



Servas Monthly News 20

February 2007



What do people want from Servas Monthly News?

I would be interested to know how many people read the Servas Monthly News on the internet each month.

I know that some people must read it because articles are sent to me to go in it.

The aim is to provide a method of communication between a large number of Servas members. I cannot say all because I know that not everybody has access to the internet. The communication is to provide information about what is going on in Servas and to give people a chance to share their experiences. It should also give non-members a chance to get the feel of Servas, the purpose of it and provide an incentive to join.

So after 20 issues I need to know whether people are actually reading it. And secondly whether I am getting the balance right for different items. I am happy to listen to new ideas for what people would like to see. However this also requires people to provide the material for what they would like to see. I depend on people sending me items for me to fit in and so share with others.

email me to let me know that you are reading Servas Monthly News and to let me know what you would like to see in it. newsletter@servas.org

Languages

We have covered 18 languages so far in Servas Monthly News - . Tunisian Arabic, Danish, Dutch, including Flemish, Finnish, French, Polish, Swedish, Spanish, Italian, Hungarian, Jordanian Arabic, Austrian German, Norwegian - Bokmal, Slovak, Hindi, Nynorsk, Uzbek, Armenian. Between us we have many more languages than 18. I would be grateful if people could look at the language page and contribute their language to help us extend our knowledge (I can provide the master copy). And on the personal side I enjoy using the languages in class with my students.

Contact

We welcome articles coming to SI Monthly News. We do not guarantee 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 get deleted before being read.

Need a System/structure for making the translations of SI documents official

I feel that we need the SI Financial Operating Procedures and SI Handbook translated into Spanish and French, these translations must be acknowledged as the true and official version of these documents. Thus I feel that just having a translation is not enough, it needs more eyes and a system of approval/authorization to become an official document.

There needs to be a structure for having official SI documents translated. Can you help develop such a procedure and provide/orient translators on these expectations?

Mary Jane Mikuriya

And more translation requests

We have spent some time translating SI News 2007 into French and Spanish. We are very grateful to all those people who helped with this. Without the generosity of people in donating their time and skills we would not have the French and Spanish editions. However there have been some hiccups and so I would like to apologise that the French edition will be out a bit later than the English and Spanish editions this year.

To help get everything out on time in 2008 I am looking for more translators, willing to offer their expertise and time during December 2007 and the first part of January 2008. The more translators there are the quicker the job gets done. Ideally 24 people each for French and Spanish would mean 1 page each and consequently everything complete during the first week in January. If you would like to help then contact me through newsletter@servas.org

Merci Beaucoup, Muchas Gracias.

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Samarkand on Every Continent:

International Exhibition, Invitation to Contribute

In August 2007, the City of Samarkand will celebrate its 2750th anniversary under the auspices of UNESCO. As part of this renowned place's festivities, the International Museum of Peace and Solidarity and the Samarkand Esperanto Society are assembling an exhibit of Samarkandiana.

We welcome items of all kinds about Samarkand from everywhere in the world. They may include letters, travel accounts, magazine articles, books, brochures, poems, songs, quotations, photographs, drawings, documents, etc. Subjects may include hotels, restaurants, merchants, streets, communities, enterprises, products, publications, arts, and anything carrying the name "Samarkand" or similar.

The exhibit is being undertaken in cooperation with the Samarkand State Museums. Contributions of particular historical or ethnographic interest will be reproduced in documentary articles in the Uzbek press. All contributions will be acknowledged and displayed in the exhibit at the Samarkand State Museum of the History of Culture and Arts of Uzbekistan.

A commemorative book will also be published.

We ask for your cooperation in this effort and thank you in advance for your support.

Please send contributions at your earliest convenience to:

Anatoly Ionesov,
Director
International Museum of Peace and Solidarity
P.O. Box 76
UZ-140100 Samarkand
Republic of Uzbekistan

Telephone/fax: +998 (66) 233 17 53.

Email: imps86@yahoo.com

<http://peace.museum.com>

Reprinting and translation permitted and requested.
Please inform friends and colleagues.

The Samarkand emblem.



The background of the emblem (coat of arms) is formed by the red circle - battle shield, symbol of defence of Samarkand. The red colour means life, dynamism, development. In the centre of the emblem there is a winged snow leopard in the pose of blessing. In the past winged animals were considered as holy ones and as symbols of unity of nature and human being. Below there is a wavy golden line symbolizing a "carrying gold" river - Zeravshan. In the upper part of the emblem there is a turquoise seven-pointed star, adored in the East as a sign of perfection, symbol of unity of science, arts and architecture, which is harmonizing with the past, present and future of the town.

This very emblem of the City of Samarkand has been officially used since 1994. It was designed by a well known Samarkand artist Grigory Ulko. His version of the emblem was selected as the best and most appropriate one after a special competition.

Linkages!

We have talked about linking with other associations with similar, justice seeking purposes.

Would it be useful to form a small Servas working group to encourage and guide such linkages?

Here is one such group:

<http://www.friendswithoutborders.org/index.html>

We could show the links somewhere on the webpage and encourage reciprocal links and also do some Google Banners.

We could also encourage members of the other groups to follow the Servas Interview process and make use of the Servas system.

Gary Sealey

Meetings, Get together, Seeing each other

Get together in London

The 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.

