

THE PERMACULTURE ACTIVIST

Vol III, No. 1 Newsletter of the Permaculture Institute of North America (PINA) March, 1987

From the Editor

This issue of *The Permaculture Activist* has several themes. Continuing a series begun with the December issue, we include here articles on workshops given at the 2nd International Permaculture Conference held in Olympia, Washington in August, 1986. Instead of a conference proceedings, the *Activist* will present a selection of the best material from the conference over the next couple of issues thus providing an excellent way for us to give a wider perspective on the kind of work permaculture "activists" are doing around the world.

"Reports from Regional Groups" details the ongoing and new initiatives among members of the permaculture movement. The news that local groups are involved in such a wide range of projects is exciting - this is where permaculture ideas get off the drawing board and on the ground.

"Does Anyone Know...?" Well, we often don't, and a lot of people write to the Permaculture Institute with simple questions and some very technical questions we can't answer. This section of the *Activist* gives us a chance to answer some frequently asked questions and gives our readers a chance to respond to questions for which we haven't got an answer.

Lastly, the "Allied Groups" section describes related organizations and their work in various areas of sustainable and regenerative agriculture. Our readers will probably wish to contact these organizations at some time for additional information and resources.

I wish to express thanks to Steve Erickson, Lea Kouba, Sego Jackson and Michael Crofoot for their help in putting this issue together, and to AgAccess of Davis, CA for their generous contribution of many hours of free computer time.

Have a fruitful growing season,

A Brief History of PINA

Sego Jackson

The Permaculture Institute of North America was originally incorporated as a nonprofit corporation for research and education in 1977 under the name, North American Permaculture Institute (NAPI), in response to a request by Bill Mollison to set up an organization to promote and coordinate permaculture activities in North America. This initial effort was made by several individuals including Jamie Jobb and John Wires. At the same time, Jamie Jobb, author, director of the Howe Homestead Park in Walnut Creek, CA. and publisher of the ground-breaking *Dumpeap* Journal, agreed to coordinate publication of a journal for North American permaculture.

NAPI was unable to publish the journal (known as the *Permacultural Observer*) due to limited funds and energy. As a way of informing subscribers to the *Observer* of upcoming workshops and other goings on, Jamie Jobb, and later Guy Baldwin, began sending out a short newsletter, the *Permacultural Participant*.



Bill Mollison and Gretchen Will.
Gretchen's article describes the agriculture program at D-Q University, a two-year college for native Americans. See page 14.

to help the fledgling permaculture movement develop.

Following a trip to the U.S. in 1982 by Bill Mollison's, several people in Topanga, California headed up by Chuck Woodson volunteered to try to get NAPI up and running. The Board of Directors was reorganized and the legal address of NAPI moved south to Topanga. The group also experienced difficulty raising funds and human energy and NAPI continued to be a dormant organization.

In the meantime, people who had taken permaculture design courses began to form bioregional groups. In the Pacific Northwest Mike Maki, Bev Reed and I formed the Maritime Permaculture Institute (MPI) and organized a permaculture design course taught by Andrew Jeeves, Larry Korn, Maia Maisson, and Bill Mollison in 1982. MPI printed a sporadic newsletter and held meetings and an annual retreat.

The addresses of the bioregional groups were published in *The Mother Earth News* and several other publications. Mail began to pour in to MPI from all over the country and abroad. It was apparent that a bioregional and a national clearinghouse of information was needed, so, in the spring of 1984, with Bill Mollison's support, I agreed to try to revitalize NAPI.

Within a week of this decision, I received a phone call from the Homestead Partnership on Whidbey Island, Washington, offering a 23-acre property for use as a permaculture design demonstration and educational center.

To backtrack a bit, in May of 1983 Bill Mollison was a major presenter at a conference on Whidbey Island. As usual, Bill stirred things up and got even more Northwesterners interested in permaculture. So early in 1984, MPI cosponsored a permaculture design course on Whidbey Island, taught by Dr. John Quinney, Director of the New Alchemy Institute. Members of the Homestead Partnership who participated in these events offered their property for use as a

continued next page...

A Brief History of PINA ... continued
 permaculture design and educational facility. They contacted me to determine what could be done.

After meetings and correspondence with the NAPI group in California, the Board of Directors was again reorganized and the office was officially moved to Whidbey Island. The name of the organization was changed to the Permaculture Institute of North America (PINA) so that its acronym did not sound so sleepy.

[Editor's note: after hearing Masanobu Fukuoka's "do nothing" philosophy stating that the ultimate goal of a natural farmer is to be able to nap at any time of the day makes me wonder if we made the right decision]

Guy Baldwin agreed to serve as publications editor and to produce a quarterly newsletter, *The Permaculture Activist*, which would fulfill the subscription obligations of NAPI. Bev Reed agreed to move to the Island to help set up the book service and to continue the Weeder Geese Project. I became the coordinator of PINA's educational program. Four other permaculture course graduates who lived on the Island, Lea Kouba, Joyce Van Moulton, Steve Erickson, and Marianne Edain, formed the core group in the office.

The initial chaos of financial record keeping was turned into a smoothly functioning bookkeeping system by Cleveland Hall. The Homestead Partnership agreed to lease the entire property to PINA, with monthly mortgage payments to be covered by room rentals and donations from the Partnership. That group also agreed to actively work on raising major funds toward the payment of the mortgage so that the property could be turned over to the Institute free and clear. The goal was to have the building and land available for PINA's full use by August 1, 1986.

During the autumn of 1984 Bev, Guy, Mike Crofoot and I traveled throughout New Zealand and Australia meeting with permaculture folks, attending the First International Permaculture Designers' Conference and the Permaculture EarthCare Festival. During meetings with permaculture designers and other international institute representatives, it was determined that the continental institutes had several basic responsibilities which must be met: 1) to keep copies of the most current, approved permaculture design course curriculum; 2) to issue certificates to course graduates; and 3) to keep a current registry of the graduates.

While in Australia we arranged with Terry White, publisher of the *International Permaculture Journal* (IPJ), to include that quarterly as part of our membership package. Participants at the First International Permaculture Conference asked us to host the next such conference, to which we agreed.

From June, 1984 through June, 1985 we met with respected members of the permaculture and related networks to see what we could learn from their experiences. We received input from Dana Jackson of The Land Institute, Robert Kourik, formerly of Farralones Institute, John Quinney, John Todd, co-founder of the New Alchemy Institute, Miguel Altieri of the University of California at Berkeley, Stephen Gleissman of the University of California at Santa Cruz, and others. Many of these people became members of our Board of Advisors. In addition, we formed a Board of Directors, made up of people from the greater Seattle area, to manage issues of organizational direction and finances. A Steering Committee, made up of permaculture design course graduates from the Northwest and leaders of Tilth and Tilth Producers Cooperative, was created to guide the design process for the land and educational facility.

The years of 1985 and 1986 were difficult years for the establishment of PINA. Fundraising to pay off the land did not prove successful. It became impossible to have the property vacated for PINA's full use by August, 1986, as planned.

We developed a rigorous and successful educational program, including seven two-week courses, two international conferences, and numerous weekend workshops. These were coordinated out of a small room packed with phones, desks and file cabinets, the living room of the Homestead, rented conference facilities, and a rented tent.

It became difficult to rent out the rooms of the Homestead because of the increasing disruptions caused by PINA's programs, visitors, and phone calls. The staff were putting in too many hours to be able to attend to their personal affairs, while available money for pay fluctuated between \$300-500 per month in total. The staff was beginning to singe and burn from the coordination needed to do so many programs well. The Steering Com-

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Note: * denotes Permaculture Design Course graduates

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Members of PINA receive a subscription to *The Permaculture Activist*. Membership categories and annual dues are: Regular member - \$25/year; Sustaining Member - \$50/year; Contributing Member - \$100/year; Patron - \$250-\$500; Lifetime Member - \$1000. All of these member categories also receive a subscription to *Permaculture, Journal of the International Permaculture Association*, which is co-published by PINA. A special low-income membership is also available - \$16/year, however, this only includes a subscription to *The Permaculture Activist*. Publications Director of PINA and Editor of *The Permaculture Activist*: Guy Baldwin.

The Institute assumes no responsibility for unsolicited materials. Manuscripts or artwork not accompanied by stamped, self-addressed envelopes will not be returned. Ad rate card is available upon request from: Publications Director, PINA 6488 Maxwellton Road, Clinton WA 98236. Publication dates and copy deadlines for all materials and advertisements are as follows:

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mittee was frustrated at not being able to proceed with confidence, since it was unknown if PINA would actually purchase the land. Sounds like a mess, eh? Yup!

In each PINA design course, students were divided into design teams to create a sample design for the Homestead property as an institutional setting for PINA. The many design reports that were created started to repeat the same concerns and criticisms: the site was too far from a population center for expanding the volunteer staff and to be an effective educational center; there was not enough information and outreach for the general public; the building wasn't very suitable for holding design courses; not having the land secured was a big obstacle to our overall land development goals; and securing financing for the land was going to be extremely difficult. PINA was making a "class A" error in trying to procure the Homestead property.

A "class A" error is one which gets you off to a wrong start from the very beginning. If pursued, it will always keep you headed in the wrong direction, and will be a huge energy drain. These "reality checks" increasingly matched our own views and ultimately lead to a new perception of PINA's direction and goals.

The basic shift envisioned is from a land-based organization with a demonstration site as a major focus, to acting as a networking and enabling organization, encouraging and supporting the work of permaculture groups all over North America. This focus evolved from our experiences and struggles in starting up the Institute and the input of advisors, students and friends. It has also come out of our growing awareness of the way in which permaculture is spreading and developing throughout North America.

As a result of the continual heavy flow of mail and the coming together of people interested in permaculture last August at the two conferences, we've become aware that many permaculture demonstration sites are already developing, privately funded and designed for the specific needs of the people living at the sites. We believe that this holds the potential of a much richer contribution to the understanding, spread, and growth of permaculture than we could create on one site. Also, more groups and individuals are beginning to present workshops and

courses, which are geared to local needs. We see that by continuing and expanding our support for these individual and decentralized activities, we can greatly increase everyone's effectiveness, while lowering our own overhead and over-extension. This revised view of PINA's purpose and direction has been created by the staff, Steering Committee, and Board of Directors.

At this juncture we find ourselves "back to basics" and regrouping. We continue to be a membership organization. We see our major function as networking, and to provide as much information as possible through our publication [*The Permaculture Activist*] and by phone and mail with those who contact us. We intend to improve our services in these areas. Another priority is assisting those who are teaching and demonstrating permaculture in whatever way we can, as well as offering our own educational experiences where possible. The Institute itself continues to need skilled organizational administration and bookkeeping, and we are committed to funding the necessary staffing for these functions.

After exploring a number of options, we have decided to move PINA's office to Seattle. The permaculture events of the last several years have resulted in a lot of activity in Seattle, with a number of permaculture related groups meeting regularly. PINA is currently exploring the possibility of leasing office space together with several of groups and like-minded organizations. Our hope is to be able to expand our effectiveness, decrease costs, and secure quality office space by working co-operatively together. Until we find another suitable location, we'll continue to operate from Whidbey Island.

