



Vessels of Peace

Women Embodying Peace ...
Inspired by the Sacred Feminine ...
Serving Divinity, Humanity, Earth

VESSELS OF PEACE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2006 - ISSUE #26

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A NOTE FROM LYNDA

Dear VoP Community,

I write to you from New Cumberland, Pa., having traveled 4,000-plus miles since leaving California on March 28th. It's nice to know I don't have to drive anywhere further than 40 miles again until May 18th! When I first arrived 10 days ago, I thought I'd done pretty well, stamina-wise, with my ambitious schedule and the many driving days. Once I got settled in here, however, it all caught up with me in the form of a cold virus (a rarity for me). But I'm on the mend and hope to get back to posting on The Vessel blog soon.

Many thanks to VoP Beth Blevins for putting this newsletter together. Thank you also to the VoP Visioning Circle women for helping with facilitating the weekly teleconference meditations and with other logistical details for VoP. And my deep gratitude to the wonderful women who have hosted me in their homes: Brigitte (Barbara) Elerick in El Paso, Texas; Shelley Brandes in San Antonio, Texas; Roberta Atkinson Guillory in Baton Rouge, La.; Leigh Sanford in Kennesaw, Ga.; Lynn Milo in Summerville, S. Car.; and now Vicki Fox, who (bless her heart) has opened her home to me for the entire five weeks of my time here in Pennsylvania!

Regarding the women I have been meeting and their responses to what I have been sharing – let me just say that the message of Vessels of Peace and of The 11 Intentions is being met with interest, gratitude and excitement. Many new women are signing up for the email list and planning to join in the teleconference meditations. At each event, I lead a guided meditation, and in every single case, by the end of the meditation, the deeply peaceful Silence of Sacred Feminine Presence has filled the space, inner and outer. Just like on the calls, the women don't want to speak for awhile ... They want to stay with that Silence, welcome it, savor it, anchor it within them ...

Because the work of Vessels of Peace often seems subtle and quiet, it can be hard to trust that something real and tangible is happening because of it. Our culture is so oriented towards

results, toward "proof." Inherent in selfless service, however, is the letting go of attachment to outcomes and a surrendering to the process of aligning our will with Divine Will. When we do this with good faith and sincere effort, grace occasionally shares with us, a glimpse of the fruits of our service.

Our feature essay, "A Tapestry for Peace," is one such example. A 2004 Vessels of Peace email served as catalyst for one woman's peace vision, which she had "put on the back burner" for some years, to now be fulfilled. We are humbled to have played a small role in this story. May it inspire each of you to manifest your own visions of service to humanity and our world. We'd love to hear what your visions are and help hold a space with you for them to manifest. Email them to me at lyndaterry@vesselsofpeace.com, and we will "place" them in The Vessel - the Visioning Circle blog - where the entire VoP community can read them and offer prayerful, meditative support.

Thank you all for your prayerful, meditative support for me during this trip. I truly do feel you with me and know the women I am meeting feel your presence too.

Love and blessings of peace,

Lynda

FEATURE ESSAY

A TAPESTRY FOR PEACE by Beth Blevins

When the Walking with Peace vision email of December 16, 2004 (see the VoP website to read this email) was first sent out to VoP women, it ended up being forwarded and posted on websites around the world. Here is one way it inspired someone else to share their vision for peace:

The email was forwarded to the late Eve Macintosh, a Denver, Colo., writer, artist and peace activist. Reading the email reminded Eve of a project she began because of a vision she had in 1997, when an angel appeared to her. The angel held two globes and spoke only a few profound words, "a place in space for peace." Eve felt it was a call to create a tapestry to make a place for peace in people's hearts and minds. She had set the project aside for several years after that original vision, but when she read of VoP founder Lynda Terry's Walking with Peace vision, she knew it was time to complete the project. The Denver branch of the National League of American Pen Women, of which she was a member, decided to sponsor the project - and it was then adopted by the league as the theme for their 2006 biennial conference.

Earlier this month, "A Tapestry for Peace" was unveiled at the conference, which was held in Denver. Sadly, Eve, who was 76, died in November 2005, before she could see the entire tapestry, but she did see some of the panels before her death and knew her vision would be carried out by the NLAPW women. The completed Tapestry for Peace has been dedicated to her.

