

Woman's Way
RED LODGE



World Peace & Prayer Day

“Our vision is for all Peoples of all continents to come together as ONE at their Sacred Sites to pray, meditate and commune with one another, on this day, thus promoting an energy shift to heal our Mother Earth and achieve a united consciousness toward achieving peace.”

–Chief Arvol Looking Horse



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To borrow one of Mary's descriptions of WPPD, it was "a signpost of what we do well in Red Lodge". It was sweet, beautiful, powerful and sacred. As I basked in the energy of the gathering, I realized that some of the joy I felt was in witnessing others. Such beaming smiles, peaceful looks, deep connections. There was something about the look of each person that said, "This is really right!"

So, I thought I'd do some interviews as a new way to offer an article for this eNEWS. One common thread that each shared was the thorough enjoyment and richness of drumming during their 2 hour shift, which was an interweaving with the whole that lasted 24 hours. May peace truly be with you.

Sincerely,

Kendra E Thornbury



Interview With Kathleen Hanning

Would you share a bit about what inspired you to organize and take leadership for WPPD for Red Lodge?

My original inspiration came from some vision work I was doing last year. What I kept getting was to have trust and to trust in my self and what I was hearing and that I would have a sign. And my sign would be that another white buffalo calf would be born and within a month there was a newspaper article that another white buffalo calf was born. It kind of freaked me out and so I went on line and researched it and in the process found the Lakota website for World Peace and Prayer Day and Chief Arvol. In reading that, I was thinking, "this is so intense and are we doing anything like this for Red lodge". So I asked Mary and she said I don't think we are and she mentioned that they had always wanted to have a 24-hour drum vigil on their land and offered it up.

Also it ties in with what I had been personally experiencing in life and in my family and really desiring peace and harmony in my heart and family and community and letting that flow out into the world and all lands and all people and to our mother earth and her healing. And to me it's all tied together. It starts inside us and has to be spread out that way.



help!

We need recipes and book reviews for future eNEWS. Please share. Urgent!

Sisters_Soul_Food@wwrl.org
and Book_Look@wwrl.org

Do you have any advice for other women that might have their own visions and inspirations they'd want to create?

If you have a desire in your heart then I say trust it and step out on the little ledge and just soar with it. If you need help, ask for help.

Interview With Mary Shackelford

**What were some of the highlights of WPPD for you?
What struck you?**

There were a lot of moments. The first thing would be to just acknowledge that it was dream for Jim and me for a long time to have a drum circle in that cedar circle. This is like an inaugural event for the cedar circle. Both of us have been wanting a 24 hour drumming there. It was really a highlight for me that we had the whole thing there in the west space of our layout here. It was really nice.

And the beginning of it was a highlight, when I was out there making the fire with Paula and we called in the directions. I'm particularly fond of the edge places, the dawn and the twilight. That was really nice.

I really liked how the space was held as a ceremonial space, but none of us had to be there the whole time, we could go in and out of it and trust that it was being held and we could come back again and again throughout the day. Throughout the whole property there was this presence and sense of connection, connecting the larger place here, and spirit here, as well as connecting all the things one could imagine happening around the world on solstice and to go back into ceremonial space any time during the day was just wonderful.

Of course for me when the children arrived and my friend Jennifer came with the young couple and we gathered together for the pipe ceremony. It's been a long time since I've heard young people on the land and that was really sweet and in connection with that that it was Margo's naming ceremony that brought us those cedar trees we planted there.

As we gathered for the pipe ceremony, it was quite a nice diversity of people—of ages and sexes. The meeting of the people that I spend so much time here on Burton hill doing ceremony, sweat lodge and other ways—the coming together of that with my Red Lodge sisters and then reaching out and having new people here, too, it was just really quite wonderful.

I really enjoyed the evening as we made the circle a little tighter around the fire and more people arrived late, like 10:30pm, and they brought such good and appreciative energy. For us to all be there to be gathering in for the long haul to drum through the night and the late light lingering over the hill and the trees. I really enjoyed that.

