



Servas Monthly News 21

March 2007



Where we are going and how we are doing it

This crops up regularly in many guises. This month the comments page shows some concerns. Do join in with your responses to those concerns.

Concerns often relate to finance. When people pay into an organisation they usually want to know where their money is going. Servas is attempting to be very open about this. Servas is trying to use the money wisely and keep costs down wherever possible. One example is the production and distribution of SI News. Every member is entitled to a hard copy. Several years ago time was spent to find the cheapest carrier along with the best rate that they could offer. Other savings include reusing envelopes and boxes so the only packing material bought is the sticky tape to hold it all together. If your country's SI News arrives in a cereal pack, then you will know that both cost savings and environmental concern were involved - and you will find out the editor's favourite breakfasts!

However money does have to be spent if we want to fulfil our aims. To get the word to others requires meetings, see page 3 for some of what is going on around the world. The Servas website shows more. Here, in Britain, our concern is the Youth and Family Event at the end of July. We want the event to be a success yet at the same time it must not be a financial burden to the participants, especially as Britain is not a cheap country. So some of the Servas money must be spent on it. However it is expected that it will help promote Servas and so increase membership. Some countries could be using it as a starting point for Servas in those countries.

SI News is out

The English and Spanish copies have now been packed, posted and are on their way to you. Please be patient as there are so many variables for getting this out to you. The English copy is on the Servas website - www.servas.org, follow the link to newsletters. The Spanish copy will join it. Unfortunately the French copy is not yet ready due to insufficient translators.

Translators, a request in advance

If people are to read SI News in a language other than English then it must be translated from English by a native speaker of that language. Currently we do French and Spanish. It cannot be done without translators. So a request in advance for the end of the year. Please can we have Spanish and French translators. Please contact the editor if you are interested. 24 translators for each language means one page each which is quick and easy. 1 translator for each language means 24 pages for one person which is very, very difficult. Please help. Je vous remercie en avance. Muchas gracias.

What is Servas all about?

Here is a reminder

Checklist: Performance of Servas International

...a federation of national Servas groups, encompassing an international network of hosts and travelers. The purpose of the network is to help build world peace, goodwill and understanding by providing opportunities for personal contacts among people of different cultures, backgrounds and nationalities. (SI Statutes)

Contents: 2007

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11. Youth - Pablo Report continued.

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.

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.

United States Servas. Inc.
Tri-National Conference
Canada – Mexico – United States
“Peace in Everyday Life”
July 20 – 22, 2007
California State University, San Diego
San Diego, California U.S.A.

On-line registration and reserving rooms will begin in May, 2007.

Youth and Family Week, 2007
Dalesbridge, Yorkshire, UK
Sun 29 July - Sat 04 Aug
See previous issues for detail
Contact: dasher1949@aol.com

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

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 Luxembourg 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!

Rita Dessauvage
NS Belgium & Luxemburg
belgium@servas.org luxemburg@servas.org

Visit <http://www.luxembourg2007.org>
<http://www.sibiu2007.ro>

Southern Africa Area Meeting

This will be held in
Livingstone, Zambia
August 2007.

And your meeting?

Languages - Czech

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

In this section, the aim is to build up a selection of words and phrases to help hosts and travellers communicate with each other and with other people. If you have words or phrases that you find useful then let us know.

If you have languages you would like to share then let us know. For the moment the base language is English. Hence any non-English words and phrases must have the English translation of them.

