

The Alternative Education Resource Organization Newsletter
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UNUSUAL SEND-OFF FOR NEW ALMANAC OF EDUCATION CHOICES

PICTURE Phil Friedman of Macmillan and Sid Solomon speak at book-launch party

PICTURE Ray Sandiford videotapes at book-launch party

An unusual variety of people gathered at a pizza restaurant near City and Country School, in Manhattan, for the launch party of the Almanac of Education Choices. They included the expected--book publishers, the editors, media representatives, as well as junior high aged students from City and Country School, high school students from the Academy, a private alternative in New Paltz, teachers from public alternatives for at-risk students, and the Free School, in Albany, homeschoolers from several counties, librarians, and representatives from radical book-stores.

What brought them all together was the celebration of the release of The Almanac of Education Choices which, for the first time, lists thousands of alternative schools and homeschools groups in a form which the public can access. With this book anyone can look up a locality in their state and find the educational alternatives near them. It is the hope of Jerry Mintz, Editor in Chief, that "this will lead to more support for educational alternatives, thus moving the entire school system in a direction which empowers parents, teachers, and students."

Speakers at the event included Sidney and Raymond Solomon, Associate Editors, Phil Friedman, head of the Reference Division of Macmillan-Simon and Schuster, and Eleine Shepel, former Dean of Russia's Eureka Free University, and now a doctoral student at Teachers' College, Columbia University.

NOTE FOR CURRENT AERO-GRAMME SUBSCRIBERS: We are continuing the offer to send you the Almanac of Education Choices for just \$20, without the \$3 extra postage. This offer expires March 1, and you must be a paid-up subscriber (check your mailing label). Orders of 10 or more get 20% discount.

EDWARDS FOUNDATION GRANT COMPLETES PALL FOUNDATION MATCHING FUND

We are very pleased to announce that a \$26,000 grant from the O.P and W.E. Edwards Foundation, David Gamper, President, to support AERO's work with alternative schools in the Former Soviet Union and other countries has completed the matching fund of \$20,000 which had been offered by the Josephine Bay Paul and C. Michael Paul Foundation, Fred Bay, President.

Some of the projects will include getting equipment for the Stork Family School's new site (see International News, Ukraine), help with new video equipment for the Moscow International Film School (see International News, Russia), help with a trip to the USA in March planned for Theleme, a boarding alternative in southern France, and support for Eureka's Avant Garde Seminar in Russia in April (call AERO if interested in participating).

BACK TO ENGLAND: SUMMERHILL, SANDS SCHOOL

In September I went to England at the invitation of the Friends of Summerhill Trust, which was reorganizing and wanted support and suggestions. The Trust was organized to provide outreach to former Summerhill students and others interested in keeping Summerhill healthy. Under the reorganization it will have a new name and some expanded functions. Albert Lamb has been editing the FOST Journal, and hopes that it, too will have an expanded role. With Zoe (Neill) Readhead's help, Albert has also edited the later writings of A.S. Neill into a new book called Summerhill School, a New View of Childhood, now published by St. Martin's Press in the United States. We will be actively supporting the publicizing of the book, which is available from AERO for \$12, plus \$3 postage.

I stayed at Albert and Popsy's house in the Cotswolds, a wonderful place. Albert and I then visited the Sands School, in Devon, which was just opening for the new term. I got to meet the new students and sit in on a meeting and admissions meeting. The student population has grown from to 30's to 50's since I was there three years ago, and the school is really thriving. While we were in the area we also visited the Open School, which Lynette Gribble directs. It is connected to the Open University, and provides distance learning for homeschoolers and others via, fax, phone, and e mail. They develop their own learning materials. We also had a nice visit with Lynette and David Gribble at their country farmhouse.

PICTURE A democratic meeting at Sands School in Ashburton, Devon

PICTURE David and Lynette Gribble at their home

We then went to the organizational meeting of the FOST. Through meetings in several stages it was decided to continue with its work, while soliciting input from the former Summerhill students and other friends. If you are interested in joining and receiving the Journal, which is beautifully put together by Albert, and has information and stories about other alternatives schools around the world in addition to Summerhill, you can join at a special rate for AERO-GRAMME readers of \$25 (\$35 is the usual rate).

Finally, I got to spend 5 days at Summerhill as they started their new

term. It was like being home for me. I sat in on their first meeting, saw how the classes and other groups were organized for the term, and of course, taught some tennis and ping pong and took videos. The school has about 60 students and is nearing capacity again. There is a new group of students from Taiwan at Summerhill, as well as kids from Japan, Germany, France, and England, but amazingly, no Americans. Through AERO and other's help, the school is hoping to attract American students to Summerhill again. We have new videos of Sands School and Summerhill for those interested in seeing them. Send \$25 to AERO.

NO PAIN TODAY!

PICTURE Car of drunk driver after he crashed into Jerry's car

This has not been a very good year for physical health. It started with a drunk driver who crashed into my car at about 60 miles an hour when I pulled out of my driveway, totaling both vehicles. I went to the emergency room with back and neck problems, but continued to work and travel. Then the other shoe dropped and the process which started with the accident erupted with a herniated disk in October, sending me to the hospital by ambulance for a week. If the worst pain in my life up to that point had been a 4, this was a ten. There's no way to describe it. Mercifully, the pain abated, giving me another perspective for thanks in daily life. But it left me with a weakened right leg and lack of sensation in a few places, as the effected nerve recovers. At first I walked with a walker, then with a cane. Now I can walk OK, jog a little, and I'm back teaching and playing table tennis. Maybe I'll be able to place tennis in the summer if there is more recovery and some muscles take over for others. So, it was another learning experience. As my Russian friends said to me, after 40 if you wake up without pain you are probably dead!

NEW AERO WEB SITE

Andy Smallman of Puget Sound Alternative School helped us set up and is maintaining AERO's WWW site, which is [HTTP://www.speakeasy.org/~aero](http://www.speakeasy.org/~aero) Check it out! Over 200 people have already been there. One radio show found us there. It has information about the Almanac of Education Choices, including the introduction, and links to other alternatives such as Clonlara, Wondertree, Sudbury Valley School, Alpine Valley School, the Circle School, etc. Let us know what you think, or what could be added to it. In addition, the people at PSCS have something they call a VEE, virtual education environment. Recently Jerry has been teaching classes for PSCS students on the VEE. People can telnet there at speakeasy.org 7777 Once there you can chat with students and teachers in real time, or with others who have connected. In one of Jerry's classes, a 17 year old student from Wondertree, an alternative in Vancouver, telnetted in and participated in

the discussion. Using the VEE we could teach classes for other groups. Let us know. They also have an overview of excellent on-line resources for people interested in discussing education alternatives (including AERO's) which appeared in the November 1995 newsletter from Puget Sound Community School. 1715 112th Ave.; Bellevue, WA 98004. Tel: 206-455-7617. E mail: pscs@speakeasy.org or <http://www.speakeasy.org~pscs/>.

