



# Gary Sealey Resigns as President of Servas International

Comments from Executive Committee

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## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Terry Stone, Editor  
newsletter@servas.org



As we begin a new calendar year are we also embarking on a new Servas in the months ahead? It seems to me like this is a perfect time to reevaluate our assumptions and our goals.

Gary Sealey's resignation has left me thunderstruck. He writes that he resigned for "personal reasons," and I think we must honor that. (But I do hope it wasn't anything I said!)

I can't count the ways in which I have relied on Gary and will sorely miss his good humor and gentle manner. He has always been just a "Skype" away, with advice, information, comfort. Luckily for all of us, he will still be a (I assume, active) member of Servas and I know I will still be seeking his counsel from time to time.

Gary's resignation and the upcoming General Assembly meeting in Poland (see page

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

# Gary Sealey Announces Resignation as President of Servas International

by Gary Sealey

**A**fter more than 10 years serving Servas International I am leaving for personal reasons.

In accordance with Servas Statutes VIII:2 Vice President Pramod Kumar will assume the functions of the President.

I was elected to positions by the Servas General Assembly in 2004, 2006 and 2009. Earlier I helped with the UN Observer team.

I joined a Servas which was tense and unhappy. Now, Servas is more than ever at Peace within itself. Each of the SI Committees and the Audits are busy and Area Coordinators are elected and active. We have created new teams, and their work is good for Servas.

It has been an honour to serve. I am glad to have the experience and to have met so many good people. Thank you, for your encouragement.

Leaving before the GA means giving room and possibility to all those who wish to attend the General Assembly to build a stronger Servas and carry Servas Peace building across the world.

I hope that people will come forward to improve Servas and its benefits to member groups, hosts-travelers-helpers and the general public.

For those others in the Key List who keep Servas national gates closed against networking, who come repeatedly to the General Assembly as

nothing more than a paid holiday -- and more, who refuse to let SI News pass to their hosts, travelers and helpers -- I hope you will challenge them to see their error, or that new people will replace them.

Leading a Servas team and helping them grow is a life reward. Providing a personal good example of Peacebuilding by serving Servas is an important contribution to the world.

Now, more than ever, the world needs Servas. May your Servas Mission indeed be successful.

Best Servas wishes!

Gary Sealey

## Servas Executive Committee Responds to Resignation of Servas President

by Pramod Kumar, Vice President, Mirek Wasilewski, Treasurer, Penny Pattison, General Secretary, Pablo Colangelo, Host List Coordinator and Danielle Serres, Peace Secretary

**W**e are writing to you as a follow up to the announcement a week ago that Gary Sealey resigned as President of Servas International.

Gary has sent out an email saying that he resigned for personal reasons. EXCO respected his wishes and accepted his resignation.

Being President of Servas International is an extremely demanding volunteer positions and we thank Gary for all of his efforts.

We are only months away from our next General Assembly and the election of the next EXCO.

In the interim, EXCO will work hard to plan the General Assembly and carry on

the normal day to day Servas International activities. Vice President, Pramod Kumar, will also perform the functions of the President in accordance with the SI Statutes. (see [http://www.servas.org/siexco/index.php/SI\\_Documents#SI\\_Statutes](http://www.servas.org/siexco/index.php/SI_Documents#SI_Statutes) sections V. 3. and VIII 2 a. for the exact wording in the SI Statutes).

We trust that we can count on your continued cooperation as we move toward the GA.

You are always welcome to write to EXCO with your comments or concerns. As long as these are constructive and helpful for the growth of Servas, we will try our best to respond to you with same goodwill. 📧

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND? SOMETHING YOU WANT TO SAY OR SHARE? IF SO, THIS IS THE PLACE.