It was wonderful for me to walk out in the morning and see you and Amy on the ground and Richard drumming. Not too long before 6am Kathleen came and Kathleen Richard and I drummed while you and Amy lay by the fire. We drummed in the 6 o'clock hour. That was a highlight. We got quite a lot of energy going.

It was such a blessing for the land, Kendra, it really is. It's another way, continuing what has been growing here and growing in Red Lodge. I was just so honored that we were able to keep a drumbeat going for 24 hours towards prayers peace and healing for the earth and in alignment with the other things that happen at solstice. It feeds us all.

Could you say a little bit more about what it was like to

have your husband a part of Red Lodge ceremony and any words about masculine presence in Red Lodge?

Well, Jim and I have a really close and deeply connected intimate relationship, so from the beginning he has been a part of Red Lodge. It was a great joy for me that he was able to have a visible presence beyond just me and us, to actually be part of something fun and important and to be present and visible and contribute in his own way and be seen for doing that. Richard, too. And of course Richard was a part of making the CD. So they've been these presences that have been there cheering us on and supporting me and us and it was wonderful to have a time where they were actual participants.

What did you feel their presence contributes and adds?

The first thing that comes to mind—it just adds such a depth of love.

It adds balance to have men.

Interview With Richard Jones

Part of the purpose of WWRL is to “enliven the divine feminine”. As man, I am curious what you have to share about what the masculine has to offer the divine feminine?

Let me begin by saying that the other Red Lodge project that I was involved with was the CD, 3 days of recording and all the post-production stuff. That was one of the most remarkable experiences, certainly one of the most remarkable recording experiences, being the only male in the studio with 13 women. The energy, the focus, and the intensity of the feminine was so strong and so right out front. The drumming vigil was a little different. They were 2 very different sort of things to me and I liked both. I was pleased and honored to be a part.

As for the feminine and the masculine, it seems to me that there is room for—not only room for, but a necessity—that men work on men's stuff and women work on women's stuff at times because we are 2 halves of the whole of humanity. So it's really important for us to get clear about who and what we are and how to live that.

Of equal importance is putting the 2 halves together, not necessarily in the typical man/woman relationship, but in partnership of all humans working on a common goal or project. It's equally as important that we work on stuff together because that's really the next step to be full partners in the adventure of humanity

As far as Women's Red Lodge, I would suspect, and it seems right to me that most of the focus would remain on working decidedly on women's issues, women's understanding and women's feeling and women's development. At the same time, the organization would be acutely aware of the value of including both genders in some events. Without the next step of integrating everybody, it's kind of a hollow victory.

What do you think men have to gain by learning from, witnessing and integrating their lives with the divine feminine?

Oh my goodness! [We laughed] There's no end to it. Simply on the pragmatic end of the spectrum we could learn a little common sense. My lifelong experience with women and women's ways is that they are usually more direct, they are more down to earth, and they are actually, in a lot of ways, more effective.

Having said that, we each have ways and talents and real deep gender attributes.

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Drai Bearwomyn McKii, Graphics
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I don't know, I mean just to put it in real concrete terms, some of the things that men need, men all around the world, need to learn from women. Some things are generosity, practicality, common sense and compassion. And some men have these things to varying degrees. But in general, those are things that men can really benefit from learning. Of course we all know that every time I generalize I'm wrong [we laughed].

Men sometimes bring certain vigor, adventure and sometimes an appropriate dose of recklessness that really suits when you mix it with some of the common sense and compassion. I mean there is nothing more exciting than mixing common sense and compassion with vigor and recklessness. That's exciting. It's great fun.

The whole thing is a 2 way street and it's incumbent on all of us that we learn how to travel that.

Interview With Kristina Turner

Share some of the highlights of the experience for you.

I loved how through the long silences I was able to connect in my imagination and in my spirit with the awareness that people all around the planet were in ceremony. And the awareness of the 13 Grandmothers gathering came in pretty strongly at one time. I'm so grateful that Kathleen persisted with saying it needs to be on this day because this is when everyone else is doing it. There's the synchronicity that happens when we participate in that.