NELLIE DICK, 1993-1995

Our beloved Nellie Dick died on October 31 at the age of 102. James Dick, her son, wrote the obituary for Nellie which ran in the New York Times on November 1st and 3rd. She was a pioneer in alternative education, having started, taught in, and run schools from 1907 to 1958. She was closely connected with the Modern School Movement. In lieu of flowers, Jim requested giving respect and support to children in their future in love and freedom. "She will always be remembered and missed by her son Jim, who follows his parents' principles as a pediatrician in Oyster Bay," by all of her large family, and by all of us who, directly or indirectly, have been touched and affected by Nellie's profound love and respect for children. 80 Cove Rd., Oyster Bay, NY 11771.

MODERN SCHOOL NEWS

The Modern School Reunion was held this year at Goddard College. It was the first one that Nellie had missed since Jerry has been attending them from 1989. At the reunion there was an interesting mix of former Modern School students, people with academic interest in alternative education or anarchism, and Goddard College students. Clara Solomon made a presentation about her experiences in the school over 60 years ago and in the anarchist movement. The Modern School Movement was based on the work of anarchist Francisco Ferrer of Spain, who started the Modern School in Barcelona. We have about five hours of videos from the reunion. Let us know if you are interested in copies of any parts. See the back section for videos and other information about Nellie Dick and the Modern School.

PICTURE During the Reunion we took a field trip to a Barre cemetery where we saw this unusual sculpture of an Italian anarchist stone cutter

In a related story, we received a letter from Alfred Levitt, a former Modern School student who became a famous painter, with 20 paintings hanging in the Museum of Modern Art. He said he was hoping his "talents would be of a positive help" and could somehow be incorporated into the alternative education movement. "It is no great event to report to you that I am now sliding into my 102nd birthday." In a recent phone conversation he invited Jerry to visit him soon to talk about his ideas. "Don't wait too long. I'm not getting any younger, you know!" To contact Alfred, "505 La

Guardia Pl, NY, NY 10012 Ph: 212 982-9428

ALMANAC BEGINS TO GET MEDIA ATTENTION

The campaign to bring attention to the Almanac of Education Choices gained momentum with an appearance by Jerry Mintz on the Gabrielle Show on the Fox Network. With only a day's notice, they flew Jerry to Hollywood to tape the show. He appeared as an expert on homeschooling and educational alternatives. Also on the show were a homeschooling mother and daughter, a public school mother and daughter, and a representative of the teacher's union who opposed homeschooling. The show aired on December 8th. Homeschoolers all around the country sent comments on the show to the AERO office. Here are some excerpts:

I think you did a phenomenal job under very adverse conditions! ..If I ever were to appear live representing homeschoolers, I would want you there and on my team! KC, Texas

Thanks, Jerry. I'm going out this weekend to look for your book. I believe in supporting what is good for our kids. I hope you understand how much you are appreciated here. SW, Indiana

Everyone I talked to thought you were the life saver on the show. Keep going on these shows! Even if people decide they don't like home schooling, at least they will be made aware of its legality, and maybe even accept it as a choice for others. It can only help. God bless you, and keep up the good work. We will be purchasing your book for our church library.
HMSCL Mom

You are right, Jerry. We are already getting information requests from people who saw the show and went looking for information on homeschooling!
Helen Hegener, Home Education Magazine, WA

I would like to thank you for being a voice of reason in a hostile environment. I applaud your willingness to go on national TV and be a voice for us. Your book sounds like it will be a wonderful reference for educational choices. I plan to go into town tomorrow and will look for it.
Vicci, South Carolina

Jerry has also twice been on the Talk Television Cable Channel, and on 15 radio stations around the country, culminating with an appearance December 30th on National Public Radio's All Things Considered.

We know that this kind of exposure is crucial to getting the word around. If there are not enough sales, there may be no second edition. We hope for more print reviews and support from the publisher and our readers! Please

make contacts for us. We promise to follow up! Also, remember that we can arrange special discount for bulk purchases.

MAIL AND COMMUNICATIONS

The purpose of a letter addressed to teachers from Lynn Stoddard is to make them aware of a meeting of governors and business executives which will address education reform but to which teachers have not been invited. He views this summit as an opportunity for teachers to break the destructive pattern of "meekly allowing non-educators to set the course." These non-educators, however, share none of the blame when it is found that "students refuse to be shaped like products on an assembly line." This effort is to alert all teachers about this conference, which will take place in Palisades, NY, on March 26 & 27.

A new book by Lynn Stoddard, *Growing Greatness*, has just been published and released. The author believes that the "six amazing attitudes of extraordinary teachers and parents," when recognized and nurtured, can transform the educational system, as well as society as a whole. These attitudes, which everyone possesses, are: identity, spirituality, inquiry, autonomy, interaction, and unity. Zephyr Press; PO Box 66006-J; Tucson, AZ 85728-6006. Tel: 520-322-5090.

Lynn has also written an essay entitled "The Secret of Education" which has been published in Ron Miller's book, *Educational Freedom for a Democratic Society*. The essay, inspired by Emerson's statement, "The secret of education lies in respecting the pupil," explores what would happen if we actually did just that. He says, "When we respect children and their teachers, a door is opened for a transformation of education to occur." Lynn can be contacted at 793 S. 200 E.; Farmington, UT 84025-2239.

A collection of writings that present a comprehensive critical analysis of the movement toward national educational goals, standards and curriculum has been published by the Resource Center for Redesigning Education. Titled *Educational Freedom for a Democratic Society*, it is edited by Ron Miller. The contributors are some of the leading liberal/progressive scholars writing about public education today. Also available is a catalog of publications and the newsletter, *Great Ideas in Education*. PO Box 298; Brandon, VT 05733-0298. Tel: 1-800-639-4122. E mail: holistic@sover.net.

After the Modern School Reunion at Goddard College, Jon Scott drove Jerry and Mary Leue to the grand opening of the Bellweather School, which Ron Miller has organized, in Williston, VT. It is an alternative school, currently for elementary school children, but also serves homeschoolers in the area.

