



Servas Monthly News 34



May 2008

Media and attitudes

Chatting with my mother we were discussing our opinion of the media and the effect it has on people. We were both growling about how the major items are murder, fighting, accidents, all the bad things in life. The good things are crowded out or given very little space. Even news which is actually good can get twisted to imply bad. eg: due to poor weather conditions coming more quickly than expected a helicopter landed in a field with the pilot and passenger taking ground transport to the destination. The media saw this as a crash. It was not, it was a precautionary landing to ensure there was not a crash. It was good airmanship. My mother and I agreed that the news was depressing. We wondered whether the bad points were given emphasis because that was what people, in general, wanted, or was it because the media is telling people what they should want. Is the media giving people attitudes? Is the rise in poor behaviour of the populace, especially the younger members, because they see such behaviour all the time on the media and so deem it to be alright? After all if our leaders are condoning fighting then it might be acceptable?

So perhaps one of our jobs is to counteract that. To look for the good things in life. Surely there must be more good than bad? Perhaps we could make it more good than bad. In Servas Monthly News we try to pick out the good things and emphasise them. Maybe this way we can also affect attitudes. Take for example the story about Hayden and Mama Chou on p2. That is what I would like to see as headlines. People helping each other, not hurting each other. We also have plenty of other examples of people working together and sharing in different countries. The meetings listed on p3 give us a chance to get together and generate good news. Perhaps we could tell the world about it. People might have their attitudes affected and so generate more good news. Then my mum would want to watch the news rather than turn it off.

Contents: May 2008

1. Editorial
2. Servas members help find Mama Chou
3. Meetings and Get-togethers
4. Host and travel reports - Barbados, Pacific, NZ
5. Country reports - Argentina, Brazil
6. More country news - Brazil, Mongolia, Guatemala
7. UN and 2009
8. Peace - a peace walk over Europe
9. Youth - meeting in Turkey
10. Youth - meeting in Turkey
11. Youth - meeting in Turkey

Servas General Assembly 2009

GA = General Assembly. A point that is often expected to be known by all but often is not known. These 2 letters are used for a variety of abbreviations and one has to know to which one is being referred. eg: to me they mean both General Aviation and Geographical Association.

The general sequence for the GA is every three years unless there is a request for a different timing. The last one in Latina, Italy in 2006 was after 2 years at request to clear up various bits of unfinished business from the GA of 2004 in Barcelona, Spain.

There were various offers to host the GA 2009. Turkey will be taking it on whilst India and Korea will be holding special large 2009 celebrations.

The GA is a time for countries to get together to review Servas and how it can be improved. It is a time for country delegates to share the good and bad points with each other and see how they can help each other. It is a time for less formal workshops and more formal decision making and voting.

It is a time for elections. The whole of Exco must stand for election, although if we are happy with the work being done then they can be re-elected to a second term of office in their relative positions. Other non-Exco positions are also up for election. One of them is the SI News editor post. Having done 2 terms of office this must be replaced. Please contact me for more detail about it.

Editors Plea about emails

Please can you:

- o Put the word Servas as part of the subject line
- o Put your name at the bottom, email address is not enough to know who you are and your position
- o If replying, have a copy of what you are replying to

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.

Servas members help find Mama Chou

Blog: It's a Wonderful World

Recently I saw something which reminded me that goodness is in fact found throughout the world.

I joined Servas. An American Servas member, Hayden stayed in Taiwan four nights. One evening I met up with him and took him to a Taiwanese dinner and a local concert.

During conversation I learned Hayden first came to Taiwan in 1970, when he studied for six weeks at a Taiwanese Mandarin language academy. He lived with Mama Chou's host family. Remembering Mama Chou's family, Hayden came to Taiwan a second time in 1977 to see the Chous. Since then they kept up a correspondence. Over time they lost touch. Several years ago when Hayden decided to travel to Asia again and visit his Asian friends his letter to Mama Chou was returned.

Last year Miss Huang, a Servas member from Taiwan, stayed with Hayden. He asked her to help him find Mama Chou at her old address. If Mama Chou had moved to ask the neighbours about her, because it could be she had passed away. When I met Hayden, he told me very disheartedly: "She couldn't find her at the house." This set my brain working: maybe I could help him find Mama Chou. There were only two nights left to find her. So, to find a collaborator, the best thing would be to go on TV. I contacted a reporter but he didn't answer his phone. My second thought was to contact the police, because now information on all households in Taiwan is on-line. If the local police would help, we could arrange a visit. A friend decided that the address Hayden had given me is from a precinct in Taipei. I called the line – there was no mistake – and an officer of the precinct answered.