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

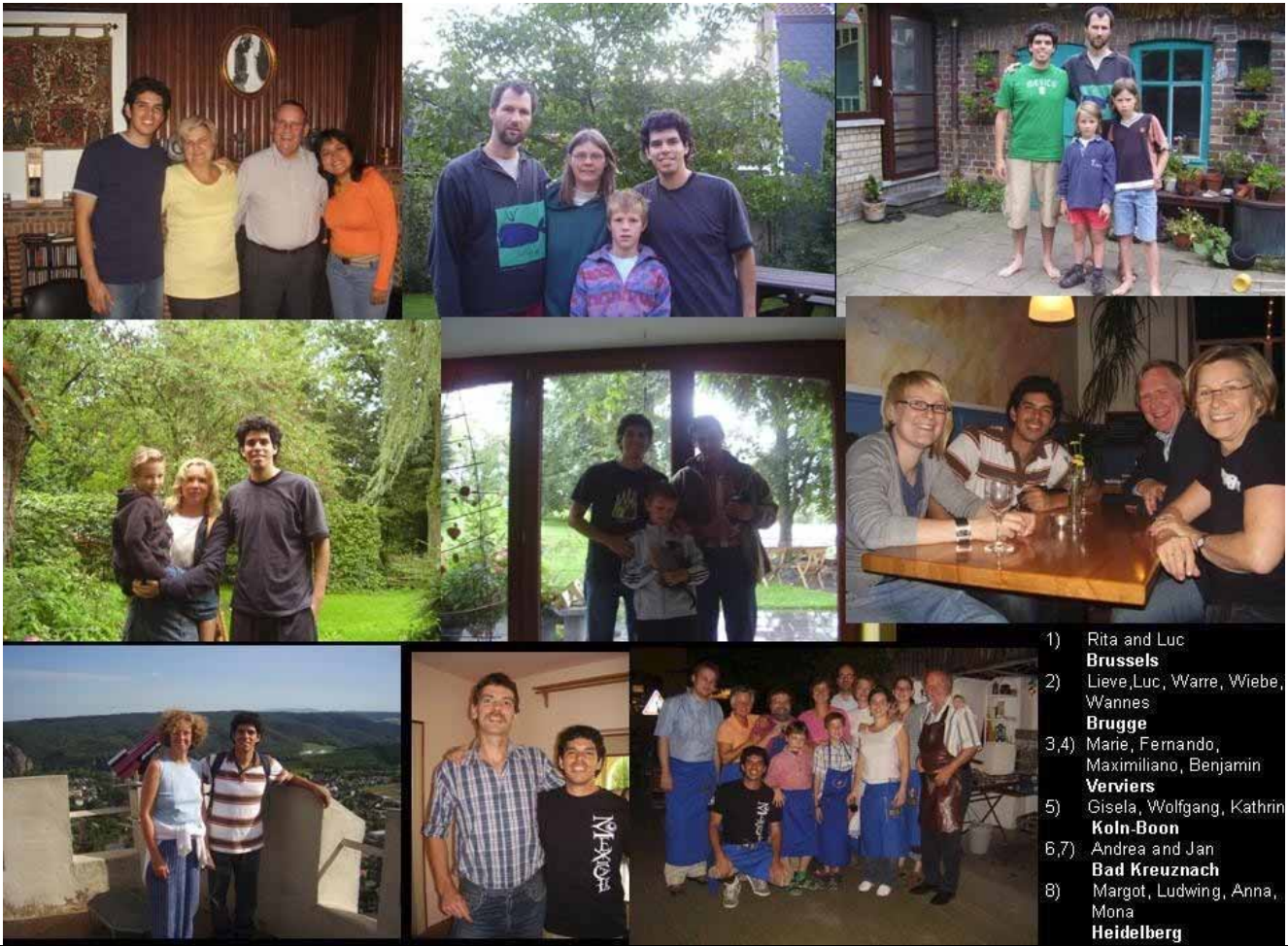
Our 19th language is Czech - and my apologies for errors as I try to read what is a difficult language for me - I am happy to be given corrections. Some of the accents do not seem to exist on my computer!

Zero	nula
One	jedna
Two	dve'
Three	tr'i
Four	c'tyr'i
Five	pe't
Six	šest
Seven	sedm
Eight	osm
Nine	deve't
Ten	deset
Twenty	dvacet
Thirty	tri'cet
Forty	c'tyricet
Fifty	padesa't
Sixty	šedesat
Seventy	sedmdesa't
Eighty	osmdesa't
Ninety	devadesa't
Hundred	sto
Thousand	tisic
Do you eat meat?	Jíš maso?
Where do you live?	Kde bydlíš
This is my sister	Tohle je můje sestra
This is my brother	Tohle je můj brat
This is my mother	Tohle je moje matha
This is my father	Tohle je muj otec
This is my son	Tohle je muj syn
This is my daughter	Tohle je moje dara
What music do you like?	Jakov hudbu más'rád?
Have you visited the town?	Bul si ve me'ste?
Where are the shops?	Kde jsou obchody?
Is there a market?	Je t'mhle trh?
Thank you for your help.	De'kvji za tvojk' pmooc.