PICTURE Ron Miller in front of Bellweather School at Grand Opening

We appreciate Kevin McCrea's kind letter to Jerry expressing appreciation for Jerry's continued commitment to students and education. Thank you for that; and we also hope as you do that the world will one day soon be "rid of ignorance and divisiveness!" 28 Constitution Rd.; Charlestown, MA 02126.

The Community Bookshelf provides dozens of books and other material of interest to people in intentional communities, environmentalists, alternative educators and others. For a list of their resources, write to them at East Wind Community; Tecumseh, MO 65760. Tel: 417-679-4682.

A new school has just been established in Maryland called Fairhaven School. Inspired by Sudbury Valley School, it is free and democratic. They have everything they need except a building. They welcome any ideas and assistance at this time. Write c/o Mark and Kim McCaig; 416 Osbourne Rd.; Fairhaven, MD 20754.

John Taylor Gatto outlines the five substantial alterations in teachers' characters which can bring about a transformation of education in this country. He says that much of what demands teachers' attention today is irrelevant. "Teaching is some kind of connection between people, not rules on a piece of paper; a teacher teaches you how to learn principally by learning himself." The article appeared in September's The Newformer; ELF; PO Box 40291; Portland, OR 97240-0291.

Prodigy has selected our own Jerry Mintz as it's Member of the Month for January, 1996, in recognition of his contributions to their Education Bulletin Board, the Homeschooling Topic, and his active participation in the educational community. Congratulations, Jerry! The service is featuring Jerry on their "A Toast to Prodigy Members" WEB page (<http://antares.prodigy.com/momph.htm>). Get online and check it out!

Marshall Fritz, editor of The Education Liberator, is planning on speaking at the ASCD conference in New Orleans on March 16-19; at the APEE conference in Las Vegas on March 24-26; and at the Libertarian Party Convention in Washington, DC on July 4-6. If you have an idea for a speaking opportunity or visit for Marshall, contact the Separation of School and State Alliance; 45787 N. First #310; Fresno, CA 93726. Tel: 209-292-1776. E-mail: <http://www.sepschool.org>. Jerry Mintz attended the First Annual Convention of the Separation Alliance on November 10-12 in Washington, D.C. About 100 were in attendance, from a spectrum of political backgrounds.

There are now 44 students attending the Blue Mountain School and spirits

are high. So reports the Community Educational Research Coalition's October newsletter. The school serves children from preschool to 11 years old. CERC Newsletter; PO Box 81; Floyd, VA 24091.

A new video has been released by Michael Wiese Productions entitled Kids on the Internet. It features students from Futurekids, a computer learning school for children. It is bundled with Compuserve's Internet in a Box for Kids which is designed to make the Internet a safe, easily accessible and exciting place for kids to explore. 11288 Ventura Blvd. Suite 821; Studio City, CA 91604. Tel: 818-379-8799. E mail: Wiese@earthlink.net or <http://www.earthlink.net/~mwp>.

Mimsy Sadofsky and Daniel Greenberg wrote about their experience in achieving re-accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Committee. They feel their school, the Sudbury Valley School, could not have presented itself in a better light and that the committee was favorably impressed. They will hear from the Committee shortly on its decision.

The Montessori Observer (September, 1995) addressed the problem of the Secretary of Education's rejection of International Montessori Accreditation Council's (IMAC) plea to withhold recognition of MACTE, a non-inclusive accrediting agency. IMAC's chairperson, Lee Havis, says that the other agency lacks proper Montessori standards, is discriminatory and potentially harmful to innovative Montessori programs. For more information, contact the International Montessori Society at 912 Thayer Ave.; Silver Springs, MD 20910. Tel: 301-589-1127.

The R & D Preview magazine highlighted a paper by the Regional Lab for Educational Improvement in which the author, David F. Donavel, examines traditional school practices which, he says, are "the North American version of the aboriginal walkabout" ritual. Society's contentment with these traditions is what challenges and eventually eliminates reform programs, even very successful ones. A review of a report by the Consortium for Policy Research in Education similarly states that "local traditions or college admission requirements" are among many of the obstacles which stand in the way of innovative reforms. This report concludes that deregulation is just one of many parts of policy approach changes needed to improve schools. Council for Educational Development and Research; Suite 601; 2000 L St., NW; Washington, DC 20036. Tel: 202-223-1593.

Twenty years and 100 issues is enough says Bill Ellis, editor and publisher of TRANET. Therefore, they are now looking for someone to take over the newsletter. For more information or to submit ideas, write to PO Box 567; Rangely, ME 04970. Tel: 207-864-2252. E mail: tranet@igc.org.

The usefulness of flashcards and the power of the computer have been combined in A+ Electronic Flashcards. With this program, the student types the questions and answers and then takes the resultant quiz. If, after turning the card, he knew the answer, he clicks on "I know it"; if not, he clicks on "Ask later." The creators of the program estimate that it can shorten the learning curve by 30%. Breakthrough Productions; 210 Park Ave.; Nevada City, CA 95959. Tel: 916-265-0911.

Geocommons College was started in 1991 by Gaia Education Outreach Institute which promotes a life-centered education from an ecological world view. Its International Communities Semester is a residential/travel/service program in ecology, sustainable community and mindful living for 8-12 adult students of all ages. The spring 1996 program will again include trip to Europe and India; the Summer Institute's goal is to work on the design and implementation of a new, educational eco-village at Derbyshire Farm. For more information on these and other programs, contact Gaia Institute; Derbyshire Farm; Temple, NH 03084. Tel: 603-654-6705. In a related story, Jerry Mintz arranged for Ananda, the daughter of Bruce Kantner, Geocommons founder and director, to intern at an alternative school in Russia. She sent us a card saying "Thank you for helping me come to Russia. The Adamsky family is wonderful ..and I also very much enjoy my work at Ludmilla's School. I'm very impressed by the students' liveliness and enthusiasm for learning."

Two students at the Academy of New Paltz, a small alternative middle and high school, are interested in spending a semester a year abroad in schools willing to host them. Tovah Walter-Gidseg is looking for a school in France, England, Denmark, Switzerland, Sweden, the Netherlands or Israel. She has studied French and reads Hebrew. Anna Pakenham Hannawalt has studied German and French and is willing to go anywhere, particularly Germany. Tovah is undertaking the creation of a pen-pal directory for students involved in alternative schooling. She would appreciate input and ideas on names for directory. Write to either/both Tovah and Anna at The Academy of New Paltz; 62 Plains Rd.; New Paltz, NY 12561.

A new, fun, and easy way to learn a music concept without equipment or prior knowledge is The Home School Music Course. The Course distills music down to three basic elements: rhythm, melody, and harmony. It includes basic instruction in reading notes, key names, music symbols, chord symbols, finger exercises, and familiar songs to play. 8 Winds Music; 26425 104th SE; F101; Kent, WA 98031.