That evening I had to take a test, and in the day would be completely taken up with that. So the best thing to do was to ask another Servas member to take Hayden. Ms. Chen, the Servas member, said that she had never entered a police station. But I was not in a mood for half measures, and urged Hayden: "Perhaps the computer will do the trick, then you'll find her. Isn't it worth trying? This is the easiest way to find someone! Then if you don't find her we at least tried" Hayden agreed. He decided to go to the station that afternoon (the third day). The police asked some questions of each of them separately, and decided everything was true, so they looked up the address and phone number of Mama Chou's daughter. This was truly exciting, the Taiwan police and their household register! But when Ms. Chen telephoned Mama Chou's daughter no one answered. The two of them were anxious, not knowing how this would all end.

After they had left the police station, while Ms. Chen was returning home in a taxi she looked at the address. "Jiankang Street, that's not a ten-minute ride from my place." She thought it over. Just as the taxi was turning onto Jiankang she decided to seize the opportunity. She found the house and rang the bell. A lady opened the door and after explaining her mission the lady said: "Hayden? I know him, Mama Chou is my mother. She doesn't live here, but I'll get her," and got on the phone and called Mama Chou. They decided to meet at Mama Chou's house the next morning at 9 o'clock.

I got Ms. Chen's phone call at six that evening and knew she had found her. She asked excitedly how things had gone. "One day and we found her, just too efficient!" I began to think what the meeting of these two people would be like. I decided to take the next day off, to sacrifice one day's work to see this 57-year-old Hayden reunited with 80-year-old Mama Chou, because I really felt this would be moving.

"Oh – Mama Chou!" "Hayden!" They hugged each other, held each other for some time, and Hayden – clearly very affected

– for a second couldn't speak. "Mama Chou, you haven't changed at all." "Hayden, you're old!" Hayden and I laughed, and Mama Chou immediately invited Hayden and me inside.

Even though Mama Chou was 80 years old and lived by herself, everything in her apartment was wonderfully tidy and elegant. She took out some recent photos and told Hayden about her life. "Little Brother (Mama Chou's son)" "Working in Japan." "Little Sister (Mama Chou's daughter)" "Taking care of kids at home." Hayden hadn't heard about Papa Chou, but with Hayden's understanding of Chinese culture he politely said nothing about that. Mama Chou spoke directly: "Papa Chou is ninety years old now, and has Parkinson's disease. He doesn't recognize anyone now." I learned the first time Hayden came to Taiwan he was the first foreign student to board with Mama Chou, Mama Chou's was his first homestay family. Maybe because of this, both of them have very strong feelings for each other. In fact, Hayden had lived in Taiwan for six weeks but only was with Mama Chou's family for one week. Hayden was always back at Mama Chou's house.

Hayden brought a guestbook to show Mama Chou. This had photos of the foreign students who had lived with Hayden in the US. There were 40 or 50, from Japan, Korea, Iran, Israel, New Zealand, Romania, students and travelers from all over the world staying with Hayden. Hayden pointed to a picture of a student from Iran. His parents had been studying and working in the U.S. when he was born. As a two-year-old his mother took him back to Iran. At 24 he thought of studying in the U.S. With arrangement by the school went to Hayden's house to live. Hayden said this Iranian student called his mother in Iran to say he was OK. His mother wanted to talk with Hayden. She tearfully pleaded with Hayden to take care of her son. To make the Iranian mother comfortable Hayden has since then sent the mother a monthly letter telling her about her son's life in the U.S. The Iranian student only lived in his house for one month before moving to a student dormitory.

"Now when I think of that foreign student I remember so much the influence of Mama Chou from that year in Taiwan and I think that is someday if I can I want to be like Mama Chou and be good to a foreign student." Because of the loving care of a Taiwan mother for an American student, thirty years later this American student has cared for students from many countries. Students will never forget that and will have the love of the world! In this world it is not the disasters of the mighty newscasts – there is something more precious, found in the human breast, the unselfish impulse to do good!

In speaking of peoples' good works, however worthwhile, Mama Chou's and Hayden's were so spontaneous that I have to recall the song "What a Wonderful World", and it keeps running over and over in my mind.

PS: 1. You are curious, did Mama Chou speak English? No, Mama Chou spoke Chinese, and Hayden spoke Chinese. His Chinese is so good that he doesn't need any interpreting.

2. In thinking of travelers, besides tourism and business, there is travel to see friends, previously I hadn't understood that. "Seeing friends" certainly rivals sightseeing, and ought to be thought of as itself a type of travel. This month-long visit of Hayden to Asia – was entirely to see students who had lived with him in homestay, and friends he had known from work: one of these was a man in Beijing – 92 years old. He thought, if I don't go to see him it will be too late.

3. Encouraging young people to travel is a good thing. The warm welcome Hayden got brought about wonderful effects!

4. If even a housewife can serve the interests of our country foreign interests then you can too!

From 'Iron Chick's' blog, sent by Hayden Wetzel

Meetings, Get together, Seeing each other

Germany - European meeting,

For full details of the European meeting see Servas Monthly News October 2007.