Send comments & suggestions to [newsletter@servas.org](mailto:newsletter@servas.org)

*Servas International*

# NEWS

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**KUMAR Pramod**  
vicepresident@servas.org  
SI Vice President

**PATTISON Penny**  
generalsecretary@servas.org  
SI General Secretary

**WASILEWSKI Miroslaw (Mirek)**  
treasurer@servas.org  
SI Treasurer

**COLANGELO H Pablo**  
hostlistcoordinator@servas.org  
SI Host List Coordinator

**STONE Terry**  
newsletter@servas.org  
Newsletter Coordinator

**EVENT NOTICES**

**Breaking News  
on the Servas  
International  
General Assembly  
Poland - August 2012**

by Pramod Kumar, [vicepresident@servas.org](mailto:vicepresident@servas.org)

**E**very three years, Servas International holds a General Assembly (GA). At the GA, one delegate represents each of the member countries to vote on Servas International decisions. In many ways it is similar to a United Nations meeting.



This is an unofficial announcement that the 2012 GA will be held August 18-25 in Poland, in the beautiful Mazury region. Attendees are asked to arrive in Warsaw or Gdansk the day before if they want to use the group transportation arranged to arrive conference site on

Saturday, August 18. Participants depart the conference site about mid-day on 25 August 2012.

In addition to elections of Servas International officers and committee members, approval of a budget for the next 3 years, and other necessary administrative decisions, there will be workshops and peace sessions that are open to delegates and non-delegates. This is an opportunity for everyone to actively contribute the shaping of Servas for the future.

Registration information and conference costs will be available soon. The timing has been chosen to be close to the dates of the Servas Youth Meeting, and also to avoid conflict with the attractive programme offered in early June by Servas Netherlands.

**Please do not buy your tickets until we give you more information – but please hold this date. We will update you as soon as we know.**

**Did You Know?**

**SERVAS** comes from Esperanto meaning “to serve”.

In **SERVAS** we open our doors through a network to hosting and travelling in the service of peace.

**Poland to Host  
International  
Servas Youth  
Meeting**

**5th to 12th August 2012**

by Aissa Zakrzewska, National Secretary Poland - [annamzakrzewska@gmail.com](mailto:annamzakrzewska@gmail.com)

**W**e are happy to inform you that, as the Servas International Youth decided during the 2009 General Assembly in Mar del Plata, Poland is going to hold a Servas International Youth Meeting - from 5th to 12th August 2012.

Youth of all ages are welcome!

The meeting will take place in a beautiful mountainous area in the South of Poland, very close to the border with Slovakia. You can see the place itself and surroundings at this website: [www.barta.com.pl](http://www.barta.com.pl).

The approximate cost of the event will be 140 Euro, with a lower cost if you choose to camp.

The program and registration information will be available soon, but we would like you to spread this preliminary information so that people can plan their holidays accordingly. It is important for us to have an idea as soon as possible of how many people will be attending.

People who are attending the General Assembly, which we agreed to hold as well from 18th to 25<sup>th</sup> August, may like to come to the Youth Meeting too. This would allow you, in one trip, to participate with Servas youth in shaping the future of Servas, travel to some beautiful places in Poland and attend the General Assembly working meeting.

We hope to see you and other Servas people at one or both events.



**SERVASYOUTH.ORG**



**HELP WANTED**

**The Servas International Community  
and SI News Need You!**

**Volunteers Needed to Translate  
SERVAS INTERNATIONAL NEWS  
into Spanish.**

**We will gladly work around your schedule.**

**If you would like to volunteer, please contact:  
Spanish Translations Coordinators at  
[info@anamanghi.com](mailto:info@anamanghi.com) or [uruguay@servas.org](mailto:uruguay@servas.org)**

**Dinorah Sanz - [spanishmvd@gmail.com](mailto:spanishmvd@gmail.com)**

**TRAVEL REPORT**

# A SERVAS TANDEM AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

## As Seen From the Seat of a Two Person Bike

Submitted by Luis Garcia, [tandemnostrum@gmail.com](mailto:tandemnostrum@gmail.com)

**L**uis Garcia and Mercedes Vallejo are a SERVAS Spanish couple who are circumnavigating the Mediterranean! They started their trip the 12th of February of 2011 from their own house in Sevilla, in the South of Spain, ten months ago.

They have already covered the Mediterranean coast from Spain, France, Italy (Sicily included), Balkans, Greece and Turkey to Istanbul where they are resting for a few days.