The RichmondTimes Dispatch of September 5, 1995, ran an editorial called "Vouching for Children" about the recent Wisconsin Supreme Court's injunction against allowing low-income Milwaukee families using education

vouchers to pay for tuition at religious schools. Less than a week later, \$1.6 million was donated to keep these kids in their chosen schools this year. "It is tortured logic to suggest that using state vouchers to pay for religious school tuition somehow establishes an unconstitutional state religion." After the decision, the students did not return to the public schools as expected because their parents would not "relegate their children to a failing system." "The notion that students whose parents have instilled manners, morals and diligence should be penalized so they might bring up the curve for others is abominable."

Bob Knipe wrote telling us about his former school, the Learning Community, and he compared it to Sudbury Valley School in it's educational philosophy. Bob is considering writing his book, Viva La L.C.! in commemoration of his 20th anniversary since entering the Learning Community. 40-18 21 Ave.; Astoria, NY 11005.

Another letter, this one from Judy Kugelmass, informed us that she is now on the faculty of SUNY Binghamton. She is in elementary and special education; also, she is working on a new, progressive elementary ed. teacher education program. Congratulations and good luck, Judy. 3233 County Rd. 143; Interlaken NY 14847.

Ganas, a 15-year old New York City intentional community, is expanding to upstate New York's Catskill Mountains. The plan is to build a learning center, a small hotel, and a country community. They will offer fitness activities programs cultural learning programs, and personal growth programs. Visitors, guests and those who might like to live and/or work at Ganas, please call to make arrangements. 135 Corson Ave.; Staten Island, NY 10301-2933. Tel: 718-720-5378.

To Become a Teacher, edited by William Ayers, contains practical advice to teachers, both new and experienced. It is a collection of writings by educators, teachers, reformers, and philosophers. The book is arranged into three parts: I, "Becoming a Teacher"; II, "Thinking and Teaching"; and III, "Reinventing Schools." Teachers College; Columbia University; 1234 Amsterdam Ave.; New York, NY 10027.

Why schools need to change to better prepare students as contributors to society is addressed in Motivating Schools to Change by Carole Cooper and Nan Henderson. It presents a systematic and comprehensive way to integrate the many facets of change for teachers, students and society. Global Learning Communities; 1500 W. El Camino Ave. #325; Sacramento, CA 95833.

The Community Learning Centers project has made excellent progress in the last year. The Centers represent comprehensive, systemic change in public schools. There are now seven of these centers in Minnesota serving all

ages. For information, contact Designs for Learning; Court International Building 347N; 2550 University Ave. W.; St. Paul, MN 55114-1052. Tel: 612-645-0200.

The National Coalition of Alternative Community Schools (NCACS) Conference will be held in the Olympia/Seattle area in April. Specific dates have not been set, but Jim Connor of Evergreen College is the Conference coordinator, with assistance by Jeanie Dooha and Joel Weber of Contra Costa Alternative School; PO Box 15036; Santa Fe, NM 87506.

The Graduate School for Holistic Studies is dedicated solely to adult education. The school offers masters programs in Counseling Psychology, Arts & Consciousness, Interdisciplinary Consciousness Studies, Transpersonal Psychology, and Holistic Health. JFK University; 12 Altarinda Rd.; Orinda, CA 944563.

Solos is a new magazine edited by Stan Whitehead. It's a publication for and about the "new independents: men and women who are enterprising about our environment, creative in their work-world, and confrontational with politicians." The magazine will publish stories, art, photography and news items. Jerry met the Whiteheads on a train going to California. Their two sons went to Summerhill in the 60's, and they asked Jerry to write a story about Summerhill as it is now, which will appear in their next issue. 927 Parker St.; Berkeley, CA 94710.

The magazine, Democracy and Education's back to school issue ran an article, "Keeping Their Eyes on the Prize." It tells about the social studies segment dealing with the civil rights movement as studied by sixth graders at Manhattan Country School. The curriculum, developed by teachers Jean Finnerty, Amy Bauman, and Junius Harris, is divided into three parts, each focused on the experiences of the students. IDE; 313 McCracken Hall; College of Education; Ohio University; Athens, OH 454701-2979.

Two new books published by Resolution Business Press promise to make the Internet an easier-to-access and more useful place for parents, kids, and educators. They are: Internet for Parents (which includes Mosaic in a Box software), and Teaching with the Internet. The Parents book contains narratives of individual experiences and uses of the Internet, things to do, how to get around the worldwide web, e-mailing, using usenet forums, and a resource index containing over 700 entries. The Teaching book was written by a team of teachers and is designed for kindergarten to grade 12 educators interested in adding the Internet to their classroom resources. RBP; 11101 N.E. Eighth St. Suite 208; Bellevue, WA 98004. Tel: 206-455-4611. Fax: 206-455-9143. E mail: rbpress@halcyon.com or <http://www.halcyon.com/resPress/>

After years of tutoring high school students, Susan Trent says she began investing in Montessorian multisensory, hands-on materials that have helped her students understand complex algebra concepts in three dimensions, even when unable to do simple math on paper. The use of these manipulatives in conjunction with very small group size, private sessions, parental involvement, and summer work have enabled students to excel in their school work. Mental Mentor; 5543 Knob Rd.; Nashville, TN 37209. Tel: 615-356-7788.

A system of unit studies designed to aid students with delayed thinking skills (ie, impulsive behavior, lacking self-evaluation skills, failure to connect behavior with results, or self-centeredness, etc.) is called Success is a Thinking Skill (SIATS). The units include: Learning, Work, Integrity, Common Sense, and Decision Making. Dozens of schools as well as juvenile and adult prisons and probation facilities now use this program. Cognitive Alternatives; Denton, TX 76206. Tel: 1-800-913-0303.

The authors of *American Education: Still Separate, Still Unequal* describe the educational system that is characterized by being separate and unequal. Beyond mere physical separation of black and white, rich and poor, it encompasses a separateness of perception among educators. Inequality exists "in the classroom, where students ... are not given equal access to quality education." Daedalus; 136 Irving St.; Cambridge, MA 02138. Tel: 617-491-2600.

A report from Public Agenda prepared jointly with the Institute for Educational Leadership is *Assignment Incomplete: The Unfinished Business of Education Reform*. The Study's findings are part of an initiative to engage the public in productive deliberations about their expectations of public education. It examines why public school support is in jeopardy, why our focus is on school basics, whether people really are committed to higher standards or value education for its own sake. 6 E. 39th St.; New York, NY 10016. Tel: 212-686-6610. Fax: 212-889-3461.