Peace	Mír
Hello	Ahoj
How are you	Jak se ti vede?
Goodbye	Nashledanou
Be seeing you	Me'j se
Have a safe journey	š't'astzou cestu
Best wishes to your family.	Všechno dobré tvé rodině
Do come again	vstoupjte dál
Please	Prosim
Thank you	De'kuji
That's nothing	To je vpor'adku
Where is the toilet?	Kde je WC?
Left	vlevo
Right	vpravo
Straight on	rounou
Behind you	za tebou
Where do I sleep	Kde nocujem?
I am vegetarian	Sem vegetarian
Where is the nearest telephone?	Kde je pobliz' telefon?

Travel Reports

TRAVELLING IN EUROPE..... 5 MONTHS.....11 COUNTRIES.....



- 1) Rita and Luc
Brussels
- 2) Lieve, Luc, Warre, Wiebe,
Wannes
Brugge
- 3,4) Marie, Fernando,
Maximiliano, Benjamin
Verviers
- 5) Gisela, Wolfgang, Kathrin
Koln-Boon
- 6,7) Andrea and Jan
Bad Kreuznach
- 8) Margot, Ludwing, Anna,
Mona
Heidelberg

Hola amigos de *SERVAS*

I'm writing this e-mail to thank you once again for all the attentions and kindness that you had with me. In other words, for let me be part of yours families for a couple of days and a friend forever.

Thanks to all of you my life had changed in 360 degrees in a positive way. Talking in a spirit way, I feel now a richer person. I had been in a lot of places, and I had met a lot and different kind of people, different professions, different life styles, and different ways of thinking. I'm learning too much, and I'm very happy because that is my goal of this trip.

Everything began in London. Without any plan and destination I started to move inside the old continent. That made me at the end visit 11 countries in 5 months.

A lot of people ask me if is not sad to travel alone, but for me has been great. I had a lot of time to try to put all my ideas in order, because, spending most of the time by myself, I'm thinking too much, so right now my head is a mess full of ideas and ways of thinking that I had never had before. Also is a way to test myself and to see how far I can go.

But nothing of this could be possible without you. Thanks to all you (*SERVAS FAMILY*) I know that I can find a friend everywhere and not to feel alone. I just remember how I arrived here even without knowing very well how to use the host lists and without knowing where to go after, something stupid from my part. But you made a stupid traveller like me to.

feel like is too easy to go everywhere and that impossible things doesn't exist.

Even that I have meet a lot of *SERVAS* people, I'm still impress every time that someone open the doors of his house for me. And all the time my heart is touched with the kindness and warm that the people from every country had showed to me. That's a proof that friendship is possible around the world and that everybody had goodness in their hearts. I just hope to have left a good impression and a smile in every place where I had stayed. I will be always thankful with the *SERVAS* family, and I'm looking forward, as soon as I will return to Mexico, to help other *SERVAS* members and to promote this beautiful family.

But before doing that I have to visit other countries, like Greece, Italy, Norway, Finland, Sweden and Denmark. I have been already in France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Budapest, Czech Republic, Poland, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, and Netherlands, and since January I'm in Paris studying some French.

So well, that's the report of what I have done since August 2006. I'm sorry for not reported myself before.

So friends, I hope that life will just have good things for all of you like it had has already for me.

Wish you the best and take care.

Remember that *SU CASA ES MI CASA*.

Agustin Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico

Country and Travel Reports

United States Servas. Inc. Tri-National Conference Canada – Mexico – United States “Peace in Everyday Life”

July 20 – 22, 2007

California State University, San Diego
San Diego, California U.S.A.

On-line registration and reserving rooms will begin in
May, 2007.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Friday July 20, 2007

Registration 3:00 P.M -5:00 P.M.

Opening Session 5:00 P.M.