Youth and Family Week, 2007

Dalesbridge, Yorkshire, UK

Sun 29 July - Sat 04 Aug

See page 10 and 11 for detail

Contact: dasher1949@aol.com

Southern Africa

Area Meeting

This will be held in Livingstone, Zambia August 2007.

EUROPE

A good reason for all Servas travellers to visit...

Luxembourg and the Greater Region: European Capital of Culture 2007

Get ready for plenty of enriching experiences, discover new horizons and find out more about the Servas hosts in the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg and the Greater Region (parts of Belgium, France and Germany)

Couldn't the two objectives of the Capital of Culture 2007 "Reaching beyond borders" and "Daring to take on the unexpected" be Servas objectives? Also the themes of the city match very well with Servas "Discovering Yourself - Discovering Others" and "Europe of the Future" at least when you replace it by "Servas of the Future" ... A good topic for a discussion!

The project reaches even Romania as there is a partnership with the Romanian city **Sibiu**, also European Capital of Culture 2007

More than 300 hosts of Servas Belgium & Luxemburg are expecting you in 2007!

With warm Servas regards,

Rita Dessauvage

NS Belgium & Luxemburg

belgium@servas.org luxemburg@servas.org

Visit <http://www.luxembourg2007.org>

<http://www.sibiu2007.ro>

A Schedule for the 2007 FEA Meeting

We would like to hold our 4th FEA Meeting in April this year with a purpose of reconfirming our philosophy of peace-building and friendship through exchanging our ideas and experiences.

- 1) Date Saturday, April 7 and Sunday, April 8, 2007
- 2) Place Arirang Hotel, Pusan, Korea
- 3) Schedule see <http://www.servas.or.kr>

4th Annual Youth Assembly at the U.N.

August 12-15, 2007

Post Assembly Leadership Training Seminar August 16-20, 2007

- Get involved with U.N. issues & Global NGOs
- Make a difference in YOUR lifetime and ... Prepare for a Great Experience in New York City
- Networking and Career Opportunities
- Great Speakers, Engaging Workshops
- All events at the United Nations are FREE
- Special Post-Assembly Leadership Training Seminar: Transforming Information Into Action

BE THE CHANGE!

~ Website Launch and Applications Accepted from February 10, 2007, at the web address below

Special Youth Achievement Awards: Your school, community, religious or civic organization can nominate you for SPECIAL RECOGNITION for Humanitarian deeds in 2006-07

Special for 2007: Join the U. C. Peace Festival! Performance Groups interested in Cultural Diplomacy and Peace through the Arts are invited to join us for a day, or two, the entire week, or more!

Email us for accommodation costs; Groups welcome: Perform or attend with your mates!

email: yaapplications@faf.org

web: http://www.faf.org/hl_youthassembly.htm

Languages

<p>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.</p> <p>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 have the English translation of them.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Our 18 th language is Armenian</p>		<p>Zero</p> <p>One</p> <p>Two</p> <p>Three</p> <p>Four</p> <p>Five</p> <p>Six</p> <p>Seven</p> <p>Eight</p> <p>Nine</p> <p>Ten</p> <p>Twenty</p> <p>Thirty</p> <p>Forty</p> <p>Fifty</p> <p>Sixty</p> <p>Seventy</p> <p>Eighty</p> <p>Ninety</p> <p>Hundred</p> <p>Thousand</p> <p>Do you eat meat?</p> <p>Where do you live?</p> <p>This is my sister</p> <p>This is my brother</p> <p>This is my mother</p> <p>This is my father</p> <p>This is my son</p> <p>This is my daughter</p> <p>What music do you like?</p> <p>Have you visited the town?</p> <p>Where are the shops?</p> <p>Is there a market?</p> <p>Thank you for your help.</p>	<p><i>Zero</i></p> <p><i>Mek</i></p> <p><i>Erkou</i></p> <p><i>Ereq</i></p> <p><i>Chors</i></p> <p><i>Hing</i></p> <p><i>Vets</i></p> <p><i>Yot</i></p> <p><i>Out</i></p> <p><i>Inne</i></p> <p><i>Tas</i></p> <p><i>Qesan</i></p> <p><i>Yeresoun</i></p> <p><i>Qarasoun</i></p> <p><i>Hisoun</i></p> <p><i>Vatsoun</i></p> <p><i>Yotanasoun</i></p> <p><i>Outsoun</i></p> <p><i>Inesoun</i></p> <p><i>Haryour</i></p> <p><i>Hazar</i></p> <p><i>Du mis utum es?</i></p> <p><i>Vortegh es aprum?</i></p> <p><i>Na im qouyrn e</i></p> <p><i>Na im eghpayrn e</i></p> <p><i>Na im mayrn (mama) e</i></p> <p><i>Na im hayrn (papa) e</i></p> <p><i>Na im degghan e</i></p> <p><i>Na im aghchikn e</i></p> <p><i>Inchpisi erajshtutyun es sirum</i></p> <p><i>Qaghaqe ayceletsir?</i></p> <p><i>Vortegh en khanutnere?</i></p> <p><i>Ayntegh shukan e?</i></p> <p><i>Shnorhakal em ognutyun hamar</i></p>
<p>Peace</p> <p>Hello</p> <p>How are you</p> <p>Goodbye</p> <p>Be seeing you</p> <p>Have a safe journey</p> <p>Best wishes to your family.</p> <p>Do come again</p> <p>Please</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>That's nothing</p> <p>Where is the toilet?</p> <p>Left</p> <p>Right</p> <p>Straight on</p> <p>Behind you</p> <p>Where do I sleep</p> <p>I am vegetarian</p> <p>Where is the nearest telephone?</p>	<p><i>khaghaghutyun</i></p> <p><i>barev</i></p> <p><i>inchpes es</i></p> <p><i>hajoghutyun</i></p> <p><i>minch nor handipum</i></p> <p><i>ankhapan jamportutyun</i></p> <p><i>lini</i></p> <p><i>lavaguyn maghtanqnere qo entanikin</i></p> <p><i>norits hametsek</i></p> <p><i>khendrem</i></p> <p><i>shnorhakalutyun, or merci</i></p> <p><i>Sa vochinch e</i></p> <p><i>zuqarane vortegh e?</i></p> <p><i>tsakh</i></p> <p><i>ach</i></p> <p><i>oughigh</i></p> <p><i>qo hetevum</i></p> <p><i>yes vortegh em qnelu</i></p> <p><i>yes busaker em</i></p> <p><i>vortegh e gtnvum amena mot herakhose?</i></p>		