The tapestry consists of a series of 90 panels, each created by NLAPW chapters and friends all over the United States, that form a vision of a world without fear, borders, or barricades. Each panel of the tapestry has one picture or poem about peace. The Denver branch has stitched together the panels received from all over the United States and completed the tapestry, realizing the vision of peace. "We are hoping to put the message out there that peace is imperative," says Anna Di Bella, president of the NLAPW. "All panels are moving us toward the

idea of universal peace and friendship.”

Each panel of the tapestry is wonderfully unique. Artists have used embroidery, appliqué, paint, and pens to create their symbols of peace. The first panel is a rendering of Eve Mackintosh’s vision. Another--created by an elementary school class and their teacher, an NLAPW member--shows an angel with five oak leaves, representing the earth, floating beneath her. Three stars, symbolizing faith, hope, and love, hover in the sky. Two doves fly above the angel’s head carrying a banner of peace. And the angel holds three gold and silver ties in her hands. These are the ties of love that bind the hearts of people worldwide. For another panel, an NLAPW chapter chose to replicate an illustration from Michele Hofbauer’s book, *Couldn’t We Make a Difference?* The image from the book shows a child touching the world with a magic wand and a white dove flying above. Encircling the scene are the words "Born in the heart of every child is the power to change the world."

"Tomorrows children," said Hofbauer, "will change the world. They will be the key to bringing about world peace. Women need to teach peace, especially in countries where they teach hate. We need to emphasize acceptance, tolerance and conflict resolution and children need tools to work with. People from all over the world that are not even members of the Pen Women have joined in the enterprise, including a group of teenagers from Israel and a group from an orphanage in Africa. We certainly can't argue that peace is an issue, a goal. Surely we can accomplish this. It has to be within our reach in our lifetime."

You can find a photo of this beautiful peace tapestry on the VoP web site at this link: www.vesselsofpeace.com/tapestry.html . You also can find out more information about the tapestry and NLAPW at www.nlapwcolorado.org

NEWS & EVENTS

BOOK TOUR UPDATE

Lynda has traveled from California across the southern U.S. to Pennsylvania, where she will remain for several weeks before heading West again. She is still willing to schedule events and/or stops to meet with VoP women along her route from Colorado westward. She will leave Illinois on June 1st, traveling to Colorado for a two-week stay. If you live in Colorado, southern Utah, New Mexico, Arizona or California and are willing to 1) host an event, 2) make her aware of a bookstore, women’s group or spiritual center in your area that would want to host an event, 3) host her as a guest in your home, or 4) any/all of the above, please email her at lyndaht@sbcglobal.net or call her at 707-322-9687 to see what might be possible.

VoP BLOG - THE VESSEL

You can follow Lynda’s travels and experiences by means of the VoP blog, The Vessel. The blog (short for weblog) is an online journal comprised of postings or messages from Lynda and other members, with the most recent postings showing at the top. Postings can be read almost immediately after they are entered. Lynda is also posting audio messages on the blog. You can post comments on the blog, also, by clicking on the small white envelope at the bottom of each posting. To use the blog, go to the Vessels of Peace web site and click on **VoP blog**. (Or use this link: vesselsofpeacevc.blogspot.com) You’ll immediately see postings from members of the visioning circle, and by scrolling down just a bit, you’ll see the buttons to play Lynda’s latest audio message.

VoP CIRCLES FORMING

VoP circles are forming across the United States and in Canada as a result of VoP retreats and *The 11 Intentions* book. In Santa Rosa, Calif., a VoP circle meets on the first Saturday of the month as a result of a retreat facilitated by Lynda in February. The circle of 9 to 10 women meditate for an hour on the 11 intentions and presencing peace at the home of VoP woman Star Cardle. The meditations continue to be a profound, loving experience for everyone involved. Another retreat in March prompted the forming of a book discussion group in Salida, Colo. Facilitator Karen Latvala writes about the retreat, "There were 8 of us ranging in age from 40s through 70s (oldest 77!), and all felt transformed in some way by the experience. They all came with some curiosity about the Sacred Feminine and a definite longing for peace and they left with a new understanding of the Sacred Feminine power within them. The connections and insights they gained were beautiful, and each so perfect for what they needed, of course." Also in Colorado, a circle is forming in Grand Junction. Another circle is meeting on a regular basis in Gainesville, Fla., as a result of a retreat facilitated by VOP Visioning Circle member Valerie Rosenkrantz in March. In Sarnia, Ontario, Canada, the owner of the Camellia Bookstore is forming a book study group and yet another group is forming in the Vancouver, BC, area.