- **Don Fawcett, Southern California Area Coordinator** will introduce leadership teams of United States Servas, Inc., Servas Canada, Servas Mexico and Servas International.
- **Grant Barnes Esq., Board Chair of United States Servas, Inc.** will make introductions of Dinner Activity Groups, facilitated by Servas Board of Directors.
TOPIC: The future of Servas: membership, fundraising, outreach, technology, fees, traveling out of country.

6:00 P.M Dinner Served discussion continues

8:00-10:00 P.M. Multicultural entertainment

Saturday July 21, 2007

8:15 - 10:15 A.M. Discussion facilitated by Spiritual

Leaders from: Unitarian, Christian, Catholic, Jewish, Bahai, Hindu, Buddhist, Islam, Presbyterian

10:30 - 11:30 A.M.

- Annual Meeting US Servas
- Servas Mexico & Servas Canada tour San Diego State University campus

11:45- 12: 30 P.M. Lunch

12: 30-2:15 Panel presentation by Immigration and Customs officials from U.S., Canada & Mexico

2:30 -3:30 P.M. Servas Canada Workshop

Break for snacks

3:45- 4:45 P.M. Servas Mexico Workshop

5:00-6:00 P.M. Breakout sessions Facilitated discussions regarding Interviewers, Servas Mission Statement, Technology (Host lists available on-line), and Fundraising.

7:00 P.M. Dinner

8:30 P.M. Multicultural Entertainment

Sunday, July 22, 2007

8:15-9:00 A.M. Breakfast

9:15-10:15 A.M. Society of

Friends Peace Project in North America

10:30-11:30 A.M. Pablo Chufeni and Servas Youth

11:30 Grant Barnes, United States Servas, Inc. Board Chair, closing remarks



Israel and Turkey - part 7

In the January issue the 12 travellers from India moved on to Turkey. Now they visit Istanbul.

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.

On 8th June, the Asian side Indian guests had to travel for 90 minutes to reach to the destination. We tried to make up time by hiring a taxi but Taxi could not move because of traffic jam, hence we went by bus to Kadikoy and Eminonu. Mr. Erendiz our Guide was waiting for us. We went to palace which Romans had built with huge sculptured pillars in the reservoir. The palace was very cool with cold water dropping from above. Then we went to the six pillared mosque. Generally mosques are four pillared but this had six pillars and beautiful frescos on the upper wall. It may be the influence of Christianity.

We also saw the two big stone rectangular pillars erected on the ground to show the victory of Egypt over Turkey. One pillar is inscribed in Arabic Language.

From there we went to see the monuments of church, Hagi Sophia which was destroyed by the Arabs. The church had strong structure and therefore cannot be destroyed completely. We had been to Topkapi Palace Museum, where all royal belongings were kept there. In addition to that nail of Prophet Mohammed and a few belongings were also kept there.

From there we were guided to old town market here were different kinds of dresses and shawls.. Some of us bought Evil Eye bands or hangings which is a speciality of Turkey. We had to pass through spice bazaar but it could not attract us. Yet, outside the spice bazaar small shops with dry fruits could attract us and people bought almonds, dry figs and apricots from these retailers.

9th June 06

For today's tour, 8 persons out of 12, said that they were tired and did not want to come. Hence guided tour was cancelled. Dr. Ramesh Sharma called me to prepare vegetarian food at Sercan's house. After our meal, Miss. Azone and I went to Domabache Palace where Ataturk lived. It was a gorgeous palace like St. Petersburg in Russia. We had to wear plastic bags on our shoes before entering the Palace, so that the tiles and the carpets did not become dirty. The rooms decorated with beautiful carpets, chandeliers, furniture and pictures. Ataturk had 5000 queens. The Guide mentioned that the heir of sultan is now in India because the daughter married the Nawab of Hyderabad and had two sons who stay in India. The outside atmosphere was pleasing, having the Asian Seashore. We searched for the Bus stop taking us to Taxim. The driver was accepting coupons only which we did not have but he was kind enough to take us and allowed us to buy the tickets when we reached the last stop.

