



# Servas Monthly News



December 2005

## Controversial?

The other day I was chatting with an active Servas member about local items. Moving on from different attitudes of hosts to travellers, the conversation turned to the international scene. I mentioned the eGA in Latina and how I would be attending despite various difficulties. Although aware of General Assemblies he was not particularly interested in them and wondered how necessary they were, particularly with the wide range of communication available nowadays. Part of his concern was the stamp fee and how much was going on items that did not affect the everyday Servas member. Were such costly exercises really essential for the running of Servas? Or should we be less regimented and a more open and flatter organisation looking at the main needs of the hosts and travellers rather than a hierarchical structure? After all we are, relatively, not that big an organisation. The conversation then moved on to different matters. But it stuck in my mind. Servas is for travellers and hosts so that people may: get together and develop a better understanding of different cultures and life styles; work together as a world team ready to help others.

## Bye 2005, Welcome 2006

A fairly turbulent year has ended. Some of this turbulence has been geophysically induced, the short and long term effects of the 2004 Tsunami, the Earthquake in Kashmir are but 2 major events with plenty more round the world. Due to the instant media communications we are all the more aware of them even than 20 years ago. The same goes for human induced turbulence such as the wide range of disputes whether between countries or between individuals. However the end of 2005 does not mean an automatic end to the problems. The calendar is also a man made feature. Life continues with no respect for a calendar. It is up to us to make the necessary changes whether to provide securer accommodation for zones with geophysical problems or to provide the way to solve human problems without physical or mental confrontations. Certainly a challenge, but what is life without challenges.

## Apologies, short version

This edition of Servas Monthly News is shorter than others because I am currently working on SI News 2006. Consequently instead of chasing articles for this I am only putting in what has arrived. Thank you especially to Pablo who went out of his way, when very busy, to produce the Youth article and to Ewa for the Polish language section.

We all appreciate the efforts of those who share good news with us all. Please keep it up.

## Page Editors

I am looking for people who will put together articles to produce different pages of Servas Monthly News. Please see p2 for job description.

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## Contact

We welcome articles coming to SI Monthly News. We do not guarantee that the article, or any part of it will be published. This depends on the theme for the month along with the number of other articles also available for publication.

Preferred method of contact is email at:  
newsletter @Servas.org  
or jgiffould @aol.com

Please make sure that Servas: Monthly News is part of the subject heading. Otherwise if the email address is not recognised it may well get deleted before being read.

The postal address is:  
Jane Giffould, SI Monthly News Editor  
20 Weavers Row, Halstead, Essex, CO9 2JX  
England.

## Help Needed

### WANTED .....

#### Page Editors .....

To help broaden the scope of Servas Monthly News I am looking for page editors to produce sufficient articles to fill an A4 page on a certain topic each month. As this is based on the internet we do not have quite the size restriction of a paper copy. So the number of pages can expand or contract depending on the variety of articles available, I am looking at an average of 10 per issue. This has been happening since the starting month of June 2005. The articles can contain pictures or different forms of graphics, the only problem being that, as yet, I do not have broadband and so non-text takes longer for me to download and then re-transmit as part of the whole issue.

*The sort of pages I am looking for are:*

General News

Country Reports eg: meetings, articles about the country

Area Reports eg: meetings

Travel Reports

Host Reports

Servas members activities

Helping others eg: Pakistan and Kashmir

UN Activities

Peace Activities

Get Togethers eg: London

Discussion items relating to Servas

Comment relating to Servas

General Discussion -looking at the world

Youth, to help Pablo and his excellent efforts

..... more ideas.

The Servas Monthly News comes out at the end of each month, looking at the month that has gone and looking into the future. I would be looking for complete pages to be forwarded to me by 25th of the month at the latest. I can then do a final edit on them, if needed, to have the issue published on 30th of the month.

If you wish to join the editorial team please email me on either: [newsletter@Servas.org](mailto:newsletter@Servas.org) or [jgiffould@aol.com](mailto:jgiffould@aol.com) stating what your topic preference is. This is needed so as to spread the topics without too much overlap.