**International Education Centre Jugendhof
Scheersberg in Quern, near Baltic Sea
4 th to 9th July 2008**

servas-summer@gmx.net

Margret Kläser, Erika und Richard Cabassut

For further information check

www.servas-summer.eu



Servas International Youth Meeting " Istanbul '08 "

Servas Turkey and Servas Youth are inviting you to the next International Youth Meeting event in Istanbul -Turkey. Following the Youth meetings in Patagonia'06 and Yorkshire'07, you are all welcome to the 3rd annual Youth Meeting in Istanbul and the first in Asia!

- The meeting will take place on 19-26th July 2008 at the Sabanci University:
www.sabanciuniv.edu/eng
- An opportunity for all young travelers and hosts (18-30) to get together and to share their Servas experiences.
- Also open to other Servas members of whatever age.
- Discounted prices available
- Please visit the web site on www.servasturkiye.org/youth2008 for the details of the event.
- You can also apply online via the same page
- **Help us inviting!** Join us at Istanbul'08
- For any inquiries, please contact youth@servasturkiye.org

Sentierinsieme - Pathway Together - Route de l'Amitié - Miteinander unterwegs

Servas members from the Alps area have been meeting each year at the beginning of summer for more than twenty years.

The next meeting will take place on 5, 6 July 2008 in France at Aussois, which is situated in the Maurienne Valley. It will be followed by two treks (4 days).

If you want to get an invitation in the course of next winter, please contact:

François Marseille

26, rue Pierre Curie 26000 Valence - France

Or an e-mail to francoismarseille@free.fr

For Information You can phone :

In German : Sabine Joertz 33 3 88 60 32 66

In Italian : Joëlle Chappuis 33 4 50 22 13 82

In French :François Marseille33 4 75 56 13 67

In English : By email :

Myriam Michel myriam.michel3@hotmail.fr

2009 - Youth in Oz

MORE INFO: www.servasyouth.org

CONTACT: pablochufeni@yahoo.com.ar

'Seoul to London' (the Asia-Europe Inter-Continent) Expedition

* *Period:* March 1, 2010 - August 31, 2010 (for 6 months)

* *Route:* From Seoul through Asia and Europe to London

* *Team:* 20 Servas members(10 Koreans and 10 multinationals)

* *Invitation:* The international Servas members are now being invited to join this expedition.

* *Contact:* Mr. Jong Soo Kim N.S. Servas Korea
servas@korea.com skype: kingofasia2 Cell: 82-16-830-2623

See Servas Monthly News February 2008 for full details.

Meeting place in Paris, France

The venue is:

Le Vieux Châtelet

1 place du Châtelet,
75001 Paris

The nearest metro is:
Châtelet

Date:

Second Tues of month

Time: 7 pm to 9 pm

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.

Join with others in Lyon, France

Venue: Grand Café de la Soierie
1 place des Tapis, Lyon

Date: First Thursday of the month

Time: 8 pm

FEA (Far East Asia) AREA MEETING

Hong Kong, September

Host and Travel Reports

An apartment on offer in Barbados

"Sharing and exchanges, helping out...all the above and much much more I was privileged to experience as the co-ordinator for the Caribbean for 10 years and a hostess for over 25 years and last but not least as a frequent traveller. The result: Many wonderful friends all over the world. I am an Austrian female, who has lived in Barbados for the last 30 years. I am going away for four months in the summer/autumn. Therefore I would like to offer my apartment on the West Coast of Barbados from the 1st of July until the end of October (or part of it) to a SERVAS-FAMILY member. You could view the apartment on www.calypso-rentals.com, click on apartments and then on HOME AWAY FROM HOME. My monthly expenses are US\$ 700.00, which would have to be paid by you. If you are interested or if you have any questions, please write to:

Wal.Planetmail@Yahoo.com.

In peace and friendship".

Wally Schlager, Maynards, St.Peter, Barbados

Paradise Awaits Travellers

Exco is keen to have more "mentors" worldwide to keep better contact with smaller Servas nations. I volunteered to help in this role and wrote to the South Pacific islands, as I am their Area Coordinator. So far a few have replied and I encourage you to go visit their "paradise."

Michael Johnson, Canada

Fiji

The two hosts here in Fiji have an average of 3 or 4 Servas a year. Carol and I are occasionally 'swap' our guests.

Nalini

[Three years ago Nalini wrote: "My husband and I have been hosting for almost fifteen years and it is as great now as it was then."]

Samoa

In Samoa we are progressing with a constant flow of travelers. Our peace-building in Samoa is growing quite nicely. Awaiting your visit,

Marco

Rarotonga

Welcome to our small piece of paradise, Rarotonga. I am travelling quite a lot, so need some advance notice, but enjoy meeting any Servas travellers for coffee/lunch and helping them with accommodation requirements.