We were near the Soldiers' statue to meet our host of 2003 Mr. Cemal Atila. Both of us were very happy to meet after 3 years again. He is a Greek Dance Teacher and took us to the Dance classes. I gave him the sweets from India and books compiled by my husband. We inquired about the family members and their activities. We met new people there a gentleman from Romania, a girl student of Philosophy from Turkish University. We had discussion about culture and Philosophy. *Dr Geeta Mehta, India*

Comments

SOME CONCERNS FOR SERVAS

Membership of Hospitality Club & Couch Surfing far exceeds Servas members of SI. Membership & hosting facilities of Hospitality club & Couch surfing are free. Travelers from across the globe are now availing these free facilities. The number of Servas travelers has thus diminished. SI's revenue is dependent on the Servas travelers through the Letters of introduction (LOI). The existing reserves of SI revenue & the annual revenue from LOIs may be insufficient to assure running of SI conferences for a long time.

The Hospitality Club & Couch Surfing do not have their international conferences but are running their organizations with free membership & hosting facility (No LOIs) It is felt that the SI must institute some drastic austerity measures to reduce their expenses as also find some alternate sources of revenue & be not totally dependent on the LOIs. At national level the subscriptions from hosts need to be drastically reduced to attract more new hosts. Costs of LOIs need to be reduced to attract more Servas travelers. The costs of LOIs that NSs remit to SI is a fraction of what NSs charge from travelers. Servas chapters should find alternate sources of revenue for meeting their expenses & not be dependent on subscriptions from hosts or enhanced costs of LOIs from Servas travelers.

Reducing costs is a challenge that needs to met for enhancing the life span of Servas.

The Exco may consider doing their annual Exco meetings by teleconferencing if this is feasible. The Exco must find ways to minimise the Exco meeting expenditure.

The Exco may consider revising the number of conference delegates that should attend the SI conference. The delegates number can easily be slashed to half the numbers that are presently required to attend the conference. This can reduce the expense on account of funding of delegates. In order to have more people on the conference the number of visitors/observers could be doubled (they pay their own expenses)

As regards the delegates it is suggested that the SI may introduce one time funding rule for the delegates. In the past many a delegates have attended the SI conferences several times & availed the opportunity of greeting each other without having to make any significant contribution . It is time the SI consider it wise to curtail their free travel & holiday.

If the delegates are funded once only then they'll (the National Secretaries [NSs])agree to being replaced in their countries. At present there are many NSs that have been in the saddle for many decades. Taking advantage from non interference rule in internal affairs by SI ,the NSs take many undue advantages, bend rules in their favor & ease out or punish their members that oppose them. One time funding of delegates will be of help only if it is also specified that if the NS is disqualified to be a delegate then whilst finding a

substitute the NS will choose some one who is not related to him/her (also the substitute should not be a nominee of NS, he/she should be a elected person).

It is hoped Exco will consider the above suggestions as also much more for introducing austerity measures to help keep going of our Servas for years to come.

Gurdev Singh Pannu, Servas India, New Delhi

..... and in response

from the editor

This response has already been partly discussed with Gurdev and is highlighting some points of which he may not be aware.

1. Hospitality Club and Couch Surfing have a different agenda to Servas. They are promoting travel with the aim of seeing other cultures more clearly. They are not going that extra step of actively looking at Peace issues. This latter is one of the main aims of Servas. Hence we have representation at the UN.

2. Servas should be, in its own spirit, be working alongside these organisations and not competing with them. It is perfectly possible to be a member of both and so reap the benefits of both (such as I do)

3. Due to the different agendas I doubt that falling numbers in Servas are due to HC and CS.

4. HC and CS are internet dependent and consequently are cutting out a number of people for whom we cater. Like us I imagine they have a dedicated number of people who give their time for free to run the organisations.

5. Servas in general aims to be self supporting. External funding can provide the problems that the external funds come with requirements to follow the demands of the funders. This has been discussed eg: in Servas Britain.

6. As far as I know each country is only required to provide one delegate to the General Assembly. How this is funded is up to the country concerned. eg: in Britain a certain amount of money is put aside each year to fund GA attendance. Others attending have to fund themselves. NB: even as SI News Editor I had to partly fund myself.