One of the things I was excited to have return was a vision that came to me a couple years ago of being in Washington DC drumming. This time it was much more real. I saw prayer circles and drum circles from all over the country gathering around the reflecting pool and holding a 24-hour peace vigil. And I could feel myself there and look to the power of that kind of event to draw those of us together who are doing this kind of work. I was excited to see that vision come in closer.

What did this day signify or mean to you personally and for Red Lodge?

For Red Lodge I felt this day was seeds being planted for our coming together as men and women, elders, and youngers—there were children there. I felt the seed was very rich and alive

and it was being planted and that we are going to have many more events that bring us together as whole community. I loved that the women really deeply planted the energy through out the day, because it was all women drumming through out day and the men joined us in the evening and by the time they joined us I was so welcoming of them and was glad to have them there with us.

One of the needs that became clear was for us to have a community drum that men and women play. This is exciting. It's time for us to have a community drum for men and women. Maybe Red Lodge can birth that.

You mentioned the diversity that was there—the youth, the elders, the men and women. I am wondering if you could expand on that? This has been something that Red Lodge has envisioned. I remembered sitting in councils talking about it. It happened. We were there. I wonder if you could share what that was like for you, what it felt like.

Well, I was drumming during the time the men arrived. I had my eyes closed; I was in trance. At one point I opened my eyes and directly across the altar from me Richard was sitting there drumming and I felt such joy.

Thanks to all of us for showing up for this.

And the children were just delightful. Their laughter...feel them happy to be there. It was great.

It feels like this has significance because it's been a year of another evolution of what it means to grow an organization and as a board we've acknowledged that it's an ebb year. There have been some challenges for people and with some councils. What does an event like this do for you regarding your hope and vision for RL?

This event is so in line with my vision for RL. That we grow organically and in a way that is so in harmony with what we've already been doing. Just expanding the spiral and my feeling that there were too few people really changed by the end of the day. We had such a full circle when we did pipe ceremony.

It takes time to grow the deep trust among a small circle to root the energy that can then attract a large number of people. So I felt this event was root growing.



BOOK LOOK **The Dalriada Series** – Another Epic Woman Warrior Series shared by Draí!

1] *The Dawn Stag* 2] *The White Mare* 3] *The Boar Stone*. I JUST finished this trilogy. As a whole...WOW! One must read all 3 for the tale to complete itself. Vividly atmospheric and evocative of the rituals and magik of Celtic culture. A fast, intriguing read. Druids, standing stones, healers, warriors, seers, horse & boar clans, stag rituals, celebrations, wakes, songs of the loam and the holy waters. Watson evokes the mystical and forbidding landscape of an historical period, 79 A.D. shrouded in romantic myth, capturing readers in an epic of tantalizing depth and suspense. This story is based the Dalriada of Alba – Scots and Irish blended – who weave their fates together, as they war amongst neighboring tribes, and face into the aggressive Roman threat over their autonomy. A nice love story rooted in ancient Earth mysteries, herb lore and the wisdom of the priestesses of the sisterhood. A "thumbs up" in my view for an historic fiction.



SUSTAINABILITY CORNER

In our every deliberation we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations.



Honesty—Is it the Best Policy?

—Suzanne Lichau

I recently spent a month traveling in China. Quite an experience on many levels.

I am still absorbing and integrating my experiences.

Two months ago I spoke to development in Costa Rica and other developing countries.

China was another opportunity to view a development machine at work.

In China trash is thrown out on the ground. In cities it is taken to vacant lots. People glean anything usable and the rest is left. Eventually a building is built over the trash pile.

In more rural areas trash piles in lots are covered with some soil and food is grown on top.