Do not worry if English is not your first language, I will do a grammar spelling check on the work for you. However articles should in general be positive and should not demean a person in anyway.

### "SERVAS NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEER WORK IN SOUTH AMERICA.

Many South American countries would benefit a lot if they could count on more hours of volunteer work. There are several projects that could be activated in South America, that would strengthen Servas in that continent.

Roberto Borenstein, Area Coordinator for South America, has thought on several work possibilities and he is looking for volunteers to work with him, even if living in a different continent.

If you feel motivated to help in the development of Servas in South America, please write to [southamerica@Servas.org](mailto:southamerica@Servas.org)

This invitation is open to any individual or National Group interested in contributing to a faster development of Servas in South America."

Does any one else need help any  
where?

Why not put your request in Servas  
Monthly News so that people can see  
it at the end of each month.

Dearest all Servas people,

Happy peace life to all of you and  
Servas family.

From. Harsha & Kantilal Patel  
CANADA

## Meetings, Get together, Seeing each other

### Get together in London

Please note the change of venue.  
It is no longer Boswells.

The new venue is **Pontefract Castle**.  
This is in Wigmore Street, London W1.

The nearest Underground Station is  
Bond Street.

Date: First Monday in every month.

Time: 6.30 onwards.

Look forward to seeing you all there.

Desde Perú  
FELIZ AÑO NUEVO  
From Peru  
HAPPY NEW YEAR  
Rita Dessauvage

Meetings for other  
countries please

Where can we find you?

Where can a traveller meet  
up with others?

Let us know so that we  
can share the information.



Pathways  
Together –  
Sentier Insieme  
– Route d'  
Amitié –  
Miteinander  
unterwegs  
28 - 30 July  
2006 in the  
Black Forest

Traditionally organized by  
Servas friends in Italy, France  
or Switzerland alternatively,  
the next meeting will – for  
the first time – be  
organized in Germany.

The meeting will take place in the southern  
part of the **Black Forest (Schwarzwald)** near the  
Feldberg, the highest peak of that mountain range ( 1498  
m). This is not an alpine region, but on clear days you  
enjoy beautiful views of the Alps, the Rhine Valley and the  
Vosges Mountains from the mountain tops. The Black  
Forest is well-known for its extended network of hiking  
trails.

**Date: Friday 28 to Sunday 30 July 2006**, plus option of 3  
day- trekking afterwards

Venue for the weekend is the „**Leistungszentrum  
Herzogenhorn**“, (Feldberg)

Accommodation: 25 double rooms with en suite or  
communal showers.

Prices: €26 to €34 per person per day for halfboard in a  
double (reduced rates for children possible)

**Leistungszentrum Herzogenhorn** is located in the Nature  
Park “Südschwarzwald”, approx. 30 km east of Freiburg,  
60 km northeast of Basel, it is accessible by car on a small  
road, off road No B317 between Todtnau and Titisee-  
Neustadt

As the number of places is limited to 50, we would advise  
you to register soon.

Deadline for registration is 1 March, 2006

For registration contact:

[Gudrun.baumgartner@web.de](mailto:Gudrun.baumgartner@web.de)

See you in the Black Forest!

*Gudrun Baumgartner & Margret Klaeser*

## Languages

Language is an important tool of communication. When we understand each other we are more likely to be peaceful. Think of the problems that have arisen just by the wrong interpretation of what someone is trying to say.

In this section the aim is to build up a selection of words and phrases to help hosts and travellers communicate with each other and with other people. If you have words or phrases that you find useful then let us know. If you have languages you would like to share then let us know. For the moment the base language will be English, hence any non-English words and phrases must be accompanied by the English translation of them.

In the long run it would be good to be able to publish a booklet of useful words and phrases in a range of languages for the Servas hosts and travellers.

Our **seventh** language is **Polish**

The Polish special letters have not been used to ease transmission and typing!