A World in Our Hands was written, illustrated and edited by young people of the world in honor of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. Written for children, it covers the UN's history, children's rights, military force, and Agenda 21 on the environment. Tricycle Press; PO Box 7123; Berkeley, CA 94707. Tel: 510-559-1633.

Dr Bob Smilovitz, in his new book *If Not Now, When* has attempted to blend democracy with schooling, education, society and economic issues. He believes that "without an educated citizenry, our society will degenerate to the level of control by the few over the many." The new paradigm he proposes in the book calls for community-based educational opportunities available to all at any time in any place. Box 5200; Horn of the Moon Rd.;

Montpelier, VT 05602. Tel: 802-223-6515. Fax: 802-223-8980. E mail:
RootsNet@AOL.com.

Anyone interested in learning, not just teachers, will enjoy Empowering the Child: Nurturing the Hungry Mind by Ramond Hartjen. His four rules of a "bottom-up" approach to teaching, combined with the right environment, can empower students to "open their own doors of educational opportunity." Alternative Education Press, Ltd; PO Box 265; Pt. Tobacco, MD 20677. Tel: 301-934-2998.

We were pleased to hear from Heather Laughton, a former student of Jerry's Shaker Mountain School who had missed the school's recent reunion. She is now teaching fifth grade in California which she finds very rewarding. Congratulations and continued good luck!

Ideas, methods and materials for teaching self-directed learning are the subjects of Dr. Maurice Gibbons' Self-Directed Learning Source Book. It gives 16 ways to introduce SDL and 20 ways to teach it, 9 stages to an integrated SDL program and 52 ways to motivate students, and more. Personal Power Press International, Inc.; Box V-49; Bowen Island, BC, Canada V0N 1G0.

PUBLIC ALTERNATIVES

In Texas, the Positive Life Style Development Act for At-Risk Youth (PLDA) authorizes municipal and county governing principals to provide alternative education centers for at-risk students which satisfy state codes for the issuance of diplomas or GEDs. The programs address students over age 12 who have not been well served by the public school system. The Paradigm Alternative Center is one such program. Using only the per pupil cost funds they are able to run a private school in which the students thrive. PO Box 48; Dublin, TX 76446. Tel: 817-445-4844.

From 1990 to 1995 the Center on Organization and Restructuring of Schools has conducted field research and analyzed data concerning school reforms and restructuring. The results of that study has been published in the book, Successful School Restructuring, by Fred M. Newmann and Gary G. Wehlage. CORS; University of Wisconsin - Madison; 1025 W. Johnson St.; Madison, WI 53706. Tel: 608-263-7575.

We learned from Jim Murphy that he, his wife, son, and 14 of his students will be going to Israel for 10 weeks to work on a kibbutz near Tel Aviv. They will visit Masada, Jerusalem, the Pyramids, Alexandria..... and sweat. Jerry provided him with some names of people and organizations to contact while in Israel. West Side High School; W 35th & 8th Ave; NY, NY 10019.

In November, a conference was held to explore charter school reform in Vancouver, BC. It was sponsored by Teachers for Excellence in Education and featured speakers from around the world. Notably, the education establishment boycotted the conference and would not participate in panels and workshops. Ironically, BC's Education Minister gave an address at an unrelated function in the same hotel where the charter conference was located. He had declined an invitation to participate in the conference. Eric Premack; Canadian Charter Schools Project.

A few American schools are allowing students to participate in running them by means of interviewing prospective faculty, judging peers' readiness to graduate, and voting on their own graduation requirements. According to George Wood, Principal at Federal Hocking High School in Stewart, Ohio, there are two reasons this is a good idea: it results in better decision-making with the students' input; and it teaches them how to become part of the adult community. The article, entitled "When Students Help Run the Schools" was written by Kevin Kennedy and was published in the Winter 1995 issue of *Doing Democracy*. Center for Living Democracy; RR #1 Black Fox Rd.; Brattleboro, VT 05301.

November 1995's issue of *Education Update* was devoted to the topic of charter schools and included a piece called, "What Charter Schools are Like." After conducting a survey of 110 charter schools, the Education Commission of the States compiled a list of key findings about the schools. The reasons most cited for chartering a school was "better teaching and learning for all kids, running a school according to principles and philosophy, and exploring innovations." Association for Supervision Curriculum Development; 1250 N. Pitt St.; Alexandria, VA 22314-1453.

Thanks to Eric Premack who sent us e-mail via AOL with information on materials he and his colleagues have published regarding charter schools. They include "Making Charter Schools Work," "Charter Schools Implementation Challenges," "School Reform, Accountability, and Charter Schools," "How Much Funding Should Charter Schools Receive?" and more. Contact the Institute for Policy Analysis and Research; 819 Bancroft Way, Suite 100; Berkeley, CA 94710. Tel: 510-843-8588; Fax: 510-843-2436.

The Center for Education Reform's newsletter keeps those interested up to date on the progress made and reforms proposed in the reform movement. The November 1995 issue included a very favorable review of AERO's Handbook of Alternative Education. Jerry Mintz met its energetic director, Jeanne Allen, at a meeting of the Education Writers Association which was held in Hartford, CT. Anyone interested in school reform will appreciate *The School Reform Handbook* by Jeanne Allen with Angela Dale. It explains school reform, gives a clear picture of the education establishment as it is now, outlines how to get involved in improving your schools, and lists

resources of all kinds. It is available from The Center for Education Reform; 1001 Connecticut Ave. Suite 920; Washington, DC 20036. Tel: 202-822-9000. Fax: 202-822-5077.

Nick Stanton wrote us a letter presenting his observations on the public school controversy. He thinks that, in addition to John Gatto's explanation for schools' continued decline, there is deep confusion created in students by the extreme discrepancies which exists between the structure of school and the traditional family" (as it once was, that is). He wonders if "a solution short of a revolution is possible." He recommends the book, *Owning Your Own Shadow* by Robert Johnson, which describes the difficulty humans face when confronted by such conflicting paradigms. Nick Stanton; Life Sharing Foundation; 207 N. Plain Rd.; Great Barrington, MA 01230.

HOME EDUCATION NEWS

A new homeschooling newsletter, published by 14-year old Haley Bedwell, is titled *The Home-School Spirit*. Haley is a first year homeschooler in 9th grade. She will publish poems, stories, humorous experiences, and connect homeschooling pen-pals. Please write to her at: 7855 Cottonwood Lane #7; Sacramento CA 95828. Tel: 916-682-5697.