They show all about their travels at [www.tandem-nostrum.org](http://www.tandem-nostrum.org), a website where you can see how is the Mediterranean of today. A reflection on the need to think together. A trip where people are most important.

*TANDEM TRIP continued on pg. 9*

**"I wish there was world with no frontiers, where every door would be open, a world with no hatred, no keys, in which no one would die in the name of God., clean lands, seas to play in, I want to kiss someone of a different race, I want an Earth in which war would be a game, hunger would be sweet and I would be fat..**

**A world with no frontiers, where I would be limited just by my body, which one day will be ashes flying away with the wind from one place to another, from the sea to the desert, and from there to another soul that would keep fighting even when it has no strength to shout, once more I repeat, I want a world with no frontiers, for you, for him, for my children".**

*David Peña Dorantes, submitted by Luis Garcia*



**DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

# Supporting New Member Countries

## Development Committee Defines it's Positions

by Mary Jane Mikuriya, Chair of the SI Development Committee  
- mikuriya@aol.com

**T**he Servas International (SI) Development Committee has been charged with being proactive in helping to start new national groups and to support small struggling Servas groups. With that in mind, we have pin-pointed three important positions to cultivate. We invite your participation in any of these positions:

### 1. DISTANT INTERVIEWER (DI)

Servas International Distant Interviewers are current or former national leaders who are experienced interviewers and have a current working relationship with their own country's SI stamps provider and can approve travelers from countries where there is no Servas presence. Distant Interviewers approve potential travelers based on their own country's traveler approval requirements. The DI works directly with the SI Vice President who approves the issuance of the SI stamps and with SI Treasurer for stamp accountability. Interviews can involve long slow, yet rewarding conversations and can happen through email, phone and/or Skype. Nancy Mitchell, a long time Distant Interviewer for the USA, can talk/train new Distant Interviewers, and has been working with Burundi, Bangladesh, and Saudi Arabia. In her role as DI she checks with the new Servas travelers about their Servas experiences and then encourages the traveler to help establish Servas in their country.

### 2. AMBASSADORS

SI Ambassadors are approved volunteer travelers who are willing to be the eyes and ears for SI as to what is going on in new or beginning countries and/or actively get involved and help strengthen Servas in countries during their visit. SI Ambassadors are expected to write to SI host list officer with updated validated host information, write to the Development Committee recommending approval of \$200 for start up funds based on findings and listing contacts to DC, write to the SI News Editor with a story about the traveler's visit to the new country, and/or write to EXCO about any problems and recommendations that need EXCO's help.

*For more information contact  
Prמוד Kumar, SI Vice President  
prמוד.servas@gmail.com  
or  
Mary Jane Mikuriya,  
Chair of the SI Development Committee  
mikuriya@aol.com*



### 3. MENTORS

SI Mentors are Servas volunteers who are familiar with the duties of national leaders/secretaries: i.e., interviewing; traveler and host application and approval processes; hosting; the importance of Servas meetings; having a current national host list; use of Dolphin; Servas web site and it's information; SI stamp accounting; as well as SI financial operating procedures for those countries that receive SI funds. An SI Mentor undertakes a long term commitment to work with one country. The role is that of being a helping friend to strengthen and expand a new member country to enable it to become a voting General Assembly member - that is, a country with at least 10 households with valid day or regular hosts information and three contacts that can speak for/represent their country. 📞

**A**s part of the French Servas connection since 1990 we are turning to members of Servas Europe for a special request.

A group of 20 youngsters, ages 14 to 17, and four supervising adults, all from our village in France, wish to travel around Europe in the summer of 2012.

Their project (which they have been working on for over a year) is to:

- meet other teenagers from different parts of Europe and learn their way of life.
- then compare with their own culture, education, hobbies and tastes.
- express their findings in a video clip.

## French Teens Seek Help With Planned European Tour

### Youth Group Hopes To Meet & Interact With Foreign Youngsters

by *Fayolle Ghislaine*  
pierre-ghis.compeyron@laposte.net

For these reasons, we are searching for teenagers and adults in your country who would be interested in exchanging information and helping us with our project.