Kia Manuia, Helen K Henry

DUNEDIN in New Zealand, part of our world trip

Meet Ken and Judy. They moved into their new house in Dunedin at the age of 70, now a few years ago. Before that they lived for longer periods in Whangarei on the North Island and in Invercargill on the South Island. The family, mum and dad and their 5 children, also went over to the US to live for a couple of years.

They are the kind of couple that doesn't do Valentines days anymore. Love speaks for itself in this house. Ken is keen on watching cricket on TV and going to the bridge at least once a week. Judy turned out to be a gifted painter, but nowadays she's more into the woodturning thing. We go and visit a workshop where colleagues of Judy are turning parts of wood into really nice and smooth objects. One of the professionals of the group turns a bowl for us. That evening I try to get it smoother with sandpaper, and give it a finish with oil after instructions from Judy.

Judy is a great cook as well. For the first time Ingrid is not allowed to make dinner on the second night of our stay. Lucky us, we have the nicest sushi's and a stir fry with marinated chicken. We spend the whole evening watching food programmes on the food channel, so that by 10 pm we felt very hungry again. And that's where the Clafoutis, the famous desert Ingrid likes to make all the time, came in very handy.



Hans with Judy & Ken in Dunedin

*Hans Manshoven & Ingrid Ivens
Hosts in Hasselt, Belgium*

<http://wijleweg.blogspot.com>

Country Reports - Argentina, Brazil

Servas Cordoba Meeting in La Calera

We have realized the dream of meeting. We were a total of 13, a success because besides discussing, sharing and reporting



"On Saturday, April 19th we met at the home of Matias Polzella, in the town of La Calera, We shared a barbecue and talked about issues of Servas.

- Renovation of national officers. Elections (A. Maffeis and Marlene von Düring spoke). Candidates: Pablo Colangelo National Secretary and Marlene von Düring Deputy.
Renewal of regional officers.



- Communication between members of Cordoba, Reg. NOA,
- List of members, updating personal data.
- Future meetings set every two months or so.
- Support Servas Cordoba to a Foundation for poor families. Objectives: donate school materials (books, supplies, educational materials).
- Amalia convenes youth interiorizarse and participated in this group's Syle, along with the need for youth leadership in the Central Region.
- Marlene talked about the website of Servas Argentina, and the new blog, benefits and use.
- Date of next meeting: Sunday 22 June, Cordoba Capital.
- We showed Greenpeace informational material.: about burning grassland and smoke in Rosario and Buenos Aires.

Amalia Maffeis. Regional Coordinator Central, Cuyo and NOA Region

The highlights of Servas Brazil's activities during the last 6 months:

- **November 2007:** First host in **Foz do Iguacu** joins Servas, due to a contact established in the S American Area Meeting at the triple border area of Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay.
- The Servas group in **Rio de Janeiro** keep having their monthly gathering on the first Saturday of each month, now at a coffee shop at Argumento bookstore (Livraria Argumento).
- **January 2008:** the II Servas Meeting in the state of **Minas Gerais** (MG), at the towns of Tiradentes and Sao Joao del Rei. The gathering had 12 members from the towns of Belo Horizonte, Ouro Preto, Sao Joao del Rei, Tiradentes and Sao Paulo. The minutes are available in Portuguese, those interested in receiving it should write to brazil@servas.org.
- **February 2008:** **Maria Fernanda Vomero** becomes Peace Secretary of Servas Brazil
- **February 2008:** a Yahoo group was created, where all members of Servas Brazil were included. That caused an increase in the level of information and participation of the Brazilian Servas members.
- **April 2008:** the **Servas Brasilis newsletter** is launched, coordinated by Maria Fernanda Vomero, with the collaboration of Debora Didone, Andrea de Almeida Assis and Roberto Borenstein. Those interested in receiving it should write to brazil@servas.org.
- **April 2008:** a get together in Sao Paulo, with 11 Servas members (9 from Sao Paulo, 2 from Sao Bernardo do campo).

- **April 2008"** a blog was created as an additional tool for improving the communication and information. See www.servasbrasilis.blogspot.com
- **April 2008:** Marina Pacheco, coordinator of Servas Youth in Brazil finished defining the participants of SYLE/2008. Maria Clara, from Colombia will come to Brazil and Celso Guimaraes Carvalho, from Ouro Preto (MG) will participate in Guatemala. Servas Brazil promotes the existence of a second opening for SYLE in Brazil, for people young in spirit of any age range.
- **May 2008:** Cintia Amor, former NS of Servas Argentina, sends an application for participating of SYLE in Brazil. Her application is accepted, although not officially as part of a SYLE program, due to her age being above 35 years old. This experience might become a pilot program for the creation of a SLE, open to all Servas population, independent of age range.
- **May 2008:** Servas Brazil finishes updating its host list, with 220 hosts addresses.