As our goals and location shift, there are also corresponding changes in our decision-making groups and staff. We have disbanded our Board of Advisors and our Steering Committee, as their efforts to plan and implement a demonstration site are not currently needed. The Whidbey Island based staff will continue to work with PINA, taking a lesser (and more

appropriate) share of the work load. By mid-Spring, we plan to hire a new staff person to oversee our general operation, coordinate volunteers, and attend to "back to basics" activities. Until we have finished this transition, we will be co-sponsoring a number of educational programs, but PINA will not be presenting any programs solely by itself.

There is a lot of work ahead during PINA's transition - but all is well. PINA's finances are in good shape, with over \$30,000 in the bank and enough money budgeted to maintain a small office and part time staff for the next two years. We still require an increase in donations to create a viable staff situation for the basic information services the public desires. The decision to cease work on the demonstration site has removed a considerable financial burden.

After the initial confusion and disappointment over giving up the Homestead property, everyone is quite glad to get back on the right track. Last year, the staff was overburdened and exhausted by our rigorous program, and it's a welcome relief to not focus on any major programs for awhile. We're thankful for having had the Homestead property as our base during this period of growth and definition, and are looking forward to finding our new home.



Sego Jackson.

Reports from Regional Groups

Editor's note: At the International Permaculture Conference last August we were impressed with the growing number of permaculture groups and projects appearing all over North America and decided to report on them in this issue of The Permaculture Activist. We will include a regular column with updates on activities and ask that anyone with events or happenings to report send them to the Activist.

North East Permaculture Convergence

David Jacke

"Making Contact"; "A Sense of Hope"; "We are not Alone" - these are all themes of the recent Permaculture Convergence held at Gap Mountain Permaculture in Jaffrey, NH, October 18 and 19, 1986. However there were many other themes presented, indeed, it was clear to me that each of us had our own themes, our own concerns, our own "stuff" we were working on. Billed as a time to "Consult and Commit," it is possible that the actions resulting from our gathering may, in fact, be less important than the sense, the feeling, the actuality of a group of people coming together and finding that there is a common sense of purpose which unites our separate and disparate actions.

The 25 to 30 people (depending on when you counted) discussed many things, from broad issues like permaculture education and design teams, the Economic Alternatives Summit and more philosophical concerns, to practical things like chicken husbandry and "vegetable fallout shelters" (underground storage). The *Gap Mountain Sporadical* was revived as a written forum for the continuing discussion of ideas, and we are beginning discussions with Shirlee Seaborne, editor of *The Synergist*, in Arlington, VA, concerning if and/or how to join forces.

Financially, the gathering worked as follows: most folks chipped in \$15 to attend. Some of this cash was used to cover expenses, the rest was left "in the pot" for the group to disburse as it saw fit - an exercise in decision making easily taken on and resolved by the group. Funds were donated to Dan Hemenway and Thelma Snell's trip overseas this year; the Economic Alternatives Summit Core Group, the *Gap Mountain Sporadical*, and a follow-up mailing to Eastern permies. The \$53 left in the till is tentatively

earmarked to help initiate next year's gathering, tentatively set for the fall at the Heathcote center in Freeland, Maryland.

All of these things, however, were only the content of a group process that worked very well thanks to people's willingness to listen, to respond, to share, and to be open to other's viewpoints. Here at Gap Mountain, there has been a renewed energy simply because of that sharing. It seems that when we haven't shared with others, small actions in our daily lives don't seem to matter or make any difference, but when we get together and see the common purpose, we see that it is precisely those small, separate acts that, when taken together, have the most power.

Report from Gap Mountain Permaculture

David Jacke

Legalities take so long! The "Land Trust at Gap Mountain" is on the verge of incorporation. Lawyer reviews and filing with the state are under way. Lease agreements are the damndest things!

Once we're incorporated and the land is transferred, Sally and I apply for our building permit. Research for our homemade Marsh Greywater Treatment System continues apace--solid documentation (necessary for state approval) is being sought for a monitoring program. Photovoltaic panels just came down in price, so it looks like we'll save a few more dollars there (thank goodness). Our house design is getting more detailed and firmed up, thanks to Doug Clayton's design help. We start building (hopefully) in May (on weekends) and more or less full time by mid-June. Come join us! The more the merrier!

Jude, Sally and Brian got the latest issue of the *Gap Mountain Sporadical* out not long ago. Another issue is already shaping up. The editor (Jude) places higher value on personal observations,

feelings, questions and concerns than on pure information, so, your letters are welcome! The *Sporadical* is, ideally, a vehicle for discussion rather than documentation.

Doug and Kyung finally have running water! The dosing siphon sent its first slug of greywater into the woodchip pile just before they left to visit family in Ohio. We'll see how it works...

We welcome visitors. Call or write to let us know you are coming! Peace be with you. Dave Jacke, Gap Mountain Permaculture, 11 Old County Road, Jaffrey, NH 03452, (603) 532-6877.

Wild Bill comes to Lamy, New Mexico

One weekend this past October a group of about 40 people came together in a small old adobe church to hear Bill Mollison speak on Permaculture. The pews in the church were hard and the single propane heater was no match for the crisp autumn air of the New Mexican high desert. Undaunted, the participants remained to the last for two full days of teaching.

The first day Bill discussed permaculture techniques for arid lands and the second day he covered strategies for developing locally self-sufficient alternative economies. By the time he finished our heads were reeling with the possibilities and energies were high. A large group of us decided we would continue to meet in order to establish a local Permaculture Association which we hope will eventually be instrumental in implementing some of these concepts.

Experience is teaching us that the actualization of the ideas is more difficult than Bill's presentation might have led us to believe. However, we are making noticeable progress and the momentum remains strong. At our most recent meeting we had close to thirty people in attendance and we have a local mailing list of over sixty names.

We have been particularly blessed that one of the participants from the weekend seminar, Scott Pittman, was able to attend Mollison's two week teachers training class in Nepal. With Bill's encouragement, he returned from this experience determined to establish a Southwestern Regional Permaculture Institute. Mr. Pittman will be laying a

lot of legal and organizational groundwork that eventually will pave the way for our local association, and any other permaculture groups that might be interested, to attain nonprofit status. He also enlisted the aid of friend and ex-mortgage banker Jim Ceback, who will be researching the legal and organizational aspects of establishing a regional permaculture credit union.

There are several projects on line for our local group at this time. One of our members hopes to convert her small homestead just outside of Santa Fe into a working permaculture model and is advertising for participants. Interested parties should contact Arline Goldberg, Rt. 14, Box 257, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

Secondly, we hope to serialize and offer for public viewing the videotape of Mollison's weekend seminar. These tapes will also be available on a rental basis to other organizations in the near future. Finally, we will convene a two-week teachers training course on Permaculture early this summer.

Anyone interested in the videotapes or the training course should write to the Permaculture Association of Northern New Mexico, P. O. Box 9153, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87504.

The Southwestern Regional Permaculture Institute which Scott Pittman is creating will ultimately be servicing a six state region, including Arizona, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. He can be contacted by writing 2801 Rodeo Rd. Suite B-213, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87505.

Seattle Epi-Center*

Since the first meeting in November, 1986, enthusiasm has been building for the "Epi-Center" concept. This is comprised of two main elements, a for-profit consulting group and a non-profit educational group. These two elements may be legally separate but act cooperatively. This structure will facilitate networking and formation of design teams for permaculture designers and other professionals interested in implementing permaculture principles.

Within this context, the word "Permaculture" is translated to mean "Permanent Culture", which encompasses food production, technology, economics and community, and draws on the skills of other design professionals, project managers, developers, planners, etc.

Central to the Epi-Center plan is the development of a computer based directory, which details the skills background, interests, and education of its members. The directory will facilitate the formation of design teams for a variety of projects and help individuals to locate others who can provide information and assistance. Membership in the directory will be open to all who are interested in promoting a permanent culture. The initial membership emphasis will be within our bio-region, but the directory can be expanded to become a national and global directory, marketed and administered from various worldwide centers.

The for-profit consulting group will be a consultants co-operative providing administrative support services such as secretarial, accounting, legal service, referrals, promotion, etc., for the project teams or individuals. The project teams will be semi-independent with complete responsibility for their internal operation and projects. This provides a flexible entrepreneurial structure for design team support with marketing of services from a strong base, reduced overhead through shared central services and facilitates, and for sharing of information, experience, and resources.

The nonprofit group will be partly funded by the for-profit group and will provide education materials and programs, along with publications promoting the application of permaculture principles in homes, farms, businesses, industries, and communities. Beyond this requirement, the nonprofit arm can provide additional services or programs that are compatible or complementary to the goals of the EpiCenter. This role may be fulfilled by PINA while it continues to function in its current capacity.

Due to a strong interest in the Epi-Center concept, meetings became too large and difficult to manage, therefore they are currently restricted to those people involved with base planning. However, comments, suggestions, ideas, and questions are welcome. Write or phone: Robert and Sandy Hatton, 431 Edgecliff Drive, Langley, WA 98260. Phone: (206) 321-6639



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Editor's note: the Epi-Center name is borrowed in part from a similar project called the "E.P.I. Centre" in Sydney, Australia begun by Robyn Francis. The Australian acronym "E.P.I. Centre" stands for "Earthcare Permaculture Initiatives". The name carries a double meaning, from Webster's, epicenter is: the part of the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake. Hopefully the locations of the Seattle or Sydney "Epicenters" won't actually be sites of massive ground tremors, however, permaculture proposes earth-shaking changes for the way in which human society runs its affairs, and we applaud the Epicenter concept as a way to bring many integrated projects under one roof of co-operative management. For more information contact: The E.P.I. Centre, 113 Enmore Road, Enmore 2042, New South Wales, Australia. Phone: 51-2175.

What's Happening In British Columbia?

Susan Davidson

Although the B.C. Chapter of the Maritime Permaculture Institute remains a fairly passive mailing address, some related activities are starting to perk. Several growers in the Fraser Valley just north of Bellingham, Wash. began meeting in October, 1986. Anne Schwartz of Tilth Producers Co-op came up to kick off our first monthly meeting with a feisty presentation on Tilth's work with the organic certification program. She also left many seeds of wisdom on how to sustain an effective organization by avoiding the pitfalls of volunteer burnout.

We are now registering in B. C. as the Association for Regenerative Agriculture. As a fund raiser we have purchased 1500 five pound sacks of diatomaceous earth which we are selling for \$15.00 each, or \$10.00 each for orders over 10 bags. For further information please contact: Susan Davidson, Fraser Common Farm Co-op, 1374-256th St., Aldergrove, B. C. VOX 1A0, Canada.

Grains d'Pluie

Dania Edwards of Nanoose Bay, British Columbia, Canada has created a proposal for a permaculture village development project entitled Grains d'Pluie (Drops of Rain) to be implemented in the Sahara and the Sahel region to the south. The project is supported by the International Permaculture Association, PINA and Aprovecho Institute.

Grains d'Pluie is a response to the drastic changes in lifestyle of the Taureg herdspeople of the Sahara and Sahel resulting from severe droughts since 1973. Having lost 100% of their herds and hence their livelihoods, these people have been forced to migrate to towns where most become beggars. Grains d'Pluie proposes to coordinate interest, skills and efforts of indigenous people and ecologically trained specialists to create a sustainable, regenerative and self-sufficient system of agroforestry, addressing major areas of importance including desertification control, sustainable and regenerative agriculture and reforestation.

The method of Grains d'Pluie will be to develop a structure in which concentration of native ingenuity and spreading of responsibility will enhance resources, apply local skills and encourage participation in problem-solving. The emphasis is on regaining self-sufficiency and assisting others to do the same.