Our youngsters are logistically autonomous (accommodation, food and

transport). However, the success of the project depends on the quality and quantity of time spent exchanging with foreign children their age. Our group of teenagers wish to spend approximately 10 days in each country.

We sincerely hope that the Servas connection will help us find people interested in meeting our teenagers.

If you can help us find these contacts please get in touch with me.

Contact Information:  
Mme Fayolle Ghislaine et Pierre Compeyron  
pierre-ghis.compeyron@laposte.net

EVENT REPORT

# Oh when the Servas go marchin' in... Umbria, Italy

by Anna Cristina, Servas Italia, [annacristinaservas@libero.it](mailto:annacristinaservas@libero.it)

Last September Servas Italia took part in the 50th International Marcia per la Pace e la Fratellanza tra i popoli, the most famous Peace March in Italy. The march starts in Perugia, the beautiful capital city of Umbria, and ends in Assisi, "the City of Peace". For 18 miles marchers of all ages and many nationalities walk side by side in a joyful and coloured way, carrying flags and signs to voice their opposition to war, and seek an end to hunger and poverty.

The march first took place in 1961 from an idea of Aldo Capitini, philosopher of non-violence born in Perugia.

Servas Italia joined the Tavola della Pace ([www.perlapace.it](http://www.perlapace.it)) - the organizers of the March- some months before the event. Together with many other significant organizations we believe in the ambitious peace project: anyone can do some steps for a better world, every day, right there where he lives and works.

A couple of days prior to the March,

in Perugia took place the International Youth Meeting for Peace: many and various were the workshops to reflect on themes of great importance nowadays: peace through the creation of a less

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“While you are  
proclaiming peace  
with your lips,  
be sure to have it  
even more fully  
in your heart.”

---

*Sayd San Francesco of Assisi*

---

violent society, and perspectives for the new generations.

Personal accounts were heard about the spontaneous struggle and



*We met new friends too*



*Marching*


hope for change in North Africa – what has been dubbed by the media as the ‘Mediterranean spring’.

Thanks to the importance of the agenda, the Meeting was a success: just think that 1000 young people were expected, and 3000 arrived from every part of Italy and from several other countries.

For the march, Italian Servas members came from various parts of the country. The gathering was an emotional moment for us, that we will never forget.

Together with Servas there were hundreds of associations and organisations: 200.000 people in total, many of them were young. No better result could have been hoped for.

The march takes place every two years, so... what about planning your participation? Servas will surely be there, again.

Umbria region is known as the “green heart” of Italy, for the beauties of nature, such as lake Trasimeno, hills and valleys, waterfalls... Trekking in this area of Italy is nothing but a pretext to discover villages, stone farms, picturesque spots with fine examples of well preserved Etruscan, Roman, medieval and renaissance buildings and frescoed cathedrals. 



*On the right, Giampaolo Fiordalisi, Peace Secretary, with two Servas friends. The rainbow flag was invented by Aldo Capitini in 1961 and is diffused all over Italy as a peace sign. I think it is interesting that the rainbow in Italy is especially for Peace, whereas in other parts of the world it stands for the gay movement. I like that too.*

**SLE REPORT**

# Servas Language Exchange in Argentina

## Lindaura Rameh, Servas Brazil, Shares Her Experiences

by *Andréa Assis, Reg. Coordinator, São Paulo, Brazil – sp@servasbrasil.org.br*

**L**indaura Rameh, a Brazilian Servas member from Pernambuco state, recently reported on her SLE experience in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Here are some of her comments:

“My reception was very warm. They did their best to make me feel comfortable and welcomed.”, says Lindaura. “Their support, understanding and encouragement overcame the initial difficulties.”


As to the actual Language Exchange program – she found it great. She writes that it was “...well structured, articulated, with many planned activities. The agenda was designed to our needs, in order to make us feel as if we were at home.” Activities like food, tango and yoga classes, meditation, visiting monuments, museums and churches, as well as the informal chats with people in streets or in subways, helped Lindaura to succeed her stay in Argentina.

