public schools. He states that there is the "possibility that this may change to encompass private school students and homeschoolers." He adamantly states his case against testing as being "antithetical to learning." Also, they "control curriculum content by dictating what must be taught" in order to ensure satisfactory scores. 1715 112th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004. Tel: 206-455-7617.

Steven J. Davis of Binghamton University sent us some information about Off Campus College, an internship program of the University. Included was a self-help manual: "A Survival Guide to Living Off Campus." Packed with helpful information, this booklet is published every two years for students living and earning college credits by interning off-campus. It includes a "fact sheet on fake IDs" and other legal advice, very comprehensive info on area housing, health care, the community, campus, and transportation (for ex., "How to drive THE TRAFFIC CIRCLE"). This is a great idea for all colleges with off-campus schooling of any kind. OCC, PO Box 6000, Binghamton, NY 13902-6000. Tel: 607-777-2767.

Skipping Stones magazine has announced the winners of their 1995 Book Awards. Winners are listed in the areas of Nature and Ecology and Multicultural. They were selected by a multicultural committee comprised of students, teachers, librarians and Skipping Stones staff. For a complete list of all Book Award titles, send an SASE to PO Box 3939, Eugene, OR 97403-0939. Tel: 503-342-4956.

The magazine, Small College Creativity, publishes articles or short pieces on innovative ideas, projects, curricula, or approaches that have been successful at institutions of ten thousand or fewer students. Some examples from Volume 3, No 2, are: "Total Quality Management at Hawkeye Institute of Technology" and "Implementing Total Quality Management at a

Community College." For submissions and/or subscriptions, contact Dr. Lynn Veach Sadler, Editor, 163 Wood Wedge Way, Sanford, N. Carolina 27330. Tel/fax: 919-499-9216.

The 1994 Martin Buskin Memorial Lecture can be obtained from The Education Writers Association. Martin Buskin was education editor for Newsday and a past president of EWA. He died suddenly in 1976 and since then, to honor his memory, an annual memorial lecture is presented by a distinguished member of the educational community. The 1994 lecture, "Why Educate?" was given by Deborah Meier, was founder and teacher-director of public alternative schools in E. Harlem and is now the co-director of Central Park East, an alternative New York City High School. EWA, 1331 H St. NW, Ste. 307, Washington, DC 20005. Tel: 202-637-9700. Fax: 202-637-9707.

The Study Circles Resource Center is offering a free Busy Citizen's Discussion Guide with purchase of Education: How Can Schools & Communities Work Together to Meet the Challenge? Study circles are small, democratic, highly participatory discussion which provide ways for people to build community and resolve local problems. The technique is being used with excellent results in cities throughout the country. PO Box 203, Rt. 169, Pomfret, CT 06258. Tel: 203-928-2616.

We received a letter from Neil W. Steffen asking for literature, homeschooling curricula, material and information for his homeschooling son and for many of his friends who are interested in alternative education. Anyone who can provide child-centered home education resources, please contact Neil at 20290 E. Lake Shore, Bigfork, MT 59911. Tel: 406-982-3110.

Prof. Ildiko Koznia and Dr. Ezsebet Balogh, General and Deputy Director of the International Peto Institute lectured at a Conductive Education Conference hosted by Parents for the Advancement of Conductive Education, Inc. (PACE) in May, 1995, at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY. PACE's goal is to foster the establishment of Conductive Education, a therapeutic approach to teach children with cerebral palsy, in the US. PACE, 248 W. Park Ave., Ste 305, Long Beach, NY 11561. Tel: 516-432-6260. Fax: 516-889-5654.

Nicole Wood hopes to receive e-mail from anyone who may be able to help her with her thesis on the religious right's opposition to educational reform, especially in Kansas. We appreciate her best wishes for Jerry's continued good health. Her e-mail address is SMTP%"nwood@virtu.sar.usf.edu".

TRANET offers the Educational Futures Trilogy by Don Glines, a retired futurist teacher, can be acquired separately or as a set. The titles are: Creating Education Futures; Year-Round Education; and The Great Lockout. Some of the key concepts he presents are living-learning systems, life-long

learning, the community as school, homeschooling, and learner as teacher, among others. Another offering from TRANET is Changing Lives: Voices from a School that Works by Jane Day who takes us back to Camden Community School's students who were mainly dropouts 20 years ago and traces their progress. TRANET, Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970-0567. Tel: 207-864-2252.