7. National Secretaries are hard to find due to the large amount of responsibility laid on them. It is often for this reason that they stay in the position for a long time.

8. Exco are constantly in communication with each other through email and teleconferencing. It would not be possible to do the job properly without meetings. They have reduced the costs dramatically using email and teleconferencing and just having one face-to-face meeting a year.

*9. Costs for hosts and travellers, in Britain at any rate, are kept to a break even rate. And the treasurer (myself) is well known for the word **NO** when unagreed expenses occur.*

Over to members for your response.

Exco Info

Servas Roadmapping

Servas Roadmapping prepares people to discover and learn from:

- other people
- worthy places
- actions.

It was invented by Claudio and now several volunteers are furthering it, to help Servas become even more fun and interesting as an active learning network.

People may be mapped as individuals, groups or communities; you can map important places near or distant; and you can map actions of groups or individuals with other people or in nature.

Our first mapping exercise did not involve mapping places, nor actions. The mapping centred on people's lives; it was not the full Servas Roadmapping of People, Places and Actions. Trainer/facilitator Martin Krajcik called it Servas Life Mapping. He devised an exercise to offer Servas Life Mapping to a group of 12 people.

(In some ways Martin's exercise reminded me of the book by Gail Sheehy, *Passages*, which is about life's stages – see [Amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com))

Martin's Servas Life Mapping pertained only to one section of the Roadmapping process: telling our personal "Story". Martin asked each person to draw a map of their lives – personal development, people and events of importance. He called these Servas Life-Maps. Martin did not show us an example; he wanted us to be original, and true to ourselves. He asked us to discuss, and to compare our Servas Life Maps with each other, in small groups (3 persons each). And we reported on our differences and what we had in common. Through this exercise, our Servas Life Maps transformed into our life stories.

Each group reported to the plenary. Some people were very emotionally moved by the exercise. (Martin cautioned that recalling our lives can be dangerous. It is unpredictable. Some people find themselves suddenly fragile. Several times he told the enthusiastic group to select from their maps and memories, and not disclose everything.)

Before we finished, we did an open evaluation of our Servas Life-Mapping exercise. Servas volunteer Poonam video-taped it, to soon see on YouTube.

We found Servas Life-Mapping helped us in discovering ourselves (!) and in disclosing ourselves to each other, and of building trust. We used excerpts of Bob's *Seeds of Servas* as our introductory text. That text was useful and motivating.

Poonam used a checklist developed by Luigi for evaluation. Everyone said it was a good or very good exercise. We spent about 2 hours, and we felt rushed and wanted more time. We talked about possible next steps. Martin invited discussion on setting this module, of Servas Life Mapping in the full process of Servas Roadmapping. But there was no more time or preparation by which to expand the discussion.

I gave people my Servas greeting card and a too-brief introduction to Servas – until now new and unknown to everyone.

To offer a full Servas Roadmapping workshop we need two more exercise modules, one for mapping "actions" and one for mapping "places". Servas includes many teachers as hosts and travelers. We invite your help!

Monday, March 5, 2007 C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Documents\My Documents\1 Servas\Intelligent Roadmap\Evaluation of first IR trial.doc

Distant Voting System

I have been busy preparing for a trial run of the Distant Voting system which we plan to use. I have also been following up with National Secretaries to get their Annual Reports for 2006. The official due date of 31st March, 2007 for Annual Report 2006 is already over. National Secretaries who have not yet sent their Annual Reports are requested to please send it to me immediately. The format for the report is available at

<http://tinyurl.com/2amuua>.

Pramod Kumar,

Financial Operating Procedures - in Spanish

On behalf of EXCO, the Internal Audit Committee and the Spanish Speaking Servas National Groups, we want to thank Rodolfo Alvarado and Servas Mexico for making the Spanish translation of the approved Financial Operating Procedures possible. At the Central American Regional Meeting it became very clear how essential translations of important Servas documents are.