Lindaura suggests that researching information about the country and cities they want to visit will help participants enjoy and improve their stay. “This will help save money and time.”



Lindaura (white echarpe) and her Argentinean hosts

“I highly recommend Argentina, nobody will regret it,” she assures. “It was the most delightful experience I have ever had in my life. At the same time I learned, I taught; a permanent exchange”.

No doubt, for Lindaura, “Servas has achieved its aims by spreading peace and goodwill among people”. 



Lindaura (center, stood up) and Argentinean friends

**EDITOR**

*continued from page 1*

three) present an opportunity to look at what Servas is, how it works, and where we members want it to go. Elections will be held for major positions, so now is the time to choose people you believe will help lead Servas into a successful future. I anticipate that this will be a very intense and hard working General Assembly.

The issues we face are varied and will call on a lot of “thinking outside the box.”

Following are some of the issues meaningful to me and that I feel are worth exploring. I encourage others to contribute their ideas, as well. I’m sure the organizing committee would appreciate our input.

Top priority for me is a totally new web site. From what I understand the main blockage on this project is money. To have a professional looking web site we need to work with professionals. Personally I would love to throw money at the problem and solve it once and for all. (Do we know any millionaires? Should we pass the hat?)

Are all voices heard? Not all countries have large memberships or strong economies. While many of those countries are involved in wonderful peace-related activities very few members can afford to travel or attend a GA. How can these countries be better represented and participate in decision-making?

I live in Greece and all of my visitors have been from “developed” countries. We wind up nodding our heads in agreement about the state of Peace in the world but aren’t really doing anything about it. Cameroon had no travelers in the year of 2011 but members there found other ways to promote Peace. (Article to come next issue – I hope). There’s a lesson there!

Communication definitely needs improvement. How can we do better in keeping members informed about the many opportunities available? We need to find a way to communicate about what works to an organization that spans the globe. Servas is a huge and potentially very powerful organization. 13,000 people worldwide, united for Peace, is a considerable force. At the next General Assembly let’s figure out how best to fan the flame!

What about the electronic divide? Not all members have access to a quality internet connection. Those that do don’t always use it to its full potential. What can be done to better improve global communication?

**EDITOR - continued on page 10**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

# Looking for a Servas Youth Language/Volunteer Exchange Experience?

## Take a look at MALAWI! Could this be for YOU?

by Demelza Benbow, National Secretary of Servas Malawi

**H**ow would you like to stay with Servas families in Malawi, South Africa, for two months and help out in voluntary organisations and learn Chichewa?

We have two different SYLVE (Servas Youth Language/Volunteer Exchange) placements on offer in Malawi – WOW! Learn the Chichewa language, or volunteer in the spirit of Servas. Or both - that makes it a two for one!



Here's our plan for your adventure into Malawi:

- You will be hosted by Servas Malawi members. (One main host and 7-9 other local hosts).
- Length of stay: 2+ months or as negotiated.
- Home stays: Start with the main host for 2 days and meet the other 7 hosts you to stay with around Blantyre for the next 2 weeks. During this time these hosts will help familiarize you with spoken Chichewa and the tourist sites around Blantyre and its suburbs. (You may visit: Pamet, Hospitals, Carlsberg, St Michaels, Thyolo, Zomba).
- For the following two months you'll stay at the allocated main host's home. From Monday to Friday you will leave home by bicycle/car lift at 7am, to start volunteer work at 8am with 1 or 2 organisations. You will join in family activities and the language of home use will be predominantly by English (Chichewa/German/Spanish is slightly

used). You'll have your own room and have access to internet, (email and Skype). Breakfast with host, lunch sandwiches/meal out (you pay your self), dinner at host home.

### SUGGESTED Volunteer ORGANISATIONS

Servas will negotiate the volunteer placement for you pending which organisation you prefer. You could possibly work at both (See their web sites for more information):

#### A. Jacaranda

[www.jacarandafoundation.org](http://www.jacarandafoundation.org)

Email: [info@jacarandafoundation.org](mailto:info@jacarandafoundation.org)

00+265+(0)1820160.