Host and Travel Reports

Israel and Turkey - part 6

In the January issue the 12 travellers from India visited Jerusalem with a Servas meeting in the evening. They now move on to Turkey.

As in every issue space precludes being able to include the whole of this descriptive report. Those wishing to read the full report should contact the editor - see email address on p1.

Istanbul

Next day on 6th June 06 early morning at 6.a.m. we left Jerusalem for Istanbul. Though, the flight was at 10.40 a.m. we had to reach to the Airport 3 hours before the flight. There was heavy check up at the Airport. Turkey-Istanbul, we reached at 1.p.m. Nobody was there at the airport so we were worried. After 15 minutes Jale Sercan (National Secretary) sister came to receive us. She showed us the bus from Airport to Business area Taxim and we reached there at 3.00 p.m. Everybody was hungry and therefore went for food to Afghan Restaurant. Jale and her friend Alliet had lunch and then they were smoking cigarettes. Yet there was enough time so we went for a coffee shop. Then we went to the corner of Taxism where we decided to meet. It was 7.00 p.m. It was not yet dark, we were waiting for Sercan. He came and explained every host and the guest where to go. We got separated and went to Omer to see the newborn baby. Sercan came with us to Omer's house. I opened the bag and gave the embroider border, earring and Bindi to Everind, the mother of the child. We climbed 64 steps with the luggage and again came back. Then Mr. Sercan left me at my host's home. The home of my host Mr. and Mrs. Sirin Murat was neat and clean. They had dinner outside so they asked me if they should prepare anything I said, 'No' and took out my food- golpapadi and Khakhara and ate as well as offered to the host.

Next day on 7th June, we had a tour from nearer to our place i.e. Bostanci, because I waited for Azone we were late in reaching the place. The ship had left for the Island at 10.30, so we waited until 12.00 noon. We reached Princess Island at 1p.m. There were Tangas with two horses to take us round the Island. There were beautiful bungalows and beautiful flowers like we see in Kashmir. The other group went in search for food so myself and Azone waited at the sea shore. They turned up at 3.30 p.m. Though Dr. Ramesh Sharma was not found so we thought that he must have left early and went to Bostanci. After reaching there with the group I went to the Market. It was a good weekly cheap market. hence we spent nearly two hours. Azone left for home. I had no map with me hence it took much time inquiring with the people. It was 8 p.m. my host invited me for dinner. It was rice and salad which I could eat. Mr. Murat asked me- "Since when did you leave meat" I said, "Since birth", they were surprised. I was tired wandering here and there, after talking for while, I went to sleep.

To be continued next month

Dr Geeta Mehta, India

"Mission on Mars" Poles in Florida

(An extract from a 19 page travel report)

On the next day we set off for Disneyland, or more precisely for Epcot Center.

We were standing in front of a turnpike tollbooth about 20 miles away from Susan's house when we heard a strange sound from underneath our car. First we thought we had driven over something, but a moment later we heard a rasp of the engine and then something fell to the asphalt with a metallic noise. Our car refused to work. Not knowing what to do, we called our new Servas friends. Not only did both of them turn up, but they also came in two cars, so that we could use one of them to continue our trip. They did it because they came to the conclusion that "after all, we shouldn't waste a single day of our vacation". Wonderful, warm-hearted people. We waited together for the hauler to come and take the car, which took about an hour. As a result, it was only at 2PM that we arrived in Epcot Center – a Disneyland for a bit older children, just like us.

Epcot is a place where science rules. One of them was a display of the development of civilization. We "traveled in time" in little wagons to see e.g. the development from papyrus to the Internet. A novelty was a Space Mission to Mars, which required us to wait quite a long time, but it was worth it. Incredible impressions! Four people get into a cabin, fasten their seatbelts and the ride begins. Everyone had a screen and a lot of buttons in front of them, just like in a spaceship. At one moment, the seats moved into a lying position and the countdown started. Although the overload at the start wasn't as strong as in reality, we still felt the blood flowing out of our bodies and our cheeks moving apart. Then the "flight" became more stable. We observed the whole "journey" on monitors. The crew had to cooperate and everyone had their duties: Betty, was a mechanic. At a command, she was supposed to let the air out of the appropriate chamber of the shuttle or to make some necessary repairs. I was the captain and I also had to perform some activities. "Landing" on Mars wasn't simple. Turbulence, rotations and this kind of things... Eventually we "landed" on the edge of a giant precipice. We were a moment away from a terrible tragedy. But, predictably, there was a happy ending to our journey! After leaving the machine Beata felt a bit sick and slightly dizzy – so I guess she won't be an astronaut.