Zero

One

Two

Three

Four

Five

Six

Seven

Eight

Nine

Ten

Twenty

Thirty

Forty

Fifty

Sixty

Seventy

Eighty

Ninety

Hundred

Thousand

Do you eat meat?

Where do you live?

This is my sister

This is my brother

This is my mother

This is my father

This is my son

This is my daughter

What music do you like?

Have you visited the town?

Where are the shops?

Is there a market?

Thank you for your help.

Zero

Jeden

Dwa

Trzy

Cztery

Piec

szesc

siedem

Osiem

Dziewiec

Dziesiec

Dwadziescia

Trzydziesci

Czterdziesci

Piecdziesiat

Szescdziesiat

Siedemdziesiat

Osiemdziesiat

Dziewiecdziesiat

Sto

Tysiac

Czy jesz mieso

Gdzie Mieszkasz

To jest moja siostra

To jest moj brat

To jest joma matka

To jest moj ojciec

To jest moj syn

To jest moja corka

Jaka muzyke lubiz?

Czy widziales juz miasto?

Gdzie sa sklepy?

Czy jest tam bazar?

Dziakuje za pomoc.

Peace

Pokoj

Hello

Czesc

How are you

Jak sie masz

Goodbye

Do widzenia

Be seeing you

Do zobaczenia

Have a safe journey

Bezpiecznej podrozy

Best wishes to your family.

Pozdrowienia dia twojej rodziny

Do come again

Odwiedz nas znowu

Please

Prosze

Thank you

Dziakuje

That's nothing

Prosze gardzo

Where is the toilet?

Gdzie jest toaleta

Left

Na Lewo

Right

Na prawo

Straight on

Prosto

Behind you

Z toba

Where do I sleep

Gdzie mam spac?

I am vegetarian

Jestem wegetarianinem

Where is the nearest telephone?

Gdzie jest najblizszy telefon

## Country Reports

### Activity report of Servas Pakistan

Following activities were performed by Servas Pakistan during 01-01-2002 till 30-11-2005.

- 01-** The "Servas Orphanage School" was launched at Jalalabad (Afghanistan) in 2002 by Servas Pakistan.
- 02-** In 2003 Servas Pakistan had arranged a Polio vaccination camp in East Karachi to save the young children from Polio. The camp was arranged in a local school where Servas volunteer vaccinated almost 3000 primary students of the 4 schools and other children.
- 03-** A five days free medical camp & a video lecture on Hepatitis was arranged in a village by Servas Pakistan in 2003, under the supervision of Dr. Ashraf Cheema.
- 04-** In 2004, Servas Pakistan also arranged a five days Free Eye Medical Camp in Shahadara Lahore under the supervision of Dr. Riaz Ahmad.
- 05-** Professor Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Sultan, Child Specialist (Head of Department, Department of Pediatrics Post Graduate Medical Institute Services Hospital Lahore) also arranged a two days free Medical Consultancy on behalf of Servas Pakistan.
- 06-** Participation in Islamabad School for Environmental Protection Campaign on behalf of Servas Pakistan.
- 07-** Attended the International seminar on behalf of Servas Pakistan held on 02-12-2003, at Holiday Inn Islamabad, in collaboration with Hanns Seidel Foundation, Munich, Germany.
- 08-** A peace march was arranged by Servas Pakistan on 12-10-2002. The main objective of that march was to reduce the danger of war situation between USA & Iraq. The march was started from PMG office Lower Mall road & ended at Punjab Provincial Assembly, Lahore. We also started signature campaign against war & a copy had been sent to the UN office in Islamabad.
- 09-** Distribution of Punjab board Text books to poor students in more than 35 primary schools of rural Punjab.
- 10-** Five chairs for special people, 20 blankets & many toys donated to "Disable Society of Punjab" by Servas Pakistan.
- 11-** Distribution of dry food, blankets, used cloths, medicines & tents to Afghani war victims in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, who were suffered by American & Allied forces bombing over Afghanistan.
- 12-** During American war on Afghanistan two Servas Pakistan's volunteer doctors performed their duties at "Chaman Medical Camp" in Baluchistan Province for 40 days.
- 13-** Servas Pakistan adopted two Afghani innocent children who lost their parents & all relatives during American war on Afghanistan.
- 14-** With collaboration of Pakistan Junior Scouts many tours were arranged by Servas Pakistan for camp fire & site seeing in Northern Areas of Pakistan.
- 15-** On Servas Pakistan platform a free education school is running at "Parachinar" (tribal areas of Pakistan)
- 16-** Visit to promote Servas in different parts of Pakistan & arranging the Servas seminar, conferences, & lectures in NWFP & Sindh province.
- 17-** Encourage people for traveling & man to man contacts in all over Pakistan & abroad.
- 18-** Servas Pakistan Regional Conference held at the beautiful hall of Asia Model School, Tehkal Payan Peshawar (NWFP) on 16-01-05.