X-Ray: the Situation of Servas Brazil

Hosts in 2008: 220

Hosts in 2007: 194

LOIs approved in 2007: 29

Servas travelers hosted in Sao Paulo in 2007: 20

Servas travelers hosted in Minas Gerais in 2007: 6

Servas travelers hosted in Brazil in 2007: around 100 (est)

Roberto Borenstein

More country news, Brazil, Mongolia, Guatemala

SYLE and Brazil

Servas Brazil is open to receive 2 people per year

Servas Brazil has been participating in the SYLE programme since its conception.

In 2005 we sent a young person to participate in Rosario, Argentina in the pilot programme for SYLE.

In 2006 we received a young person from Cordoba, Argentina.

In 2007 we did an exchange with Mexico, receiving a young person and sending a young person to this country.

In 2008 we are scheduled to receive a young person from Colombia and send a young person to Guatemala.

As a goal for growth of SYLE in this country, Servas Brazil has decided to be open to receive 2 people per year for the programme. Servas Brazil is not limiting the age to the chronological age of 18-30, but it is open to receive people with young spirit of any age

Atentamente,

*Roberto Borenstein
Secretario Nacional - Servas Brasil
Coordinador de Area - Sudamerica*

.....and considering the whole world.....

Let's have initiative to keep people informed regarding World Environment Day 2008.

The World Environment Day slogan for 2008 is Kick the Habit! Towards a Low Carbon Economy. Recognising that climate change is becoming the defining issue of our era, UNEP is asking countries, companies and communities to focus on greenhouse gas emissions and how to reduce them. The World Environment Day will highlight resources and initiatives that promote low carbon economies and life-styles, such as improved energy efficiency, alternative energy sources, forest conservation and eco-friendly consumption.

What can I do for World Environment Day?

There are many ways you can kick the carbon habit for World Environment Day. You could cycle or bus to work and leave your car at home, cut your rubbish and waste by half that week, use less electricity and less water.

Gareeb

Mongolia joins with a host

This is a good news from AC, FEA. As you know, we, Servas FEA, are made up of China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, Japan, and Mongolia. However, we haven't had any members in Mongolia so far. To our great delight, we finally had a new member in Mongolia this March! Her name is Ms Hishig Sambuu. She is working for a UK charity in Ulan Bataar, Mongolia. Thanks to Rita Dessauvage, her name was listed up as Main Contact recently. Hishig Sambuu is looking forward to having travelers visiting Mongolia and staying at her home.

SERVAS GUATEMALA

"With each true friendship we are building the firm bases on which world's peace lays" :

We hereby inform you that on Saturday, February 23, 2008, the meeting programmed to re-elect the Board of Directors of SERVAS GUATEMALA took place

The meeting went off in a cordial environment. After welcoming all participants, presenting the cash flow report and having a brief talk about SERVAS's main objectives, vision and mission, we proceeded with the election of the new Board of Directors with the associates that were present and the following results were obtained:

. NATIONAL SECRETARY

The present National Secretary, Mr. José Roberto Montes, was unanimously re-elected for a second term (100% of the votes).

. SUBSTITUTE SECRETARY (DEPUTY)

Mrs. Adela Segura-Montes was re-elected as substitute Secretary for a second term (70% of the votes). Distant Vote Rep.

. PEACE SECRETARY

Mr. Mauricio Martínez was unanimously re-elected for a second term (100% of the votes).

. YOUTH DELEGATE

Mr. Iván García will continue working as youth delegate.

We trust to continue receiving your enthusiastic support as it has been up to now, so that SERVAS GUATEMALA can continue active. We would also like to remind you that your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

We take this opportunity to thank all the associates that were present at the meeting.

In Peace:

*Lic. José Roberto Montes, National Secretary
Servas Guatemala*

"THE HUMAN RIGHT TO HOUSING: Essential for Peace, Security, Dignity, & Sustainable Livelihoods"

"Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being, including food, housing, medical care, necessary social services..."

--Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 25

Sustainable, adequate housing is directly related to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. in particular,

MDG#1, Eradicating extreme poverty & hunger--by eliminating homelessness and providing a secure haven from which to perform decent work.

MDG#3, #4, #5 Promoting Gender Equality & Empowering Women, Reducing Child Mortality, & Improving Maternal Health--by providing a safe, healthy environment for women, children, families & communities; equal opportunity for participation in public decision-making;

MDG#6, Combatting HIV/AIDS, Malaria, & Other Diseases--by eliminating unsafe, unsanitary, overcrowded conditions leading to crime & contagion.

MDG#7, Ensuring Environmental Sustainability--by creating green communities that foster well-being, in harmony with Nature.