An innovative new social studies curriculum arranges the material into units which suggest ways to encourage creative thinking and involves decision making on the part of the individual students. It is called Facing the Issues by Robert E. Myers and is available from Zephyr Press, PO Box 66006, 3316 N. Chapel Ave., Tucson, AZ 85728.

Holistic Education: Principles, Perspectives and Practices, a book edited by Carol L. Flake, describes how the "Chicago Statement" of 1990 formed the basis for the 1991 Global Alliance for Transforming Education (GATE) which in turn produced "Education 2000: A Holistic Perspective." Building on that, this book explores the theories, principles and applications of holistic education and great depth. Holistic Education Press, PO Box 328, Brandon, VT.

Two projects have been the recent focus of The Institute for Educational Studies (TIES): establishing an ongoing Holistic Education Forum on the Internet with an interactive meeting place for GATE members worldwide; and Paradigma, a seminar exploring education-based learning communities and new sciences as a context for creating sustainable living. The seminar is designed for individual school communities as well as for educators from all kinds of institutions. TIES, PO Box 223, Grafton, VT 05146. Tel: 802-843-2336. Fax: 802-842-2300. E-mail: InstEd@AOL.com.

To reach the GATE forum, located on the campus of the Electronic University Network (EUN) within America On-Line, go to Keyword, type "EUN," scroll to "The Holistic Education Center." PO Box 21, Grafton, VT 05146.

A new book which describes hundreds of fun and educational family trips and lists books and materials helpful in expanding each learning experience is titled Books on the Move by Susan M & Margaret Knorr. Destinations are organized by topic; such as, Science & Nature; Animals from A to Zoo; Foods We Eat; How We Live and Work; Appreciating the Arts; Sports & Recreation; Celebrating Our Diversity; and more. It is published by Free Spirit, 400 First Ave. N., Suite 616, Minneapolis, MN 55401. Tel. 612-338-2068.

In Creating and Managing the Democratic School, experienced educators from Russia and from western nations including the United States address the concept of education for democracy. It has articles written by Judith Chapman, Isak Froumin, David Aspin, Alexander Adamsky and Alexander Tubelsky. Farmer Press, 1900 Frost Rd., Ste 101, Bristol, PA 19007.

The 1983 report, "A Nation at Risk" told us that "American schools were in an abysmal state and heralded the fact that American schools had a terminal illness As a result of (this and others') reporting, the American populace understands neither the true nature of education, the responsibility of educators, nor the momentous demand that our society ... places on the outmoded structure of American school." The book, *Every Child, Whole Child: Classroom Activities for Unleashing Natural Abilities* by Leslie Owen Wilson, outlines approaches to education which places special emphasis on children as individuals. Several teacher models are described; the book then explains and outlines multiple intelligences, alternative views, visual gifts, ages and stages, imagery and many more important topics. Zephyr Press, PO Box 66006, Tucson, AZ 85728.

A 1993 case study by Levin and Lockheed of the New School Programme in Colombia, SA, is included in the book, *Developing Democratic Education*. This program which is aimed at improving rural primary schools, promotes "active and reflective learning, ability to think, analyze, investigate, create, apply knowledge and improve self esteem." The school government promotes a democratic way of life. Also, in Namibia, a new philosophy of learner-centered education is being implemented which follows the practice of democracy in free societies. The book highlights the connection between education and political systems and the creation of "political cultures composed of the democratic values that will support and protect democratic institutions. Edited by Clive Harber. Available from Education Now Books, 113 Arundel Dr., Bramcote Hills, Nottingham, NG9 3FQ. Tel/fax: 0115-925-7261.

Creative Visualization With Children by Jennifer Day is an entertaining and informative guide to focus and use imaging skills in creative ways. Chapters include: Creative movement; Kino Visualization; Breathing; Centering and Meditation; Global Awareness; and many more. Element Pub., Rockport, MA 01966.

A book relating the eight-year odyssey of a Waldorf teacher and his class from first through eighth grade has been published called *School as a Journey* by Torin M. Finser. In an anecdotal, humorous manner, the book gives an in-depth glimpse into a Waldorf classroom. Anthroposophic Press, RR 4, Box 94 A-1, Hudson, NY 121534.

The first issue of *The Newformer: The ELF Journal for Educational Transformation* was published this July, 1995. It is dedicated to developing, researching, and implementing effective new models of education. It promises to be an inspiring source of information for all educators. Enthusiasm for Learning Foundation, PO Box 40291, Portland, OR 97240-0291. Tel: 800-353-5270.