My daughter, Aleidria, and I had a discussion about this. She pondered the fact that realistically perhaps the Chinese were being more honest about their garbage. They don't pretend it doesn't exist and they are open about showing it. Here in this country we have developed a trash collection policy. How often do we think about the trash and where it is once it has been picked up from our homes? Is it fair for us to judge other countries by our standard of out of sight out of mind? Are our landfills any more honest than trash on the beach or streets? Has our way of handling the billions of tons of trash we produce yearly helped us to decrease our waste? Has our apathy allowed the machine of consumerism to break its reins and run beyond our ability to catch and manage more responsibly?

Some Facts to consider:

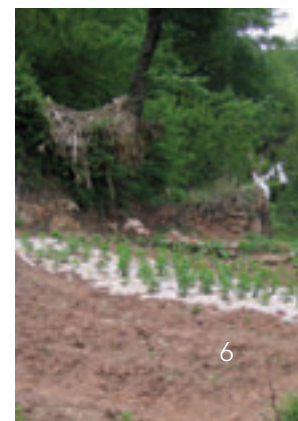
- Americans throw away 380 Billion plastic bags per year (average) – these bags take 1 thousand years to break down (in to what I am not sure)
- 100 Millions pounds of junk mail is generated per year – it's production requires 28 Billion gallons of water
- Americans could save 1 Billion pounds of paper waste per year by giving up only ONE paper napkin per day
- Eight Billion pounds of paper are generated in ATM receipts yearly – don't take one
- Glass takes 100 years to break down (again I am not sure into what)
- Leather takes 50 years to biodegrade (if it is not in a landfill)
- The average person creates 94pounds of CO2 per day and 4.5 pounds of trash
- A 14-foot stack of newspapers represents (1) 40 foot Fir tree
- If you changed 1 incandescent light bulb to a fluorescent bulb you would eliminate the CO2 emissions equivalent of 800,000 cars
- Recycled Aluminum oil takes 1/20th of the energy to manufacture
- To make a 1-liter plastic water bottle takes 5 liters of water
- The dollars spent on bottled water in America yearly is enough to provide clean drinking water for the entire world

Some Links to Check Out:

www.greendimes.com | www.americanforest.org | www.earth911.org
www.whatkindofworlddoyouwant.com

Coming Out Soon—GOOGLE FOR IT!

THE GREEN BOOK | 500 simple ways to reduce waste in our lives





WWRL CEREMONIES AND RITUALS

South Sound Drum Circle 2ND FRIDAYS. 7PM. Cedar Center, Olympia. Open to all women. \$5 suggested for facility rental + Hearth Fund donation. Contact Barbara Krulich, bkrul@juno.com.

Port Angeles Drum Circle SEP 21, and DEC 21 2007, on Solstice and Equinox, 7 PM, Dry Creek Grange, Port Angeles Open to all women; \$5 suggested donation. Contact Della Floyd, sparklywanda@msn.com or 360-452-8570.

24 hour Medicine Drum Peace Vigil Last Saturday of every month, Sunrise to Sunrise. No experience needed. Drums available for your use. Sponsored by Dancing Deer Drum Circle. For info call Barbara 360-866-7687 or Joyce 360-495-0033.

Woman's Way Sweat Lodge

NOTE: Sept date has been cancelled but may be rescheduled. Open to all women. Hearth Fund donation encouraged. For info and to RSVP, contact sweatlodge@wwrl.org. 2007 schedule listed below. Waterpourers and firetenders are invited to step up! 2007 marks the beginning of WWRL efforts to reach out. Please feel free to invite interested women to join us.

10/27 (Samhain) – Raven Turtle

11/24 (Giving Thanks) – Burton Hill

The purpose of Woman's Way Red Lodge is to
Enliven the sacred feminine, Honor deeply all life,
As we serve our world.

SUPPORTED EVENTS

Many WWRL Lodge Sisters and Support Sisters offer events, workshops, programs, or on-going gatherings that resonate with the purpose and principles of Red Lodge. We offer this information with blessings for the energy, commitment and success of all. Please forward this information to all who might be interested!

Wailing Lodge One Friday a month, Sacred Groves, Bainbridge Island. kendra@spiritalive.net or Therese@sacredgroves.com.