For additional information contact: Dania Edwards, Box 6 Garry Oaks, Nanoose Bay, B.C. VOR 2R0, Canada. Phone: (604) 468-7530.

Workshops in Lillooet, B.C.

Ann Brett

We are putting on two Permaculture workshops locally this month. Susan Brown (also a permaculture design course graduate) and I will give the first one based on the permaculture design course we took with Bill Mollison this past summer. We are also very happy to have Michael Pilarski (of Friends of the Trees) coming up on Feb. 24th to teach a one-day workshop.

We are very excited about sharing this with our friends and forming a permaculture group here. For more information contact: Ann Brett, PO Box 1175, Lillooet, B.C. V0K 1V0, Canada.

Portland, Oregon Permaculture Network

Jude Hobbs

November, 1986 saw the beginning of a permaculture group in Portland when about 15 people gathered together with this common interest. It was decided to continue meeting every three weeks or so, with the goal of solving problems on specific properties, and creating resource, seed, and plant exchanges, and providing education. If you wish to join this informal group or if you will be in Portland for a short time, we welcome out-of-town visitor input. For more information call: Jude Hobbs (503) 239-7883; Rick Valley (503) 232-1860; or Madeline Bolling (503) 654-4382.

Women in Permaculture

Several women who are graduates of permaculture design courses initiated quarterly meetings by gathering on the weekend of November 8 and 9, 1986 at the home of Rosemary Saul in Seattle. The beginning of the weekend was spent getting acquainted and/or reacquainted. We decided to go to the permaculture potluck dinner and meeting held at the home of Farley Harding, coincidentally (?) on that very night. The purpose of the meeting, briefly, was to develop a local permaculture networking organization called Epi-center which would be, in part, a referral service so that members could market their permaculture skills to support themselves.

As the women's group discussed the previous night's meeting, the realization came that, with all the energy going into building the structure of a permaculture network, nothing had been said about education, either for ourselves or for the larger community. So we began focusing on education as the main thrust of our group, brainstorming ideas for further study. It was decided that we would first tap into the pool of knowledge available within our own group, and teach each other. Then we would call upon outside resources. Some topics for resource sharing are: Exploring Monetary Systems; Soils; Wormbin Composting; How to Turn Your Home into an Herb Dryer; a lesson in Coil Basketry using native materials.

The next gathering will be in March, 1987 in Olympia, Washington. For more information contact: Rosemary Saul, 7322 Jones Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98117, (206) 783-9538.

MPI Reunion - 1987

Steve Erickson

The Maritime Permaculture Institute (MPI) is open to all Permaculture Design Course graduates and associates living in the Pacific Northwest. We began holding yearly retreats in 1983, one year after the first permaculture design course held in the PNW. The fifth annual retreat, attended by about 20 permies, was held the first weekend in February on Orcas Island in Puget Sound. Orcas is a hot spot of permaculture activity (see the report from Orcas), we visited several properties in various stages of design implementation, and also helped troubleshoot some problems and issues at Camp Indralaya, where the reunion was held.

Discussing the projects, plans, problems, and successes we're involved in and lending support to each other is also a focus of these gatherings, and this reunion was no exception. The reunion will be held at the same time next year (the first weekend in February), and will probably go south to a location in Oregon. For more information, contact: MPI, 6488 Maxwellton Rd, Clinton, WA 98236.

Orcas Island

"There seems to be a lot of potential for making it into a permaculture village without boundaries. One person doing it here, one doing it there...eventually affecting the whole island." So said Bill Mollison during his stay on Orcas Island. Ten permaculture design course graduates live on Orcas full or part-time. This group, plus another ten residents who attended the '86 International Conference in Olympia, holds quarterly permaculture meetings. Those meetings are announced in detailed newspaper articles and attended by about 30 islanders.

The January meeting featured a report on solar ponds by physicist Robert Windeband and his colleague Richard Tuck who had conducted considerable research. Jeff Michaels presented a video along with information on the LETS barter system. Also on the agenda were an update on replacement of imported goods by local goods, tree planting projects for Arbor Day and a class on island ecology. Kristan Johnson initiated the establishment of a San Juan chapter of the Western

Cascade Fruit Tree Association (WCFTA). In relation to a tree survey he helped with in Port Townsend, WA he also discussed the possibility of surveying the existing fruit and nut tree production on the island.

Why Orcas? Beyond the natural isolation of an island, Orcas' low rainfall (21" yearly average) and abundance of sunny days (being in the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains) create one of the best growing climates at this latitude. As a result, the island is a major fruit-growing area. Current efforts to reestablish earlier levels of production aim at self-sufficiency rather than export. The following eight projects are just a glimpse into the "Permasteading" movement throughout Orcas Island:

On the west side of Orcas is the commercial nursery of Joseph, Douglas and Samuel Bullock. They aim to maximize the natural diversity and to cultivate as wide a range of edible and useful plants as possible on their five acres. The natural attributes of their parcel are about as diverse as any small piece of land in this bioregion. Ranging from pomegranates, figs and jujubes on the hot, dry, rocky southern hillsides, to the wapato, wild rice, and blueberries bordering the ten-acre peat bog below, an astounding variety of useful plants can be found.

After acquiring her 20 acres, Irene Demetri wasted no time in implementing a major permaculture design developed by Bill Mollison, Joe and Doug Bullock, Bruce Hill and Kristan Johnson. Irene's design consists of seven acres of fully integrated aquaculture systems, hillside orchards, duck islands, winter sun-reflecting ponds for the garden and house, and other permaculture concepts and principles, implementation of which began in the fall of 1986.

Jeff Michaels is designing and stewarding nine acres of west-facing valley with a small stream running through a stocked trout pond and down to the beach. Jeff has interplanted hillsides of nuts, berries and fruits, such as persimmons, quince, Japanese pears, and mulberries, as well as the nitrogen fixing plants Ceanothus, autumn olive and clover.

Working with aesthetics, multifunctionalism, and minimum maintenance, Jeff is creating a workable permaculture design.

Richard Tuck is initiating the first five-acre phase of a large long-term permaculture design on his 300-acre ranch with about a mile of eastern coastline.

Ed Suiji and Maile Johnson have been developing a ten-acre property that includes a year-round stream and orchards of plum, pear and apple varieties that Ed brought from Holland.

With just a fraction of an acre, Loren Burkhart has demonstrated that the small size of your garden need not keep you from receiving your daily quotient of fresh, home-grown vegetables. Practicing the French intensive biodynamic method of gardening in his two small raised beds, Loren has established a quality food source for himself. Loren and his son filmed a video entitled "Gardening-Biodynamic French Intensive Method of Raised Beds".

Kristan Johnson and two partners have purchased 33 acres of forested prime view property on a mountaintop plateau called "Crystalview". In keeping with the group's attitude of minimum impact on this fragile site, the homes and their immediate surroundings are the only alterations being initially introduced. An existing system of ponds is to be enhanced, and eventually diverse fruit, nut and berry plantings will be developed.

On the far eastern side of the island, Mark Robbi has transformed five of his fifteen west-facing acres into a small farm over the last ten years, supplying himself and other islanders with flowers, herbs, vegetables, and fruits. In keeping with his theme of "abundance and diversity," his jungle of plants includes 50 varieties of apples, 25 varieties of grapes, plus apricots, almonds, chestnuts and filberts. Marc is currently concentrating on detailing the understory of previously planted orchards, planting nut groves and decreasing his need for imported organic fertilizers in his commercial organic produce business.

continued page 13, right hand column

Permaculture Design Courses & Workshops

Permaculture: An Alternate Strategy for the Third World

Two Intensive Courses offered in Permaculture for the Third World

In response to the great surge of interest in Third World Permaculture, and the success of courses in 1985 and 1986, Aprovecho Institute and the Permaculture Institute of North America (PINA) will jointly sponsor a 2-part sequence in 1987; two courses of two weeks each, one in Oregon, June 15-29, and one in Latin America, July 5-19.

Third World societies have special problems which cause the loss of productive land, firewood scarcity, crop failures, food shortages, and the spread of deserts. Permaculture solutions to all of these are now being applied all over the world, through sustainable production, restoration of degraded lands and resurrection of local economies.

Each course will bring together a team of experienced teachers from many disciplines. Course 1, held at Aprovecho Research Center in Oregon, is a preparatory course which will focus on analyzing existing conditions of land tenure and culture, teach permaculture techniques, and prepare people for Third World work.

Course 2, to be held at a rural location in Central America, will expose participants to real problems first hand and provide training in how to apply solutions, with special emphasis on working within the norms of local societies.

Both courses will focus on providing for basic human needs in an integrated, ecologically-based way. Topics will include: principles of permaculture design; small-scale agriculture; agroforestry; reading the landscape; food and fuel production; strategies for high altitudes, arid and tropical areas; erosion control and soil fertility; water conservation and soil improvement. Special emphasis will be on transcultural communication, sociopolitical systems, social geography, and tools and techniques for implementation. Examples of project successes and failures will be analyzed. There will be hands-on experience in cookstove construction, simple house building, food production, and techniques for tree-planting.

Both courses are for professional-level land and resource planners, development workers, extension agents, agricultural missionaries, community organizers, students and teachers of Third World conditions, foresters, researchers in alternative agriculture, and volunteers joining the Peace Corps, etc. We encourage a wide range of abilities, experience and skills, and especially people from the Third World. Courses will be taught in both Spanish and English.



Tuition including all meals, accommodation, curriculum materials and field trips is US \$600 for each half of the series; \$1100 for both parts. A non-refundable deposit of \$100 assures a reservation. The balance is due May 15 with a 10% discount for private individuals only for full payment by April 15. Partial scholarships are possible. Enrollment is limited. Third World residents can often find bursaries through international agencies, but should start searching immediately.

Inquiries to: The Director, Aprovecho Institute, 80574 Hazelton Rd., Cottage Grove, OR, 97424, (503) 942-9434 mornings and evenings. Jointly sponsored with the Permaculture Institute of North America, 6488 Maxwellton Rd., Clinton, WA 98236 (206) 221-3979.

Bear Tribe: Earth Renewal Gardening Internship Program

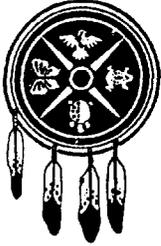
If we are to survive, we must embrace a new earth ethic, devise new strategies to enhance our local ecologies, and rethink our gross, resource-depleting technologies. It is the time for a re-consecration of our earth-mother relationship.

Such is the credo of the Bear Tribe's Earth Renewal Gardening Internship Program: Permaculture Design for Farm and Garden, April 15 to October 15, 1987. Resident interns in this program will have a unique opportunity to participate in the implementation of an arid/drylands permaculture demonstration site at the Bear Tribe's self-reliance center on Vision Mountain, 35 miles south of Spokane, Washington.

Master gardener, Simon Henderson, is a certified permaculture teacher/trainee and writes a regular feature column for the magazine *Wildfire* which is concerned with permaculture strategies for the arid land sites. Beginning April 15th, Simon will be offering six-month, three-month, ten-week, and two-week internship programs within the certified commercial organic gardens at the base of Vision Mountain. Design course interns will be instructed in general design course principles, including specific implications for arid/dryland sites and related disciplines of organic and bio-dynamic gardening as

THE BEAR TRIBE MEDICINE SOCIETY

BOX 9167 SPOKANE, WASHINGTON 99209



well as aquaculture, solar green-housing, agro-forestry, composting and mulching, growing and using culinary herbs, food processing, and native American historical perspectives on agriculture. There will also be teachings by other Pacific Northwest permaculturists, field trips to specific

geological sites, and teaching videos, including Bill Mollison's native American arid/drylands permaculture design course taught at Pyramid Lake in Nevada (in its entirety).