Another new homeschooling newsletter is called *Learning Happens!* which is a creation of a recently formed national organization, Homeschooling Unitarian Universalists and Humanists (HUUH). Those interested can write/call 3135 Lakeland Dr.; Nashville, TN 37214-3312.

Deschooling Our Lives, edited by Matt Hern argues for replacing compulsory schooling with community, neighborhood and home-based education. It contains a survey of educational alternatives as well as essays by many notable advocates of school reform. New Society Publishers; PO Box 189; Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X0, Canada.

The Family Unschoolers Network News, Vol II 1995, included an article entitled "Genealogy as History." In it, the author explains why genealogy is a good introduction into the study of history. It personalizes past experiences; makes them more 'real'; and encourages questioning of 'truths' of history. Monmouth County Genealogy Club; 70 Court St.; Freehold, NJ 07728.

Growing Without Schooling (GWS) conducted an interview with Jerry Mintz and his niece Jenifer about their experience homeschooling on the road. As a result of that year or so on the road with Jerry, Jenifer published a book, *My Life as a Traveling Homeschooler*. Jenifer says, "Part of any experience is learning how to make the experience work, in this case, a relationship

with someone other than a parent or public school. After that everything falls into place. Once the child knows how to learn, it's not as important who the teacher is." Holt Associates; GWS; 2269 Massachusetts Ave; Cambridge, MA 02140.

Homeschoolers from various states wrote about their experiences in gaining access to public school sports activities in Issue 108 of Growing Without Schooling. This issue, dated Dec. 95/Jan. 96, also includes the yearly Directory of Families and Organizations. GWS; 2269 Massachusetts Ave.; Cambridge, MA 02140.

Along those same lines, an article appearing in the Dec. 24, 1995, New York Times tells of a 15-year old homeschooler's successful struggle to join the public school's varsity wrestling team. Taylor Jenkins of Wakefield, Massachusetts, is among the estimated 25,000 to 50,000 homeschoolers who participate in public school extracurricular programs throughout the country.

The grand opening of the Homeschool Resource Center , at Bellweather School, was celebrated this past December. Headed by Ron Miller, it is Vermont's most complete library and is located at 120 S. Brownell St.; Williston, VT 05401.

There is now available on 6 CD ROMS a complete curriculum of study from grades 1 to 12 from Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine. It was developed by Dr. Arthur Robinson, homeschooling students and their professional and personal coworkers. The "Self-Teaching Home School Curriculum" helps teach children to think productively and develop valuable life-long study habits. For more information: Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine; PO Box 1279; Cave Junction, OR 97523.

The Colton Joint Unified School District has just begun a Home Choice Program in conjunction with their Independent Study Program in Colton. The home-educated student will be provided enrichment opportunities through the public school's resource center. Curriculum planning and evaluation will be performed by the parent, student, and the school as a team. 900 East C St.; Colton, CA 92324-2600. Tel: 909-876-6396.

E-mail received from Shiloh Moates reports that he is doing very well in college and is enjoying it too. AERO-GRAMME readers will remember that as a 15 year old homeschooler he went to South Africa to help teach organic farming. Upon his return he was accepted at Radford University at 16, with no high school transcript or SAT scores. He is considering Anthropology as a major and on taking an internship for a semester overseas. His friend, Mndandla, from South Africa is coming to visit Shiloh and his family in February for several months. Keep up the good work, Shiloh!

In response to the growing number of families looking for information on the subject of homeschooling and college, Pat Farenga, President of Holt Associates, has written two new booklets. They are titled *The Beginner's Guide to Homeschooling* and *Teenage Homeschoolers: College or Not?* They are available from John Holt's Bookstore; 2269 Massachusetts Ave; Cambridge, MA 02140. Tel: 617-894-3100.

This past September, Laurel Springs School began their Learn OnLine Program in which they offer students in grades 1 through 12 the opportunity to learn all of their regular school subjects via their computers. Weekly lesson plans and specific instructions are provided, completed work and tests are stored in the school's computer data base, and the information is compiled into the students' official transcripts at the end of the year. To learn more, contact them online at <http://www.laurelsprings.com>. Or write 1002 E. Ojai Ave.; Ojai, CA 93024. Tel: 805-646-2473.

Devorah Weinman of Long Island's LIGHT helped organize a seminar on November 5 featuring John Gatto, who was received enthusiastically. Weinman also directs a homeschool resource center called the Kid's Place of Choice. Below is a photo taken at a gathering of homeschoolers at the Weinman house.

PICTURE

INTERNATIONAL NEWS AND COMMUNICATIONS

ENGLAND

The Otherwise Club (TOC) is a center which provides social interaction, workshops, and group activities for homeschooling students and their parents. The center consists of a hall, several rooms, a kitchen, areas for woodworking, photo developing, and pottery with kilns. New families and visitors are welcome. Carlton Centre; 1 Croxley Rd.; London W1 3HH.

Making Friends With Ourselves by Caroline Sherwood is a new book which is aimed at parents and teachers who want to introduce simple meditation practices to children. It relies on practical, experiential exercises which can be practiced by adults and easily taught to children who will benefit from improved attention and awareness, and increased stillness, cooperation, honesty and trust. It is available in paperback from KIDSMEDS; 10 Edward St; Bath; BA2 4DU. ENGLAND

Mrs. L. Barson would like to receive information on home schoolers and small alternative schools. She ran a home education clinic in London and has traveled around Japan for six months visiting homeschools and small

private schools. 1 Croxley Rd.; London W93HH.

A newsletter called Mothers Know Best, published by Bryan Hubbard and his wife Lynne McTaggart presents an alternative view of parenting and child development. The latest issue includes articles such as "Coping with Change"; "Dealing with a Difficult Teacher"; Why Children are Playaholics"; and "Kumon Maths: A Revolution in Education?" 4 Wallace Rd.; London N12PG.

The concept of a catalog curriculum is being proposed by Roland Meighan in Education Now (Autumn 1995) in response to the idea of a national curriculum which "has little educational merit and a poor track record." He believes that a national curriculum is an "anti-educational concept." His curriculum ideas include set courses, instructions on how to set up learning co-ops and self-instructional packages. 113 Arundel Dr; Bramcote Hills; Nottingham NG9 3FQ.

