



Village View



Camphill Movement



Camphill Movement: A Community in Rwanda

By Marc Blachere

In 2019 *Zacharie Dusingizimana and **Viateur Uwambajimana of the Ubumwe Community Center (UCC) in Rwanda were invited by Harvard Divinity School Lecturer Dan McKanan to the International Communal Studies Association conference in Camphill Village Copake. Their experience of living in the community and working on the farm together in Copake was an inspiration that further stimulated the already-existing idea of starting a similar project back home in Rwanda. The decision was made to launch the Camphill-inspired project in Mwogo sector, Bugesera district, Eastern Province in remote, developing, rural Rwanda.

The principles of Camphill were developed in the early days of the Camphill Movement by Karl König and those working with him, based on the ideas of Rudolf Steiner. These ideas need to be contextualized to every place, culture and situation, and this can only be done by those doing the work in a particular place with the support of the Camphill Community. Early in 2021 Ha Vinh Tho (a long-time Camphiller) described the contextualization of Camphill principles in Vietnam through the Gross National Happiness framework. He therein reconfigured the three essentials of Camphill into four outer and three inner dimensions that offer a

helpful framework for a Camphill- inspired community. (For reference: <https://www.karlkoeniginstitute.org/en/BookArchive/The-Spirit-of-Camphill>)

The four outer dimensions are interconnected and include the idea of a threefold community, which is the third essential of Camphill:

- The Economic Sphere (Production and Use of Resources)
- The Sphere of Rights (Relationships, Agreements, Governance, Rules)
- The Cultural Sphere (Education, Arts, Science, Religion, Celebration)

To which Ha Vinh Tho added a fourth aspect:

- The Ecological Sphere (Nature, the Earth, the Cosmos)

The three inner dimensions are:

- Living in harmony with oneself
- Living in harmony with the others
- Living in harmony with the Earth

I leave to the reader to connect these three domains to the three essentials and the three pillars of Camphill. Within this framework, the wisdom, traditions, myths and culture of a people can freely color and manifest in a Camphill-inspired initiative.

Also in 2021, enthused to help the process in Rwanda, Jan Goeschel and Becky Rutherford from the Camphill Academy traveled to Rwanda and offered guidance

for this new initiative, using resources from the Camphill Movement. On their return Jan contacted me to support the development of the land.

In my first visit to Rwanda, together with the friends and families involved in this project, we looked at the art of composting, making fertilizers, and the basic spray preparations according to the biodynamic methods given by Rudolf Steiner.

Biodynamics consist primarily of enlivening the sphere of life. To that effect, we are asked to broaden our understanding of the forces and substances working in the macrocosm and to discern to what extent these forces and substances can be made available in the farm to enhance fertility.

Rudolf Steiner refers to a process of individualization. The self-contained “farm individuality” is a microcosm in which these cosmic substances and forces have been precisely brought into harmony in a particular location. A farm can then develop and evolve as a living organism that engages in healthy interaction with its surroundings.



Marc giving a tutorial on the application of the biodynamic preparation to the compost.



A class in session at the Ubumwe Community Center.



Stirring the biodynamic 500 preparation.



Now available: Healing Plant Garden Teas



Nathanael Blachere using his welding skills to make crutches and wheelchairs at Ubumwe Community.

****Viateur Uwambajimana**

Viateur has worked with the UCC since 2013, first as a board member and in 2019 as the director of the Camphill-inspired initiative in Bugesera district, a branch of the UCC. Also, he works for Point Foundation as a country projects manager for Rwanda. From 2004 to 2010 he worked as a physiotherapist in the community, hospitals and rehabilitation centers.

***Zacharie Dusingizimana**

Zacharie is a cofounder and legal representative of the Ubumwe Community Center (UCC). He has worked at the center since its beginning in 2005. He wholeheartedly participates in fundraising, conception and implementation of projects, as well as daily management of the center. <https://ubumwecommunitycenter.rw/about.php>

Camphill Village and Harney & Sons Fine Teas in Millerton have launched a line of three delicious CBD teas to accompany your day: Zitrone, a caffeinated lemony blend; Vive, an indulgent blend with sweet notes of hibiscus and basil; and Küss, a soothing blend with notes of sweet marjoram and sage.

Shop these new teas at Harney.com (search for Camphill) and visit HealingPlantGarden.com to learn more.

Proceeds from this partnership benefit Camphill Village.



Festivals



Ascension Day

We celebrated Ascension Day together in May with a lovely picnic and an exciting softball game, where the Goats were the victors over the Frogs! Such a nice way to kick off our summer season.



Elijah Kent, Gina Roa Espejo, and Paula Levai enjoy the picnic together.



Alan Rosenzweig and Larry Silver have a laugh during our picnic.



Randy Simon heads to the outfield.



Ben Bruschke keeps his eye on the ball as it approaches.

Brothers & Sisters Day

Siblings, nieces, nephews, parents, and close friends gathered on the Hall Pond lawn for our first Brothers & Sisters Day picnic in quite some time. Many thanks to our presenters and volunteers, to our families for traveling from near and far, to our grill masters for the perfect char on our burgers, to our wonderful guests from Flores Food Truck, to SoCo Creamery for our delicious ice cream, to Luke Franco and Tarik Shah for playing lovely jazz all afternoon, and to Tiny Hearts Farm for the gorgeous flowers. A splendid day.



Cathy Fleming and sister Maryann Remsen embrace by the Hall Pond.



Members of the Supreme 7 take to the stage to introduce themselves to family members.



Brandon LeMay, Michael Desmond, Serge LeMay, and Lindsay Johnston relax in the shade.



Patricia Cinorre enjoys the barbecue, surrounded by family and friends.



Mary Kay Marcuse hands her brother-in-law Paul Marcuse a spoon at the ice cream table, with Paul's brother John nearby.



Tammy Berman and Emily Gerhard entertained and informed us throughout the the presentations.



Festivals

Memorial Day

Our Memorial Day Picnic & Barn Dance was a well-attended shindig, with great barbecue and the thrill of an impending summer!

Photos by Ariel Turner.



Cap Bielenberg enjoys the picnic.



Laurie Benton and Matthias Poynder-Meares share a moment on a picnic blanket.



David Freed enjoyed the the well-attended party.



Willem Hallstein and Adam Smith take a seat at the entrance of Sunny Valley Barn.



Nadege Ott, Keenan Blough, and Roy Tau kept us all fed throughout the party.

Palm Sunday

Each year we celebrate Holy Week with a number of seasonal activities, beginning with Palm Sunday. As in other years, we celebrated with a lovely spring walk and gathering with our traditional rooster breads and boxwood-adorned crosses at our sides.

Photos by Ariel Turner



Lindsay Johnston displays some beautiful rooster breads made in Hickory House.



A consummate artist, Randy Simon approached the rooster bread from a fresh perspective.



David Wadsworth enjoys the gathering near the Care Houses in the Village.



Paula Levai, Vicki Fliesler, and Destiny Saturria join in the gathering.



Festivals

Saint John's Day

Camphill communities everywhere gathered around bonfires to celebrate the Feast of Saint John the Baptist and the summer solstice in June. We thank our Estate crew for assembling such a stunning display to accompany our picnic, which lasted until the final embers went dim.



Karen Jane Hayden visited us from Camphill Ghent, as she often does. Also pictured: Danny Miller.



Lulu Viets relaxed with a book during our picnic. Photo by Ariel Turner.



Vicki Fliesler admires the flowers in Schirin Seider's hair. Photo by Ariel Turner.



Alexandria Laskaris and Michael Desmond hang out with other members of White Oak House.



Tony Bacon awaits a scoop of ice cream from SoCo Creamery in Great Barrington, scooped by Johann Felix Fischer.



Bill Spillman and Ben Brusckhe finish up as the bonfire dwindles.



Mateo Tarrago admires the bonfire.

Saint Patrick's Day

What an awesome night we had celebrating Saint Patrick's Day with an epic dance party! Many thanks to our Orientation Group for organizing and preparing decorations, and to our DJs for keeping the night going with so much great music!



Susan Freedman accepts a treat from Emma Schmidt.



Elijah Kent and Elizabeth Dewart danced the night away as they always do. Photo by Ariel Turner.



Schirin Seider, Amanda Balducci, Emily Wallach, Lulu Viets, and Molly Park gather on stage.



Asha Elhassan and Monika Hackmeyer pose together during the party. Photo by Ariel Turner.



Susie Taube and Bill McIlroy cut a rug with the best of them. Photo by Ariel Turner.



Festivals

Michaelmas

Camphill communities everywhere celebrated Michaelmas Day on September 29th with a feast of seasonal pies and a play where we tame our inner dragons. As always, this fall festival is a wonderful time to welcome the seasonal shift here in Copake!

Photos by Corey Weaver.



The dragons we need to tame are within each of us—specifically our bellies, thanks to our creative friend Astrid Amoresano.



Taylor Jones claims ownership of the Archangel Michael's sword.



Willy Donahue and Lindsay Johnston enjoy the picnic together.



Kizuna Shintani, David Velasquez Sierra, and Lisa Mlilo move around Schirin Seider and Rémy Boulogne during our Michaelmas play.

Festivals

Family Day

We enjoyed a spirited Family Day gathering by the Hall Pond in October! Such a beautiful, albeit chilly, autumn day for fun presentations followed by warm seasonal beverages and cakes in the sunshine. The energy was lively, and it was especially nice to welcome those family members we haven't seen in some time and those who are just recently becoming acquainted with our community.



Brandon LeMay embraces cousins Lou and Scott, who traveled from out of state.



Sebene Selassie and Finot Selassie spent the day together.



Laura Meza and Rukin Shivdasani were wonderful masters of ceremonies.



Asha Elhassan and mom Jessica Zilke pose after morning presentations.



Andrea Baring and mom Elizabeth Baring warm up with tea and cider.



Frances Manley bundled up for the occasion.



Kayla Cervantes Rojas, Johann Felix Fischer, Florin Wahl, and Adam Smith warm their hands beside the Hall Pond.

Land Day Tuesdays



From June through August, the many gardens in the Village require some special attention, and it makes such a difference when those who are able lend a hand one morning per week for an intensive session of working the land. On Land Day Tuesdays, all our gardens—vegetable,

flower, and herb, and seed—are converged upon by bakers, candlemakers, Estate crew members, chefs, and others before we break for a special lunch and the afternoon off. Our gardens will reward us throughout the harvest season. Well done, all!



Finot Selassie, a member of Turtle Tree Seed, weeds a row of tomatoes.



Elijah Kent, an experienced vegetable farmer, joins the expanded crew in the lower garden.



Ernesto Martinez, who is usually on the Estate, offers carrots from a Turtle Tree Seed bed.



Emily Wallach and Heike Muth tend to a bed of beets in the lower vegetable garden.



Land Day Tuesdays



Joan Hill, in her dairy farm chore boots, lends a hand in the lower vegetable garden.



Mishka Zuckerman tends to a vibrant patch of bachelor's button for Turtle Tree Seed.



Gardeners Ellen Hunt and Destiny Saturria clear weeds near some irrigation line.



Antonio Colarusso and Ariel Turner serve Paul Marcuse during a barbecue to celebrate our final Land Day of the season.



Farmers Ben Bruschkie and Tom Miano join Muka Mutale in the lower garden.

Places We Go

Bicycling on the Harlem Valley Rail Trail

Photos by Kerst de Jong.

When you visit Camphill Village during the warmer months, the presence of a few bicycles leaning up against a garage or parked outside the Village Green is a common sight. And while we do rely on our bicycles to make bread deliveries and social calls here in Camphill Village, we love having the opportunity to bike the Harlem Valley Rail Trail just down the road. It's been a great place to include in our Thursday evening summer activities.

"Every summer we gather a group of cyclists from the Village and go for a ride on Thursday late afternoon. We usually do about 12 miles," says Kerst de Jong, who coordinates the bicycling group together with his wife Min. "The Rail Trail provides a safe place to ride a good distance in nature. Our residents have difficulties dealing with traffic and steep hills, and the Rail Trail is safe and flat."

Lisa Deleeuw, the Executive Director of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association, says ridership along the line has increased since the beginning of the pandemic, which is not a surprise, considering state parks have also seen an uptick in visitors seeking outdoor fun. She said there are an estimated 150,000 to 170,000 visitors each year, which includes walkers and riders, as well as people using mobility aids.

The accessibility of the trail, along with the company of experienced riders and house leaders like Kerst and Min, provides such a nice experience—one

that Lisa hopes will reach more people with the addition of another stretch that will eventually run right past Camphill Ghent in Chatham.

"It's still in the planning stages and we're a few years away," she says. "But we'll have direct access to the trail there right at the driveway of Camphill Ghent."

For the time being, our community members in Copake have really been enjoying the new stretch of the Rail Trail that runs from the Village of Millerton up to Copake Falls. Riding each week with Kerst and Min were Stephen Gibson, who lives in Tamarack House, and Brandon LeMay, who just spent his first summer



Stephen Gibson rides his bicycle near the entrance of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail.



Places We Go

Harlem Valley Rail Trail

in the Village. Brandon makes great use of his beautiful red three-wheeler here at Camphill, and his mother Lydia is delighted that it affords him opportunities for fun and independence. She remembers trying to acquaint Brandon with riding when he lived at home in Hudson.

“Once we got him that three-wheeler, he just took off. I would go out with him, and seeing him riding next to me was such a thrill,” she said, adding that being part of a group dedicated to riding together over the summer was very meaningful for him. “He carried his lunch in his bike because he has a big basket, and it just opened up so much for him—independence, happiness, and inclusion.”

Kerst says the bicycle group also sees lots of wildlife, including deer, rabbits, swans, beaver, and he’s even seen a bobcat a few times.

“Min and I often go for walks on the rail trail. It is very peaceful and quiet,” he says. “Recently on an early Saturday morning I have been riding my bike from Camphill Village to Copake Falls and then via the Rail Trail to Millerton for a coffee and back.”

Lisa from the Rail Trail Association says the trail provides access to scenery and sounds that are unique to Rail Trail users, especially the wetlands that simply can’t be experienced in such close proximity otherwise.

“The trail is paved and it is pretty much flat, and it gives the opportunity for people of all abilities to get out in nature. There is a tremendous section that is boardwalked through the wetland where there is water on both sides of you,” says Lisa. “It’s spectacular. They love it.”



Brandon LeMay stops off in Millerton for a brown bag lunch.

Indigenous People’s Day

We were so glad to learn from the many tribal nations and members of the Northeast Indigenous Climate Council that gathered in Great Barrington in recognition of Indigenous People’s Day. We heard many moving speeches and enjoyed songs and drumming. We also walked together to the Housatonic River for a prayer ceremony and meditation to heal the river from a history of pollution and to acknowledge the murders of two dozen Narragansett people by the riverbank - part of King Philip’s War. Camphill Village has been learning more about the histories of the tribal people who once occupied our surrounding towns in great numbers.

Photos courtesy of Roman and Emily Gerhard.



Laura Meza carries a homemade sign in support of Indigenous People’s Day. Also pictured: Rukin Shivdasani and Sheila Adelman.



Members of the crowd gathered to hear a drum performance.



Oliver Dawdy and Laura Meza listen to speakers.



Ted Todd, Johann Felix Fischer, and Tammy Berman join a parade down Main Street in Great Barrington.



Oliver Dawdy, Tyler Dornsife, Laura Meza, Elizabeth Dewart, and Sheila Adelman head toward the river.

Portrait Book Available Soon

Reserve a copy of our upcoming book of portraits!

We've been working on a special project depicting portraits and scenes from our 60th year as a community. This will be a hardcover coffee table book that will measure 9"X11.5" in size, and we expect to sell it at cost for approximately \$57 per copy based on the estimate we have received. Books will be ready before Christmas.

If you would like to reserve one or more copies, please email Christine Pizzuti at cpizzuti@camphillvillage.org and write "Photo Book" in the subject line.



Min Wang, Sheila Adelman, Elizabeth Dewart, Susie Taube, Oliver Dawdy, Cristina Amaral, our late cherished friend Nico Dobbs, and Kerst de Jong celebrate our 60th anniversary together. Photo by Ariel Turner.

Fundraising



5K Trail & Fun Run for All Abilities

We had a wonderful morning during our 5K Trail & Fun Run *For All Abilities!* We ran, we rolled, we strolled, we cheered, and we rested! It was nice to see so many friends back at Camphill Village. We are so thankful to our amazing runners, our volunteers who tackled so many efforts throughout the event, and to our generous donors and sponsors! The #Camphill5K is such a fun event, and it supports the terrific programming we hold so dear here in Copake.



Adam Smith prepares to cheer runners on by the start line.