If you would like to schedule a retreat, a book discussion group, or a meditation circle in your area, please contact us through the web site or info@vesselofpeace.com. Lynda and the women of the Visioning Circle would be happy to support you in offering one in your area. In some cases we can facilitate the event; in others, we can offer support, advice, retreat outlines, and additional information.

2006 EVENTS

Monday, April 24 - New Cumberland, Pennsylvania (Harrisburg area)

The 11 Intentions - Talk, guided meditation, book signing. The Inner-Connection, 308 Market St, 7 PM. To reserve a seat and for directions, call 717-774-4874.

Saturday, April 29 - Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

The Healing Gift of a Peaceful Mind: A Vessels of Peace Meditation Workshop. Gettysburg Holistic Health Center, Fairfield Road, 1-5 PM. Cost: \$30. To register and for directions, call Marti Thomas at 717-334-5140.

Sunday, April 30 - Camp Hill, Pennsylvania (Harrisburg area)

The 11 Intentions - daylong retreat. Seibert Park, in Camp Hill, 10 AM - 5 PM. Cost: \$90 (includes signed copy of book); \$75 without book. Lunch extra. For registration information, call or email Vicki Fox at 717-774-1275, VickiFoxPro@aol.com

Sunday, April 30 - Ellington, Connecticut

Becoming a Vessel of Peace: Invoking the Sacred Feminine as a Pathway to Peace - afternoon workshop. Spirit Matters, 19 Pinney St., Noon - 4 PM. \$45 (includes copy of *The 11 Intentions* book). Facilitator: Laurel Boyd, movement teacher and VoP Visioning Circle member. For more information and to register, call 860-871-9295 or email spiritmatters@snet.net

Friday, May 5 & Saturday, May 6 - Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Two Weekend Events at Gallery 30, 30 York St. Friday: The 11 Intentions - meet author and

book signing. 5 - 8 PM. Saturday: Women, Peace & the Sacred Feminine - talk and guided meditation. 2 PM. For more information, call Gallery 30 at 717-334-0335.

Monday, May 8 - New Cumberland, Pennsylvania

The Darshan of Peace - special guided meditation. The Inner-Connection, 308 Market St., 7 PM. Call 717-774-4874 to reserve a seat and for directions.

Sunday, May 21 - Ashtabula, Ohio

Women, Peace & the Sacred Feminine - afternoon workshop. Wellness & Total Learning Center, 715 W. 30th St., 2-5 PM. \$25. For more information and to register, call 440-997-5353.

Wednesday, May 24 - Toledo, Ohio

Women, Peace & the Sacred Feminine - evening program, 7 PM. Heart offering. For more info and location/directions, contact Barbara Dulmage at 419-381-6898 or via email at Songispirit@aol.com

Thursday, May 25 - Troy, Ohio

Women, Peace & the Sacred Feminine - evening program. 7 PM. Heart offering. For more info and location/directions, contact Maya Scherer at 440-937-9049 or via email at drmaya33@yahoo.com

Friday, May 26th - Somerset, Kentucky

Women, Peace & the Sacred Feminine - evening program. 6- 8 PM. For more info, contact Sonya Jones at 606-875-2967.

Wednesday, May 31 - Normal, Illinois

Women, Peace & the Sacred Feminine - evening program, 7 PM. Heart offering. For more info and location/directions, contact Carolyn Treadway at 309-451-4503 or via email at carolyn@gracefullife.com

Thursday, June 15 - Salida, Colorado

Women, Peace & the Sacred Feminine - evening program. 7 PM. Heart offering. For more info and location/directions, contact Karen Latvala at 719-942-4758 or via email at Karen@consciouslifequest.com

TELECONFERENCE CALLS

WEEKLY GLOBAL MEDITATION FOR WOMEN

The Vessels of Peace Visioning Circle has been facilitating weekly Global Meditation for Women teleconference calls since March. The calls have been a rich gathering of our spirits and an opportunity to serve women throughout the world. The calls last for 55 minutes. Format is an opening welcome and introductions, brief presentation about the intention of the call, a guided meditation, and brief sharings from callers, if time. Your only cost will be your normal long distance charges.

Call Details

Date/time: Sundays at 5 PM PT/8 PM ET. Phone number and access code: 641-297-5800 and 820668# For more information, email info@vesselsofpeace.com

TENDING THE VESSEL

Note: This space is for sharing experiences, thoughts, favorite quotes, etc. that support being a vessel of peace for ourselves and for others. Please send contributions and feedback to info@vesselsofpeace.com.