MDG#8, Developing a Global Partnership for Development--by promoting effective communications & coordination between public & private sectors & cross-cultural understanding.

Financial resources for housing: Government; Public sector and Private sector; Access to Finance, Credit, Employment and Ownership;

SPONSORS: (to be confirmed) NGOCHS, UN-HABITAT, UNEP, UN/CSD, UNESCO, UNHCHR, UNCSW, UN/NGLS UIA, FIABCI, IAW, US SERVAS, CCC/UN, Bloomberg Media, etc.



Noema Chaplin, the Servas main representative in the UN in New York with the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon

2009, COMMEMORATING 60 YEARS OF SERVAS

AN EXHIBITION FOR THE 60 YEARS OF SERVAS

The theme uses the characteristics of Servas: Peace in the world, meeting people based on exchange and friendship, sharing side by side. We will be celebrating our Founder: Bob Lutweiler!



This exhibition is open to all members of SERVAS, from any country and any nationality.

Framed paintings can be done with any type of media. For sculptures: provide a preview of it by sending a picture, similarly for installations and other types of structures. There is the possibility of a standard frame format for paper based work: I provide frames of 70cm or 50cm or 50cm x 40cm. I will not accept work that is too small (as there will be no suitable space for their display.). I reserve the right not to exhibit work judged beyond the theme or which is disturbing. A selection will be made according to the space available. For your design think about how the work will be hung.

One piece of work per person, but this could be two or three dependent on space available.

Children can also enter their works of art !

At the moment, I have no budget provided for setting up this project, for presentations, for advertising expenses, or for the return of work.

It might be possible to sell the art works (with agreement from the author and the organization). Of which 25 % will go to the organization and the SERVAS organiser of the exhibition or for the benefit of a charity (to be decided).

With the agreement of the author, it is envisaged that publishing this collection of art work will give any profits to the organization and to the SERVAS organiser of the exhibition or for the benefit of a charity (to be decided).

Let us unite our energies! Call to all SERVAS members: it would be good to link these exhibitions to writing workshops and other forms of artistic expression: singing, music, dance, stories, performances, video, etc to create a dynamic activity, to show our harmonious diversity, to assert our vitality by all the good principles which enliven us and that make our Association continue!

This exhibition should be presented at the next French General Assembly organised by the PACA region at the end of May 2009. It could also travel around France, Europe and the world.

Send your work now with a copy your Letter of Introduction to:

Jean-Luc TURLURE

125 rue Castagnary, 75015 Paris – France

Tél : 00 331 42 50 96 50, E mail : turlure@gmail.com

On the path for peace

Sulle orme di Sigerico

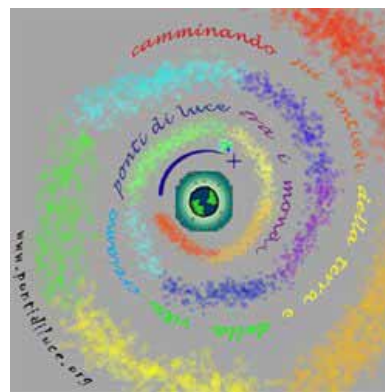
(This article was sent in, partly translated into English. The author admitted her English was not very good. My Italian is even worse. I managed some translation but not enough. For those who would like the English version, this is being done by an Italian speaker with good English but will not be ready in time for this edition. As the English part of this walk will start at the end of June it was important that the article should go in this issue. Contact the editor if you want the English copy)

In cammino per la pace: camminando creiamo ponti di luce e sentieri di pace è un'iniziativa di associazioni e singoli individui che "camminando sui sentieri della vita e della terra costruiscono ponti di luce tra i mondi". Coloro cioè che credono che un mondo diverso sia possibile e intendono "lavorare" per renderlo reale: Per chi pensa che un mondo splendido necessita di muri e ponti: i primi perchè sia possibile elaborare la differenza, i secondi perchè le differenze così create possano essere condivise per arricchire tutti. Per chi crede in un mondo dove l'esistenza di molteplici lingue (muri) permetta lo sviluppo di culture e filosofie e visioni della vita diverse e l'esistenza di traduzioni e poliglotti (ponti) permetta che la magnificenza delle diverse visioni della vita possa essere condivisa. Un mondo dove ognuno sappia di non essere mai solo, poiché tutti solo in quanto pellegrini della terra e della vita siamo fratelli.