The full season program, April 15 to October 15th, \$2,500; first semester only, April 15 to July 15-\$1,500; second semester only, July 15 to October 15- \$1,500; summer session only, June 15 to August 30- \$1,200; two-week mini-sessions: May 1 to 14th, June 15 to 29, August 15 to 29, September 17 to October are \$400 each. For more information contact Simon Henderson, c/o Bear Tribe, PO Box 9167, Spokane, WA 99209. Phone (509) 326-6561.

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Letters

Editors' note: this letter was received from Paul Jackson of the International Association for Food Self Sufficiency, PO Box #40, Camalu, Baja California Norte, 22910 Mexico. The Association was a recipient of a small grant from PINA's "Tree Tax Fund" in 1986. Due to its length, we have excerpted portions of the letter to give our readers a report of the field trials and tribulations of this project.

Enclosed you will find a small amount of seed from *Solanum muricata*, the pepino dulce that has been processed through fermentation to eliminate any chance of seed borne disease. This seed is from the two plants that are most productive for us, with bell or heart-shaped fruit weighing from six ounces to two pounds. The fruit is ripe when yellowish with purple stripes and is extremely aromatic with and persistent pleasant odor.

This is just one of around 300 species of Solanaceae that has edible parts. With your help we will have a special issue of *Good and Wild* on this specie. ... Have you ever stopped to think about just what a wonderful world, the natural world, we live in and how little we know of it and take advantage of the plants given us? ...Right now I would like to remind you that anyone requesting them can have a few seeds of capulin cherry, winged bean, Tahitian squash, drylands adapted Mona wonder pole bean and Mona sugar pea and cherimoya ...please send funds to cover postage and handling.

We are always operating, not on a shoestring but on a darn badly frayed cord. Francisca has been away now for two years working to build a cushion so we can finish our building here. Now, I am not writing this to elicit sympathy but to get across a point. The fact that we have had the same

financial problems as the local people here ... gave us an identity with the community. Even more, our financial struggles provided us with a practical, not theoretical, understanding of the frustrations felt by our neighbors and friends. The fact that Francisca is most definitely of Indian-Mexican descent also helped establish a local identity and do away with the notion that we thought we we're some superiors come down to help the lowly... The ideas relating to our 'low external input', permanent cropping and ...food self-sufficiency agriculture are particularly difficult to instill since we have to overcome some traditions and struggle against the propaganda of the big chemical and packing companies.... While the more remote peoples still use the slash and burn technique, it is even difficult to persuade them to connect the practice with composting.... Now that we are established here and the demonstration grounds will be nearing self-sufficiency in the next couple of years, we feel it is time to enlarge our efforts....

Timing is now becoming important.... News reports tell of the corruption in the Mexican government. It certainly exists but have you read your own papers lately? I do not believe that the degree of greed in Mexico is any greater than in most other countries and it is not a significant factor in the problems that do exist.... The Mexican government is making a heroic effort to advance the country and its people... All of this is to preface why we are developing a special relationship with the Oaxaca. Of the main three Indian groups, we are most concerned with the Mixtec Alta who live mostly in the higher, less accessible areas. The boys who work with us say there is no work to be had there...Our efforts will definitely be a drop in the bucket,

continued, next page

but the bucket is filled by drops and you could make the drops a bit larger. I am not going to give you any fancy slogans. We can not end hunger by the end of the century, not because of a lack of food but because of the (entrenched distribution patterns). This we will not be able to change in the near future but we can show a method of helping a little on a permanent basis and hope others can profit by our example.

Paul Jackson

Tree Tax Update

PINA's Tree Tax is \$1.00 from each membership, funds which are used for tree planting by indigenous third world groups. Last year PINA gave three grassroots groups small grants from our Tree Tax Fund. One of the groups funded in 1986 was the Africa Tree Centre. We received this note from Founder R. T. Mazibuko:

Dear tried and true friends:

Thank you for your interest, concern, and assistance in all forms for our baby project-The Africa Tree Centre. I can assure you that the Black People of South Africa are (doing) everything humanly possible to plant at least one tree per family per year. So your financial assistance is definitely awakening the black giants from their sleep of centuries. Thank you for the tools of progress you have so kindly sent us.

Once more thank you to all in all,

R. T. Mazibuko

Editor's note: the following letter is a response to a letter from Catherine Jacobs in The Permaculture Activist, December, 1986.

Magic and Quantum Leaping

My assumption is that permaculture embraces the full spectrum of cultural components including sustainable spiritual belief systems as well as sustainable fuel, food, communication, and social systems.

It also seems energetically sound to use or adopt existing systems, whenever they are appropriate. Many tribal/pagan spiritual beliefs are very complementary to permaculture values and can be healthily used to caretake our souls, guide our intellects, and compound the effectiveness of our work.

Suggesting that a group of perma-folk touch a tiled floor and return energy to the earth after raising power singing together, rather than dissipating a moment of unity with the more customary hand clapping, felt to me like an appropriate affirmation of the web of connections we so often refer to in our designing.

From whence came the tiles?

Susan Davidson

Dear Permaculture Activists:

Several positions of permaculture internship are open at the Old Mill Farm located in the coastal redwood forest of Mendocino County. The farm's livestock fencelines are being planted in a mixed edible browse hedge (a "fedge"). The fedge will divide pastures so the goats and sheep can be rotated and will also provide an edible hedgerow providing nut fruit, berries and protein pods for the domestic livestock and wildlife, forage nectar for the bees. New growth from the fedge can also be coppiced for fodder. The plants' impregnable woody stock becomes a living impenetrable fence. May the living hedge fence replace the wire fence of the industrial revolution!

DOES ANYONE KNOW.....?

Editor's note: We get a continual stream of questions at PINA that we just don't have the resources to reply to. In this column we'll print some of these questions. If you think you can help with answers, please write to the "asker" directly, and send a copy of your answer to PINA. If you have a question, send it to us at PINA. In each issue we'll print a selection of the most interesting questions we receive. Responses are the editor's except where noted.

I am interested in obtaining a few articles or publications on appropriate technology as it might apply to developing countries, especially where it may apply to grain cultivation. Do you have a list of such publications, or know where I might get such a list? Sent by: Bill Gray, 12010 Shenandoah Rd., Middleton, CA 95461.

Dear Bill: please refer to articles on The Grain Exchange and The Appropriate Technology Project of Volunteers in Asia, Inc. in the Allied Groups section of this Activist.

What trees and woody shrubs that can be grown in the Carolinas are nitrogen fixing? Sent by: Kent Crawford, 1631 Fountain View, Charlotte, N.C., 28203.

Dear Kent: Contact Michael McConkey, Edible Landscape Nursery, Rt 2, Box 343-A, Afton, VA 22920 for a catalog. They carry nitrogen fixing and tasty fruited 'Jazbo' Autumn Olive. Also, refer to back issues of TIPSYP, The International Permaculture Species Yearbook PO Box 202, Orange, MA 01364 for species lists. Available for \$4.00 from Permaculture Communications, PO Box 101, Davis, CA 95617 is an excellent pamphlet by Bill Mollison entitled, Important Legumes of Use.

Does anyone have, or know where I can get, Tree Lucerne seed? Sent by: Allan Campbell, P. O. Box 25, Monticello, NM, 87939.

The Mekong Documentation Center would like to receive information on the role of trees in permaculture. Sent by: Dr. K. I. Matics, Documentalist, Mekong Documentation Centre, Interim Committee for Coordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, Mekong Secretariat, Pibultham Villa, Kasatsuk Bridge, Bangkok 10500, Thailand.

I would be interested to find out about the culture, growth requirements, and distribution of *Phytolacca dodecandra*. Sent by: John Broberg, 611 Coronel Pl., Santa Barbara, CA, 93101.

I am new to the tropics and especially in need of information concerning citrus, plantain, and all other forms suitable for this region. Sent by: Lorraine Lerman-Rivera, P. O. Box 1053, Morovis, Puerto Rico, 00717.

A nursery is being developed to raise the edible, nitrogen-fixing fruit and browse plants for the fedge for future years plantings. A person with propagation and grafting experience would take charge of the "fedge" nursery as well as participating in other farm activities including gardens, orchards, the goat dairy, aquaculture and forestry.

Please send for a brochure and ask how your interests could be developed and become part of our environmental education and certified organic farm program. Write: Charles Hinsch, Old Mill Farm School of Country Living, PO Box 463, Mendocino, CA 95460.

I'm a Peace Corps volunteer in Thailand and have recently begun working on an alley cropping project using Leucaena. I'm also becoming interested in doing a Masters in agroforestry. Can you tell me what universities in the U. S. or other countries have good programs in agroforestry? Sent by: Margaret Fong, Provincial Center for Nonformal Education, A. Muang, Nau 55000, Thailand

An article published recently in Australia reported that the Permaculture Association in America was currently conducting a demonstration by employing earthworms to digest the food waste of one of America's large cities. Would you please let me know the results of such experiment and the details and methods involved in the setup of the operation or a person or organisation I can contact.

Specifically: a) if special bins are used which keep organic material apart from recyclable materials in one trash collection from individual households; b) If separate collections are made for organic and recyclable materials in different bins; c) How the trash dumps are set up to allow the worms to do their job, and how the recyclable materials are kept apart and distributed.

Sent by: R. L. Robinson, 149 the Esplanade, Umina Beach, N.S.W., 2257, Australia.

We have no resources of any finance, hence may please be excused for such odd request for our noble cause. Please also publish our dire need of old books and magazines in your news letter and magazine. Sent by: Dr. K. D. Chauhan, Amerbharat Library, P. O. UNJHA-384170, North Gujarat, India.

I want to spend the coming growing season on an organic farm (early spring to harvest). Do you operate a placement service or have info that would help me find a farm? Sent by: Tom Stahly, 2422 SE Yamhill, Portland, OR, 97214.

Dear Tom: for information on organic farms offering apprenticeships, contact Tith Placement Service, c/o Bonnie Barrs, 144 NW 76th St, Seattle WA 98117-3015. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for subscription info.

My place gets winter lows of -45° F sometimes. I've tried to grow peach, nectarine, and northern persimmon, but without success. Can you suggest what out-of-the-ordinary fruit trees will do well? I keep bees. Do you have a list of bee trees and ground covers to use around the hives to make their little lives easier and my honey pot bigger? Sent by: Peter Garrett, Rt. 2, Eames Rd., Waterville, ME, 04092.

Dear Peter: The International Permaculture Seed Yearbook 1985 edition (\$11 from TIPSYP, Box 202, Orange, MA 01364) has an article and extensive species list by Stephen Breyer entitled "Food Plants for USDA Zone 7 and Colder Zones". The 1984 edition of TIPSYP (\$8.50) has articles entitled "Plants visited by Honey Bees" and "Designing Bees into Your Permaculture" by Michael Pilarski.

Do you have any information regarding human "output" as fertilizer? Sent by: Linda Newman, 401 Long St., Eau Claire, WI, 54703.

Dear Linda: available for \$2.00 from Yankee Permaculture, Box 202, Orange MA 01364 is a pamphlet entitled "Composting Human Waste" by Dan Hemenway and David Stephens.

