

Minutes from 2004 Meetings

January 14, 2004

March 10, 2004

May 12, 2004

July 14, 2004

September 8, 2004

November 10, 2004

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, January 14, 2004 at 7pm at **The American Legion Hall at the corner of Union and State Streets, Kennett Square, PA. (upstairs)**. Forty-four "hearty" community members attended, in spite of the snow predictions.. Tom Hoehle and Jean Searer facilitated the meeting.

Jean Searer told us about The Kennett American Legion Hall building, which was built in 1925 for all Armed Services. The American Legion members continue to involve themselves in ways that contribute to the community. They also charter other groups and rent out the building for other community events. Jean led a moment of silence in honor of our men and women, who serve in our Armed Services.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be held in the lobby of 1st National Bank at 721 W. Cypress St. PA. (New Garden Plaza II) on Wednesday, March 10, 2004 at 7pm. Please bring a new community member to enter into the "bridging" community process.

Tina Moore and Antoinette Gomez reviewed *Bridging the Community* framework and the five principles for the guidance of *Bridging the Community* work. Antoinette especially stressed that all this group needed was to follow our Guiding Principles, which are:

- 1) Come from the heart,
- 2.) Start with our community, not our personal agendas
- 3.) Focus on potential—not problem
- 4.) Add no infra-structural burden--no officers or official membership for *Bridging* meetings.
- 5.) Seek no outside funding (Invest our own community in the care of our community)

Bridging the Community's Website is: www.bridgingcommunity.com Minutes will be posted on this website, and community members may post upcoming events on the Community Calendar.

Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and share community offerings or requests:

- Barbie Searer (UHS) is President of Venture Crew, which is a Scouting group for boys and girls from 14yrs-21yrs. (9th grade and up.) She told us that they engage in camping and other challenging adventures. Call Jean Searers if interested in joining or volunteering. Her email is: jsearer@kennett.net
- Caitlin Pascarelli, (KHS Student) is working to advance *Relay for Life*, which will take place June 5-6, 2004 from 10am to 10am at the Kennett High-School. She is trying to sign-up community teams to walk for funds for The American Cancer Society. Her email is: Pelican685@aol.com
- Patti Olenik and Caitlin spoke on behalf of Laura Diaz, (KHS Student), who has started a grassroots after-school tutoring program for students who need support in language and schoolwork. Jane Cornell at KHS is Laura's coach. If anyone is interested in being a tutor, or would like to refer a student call the high school and leave message for Jane Cornell, who's phone number is: 610-444-6620. Laura is also trying to raise funds, or find a means, for transportation for students to be brought home after tutoring. Contact Patti Olenik at: olenik5@comcast.net

- The Garage Youth Center, Union St., Kennett is looking for tutors for high-school students. (1 hour/wk) Also contact Patti Olenik, Youth Director at olenik5@comcast.net
- Iris E. Coloma-Gaines (attorney) and Richard Musto (legal aide) from Philadelphia VIP and The Pennsylvania Farmworker Project provide legal services programs to low-income clients, who cannot be represented by other legal services or public interest organizations. **Iris is at The Kennett Area Senior Center every Monday from 2:30-6:30pm for services.** They also are holding a Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, to help with tax returns. There are training seminars for volunteers. Clinic times in Kennett Square are February 7,14,21,28,, March 6,13,20,17, and April 3 and 10.
- Kindra Welch (Alliance for Better Housing) told us that there will be sixteen town homes available in Kennett by July-August 2004 in town. Contact the Alliance at: Muscadyne@aol.com or Kindra at: kindrawelch@wildmail.com
- Paul Seaver (Lincoln University Spanish Language Professor) attended to find volunteer opportunities for his Spanish Speaking students in the Kennett area. Email Paul at: pseaver@axs2000.ent or phone at: 610-692-0653
- Debbie Eberle (Mi Casa Su Casa) told us about the beautiful art and craft items at the store in town at 106 W. State St. There will be an Open House on January 30, 2004 from 4-7:00pm at Mi Casa Su Casa and La Comunidad Hispana, 314-16 E. State St., Kennett. You may contact Debbie for questions or to discuss volunteer opportunities at: dartboarded@comcast.net
- Doug Godfrey (Community member, Realtor, and member of St. Michael's Lutheran Church) was at meeting to learn more about the community. Call Doug at 610-925-0959
- Lucy Singleton (Upland Country Day School) attended to learn more about the community. Contact her at Lsing@uplandcds.org
- Joan Holliday (Public Health Nurse) told about the upcoming Martin Luther King Community Breakfast on January 19, 2004 at The Red Clay Room from 8-10:00am. Joan told about the lively Kennett Community Choir, which always is looking for spirited singers. Contact her at: dochollisv@aol.com
- Sylvia McGonigle-Barreiro (Spanish Language Teacher at Upland Country Day School) told about the Open House on January 15, 2004 from 9-12:00pm. The school is located at 420 W. Street Rd. Kennett Square, PA. Email: sbarreiro@uplandcds.org
- Jean Searer (Volunteer Coordinator at La Comunidad Hispana) told about the upcoming Cinco de Mayo Festival to be held on May 2, 2004. Community volunteers are needed and anyone may attend the meetings every other Monday, starting January 26, 2004 at 10am at 314-16 E. State St., Kennett. They also are having a Teen Beauty Pageant. Call Vince Ghione at 610-444-4545 or Antoinette Gomez at 610-444-5586