It was impossible to see everything in one day. The whole Disneyland complex is almost as big as half of Warsaw. In Epcot one can also see miniaturized countries, such as: Mexico, Norway, China, Germany, Italy, the USA, Japan, Morocco (where we had a delicious lunch), France, England and Canada. So, Epcot is a place where you can have great experiences and learn about the world, history, and civilization as well as about cultures of different nations.

It was about 11PM when we got to our hosts' house. We had gotten lost again. Once again we took the wrong direction, but finally managed to get home safely.

Ted Karolak, Poland

Country Reports

Report of AC, FEA, 2006

Hello, this is Masahiro Nishiyama, AC, FEA. Let me send you a report of the activities of FEA countries last year.

1) **Korea** has 290 members now, though we lost about 200 members last year. They held EXCO meeting four times. On the other hand there were 48 regional meetings all over the country. Sevas Korea sent 26 members abroad and accepted 45 inbound travellers.

At the national conference in November they discussed such subjects as hosting and traveling, revising the homepage, and holding the 4th FEA meeting as well as electing the new National Secretary. Mr. Kim Jong Soo was nominated as one. They also discussed carrying out the 2010 Servas Korea Eurasian Continent Land Expedition! The Seoul to London expedition will be held on March 1 to be finished on August 31, joined by as many as 27 members.

2) **China** has now 15 members, while they had 3 members come in and 3 out. Actually they didn't have a national meeting last year, though six members met in Guangzhou to discuss the possibility of holding a national conference in the near future as well as recruiting more new members in big cities like Beijing and Shanghai. They are keenly interested in holding one this year. Servas China saw 3 members experience outbound traveling and accepted over 10 groups from abroad. The problem for Servas China is a shortage of reliable members and frequent changes of the host list. As a result it is very difficult for them to hold a national conference, though they are looking forward to it some day. Dr. Chnagxian Yi, NS, is looking for a helper to assist him in answering a lot of questions by e-mails.

3) Servas **Hong Kong** has 24 members now. Last year they had 3 new members and lost 1. They are planning to hold a national meeting in March this year.

4) **Taiwan** has 45 members and 33 of them are new. Last April they held a national meeting in Taipei, joined by 7 members. On the other hand last November 14 members assembled in Taipei to welcome a couple of travelers from Australia. They sometimes have such a friendly meeting when some inbound travelers visit Taiwan. Servas Taiwan will hold a national meeting in the end of February this year.

5) Servas **Japan** has 313 members right now. They had 35 new members and lost 31 last year. As many as 56 members went abroad and 231 members came to Japan. Last year in March they held a national meeting to discuss a lot of subjects. such as how to recruit new members and to revise the homepage of Servas Japan. Regarding the latter problem they established an IT team composed of 4 members good at computer handling. Thanks to their effort, their homepage was improved a lot.

As AC, FEA, I contacted not only the key persons of our area but also some of the EXCO members in discussing

our coming area meeting in March this year. Thanks to the great help from Mary Jane Mikuriya, Vice President, and Mr. Kim Jong Soo, the new NS for Korea as well as Mr. Eum Jay Ryang, the former NS. In order to discuss it more in detail I went to see the two Korean key persons in the beginning of last December. On the other hand I asked NSs of China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan to tell me their opinion concerning the 4th FEA meeting, to which they gave me their hearty consent about the date, place, and the topics to be discussed.

I am thinking of establishing Servas Mongolia again, though I failed in it several years ago. A few acquaintances from Mongolia are living in my area, and I'm thinking of discussing the matter with them in the near future.

Thank you very much for your co-operation.

Masahiro Nishiyama, AC, FEA

Commitment by Honduras

Reauel and David are very committed to Servas. Not only are they active but also their 21 year old daughter Sharon who was elected the Central American Youth Area Co-ordinator. The Espinoza family rode a bus 14 hours *each way* to attend the conference. It is these face to face meetings that bring energy and commitment back into Servas

Mary Jane Mikuriya, USA

Travellers Blog their Servas travels

More people in Servas are Blogging.

Traveler to Taiwan:

http://ca.blog.360.yahoo.com/blog-jfw1BuA8er9CiSaqCnNC_14LD0hs?p=719

Also:

<http://sil83152.spaces.live.com/Blog/cns!F3DFB55540FF14C0!1162.entry>

Round the World:

<http://jennybeanjourneys.blogspot.com/2007/02/teekkur-ederim.html>

USA:

<http://www.omidyar.net/group/community-general/news/1661/>

Italy comment on Couchsurfing profiles:

http://www.gnuband.org/2005/02/09/my_first_couchsurfing_host/

Can you share this way?.....

UN and Peace

Youth are increasingly active at the United Nations.