ISRAEL

From April 14-18, the Hadera Conference, Fourth International Conference of Democratic Schools, will be held. The last one was in Austria, as reported in AERO-GRAMME 16. Over 100 schools are expected from 20 countries. Staff, parents, and students are welcome. There will be workshops, discussions, projects and tours. Funds are being raised for those who cannot afford the journey. Contact AERO for more information or The Democratic School of Hadera, Brandeis Forest, Hadera, Israel Ph: 972 6 225261 Fax 344146

AUSTRALIA

The third National Student Participation Workshop was held in Melbourne on July 9th and 10th. The theme was student participation in school life, and included workshops on student representative councils, student networks and support teachers. It was attended by about 75 people, mostly students. A report on the conference was published in Connect, issue #94. 12 Brooke St; Northcote 3070; Victoria, Australia.

In Australia, the Alternative Education Research Group publishes a newsletter called Otherways which addresses homeschool/alternative education issues. In order to reach a wider audience and to make home education better known, a recent issue was produced in association with Connect magazine. In it, articles include "Student Participation: What Do You Mean?" and "Health Promoting Schools and Participation." AERG; c/o 7 Bartlett St.; Moorabbin, Vic 3189.

NETHERLANDS

A former student of anthropology and educational science who visited Splot in Poland and Tokyo Shure in Japan, Helga Dekker is interested in receiving more information about alternative education. She would like to help support alternative schooling and would like to know which organizations and people she should contact. If you can be of any help, write to her at F. Hendrikstraat 163; 1052 HS Amsterdam; The Netherlands.

Eleine Shepel , former Dean of Eureka Free University, now living in Brooklyn and Doctoral student at Columbia Teachers College, recently returned from doing a successful presentation at a conference in the Netherlands aimed at comparing Vigotsky with Montessori. Eleine said, "This may just be the beginning of a process of a dialogue between different educational approaches all over the world. In March there will be a seminar in Holland on Vigotsky and Dewey, for example, which will hopefully continue in the United States." 254 73rd St, Apt C2, Brooklyn, NY 11209.

GERMANY

EFFE (European Forum For Freedom in Education) has announced that preparations for May's colloquium in Vienna are going well. The conference will focus on innovative teacher training, school autonomy, and human rights in education.

EFFE also reports that the education situation in Slovakia is rapidly becoming unacceptable to minority families living there. A top school inspector, Dr. Sergej Christenko, has been fired because of his stance for freedom in education as a representative of EFFE in Slovakia. Protests have been rejected as unfounded. A meeting was held in September and its participants are hopeful of an increasingly free school system with less government controls. Also, they report the good news that six new free alternative schools have been permitted to open, in Altmark, Dresden, Koln, Offenburg, Potsdam, and Quedlinburg. "After long years of hindrance a new wind seems to be blowing." Annener Berg 15; 58454 Witten; Germany.

Nicola Haensel ordered the Almanac and informed us that a new school had started in Bavaria, based on the "Earth Children Project." It's a farm with different crafts that kids can choose freely. Only one hour a day has a fixed curriculum. Its address is Hof Elerfarting, 84494 Lahkirchen, Muhlendorf, Germany

SCOTLAND

A 4th-year student at Northern College of Education in Dundee, Scotland, Julie Christieson is researching a thesis for her bachelors degree. She has chosen home education as the subject of her paper. She would appreciate information, newsletters, and brochures on home schooling from

our readers. 3 Ireland St; Carnoustie DD765; Scotland UK.

UKRAINE

The Stork Family School has moved to a new building and is all under one roof for the first time. But they have opened with virtually no equipment, not even blackboards. The Edwards Foundation, as part of the grant through AERO, is providing funds to help with the new equipment. We already sent them a first installment. They wrote to Jerry. "We thank you and the Edwards Foundation so much for your help and for your love to our school. The money has been a very important contribution to our new school life. We hope to see you here for our fifth anniversary as soon as you get well."

CANADA

Our Schools Our Selves #43 printed "In Search of the Radical Tradition in France" by David Clandfield. He traces the roots of the radical traditions of education in France to Francisco Ferrer who founded the Modern School movement. This was the inspiration for the American Modern School Movement also. This, the author says, was what influenced Celestin Freinet, "the father of cooperative learning." 107 Earl Grey Rd.; Toronto, Ontario M4J 3L6. Tel/fax: 416-463-6978.

JAPAN

The first English edition of Ikue Tezuka's School with Forest and Meadow describes Giichiro Yamanouchi's innovative educational theory and practice. The afterword "Reflections on the Explosive Growth of Alternative and Holistic Education in Japan" by Dayle M. Bethel, adds an historical note and places the Japanese experience into the larger worldwide educational revolution context. The publisher, Caddo Gap Press has also released Compulsory Schooling and Human Learning: The Moral Failure of Public Education in America and Japan by Dayle M. Bethel. This is a collection of essays which are the result of an ongoing multicultural dialog among teachers, students and parents in Japan and the U.S. Beginning with papers presented at the Kyoto conference of July, 1990, the essays include subsequent discussions and descriptions of alternative learning experiences. Caddo Gap Press; 3145 Geary Blvd. Suite 275; San Francisco, CA 94118. In a note to us, Dale Bethel said, "Thanks again for the marvelous ways in which you support and encourage the transformational process in education and society."

Congratulations to Nathaniel Needle and Mihoko Wakabayashi of Clonlara School on the birth of their baby, Asa, on July 11, 1995. We wish all of you the very best in the exciting years ahead! 714 Henry St.; Ann Arbor, MI 48104. We also received information from Nat and Mihoko about a recent

trip which they took to Japan to connect with Mihoko's family and with educational alternatives there. They visited Tokyo Shure, met with Kunniko Kato at Nonami Children's Village, met with Ikue Tezuka who wrote a book based on the work of Giichiro Yamanouchi, Atsuhiko Yoshida, who does alternative teacher-training, Keiko Yamashita, of Planet School, Dayle Bethel of the Kyoto Learning Center and many others. He pointed out that there are many thousands of school-refusers in Japan because of the rigidity of the system, and many new alternatives being created.
Clonlara, 1289 Jewett St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 Phone 313-769-4511

RUSSIA

In November Moscow International Film School hosted a film conference at their school. Included in attendance were Frank Bluestein and students from the Germantown High School, In Memphis, TN. The two schools completed a student exchange program in the Summer. The visit from Moscow International Film School to Germantown High School was "phenomenal" says Frank Bluestein in a letter to Jerry. He enclosed a letter from Daniel Saksonav, Principal of MIFS, thanking the Americans for their help during the visit. He says that the Moscow team is ready to start its own educational TV channel there. We, too, appreciate all that Frank and his students did for the Russians and also for their kind words to Jerry for his assistance in making the experience a success. GHS; 7653 Old Poplar Pike; Germantown, TN 38138.