I am working on my undergraduate thesis (UC Santa Cruz) on the application of agroforestry concepts to windbreak management in the temperate zone. Do you have information on multiple-use windbreaks, annual, low perennial, or tree species appropriate for windbreaks. As a working example for the thesis I am researching the potential for modifying an existing secondary windbreak-primarily black locust. Sent by: Moira Chapman, 854 Western Drive, Santa Cruz, CA, 95060.

Dear Moira: Contact ITCI, the International Tree Crops Institute, for their list of publications. The Allied Groups section of this Activist gives more info on ITCI.

I am a professional nurseryman working with a wholesale nursery involved in many levels of ornamental production. As a whole, this industry is firmly rooted in modern agribusiness practices - chemical solutions for all problems. Are there organic alternatives? While food farms are switching to organic methods, such changes in nursery stock production are virtually non-existent. Is there information on alternatives? Are there viable organic nurseries? Where can I as a nursery worker find sufficient information to make organic choices when raising nursery stock? Sent by: Scott Welker, 1360 Mt. Baker Hwy., Bellingham, WA, 98226.

Dear Scott: A new organization called "B.U.G.S." (Biological Urban Gardening Services) has been formed to assist members of the organic landscape industry in the gathering and exchanging of information on topics such as: new products and techniques; research; methodologies; equipment; pest controls; fertilizers; soil science; and public relations. Contact: Steve Zein, Executive Director, B.U.G.S., PO Box 76, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-0076.

What would it take to start a chapter of PINA in central Iowa. I suspect forming a local private trust is the first thing that will happen here, but I also need to know what the benefits would be of having a local chapter of PINA to support local private trusts and commonworks. From Bill Mollison when he was here I got a beginning understanding of the possible relationship between local trusts and PINA, but I need more information about what it would take. As more interest is generated in Permaculture in Iowa I need to be able to talk about what kind of local organization might result. Sent by: Joe Lynch, R. R. 4, Ames, Iowa, 50010.

Dear Joe:

While PINA is a membership organization, right now we don't have chapters. We can provide help to local permaculture groups in organizing courses, and (depending on the situation) use of PINA's non-profit umbrella for grant applications and administration. We wish we had the funding to run an information service. As you can tell from the history of PINA in this issue of the Activist, right now we're reorganizing our location and structure. Good luck in getting permaculture on the ground in Iowa.

Steve Erickson, for the PINA Staff.

I'm a student at Portland State University. I'd like to do a paper on permaculture. I'm also coordinator of the peace research program and interested in implementing permaculture as part of a proposed peace studies program. Do you have information or can you recommend resources in the Portland area? Sent by: Forest Baden, PO Box 1313, Portland, OR, 97207.

Dear Forest: There are several contact folks in the Portland area - refer to "Reports from Regional Groups", pp. 4-7 in this issue.

Natural Farming for Soil Health and Social Change

Editor's note: this is a condensed and edited transcript of a workshop and slide show given by Partap Aggarwal, of the Friends Rural Centre in India, also known as Rasulia. The folks at Rasulia have been working to be self reliant for over 100 years, and have recently begun to develop their own style of "natural farming" along the lines suggested by Masanobu Fukuoka. I would like to request that our readers not write to the Friends Rural Centre requesting information because, like most third world groups, the Centre is not wealthy and will probably not have the financial resources to reply to information requests.

Partap Aggarwal

Friends Rural Centre is in the dead center of India. It is 100 years old. It is not a single project but involved with whole life systems. We are trying to question assumptions in all fields and are discovering many of our assumptions are false, particularly in agriculture. We question everything we do. Nothing is sacrosanct. As the days pass, we realize how stupid we are.

One area in which we've been changing our style is agriculture. We started by eliminating chemical fertilizers and pesticides seven years ago - an easy choice. In answer to the question of how much we should do, we sold our tractor and bought bullocks.

Then we came across The One-Straw Revolution. All of us felt we had been looking for something like this. We have not stopped all tilling of our land because we are timid. For our first experiment we picked the worst land - right in the middle of our property. This land used to produce nothing. In the first year - the land got worse due to a strong weed. Even so, we produced a good rice yield in 1 year. Without a plough, we produced enough from this plot to provide food for the monthly holiday for women. Then we leveled the land, terraced it, and planted rice. The next four years were very successful and the weed went away. Since then we have tried no digging on all our land.

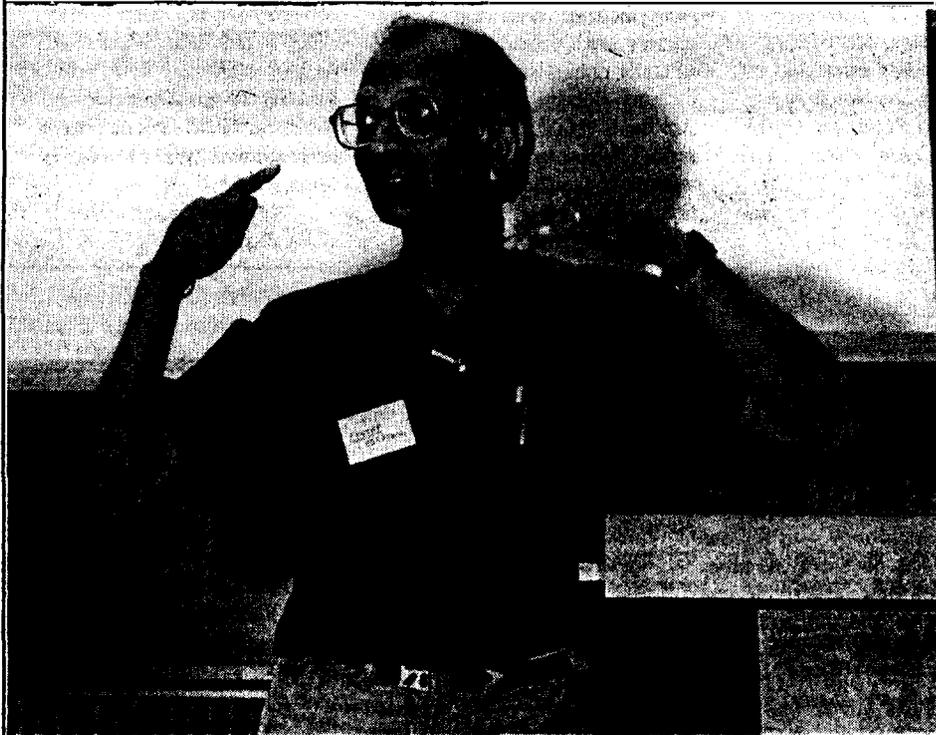
We realized that this type of farming fitted in with Rishi lifestyle (Rishi = sages in India). In this lifestyle spiritual development is emphasized far above any

other knowledge. We did some research, found that there was an old consciousness among Rishis that digging the land could hurt the land. Rishis saw previous cultures die out due to land exhaustion.

"Food for people is tree fruits and milk products. If you cut the land into fields, animals cannot graze freely". This was part of the ancient lifestyle - very simple, with an emphasis on spiritual development. "Things are inter-related, nature is one" 1) the environment is deteriorating rapidly; 2) the condition of the people deteriorating; 3) the elite are callous.

We should quit using high-priced imports. We do not export any crops [off the farm]. This works very quickly. Natural farming helps farmers reject the industrial model. "Demonstration is written in the plants, which the peasants can read."

Nowadays millions of small farmers are on the verge of bankruptcy in India, a situation that is even more serious because millions of craftsmen are already out of jobs due to industrial development in India. Farmers who are adopting these [natural] methods: 1) become self sufficient; 2) no longer participate in a system that is making them poor; 3) believe that our guru, our teacher, is nature; 4) practice non-violence.



Partap Aggarwal at the 2nd International Permaculture Conference in August, 1986.
Photo copyright ©1986 by Steve Borns.

Thinking of Earth as Organism

T. O'Dell

The Gaia hypothesis has led many people, myself included, to talk about the Earth as an organism. For example, Lewis Thomas wrote "What is the Earth most like? It is most like a cell." He went on to compare the atmosphere to a membrane or cell wall. When I talk about the Earth as organism I tend to put systems in terms of organs. So the atmosphere becomes the skin. These analogies are false and possibly dangerous. I thank Wes Jackson for pointing that out in a discussion at the 2nd International Permaculture Conference and thereby inspiring this article

I had a hard time thinking of the Earth as an organism - I kept trying to picture the forest as lungs. Trees do exchange gases but what's analogous about an owl? Red-backed voles inhabit rotten logs. Feeding on truffles, they spread the spores of these fungi, essential for survival of seedling trees; they also host organisms required by the truffles. This five-way interdependency is an example of a qualitative difference between levels of biological organization.

A forest isn't an organ, it's an ecosystem. Gaia is not an organism but a planet. I was taking the analogy too literally. Trouble is, it's a tremendously powerful one; we crave to picture our home as alive. And well we should. But language does affect the way we think about things. When we call the Earth an organism we obscure its true nature. Gaia is orders of magnitude more complex, and has qualities unpredictable by the study of ecosystems. Similarly, you can't understand the forest by looking only at a tree.

Out of nothingness
Dancing to infinity
Energy, life, hope

What does it mean for Gaia to have unpredictable qualities? It means that, to quote Wendell Berry: "We don't know what we're doing because we don't know what we're undoing." At this point in history, we're just barely getting to know cells. Our understanding of atoms and molecules far outpaces the wisdom to use that knowledge safely (hence nuclear winter and PCB's). Yet we (organisms) are causing disturbance on the ecosystem-wide and planetary-wide scales. We can't know what we're (un)doing or predict the effects. We don't even understand our own behavior, so how could we possibly understand the behavior of a planet?

Molecules from atoms
Life woven into forest
Planet, mystery

We can begin to comprehend Gaia first by acknowledging that she is a planet. Tides, weather and earthquakes are some qualities of planets unpredictable by knowledge of ecosystems. Somehow, life has altered conditions on this planet, and life has adapted to those new conditions. That is, I think, what the Gaia hypothesis is really saying - "The coevolution of climate and life." We are part of this web of coevolution.

Organism, ecosystem and planet aren't neat categories but arbitrary points on a spectrum from subatomic particle to universe. Calling Gaia an organism not only screws up the true order, it arrogantly implies that the Earth is only as complex as a human. It is an error similar to the error of calling a forest a stand of timber. Both definitions are simplifying and ignorant. They ignore all of the value and mystery of Life.

Beyond organism
Balancing the atmosphere
Gaia is alive

Editor's note: Tom O'dell is a student of mycorrhizal fungi and their symbiotic host plants at Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon.

continued from page 7,
Reports from Regional Groups

Mendocino Permaculture

Barbara Goodell

For about 5 years, Mendocino Permaculture has organized classes & events in Mendocino County - a rugged area of wooded mountains and narrow valleys in the Coast Range of Northern California. Our goal is to make it possible for local people to actualize permaculture principles in their lives.

Examples of events sponsored by Mendocino Permaculture include:

- An annual grafting workshop where we provide clear instruction, seedling stock, scion wood, and time to share technique. People go home with grafted trees to plant and the skill to do it again. Since many of the same people attend each year, we have begun to add a specialty topic or two. This year it was top-working established trees and rose grafting.
- Seasonal events such as our annual chestnut gathering, fig feast, and the cider & apple tasting.
- Periodic visits to homesteads, gardens and nurseries to experience design, plant material and layout.