Here is a brief list for first months of 2007:

UN Youth events

- 1-4 February 2007: [UNEP Global Youth Retreat at Governing Council](#)
Email: children.youth@unep.org.
- 7-16 February 2007 - [45th Session of the Commission for Social Development](#)
- 26 February-9 March 2007: [Commission on the Status of Women](#)
- 8 March 2007: [International Women's Day](#)
- 30 April-11 May 2007: [Commission on Sustainable Development, 15th Session](#)

Other youth events

- 12-14 April 2007: [Water and Youth first international meeting](#)
- 20-22 April 2007: [Eighth Annual Global Youth Service Day](#)
- First regional [Convention on the Rights of Youth](#) (In Spanish)

More details are available at:

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/news.htm>

Are there any who would like to serve Servas by monitoring Youth activities for 2007 at the UN?

Peace and Freedom

Dear Servas Colleagues,

The most widely spoken two words in the world today are Peace and Freedom. Yet how many of the people are enjoying this. In trying to achieve peace or freedom what are the barriers that come in between. Although we Servas are more concerned about traveling we should not forget that it is also to understand and move with them. To move with people and try to understand these people we should get close to them.

In trying to promote peace and harmony let us develop and help the people who are affected and assist them to relieve with their pains and hatred at least to some extent. Unemployment, poverty, Social abuse are some of the root causes for development of hatred and jealousy which leads to unrest and other Social disharmony. I suggest that some effort must be made to harness this black spot. In trying to achieve this we could raise money for Servas for establishing Peace Promoting Projects by contributing (One US\$) from each Servas Host into a fund which will be handled by Servas International. I am only proposing to make it a reality. Servas Turkey has already established their Peace Force which is a good sign. Please let me know your response.

Thanks, In Peace, Nandee

Nandasena Amarasinghe, Peace Secretary – SI

Servas Ambassadors Appointed

Servas International has named the following Servas Ambassadors as our 2007 Servas Observers to the UN. Servas is among 3,000 justice-seeking groups recognized by the Economic and Social Council of the UN (ECOSOC). We work behind the scenes with the Council of Non-Government Organizations in Consultative Status at the UN (CONGO) to advance matters through the UN, for justice for all.

The UN is present at hundreds of places all around the world, and thousands of doors of the UN are open to informed Servas volunteers to observe the workings and negotiations of the UN or by Internet at home.

The largest UN facilities are at New York, Geneva and Vienna. Our Observers at the UN there:

- NYC -Gary Sealey of Servas Canada and Mary Jane Mikuriya of Servas USA;
- Geneva - Catherine Burer Lehman and Hilda Burer of Servas Switzerland;
- Vienna - Angelika Hofman and Hans and Anna Elizabeth Steiner all of Servas Austria

Our newest UN appointment is Solomon Maereg, Servas Ethiopia Country Organizer and Servas Observer for the UN Economic Commission for Africa. If you are interested in becoming a UN Observer, please write to President@servas.org

Servas travelers can learn about the UN by visiting any UN site or UN Info Centre during your vacation travel or by armchair travel on the Internet featuring the UN and its reformers. Each week the UN briefs accredited NGO volunteers. Geneva hosts a free 3-week course in July and each September, UN NY hosts discussions with thousands of NGO volunteers. Your own observations and input to Servas dialogue on Peace are also welcomed by SI News editor Jane Giffould and SI Peace Secretary, Nandasena Amarasinghe "Nandee".

Hilda Burer, host in Geneva/Switzerland, member of Working Group(Committee) of 5 members of Servas Switzerland, representative (beside de main representative)of Servas International at United Nations Organisation Geneva, especially present at Human Rights Council.

From *Lynne Murguia* former active Servas UN Rep in New York City

Lynne's RECOMMENDED WEBSITES:

- Transforming the planet - one leader at a time
<http://www.global-leadership.com/>
- Spiritual foundation of the United Nations
www.aquaac.org

EXCO Update

Servas will launch a **new website** by end-March. It will be easier to update. We collected advice from a cross section of Servas people. If you would like to see it in advance, please let us know.

Pramod is preparing for the **Distant Vote** and has written and called many national secretaries.

External and internal auditors have been very busy, preparing their materials in advance of Distant Vote.

Mary Jane is traveling to **meetings of Servas Korea** which has a new, big membership of hosts and travelers. She will bring her experience on interviewing and other operations to them. Nandee will attend, too, to put emphasis on **Peace** in Servas.

Many member groups are sending their **annual reports to Host List Coordinator** Anna and also the General Secretary, Pramod. (These reports are required by Statute.)

Omer met with computer wizard and **Dolphin inventor** Claudio – and they also met with Anna and Mario. Much excitement due to the new system. Want to see it? Contact us, please!

A new **Servas Seminar** is under development. A pilot-test is being done first week of March. It will help individuals learn about themselves, meet and engage with others and assist the community.

Servas has appointed **Observers** to all major points of presence of the **UN**, the newest being the Economic Commission for Africa, in Addis Ababa. Servas Observers assist other justice-seeking groups advance global governance through the UN, doing good for other people. We also encourage people who want to make the UN a stop in their travels. Please let us know.

EXCO will be meeting face-to-face at end of April, on the Distant Vote :Preparations, the Budget and other items. If you have an item which you wish to advance to our agenda, please send it to us.

Gary Sealey

Ethics and Best Practices in Servas

The UN says that since the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Cold War, democracy is spreading with globalization. People have new expectations of their leaders. The lives of billions have changed. The explosion of new information and technology is pushing ideas and examples across the world. Many people are now demanding transparency, ethics based on human values. They expect accountability by leaders. People look for mistakes as well as success, and they scorn leaders who do not lead well.