Michel Gusen of the Moscow International Film School sent us a picture of Jerry waving off the paparazzi (or maybe just Michel) and thanking him for making the group's trip to America possible. They said they had realized "all their dreams" about coming to the United States. Sergey Gratchev of MIFS sent an e mail message of season's greetings, and to thank us for our help. They have bought a super VHS camera with the first of the Edwards Foundation grant funds.

SPAIN

Jerry received a fax from Silvia Muni and Gerhard Sollinger who homeschool their two teenage children in Spain. Because homeschooling is illegal in Spain, 16-year old Lucy and 14-year old Pablo, have had to hide during the school days while they homeschooled. However, they say that they are "opposed to school in the same way that they are opposed to the state and to any kind of authoritarian paternalism." The children have been in the US for 2 months to learn English and visit homeschoolers here. They found Jerry through Lib Ed in England. They spent several weeks with a family in Western MA. Jerry has arranged other homeschool families for them to visit while they are in the US.

TEACHERS, JOBS, INTERNSHIPS

A senior at Winona State University majoring in sociology with emphasis on research methods and minoring in statistics, Chad Newcomb is interested in participating in an undergraduate capstone experience. His graduate studies will concentrate in public policy analysis. He can be contacted at Richards Hall #102; 404 Huff Street; Winona, MN 55987. Tel: 507-453-1821.

Carmen Pinteno Garcia is a primary Spanish teacher who is interested in working in an alternative education environment in America. Now at university majoring in language and English literature, Carmen will finish by the end of this month. Send information and inquiries to:
C/. Hnos. Perez Lledo 9, 3 D; 03110 Mutxamel (Alicante) Spain.

Jared Simpson would appreciate help in finding out more about colleges which include alternative education as part of their programs. His main interest is in the sciences, especially psychology and sociology. Information on summer programs would also be welcomed. 10 Jordan Ter; N. Grafton, MA 01536.

University of Arizona Marketing Senior, Johari A. Parnell, is pursuing a career in education. Johari now seeks information regarding internship programs. Please send applications, information, and mail to: 1150 E. 8th St. #414; Tucson, AZ 85719.

Clonlara School is seeking a teacher/administrator for its student-directed Campus High School Program beginning in the 1996/97 school year. This position involves leading students through a democratic process to reinvent the program during a time of school growth and transition. Contact the school at 1289 Jewett; Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Attn: Chairperson, Back Portable Search Committee.

CONFERENCES

February 4-7, Myrtle Beach, SC, Options Worth Considering, National Dropout Prevention Center, Clemson University, 205 Martin St, Clemson, SC 29634 Ph: 803 656-2599

February 27 A Call to Character, Building a Democratic and Civil Society, Colin Greer, Herbert Kohl, Maxine Green, Learning Alliance, 324 Lafayette St, 7th FL, NY, NY 10012 Ph: 212 226-7171

March 16-19, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 51st Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, 1250 North Pitt St, Alexandria, VA 22314 Ph: 703 549-9110

March 22-23, HOUSE (Home Oriented Unique Schooling Experience, Homeschoolers Conference, Hyatt Hotel, Lisle, IL, Division of Continuing Education, Northern IL U, Dekalb, IL 60115

March 24-26, Eighth Annual National Dropout Prevention Conference, Tampa, FL, Children and Families at Risk: Breaking the Risk Cycle Through Caring, Collaboration, Congruence and Continuity, National Dropout Prevention Center, Clemson University, 205 Martin St, Clemson, SC 29634 Ph: 803 656-2599

April 11-14, Global Realities and the Local Community, The Challenge for Educators, Monterey, CA, The American Forum for Global Education, 120 Wall St, Suite 2600, NY, NY 10005 Ph: 212 742-8232

April 14-18, Hadera Conference, Fourth International Conference of Democratic Schools, 100 schools from 20 countries, staff, parents, students, The Democratic School of Hadera, Brandeis Forest, Hadera, Israel Ph: 972 6 225261 Fax 344146

April 30-May 4, Baltimore County, MD, 14th Annual International Conference, Charting a Course for our Children, Magnet Schools of America, 2111 Holly Hall Suite 704, Houston, TX 77054

April 27-28, California Home Education Conference, Anaheim, PO Box 231324, Sacramento, CA 958823 Ph: 916 391-4942

May 17-18 New England Homeschool and Family Learning Conference, Boxborough Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA, sponsored by Homeschool Support Network, PO Box 1056, Gray, ME 04039

May 3-4, Oklahoma Educators Convention, Oklahoma Central Home Educators Consociation, PO Box 27061, OK, City, OK 73137 405 521-8439

May 15-19, European Forum For Freedom in Education, Vienna, Austria, innovative teacher training, school autonomy, and human rights in education, Annener Berg 15; 58454 Witten; Germany Ph: 49 2302 699 442 Fax: 443

June 28th - July 18th

Kathleen Kesson sent us the following note about their summer conferences and courses on alternative, progressive, holistic education

*popular and folk education *emotional intelligence *spirituality and education

*holistic education *and more. Offerings available for graduate credit...For more information, call 1-800-468-4888, email

davidf@earth.goddard.edu or write Goddard College, Plainfield, VT 05667

July 12-13 Midwest Homeschool and Family Learning Conference, Royce Hotel, Romulus, MI, sponsored by Homeschool Support Network, PO Box 1056, Gray, ME 04039

July 14-18 World Future Society, Washington, DC, 7910 Woodmont Ave, Suite 450, Bethesda, MD 20814

August 1-3, EDVentures '96, Milwaukee, WI, American Association of Educators in Private Practice, N7425 Switzke Rd, Watertown, WI 53094 (800 252-3280)

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New!! SUMMERHILL SCHOOL, A New View of Childhood, A.S. Neill, Edited by Albert Lamb, released in November.....\$15, including 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_____

VIDEOS:

NEW!! 33 minute video of our April, 1995 7 Country trip to Europe and
Russia, including EFFE Conference, Democratic Schools Conference in Vienna,
Eureka Avant Garde, in Ijevsk, Russia, plus 5 alternative schools \$20_____

CONTACT AERO FOR VIDEOS ON OUR OTHER 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! \$5_____

CONTACT AERO FOR OTHER MODERN SCHOOL VIDEOS

NEW! Video of Gabrielle Show (Described in this
issue).....\$20

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 copyrighted association method, in less than 20 minutes each. 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 " We were all amazed and impressed with ourselves that we suddenly knew the whole Morse code in an hour."-----\$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_____

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 ad the interview with Jerry Mintz and Jenifer Goldman on CBS Up to the Minute, in which they discusses their books.-----\$25_____

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