Mary Jane Mikuryia

Servas Korea has made arrangements to have FEA Regional Conference broadcast live.

www.servas.or.kr or

<http://www.visual.hs.kr/eng/index.html>

Mary Jane Mikuryia

Peace organisations

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

[a list of peace museums is included on the website -- mostly in Europe, but a few in Japan, India and China; the international ones in Costa Rica and on the Canada-USA Border seem to have been missed.]

- Suggest these Peace Museums could be of interest to Servas travelers]???

<http://www.globalmeditations.com/peace.htm>

Also, there are 137 organizations at the UN in general consultative status; 1,780 in special consultative status and 952 like SI on the Roster.

- The UN document which gives the list of these in English is: E/2006/INF/4 its index code is 06-58722 (E) 151106

I noticed, in Google, the first of these numbers points to the report in both French and Spanish.

Gary Sealey

50 Ways to promote peace

.....here are the first 24, more next month.

1. Be a **media guerilla**. Use e-mail, fax, photocopies, and newsletters to broadcast the message of peace. Spread empowering information.

2. Attend a **peace rally**. Check out [United For Peace & Justice](#) or [Peace.Protest.net](#) to find out about marches for peace around the country.

3. Host a **peace speaker** at an event in your community or at your workplace.

4. Get to **know your neighbors**. It's hard to reclaim peace without a sense of community.

5. Make friends with someone of another race, ethnicity, age, ability, or sexual orientation. **Appreciating and embracing diversity** helps to promote peace.

6. Take an adventure to neighborhoods of your town or country that are ethnically focused to appreciate diverse cultures. **Cross-cultural understanding** is key to building peace.

7. **Travel to learn**. Get first-hand experience in how things happen in other places and bring home questions about how you do things at home.

8. **Drive with patience and tolerance**. Keep the peace on our streets and highways.

9. **Listen more**. Really listen, without giving unsolicited advice. The validation of being heard is often more important than solving the problem.

10. **Learn to say I'm sorry**. Learn to mean it. Learn when to say it and use it. These two simple words can prevent violence and save relationships.

11. **Be helpful**. Random acts of kindness can create more peaceful communities.

12. **Spend time with a youngster**. This can often remind us of the meaning of a peaceful world.

13. **Practice the art of patience**. Be careful not to rush to judgment or action.

14. **Start peace conversations**. Talking peace, and listening, are critical for a vibrant democracy.

15. Involve yourself in **community parent workshops** and family groups that help parents protect, nurture, and support their children.

16. **Peace begins at home**. Monitor, nurture, support, and involve your children and family in keeping peace.

17. **Explore your prejudices**. Find out what's behind them, how they started, & how they influence your thoughts and actions.

18. **Write a peace song**. Peace songs are great tools for organizing and inspiring people.

19. Use music, art, stories, and drama to **explore themes** of peace and nonviolence.

20. **Broadcast a peace message** using a peace flag, poster, badge, t-shirt, or bumper sticker.

21. If you own a gun, **keep it unloaded** and locked up. Store the bullets in a separate place and hide the key safely away from children.

22. **Find your own inner peace**. Set aside a few minutes or more each day of quiet, peaceful time.

23. **Join a study circle**. Self-education is a fast track to empowerment toward peace.

24. Attend an **educational series on non-violence**. Look up peace & justice organizations in your state at [United For Peace & Justice](#) and call them for information on educational series.

Gary Sealey

Youth

SERVAS YOUTH REPORT 2nd Term 2006. (July – December)



• Regional and Youth conference for Central America.



- Following a decision made during the last eGA, Servas Youth organized a regional conference in Costa Rica for the area of Central America. This was celebrated during January '07, inviting the five National Groups (NG) in the region and those countries without a NG working at the moment.
- The agenda was presented to each NG, EXCO and the DFC in advance and was discussed at every level.
- Servas Youth has worked with each NG to include all the concerns and interests on the agenda. The youth in the area were invited to get involved directly.
- Servas Youth presented the plan to the DFC following the new application criteria of the DFC. The support of the DFC was crucial to do this project. Servas Youth and the "Central America Area" are very pleased with the DFC decision.

- The conference was a great success. As the meeting was celebrated on January, exhaustive information about it will be presented in the first report of 2007 (January – June)

• ServasYouth.org



- The new Servas website is finally operational. At www.servasyouth.org you'll find all the information available about Servas Youth.
- The site is in process, we are working on the structure and the contents. Your suggestions will be welcomed.
- Francisco Luna (Mexico), Catherine Calderon (The Philippines) and Claudio Kerber (Brazil) are working with me on the updating and design of the web site.
- Uwe Federer and Amir Levi have given important contributions to the web site structure.
- Several members of the working groups have written articles that are now uploaded on the web site.
- Please take a few minutes and go to see the web.

SYLE (Servas Youth Languages Experience)

- The second term of 2006 Servas Youth established links with new cities to start being part of the project.
- The program offers one month learning a foreign language abroad through the Servas network with out any cost for the traveler. Please go to www.servasyouth.org under the link SYLE to read more about it.
- The first term of the 2007 Servas Youth will look for candidates to fill the spots to learn languages (Spanish, French, English and Portuguese). The goal is to run 5 or 6 programs.
- If your NG is interested in being part of the project please write to Pablo Chufeni to pablochufeni@yahoo.com.ar



• Yorkshire'07

- The Servas Britain team has done great work preparing this meeting for July/August'07. Ann Greenough is leading the project.



- All the information is on www.servasyouth.org under the link Events/Yorkshire'07
- Ann, with a team, is also working on the "S. Y. Travel Award". The information for this is on the web.



- As the second event (first was Patagonia'06) of the Servas Youth International Meetings, Yorkshire'07 will be a marvelous opportunity to take a step forward on the youth issues on Servas. Hope to count your presence.
- Write to Ann G. for booking or more information to dasher1949@aol.com and see previous Servas Monthly News for full details.

• **World Peace Music CD**



- With Magiari (Venezuela) and Sonia (Canada) we are creating an international compilation of peace music with a young profile to promote Servas Youth through our human network.
- At the moment several countries have sent to us peace songs in their native languages to be included on the CD. An MP3 file and the lyrics in the original language and translated into English is requested.
- The CD will be presented at the meeting of Yorkshire.
- If your NG is interested in join this project please write to Magiari Diaz to magiari@gmail.com

• **New National Youth Contacs**

- Servas Youth is always looking for new "Local Youth Contacts". You can find every contact at the web site by country at the last link.



- If your country still does not have a Youth contact appointed please do not wait any more.
- Servas Youth needs a person to work with us in your NG. Please write to pablochufeni@yahoo.com.ar to be included as a Local Youth Contact.
- The local Youth Contacts registered at the moment are:
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- **ARGENTINA** - Paula Falaschi - paufalaschi@hotmail.com
- **BRASIL** - Marina Maluly Pacheco - marinaprimeira@hotmail.com
- **CANADA** - Sarena Talbot - sailingsarenely@hotmail.com
- **COSTA RICA** - Norma Vargas - norma.vargas@costarricense.cr
- **GUATEMALA** - Ivan Garcia - ivangarcia@intelnett.com
- **HONDURAS** - Sharon Espinoza - sharonjudith@latinmail.com
- **ISRAEL** - Haim Murik - murik@netvision.net.il
- **NICARAGUA** - Stefan Baschel - stefan.baschel@gmail.com
- **PANAMA** - Lizbeth Gonzalez - liz_elisa@hotmail.com
- **SWEDEN** - Jonny Sägänger - saganger@nyhetsbrev.se
- **THE GAMBIE** - Timothy Iyege - timalphaomega@imap.cc
- **URUGUAY** - Jimena - kemena@montevideo.com.uy

As you can see Servas Youth is a very dynamic area of our organization, so:

1. **HELP US TO SPREAD THE NEWS OF SERVAS YOUTH !!!**
Send this news to all the members of your National Group!!!
2. **Create a link** from your Servas web site to the servasyouth.org
3. **Look for candidates** to SYLE, Working Group, Local Contact or any other youth action.
4. **Get involved!!!**

*Please let me know that you have got this report and what do you think about it. Ok?
I'll be waiting. Really...*

Pablo Chufeni
Servas International Youth Coordinator
pablochufeni@yahoo.com.ar