Paula Levai registers for the Fun Run portion of the morning.



We are so grateful for our sponsors, many of which have supported this wonderful event since its inception. Thank you, sponsors!



Village nurse Christy Weed, Lindsay Johnston, and Willy Donahue pose before the big race.



Peter Richards and Ricky Hauptman stayed together through the Fun Run around the Ring Road.



Matthew Forrest (in grey) and Johann Felix Fischer remained neck-and-neck through most of the race before tying for first.



Cap Bielenberg refuels with some snacks after the race.



Don't Forget to Donate

There are many different ways you can support Camphill Village's efforts through charitable giving. State contracts and federal entitlements cover only about 45% of the cost to run the Village, so we rely heavily on private donations to help make up the difference. You can sign up to be a monthly donor, you can join the J. Murray Logan Legacy Circle by making a planned gift, and even donate appreciated stock. Learn more on our website at camphillvillage.org/get-involved/donate



Kai Nour runs through the woodlands behind the Estate grounds.



Eileen Tau and Emily Gerhard congratulate Johann Felix Fischer after he ties for first place.



Michael Desmond offers Nora Nickle some water at the finish line.



Molly Donahue and Conor Flemming follow Butter's lead through the entirety of the 5K trail.

Introductions

Tyler Dornsife



Tyler Dornsife joined our community in late June, and has been so helpful since joining both our Estate and Farm crews. He is originally from the Capital Region, and comes to Copake from Triform Camphill Community in Hudson, where he had several years of experience working with cows. Tyler loves to read and help wherever he can. Welcome, Tyler!

Welcome, New Coworkers!



Destiny Saturria and Kizuna Shintani gather flowers for a lantern project.

Rafael Navarro	Mexico
Ephraim Glueck	Germany
Guilherme de Moraes	Brazil
Gianluca Rettel	Germany
Kayla Cervantes Rojas	Mexico
Mwila Malama	Zambia
Meg Henderson	USA
Martin Gitt	Denmark
Lisa Mlilo	South Africa
Emma Baiada	USA
Jennifer Angelina Link	Germany
Finnja Hammer	Germany
Sara Bella Wolff	Germany
Karolina Kreutzer	Germany
Prince Mbewe	Zambia
Emma Schmidt	Germany
Li "Alice" Yang	China
Florin Wahl	Germany
Chiaramar Mang	Germany
Myriam Bucher	Germany
Alamea Arndt	Germany
Julia Erl	Germany
Samed Baris	Germany
Kathryn Graves	USA
Noah Linder	Germany

Moments



Sheila Fierro watches daughter Marian Scharr blow out on the candles on her 60th birthday.



While the bakery underwent some repairs over the summer, bakers explored new skills in the Village. Here, Abby Esty threads beads in the Bookbindery.



Dominic Garofolo and Alex Franzak enjoy the refreshing ore pits at Taconic State Park.



Susie Taube, Taylor Jones, and Frank Euler play a lively game of Uno behind Arbutus House.



Tom Miano keeps up with the herd during the first day the cows went to pasture. Photo by Ariel Turner.



Teresa Yasuda and Robbie Haynes play a lawn game at Farmhill House.



Jeff Mill and Hunter Avis tend to a row of bee balm in the Healing Plant Garden.



Alan Rosenzweig retired from the Estate and moved to Kaspar House in the spring. The Estate threw a parade in the Village to celebrate his time, after which he gifted Luciana Vila Funes his hard hat.



Moments



The land workers in the Village gather every autumn to stuff cow horns with manure for the biodynamic preparation.



Eileen Tau delivers a cake to Roy Tau, Roswitha Imegwu, and Susie Taube during a big party at the Village Green. All three share a birthday!



Bill Spillman and others walk the cows back to the barn for afternoon milking.



Elisabeth Cooper and Elizabeth Dewart sort garlic in the the garden shed. We harvested more than 10,000 bulbs this year.

More photos can be found in galleries on the Publications page on our web site!

camphillvillage.org/about/publications



Zach Gastman joins his friends stuffing cow horns for the biodynamic preparation.

Camphill Village Copake

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This newsletter is produced locally
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Front Cover:
Marian Scharr helps in a Turtle Tree
Seed garden on a sunny day.

Back Cover:
Three baskets of freshly harvested
flowers in the Healing Plant Garden.