SHARINGS

Julie Heyman, VoP from Mass., shares this dream she recently had, and Visioning Circle member Laurel Boyd, from Conn., shares her own variation on the theme:

Julie's dream:

"I dreamed I was in the White House... and I was standing in a room with politicians all around ... and I began to slowly spin around, with my arms outstretched like a dervish, and was saying out loud: 'Peace in all directions ...peace in all directions ...' I felt calm and was determined to keep doing this until someone stopped me!"

Laurel's sharing:

"What a wonderful dream!!! We are circles of peace - all the women of VoP - spinning, spinning - arms outstretched - sending peace in all directions. Thank you, Julie, for sharing this.

As part of my morning 'ritual' I say the peace mantra with the arm movements to each of the four directions. I include "May Peace prevail on Earth" before I move on to the next direction."

Note: How are YOU using the peace mantras as part of your VoP practice? What dreams are YOU having about your role as a vessel of peace? We'd love to include them in a future newsletter. Send them to info@vesselsofpeace.com

INSPIRATION

This passage from Wayne Dyer's forthcoming book, *Being in Balance: 9 Principles for Creating Habits to Match Your Desires* (Hay House, 2006), sure sounds like he's talking about being a Vessel of Peace!

"... Being peace is different from looking for peace. ... This principle isn't about merely choosing tranquil thoughts when you're feeling frayed and anxious. I suggest picturing a container deep within yourself out of which all your thoughts flow. Inside of this container, at its very center, imagine a candle flame. You need to make a commitment that this flame in the center of the container holding all of your thoughts will never, ever flicker, although the worst may go before you. This is your container of peace, and only peaceful thoughts can fuel the burning candle. You don't need to change your thoughts as much as you need to learn to be an energy of peace lighting the way and attracting serene, harmonious thoughts and beings..."

As a being of peace, you make a huge impact on those around you. It's almost impossible to be totally stressed out in the presence of someone who has opted to be peace. Peace is a higher and faster energy - when you're being peace, just your presence alone will often nullify the uneasiness and tension in those around you. They affect others, who become more peaceful without even being aware of the transformation taking place."

SUPPORT FOR THE JOURNEY

ORDER THE 11 INTENTIONS BOOK!

You can order The 11 Intentions book (retail price: \$14.98) in the followings ways:

By credit card, through the lulu.com website at this link: www.lulu.com/content/184845

Through PayPal. Send your payment to: lyndaht@sbcglobal.net

By check or M.O.(U.S. funds), made out to Lynda Terry. The price is \$19 (\$14.98 plus \$4.02 shipping). Mail to: Vessels of Peace, P.O. Box 9006, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Note re multiple book orders: If you order 2-6 copies via the lulu.com site, you will get free shipping. Discounts are available for multiple copy purchases of 5 or more if purchased from Lynda directly; call 707-538-2070 or email lyndaht@sbcglobal.netfor details.

VOP SPIRITUAL MENTORING SESSIONS

If you long for more support in your spiritual journey, individual mentoring sessions can be very helpful. As someone who has traveled the path from seeking to embodying peace, and now lives and serves from the abiding peace of the heart, Lynda will walk with you as a guide and mentor.

Each mentoring session, which lasts up to 90 minutes, begins with a brief centering process and concludes with an intuitively guided meditation that is unique to you and where you are in your journey. Sessions can be in person, if you live in the Northern California area, or by phone. Lynda also can do small group tele-sessions, if you have a VoP circle (or want to form one), and your circle would like to work with her for a period of time.

If your heart feels called to work with Lynda in this way, please email her at lyndaht@sbcglobal.net or call 707-538-2070.

GUIDED MEDITATION CDS AVAILABLE

The Vessels of Peace Guided Meditation CD, recorded in 2003, is a wonderful way to do peace embodiment practice, to connect with the energy of the Sacred Feminine, and to connect with the collective energy of Vessels of Peace women everywhere! To order call 707-538-2070 or email lyndaht@sbcglobal.net Cost: \$15 + shipping.

Lynda's guided meditation CD/tape, "Meditating for Life - One: Breath Meditation," recorded in 2000, also is available. To order, call 707-538-2070 or email lyndaht@sbcglobal.net Cost: \$15 + shipping.

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Vessels of Peace is an international circle of women inspired by the Sacred Feminine and committed to serving Divinity, Humanity, Earth by presencing peace in their lives and in the world. For more information, go to www.vesselofpeace.com