Manager: Luc Deschampes

00+265+(0)999-919056

Possible tasks: Gardening, chicken-care, reading, music, games and teaching to 2-16yrs.

#### B. Open Arms Infant

[www.openarmsmalawi.org](http://www.openarmsmalawi.org)

Manager: Jazmine

00+265+(0)995-451169.

Care of babies/feeding/play/physiotherapy/gardening/chicken care.



### Possible Evenings activities you could partake in are:

- **Mondays**  
Hash harrier running.  
Choir (7-9 pm).
- **Wednesdays**  
Water polo (4-5 pm)  
Volleyball (7 pm).
- **Thursdays**  
Circuit training. (6-7pm)

### Travel

Malawi is a very beautiful country and you will probably want to leave yourself at least 2 weeks at the end of your SYLVE to travel around. We can help book places for you and make suggestions as to the best places which are budget priced.

### Particulars

Be sane! \*Over 18 years and under 90! Have travel Insurance. Have pocket money for specials needs/events. Be able to communicate ok in English or want to learn/extend English vocabulary or learn Chichewa. Spanish/German speakers particularly welcome!

### Idea

Further possibilities include travel to Zimbabwe to see Victoria Falls/stay with Zimbabwe Hosts. Note: If you fly into Lilongwe (political capital) you will have to catch a 5 hour bus to Blantyre (economic capital).

Contact: Demelza Benbow

National Secretary of Servas Malawi

Phone/text: 00+265+999-482983 or

+Phone:00+265+1821520

Email: [benlewis@africa-online.net](mailto:benlewis@africa-online.net)



**ANNOUNCEMENT**

# Danielle Serrs Appointed Servas International Peace Secretary

by Gary Sealey, President, Servas International

Please welcome Danielle Serres (peacesecretary@servas.org) of Servas France whom we have appointed consistent with Servas International Statutes Article V:3 to fulfill the role of Servas International Peace Secretary from now until the next General Assembly.



Danielle has been successful in creating a national Servas Peace-building Committee in France. She is in touch helping peace-builders among several Servas Groups. She personally organized a delegation to the UN meetings on Climate Change, in Bonn, and recently through her own resources attended meetings in North America. You will find more complete details of Danielle's interests, experience and views at [# Danielle\\_Serres](http://www.servas.org/siexco/index.php/Exco_Materials), so that you can begin to know her better. Danielle will be a member of the Servas International Executive Committee. She wants and needs your personal advice and contact in the execution of her new duties.

At this moment Servas also particularly must identify more nominations for UN Observers and monitors. Peace-building is a world-wide project. It begins in the heart of each human and runs through our daily lives at home and abroad.

Please join Danielle in Servas peace-building activities locally and world-wide and give her your enthusiastic support and encouragement. 📧

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**JUNE 1-6, 2012**

**SERVAS INTERNATIONAL MEETING IN THE NETHERLANDS**  
[www.nivon.nl](http://www.nivon.nl)  
**REGISTRATION CLOSED**  
 See story on Page 2.  
[ServasNetherlands2012@gmail.com](mailto:ServasNetherlands2012@gmail.com)

**AUGUST 5-6, 2012**

**INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE**  
 Mar del Plata, Poland  
 see page 3  
[annamzakrzewska@gmail.com](mailto:annamzakrzewska@gmail.com)

**AUGUST 17-25, 2012**

**INTERNATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
 Mazury Region, Poland  
 see page 3  
[vicepresident@servas.org](mailto:vicepresident@servas.org)

*Send international calendar items at least 2 months in advance of event. Only International and Regional events will be listed. Send National meeting info to [reneegendron@hotmail.com](mailto:reneegendron@hotmail.com) for inclusion on [www.servas.org](http://www.servas.org).*

**TANDEM TRIP**

*continued from page 4*

The purpose of the trip is to inspire discussion about:

- Spreading the idea of responsible tourism by bicycle .
- Making people aware of other cultures and life styles across the different Mediterranean regions.