At the same time, new walls are rising to divide peoples. And there are new physical as well as policy challenges. Billions of people are starting to feel the effects of climate change accelerated by two hundred years of Industrial Revolution, mainly in the North and spreading to new growth centres in the South. We and all Nature are all going to have to adapt to these changes, and to learn from each others. We need good leadership.

Even in Servas we hear complaints about mistakes in leadership and gaps in democracy. These mistakes interfere with our Servas job of building linkages of friendships and understanding towards global Peace.

How can we study how we deal with each other at home, with guests and in groups -- and in Servas? Perhaps it is time for an "Ethics and Best Practices in Servas Working Group"? Can we learn from our mistakes and from the examples of others. Can we improve our gifts to a needful world seeking trust and quality relations.

These sites might help you think through these issues.

Best Practices in Civil Society

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/civsoc/weblinks.html>

UN and Ethics

<http://www.unpan.org/dpepa-gpab-ethics.asp>

Rights and Democracy

<http://www.dd-rd.ca/site/home/index.php?lang=en>

Local Democracy Code of Conduct, Elections

http://www.westwiltshire.gov.uk/index/council/democratic_processes_and_events.htm

Please send your comments about this to Servas Monthly News. newsletter@servas.org

Costa Rica Conference, Youth



Dear all:

After a lot of effort and commitment the Central America conference is now another achievement that we have done.

With delegates from Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, and with 50% of the people there being under 30, we can say that the meeting was successful in representation of the region and the youth. Added to this the conference has done all that was planned to be done, we can confirm the complete success.

With the help of the local team, with Carmen Mora Mora, their National Secretary, leading them, and the Vice President, Mary Jane Mikuriya, the process of organizing this event was possible. The region was very pleased to be part, and only one person presented concerns to EXCO, that were solved by a complete report of six files that were presented.

The youth group, with an exclusive and a shared agenda, was crucial at the meetings and sessions. They had a very good perspective in the Servas life of the region.

My personal thanks to all that have helped me in this process, to all that have trusted me again and to those that feel Servas as I do

Pablo Chufeni, Servas International Youth Coordinator

Conference evaluations:

Lineth Lopez de Cano – (NS Panama)



The organization was excellent. About the outcome I must say that all the goals were achieved, and all the members got a bigger knowledge about the action plan to follow and a deeper motivation to do it.

Was my first time at one event of this level, and with such an agenda. I realize the serious kind of organization Servas is, and that we have a huge commitment with it.

I want to congratulate Pablo and the Costa Rica team that made this project come true.

Carmen Mora Mora – (NS Costa Rica)



The local group gave the best as possible and with Pablo's dynamism and energy the project became real.

The best outcome is the union that we lived. The youth participation was crucial. This approach of the youth will help them and us to have a better Servas, they are the future of Servas.

The election of the AC was an important goal to. If after the recommendations of this meetings Guatemala will celebrate democratic elections will be a step forward to that country and the region.

I'm proud that this event was held in Costa Rica. The deepest "thanks" to Pablo and to the whole group for an unforgettable week.

David Espinoza – (NS Honduras)

The conference in Costa Rica was well organized and was efficient. We did meet each others, we included the rich element of the Youth and we have chosen an AC to help us to achieve our common objectives.



About my self, I came back with more enthusiasm to improve the outreach of Servas in Honduras and to start a new group in El Salvador.

Flor Denis – (Youth Panama)

The organization was good. We did all that was planned to be done, excellent.

My personal experience was great, I've learned a lot about Servas, inspired me so much, and now I have plenty of desire to do things for the organization. I found myself close to the other young there and discover that it is not only to me that this kind of things do care.



Sharon Espinoza – (Youth Honduras)

The organization was very good. Being the first meeting, and with knowing us each other everything worked perfectly.



We achieved a deeper union and learning experience as a region. Now we are motivated to increase our commitment in Servas, and especially in Servas Youth.

As a person, I can say that now I have new friends, and the bad thing is that now, I miss everyone so much!! Is good to know that the next meeting it's not so far away.

Youth

SYLE, Spanish, Latin America

This year there are several spots to offer a SYLE in Spanish in Latin America. Invitations have been sent to a lot of NS but as yet all the travellers did it by Pablo's own connections with the youth.

For more details go to the website:

www.servasyouth.org or write directly to Pablo

Pablo Chufeni.

Servas International Youth Coordinator.

Rosario - Argentina.

(+54) 341 4828100. www.servasyouth.org

OTHER YOUTH

AFRICATIP

<http://www.africatip.org>

AGETIPE/Senegal

ASEAN Secretariat

<http://www.aseansec.org/>

Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI)

<http://www.avsi-usa.org/>

Association Planète des Jeunes

<http://www.planete-jeunes.org>

Development Gateway

<http://www.developmentgateway.org/>

Dräger Foundation Munich/Lübeck

<http://www.draegerstiftung.de/>

The Forum for Young Global Leaders

<http://www.younggloballeaders.org>

German Society for Technical Cooperation

<http://www.gtz.de/en>

ImagineNations Group

<http://www.imagenations.org>

International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF)

<http://www.iblf.org>

International Center of Research for Women (ICRW)

<http://www.icrw.org/>

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

<http://www.iccwbo.org/>

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)

<http://www.icftu.org/>

International Cooperative Alliance

<http://www.coop.org/>

International Organisation of Employers (IOE)

<http://www.ioe-emp.org/>

International Vocational Education and Training Association (IVETA)

<http://www.iveta.org/>

International Youth Foundation (IYF)

<http://www.iyfnet.org/>

International Youth Parliament (IYP)

<http://www.iyp.oxfam.org/>

Junior Chamber of Commerce

l'Emploi des Jeunes (Mali)

Manpower

<http://www.manpower.com/>

People-to-People Exchange: Asia-Europe Foundation

<http://www.asef.org/>

Phillipine Resources for Sustainable Development

<http://pcsd.neda.gov.ph/pcsd.htm>

Rotary Clubs International

<http://www.rotary.org/>

Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship

<http://www.schwabfound.org/>

YOUTH AND RELATED GROUPS

International Youth Parliament

<http://www.iyp.oxfam.org/>

Global Youth Forum

<http://www.glocalyouth.org/>

Global Youth Action Network (GYAN)

<http://www.youthlink.org/>

International Cooperative Alliance Youth Network

<http://www.icayouth.coop/>

African Youth Network (AYN/RAJ)

<http://www.ayn.kabissa.org/>

AIESEC International

<http://www.aiesec.org/>

All-Africa Students Union (AASU)

Arab Youth Union (AYU)

<http://arabyouthunion.org>

Asian Students Association

Asian Youth Council (AYC)

Caribbean Federation of Youth (CFY)

<http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/1667>

European Youth Forum (YFJ)

<http://www.youthforum.org/>

General Union of Arab Students (GUAS)

ICFTU Youth

<http://www.icftu.org/>

International Union of Students (IUS)

<http://www.stud.uni-hannover.de/gruppen/ius/>

IOE Youth

<http://www.ioe-emp.org>

Latin American Youth Forum (FLAJ)

<http://www.flaj.org/>

Pacific Youth Council (PYC)

http://www.spc.int/youth/pyc/pacific_youth_council.htm

Pan-African Youth Movement (MPJ)

<http://www.panafricanmovement.org/>

Mouvement International des Etudiants Catholiques (MIEC)

<http://www.jeci-miec.org/>

Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

The National Unions of Students in Europe (ESIB)

<http://www.esib.org/>

European Students' Forum (AEGEE)

<http://www.aegee.org/>

International Federation of Medical Students' Assocs (IFMSA)

<http://www.ifmsa.org/>

Organisation of Latin American Students (OCLAE)

International Young Catholic Students (IYCS)

<http://www.iycs-jeci.org/>

International Young Democrat Union (IYDU)

<http://www.iydu.org/>

International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY)

<http://www.iflry.org/>

International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY)

<http://www.iusy.org/>

Balkan Children and Youth Foundation, Macedonia

<http://www.balkanyouth.org/>

All-China Youth Federation, China

<http://www.acyf.org.cn/english.htm>

National Youth Council, Azerbaijan (NAYORA)

<http://www.nayora.az/>

National Youth Council of Namibia

<http://www.youthcouncil-namibia.org/>

Malaysian Youth Council

<http://www.belia.org.my/>

The National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations (LSU)

<http://www.youthinteraction.net>

Finnish National Youth Council (ALLANSI)

Youth for Sustainable Development Assembly, The Philippines

<http://www.ysda.org/>

Youth and Family Event, Dalesbridge, 28 July - 4 Aug

SERVAS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH AND FAMILY EVENT

We are now able to take bookings for the event.

For a booking form please contact :

Ann Greenhough (dasher1949@aol.com)

See attached publicity which we have previously circulated about the event. - (Monthly News Oct/Nov)

Accommodation:

The cost per person for the event will be dependant on the type of accommodation.

We have 48 beds in dormitory style bunkhouses and a limited number of places in more comfortable Bed and Breakfast type accommodation. The least expensive option is camping if you have your own equipment. We will have our own camping area next to the main building which has space for up to 75 people if needed.

Catering:

Everyone will take the evening meal together. This will be provided by the Centre.

For those in the bunkhouses and the main house food will be provided daily to prepare breakfast together in small groups.

Campers will be self catering for breakfast and lunch although some may want full board at extra cost.

Reductions for Young People and Families with Teenagers and Children

We are able to provide a number of places for young people and families with children at 50% of the full cost. Unfortunately we do not have sufficient funds to provide places at no cost at all.

Please let us know if you are a young person who is keen to come but find the costs too high. We will have a small number of tents available for those without their own equipment.

Costs:

Bunkhouse accommodation (4 or 6 bed ensuite cabins with small kitchen area)

£150 per person – 7nights full board

Young person up to 30 - £75 per person full board

Limited Bed and Breakfast accommodation

Cost dependant on the room. Please ask.

Single, double and triple rooms available (some ensuite). In the region of £200 per person for 7nights full board.

Camping

£85 per person including 7 nights evening meals

Young person up to 30 – in the region of £50 including evening meals.

(Final cost dependant on numbers, Please ask.)

Pitches available for tent, campervan or caravan

Full use of main buildings and outdoor marquee.

Family camping groups:

£250 per family of 4 (2 under 10) with evening meals

£300 per family of 4 (2 over 10) with evening meals

For other combinations please ask.

Breakfast and Lunch can be provided for campers at extra cost.

Nearby accommodation

You may want to take part in the event but prefer to arrange your own accommodation. Bed and Breakfast and self catering cottages are available in the nearby village of Austwick which is in walking distance of the Dalesbridge Centre.