Drum Circle and Open House JUL 7. Sacred Groves, Bainbridge Island. Contact kendra@spiritalive.net or therese@sacredgroves.com

Delighting in the Diva: Re-Claiming and Embodying the Divine Feminine. JUL 21, Sacred Groves, Bainbridge Island. Facilitated by Kendra E Thornbury. Contact kendra@spiritalive.net Discount for WWRL members.

WWRL Lodge Sister and Support Sister members are welcome to submit listings of events they are involved in organizing. Send name of workshop or event, date, time, place, cost, and contact info to calendar_submissions@wwrl.org by the 20th of the previous month. Listings must meet 5 of the 15 Red Lodge Principles We Share.



If you would like to support WWRL with a financial gift, please make your check to Red Lodge, put "donation" on the memo line and mail to:

WWRL P.O. Box 13352,
Des Moines, WA 98198.

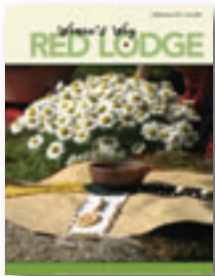
*Every dollar makes a
difference...THANK YOU*



Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the previous month.

Web and eNEWS Disclaimer All eNEWS editions, in whole and or in part, will be on the Internet. The submitter is totally responsible for the content they submit, whether written, images or pictures. Submitted information must be original works or you must have explicit written permission to use their work and have it posted on the Internet. If other individuals are in pictures that you submit to the eNEWS, you must first gain their permission to use their picture and have it posted on the web.

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- Valli Sanstrom Content Keeper
- Suzanne Lichau Sustainability Writer
- Drai Bearwomyn Graphic Designer
- Pamela Delilah Proof Reader
- Marsha Cook Messenger

Community Calendar Listing:

Calendar_Submissions@wwrl.org All WWRL Lodge Sister and Support Sister Circle members are welcome to send in event listings, which meet 5 of our 15 Red Lodge Principles wwrl.org/files/our_principles.pdf. Send specific information in this order please: name of workshop or event, date, time, place, cost and contact info. Information must be presented in a concise format. Our community calendar process is changing (see article page 2). For, now, follow these guidelines. A notice will be sent out when the new calendar system is ready. Stay tuned!

General Articles: Article_Submissions@wwrl.org We invite women of our community to share their gifts and passions with us in written form, which they believe may interest others in our community. Articles must be original works and must meet 5 of the 15 Red Lodge principles.

Come and Advertise with Us:

Advertising@wwrl.org Do you have a business that other WWRL Women might like to frequent, artwork to sell, workshops, healing or business services to offer? WWRL fully embraces Community supporting Community. It is our intention to serve as a vehicle for sharing information within our community. We invite you to place an ad in eNEWS. We can even design your ad, either quarter, half or full page. Ads range from \$50 to \$200. All proceeds from ad sales apply to future WWRL projects.

Book Look and Movie Madness:

Book_Look@wwrl.org With the intention of sharing information we offer "Book Look" and "Movie Madness", fantastic book or film recommendations. If you think a specific book or movie is a must for the community, please share it with us and tell us why! At a minimum, simply provide the title and author. If you wish, you are also welcome to write the review—130 words or less! (optional).

Sister's Soul Food:

Sisters_Soul_Food@wwrl.org Please send your favorite, tasty, healthy recipes to share with our circle.

Sustainability Corner:

Sustainability_Corner@wwrl.org Come, come, let us sit at the table of life together and feast!! Is there a book or information source that has inspired you in relationship to sustainability that you want to recommend? Is there a business you have used or know of that practices sustainable manufacturing that you want to share? Is there a practice you use that could help others to be more sustainable in any of the three spheres – body, mind or spirit? Are there products or services you offer that relate to the concept and vision of sustainability? Write us with Ideas and contributions.



ALOHA
We Welcome New Members!

A spirited ululation to our newest member!

Lodge Sister Membership

Joey Soller

Huzzah! We are now at 70 members and growing, growing, growing.