We are beginning a model county-wide tree tax program, and a seed exchange system. We have booths at fairs and are politically active with organic & sustainable agriculture issues. We have purposefully avoided an overall co-ordinator or hierarchy in the group: when an individual or group of folks feel like creating an activity, they organize and publicize it. With the rural nature of our county, some people don't connect often with the media, so we maintain a self-adhesive postcard file system. Event organizers send a set of postcards out prior to each event. Whoever wishes can be notified by mail.

We have 3 to 6 hands-on oriented meetings a year - always with social & musically interwoven themes. We encourage children to participate. We generally expect 15 to 150 people to come at any given event or workshop. Our goals are to give people a working knowledge of a permaculture principal and to enjoy the process. Contacts: Barbara & Rob Goodell, PO Box 74, Boonville, CA 95415, (707) 895-3897; Mark Albert, 950 Lake Mendocino Dr, Ukiah, CA 95482, (707) 462-7843; Patrick Schafer, Star Rt

Agriculture Program Development at D-Q University

Gretchen H. Will

According to the United States Census Bureau statistics, there are over 200,000 native Americans presently living in California. Of those, 48% are unemployed and over 70% of families earn less than \$3000 a year. 50% of these native Americans have no formal education and less than 1% earn college degrees.

D-Q University, in Davis, California, is trying to change these statistics. This accredited community college is an independent Indigenously-controlled institution of higher learning. D-Q University aspires to create through study, research, and practice an innovative blending of cultural heritage and technological and professional competence to meet the pressing contemporary needs of indigenous peoples.

An E.P.A. publication, Survey of American Indian Environmental Protection Needs on Reservation Lands: 1986, states that land use is one of the most prevalent environmental problems [on reservation land]. On many reservations in North America, there is relatively widespread unsustainable resource use contributing to diminishing bases of raw materials and wildlife habitats. Limited agricultural production on some reservations has contributed to

malnutrition and a myriad of socio-economic problems.

These significant problems have inspired the development of the Agricultural Program at D-Q University. The program proposes to integrate three educational approaches: classroom study of the sciences, agriculture and appropriate technology; on-campus field work on a "Native Harvest Farm"; and community work with native American peoples.

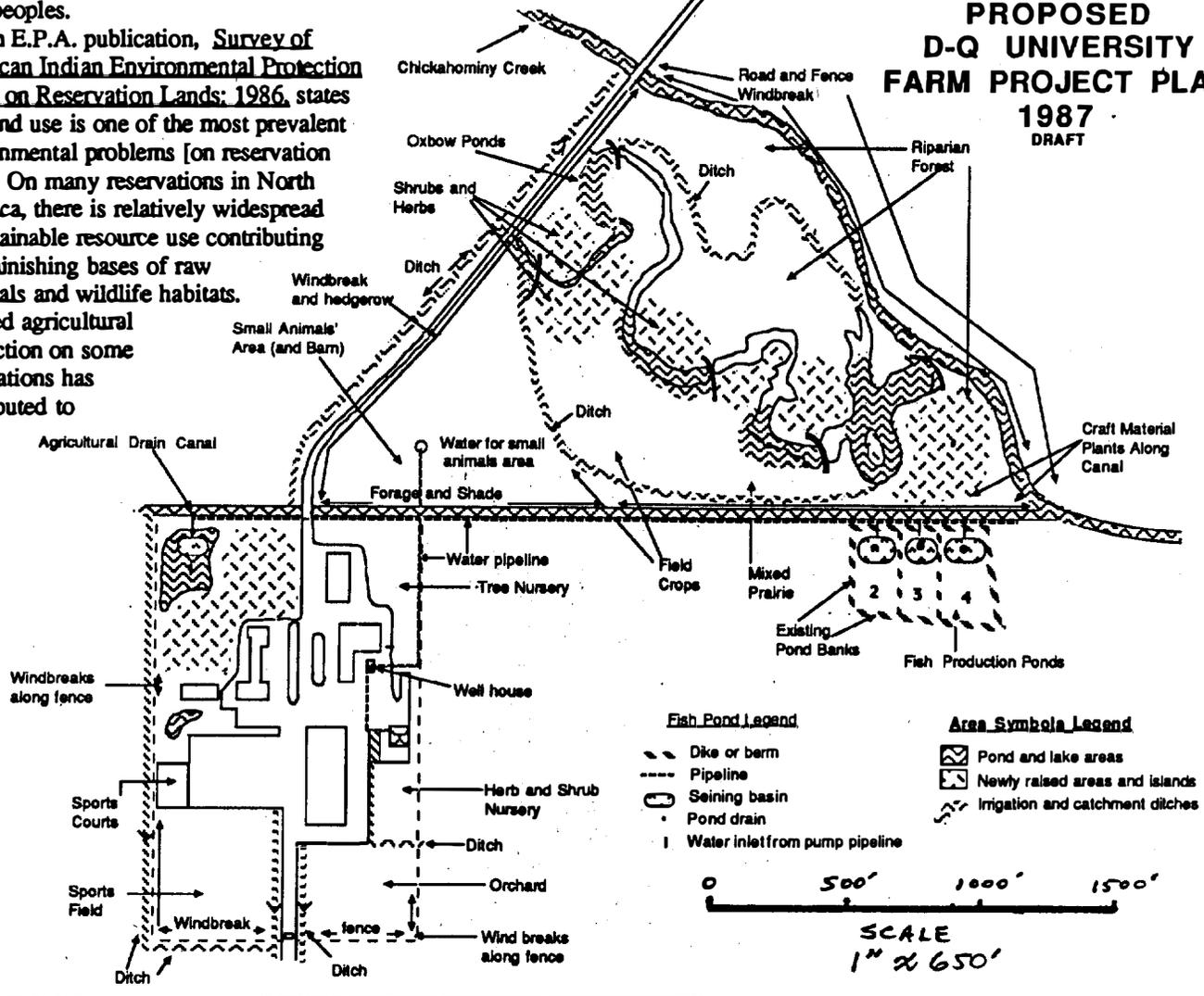
We are currently developing a curriculum that will familiarize students with the many options present within agriculture and appropriate technology. The course materials will encourage self-reliant strategies emphasizing regenerative use of land and local resources and the restoration of integrated

systems of water and land use, shelter, energy conservation and production, food and materials production and marketing, and wildlife habitat improvement. The coursework will be organized into "modules" (mini-courses), of which several will comprise a D-Q University academic offering. This practical "franchisable" information will cover subjects such as bioregional nutrition, community-scale food production, processing and marketing, aquaculture, domestic animal and wildlife species management, and natural resource conservation and management.

Provided funding is created for the second two educational approaches, the on-campus field work would include participation in the development of a "model" of a self-reliant community. The 40-acre "Native Harvest Farm" intends to utilize useful native species for land restoration,

continued page 12, right hand column

PROPOSED D-Q UNIVERSITY FARM PROJECT PLAN 1987 DRAFT



Fish Pond Legend		Area Symbols Legend	
	Dike or berm		Pond and lake areas
	Pipeline		Newly raised areas and islands
	Seining basin		Irrigation and catchment ditches
	Pond drain		
	Water inlet from pump pipeline		

0 500' 1000' 1500'

SCALE 1" = 650'

climate modification, improved soil and water quality, traditional food and medicinal uses, fuelwood, timber and craft materials production. Kitchen gardens, propagation greenhouses and nurseries, and domesticated orchards are also proposed as teaching facilities.

Off-campus projects would require the development of a plan, using newly-acquired information from surveys and interviews, to assist a specific Native American community. This could be a demonstration project in such areas as crops or sustainable cropping systems, methods of energy conservation or production, housing, marketing, etc. Our Outreach Program would allow D-Q students and other individuals and communities to use the University's educational materials (i.e. books, videos, computer software, modules, course outlines, etc) and the opportunity to engage in a cooperative barter and marketing system for seeds, nursery stock, labor, and expertise.

At D-Q University, we hope to provide our students with the opportunity to attain useful and marketable skills to help the, and their communities in the redevelopment of self-reliant, economically viable, land-based communities in which to sustain their cultural heritage.

If you are interested in our proposed programs, have suggestions or access to funding, please write:

Gretchen H. Will or Tom Ward,
D-Q University,
P.O. Box 409,
Davis, CA 95617.

Permaculture Education for Children

Robyn McCurdy

The basis for how we see and respond to the world is formed in early childhood, if not before. Permaculture requires of us to be able to observe and experience inter-relationships, then to use this knowledge in designing integrated systems which foster a sustainable way of life. If permaculture education began in childhood, a consequence could be more balanced responsible adults to care for our planet.

In contemporary society education is formalised rather than an integral part of daily tribal life. Thus it is necessary to set up "lessons" within the structure of a "school" so as to make permaculture education available to all children. Although the permaculture perspective contrasts with the segmented presentation of reality as taught in most schools, there is a chance it can be widely introduced if a children's permaculture curriculum is presented in a "professional way" -- along the lines of the typical curriculum formats.

To be of lasting value for the child, such a curriculum needs to be taught as a "progressive spiral" throughout their school years, not briefly as a "unit" in grade 3. For instance, the theme of "Patterns in Nature" would be built into every grade.

For the last several years I have been designing a children's school and children's permaculture curriculum and teaching children in New Zealand (Aotearoa). As a certified Waldorf and traditional school

teacher, I believe a well designed and tested permaculture curriculum would be of great value preparing children (and adults) for an abundant future. Other teaching friends have done similar work within various sections of the Aotearoan school system. Between us, we have been working up strategies for officially introducing permaculture into our state schools as part of the new subject called "Agriculture Across the Curriculum". These strategies may be equally relevant in U.S. schools (K through college).

After nine months visiting with U.S. teachers, reviewing the scant books and pamphlets on children and agriculture and gathering up the several curricula available, it does seem to me that there is a promising and unfilled niche here. There is a strong receptivity in the U.S. in many schools (e.g. Waldorf, Montessori, home schooling and public schools) to a children and nature/gardening/agriculture approach. School systems in many states already have school gardens and involve parents in the work. Perhaps we can move this budding interest along by some concerted action.

I have begun a list of books, articles and magazines together with brief reviews germane to a children's "greenculture". I would appreciate hearing from you about the books you have found valuable, even illuminating. Of course review copies would be most valuable.

My intention is to: 1) assess what resources are available and identify the gaps; 2) approach permaculture design course graduates with a sensitivity for children and education who have expertise in specific fields of our curriculum which are marginally or poorly covered ...and ask them to write resource material (if this happens to be you, please do contact me!); 3) circulate this developing curricula to a cadre of teachers willing to use it with their classes and give feedback before eventual publication, and; 4) present the revised curriculum in a low cost booklet and chart format which will form part of a series of educational children's permaculture books.

Editor's note: When completed, the children's permaculture curriculum and resource lists will be offered initially through The Permaculture Activist.



Robyn McCurdy with children at home at the Tui Community, South Island, New Zealand (Aotearoa). Photo: Guy Baldwin

Allied Groups

Callahan Creek Community Land Trust

Opening available for Farm Manager Position at Callahan Creek Community Land Trust. Description of Job: The Ozark Regional Land Trust is sponsoring the development of an agricultural/residential land trust community on 361 acres of farm and forest land near Columbia, Missouri. The organic farm has been out of production for a number of years but is very fertile. The job requires bringing the farm back into production on a gradual basis. The manager will also coordinate the development of several residential tracts as part of the CLT project. Planning of roads, ponds, house use and community structures will be part of the manager's responsibility. All activities on the land will be consistent with organic, sustainable agriculture; low and renewable energy consumption; low environmental impact; improvement of forest, soil and water resources; and integrated farming systems.