- Ron Smith (Good Neighbors) told about the Summer Youth Camp to work on 4-5 homes in SCC. They are looking for volunteers and other churches to partner with. The camp will take place July 11-23, 2004. Contact Ron at: RonMSmith1@aol.com
- Antoinette Gomez (Member of SCC Literacy Coalition) told us about the Black History Underground Railroad Program to be held at the Avongrove Library on February 4, 2004 from 4:20-5:00pm. Wednesday night, Study Buddies will be attending. She also told us about the Avon grove Library Presentation in Seattle Washington about "Children At Risk". Email Antoinette at: agomez242002@yahoo.com
- Michelle Dormer (Camp Dreamcatcher) is always looking for volunteers for their summer camp for HIV infected youth. They will have a fundraiser on February 21, 2004---a Mardi Gras/Black Tie Optional event at Mendenhall. Email: mdormer@kennett.net
- Sonia Muckley (Animal SPAY Club) told about her interest in finding foster homes for unwanted animals and assuring they are spayed or neutered and protected with vaccinations. She is looking for volunteers and funds. Email is: auntson@hotmail.com
- Margaret Miles (1st Baptist Church) is attending to find out ways that her church can become involved in the community. Church Phone Number: 610-444-5320
- Teresa Bass (Linden Street) told of the meetings that the street has had to develop a plan to preserve the safety and historical value of the street. She told us about the historic value of some of the homes and that some of them are on the tour for The Underground Railroad. The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 20, 2004 at 7pm at Bethel AME Church, 300 E. Linden St. Kennett. Contact Teresa at 610-444-6735
- Sharyn Mead (La Comunidad Hispana) and Robin Bowers (Stenning Hills) told about the *Al Amigo Neighborhood Association* formation and meetings which are taking place in the neighborhood to build bridges with the Mexican and Anglo neighbors. Contact Sharyn at 610-444-4545 or smead@kennett.net, and Robin Bowers at: rbyn@aol.com
- Tom Hoehle (1st National Bank) told about the grass-roots effort he started called *Intercambio* for Easy Spanish and English conversation at The Kennett Area Senior Center from 7:30-9:00pm. Contact Tom at: Thomas.Hoehle@fnbchestercounty.com
- Antoinette Gomez told us about the *Bridging the Community* effort that is starting in Oxford, as a result of the inspiration of these meetings. The next meeting will be held at the Oxford YMCA at 7pm on Monday, January 26, 2004. Contact Antoinette at: agomez242002@yahoo.com
- Arturo Rosario (Salsa Instructor) told of his classes at Longwood Performance Center. Several Bridging attendees have taken his 8 week course and highly praise the instructor and the experience. Next session will be on February 5, 2004. Contact Arturo at 302-250-6620 or email at: latinobsession@earthlink.net

- Joan Holliday passed out the new *Path of Potential Reader #15* and pointed out the articles that community members had written---Anna Anderson has her first published article. Joan encouraged others to write their story of community work focused on potential and our town's living philosophy of *peaceful, progressive, inclusivity*. Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- Study Buddies after-school tutoring at a different church every night of the week need tutors. Contact Joan Holliday at 610-344-5550 or dochollisv@aol.com

The group then mingled and “bridged” for twenty minutes and enjoyed the left-over food goodies donated by attendees. The following “bridges” were made:

