

Wandering & Wondering



John Maybury

PERMIE CAMP

Friday night through Sunday afternoon, July 25-27, West Sonoma County, about 10 minutes past Sebastopol. Lodging on-site will be camping; bring your own gear. Friday night potluck, with dinner provided Saturday and brunch Sunday. Sliding scale: \$75-150, work trade available for those lacking funds. Email register@permacultureconvergence.com. All proceeds go to Bay Area permaculture scholarships. We know that our community makes us strong, and we know its strength lies both in the collective work we do (the net work) and the webs that interconnect us all (the network). Our goals in this convergence are to allow people to explore new connections with fellow permies, renew and strengthen existing bonds, share resources, and do some hands-on permaculture. There will be ample room to attend work-

shops and to present through a self-organizing structure called open space technology on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. On Saturday morning we'll bask in a keynote by Brock Dolman, and on Sunday morning we'll have a Bioregional Council to allow people to connect with their locality and share with the full gathering what the permie-eye view of the areas represented in the convergence is. We'll also have music, hanging out and performance time on Friday and Saturday nights. If you, or someone you know, would like to perform at the convergence, get in touch with us at info@permacultureconvergence.com. Nestled in West Sonoma County's rolling hills, the land is an ex-mill and vineyard transitioning to a sustainable community. The regeneration that our society and world are longing for is drawn out in bold right in front of your eyes on this land. You have to see it to appreciate it. Questions: info@permacultureconvergence.com. Call 707-360-7060 to register. Email: register@permacultureconvergence.com.

BE THE CHANGE

Acterra's "Be the Change" environmental leadership program can give you training and experience you need for a "green" career. Many graduates have used the program to ease back into the workforce after a period at home, and others have used the experience to "green" their current job or company. Be the Change is training a

corps of leaders of all ages developing productive, innovative solutions to environmental challenges before us. The program offers a 10-month course starting in September and featuring monthly seminars that teach participants how to be effective change agents where they live, work, worship, or play. The curriculum revolves around environmental information, personal skills mastery, and social change processes—and everyone does a project to put lessons learned into practice. Be the Change has top-notch speakers and advisors, and the other class members are also emerging leaders with demonstrated skills. Participants learn from one another and come away with a group of new friends. Informational session/mixer: Wednesday, July 23 from 6 to 8 p.m. Acterra, 3921 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto. Contact: Rebecca Araiz Iverson, Director, "Be the Change" Environmental Leadership Program, 650-962-9876 ext.345, 650-922-1787 (cell)

FULL FRONTAL

Full Frontal Scrutiny is a joint venture between Consumer Reports WebWatch and the Center for Media and Democracy, two nonprofit organizations whose mission includes consumer education using investigative reporting. This Web site seeks to expose front groups—organizations that state a particular agenda, while hiding

or obscuring their identity, membership, or sponsorship, or all three. The joint venture grew from WebWatch's mission to create guidelines for Web site credibility, which it has successfully done for travel, health, search sites and others. WebWatch's credibility guidelines emphasize that the most trustworthy Web sites clearly disclose their address, identity, purpose, mission, corporate parents, and sources of funding. Staff from the Center and WebWatch will contribute original content to the site. Additional content comes from the archives of SourceWatch, PRWatch, WebWatch, and Consumer Reports magazine. (frontgroups.org)

DIGITAL EDUCATION

Patricia Delich, Ed.D., an e-learning consultant based in Pacifica, is coauthor of the recently published Education for a Digital World: Advice, Guidelines, and Effective Practice from Around the Globe. The book was copublished by BCcampus and Commonwealth of Learning, and is freely available for download on col.org. The book uses a Creative Commons copyright: CC-BY-SA (share alike with attribution).

TALL SHIPS

A spectacular event will take place on San Francisco Bay from July 23-27: The Festival of Sail. This includes

majestic Tall Ships from all over the world as they sail under the Golden Gate Bridge and dock for one week on the beautiful waterfront, where they will be open to the public. Anyone who has ever seen the Tall Ships come into the bay will never forget the grand sight. The waterfront will be transformed into a nautical attraction celebrating its maritime past, present, and future. It will include lots of activities for families and kids, educational programs for all, music, food, and entertainment. Sponsor S.F. Maritime National Park Association enables the Maritime Park to maintain the Balclutha and all the other historic ships docked on Jefferson Street, as well as the Maritime Museum. To volunteer, visit maritime.org.

DEMOCRACY SCHOOL

Looking for a real paradigm shift? Come to Democracy School! Global Exchange brings the famous Daniel Pennock Democracy School, created by the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF), to San Francisco! This empowering weekend-long training teaches a dramatic new way of looking at our role as citizens and confronting the power and rights used by corporations to deny the rights of people and the earth. August 1-3. \$300. All attendees receive 350-page background reading packet two weeks prior to School. 2-1/2 days of workshops (some meals in-

cluded). Limited scholarships available. Info/registration: globalexchange.org

SWAMI SEZ

Larry King recently interviewed Jon Stewart and asked him if America is ready for a black president. Jon said, "This is such a non-question. Did anyone ask us in 2000 if Americans were ready for a moron?"

SITSEER

- Get kids involved in scientific research: ladybugs@cornell.edu
- American Indian Movement local events: aimovement.org, 415-577-1492
- Bay Area Naturally: naturalpages.com
- Internet jukebox—search for songs and bands: songza.com
- Sign up for free environmental news and alerts: insider@sierraclub.org
- Drink fine wines and help support animal rescue: k9wines.com

MAYBURRITOVILLE

- Email your stories & photos: mayburrito@goofbuster.com
- Breaking news every day: pacificariptide.com
- For writers & editors: mayburritoville.com/mayburrito
- All my columns online: wanderingandwondering.com, pacificatribune.com.