In the same way as SERVAS, they seek the best way to achieve peace, the solution of the World problems. Many problems can be solved by meeting people from other countries

Because a lot of problems could be solved by knowing people from others countries, feeling that they are closer, they then become your neighbors.

They are very pleased with Servas hosts because for the cyclists is very important things as basic as a shower, wash our clothes or feel the warmth of home.

And they thank all the people that helped make this trip possible. 📧



**NOTICE**

# Time to Think about Your 2012 Travel Plans with Servas!


**Get your Host List now and avoid the Pre-Summer Rush.**

by Pablo Colangelo, SI Host List Coordinator [pcolangelo@gmail.com](mailto:pcolangelo@gmail.com)

**W**e are now at the beginning 2012, the beginning of another year of travel for Peace. I'd like to encourage you to think about traveling with Servas and enjoying great discussions and experiences with other members of our wonderful community around the world.

As a volunteer organization, change takes time. We are working towards an integrated internet system for travelers and hosts to communicate, but we are not there yet!

Just a short reminder about how it works for now.

To obtain a Letter of Introduction from an interviewer in your country please write to "country"@servas.org to contact them. Through the interviewer you will receive host lists for the country or countries that you will be visiting. These lists will be sent either electronically or in paper form, depending on the country. Please allow enough time for this (at least a month if possible) 

## SEEN ON THE NET

**Servas: A Special Way to Travel**

[www.trianglevegsociety.org/grapevine/v11\\_1/servas.html](http://www.trianglevegsociety.org/grapevine/v11_1/servas.html)

**Rick Steves' Europe - Archive: Servas Tales**

[www.ricksteves.com/graffiti/archives/servas.htm](http://www.ricksteves.com/graffiti/archives/servas.htm)

**Connecting... solo travel network**

[www.cstn.org/reports/general/hospitalityservas02.html](http://www.cstn.org/reports/general/hospitalityservas02.html)

**Transitions Abroad: Homestays with Servas**

[www.transitionsabroad.com/publications/magazine/0401/travel\\_and\\_build\\_peace\\_with\\_servas.shtml](http://www.transitionsabroad.com/publications/magazine/0401/travel_and_build_peace_with_servas.shtml)

*Do you have a good web site to share?  
Please submit it to: [newsletter@servas.org](mailto:newsletter@servas.org)*

## SERVAS WEB CONNECTIONS

### Servas Yahoo Groups

1. **Servas International** - general discussion for all members.

Post message: [Servas-International@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Servas-International@yahoogroups.com)

Subscribe: [Servas-International-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Servas-International-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Servas-International>

Currently discussing: Elections for President & General Assembly

2. **Servas News** - become involved with this newsletter

Post message: [servasnews@yahoogroups.com](mailto:servasnews@yahoogroups.com)

Subscribe: [servasnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:servasnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/servasnews>

Currently discussing: Translating the newsletter into other languages

3. **ServasOnLine** - website/database redesign

Post message: [Servasonline@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Servasonline@yahoogroups.com)

Subscribe: [Servasonline-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Servasonline-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Servasonline>

Currently discussing: Servas Web Site re-design

If you are interested in joining any of these groups, send email to the Subscribe email address. All of these email groups are private and have very little traffic at this time.

**Many SERVAS connections are on FaceBook & Twitter**

**SERVAS YOUTH now on FaceBook**

[www.facebook.com/groups/31004490866/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/31004490866/)

## EDITOR

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Committees and programs exist that I know nothing about (there's a House Exchange Program?). What other programs are there that I should know about? Can we see a list of ALL existing programs and their definitions, status and plans? I was recently asked what the difference is between SYLE, SLE, and SYLVE. I felt I didn't have an adequate answer and didn't know where to go to find it.

And lastly, not everyone in Servas wants to volunteer goo-gobs of time. Most just want to travel and meet like-minded people. But, for those with a passion toward working for Peace now is the time to put it all together and take the next step. What's missing or could be done better? Can we learn from other Peace groups?

Even if you don't plan to attend, please take a moment to write with your ideas for the next Assembly.

And, maybe share some "Gary" stories!