- Tom Hoehle “bridged” with Sonia Muckley and is sponsoring one large dog.
- Caitlin Pascarelli “bridged” with Pam Carter around acquiring a kitten.
- Caitlin Pascarelli “bridged” with Margaret Miles and 1st Baptist’s church involvement in The Relay for Life. Caitlin also sold candy bars for Cancer and sold over \$25 tonight.
- Sylvia McGonigle-Barreiro “bridged” with Iris around ways to get information out about the legal services she provides.
- Becky Romer (Chester County Futures Mentoring) “bridged” with Sylvia from Upland Country Day about opportunities for adult mentors for high-school students.
- Linda Pascarelli and “bridged” with Greater Works Ministries Study Buddies and Linda will start tutoring on Thursday nights.
- Sylvia McGonigle-Barreiro “bridged” with Juan Avila, who will provide some instructions about music and culture for her classes.
- Salvador Villicana “bridged” with Iris around providing information to her clients about the HIV testing he provides.
- Iris E. Coloma-Gaines “bridged” with the CCHealth Dept., Antoinette Gomez, La Comunidad Hispana, Chester county Futures, Lincoln University and Literacy Program with free legal services information flyers to be distributed.
- Teresa Bass, Kindra Welch and Joan Holliday “bridged” around the newly printed Community Planning book that has been developed for Linden Street.
- Caitlin Pascarelli “bridged” with Joan Holliday to join The Kennett Community Choir.

New Attendees:

Caitlin Pascarelli (KHS), Phone: 610-274-3433 Email: Pelican685@aol.com

Linda Pascarelli, (Community), Phone: 610-274-3433, Email: Majikthyme@aol.com

Debbie Eberle (Mi Casa Su Casa), Phone: 610-793-2912, Email: dartboarded@comcast.net

Barbie Searer, (UHS Student) Phone: 610-793-2912, Email: HappyL109@hotmail.com

Tina Moore, (UHS Student) Phone: 610-793-0971, Email: TienAngell@aol.com

Kyle Evans, (UHS Student) Phone: 610-388-7919, Email: kyleceevans@hotmail.com

Lucy Singleton, (Upland Country Day School) Phone: 610-444-8114, Email:

Lsing@yplandcds.org

Paul Seaver (Lincoln University) Phone: 610-692-0653

Margaret Miles (1st Baptist Church), Phone: 610-444-5320

Arturo Rosario (Salsa Instructor), Phone: 302-250-6620, Email: latinobession@earthlink.net

Doug Godfrey (Community), Phone: 610-925-0959

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, March 10, 2004 at 7pm in the lobby of 1st National Bank at 741 W. Cypress St. PA. (New Garden Plaza II). Fifty-eight lively community members attended. Tom Hoehle and Jean Searer facilitated the meeting.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be at Upland Country Day School, State Hwy 926, Kennett Square, PA. Call for directions: 610-444-3035. Please bring a new community member to enter into the “bridging” community process. (Community members have offered to pick up interested attendees, who do not want to drive.)

Tom Hoehle introduced Michael King, who told us that this bank is called 1st National Bank of Chester County. This bank has been locally owned for over 140 years. He also introduced Tom Hoehle and Dennis Garbine as employees of the bank.

Joan Holliday announced to the group that this meeting marked the beginning of the eighth year for *Bridging the Community* meetings.

Joan Holliday and Lindsey Pugh (a first student attendee 7 years ago) reviewed the *Bridging the Community* framework and the five principles for the guidance of *Bridging the Community* work.

- 1) Come from the heart,
- 2.) Start with our community, not our personal agendas
- 3.) Focus on potential—not problem
- 4.) Add no added infra-structural burden--no officers or official membership for meetings.
- 5.) Seek no outside funding (Invest our own community in the care of our community)

Bridging the Community’s Website is: www.bridgingcommunity.com Minutes will be posted on this website, and community members may post upcoming events on the Community Calendar. Minutes are also kept at the Kennett library for those who do not have computers.

Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and share community offerings or requests:

- Laura Allen (Kennett Community member) told of her experience of finally finding a volunteer role that “comes from her heart” and is very fulfilling to her. She works as a Hospice Volunteer. Laura’s phone number is: 610-388-3740. Judith Dervais, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator, phone number is: 610-444-8055
- Jeanne Searers (La Comunidad Hispana Volunteer Coordinator) told us about the “Cinco de Mayo Queen of Kennett 2004 on 4/16/04 from 5-10pm. Fundraiser for La Comunidad Hispana. To enter the contest or to attend, call Patricia Castro or Jeanne Searer at 610-444-4545. jsearer@kennett.net
- Cecilia Ross (Community volunteer and spouse of State Rep. Chris Ross) is looking for Board members for After-the-Bell KMS Program. She also had brochures informing the community about the Kennett Area Senior Center Assisted Senior Program. Cecilia can be reached at: 610-444-5003 and email: c-ross@kennett.net
- Mary Dugan (The Kennett Underground Railroad Center) always needs volunteers. She invited community members to visit. It will be opened Saturdays and Sundays, starting in

April. They also are willing to provide educational programs. Contact her at:610-347-2237 and web site: www.undergroundrr.kennett.net

- Sandy Lee (After-the-Bell) will be conducting a Phone-a-Thon and is looking for Spanish-speaking youth to help with the project. She can be reached at: 610-444-1986
- Phil Riley (Accountant) came to the meeting because he was invited by Tom Hoehle. He may be interested in volunteering in some capacity.
- Rebecca Watson and Morgan Nathan (UHS Students) told of their involvement in Study Buddies, an after-tutoring effort at Bethel Church, 301 E. Linden St. Kennett, on Wednesday's from 4-5:30pm. They are looking for more tutors and an adult person, who would like to be Co-Leader with Esther Rochester. Call Esther Rochester at610-444-8860 or 610-925-0283.
- Carol Berzon (Previous Kennett Mega Volunteer) now lives in Northeast MD. She introduced Father Sam Harman and Kay Ross. They are interested in learning how a "bridging" meeting works.
- Roberto Brown (Coatesville Area Arts Alliance) told about Coatesville Revitalization work and the role that the Alliance is playing in concert with this effort of educating and exciting the public through exhibition, performance and outreach for many forms of art. To partner or participate with this effort, call 610-384-2535. Visit www.cthreea.org
- Priscilla Jordan, (MOMS Club) told about their clubs support to "stay-at-home" mothers and their community volunteer work. For more information call: Dina Appleby at 610-925-0275
- Den Kingery told us about Peace Work Ltd---Art with Children. Her organization promotes all youth art expressions. She is looking for places to display this art, as well as a site to house their efforts, as they are currently working in homes. She can be contacted at 610-388-6869 or email: DenBasking@aol.com
- Cindy Udell (Community) came because she was invited by Susan Goldsworthy, CC Community Gardens. Cindy can be reached at 610-793-2362 or email: cjudell@rcn.com.
- Sonia Muckley (Animal SPAY Club) told about her interest in finding foster homes for unwanted animals and assuring they are spayed or neutered and protected with vaccinations. She is looking for a home for 3 cats, who are currently in foster homes. She also is looking for volunteers to drive stray animals to foster sites and for funds. Email is: auntson@hotmail.com and phone number is: 610444-0938.
- Teresa Bass (Linden Street) shared a book that has been compiled about *Historic E. Linden Neighborhood* and told of the work the residents are doing to restore the street and bring renewed pride to its history with the Underground Railroad. They are working with the borough and Chief McCarthy to do a traffic study to reduce speed and provide safety for

the residents and children. She is asking for community volunteers to join in a Street Clean-Up on Saturday, May 1. Call 610-444-6735 or Ofelia Bass at 610-444-3687.