**19-** Servas provincial meeting was held at Peshawar on 10-05-05.

**20-** Servas meeting was held on 15-09-05 at Swat (NWFP)

**21-** Servas Pakistan celebrates grand "kite festival" of Punjab province every year in the month of February.

**22-** Servas Pakistan Polio vaccination campaign in supervision by the Regional coordinator of FATA Mr. Hamid Hassan at Parachinar "FATA" in 2004

**23-** Servas Pakistan tree plantation campaign in supervision by the Regional coordinator of FATA Mr. Hamid Hassan at Parachinar "FATA" in 2004

**24-** Servas Pakistan Regional meeting was held at the residence of Mr. Sohail Akhtar (Regional Coordinator for Sindh Province) on 14-08-05, a large number of Servas members from Sindh, Punjab & observer from Baluchistan attended this meeting.

**25-** Three relief camps of Servas Pakistan are working in Lahore, Peshawar & Parachinar with nine Servas volunteers to collect the donations for the sufferers of earthquake hit areas in NWFP & northern part of Pakistan.

**26-** A team of ten Servas Pakistan doctors, engineers & volunteers is working with Pakistan Army for rescue & rehabilitation of earthquake victims at "Bagh" Azad Kashmir from 22-10-2005.

#### **27- 52nd Anniversary of Servas International.**

Members of Servas Pakistan met at Hotel Holiday Inn, Lahore on 10-10-2001 to celebrate the 52nd anniversary of Servas International.

Chief Guest of the meeting was Malik Muhammad Abdullah Shahid (Deputy Secretary Admin) Labour & Manpower Department, Government of the Punjab, Lahore.

#### **28- 53rd Anniversary of Servas International.**

Servas Pakistan Meeting was held to celebrate the 53<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of Servas International at Hotel Holiday Inn, Lahore on 10-10-2002. The honorable Chief Guest was Professor Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Sultan, Child Specialist Services Hospital Lahore.

#### **29- 54th Anniversary of Servas International.**

Servas Pakistan Meeting was held to celebrate the 54th Anniversary of Servas International at Pearl Continental Hotel, Lahore on 10-10-2003. The honorable Chief Guest was Mian Nisar Anjum, president Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

#### **30- 55th Anniversary of Servas International.**

Servas Pakistan Meeting was held to celebrate the 55th Anniversary of Servas International at Sutlej Hall, Avari Hotel, Lahore on 10-10-2004. The Chief Guest was Mr. Zia Haider Rizvi (Honorary Consulate General for Thailand at Lahore)

#### **31- 56th Anniversary of Servas International.**

Servas Pakistan Meeting was held to celebrate the 56th Anniversary of Servas International at Emerald "C" Hall, Pearl Continental Hotel, Lahore on 10-10-2005. The honorable Chief Guest was Dr. Tariq Mehmood Mian (Secretary General Pakistan Society of Family Physicians)

**32-** Servas Pakistan accommodate 46 Servas travelers from Europe, Asia & America during 01-01-2002 till 30-11-2005.

**33-** Servas Pakistan issued only 29 "LOI" during 01-01-2002 till 30-11-2005.

*Muhammad Naseem, NS Servas Pakistan*

## Comments and eGA

### Servas and United Nations some varying view points

*this follows from Gary Sealey's article in Servas Monthly News, September.*

#### **Against:**

Servas and the United Nations are two different organisations. One is a non-political organisation and the other is a political one consisting of all rich and powerful nations of the world. One promotes peace through people contact, be they rich or poor, throughout the world, while the other tries to bring peace to the Governments of the nations at war through political discussions.