# Translate Servas News into Your Country's Language.


by Terry Stone, Editor-Servas News

**W**e have received several requests for help with translating the newsletter into different languages. We want *Servas International News* to be accessible to as many members as possible, so, to help toward achieving that goal, we are offering to make current issues of *Servas International News* available to any Servas member country who would like to convert them into their native language.



To receive a complete, press-ready packaged file, the country's Servas National Secretary should send a request by email to [newsletter@servas.org](mailto:newsletter@servas.org). Instructions on where and how to obtain the file will be furnished at that time.

*Servas International News* is produced using Adobe InDesign CS2 for Macintosh. A press-ready, packaged file will contain all the fonts, photos and linked graphics used in the current issue along with the complete InDesign file. You must have either a Mac or PC version of Adobe InDesign CS2 v4.0 or better to open the file. Please remember that certain fonts may not convert properly from Mac to PC so some adjustments might be necessary when opening the file in a Windows machine.

If you do not have Adobe InDesign and want to produce a version of *Servas International News* using another software application you can still make use of the images and graphics contained in the packaged file and use a PDF copy of the current issue as a design and production template or a guide to rebuild your copy of *Servas International News*. Experience with the preferred software and producing publications or other materials is highly recommended. 

## TRAVEL ADVENTURES

Do you have a Servas travel story from your corner of the world? Share your adventure and experiences with other Servas members. We would like to feature one story in every issue. Please send your story and photos to [newsletter@servas.org](mailto:newsletter@servas.org). - ed

Note: please refer to "Tips on Submitting Stories" on this page.

## Tips On Submitting Stories to Servas International News

Articles will be posted as submitted!

1. Assume the reader is new to SERVAS and knows nothing about your story. Include the Who, Why, What, Where and When in the first paragraph. Remember, you're writing a STORY or presenting INFORMATION not an sending an email or letter to a friend.
2. Give your story a HEADLINE and, if possible, a SUBHEAD, that gives the reader an idea of what is being presented.
3. Include your name, Servas title (if any), country and email immediately following the subhead.
4. Make your article engaging and interesting, and pertinent to a global audience.
5. Avoid abbreviations so your message is clear.
6. Keep articles to one page if possible.
7. Spell check and proof your story, twice. We will not edit your copy unless there are space limitations.
8. Look at this or previous issues of *SERVAS INTERNATIONAL NEWS* for examples of format and structure.

### Types of Articles Appropriate for Publication in Servas International News:

- Global calendar items
- Articles, opinion pieces, travel stories with a Servas theme
- Letters to the Editor
- Short quotes regarding peace/Servas
- Short jokes, funny stories that relate to travel and/or peace
- Web sites of interest to Servas members
- Questions about Servas

**NOTE:** *SERVAS NEWS* is an INTERNATIONAL newsletter. Events or announcements of interest only to an individual country's members will not be accepted for publication. Also, long reports, such as technical and financial data, should be submitted go Renee ([reneegendron@hotmail.com](mailto:reneegendron@hotmail.com)) for posting on SERVAS web site ([www.Servas.org](http://www.Servas.org)).

### ----- IMPORTANT TECHNICAL TIPS -----

- Prepare your story in a text application such as Microsoft Word, TextEdit. Save file as .doc, .rtf or .txt format and attach to e-mail. (If it is not possible to use a text application software you can write your story in the body of an e-mail).
- Avoid fancy text formatting and do not double-space after a sentence, or add a space before a comma. Remember, a computer is not a typewriter.
- Attach photos to e-mail in .jpg format. **DO NOT PLACE PHOTOS INTO THE TEXT DOCUMENT.** Use file names that match your story (i.e., "SYLE-meeting\_01.jpg").
- Photo captions (if any) should be keyed to the photos (photo A, photo B, etc.) and listed at the end of your story as lines of text.
- Include Country/Article Headline in the subject header of ALL e-mails relating to the story.

If you have any questions send E-mail to: [newsletter@servas.org](mailto:newsletter@servas.org)

**REMEMBER:** What you write is what we'll post. Please thoroughly proof your article/letter before submitting it.