- Suzanne Hazard (Bethel AME Church, Linden St.) told of the Community Health Fair they will be hosting on 4/3/04 from 9am-noon. Located at 301 E. Linden St. Free diabetic, cholesterol and BP screenings. Call Joan Holliday for information or to sign up at: 610-344-5550.
- Anita Powell, (Church of the Open Door) told about *Playback for Change* to take place on Saturday, 3/20/04 at 7pm at The Garage, 115 S. Union St. Someone tells a story or a moment from their life, chooses actors to play the different roles, then watches as their story is immediately given artistic shape and coherence. Call 610-444-6464.
- Robert Thee (Penn State Extension) conducts financial management seminars. He will hold one at Credit Card Issues at The Avongrove Library on 3/13/04 from 1-3pm. He can be contacted for setting up seminars at 610-696-3500 or email: rthee@psu.edu
- Dawn Penalosa was introduced by Diana Rarig (Phillips Mushrooms) as a bi-lingual person, who would be interested in volunteering in the Kennett community. Dawn also is known for her decorated cakes. Dawn can be reached at: 610-268-0109 or email: dslydogg15@aol.com
- Lindsey Pugh (Migrant Education) told us that she will be the Program Director of 5 weeks of summer school for migrant students. She is looking for volunteers, program ideas and participation in the community. Email: lindseyp@cciu.org
- Idalia (KHS Student) told about the Intercambio language interchange process that they started in KHS (Modeled after Tom Hoehles' Thursday night group at the Kennett Area Senior Center from 7:30-9pm)---they meet every Wednesday from 3-4pm. They also have a group at the Garage on Friday evenings. The Unidat Students have been invited to speak at Penn State on 4/27/04 about their efforts in building community through this multi-cultural interchange. Contact Idalia at: 610-444-9880 for Unidat youth group participation or Nancy Ayllon at 610-444-2684.
- Diana Rarig told us about Friends of Tennis. There are scholarships available for students to take a 6 week tennis camp. Registrations must be in by 3/28/04. Contact Diana at 610-444-6685.
- Antoinette Gomez(Project One) told us about her new outreach position with Project One to prevent HIV/AIDS. Her office is located at The Center at 106 W. State St., Kennett. Email Antoinette at: agomez242002@yahoo.com
- On behalf of Laurie Szoke (Penn State Cooperative), Antoinette told about the 4-H flower show featuring youth to be displayed at 601 Westtown Rd. lobby from 3/15-18/04 from 8:30am to 3:30pm. If a youth would like to enter email Laurie at: las7@psu.edu

- Debbie Eberle (Mi Casa Su Casa) told us about the beautiful art and craft items at the store in town at 106 W. State St., Kennett Square. You may contact Debbie for questions or to discuss volunteer opportunities at: dartboarded@comcast.net
- Joan Holliday (Public Health Nurse) told about the Martin Luther King Community Grants available for grassroots effort promoting community peace and harmony. Deadline for grant application is 3/26/04. Contact her at: dochollisv@aol.com
- Contact Patti Olenik about a grant writing workshop to be put on by Theo Nix. Call Patti at: 302-530-4878 or email: olenik5@comcast.net
- Tom Hoehle (1st National Bank) told about the grass-roots effort he started called *Intercambio* for Easy Spanish and English conversation at The Kennett Area Senior Center from 7:30-9:00pm. Contact Tom at: Thomas.Hoehle@fnbchestercounty.com

The group then mingled and “bridged” for twenty minutes and enjoyed the snacks provided by 1st National Bank. The following “bridges” were made:

- Teresa Bass “bridged” with several groups who will participate in Linden Street Clean-Up Day.
- Mary Dugan “bridged” with Linden Street residents “Historic Linden Street effort” and The Underground Railroad effort
- Sonia Buckley “bridged” with Carol Berzon around homes for foster animals.
- Rebecca and Morgan (UHS Students) “bridged” with Christine Navarro, Healthy Start who would like to provide a flyer in Spanish to encourage more Latino students to attend Study Buddies. Ann Humes will provide the cookies from Kendal
- Michelle Dormer (Camp Dream catcher) “bridged” with Dawn Penalosa, who will make a cake for a fundraiser for HIV/AIDS youth summer camp.
- Roberto Brown “bridged” with Den Kingery around the way they will compliment their unique missions around the arts.
- Michelle Dormer “bridged” with Margaret Miles (1st Baptist Church) to do a fundraiser for summer camp with children with HIV/AIDS.
- Robin Krug “bridged” with Debbie Eberle to participate in a fundraiser for La Comunidad Hispana/Silent Auction.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with four individual/groups, who are very interested in the MLK Community grant.
- Robert Thee “bridged” with Suzanne Hazard around a possible financial management program at Bethel AME and with Phil Riley, as a possible volunteer.
- Salvador Villicana and Antoinette Gomez “bridged” around their mutual work around HIV/AIDS outreach.
- Dawn Penalosa and Suzanne Hazard “bridged” around Dawn providing interpreter services for Bethel AME Health Fair the first Saturday in April.

- Antoinette Gomez told of the many outcomes that have come out of Sylvia McGonigle-Barreiro bridges made at previous “Bridging the Community” meetings with Upland Country Day students and the migrant education students.
- Priscilla Jordan “bridged” with Lindsey Pugh around ways that the MOM’s Club could start a bi-lingual play group---to build better community relations as a young age.

