

Kailash Biosketch

I was born in Oakland, California on February 22, 1962, (the year that seven planets were in Aquarius). When I was five, my family - Mother, Father and two older sisters moved to Saint Petersburg, Florida where I went through my early education, grades one(1) through eight(8). I wasn't active in school sports, but was quite active in music. I was in the Saint Petersburg Boys Choir and played the Cornet and Baritone horns, in concert and marching bands. At age 11, I began working with my father as an apprentice in the building trades.

When I was 15, my parents and I moved to Baltimore, Maryland, leaving my eldest sister (Donna) in Florida and my other sister (Brenda) going to college in Alabama. I left High School at age 16 and started working full time and paying my own living expenses at my parents' home. My sister Brenda was accidentally shot and killed while celebrating the end of her first college semester. This was quite a shock to my family. We all decided to travel west together, and stopped at Las Cruces, New Mexico where my father and I took work finishing sheet rock on a local apartment complex under construction. We did this for two months and then continued on to Tucson, Arizona where we planned to stay awhile. My father and I took work with a Mexican stucco crew. When I was 17, my parents decided to move to Oklahoma and my sister and I chose to stay in Arizona. At this time in my life I experimented with sex, drugs and rock'n roll, as well as learning the plumbing trade. At age 18, I decided to go to Saint Petersburg Junior College in Florida and study music. I took as many music courses as I could in two and a half years and didn't spend any time on general education, therefore I left with no degree. I also got involved with a yogananda group and started chanting songs to the Divine.

At age 21 (1983), I moved to Hoboken, New Jersey, where my parents and sister were living. I began working for B.T. Investments renovating condemned and run-down three to six story multifamily buildings and I also managed general accounting and computer tracking of these projects through condominium sales, and performed these tasks for other companies while in New Jersey. My music education continued at the New York School for Music, as well as having the opportunity to play for live audiences and get paid gigs. And, I got involved in the New Age Movement, studying re-birthing and attending and assisting in many LRT (loving relationships training) workshops.

At age 26 (1988), I had enough of the struggle and competition around money in the big city and moved to Crestone to experience a more spiritual life. I went to the Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, to stay for a while to reconnect with a higher meaning for life, and experience living in community at the Ashram. My work there involved desktop publishing, construction of the Temple, a gravity fed water system off Spanish Creek, construction of the Earthship, installation of an active solar radiant heating system for the Temple, and PV electric system for the Earthship and Temple. I also did intermittent work as a carpenter and mason on local homes with Crestone Construction. I started CB Jazz with Dennis Neuhaus (a Crestone/Baca Jazz Band). I began doing MIDI system arrangements and some composing for the group, playing Latin, Bop, Swing, Ballads and Jazz Waltz at such venues as the Great Sand Dunes National Monument Summer Music Programs, the Monte Vista Crane Festival, the Creede Arts & Crafts Festival, Cafe Maya Jazz Night (1996), annual Fourth of July Festivals, Crestone, the Crestone Music Festival and many other public and private events.

At age 30 (1992), I took Linda as my partner and moved to Florida with her after we bought a house in the Baca Grande Subdivision near Crestone. She had a business in producing workshops and outdoor retreats related to personal growth, communication and relationship skills. I managed the accounting records, computer layout of "The Higher Thought" newsletter and program support. Linda and I knew that we had a mission together but weren't clear what it was yet. We did know it wasn't in Florida, so we moved back to Crestone. Linda became the Executive Director of the Manitou Foundation and I started my business "Kailash Computing Services" as a Macintosh consultant providing computer systems set-up, maintenance, support and repair; accounting system and database set-up and management, desktop publishing - graphics and text design (catalogs, brochures, newsletters, cards, posters, etc.), Web site management and web page design.

At age 32 (1994), Linda and I began looking for a large piece of land to create a sustainable, multi-family homestead. We were in discussion with other parties involved in the same endeavor. The ideas were good and sound, but we didn't have the means to manifest it with that group, so we got quite involved in various Crestone community efforts. Linda was elected to the Baca P.O.A. Board and I was an Environmental & Architectural (E&A) Consultant to the P.O.A. Board and the E&AC Committee on development and design of the E&A Design Guidelines, policy and procedures, Land Use and Compliance Code, and also on the Manitou Foundation E&A Committee.

In 1995 Linda and I became involved with the Global Ecovillage Network (GEN) in its early years, and helped to create the Ecovillage Network of the Americas (ENA). We currently run the Central Office for ENA. We had the opportunity to travel world wide to many ecovillage communities, attending conferences and workshops. These experiences helped to solidify what our mission together was about.

In 1997, we decided to continue looking for land, sold our house in the Baca and bought the current EarthArt Land in August of that year. We began the improvements to the land (fence, road and Barn complex) and the process of creating a place where people could join in our process. The vision had changed from a homestead to an ecovillage including providing education in what we are creating here. By the end of 1998 we had moved onto the land living inside the Avion trailer inside the unfinished common building.

In 2001 (age 39) we had a solid mission and plan for creating the community in place and were receiving visitors on a seasonal basis. We secured a commercial land mortgage to cover start-up cost and had a financial plan as well. We brought the common buildings to 75% complete. By 2003 we had a well drilled and had water on the land for the first time.

2006 (age 44): I am currently interested in alternative methods of construction, alternative power technologies, and enjoy researching and planning for them at EAV. I would like to create a music & video studio for composing and performance - an inspiring space for new creations.