



HALF A LIFE'S JOURNEY A SHORT ACCOUNT OF MY WORKING LIFE AT GLENORA FARM

by Martha Muller

I arrived in Vancouver to join Charles and Adola McWilliam and the Ita Wegman Association of BC in September 1992. In the fall of 1993 our friend and fellow Co-worker Katrin, our pioneer companion Lisa, Olaf my husband and our two very young daughters moved to Duncan on Vancouver Island to start working on the land that eventually became Known as Glenora Farm. What brought us here? In short , community building and the ideals of Camphill. I met Olaf in Norway, where we both lived and worked in a Camphill Community. The opportunity arose to join a group of people, hoping to start a community on the West Coast of Canada.

The idea of doing so was just too tempting. We joined the group and moved to Vancouver.

Upon arrival my main job was to learn English in record time. Joining a community was not a job, but rather a way of life. You did what was asked of you or whatever was needed. To begin with Olaf and I started a candle workshop as an addition to already existing day program activities (in West Vancouver). After our move to Duncan, the intensity of tasks and work increased. We buckled down to a daily and weekly routine with landwork , crafts , household chores, artistic activities , evening meetings and attending markets aso.

One thing I never accomplished was the art of juggling the different aspects of office work. All the practical aspects of work was shared for the first two years between Lisa, Katrin, Olaf and myself. After that, Adola and Charles, the founders of the Ita Wegman Assoc. , joined us with three more companions in Duncan. By 1998 we all finally (15 of us), could move into the newly built "big house".

I see three distinct chapters emerging in my nearly three decades with the Glenora Farm Community and the Ita Wegman Assoc. :

(continued on back cover)



SCENES
FROM
THE
FARM



KAYLEA'S PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE

I came to Glenora Farm as a practicum student in the Education Assistant and Community Support worker program. An important part of practicum was to come up with an activity/workshop to bring to community. I knew exactly what I wanted to bring into the farm, printmaking. I come from a teaching and art background and studied printmaking as a focus while studying for my Bachelor of Art. I taught two-hour block printing and mono printmaking holiday card workshops. Printmaking was a hit and became a Wednesday afternoon staple. After having the opportunity to create cards for ourselves and friends and family we thought we would share these one of kind art cards with the community. Our next project was to create cards for a local Seniors home and share some holiday joy. I cannot thank the Glenora Farm enough for hosting me as a Practicum student and giving me the opportunity to share and create with you all!

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Holy Nights December 24 - January 6

Three Kings Day January 6

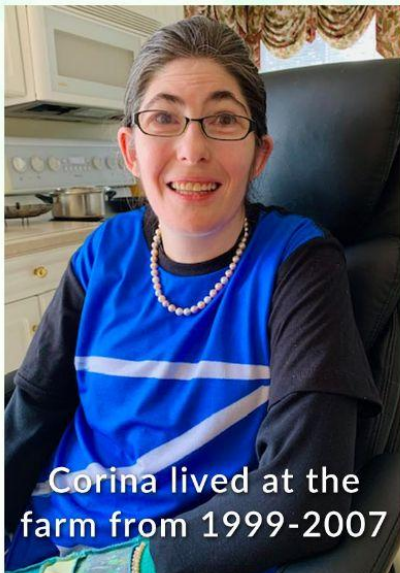
Candlemas - February 2

Holy Week - April 10-16

Easter Sunday - April 17

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

with Lisa W.



Corina lived at the farm from 1999-2007

I live in Kelowna, BC, but I've been preparing to move to Switzerland, hopefully this year! I've been delayed due to COVID. I live with my mother, and I create Arts and Crafts to sell at markets, especially hand-sewn patchwork bags.

What do you like to do in your free time?

I like to explore new places. I like to learn about cooking and renovating places. I like to learn about history, genealogy and ancestry. I love animals. I like to watch Zorro Movies on the computer.

Tru Earth Donation by Olivia Jackson

Glenora Farm was extremely lucky to have received an incredible donation from Tru Earth. Tru Earth is a Canadian company that produces environmentally friendly laundry strips. Instead of using the typical liquid detergent, Tru Earth laundry strips just get tossed in with your laundry- no mess or fuss. The strips work well in hot or cold water, are vegan, hypoallergenic and paraben and phosphate-free. Did we mention they are made in Canada?! A truly wonderful product that we are glad to be using. Tru Earth donated enough laundry strips for each of our residences to do a full year of laundry. Absolutely incredible! A sincere thank you to the Tru Earth team for their generous support.

Mosaic Lumber by Olivia Jackson

Mosaic Forest Management is a BC-based company that focuses on responsible forest management. Some may recognize the name as they have a location right down the road from us on Waters Rd. They have generously donated 10 cords of firewood to the residences at Glenora Farm. If you're like me, then you have no idea what a cord of firewood looks like. To put it in perspective: a cord of wood usually measures 8 ft. long x 4 ft. high x 4 ft. wide. Now imagine 10 of those! It is an incredibly abundant donation which will have a huge impact on the entire community. We are sending out heartfelt appreciation to the entire Mosaic Forest Management team! Their donation is an incredible gift to all of us.

NEWCOMERS: PAUL

Where are you from? I am from Bochum, Germany

How did you arrive here? My plan was to fly from Paris to Vancouver and then to Victoria, but I missed my flight for Victoria by 5 minutes. So I got rebooked to a new flight to Nanaimo, where I arrived around 7:15, with Hendrik waiting for me.

How long are you planning to stay? For one year, until the end of November 2022.