Qualifications: Background or training in organic, natural, ecological or permacultural farming systems is very important. Applicant should be strong in mechanical abilities, initiative and have an amiable personality. The manager will have to work closely with several board

members in developing the Community Land Trust. Board members and other advisors with specific farm knowledge will act as assistants to the manager.

Salary: Salary and other benefits are negotiable. Depending on the qualifications of the person, annual salary will be over \$12,000, with additional allowance for housing plus other benefits. It is expected that the manager would become a member of the CLT and receive a lifetime leasehold equity as part of the salary. Send applications to: Gregg Galbraith, Ozark Regional Land Trust, 427 S. Main Street, Carthage, MO 64836 or write for further information.

The Imprinting Foundation

This is to introduce you to a new non-profit organization, the Imprinting Foundation among whose specific purposes are: 1) To devise sustainable earth cultural practices, thereby helping to arrest global desertification and widespread hunger, malnutrition and starvation; 2) To further develop and promote land imprinting and complementary technologies that are ecologically sound approaches to earth culture. The essentials of regenerative earth imprinting are: use of specially designed farm implements to change the topography of the earth to harvest water and prepare protective landscapes which foster the growth of seeds and plants. [eds note: see John Fargher's article in the *International Permaculture Journal*, #23, Feb., 1986 for more information on this land restoration technique.]

The Imprinting Foundation will need broad-based public support to progress rapidly toward reversing global land desertification through the development of sustainable earth cultural practices. Membership categories: Institutional and Commercial (\$25); Contributing or Supporting (\$20); Individual and Family (415); Senior Citizen or Student (\$10). Contact: The Imprinting Foundation, 1231 East Big Rock Road, Tucson, AZ 85718.

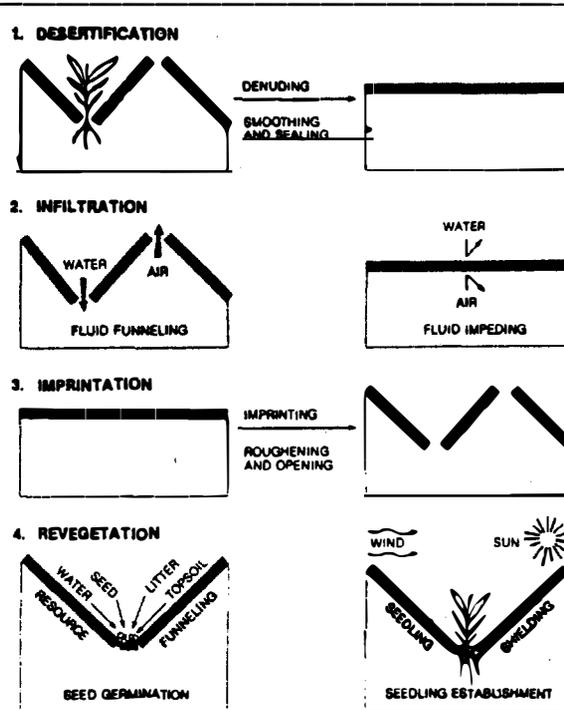
The Grain Exchange

From *The Grain Exchange* newsletter, Vol. 1, No. 1, January 1987, "The advancement of industrial agriculture has accelerated erosion of genetic variety of staple seed crops. Crops once selected for unique qualities to fulfill human needs in a particular place are being replaced with modern varieties with responsiveness to chemical inputs and the earning of corporate profits as primary attributes. The result is a rapidly shrinking gene pool and the lack of varieties suited to conditions outside of the primary cereal growing areas. Genetic diversity of our basic food crops is not static. It is best preserved as it lives; not stored away in vaults, capsules of information frozen in time--but as part of a living, changing agriculture."

"It is this belief that guides the Grain Exchange. Our primary purpose is to maintain and enhance the genetic diversity of cereal and other seed crops. Because this is best accomplished by having a variety of crops grown and used in diverse agricultural ecosystems by people with manifold needs and desires, it is also our goal to further the growing of grains and useful seed crops by gardeners and farmers."

"...The Grain Exchange is looking for old, unusual, productive or unique-in-any-way varieties of corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley, rice sesame, sunflower, buckwheat, millet, soybeans, especially those not readily available through commercial or conventional sources. If you have any of the above or want to help find them, join the Exchange!

Membership in the Grain Exchange includes a subscription to *The Grain Exchange* newsletter and all regular Grain Exchange publications. Members can list wants and offerings with the Exchange. Annual rates are as follows: Basic membership - \$7.50; Canada and Mexico -\$10 (US funds); Other foreign lands (airmail) - \$15 (US funds); Retaining (1st class postage) - \$25; Sustaining (1st class) - \$50; Lifetime - \$250. The first 20 Retaining, Sustaining, or Lifetime members will receive a copy of David Tresemer's *The Scythe Book*, which includes an excellent chapter on small scale cereal growing and harvesting. Contact the Grain Exchange, The Land Institute, 2440 East Water Well Road, Salina, KS 67401.



A.T. Microfiche Library

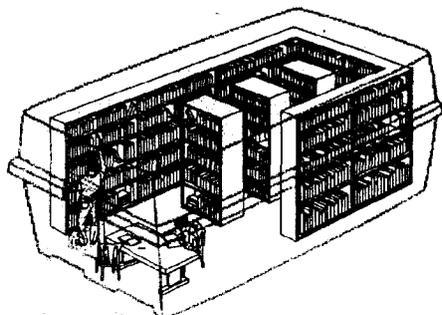
Ken Darrow

We are pleased to announce that the microfiche library at the Appropriate Technology Project at Stanford University has been expanded to include 1000 carefully selected books. Since its introduction 3 years ago, the microfiche library has proven itself to be a valuable tool. Last year 500 groups in 100 countries answered more than 25,000 questions on the spot with these microfiche libraries.

In the desktop microfiche library, every page of the 1000 books is reproduced on 4" x 6" plastic "microfiche" cards. The result is a full library collection at 1% of the weight and 5% of the cost compared to a comparable paper book library.



We put our appropriate technology library in a box...



so you can put it on your desk!

With the new A.T. Microfiche Library on your desk, you can research agricultural tools, grain storage methods, water supply systems, small enterprise development, nonformal education techniques, and all other major village technology topics. You can spend over \$14,000 assembling a library of this quality. Or, like people in 100 different countries, you could buy a copy of the microfiche library for only \$695. What's more, this library comes fully organized and indexed, and it is portable so you can carry it into the field. A low cost portable microfiche reader is available as well.

For more information write to: The Appropriate Technology Project, Volunteers in Asia, Microfiche Library Office, P.O. Box 4543, Stanford, CA 94305. (415) 326-8581

International Tree Crops Institute

Michael Crofoot

The International Tree Crops Institute, (ITCI) PO Box 888, Winters, CA 95694 is still going strong. Their list of 16 low cost publications is excellent, including: "Encouraging nature's regulators: enhancing and conserving beneficial insects with vegetation"; "Selected Eucalyptus species for rural plants in California"; and "The culture of carob for food, fodder and fuel in semi-arid environments". ITCI's list of publications is free and their 20 page paper on ITCI, with overview of agroforestry and how it can help heal degraded lands is \$2.00 with handling.

Director Miles Merwin has initiated a fascinating project planting out field trials of *Casuarina cunninghamiana* in five California locations. Casuarinas are fast

growing, non-leguminous nitrogen fixing trees mostly native to Australia which are being used the world over now in erosion control, reversing desertification, firewood and construction pole production and windbreaks.

The River She-Oak (as it is known in Australia) that Miles is testing is in widespread use in New Zealand and elsewhere where it is planted as soil fertilizing hedge-row windbreaks in orchards, etc. Miles went to Australia in 1985 and collected 14 provenances from highlands and lowlands. This collection has since been supplemented with other collections. Seven thousand seedlings from 132 different seed lots, some of which have been inoculated with pure cultures of nitrogen fixing microorganisms [see *International Permaculture Journal*, Issues #23, February, 1986 and #24, May, 1986, for background on non-legume (actinorhizal) nitrogen fixers] are soon to be planted out.

In cooperation with private landowners, State Foresters and private companies, the trials objectives include: to measure the amount of inherent genetic variability between and within provenances over a 5 to 7 year period and to select superior individuals for possible vegetative propagation. Miles has been able to pull together hot-shot propagators, soil microbe scientists, institutional backing and interest, and a field trial crew in what must be considered an exemplary effort. Mention should be made that ITCI does not have an office *per se* but that its considerable library is available for perusal at the office of the Meals for Millions Foundation in Davis, CA.

3rd International Permaculture Conference

The Third International Permaculture Convergence and Conference (known as IPC III for short) has been tentatively scheduled for the beginning of February, 1989 in New Zealand (the Maori word for the islands and the one we prefer is Aotearoa). The Convergence (an in-house gathering for Permaculture Design Course graduates) is to be held within a traditional Maori Marae - their common lands and community home - hear Christchurch on the South Island. Following this, the Conference will be hosted near a North Island University. We are initiating broadscale advertizing and hope to host 1000 participants.

IPC III will be preceded by several permaculture design courses, including one for 3rd and 4th world peoples. Tours of active centers in both Aotearoa and Australia will follow. A sailing flotilla will be launched just after IPC III on a four month Pacific Rim voyage for appropriate technology and cultural exchange. With 10 to 20 large sailboats in this sailing university, upwards of 500 seafarers will have the chance to do permaculture work in this three to five leg voyage among the islands. We invite your interest and support. Announcements will be mailed to all permaculture course graduates. Who do you know that should also be advised of either of these two projects? Would you like to help? Contact person for IPC III in Aotearoa is: Steve Hart, (address available in next *Activist*), Auckland, New Zealand.

Allied Groups

Friends of the Trees Yearbook

An annual compendium of noteworthy deeds, projects, events, organizations, movements, periodicals, books and articles concerning Re-Greening the Earth - The worldwide "Green Front". Published March, 1986 - ONLY \$4.00. Without a doubt, the best value for addresses of organizations and information on Permaculture, agroforestry, seed exchanges, propagation, seed & nursery companys, native plants, tree planting, book sources, keyline and numerous other subjects. Available from Friends of the Trees, PO Box 1466, Chelan, WA 98816.

