

**What aspects of EAV attract me to consider membership...**

In many ways I've been preparing for EarthArt my whole life. The first seeds were sown in the early 1970's when I lived in rural Pennsylvania, and hung out at the Fred band farms (and first met drummer Bo Fox). Many years later, the creation of EarthArt Village became the fulfillment of a personal mission that Kailash and I pledged ourselves to in 1992. At the time, we had no details; we knew only that it involved community and sustainability and spirituality. We committed to "go the distance", to explore and develop the details. After settling in Crestone, we began in 1994 looking for a larger piece of land and a group of people interested in intentional community, to brainstorm and discuss the possibilities of an intentional community project here. Despite these active pursuits, neither the land, nor the people fell into place.

On hindsight we see that this was necessary, as we had a great deal to learn about sustainable community. Starting in 1995, opportunities began coming through our involvement in the creation of the Global Ecovillage Network (GEN), that have brought a wealth of information, experience and connections with others around the world also creating intentional, sustainable communities. Today, we are elected officers of the Ecovillage Network of the Americas (ENA), and on the GEN Information Services team for the Americas, and Linda is on the GEN Board. This several year process led us in identifying the core concepts around which EAV was organized - defining the essence of the community in which we wished to be members. To me, no particular piece of the EAV vision, mission, purposes attracts me more than any other. They are each attractive in their own way, and I embrace them all.

**What I feel I could contribute to the EAV community...**

I have dedicated time, energy, resources and funds to actualizing the EarthArt vision, and have committed to continue doing so. I spearheaded defining the essence of EAV - the principles and practices we've pledged to live by, and creating the space for people who resonate with these to come and co-create that lifestyle together. I am dedicated to developing this lifestyle, supporting other EarthArt Villagers in the process, too. I have experience and knowledge to offer in many core areas, such as - wholistic, sustainable living practices and resources; gardening; facilitating conscious, loving, responsible social systems; healing arts; supporting life long learning opportunities and creativity; networking, organizational management, good relationships throughout the bioregion - knowledge of local systems and styles. I am also contributing many material assets for common building use, while our quarters are upstairs. I am committed for the long term to seeking the highest thoughts and creating the highest results for myself and for EAV, and contributing in any ways that I can.

**Any issues or concerns about considering joining EAV...**

Only that I'm looking forward to getting beyond this pioneering phase, to the point of others being on the land and sharing in a daily experience of community, and know this will take some time.

**What the phrase - "long term" - as regards EAV Membership means to me...**

For me, long term means forever. I may travel from here, from time to time, but EarthArt is a place for me to put down roots and live the lifestyle of my choice and passions, on a day to day basis from now on.

**3 life priorities I seek to fulfill at EAV...**

- 1) a healthy, happy, wholistically balanced lifestyle in community,
- 2) solitude for nourishment and evolution of my spirit,
- 3) communion with Nature.

## **A list of what I contribute to EAV...**

- ... **willingly:** skills and activities - community building, administration, organizational development, program development, facilitation and networking; horse and other animal stewardship; garden care - food planning, production, preservation; integration of art, culture, spirit and play into daily life.
- ... **if needed:** butchering, light, construction support and odd jobs, weaponry.
- ... **under no circumstances:** heavy labor; hunting, slaughtering.

## **Passions and pet peeves...**

Passions... self-improvement, community building, networking, relating to nature, & arts

Peeves... bigotry, shallowness, gossip, apathy, repetition.

## **Special needs I have as a Member of EAV...**

For other members of EarthArt to be in their own way devoted and active toward the fulfillment of the EarthArt vision; and space for privacy and solitude.

## **Learnings that are important in my life**

- self help systems/programs: Loving Relationship Trainings, Course in Miracles, have also experienced many forms of mind and/or body work (Bioefedback, Therapeutic Touch, Swedish massage, reiki, acupuncture, chiropractic, Trager, Cranial/Sacral Therapy, Qi Gong, Tai Chi and others), Interfaith Ministry Program. I've enjoyed some yoga and tai chi in a group, but have not been motivated to do it on my own.
- spiritual paths: My Mother is Methodist and my Father was Jewish. I was baptized Methodist, confirmed Second Dutch Reformed, and as an adult, attended Unity Services for a number of years. I personally explored, then, studied Interfaith spiritual paths, relating most to the teachings of Jesus and Babaji. My vision for EarthArt is that there be many varieties of approaches, practiced individually and/or shared in group.
- personal callings: healing arts, consciousness and spiritual development, innovative social relationships, inclusion of aesthetics, art and cultural development in daily life, time in nature.
- peak experiences:
  - ~ reconnecting with my spirituality, deeply understanding devotion, surrender and service, at the Ashram 1989 dedication of the temple;
  - ~ the creation of the first Conceptual Plan draft for EarthArt, 1996 was dynamic and riveting;
  - ~ the fire ceremony Kailash and I did on the land in 1997, presenting ourselves and the plan to the land, and burning the plan surrendering it to the land, followed by a period of many graces which allowed us to purchase the land.
- major insights: many through rebirthing that have enriched my life through understanding and acceptance of myself and others. These were all variations of two sides of one theme: That consciousness is creative, and the sub-conscious is a major player. I couldn't say it better than Declan Kennedy, my friend and comrade from the Global Ecovillage Network (Lebensgarten, Germany):  
"My wish for the new millennium is for people to realize that their thoughts create their situations, their sicknesses and their health, their sorrows and their joys, their wars and their peace. And that every thought is an energy. All we need to do is discipline our thoughts. Each person takes on this responsibility. Thinking positively and with love can create heaven on Earth."
- great disappointments: inability to have children.

## **Any issues or concerns about applying to join EAV...**

None!

## **Any areas I want to explore or share, and haven't, yet...**

Not at the moment, though if any come up, I will share them.