In May's Sudbury Valley School Newsletter, Mimsy Sadofsky wrote about her attendance at the New Educational Environments; Rights, Responsibilities and Initiatives Conference sponsored by the European Forum for Freedom in Education in Oxford England. She also visited Sands School and Summerhill. She related her observations at each of these alternative schools. In another article, Mimsy tells readers that this year the school of 180 students is full and has a waiting list.

June's Sudbury Valley School Newsletter included Timothy Herman's thesis presentation. In it, he describes how, after his tumultuous high school experiences, he enrolled in SVS. While there, the school's environment and educational philosophy allowed him the freedom to pursue his study of computers, software development, and the creation of his own company, the proceeds of which will help him support his future educational goals. We certainly congratulate him and wish him the best of luck!

In December, 1993, Walter Attenberg pledged \$500 million to public education. An editorial in The Threefold Review (Summer/Fall 1995) points out how this type of grant will have a very negative effect on private education. The end result of this particular gift will be to "siphon off over a billion dollars from the private sector to further subsidize the public educational system If a ... grant of one-tenth the size (of this one) had been awarded to private education as a movement, every newspaper in the country would have been filled with protests from the public education establishment." PO Box 6, Philmont, NY 12565. Tel: 518-672-5605.

Skipping Stones magazine has received the 1995 Golden Shoestring Award from EdPress. This award is given to a magazine that consistently demonstrates excellence in educational journalism despite working on a "shoestring" budget. The magazine encourages cooperation, creativity and a celebration of cultural and ecological richness. It features original art and writing in all languages. PO Box 3939, Eugene, OR 97403-0939. Tel: 503-342-4956.

The National Student/Parent Mock Election is seeking young people with ideas for how to combat violence in their ACTIONS program. This is a pilot project this year which challenges young Americans to create their own ways of combatting violence in their communities. Some openings remain for "official" ACTIONS projects. The four best will each receive a ticket to Washington, DC. The first prize winner will receive a ticket overseas. For an application or more information, write to ACTIONS at 225 W. Oro Valley Dir., Tucson, AZ 85737.

David Gribble reports on his recent visit to Sudbury Valley School in the

Spring 1995 issue of LibED. He said it took him four days to "make sense of the place." He sees SVS as fulfilling the "ultimate objective of school (which) is to send ex-students out into the world ready and able to lead responsible and useful lives." The magazine is available from Phoenix House, 170 Wells Rd., Bristol BS4 2AG.

The Vermont Historical Society has completed processing papers which contain information on the educational philosophy of Tim Pitkin, founder of Goddard College. For more on these papers, contact Evalyn Bates, FEAA, Goddard College, Plainfield, VT 05667.

GAIA Educational Outreach Institute's Geoletter of Spring 1995 ran a story entitled Reflections on Geocommons College Year by Bruce Kantner, Director. He reports on this year's three month trip to India and Europe which was undertaken by eight students and two leaders. The theme of the journey was "envisioning a sustainable world." The upcoming year's programs to Europe, India and New England have been announced. To find out more, contact them at Derbyshire Farm, Temple, NH 03084. Tel: 603-654-6705.

We received an e-mail message from Norman Rose telling us that he is going back to consulting. He is qualified to help people organizing new schools, or current schools looking to solve problems. He facilitates faculty relations, student/faculty/parent interactions, articulation of philosophy, goals and curriculum, and consults on computers. His view is toward integration of curriculum and learner's heart/soul/mind. Norman Rose, PhD, 5348 Wonder Dr., Ft. Worth, TX 76133. Tel: 817-292-4468 (home); 817-244-2822 (office).

When Daniel Greenberg began his research into intentional communities he sent questionnaires to 819 communities. He and his partner then visited 24 of those communities. He gave a brief overview of some of the pros and cons he observed in an article called Intentional Communities which appeared in the Fall 1994 issue of Communities Journal of Cooperative Living. Communities has also announced the release of a new edition of the Communities Directory, a guidebook of intentional communities. Kat Kinkade's newest book, Is It Utopia Yet has been recently published as well. It continues the account of the development of Twin Oaks as one of the most prominent and successful cooperative communities. Rt. 1, Box 155, Rutledge, MD 63563.

A group of parents of Montessori pre-schoolers are planning on opening an elementary school this fall. They are interviewing prospective teachers at this time. Please contact Steven Sandler (former teacher at Clonlara School), 265 Elm Ave., Delmar, NY 12054. Tel: 518-475-0907.

Part Two of John Taylor Gatto's observations, "A Map, A Mirror and A

Wristwatch," comprised the May 1995 issue of MENTOR. John asserts that "school perpetuates itself today in the ugly form it was given originally because it has become the most profitable business in the US." Further, he says that this is as far as we need to look for a conspiracy against structural reform would "disenfranchise an enormous number of comfortable people." For more, write to MENTOR, Ste. 131, 3208 Cahuenga Blvd. W., Los Angeles, CA 90068.

Petrolia School is an educational community located in Northern California. Gregory A. Smith describes the way in which students participate in town meetings, in decision-making, and in helping the community financially. He also mentions the "trashathon" which raises several thousand dollars annually for the school. It was an idea which Jerry Mintz gave to them when he visited there in 1987. The article he wrote was published in the Spring 1995 edition of Holistic Education Review, 39 Pearl St., Brandon, VT 05733-1007.

Creative expression plays an integral role in Wellspring Community School's multi-disciplinary approach to education. The school fosters active participation in a student-centered program. They offer K-3 this year with additional grades to be added annually. 155 Gordon Ave., Providence, RI 02905.

Stephen Rosenthal accompanied Jerry Mintz and visiting Russian educators on a tour of eight local alternative school programs. He spoke about his experience at the Barbara Taylor School and sent us an article which ran in Greenwich Time newspaper. In the article, "Russians Get Lesson at Mead," by Thomas J. Freeley, he describes Jerry and the Russian group's tour of Mead School, a fairly large alternative with a democratic approach to decision making. S. Rosenthal, 179 W. 48 St., Apt 9, Bayonne, NJ 07002.

The Private Eye by Kerry Ruef is a learning tool which includes a jeweler's loupe and a book filled with suggestions on how to use it to study everyday objects, and a series of questions aimed at encouraging thinking by analogy. Teachers report enthusiastic response to the Private Eye on the part of their students. (My neices aged 8 and 10 used this one day while with me and had a blast. They took it home with them; they didn't want to stop "looking" -- CM). The Private Eye Project, 7710 31st Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98117. Tel: 206-784-8813.

Liz Wertheim of Global Village has begun an educational consulting service with the mind-clearing process she has studied, perfected and practiced delivering for 17 years called The Receiving Course. She also offers her experience and expertise as a resource in the educational process, homeschooling, and planning/opening/improving schools. 4150 Hana Hwy,

Haiku, Maui, HI 96708. Tel: 808-573-1819.

CONFERENCES

September 8-10, ALLPIE 1995 Family Conference,
Chimney Corners Camp, Becket, MA, write to PO Box 59, East Chatham, NY
12060, 518 392-6900.

The 1995 Educating At-Risk Youth Conference has been announced: It will be held in Bowling Green, Kentucky on October 4-6, 1995. Activities will take place at the Bowling Green/Warren County Convention Center. It will discuss Alternative education and dropout prevention, legal issues, support services. Contact Eastern Kentucky University, 300 Stratton Bldg., Richmond, KY 40475-3131.

Coalition of Essential Schools, Fall Forum, Nov 2-4, in New York City. Contact CES, Brown University, Box 1969, Providence, RI 02912. Workshops, roundtables, conversations all around the city.

National Society for Experiential Education, 1995 National Conference, November 8-11, 1995, New Orleans, LA. Critical Learning Connections: People, Ideas, Institutions and Communities.

uThe Solomon Press is again co-publisher.

AERO TRIP TO 4 CONFERENCES and 5 SCHOOLS in 7 COUNTRIES

There is much to report in this issue and on this trip, but not enough time or space. We have 50 PAGES of notes on it, but here are the highlights:

Herman Jordan Montessori School, Holland.

European Forum for Freedom in Education Conference, Oxford, England

Visit with Albert Lamb

Brockwood Park Krishnamurti School

Theleme School, France

Hadera Democratic Schools Conference, Vienna Austria

School of Self-Determination, Moscow, Russia

Eureka Avant Garde Seminar, Ijevsk, Russia

Moscow International Film School, Moscow

Eureka Spring School, Soest, Holland

: AERO is now taking advance pre-publication orders for the Almanac. We will send them to AERO readers with no charge for postage or handling for \$20 if you order now. sales: Unlike the Handbook, which is only available directly from Macmillan or from AERO, the Almanac will be widely distributed and we encourage people to buy from us at wholesale rates to sell to their organizations or in their region. Let us know if you can do that.

Help oa workshop or : We are planning a series of seminars and workshops around the country, to help introduce people to the alternatives in their areas and to promote awareness of the Almanac. If you are willing to help organize one in your area, we'll give you logistical support. Let us know as soon as possible. based on Summerhill, which ran

Martha Dalles is looking for a teaching position in an alternative school. She is interested in teaching religious studies, humanities, social sciences and in gaining experience in curricular reform and/or experiential education. Her address is 7 Kell St., Orono, ME 04473-1222.

We received a letter from Daniel Huston who would like a teaching position in an alternative school after completing his master's in English next fall. His BA is in humanities and he has experience teaching English, journalism, guitar, and more. 40 Old Nashua Rd., Londonderry, NH 03053. Tel: 603-425-6921.

Also seeking to teach in an alternative school is Lucetta Swift, who has a master's degree in Psychology and one in Education. She is located in El Dorado County, but would consider a position in Nevada County or Placer County. PO Box 209, Shingle Springs, CA 95682. Tel: 916-672-2474.

Mimi and Michael Glass are interested in teaching positions in progressive alternative settings. They are both experienced in progressive education and are Montessori certified. They also have California teaching credentials and own the Garden Gate Montessori School. 63 Sandy Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.

Tracey Belle is offering her extensive and varied experience for use as a resource for teachers and potential teachers. Her services are also available to homeschoolers and any others looking for an educator who is excited about learning and passing on technical knowledge. 2687 South 18th St., Pittsburgh, PA 15210-1710. Tel: 412-431-7128.

Mark Emerson has an MFA in photography and would like to teach at an

alternative school, either at the secondary or college level. He many years' experience as an educator, and also as a professional photographer and printer. Contact him at Windhorse Studio, Box 29, 34 Danforth St., Portland, ME 04101. Tel: 207-828-0299.

An internship in alternative education is sought by Belinda R. Brewer who has a BA from Columbia College. Please send information to her at 212 Smith Ave., Monroe, LA 71203.

A unique kind of biography, John Holt: Personalised Education and the Reconstruction of Schooling is an Education Now Special Report. This book reviews ten of John Holt's books from How Children Fail to Learning All the Time. The author, Roland Meighan, concludes the book with a list of 16 Principles for the Reconstruction of Contemporary Schooling based on Holt's works. Educational Heretics Press, 113 Arundel Dr., Bramcote Hills, Nottingham, NG9 3FQ.

News of Human Scale Education reports that the European Colloquium on Education was held in April at New College, Oxford. The theme of the conference was New Educational Environments -- Rights, Responsibilities and Initiatives. One session was set aside for students to express their own views. Also in the News, a school in Scotland was established in 1992 for students who are "educationally fragile" -- what we would term "at-risk." The kids aged 12 to 18 are given individual care and attention in small classes which emphasize creative, artistic, and academic development. Human Scale Education, 96 Carlingcott, Near Bath, BA2 8AW.

KENYA

Kipkoriony Schools Library Services was established in 1991 to collect donated library books which are then made available to people who would otherwise not have any reading materials at all. It is a non-profit charitable organization run by volunteers. They need a variety of types of books, including classroom texts, dictionaries, and magazines. Please contact them at PO Box 29, Kaptagat, Eldoret, Kenya, E. Africa.

NIGERIA

A non-profit organization, Cyesons Global Future Multiservices is seeking to expand the scope of its contribution in the creation of a "new social world order." They would like to hear from other groups and individuals interested in exchanging ideas with them. 14 Adetula St., Papa Ajao Mushin, Lagos, Nigeria.

FRANCE

We heard from Susan Rubinyi-Anderson who has recently returned from France where she visited educational alternatives. She was particularly impressed by the Ecole Pour Aujourd'hui/School for Today in Paris which is a bilingual program inspired by Freinet's ideas. She would like to set up an

alternative French bilingual school in her area and asks anyone interested to contact her at 565 Fairview, Ashland, OR 97520. Tel: 503-482-4029.

The Enthusiasm for Learning Foundation (ELF) is proceeding with plans for opening Teen College and hope to have a site by this September and part-time programs shortly thereafter. They hope to have full-time programs in January, 1996. Also, parents of children under age 6 who may be interested in ELF's Home Learning Program, please contact them at PO Box 40291, Portland, OR 97240-0291.

There is a growing network of folk schools and population education centers which address such issues as the environment, rights of the homeless, welfare, and violence, says Stephen Berger of the School of Human Services and Marrowbone La Mazorca. The latter is a cooperative comprised of several folk schools. They welcome the membership of popular educational centers and folk schools. Groups interested in more information should contact Gilda Haas at 1309 S. Sierra Bonita, Los Angeles, CA 90019. Tel: 213-935-6998. Fax: 213-938-6739. Or contact Frank Adams, 66 Mary St., Arlington, MA. Tel: 617-646-2741. Fax: 617-646-4830.

Phillip Roy publishes computer and multimedia materials which would be useful in alternative school settings. Included in their catalog are programs concerning conflict resolution, employment skills, drop-out prevention, workplace literacy, and lifelong learning. They offer free duplication and free networking. For a copy of their latest catalog, write or call them at PO Box 130, Indian Rocks Beach, FL 34635. Tel: 800-255-9085. Fax: 813-595-2685.

Natural Awakenings is a Southwest Florida resource magazine for personal and planetary health. In July's issue, there were articles on Developing a Wellness Attitude with Children by Dr. Wayne Dyer and Atomic Sequence Imagery by Kitt Walsh. 1375 Sperling La., Naples, FL 33940. Tel: 813-434-9392. Alan Muskat, Database Manager for our Handbook of Alternative Education, is now in Asheville, NC working with Marty Grist in establishing a homeschool resource center at the site of the old Children's Grammar School.

They are offering a variety of courses and activities, and looking for all the help they can get. At The Hilltop, #10 Kidstown Rd, Asheville, NC 28806

He made there. He just turned 16. He simply wrote an essay and has recommendations. It just shows that it makes sense to simply follow your dream. He has learned to speak the Xhosa language. ISRAEL
Yacov Hecht informed us that there will be a fourth Democratic Schools Conference, to be held at the Democratic School of Hadera from April 14-19. There will be
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This is the same group that has met at Sands School, Sudbury Valley School, and this year in Vienna. C as the ALMANAC OF EDUCATION CHOICES rdan Montessori School, Holland: It is a public alternative. We were met by Fred Kulik of the school, who was incredibly kind to us throughout our trip, since we flew into and out of Amsterdam twice. : Hundreds of educators from more than thirty countries gathered there. Satish Kumar of Shumacher College was one keynote speaker.

One amazing incident happened as we arrived at Oxford. Walking down the street there was a van in front of me with its door open, making it impossible for me to pass. Then people in the van started jumping out and charding at me. The others with me thought I was about to be attacked, except they were yelling "Jeery...Jeery!" It was the Moscow International Film School van, the same one we had helped ship to Russia from here in New York. They had driven from Moscow to England because they couldn't afford to fly! They handed me a proclamation on the spot which thanked us for the help we had given them on the trip in the United states.

@ÄW if you want particular details: Albert was a Summerhill student, staff member, and parent of Summerhill students, He also has homeschooled his children, and edited an updated book of A.S. Neill's writings. While visiting him in the Cotswals, we came up with the idea of creating an international program for parents interested in educating their children with a free of "unschool" approach. I'll be going back to England in September to do further work on the project and to participate in the reorganization of the Friends of Summerhill Trust. Tobey Gralla, a homeschooler from VA, and Graham Wigley, from a charter school in MN went on the trip, as well as a group of 5 students and 2 staff from City and Country School, in NY who joined us in Russia. , Winchester: Scott Forbes of Brockwood has been trying to have us visit the school for a long time and we finally made it! The school is on wonderful grounds with beautiful architecture. It operates on ideas put forth by Krishnamurti and has a very

Ä

KGlobal Alliance for Transforming Education, Glorietta, NM, Southwestern College , GATE 1995 Conference, PO Box 4788, Santa Fe, NM 87502. 505 471-5756 NSEE, 3509 Haworth Dr, Suite 207, Raleigh, NC 27609, 919 787-3263 November 24-25, Montessori Vygotsky Conference, Montessori Lyceum Herman Jordan, Jordanlaan 3, 3706 TE Zeist, Netherlands, 31 3404 54708, fax 31 3404 55046 AERO BOOKS, VIDEOS, SUBSCRIPTION, ORDERING INFORMATION:
AERO-GRAMME SUBSCRIPTION -----\$15/Yr_____ \$20 Out of US_____

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We'd also like to call your attention to materials available through AERO:

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NEW!! The Almanac of Education Choices, with over 6000 entries and new informative essays. See lead article in this issue. Send only \$20 _____ for prepublication offer--we pay the postage.

The HANDBOOK OF ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

With over 7300 educational alternatives described, chapters by Ron Miller, Mary Ann Raywid, Jerry Mintz, Pat Farenga, Dave Lehman, Tim Seldin, and others, many indexes. Hard cover reference book, published by Macmillan and Solomon press.....\$75_____ (prepaid)

Contact AERO for sets of labels from the Handbook database. Entire list is \$60 per thousand names. Subsets can be custom-created

My Life As a Traveling Homeschooler by Jenifer Goldman, Solomon Press
An 11 year old describes her adventures visiting homeschoolers and helping her uncle Jerry Mintz start new alternative schools around the USA and Canada. Kids everywhere are reading this book and deciding to write their own books!

-----\$7.95 , \$5.55 for orders of 5 or more
\$_____

GREEN REVOLUTION, the newsletter of the School of Living
AERO-GRAMME readers can become a member of the School of living and get a subscription to the Green Revolution for half price. The SOL is a 60 year old organization which pioneered the environmental protection movement, consumer protection, and is involved with land trust and communities movements, as well as the sponsor of AERO-----\$10_____

The National Directory of Alternative Schools

A list and description of hundreds of alternative schools, mostly independent, in the United States and other countries, as well as homeschool resources, alternative boarding schools and colleges, etc. (this is not the new Macmillan Handbook)

-----\$15-----

VIDEOS:

CONTACT AERO FOR VIDEOS ON OUR RUSSIAN TRIPS

SUMMERHILL VIDEO:

Two videos in one: the 1990 International Alternative School Conference at Summerhill, with interviews of Summerhill students and alumni, as well as vivid footage of the Summerhill end of term celebration. Also, Summerhill's 70th anniversary celebration in August, 1991, featuring more alumni interviews, and a Summerhill democratic meeting. -----

\$25-----

Nellie Dick and the Modern School Movement:

A fascinating two hour interview with a 96 year old pioneer in the alternative education movement. Born in the Ukraine of Jewish anarchist parents in 1893, she started anarchist schools in England back in 1908, went to the United States in 1917 to teach at the Modern School, in New Jersey, based on the work of Francisco Ferrer, and taught at and ran Modern Schools until 1958. Her son Jim, who was a student at the Modern Schools and is now a 70 year old pediatrician is also interviewed. There are also excerpts from the Modern School reunion in 1989 which featured the Spanish Modern Schools.-----

-----\$25-----
NEW!! Transcript of Nellie Dick and the Modern School! \$10-----

CONTACT AERO FOR OTHER MODERN SCHOOL VIDEOS

Two WPIX TV shows about Homeschooling and Alternative Education

Two WPIX TV shows about Homeschooling and Alternative Education. In the first, Jerry Mintz introduces alternatives in the tri-state area, with on site visitation of the Long Island Homeschoolers, and Manhattan Country School. In the second, Jerry and two homeschoolers are grilled by WPIX interviewer in the studio. One homeschooler started because her son had cancer, and the schools refused to teach him. She homeschooled, and when he was cured, returned to find he had passed his class. If you want, we'll add the interview with Jerry Mintz and Jenifer Goldman on CBS Up to the Minute, in which they discuss their books.-----

-----\$25-----

DEMOCRATIC MEETINGS:

A two hour tape of demonstrations of various democratic meetings, including one at Summerhill, a meeting of Russian students at the New Schools

Festival in the Crimea (translated into English), a demonstration meeting with Long Island homeschoolers, age 4-13, a meeting setting up a democratic system for an "at risk" public high school alternative, and a democratic meeting at a public "choice" high school.-----\$25_____

CODE CRASH--For quickly learning the Morse Code. Hundreds sold! This is a tape in which two 12 year old homeschoolers, a boy and a girl, each learn the Morse code by our unique method, in less than 20 minutes each, with a copyrighted association method. People interested in getting their amateur radio license will be amazed. It works. We guarantee it. You'll learn it. Show to a whole class. Recently glowingly reviewed in Growing Without schooling-----\$20_____

HOMESCHOOL RESOURCE CENTERS

A video of a homeschool resource center, featuring the Snakefoot Education Center, at Common Ground Community. This is a group of families that created a center in which 15 homeschooled children meet three times a week. They also hired a resource person.

-----\$20_____

Add \$3 for postage for books and videos.

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I was even more impressed than before--a 1400 student democratic school in which students now have "a constitutional right to leave classes without explanation." They now have a restaurant built by students in which they can gather and an entire classroom that is a "jungle gym" for younger children. : We went 20 hours east by train to Ijevsk, near the Ural Mountains. There were nearly 300 people at the conference, mostly teachers who came for the training session in educational alternatives, and about 75 students. The conference was organized by the high school students at the Ijevsk Lyceum, an alternative school Eureka helped develop. We did presentations on democratic decision-making, homeschooling, organic curriculum and charter schools. The students and staff at City and Country School each did workshops on their school. There were also presentation by the Yenna Plan school from Holland and several Russian alternatives. Two teachers from the Stork Family School in the Ukraine came after they read I was going to be there in AERO-GRAMME, traveling two days by train. After the conference they left on a different train to return to Vinnitsa. :ù;ù-ù

President of Eureka, was there, and the program was directed by Russell and Peggy Tunder of Cascade Canyon School. We brought the group into San Francisco where we attended the Children's World Peace Festival and met Dr. Robert Muller, former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations (see quote in first article). There were 16 Russian children and 12 American children in our group. They hope to organize a similar program next summer. It all culminated in a celebration which thousands attended. Our group sang original songs in Russian and English on the stage, and we showed a video which we had worked on all week.

On the way back to New York I stopped at the 25th anniversary meeting of the National Alternative Education Conference, in Bloomington, IN. At this meeting a grant from the Bay-Paul Foundation had enabled a significant group from the National Coalition of Alternative Community Schools to attend for the first time.

Edited by Carol Morley ~~~~~ Body Text ~~~~~

~~~~~ UU^ffiat a special peoples' congress that was organizing to send representatives to the United Nations directly from the people rather than from nations.

The train trip to CA was 80 hours. Surprisingly, it was a very interesting trip. At some times, it almost seemed like a rolling seminar. At first, as I would talk to people, I would be sitting in the lounge or in the diner and I would have to run back to get my Directory or to get samples of my newsletter. Finally I just started carrying it around with me because it seemed like more and more people on the train had heard about this and were interested in it. Here are some examples of the people that I met: I talked to a man whose two sons had gone to Summerhill starting in 1968. He had even thought about teaching at Summerhill because he and his wife were teaching at another place in England at the time although they were American. He talked about how his children were doing now, what influence Summerhill had on them and it turned out that he was one of the early members of the Summerhill Society. In fact, he had been part of a crucial vote which allowed Orson Bean to start a Summerhill school in New York City which of course became the 16th Street School.

On the way back I spent a lot of time talking to a kid named Josiah who is a 14-year old Christian homeschooler. It was very interesting seeing what a very lively person this was, very interested in learning. He doesn't exactly call his family fundamentalists. His father is a preacher and they do not believe in evolution. However, he said he had carefully studied the subject and discovered that the evidence is overwhelming that there is evolution within a species even though he doesn't believe in the whole theory of evolution.

We handed out sets of labels from each state from the database of the

Handbook, to help the state alternative education associations and encourage new ones to start.

Maybe this is the ultimate networking story: When I was waiting for the train in the Chicago station, I struck up a conversation with a man who was with his 11 year old son. The boy obviously had a lot of energy. He was now basically raising his son while his wife worked. The son had been having problems in school and had been diagnosed with ADD. He was looking for an alternative for him. I pulled out the Handbook to see what might be in his area. It turned out that one of the closest to him was New England Homeschooling Associates which was run by Steve Moitozo. He wrote down his name and address. Later on the train we were pulling into Toledo, Ohio. I decided to step outside for a breath of air and the kid followed me out there. We got back on the train and I started to walk in the wrong direction, toward the rear of the train, and realized I was going in the wrong direction and turned back. All of a sudden, out of the darkness someone yelled out from one of the seats as I walked by: "Jerry!" I couldn't believe it ... It was Steve Moitozo heading back to Maine from a homeschool conference. I said, "Steve, I referred someone to you today. Wait a second ... it was this kid's father!" About 10 seconds later, the boy's father came through the doorway. I said, "You know, remember that guy's name you wrote down earlier today?" He said, "Yes. Steve Moitozo?" "This is Steve Moitozo." They both were going up to Maine. Steve was coming back from a homeschool conference. I went back to see Steve the next morning and he told me that the father had gone to talk to him and he gave him the information on homeschooling.

I took the train to Vermont for the reunion of Shaker Mountain School, which I had founded in 1968. It was an amazing, exciting, almost surrealistic experience seeing my former students who now had children who are the same age they were when they attended the school. One hundred came from all over the country. We will put out a special newsletter for former Shaker Mountain students and staff members. One thing that was clear that day was that all the people who brought their kids seemed to have really nice relationships with their children. That was the most impressive thing of all: that some of this had gone through into the next generation. Perhaps that is the ultimate sign of success.