Audio Cassette Tapes - 2nd International Permaculture Conference, Olympia, Washington

Workshop Themes

1. Seeds, Genetic Heritage, Genetic Erosion
2. Drylands: Turning Back the Desert
3. Policy & Patterns for Sustainable Society
4. Small Farms
5. Asia

6. Biological Management of Soil Fertility
7. Permaculture Design
8. Urban Strategies
9. Agroforestry
10. Communities
11. Projects in Process

Keynotes:

- ___ # K-1 Wes Jackson "New Roots for Agriculture"
- ___ # K-2 Bill Mollison "Permaculture: History & Future Direction"
- ___ # K-3 Masanobu Fukuoka (with translator) "Natural Farming"
- ___ # K-4 Panel with Jackson, Mollison, Fukuoka

Workshop tapes: (numbers refer to Workshop Themes listed above)

- ___ #A-2 Range & Resource Management Allan Savory
- ___ #A-3 Regenerative Agriculture David Haencke & Jeff Cox
- ___ #A-8 City Farming in Great Britain John Bond
- ___ #B-2 Imprintation Robert Dixon
- ___ #B-5 Alternative Agriculture in Japan Arthur Getz & Larry Korn
- ___ #B-6 Earthworms Nancy Baumeister
- Soil Fertility Lea Harrison
- ___ #B-4 Permaculture Design Zea Sonnabend & Rick Landt
- ___ #C-5 Natural Farming in India Partap Aggarwal
- ___ #C-7 Bioregionalism, Design Process, Lifestyle & Reading the Landscape Max Lindegger
- ___ #C-9 Panel: Permaculture & Forestry S. Erickson, D. Bainbridge, R. Gold, Harron
- ___ #C-12 Gardening & Land Use in the Soviet Union Kate Gessert
- Open Water Polyculture Barbara Daniels
- ___ #D-3 Wes Jackson Questions & Answers Jeem Peterson
- ___ #D-5 Farming in the Phillipines John Quinney
- ___ #D-7 New Alchemy Institute D. Haenke, R. Gold, M. Malin, J. Schultz
- ___ #D-9 Forests of the Future
- ___ #E-2 Third World: Fuel & Nature E. Surrige, S. Kravit, L. McDonnell
- ___ #E-4 Sustainable Agriculture
- ___ #E-5 Masanobu Fukuoka (with translators) Questions & Answers Willow Rain, Dahinda Meda
- ___ #E-7 Land Restoration in Northern California

TAPE COST - \$ 4.00 EACH

TO ORDER TAPES: Please put a check by the tape(s) you want. Put the total in the subtotal line. Add on sales tax if a WA state resident and add \$.50 per tape shipping up to \$3.50 and put the total in the space provided. Then ship payment by cash, check or purchase order to:

AUDIO PRODUCTIONS
2442 NW Market #163
Seattle, WA 98107
(206) 329-1674

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Purchase Order # _____

Number of tapes	#	_____
@ \$4.00 each (Subtotal)	\$	_____
WA State tax (7.9%)	\$	_____
Shipping (\$.50 per tape up to \$3.50)	\$	_____
TOTAL	\$	_____

Classifieds

Books & Publications

Natural Insect Controls, over 100. Save, effective, inexpensive. 10 page pamphlet, send \$2.00 plus a S.A.S.E.: **GROWING (safely) GREEN**, Rt. 1, Box 121, Bardstown, KY 40004.

Journal of the International Permaculture Association - Back issues are available - an incredible source of background information on permaculture! Issues #7 - #24 \$3.25 each. Available from: Permaculture Communications, PO Box 101, Davis, CA 95617.

MAKING CONTACT: HOME-SCHOOLERS' NETWORK for COMMUNITY. Link up with others to co-create community through: home- schooling neighborhood... intentional community... village...home- stead clusters... For more information, send SASE to **MAKING CONTACT**, 3543 E. Bellevue, Tucson, AZ 85716.

GUIDE TO UNUSUAL HOW-TO SOURCES - describes over 50 periodicals and handbooks on alternative tech., gardening, home learning, low-cost shelters, tree growing, travel, etc. All addresses included. Free for S.A.S.E. Light Living, PO Box 190-pa, Philomath, OR 97370.

This could be your ad here! A free 25-word classified ad is included with every membership in PINA - see details below.

Farming/Gardening Supplies

REPLACEMENT HARD-WOOD TOOL HANDLES. Hard to find, 1st quality. Low Cost! For complete catalog, send \$2.00 (refundable) now: Ozark Handle, Box 390-A, Eureka Springs, AR 72632. (501) 423-6888

Help Wanted/Offered

PEACEFUL VALLEY FARM SUPPLY is ripe for change. Fast growing, socially responsible, 9-year old, profitable business needs self-motivated committed person(s) willing to learn. We are interested in a long term employee and/or a working partner and/or a buyer for the business. Call: (916) 265-FARM or write: 11173 Peaceful Valley Road, Nevada City, CA 95959.

POSITION WANTED: Responsible, ambitious couple wants management position on farm. Experienced in dairy farming, vegetable farming & gardening, draft horses, flower gardening & arrangements, greenhouse work, and retail. Very versatile, college educated couple. Need opportunity to implement permacultural techniques, diversify farm. Contact: Ken Fager, 210 East North St., Bethlehem, PA 18018. (215) 867-3198.

Help Wanted/Offered

WANTED: Permaculture oriented land steward-caretaker person for western country property one hour from county seat. Contact: Horace Gray, PO Box 188, Glenbrook NV 89413.

WANTED: Part-time administrator for PINA - someone skilled at organizational management with a background in permaculture to run PINA's Seattle office and coordinate volunteers beginning in Spring, 1987. Small stipend available. Contact: Lea Kouba, PINA, 6488 Maxwellton Road, Clinton WA 98236. (206) 221-3979.

Real Estate

PERMACULTURE HOME for Sale. Seven-room house on 1/2 acre lot features Permaculture design and five years of implementation by permaculture designers Dan Hemenway and Thelma Snell. House is food self-reliant with terraced organic gardens, fruit, vine and nut plantings and poultry forage system. Wood heat with oil h/w & central heat backup; mature pine windbreak shelters house from west and north. Partially constructed poultry greenhouse on premises. Located on a deadend road, backed by forest, 5 min. walk from town, 1/2 hour drive to Amherst, MA. Low taxes. \$67,500 firm. Contact Thelma Snell, (617) 544-7810.

Cave Creek Community Land Trust, 53 acres, half wooded, half good agricultural land designed using Keyline & Permaculture. We are seeking 5 individuals/families to co-operate in horticulture and home building on the property. Profits will be applied towards purchase of homesites and/or agricultural land. Pay as you produce. Experienced and inexperienced both welcome. Situated in friendly, isolated valley near Mt. Judea, Arkansas. Excellent water. Further information, send SASE to Eric & Beth Ardapple-Kindberg, Bass Arkansas 72612.

Poultry

DUCKLINGS AND GOSLINGS - Forty colorful and useful varieties nurtured with care. Young shipped safely nationwide, mature stock at farm. Send stamp for literature. Holderread's Waterfowl Farm, P.O. Box 492, Corvallis, OR 97339.

Using Weeder Geese, a four page pamphlet explaining the basics of management, care and rearing of geese, what crops they can be used in, housing, fencing, etc., is available for \$.50 plus a SASE from PINA, 6488 Maxwellton Rd., Clinton WA 98236. The Permaculture Institute of North America (PINA) supplies White China Goslings -minimum order of 6, birds shipped when one day old and are ready to weed in 6 weeks. For more information, *The Book of Geese* by Dave Holderread is available from PINA for \$7.95 (includes postage & handling) or contact PINA at address above.

Membership Benefits

- One year subscription to our quarterly newsletter, *The Permaculture Activist*
- One year subscription to the quarterly magazine, the *International Permaculture Journal* (published in Australia)
- Discounts on selected educational events sponsored by PINA
- One free 25-word Classified Ad in *The Permaculture Activist*
- Discounts on selected book titles from Permaculture Resources (see catalog in this newsletter)

Yes!

I want to become a member of the Permaculture Institute of North America (PINA) and work together in developing ecologically sound and sustainable land-use systems. In becoming a member, I pledge to work in some way to help heal, nurture, and regenerate the natural world which we share.

Membership categories:

- \$25/year
- \$50/year
- \$100/yr
- \$250-\$500
- \$1000
- \$16/year

Regular member
Sustaining member
Contributing member
Patron
Lifetime member

Low income member - includes subscription to *The Permaculture Activist* only

Membership rates above are valid for U.S., Canada, and Mexico only. Overseas memberships are only available at the \$16/year rate, which includes *The Permaculture Activist* only. Overseas members may subscribe to *Permaculture, the Journal of the International Permaculture Association* through their office in Australia: P.O. Box 367, Maryborough, Victoria 3465, Australia.

Name (please print) _____ phone _____

Address _____

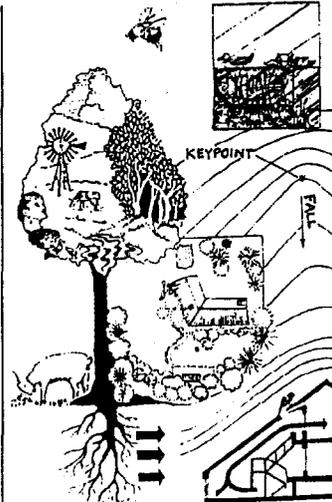
City _____ postal code _____ country _____

Make check payable to PINA in U.S. \$ and mail to: PINA (address on reverse)

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The Best of Permaculture



This book is a selection of articles, photographs, drawings and essays that have appeared in Permaculture journals and newsletters from around the world. The editors have updated information whenever possible. Articles have been selected for their contribution to and reinforcement of permaculture concepts and are inspirational as well as educational. Titles include: Control of Fungus Diseases; City Farms; Trees as Animal Feed; Forest Regeneration; Reforestation and Agroforestry in East Africa; Foodscapes, Self-Reliance and the Landscape Architect; Composting Perth's Refuse; Double Mulches and Deep Litter;

Permaculture Communications
PO Box 101
Davis, CA 95617

Cost: \$12.50 each + \$1.50 shipping for one or two books. (Calif. residents add 75¢ sales tax) *The Best of Permaculture* and other publications are available from:

Calendar of Events

May 29 - June 13. Planning the 21st Century Sustainable Community: The Urban-Rural Interface: Three weekend workshops and a concurrent two-week Permaculture Design Course. Contact: Ojai Foundation, Box 1620, Ojai, CA 93023, attn: Bill Roley. phone: (805) 646-8343.

June 15-29 & July 5-19, 1987. Third World Permaculture Design Course. Two professional level courses for land and resource planners, development workers, extension agents, community organizers, volunteers joining the Peace Corps, etc. See details page 8. Contact: Director, Aprovecho Institute, 80574 Hazelton Rd., Cottage Grove, OR 97424, Phone: (503) 942-9434.

February, 1989. Third International Permaculture Conference, to be held in Aotearoa (New Zealand). See details page 22.

Advertising Rates

Classified ads in *The Permaculture Activist*: 25¢/word, \$5.00 minimum, prepayment required. Display advertising space is available in standard sizes of 1/8, 1/6, 1/4, 1/3, 1/2 page at \$28, \$35, \$49, \$65, \$80 per single inclusion. Other sizes available. Discounts for prepayment and multiple inclusions. For rate sheet or to place an ad contact: Editor, *The Permaculture Activist*, 6488 Maxwellton Rd, Clinton WA 98236, phone: (206) 221-3979. Our circulation is approximately 2,500 throughout North America, about 1/2 located in OR, WA & CA. *The Permaculture Activist* is an ideal place to advertise if you want to reach gardeners, farmers, homesteaders, tree crops enthusiasts, and permaculture activists.

Important note to our member/subscribers regarding your mailing label: please refer to numbers in the upper right hand corner for information on the status of your subscription.

1	Polly Culture	3-2 26
	123-The Jungle	
	Stockville WA	
	U.S.A. 98103	

Last issue of *The Permaculture Activist* in your current subscription

Last issue of the *International Permaculture Journal* in your current subscription

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Membership includes:

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- A subscription to the quarterly magazine the *International Permaculture Journal*
- Discounts on selected books and resource materials from Permaculture Resources (catalog inside pp. 16)

Membership form on inside back cover

Permaculture Institute of North America
6488 Maxwellton Road
Clinton, WA 98236

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED