

Beyond Boundaries Return Pilgrimage Kenya 2013

I am returning to Kenya, again this winter, after spending two and a half months building a peace hut and sitting in circles there last winter. I traveled with a small team, a pilgrimage of Beyond Boundaries... a intergenerational response team, bearing witness and offering the best of what we know at 'watering holes' for a new way of earth stewardship and community 'beyond boundaries'. We were invited by Daktari Karambu Ringera, who had met Marlow Hotchkiss at a Nature of Council training at Findhorn, and immediately knew she wanted council practice in her project and future peace university, and she wanted a hut. We worked together, men and women, elder and young, four Beyond Boundarians and five Kenyan builders. Together we made beauty.



I visited my friend Philip and his project OTEPIC (Organic Technology Extension and Promotion of Initiative Center) in Kitale, North Western Kenya. I first heard of Philip and his work during the Beyond Boundaries pilgrimage in Auroville, India. I met a woman [there who](#) told me his story. I made contact, and soon some of us from BB sent OTEPIC a gift to support an organic farming training through [the](#) flow fund we had been gifted. A few months later, I met him at Tamera! In the years since, I have supported him in writing proposals, and we have become allies. His place and people moved me; it was incredibly hope-giving to be around young people from the slums who decided to step out of idleness in pursuit of a new way to live, in cooperation with life.

I am a nomad, at these times of 'quickenings', what has been called by Joanna Macy and others 'the great turning'. Where am I to be and what am I to do? I live my life in service, and am grateful for the opportunities as well as the support that comes in many forms. Most of my work is done as a volunteer, and I write to you now to share my story and ask for [your](#) support.

Thank you,

Siri Gunnarson

Fall – Winter 2013 Projects

- * **Global Campus in Kitale, Kenya with OTEPIC (Organic Technology Extension and Promotion of Initiative Center)**
The Global Campus is a world wide experiential education for the creation of regional models for regenerative and peaceful living. We will work together with OTEPIC, a local project focusing on food, water, renewable energy, women and children. As a coordinator of the Global Campus I am organizing this event, and will be part of the leadership team for our group of 9 peace workers in training.
- * **Peace Hut Building Project, Kitale, Kenya**
In November we will build an earth bag natural building on OTEPIC's new land. I am organizing collaboration between OTEPIC and IPI who we (BB) built a hut with last year. I will support the builders we trained last year to become teachers themselves, and I will 'point' the plaster and artwork.
- * **IPI (International Peace Initiative Center), Meru Kenya**
I will return to this peace project and children's home where BB built a peace hut (with a local team of builders) and offered council practice last year. Together with another council trainer (Alexis Slutzky) we will facilitate a follow up training for the staff and community, as well as offer council for the youth and children.
- * **Global Eco Village Network Africa Gathering, Nairobi, Kenya**
This is the second gathering of a growing network of African Eco-Villages. Philip from OTEPIC is the Kenyan host organizer, and has asked me to support him in organization and communication.
- * **Council Training for Memos, Rwanda**
Memos is a peace project doing reconciliation work with communities. They have been trained in Council by Zen Peacemakers, and want more training. I and Jared Siede (director for Center of Council Practices) will offer a five-day training for council facilitators from different regions.

Funds needed: \$4,400

The total amount need was \$7,850, \$3,350 has been received for this project. I am still seeking funding to make this journey possible. Further information on the Global Campus project and a complete project budget are available upon request. Donations are possible through Beyond Boundaries and the Biosphere Foundation or online on my Indigogo crowdfunding page: <http://igg.me/at/siri/>

Gratitude.