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November 2011

A Newsletter for Waldorf School Communities
from the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America

Delegates' Circle meetings in all eight of our continental regions are happening in October and November. These dedicated groups of representatives from every member school and institute in North America (178 in all!) help to support the whole group of Waldorf organizations in each region. The Delegates discuss shared issues and resources and keep their schools and institutes apprised of news from their regions, the continent, and the world on behalf of their schools and on behalf of the whole Association. Schools and institutes release their teachers or administrators twice a year from school time - and then once again at the Summer Conference - to think regionally and globally with others for these meetings. They all work to design ideas that are possible in collaboration that might not be possible alone...redefining success together for a worthy future!

The Leadership Council of AWSNA will meet in November graciously hosted by the Marin Waldorf School in San Rafael, California. Each of eight regions and each constituent group WECAN(Waldorf Early Childhood Education in North America), TEN (Teacher Education Network), PSC (Pedagogical Section Council), and DANA (Development and Administration Network of AWSNA), elects a leader to carry the consciousness of the region and the continent. This group of twelve in conjunction with the Executive Team and the Accreditation Coordinator of AWSNA, Joanne Andruscavage, leads our movement in collaboration and community strength.

This upcoming meeting marks a new chapter in the story of the Leadership Council (LC) as four new regional representatives join this important work with three members who have been working in their positions for three or four years and one remaining member of the remarkable group who inaugurated the "new" form of AWSNA in 2004. Tim Morrissey from the Northwest (NW), Stephanie Rynas from Northern California (NoCAL), Uli Steurznicke from the Texas-Mexico-Canada-Southwest Rockies (TexMexCanSoRock), and Jason Childs from the Atlantic Southeast (ASE).

Every meeting of the LC is facilitated, most frequently by Katie Schwerin, CEO of the W.S. Badger Company, and former class teacher at the Monadnock Waldorf School. Among Katie's many skills, she is an experienced facilitator.

Arizona Council for Waldorf Education (ACWE) invited Frances Kane to its recent meeting to discuss issues of the "service marks" (Waldorf, Steiner and Rudolf Steiner) as they apply in charter schools. Frances brought the idea of licensed permission to use the term "Waldorf-inspired," to describe a non-AWSNA program and covered much informational ground about correct term use. At the meeting were principals and representatives of five charter schools as well as two teachers and a board member from the Tucson Waldorf School, an AWSNA member.

The Why Waldorf Works website is a tremendous resource to AWSNA's schools – make the most of it! In addition to the resources we provide, we have several new sections: the GREEN pages, where we post news that is related to sustainable practices – send us your GREEN stories! This section also includes links to helpful sites for schools' use. Also, we've launched a new PEOPLE section. This is the place to send us news about the hiring of a new teacher or administrative changes. The page includes Alumni and In Memoriam sections. The ALUMNI CORNER is a great place for alums to meet and post stories: log in and share your news!