Avendo utilizzato la maggior parte dei secoli di sviluppo dell'umanità per creare muri, crediamo sia giunta l'ora di focalizzarsi su sentieri e ponti: i primi per rafforzare interazioni e sinergie tra chi già si considera affine, i secondi per crearne tra chi pensa di essere su diverse sponde dello stesso mare. Abbiamo deciso di manifestare simbolicamente il nostro intento di camminare "insieme" nel cammino della vita per costruire ponti e sentieri di pace, camminando fisicamente insieme lungo la via di Sigerico. Abbiamo scelto questo ramo della via Francigena per diversi motivi:

1) la via del nord o cammino di Sigerico attraversa buona parte dell'Europa in senso verticale, andando da nord a sud. Per chi, come diversi di noi ha già percorso il cammino di Santiago, è' allettante l'idea di viaggiare sempre verso sud dopo aver camminato sempre da est ad ovest (via Francese per Santiago). Come compiere un ciclo, finire un percorso, toccare i quattro punti cardinali. Nel primo cammino (per Santiago), seguendo il sole nel suo percorso e così facendo, facendoci guidare, incontrare ognuno se stesso stessa e nel secondo portare una piccola fiammella nel cuore, dalle regioni del nord, della notte, dell'intuito e della meditazione, al sud, al mondo "profano", di quotidiano e attività.

Il cammino verso Santiago per "ritrovare il paradiso



2) E' il più noto dei cammini per Roma al punto che per molte persone il nome cammino di Sigerico viene considerato sinonimo di via francigena. Avendo deciso di camminare anche per dare visibilità al nostro intento di camminare "insieme" nel

cammino della vita ci è sembrato il percorso più adatto.

3) Attraversa quattro nazioni (Inghilterra, Francia, Svizzera e Italia), un mare (la manica) e le alpi... un cammino straordinario: creare ponti con i nostri passi lenti su così tanti paesi, su diverse lingue, sull'acqua e sui monti...

Il mare simbolo della via spirituale della connessione empatica, della rivelazione, dell'inconscio collettivo in cui è così dolce lasciarsi andare. Come un pesce lasciarsi trasportare dalla corrente, spersi nel liquido amniotico universale.

E le più alte montagne d'Europa, le alpi, simbolo della spiritualità da asceta, via solitaria, di sforzo, per ascendere alle più alte vette della conoscenza e del nostro potenziale. Come una capra arrampicarsi su impervi sentieri, con attenzione, concentrazione, su, sempre più su, fino a toccare il cielo. Così il cammino partirà, all'inizio di luglio. Immacolata, percorrerà tutto il percorso costituendo il "filo" che lega quanti parteciperanno. Diversi singoli ed associazioni già [aderiscono](#) all'iniziativa. Sul calendario potrai vedere mano a mano chi si aggiunge. Chiunque, a titolo personale o in rappresentanza di un'associazione o gruppo è ben venuto a [camminare](#) con noi.

In cammino per la pace è un'iniziativa dedicata a tutti i "seminatori di pace" ed in particolare a due grandi seminatori morti recentemente: Bob Luitweiler, fondatore di Servas International (www.servas.org, www.servas.it) e Pippa Bacca, socia Servas, artista e grande "viaggiatrice di pace" (bridesontour.fotoup.net/).

For the route starting in England:

We are leaving Canterbury on 29 June and arriving in Rome on the 26 September:

Everybody that wants to joint us,officially, or to help us, or just to walk with us for one day or more, is very welcome.

for information, www.pontidiluce.org, info@pontidiluce.org
Adesions on the 24 May 2008:

www.pontidiluce.org, www.trekingitalia.it,
www.moncalieriincammino.it, www.pellegrinibelluno.it,
www.boscaglia.it, www.2013gate.it, www.vivereconlentezza.it,
tavolavallebrembana@gmail.com (Tavola della pace, Val Brembana)-

Immacolata Coraggio, Italy



Youth

SERVAS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MEETING ISTANBUL '08 July 18th – 25th 2008

Servas Turkey and Servas Youth invite you to the next International Youth Meeting event in Istanbul-Turkey. Following the Youth meetings in Patagonia'06 and Yorkshire'07, you are all welcome to the 3rd annual Youth Meeting in Istanbul.

- An opportunity for all young travellers and hosts (18-30) to get together and to share their Servas experiences.
- Also open to other Servas members of whatever age.
- Under18's welcome if accompanied by an adult.

VENUE

Main Campus of Sabanci University will be our venue. Campus settlement is in Tuzla which is 45 minutes away from the city center. For more information- <http://www.sabanciuniv.edu/eng/>

ACCOMMODATION

Participants have the possibility to stay either in dormitory rooms or in the hotel located within the campus area. The dormitory rooms have two-bed or four-bed options. The beds in the dormitory rooms are bunks, which most of them have upper bunk beds (If you have request for lower bunk beds please contact us). The hotel rooms are private rooms for one person only. We have no tent option.

CATERING

- Participants will have full board meals at the cafeteria of the university.
- Meals will be taken all together
- For excursion days, lunch will be taken outside the campus.