I think Servas should not get involved with the activities of the United Nations. Just because the current Peace Secretary of Servas and his predecessor were able to be represent Servas at UN meetings doesn't mean that Servas members should abide by its decisions.

*S.C. Sundararaj (Malaysia)*

#### **For:**

I think that it is very important that Servas is a part of the United Nations. The United Nations is our best hope for peace in the world. When there was no United Nations or it was ineffective, we ended up with World War I and II. If at least, the countries' leaders (or their representatives) are talking to one another, there is less of a chance of war. If there was no place for all the world leaders to communicate, work things out and be susceptible to world pressure, we would likely head down the path to war again. For example, when US President George Bush took his idea of invading Iraq to the UN, the majority of countries refused to go along with Bush's plan to invade Iraq -- so it is not a UN sanctioned war/invasion

As well, the UN does noble things like working towards eliminating poverty.

The United Nations is our only hope for world peace.

As a Servas member I am very pleased that we are associated with this peace making body.

*Sylvia Krogh*

### **Planning for the eGA**

*The following article was taken from [www.siexco.org](http://www.siexco.org) and shows some of the planning being done for the eGA. It is important that all members of Servas are aware of how their organisation is run. The eGA is a major international meeting which determines the direction of Servas. It is up to members to know what is happening and give their recommendations to their National Secretaries who will represent them at the eGA.*

### **Letter to NS's & AC's regarding Agenda Working Group**

**From SI Exco News**

8th December 2005

We wanted to update you on the Servas Conference Programme EXCO received proposals for more than a hundred items to be included in the agenda for the Servas International Conference being held at Latina (Italy) in April 2006.

There are five main types of sessions:

1. "Formal eGA sessions", where delegates and SI officers may speak, and where decisions are made, by voting on the agenda items.
2. "Associated Working Group sessions", used to prepare for the Formal eGA sessions. These sessions will give you opportunities to clarify issues, help resolve differences, and focus items for final decision by voting during the Formal eGA sessions. Some of these Associated Working Group Sessions may be set up during the eGA and others may begin before the eGA (working by e-mail or teleconference).
3. "Discussion Forums" will provide a place to concentrate on specific subjects. These forums may bring reports or motions to the Formal eGA sessions.
4. "Education and Training Workshops" are intended to build our capacity to work together effectively. They are not intended to result in decisions or voting at Formal eGA sessions.
5. "Social sessions" will also be planned for your enjoyment.

As President I am keen to ensure that all the agenda items submitted receive a fair hearing. Therefore, it is essential that the items are scheduled in a logical and effective way, to make best use of eGA time. Also, as you can see from the summary of agenda recommendations posted on [www.siexco.org](http://www.siexco.org) many proposed agenda items will benefit from preparatory work.

In peace and friendship

*Geoff Maltby, President – Servas International*

# Youth

## What is Youth?

Hello everyone, it's Pablo here.

The definition of "YOUTH" is a big topic. Who is and who isn't? Depends on the age, the spirit or the spot on the family? As always the discussions are interesting and at some point endless. We do not need to define a fixed and rigid concept of YOUTH. We can create an open idea with different positions and different points of view. We are Servas, we are multicultural and we can live with the others differences. I asked a few friends to help me this time. Dear friends. All of them are Servas members and we share some mails to discuss about a

### **SERVAS YOUTH DEFINITION.**

#### **Diane – SINGAPORE –**

Being young...staying young...thinking young!  
The secret is to "Be alive while you are alive!".  
People who are young "by number," meaning by merely consulting documented age, usually appreciate people "in the higher numbers" who listen without criticism and who participate with enthusiasm. Today's youth hope today's elders will share their perspective in a positive and helpful manner. Helping each other. Servas must continue to facilitate opportunities for that to happen. Young people must be encouraged to attend our meetings and be given as much responsibility as possible to participate. Through projects that focus on sharing, helping, making the world a better place, we should be able to maximize the tremendous potential of the "young by number" who are within Servas's reach and encourage them to share their strengths.