Attendees Information not listed above:

Margaret Miles (1st Baptist Church), Phone: 610-444-5320 and email: almar-east@erols.com

Doug Godfrey (Community), Phone: 610-925-0959, email: godfreyd@yahoo.com

Ruth Boss and Alexis (Linden Street) at 610-444-4685 and email alexisworldg@hotmail.com

Joseine Thompson (Friend of Alfie Moss) 610-925-3404

Morgan Nathan (UHS Student) email: NABBIE887@aol.com

Rebecca Watson UHS Student) email: Brandie812@aol.com

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, May 12, 2004 at 7pm at Upland Country Day School, State Hwy 926, Kennett Square, PA. Sixty-two "bridging" community members attended. Tom Hoehle and Jean Searer facilitated the meeting. Rusty MacMullan picked up the crew on Linden Street.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be at Longwood Performing Arts, 633 Cypress St., Kennett Square. (Across the street from Eckerd Drugs) Phone: 610-444-6144. This will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 2004 at 7pm. Please bring a new community member to enter the circle of the "bridging" community process.

Tom Hoehle introduced Rusty MacMullan, Headmaster of Upland Country Day School. He led us in their school's assembly ceremonies with a pledge of allegiance and a Buddhist prayer (Just one of the many religious disciplines that the students are exposed to.) The school has the core philosophy of "growing children" through developing their mind, body and building character. They have been at their current location since 1963. They have approximately 230 students from pre-K through 9th grade.

Joan Holliday introduced the philosophy of the land---*peaceful, progressive, inclusivity* and the framework for *Bridging the Community* meetings. Gerry Zippilli (with his legs showing) shared the principles that are followed in this community building process for eight years.

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Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and share community offerings or requests:

- Jean Searers introduced herself as the Volunteer Coordinator for La Comunidad Hispana and encouraged people to talk to her about volunteer opportunities at the agency and in the community. Her phone number is: 610-444-4545 jsearer@kennett.net
- Tom Hoehle announced that La Comunidad Hispana will have a fundraiser---*Mushrooms Around the World Dinner* and Silent Auction at Upland (same room) on Saturday, August 28, 2004 from 6-10pm. He may be reached at: 610-308-9768
Thomas.Hoehle@fnbchestercounty.com
- Felice Verrecchia introduced himself as a Video Producer and has just moved into Kennett Square. He may be reached at: 302-540-2315 His email is: trueeye@comcast.net
- Cathy Cramer introduced her friend Michael Hardy from Emmanuel Temple Church on Cedar Springs and Pemberton Rds. He would like to become involved in community volunteering. His phone number is: 610-932-3269. MjHardy@mail.com
- Joan Holliday asked Anne Humes to show her collage of pictures taken at Linden Street Clean-Up Day on May 1, 2004. Teresa Bass and Laura Jackson thanked the group for their help, because people signed up at the last meeting and over 100 people signed in as volunteers that day. Peg Baker also spoke of the successful Clean-Up project in Stenning

Hills area, as she helped in that area. For more information about The Linden Street Project, call Teresa Bass at 610-444-6735 or Ofelia Bass at 610-444-3687.

