

Global Village

Newsletter

June 2001

Gifts for a Better World!

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PURPOSE

Global Village is a local not-for profit, volunteer-run corporation founded to partner with people in impoverished communities in the US and throughout the world by providing a Peoria market for their artistic, craft and food products while giving Peoria-area consumers an opportunity to expand their cultural and political awareness. Our desire is to stimulate economic development and promote self-sufficiency without exploitation.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to Volume 1, No. 1 of the Global village newsletter, so new we don't even have a name yet! We're glad to have you as part of this organization.

There have been many lessons to learn as we've worked together toward the dream of a shop. Some efforts have been amazingly successful, others not. I am most excited with the diversity of our members and supporters. Our volunteers range from high school and college students to retirees, claim a variety of religions (or none) and cultures. Our committees do their jobs with enthusiasm and skill.

Soon we will have a way for members waiting to "work in the shop" to help at That Cool Shop in Peoria Heights. If you can help this way, please contact volunteer coordinator Pat Pusey, 692- 4977. Pat could also use an assistant to help with scheduling and training. She also welcomes volunteers for events, even for an hour or two. Don't be shy! We need you!

My task for the next few months is to look for sources of FUNDS (and writing grant applications) so global Village can become a place, not just a group. If you have any ideas or skills that might help, I'd love to hear from you! Call me at 688-3419 or e-mail me at <butterflyday_123@yahoo.com>.

Finally, I need to ask again for your financial support. Our sales are perking up, but we'll only have a shop in 2001 if we find enough "start up" money - about \$15, 000 more. Please be as generous as you can.

In Peace,
Nancy Long

SHORT HISTORY

In May 1999, four Peoria women met at Lakeview Library to begin exploring the possibility of starting a shop here that would offer local people an alternative to sweatshop-made gifts and perhaps clothes. For the first eleven months a core group wrestled with developing a statement of purpose, selecting a name, incorporating, and seeking more volunteers.

In April 2000, we held our first public meeting and were thrilled when twelve people showed up. That group went right to work, beginning with garage sales and a concert to raise money. We also sent a letter to everyone we could think of who might want to be part of Global Village, asking for time and money. By August we had about 50 members and \$6,000 - impressive, but not enough to pay rent AND buy products to fill a shop.

We decided to start supporting third-world craftspeople by putting the money into inventory. We bought what we could, rented booths in four locations, and looked for opportunities to go to people at their churches, clubs, etc. In January 2001 we sponsored a Responsible Investing Seminar to help educate ourselves and the public about financial choices. In April we broke all our records with six event sales.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

→ *Moss Avenue Sale* June 16 8am - 3pm

This year we will participate in the very popular Moss Avenue Sale. In addition to having Global Village products available for sale, we are asking for donations of antiques, collectibles or furniture as part of this fund raising event. Please search your attics and basements for treasures. Perhaps you are

remodeling and would like to contribute something from "your old look?" Hundreds of people come to the Moss Avenue sale looking for great finds. If you have such items, you may drop them off for storage at Ashley Enter's before June 14. Please have the item priced for us or give us an idea about its value if possible. If you bring the item after June 14, it must be priced.

Remember, we are looking for antiques, collectibles and furniture. Please save any other items you may find to donate to our garage sale in September. To volunteer for this event contact Pat Pusey at 692-4977 or plp73@hotmail.com. To donate, call Ashley Enter 671-5895.

→ *Annual Summer Concert*

Last year our Summer concert was a big success and plans are in the works for another one this year. Look for more information in our monthly postcard mailing.

→ *September Garage Sale*

Keep this event in mind as you clean out your cupboards, basement or garage. This year's event will be held in conjunction with the Holy Family Neighborhood Sale in early September and hosted by Matt and Therese Jennett.

WISH LIST

A PERMANENT SITE FOR OUR GLOBAL VILLAGE SHOP

Do you know of a vacant space that we could investigate? We are looking for a good location for traffic, low rent or possibly a donated space.

WISH LIST (CONT.) EVENT SALES

Right now our event sales are our "bread and butter," and we see them as an important part of our mission to inform far into the future. We are eager to do additional presentations and/or sales to inform more people about Global Village. For example, we are making a presentation to the *Labor Council* meeting on *June 25th*. If you know of an organization, church or school that wants a speaker/video/sale table, please contact Mary Anne Michelet 655-0515 or maryannemichelet@hotmail.com.

We would like to develop two "Event Display Kits" that will simplify travel and set up for our event volunteers. Here are some items we would like to have:

- Collapsible clothing rack
- Tabletop card rack
- Card/Pamphlet display rack
- Jewelry display case or turnabout
- Waterproof tarp for protection at outdoor events
- Pegboard and pegs

Check your local area for "going out of business" sales or garage sales when you are out and about and maybe you will find something for our Kits.

THANK YOU

Each newsletter, we would like to promote a spirit of thankfulness. First of all, we want to thank Carol Bischoff for her fine job as Purchasing Chairperson for the last year. She is leaving the area and we wish her well. Highlighting the contribution of one person, group or event does not detract from the others. Further, some things are done on behalf of Global Village anonymously. The bulk of the work of getting and keeping Global

Village going is done by several very dedicated people who have spent many hours weekly on the project for the past two years. Nevertheless, it takes a lot of interest for a project like this to thrive and last. We want to thank YOU for your contribution to this effort. Perhaps you helped with start up costs, or helped out with inventory, volunteered at an event, played in a band, served some coffee, TOLD YOUR FRIENDS about Global Village. However you helped make Global Village successful so far, we hope you continue your interest. Global Village counts on you to get and keep going. Thanks to you all!

NAME OUR NEWSLETTER

If anyone has a suggestion for a creative name for this newsletter, please mail it to Global Village 2306 N. Atlantic Peoria, IL 61603 or email maryannemichelet@hotmail.com

Perhaps we can hold a vote on the submissions. Your prize? The joy of knowing you have made yet another contribution to Global Village!!

VISIT OUR LOCATIONS

Crafts to You 617 W. Loucks Peoria. Open Tuesday thru Saturday 10am to 7pm

That Cool Shop 1308 E. Seiberling, Peoria Heights. Reopened June 1.

You can find organic coffee, tea, nuts, hand crafted gifts such as baskets, candle holders, unique toys and games, jewelry, bags and purses, note cards, frames, wood and soapstone carvings, wind chimes and more. All are handmade from Africa, India, Guatemala, Mexico, United States and other countries.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

I will help Global Village in the following ways:

- 1. Working in shop on periodic basis
- 2. Event sales (setup, sell, take down)
- 3. Fundraising events such as garage Sale, concert, seminar
- 4. Speakers Bureau
- 5. Monthly mailing committee
- 6. Merchandising (create display Materials, stock items, update Displays in store locations)
- 7. Other

**TALK TO A FRIEND AND
VOLUNTEER AS BUDDIES**

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Please reevaluate your commitment to Global Village and consider helping in these ways. You can fill out this form and enclose it in the envelope included with this newsletter. You may also use this envelope to make a monetary contribution.

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