Costs will be higher than at the Centre – an average cost for Bed and Breakfast in the area is around £26 per person per night. Self –catering cottages are all available but can be quite expensive in high season.

This might be a suitable option for a larger party from one family or National group. Evening meals with the Servas group would be available at the Centre.

Please ask for details of contacts in the area. We would make a small daily charge per person for use of the group facilities available at the event.

Facilities and Activities at the Centre

We will have use of a number of rooms of all sizes throughout the week and our own outdoor space with small marquee next to the camping area and main house. There will be other campers on the site which has a reception area, internet access and a bar open most nights. Austwick is a small village a few minutes walk away with its own pub, Settle is the nearest town with shops and banks.

Any questions?

Please ask.

Full details:

For full details about the weekend see Servas Monthly News, September 2006, October 2006 and November 2006, in the Youth section.



Youth Travel Award

SERVAS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH TRAVEL AWARD 2007 INFORMATION FOR NATIONAL GROUPS

Please circulate the following information within your National Group and encourage young people who fit the criteria to consider applying for the Award.

Using a host donation of \$1000 the Youth Travel Award will be offered for the first time in 2007 to enable a young person to attend the next international youth event in Britain in July.

This will be something of an experiment to test the viability of the Award as we work at developing a fair and open selection process. Unfortunately we only have sufficient funds to offer one Award on this occasion.

In time we hope to build up a fund from donations from both individual members and National Groups and so be able to offer the Award on an annual basis.

Management of the Award:

This is to be the responsibility of a Servas Youth working group in conjunction with the Development Fund Committee. Ann Greenhough, Vibeke Matorp, Dianne Peterson and Abhay Shaha developed the selection process whilst in Latina. We are looking for a further member to join the group to consider the applications and allocate the Award in 2007.

Focus of the Award:

The aim is to offer sufficient resources for a young person to participate in an international Servas event combined with a programme, ideally over a few weeks, in the country or region where the event is taking place. Although the emphasis will be on offering Servas hospitality to the young person some additional financial resources of their own will be needed for their stay.

In a small way we would hope that the Award will reflect something of the spirit of the early days in Servas where emphasis was on 'work study, travel'.

Through taking part in an international event the young person will have chance to meet with other young Servas travellers and contribute ideas about how Youth in Servas should develop in the future. We hope that Servas hosts will be able to open up a wealth of potential opportunities for a young person to experience and appreciate daily life within the families and communities they visit.

For 2007:

We hope the young person receiving the Award will be able to visit Britain for at least a month if commitments at home allow. This would include the Youth event between 28th July and 4th August and the few days get-together in Manchester beforehand.

Building on the Youth Language Exchange we will involve Servas hosts in providing opportunities for the young person to extend their English language skills.

If they have a particular work or study interest we will try to offer some suitable short-term unpaid work experience through a Servas host. There will also be an expectation that the young person will be open to getting involved in some sort of voluntary work, may be as part of a youth camp in a social or environmental project.

Last but not least we will be available to offer support and advice so they can enjoy exploring Britain as a Servas traveller.

For the future:

The Travel Award, alongside other initiatives such as the Servas Youth Language Exchange, will be part of demonstrating that Servas can offer 'added value' to young people, not so easily found in the increasing number of internet-based hosting networks. The philosophy on which Servas is based can be of real relevance to young people looking to make travelling an in-depth experience and keen to make a contribution to a more peaceful world. As a next step we would like to develop a system open to all young people whereby unpaid work experience opportunities offered by hosts can be matched with interested young travellers.

Timetable for the Award:

The closing date for applications will be February 28th 2007. We anticipate that applications will be made by email. The working group will then consider the applications and, dependant on numbers, may either immediately make a final decision or shortlist a small number of young people for a second stage. If that is the case those young people will be contacted about what happens next. It is intended to make a final decision as soon as possible to allow time to make travel arrangements and get visas if needed.

We ask the National Secretary or someone from the National Group provides a letter of support for a young person making an application including confirming their membership of Servas. It would be helpful if this could be provided by the closing date but applications will initially be accepted without it. More than one application from each country can be considered.

Eligibility for Youth Travel Award:

In order for a young person's application to be accepted they should:

1. Be a member of Servas as a traveller, as a host or as part of a host family.
2. Be aged 18-30 at time of travel.
3. Have been a member of Servas for at least one year at time of application.
4. Provide a letter of recommendation from their National Secretary or other member of the National Group.
5. Declare if related to any Servas officer in either their national group or SI. This will not exclude an applicant from being fully considered.
6. Provide full and accurate information in their application form.
7. Have a working knowledge of spoken and written English.
8. Be prepared to provide a written report of their travel experience if in receipt of the Award.

Please make sure that young people interested in the Award carefully consider these criteria before making an application.

Visas:

National groups and young people thinking of making an application should bear in mind that from some countries they will have great difficulty in making an application for a visa to enter Britain and may well be refused even with the active support of Servas Britain as a sponsor. It may be helpful to take advice in your own country before making an application.

Other funding:

If, as a National Group, you are interested in making a donation to the Youth Award Fund or perhaps able to sponsor a young person from your own country or elsewhere to attend the event in 2007 please tell us.

For further information and application forms:

Please contact: Ann Greenhough dasher1949@aol.com
on behalf of S I Youth Team and Servas Britain