The Youth Program has begun on a wonderful step in that direction. It has begun to erase the distinctions between "we and they" which so frequently pose a threat to real communication.

And so it is with Servas....we have tried to give up those distinctions and look at everyone as We. Ojala!

#### **Vipul – INDIA –**

Youth doesn't have specific meaning, but commonly, a youth is defined as being somewhere between age 12 to 25. As Youth is harvested at an early stage of development; it's early time of life, and metaphorically the optimism and innocence thought accompany it. The nature of youthful experience is greatly affected by cultural and economic norms. The passage from youth to adulthood is frequently acknowledged by ritual formalities.

Life construction has just started. As in Earlier stage

of construction should provide all the necessary material to make a stronger base of life. Same as also young people looking for superior material as literacy skills, diversity knowledge, strong base, which is not only enough to get from schools or parents, for that Young people also join International Organizations, which gives diversity, global skills and large-scale awareness.

Servas is a powerful organization in sense of giving worldwide hosts. But to be very frank what we have Youth member in Servas they all are members because their parents are members.

In Servas to attract Youth we should make some new features. 1<sup>st</sup> we need proper guide to students for the Servas vision, Servas goal, International Benefits of Servas, big Learning network.

But for this we need the support of the senior members.

#### **Cassandra – NEW ZEALAND –**

Youth is a state of mind.

It is a mad passion for life, a belief that you can do anything, be anyone, love everyone.

As the years progress and we strike difficult times we often lose sight of our "youthful innocence", our belief that the world is good, that we, as individuals, can really make a difference.

In Servas, youth is who we are. We believe in the goodness of humankind, in the love shared between strangers, in the possibility of a global and enduring peace between men. Regardless of the number of years we have lived we, as Servas people, are youthful people.

Through the Servas YOUTH arm we should encourage a new generation to hold tight to their idealism, passion, spirit and love of mankind, and help those that had once lost it to rediscover the youth inside of them.

Let us love each other like children do – fully, honestly, without fear.

#### **Pablo – ARGENTINA –**

I reserved for me the closing. As you know I work with YOUTH. Actually my currently job is on the design of programs for youth in social risk in my country for the local government. I must say that the YOUTH as concept is massive. But we can define some lines. A young person sees life with a long future to come, sees that the future is absolutely bigger than the past. Also characteristic of the youth is the position in front the new, something new is not something weird, it is something to learn, to discover.

<p>Definiing Youth only by the age is not enough, and we all agree with that. Someone young is some one that still needs to grow up. Still needs to learn. But who does not?</p> <p>It will depend how we measure the youth. That who is not married. That who is still studying. That who is not yet owner of the house where living. That who is still looking for a good job. That who is good looking and attractive. The social landscape show us that is not possible cut out any group and say: This is the youth, depends where and on what we focus.</p> <p>For Servas, as organisation, the youth has a huge potential and a key roll to play. Any Servas traveller is young by definition, we feel young, never mind what the rest say. Work on programs to develop the position of the travellers, hosts and Servas volunteers that are under 30 will give us a new generation of Servas commitments, members and a renovation of our energy.</p>	<p>SERVAS YOUTH is trying to combine and intensify the potential of Servas as a human world wide network with the needs and possibilities that the population under 30 offers to our organisation. The idea that the youth is a poor member of our family that we must help is a mistake. We need each other. Some programs are already on and more will come.</p> <p>Programs develop not only our organisation, buto make a better world for us. That is the Servas goal at the end. Like a kid wants to change the world. Make the difference. Count. We have the chance to do it, we will, as we are so young.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Pablo Chufeni, International Youth Coordinator</i></p>
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