- Wade Hosler from Oxford told us that he is part of the group that has started *Bridging the Community* in Oxford. Their next meeting is May 17, 2004 at 6:30pm at The Oxford Library. He may be reached at: 610-932-4078. whosler@kennett.net
- Harry Wackerman is the Program Director for the Kennett Area Senior Center. He would like the Center to become a place for community processes. His phone number is 610-444-6341. hwackerman@kennett.net
- Milt Stith is from the evening Kennett Rotary and attended the meeting to learn about Bridging and to see if bridges can be made with West Chester Police Athletic League. His phone number is: 610-436-4885 MDS@bee.net
- Jean Thompson from Avondale Study Buddies will be leading a Bake Sale at the Kennett Acme on 5/29/04 from 10-12pm. She introduced her friend, Delma Williamson. They may be reached at 610-869-7348 or 610-274-2078 and Wdelma@hotmail.com
- Barbara DesJardins is from Peace Work Ltd---Art with Children. She can be reached at 610-388-3822. You also may email Den Kingery at DenBasking@aol.com
- Jim Kimmel is from Kennett Friends Meeting. There will be a clothing drive at the Kennett site on Saturday, August 28, 2004 from 10-4pm. They would like to get the word out and to have flyers made in Spanish. His phone number is: 610-347-0789. Email: jpkimmel@mindspring.com
- Brian Andrews, a physical therapist, will be moving into an office in the Willowdale Medical offices. He would like to get to know the community better and become a “service friend” to the community. He may be reached at: 610-399-1881. band719@verizon.net
- Carol Berzon, a long-time attendee of Bridging, introduced her two friends from NE Maryland, who attended to experience a Bridging meeting. Their names are Kevin Jones and Ginny Roney. Carol can be reached at: 410-287-7415 compas721@aol.com Kevin may be reached at 410-398-4773 Kevin@kevinwjones.com, and Ginny may be reached at: 410-642-3822 Gin5850@hotmail.com
- Dawn Lagunas introduced herself as a Chester County Futures Mentor and Executive Director of the Police Athletic League of Greater West Chester. She would like to find ways to bridge with Kennett. She may be reached at: 610-430-3491. polofwc1@aol.com
- Paul Schroeder is Coordinator of the Adult Education Program at La Comunidad Hispana. They have computer classes, GED in Spanish, and teach over 500 students ESL. They are looking for ESL teachers from July 6-August 12, 2004. Fall classes start in September and go to Thanksgiving. He can be reached at 610-444-4545. pschroeder@kennett.net

- Julie Grossman and Patti Olenik are helping out with Relay for Life. They have made greeting cards for \$3.00 to be sold tonight. Julie can be reached at: 610-268-5471.
- Ann Humes, from Kendal at Crosslands is revising her Volunteer Opportunities book and would like people to call her with revisions. She reminded us that Seniors have so much to offer the community. She will be addressing 32 new residents. She may be reached at 610-388-1199
- Anne Humes, Co-Chair of the Upland Parents Association is interested in hearing about bridging opportunities.
- Roberto Brown spoke about the Festival of Music Art this coming Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The Coatesville Area Art Alliance is promoting this effort. To obtain more information call 610-384-2535. Visit www.cthreea.org
- Laura Jomas, a community member from Kendal, moved here from Guatemala and is bilingual. She volunteers at La Comunidad Hispana and is interested in other opportunities. Her phone number is: 610-388-8043
- Patti Olenik, from the Youth Garage Center spoke about needing tutors and mentors and assistance with ESL. She may be reached at: 302-530-4878 olenik5@comcast.net
- Nancy Clegg is now working for COAD. She offered many materials for drug and alcohol prevention. She spoke about the Family Matters Program to help parents of 12-14 year olds communicate with each other. She also told us that there will be a web network built from the county level that will link/bridge the various resources. Her phone number is: 610-363-6164 Nclegg@coadgroup.com
- Fiona Allison from Chester County Cares told us about World Hunger Day on June 3, 2004. Tickets can be bought for a Bar-BQ fundraiser. She also is looking for volunteers for the Gleaning Project, whereby extra agricultural produce is picked and delivered to the local food cupboards. Her phone number is: 610-793-2458. Her email is: fallison@wchester.net
- Ruth Williams from 2nd Baptist Church thanked Bridging for the new computer that she received due to a request she made at a previous meeting and with the help of Tom Hoehle's and her solicitation to West Chester Rotary. Her church will be sponsoring a summer reading program and a drug and alcohol prevention program in July. She needs volunteers and funds for this program. Her phone number is: 610-384-3243.
- Michelle Dormer, Camp Dream catcher spoke about the need for volunteers (18yrs. 80yrs.) for the summer camp to be held August 21-28, 2004. The camp is held for HIV/AIDS children. You may reach Michelle at: mdormer@kennett.net

- Joan Holliday thanked Anna Anderson on behalf of Bridging for her selfless leadership of Greater Works Study Buddies. She will be passing the baton to her granddaughter next year.
- Gerry Zippilli, MYKE/Mentoring Youth In Kennett spoke of the need for volunteers and the satisfaction of being a mentor. The commitment is 45 minutes a week in one of the Kennett Elementary schools. Training is given. Call Gerry at 610-524-1061 or email at gailbait@yahoo.com
- Peg Baker, After the Bell, spoke of the need for volunteers for the fall. The program runs for 7 weeks and needs 125 volunteers for each session. Contact Peg at: 610-444-0962.
- Ellen Lake, Brandywine Valley Association told us about summer camp scholarship and also the need for volunteers on Thursday mornings in the organic garden. Food is donated to the food cupboards. Call her at: 610-793-1090.
- Ron Smith, Good Neighbors told us about the summer camp to be held July 18-23, 2004 to repair Senior citizens homes. They have 55-60 youth signed up and need about 15 more adult volunteers.
- Anne Humes “bridged” with several persons who would like to get their volunteer needs into the Kendal resource book that Anne is stewarding.