PRICE LIST

| PRICE LIST - in Dollar | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|--------|-------------------|
| | Discounted* | Normal | Non-Servas Member |
| 2-Bed Room | \$220 | \$255 | \$270 |
| 4-Bed Room | \$190 | \$220 | \$240 |
| Hotel Room | \$410 | \$480 | \$520 |

| PRICE LIST- in Euro | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|--------|-------------------|
| | Discounted* | Normal | Non-Servas Member |
| 2-Bed Room | \$150 | \$175 | \$180 |
| 4-Bed Room | \$130 | \$150 | \$160 |
| Hotel Room | \$280 | \$330 | \$350 |

Prices include:

- Accommodation and catering
- Costs for workshops, presentations etc.
- Costs for logistics and other conference expenses

Prices exclude:

- Entrance fees to museums, historical places, national parks etc.
- Transportation to the campus from main city centres and transportation from the campus to the main city centres.
- Transportation expenses for the excursions

*** Discounted prices will be applied to the applicants upon the criteria below:**

- Servas members with a valid Servas LOI
- Who applied and needs discount, expected to be fair
- Discount is limited up to 80 people
- Early applications will have priority
- Each evaluation will be done on personal level
- Servas countries whose membership status is "Contact" have higher priority
- Servas Youth officers have priority
- Who have not funded in any Servas event before have priority

Please indicate your request for discount when completing the application form under "Discount Request" Section.

THE PROGRAMME SO FAR..... more to follow :

The focus of the event is for Servas young people from around the world to enjoy time together. All with an interest in Youth in Servas are welcome. Let us know if you have ideas or want to make a contribution to the programme.

Each day has a concept which is actually a part of Servas and the Youth Meeting. The activities of each day will generally be about that specific day's concept.

1st day: Open Doors: Come whoever you are

2nd day: Peace within, peace without

3rd day: Istanbul, two sides of water

4th day: Be the change

5th day: Journey/Experience

6th day: Imagine

7th day: We are one

Activities

- Plenty of activities **for all ages and interests.**
- Closed and open area activities at the Campus for both small and large groups
- Activities related to getting to know each other better, understanding the value of peace, developing Servas spirit and discovering Turkish culture
- Entertaining and informative workshops
- Travelling in and around the city

Discussions

- What Servas has to offer young people for the future.
- Share ideas and concerns about world issues and look at what contribution Servas can make to a more peaceful world.

ARRIVING AT SABANCI UNIVERSITY

Sabancı University is situated on the Asian side of Istanbul, close to Izmit. For arrivals on the meeting day, Sabiha Gökçen Airport is closer to the University location rather than main airport - Atatürk Airport.

There will be also shuttle buses on 18th from main centers of Istanbul such as Taksim and Kadıköy in order to transport you to the campus. You may use one of these shuttle buses or prefer to come on your own. Further information will be sent to participants for details of the shuttle buses.

BOOKING

We will be open to take bookings from the beginning of February 2008.

You can apply via our online application form:

<http://www.servasturkiye.org/youth2008>

- Click to Registration Form on the left menu
- You will see our registration page. Click to "New"
- Now you will see our online form. Fill in the form, then click "Send". Your application will be registered!
- You will receive a confirmation e-mail with your password included. If you want to edit your information later, you can use your e-mail and password to login to the page.
- If you encounter any problem about displaying the online application form, please contact to Servas Turkey Youth Team:

Servas Turkey Youth Team

Email: youth@servasturkiye.org

Tel: + 90 533 240 69 52

PAYMENT

We would like you to pay the conference fee in full in order to make your registration complete. The account numbers are as follows. You can pay either in Euro or in US Dollar:

For Euro Payments:

Account Holder: Ömer Özkan

Bank Name: HSBC Bank

Account No: 706 1009005 770 99

IBAN No: TR570012300706100900577099

SWIFT No: HSBCTRIX

Address: Büyükdere Cad. Özsezen İş Mrk. No:122/B Esentepe İstanbul-TURKEY

For Dollar Payments:

Account Holder: Ömer Özkan

Bank Name: HSBC Bank

Account No: 706 1009005 770 01

IBAN No: TR840012300706100900577001

SWIFT No: HSBCTRIX

Address: Büyükdere Cad. Özsezen İş Mrk. No:122/B Esentepe İstanbul-TURKEY

CANCELLATION POLICY:

The following rules apply for those who register and pay for the meeting but cancel their registration before the meeting:

- Registrations cancelled more than 60 days before the event will be refunded 80% of the registration fees.
- Registrations cancelled less than 60 but more than 30 days before the event will be refunded 50% of the registration fees.
- Registrations cancelled less than 30 days before the event will not be eligible for a refund.

SOME OTHER THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

If you would like to get involved in planning and running an event-workshop, play, presentation etc., let us know:

Evren Atvur: evrenozkan@gmail.com

or

Pablo Chufeni: pablochufeni@yahoo.com.ar