What do you like doing in your free time? I like to write novels. I also enjoy hiking and playing Volleyball

What did you do before you came here? I went to School, from which I graduated.

What are your plans for the future? Nothing is planned as of now, but I am interested in studying Biology or aerospace engineering.

Fun fact about yourself? Je suis français.

BIRTHDAYS



Charlotte E. - Feb. 26



Layla A. - Feb. 6



Kristine M. - Jan 13

Sofia L. Jan. 10
Ann L. Jan. 13
Kristine M. Jan. 13
David J. Jan. 13
Sarah E. Jan 22
Anne J. Feb. 2
Layla A. Feb. 6
Katrin B. Feb. 9
Lucinde M. Feb. 18
Lisa W. Feb. 19
Charlotte E. Feb. 26
Zoe K. Mar. 2
Leonid R. Mar. 10
Allura D. Mar. 24
Mackenzie H. Mar. 24
Kandis M. Mar. 24



RAISE THE ROOF CAMPAIGN



with Olivia Jackson

At the end of every year, the association puts together a Year End Appeal. This year, we have focused our efforts on the Big House- the inaugural house built in 1992. As Glenora Farm has evolved, the Big House has remained a residence but has also become home to the administration offices, the herb workshop, the library and the music room.

Glenora Farm needs your help to raise the roof by replacing the old shingle roof on the Big House with a new metal roof. We are also seeking to reduce our carbon footprint by adding a 32- panel (11.52-kilowatt) solar system to this new metal roof. This new system will generate about 11,950-kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity in its first year, offsetting almost 30% of Glenora Farm's electric bill. In 12-13 years (approximately half-way through the system's minimum lifespan), these electricity cost savings will have completely paid off the initial cost of installation. Moreover, over the course of its minimum lifespan, this solar power system will generate an aggregate electricity savings of over \$55,000. These savings mean that more funding can be directed towards enhancing programs and services for our Companions.

In 2021, Glenora Farm submitted an application to the Province of BC for a Community Gaming Grant to fund approximately 40% of the costs of this project (results are pending). Regardless of this outcome, Glenora Farm needs your help to cover (at least) the remaining 60%. With support from donors like you, this project will be started shortly after the New Year and concluded by July 2022. If you would like to help Glenora Farm Raise the Roof, you can donate online or by mail.

Online: Please visit <https://glenorafarm.org/donate/> and click "donate today" (remember to select "new roof for big house" from the drop-down menu and note any special directions in the private message field). Online donations of any amount will be provided with an automatically generated tax receipt.

By Mail: Please mail a cheque payable to "The Ita Wegman Association of BC for Curative Education and Social Therapy" or "The IWA." Beside "memo" write "new roof for big house". Mailed donations over \$25 will be eligible for an income tax receipt. Glenora Farm 4766 Waters Road Duncan, BC, Canada V9L 6S9



Raise the roof  GLENORA FARM
A CAMPBELL COMMUNITY

HALF A LIFE'S JOURNEY by Martha Muller - continued from page 1

Over the first chapter, there was incredible teamwork between everybody, a common goal and inner striving. Willingness to forgive each other's shortcomings, an emphasis on flexibility and a resourceful "inventiveness" that became part of our Community Ethos. **The second chapter** demanded more flexibility: a willingness to enjoy our differences, to learn, to improve, to grow, to discover new ways of building community. There were many special moments of achievements together in festivals, the practical work, in community meetings, our social times together aso. **The third chapter** started to show flaws in our fabric. The demand for new skills within the realm of administrative work became very obvious. Suddenly written rules and regulations were a must. Many wonderfully skilled people joined our efforts for this specific task.

Over the years this all intensified and now is the question: how do we combine this trend to bureaucracy with the vision and intent of the Ita Wegman Assoc./Glenora Farm Community? How is it possible to foster community building with all its human aspects and adhere to the stiff and rather black and white policies and procedures? The need to recognise and foster the spiritual aspect of community building and social therapy is huge. The pressures through regulations are equally so. New courage and strong wills and imaginative, outside the box thinking is desperately needed on all levels!

As I step back from employment into retirement I can see new possibilities arise, new tasks within and outside of Glenora Farm. Our time does want and need community building and it is a very alive subject that can take on many different forms and ways. My hope: to still be instrumental within this aspect of work. After this adventure of 30 years I look forward to the next chapters, thank you all my friends and coworkers for these inspiring times together.

NEWCOMERS: ANNE

Where are you from? Rietberg, Germany.

Why did you decide to come to Glenora Farm? I visited Vancouver Island in 2019 and wanted to come back ever since. I am studying social work in Germany and was looking for internships abroad.

How long are you planning to stay? Until June 2022.

What do you really like about the farm? Working in all the different workshops has been really interesting. I enjoy being in the weavery and the herb workshop a lot. Its nice being surrounded by nature and having the opportunity to grow and eat our own food.

Fun fact about yourself? I went dogsledding in the Yukon once.

NEWCOMERS: TESSA

Where are you from? Bad Dürkheim, Germany.

Why did you decide to come to Glenora Farm? I am doing an internship to finish my social work studies. I wanted to experience this unique way of living and working together. My internship lasts 6 month but I will stay at least one year.

What do you really like about the farm? The way of living and the connection to the nature. Most products we have are made here by the companions which is just amazing. It is the first time for me to be part of such a sustainable way of living.

Fun fact about yourself? I still have one baby teeth. No one knows why but it just never fell out when I was a kid so it is still there :)

More Scenes
from the Farm!