The group then mingled and “bridged” for twenty minutes and enjoyed the healthy snacks provided by Upland Country Day. The following “bridges” were made:

- Tom Hoehle and several community members “bridged” with Julie and Patti and bought artistic greeting cards to support Relay for Life.
- Jean Searers “bridged” with Jim Kimmel to translate a flyer into Spanish for clothing drive to be held in August for low-income families.
- Gerry Zippilli had interactions with Laura Jackson, Nick Everhart, Harry Wackerman and Wade Hosler about MYKE and possibilities for mentoring and sharing the process with other communities.
- Peg Baker “bridged” with a community member who would like to be a volunteer with After-the-Bell program.
- Ron Smith from Good Neighbors “bridged” with four people for volunteering in summer camp.
- Ruth Williams “bridged” with volunteers of Diana Rarig and Margaret Miles for her summer reading program.
- Felice Verrecchia “bridged” with Salvador Villicana (CCCHD HIV/AIDS outreach worker) to utilize a film that Felice made on HIV/AIDS in Africa.
- Michelle Dormer “bridged” with **eight** community members who will provide volunteer services for the summer camp.
- Esther Rochester told every one of the collective Study Buddies picnic on June 16, 2004 and “bridged” with First Baptist church on funds for hamburgers and cooks for the picnic.]

- Bill Wilson (Upland Country Day) “bridged” with several community members on joint efforts.
 - Chief Albert McCarthy “bridged” with the West Chester Police Athletic Club and will provide them with a SCC Resource book.
 - Roberto Brown “bridged” with the Police Athletic Group around “bridging” in Coatesville.
- We ended the meeting with a moment of silence in honor of the lost life of Nick Berg, a recently murdered American in Iraq.**

New members attending not listed above:

Samuel Zavala, 610-925-0701

Jeanie Scarlett, edsallenby@aol.com

Hanne-Lore Pohland, 610-925-5147 hpohland@aol.com

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, July 14, 2004 at 7pm at Longwood Performing Arts, 633 Cypress St., Kennett Square. Thirty-eight passionate community members attended on this rainy summer evening. Jeanne Searer and Joan Holliday facilitated the meeting.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be at La Comunidad Hispana, 314-16 E. State St., Kennett Square, PA. 19348, Phone: 610-444-4545. (Across the street from Sammy's Sub Shop coming into Kennett Square).

This will be held on Wednesday, September 8, 2004 at 7pm. Please bring a new community member to enter the circle of the "bridging" community process.

Jeanne Searer opened the meeting with a moment of silence. Sally Warren gave a history of Longwood Performing Arts. Sally told us that Jane Roosevelt started the studio twenty-seven years ago. They currently have over 400 students a year. They teach ballet, tap, ballet etc. On Friday evening on July 30, 2004 there will be a Free Dance Performance at Anson B Nixon Park at 7pm.

Jeanne introduced the philosophy of the land---*peaceful, progressive, inclusivity* and the framework for *Bridging the Community* meetings. Nancy Ayllon (Senior at KHS) shared the principles that are followed in this community building process for eight years.

Bridging the Community's Website is: www.bridgingcommunity.com Minutes will be posted on this website, and community members may post upcoming events on the Community Calendar. Minutes are also kept at the Kennett library for those who do not have computers.

New attendees were asked to introduce themselves and share community offerings or requests:

- Sandy Tesh from *Traditions* told us that she would be retiring from an OD job at Dupont in September and was planning to become Certified Therapeutic Laughter Leader. She will be looking for opportunities to volunteer her talents. Her phone is: 610-444-6586 and Sandra.m.tesh@usa.dupont.com
- Shannon Burke a Graduate Student from WCU will be doing a study of the "bridging community mobilization process". She also is looking for volunteer opportunities. Her phone number is: 610-738-7616 or cell 484-319-6616 and shannonburke@comcast.ent
- Sam Levine from *Traditions* is a Special Projects Coordinator with Howard High School of Technology. He is involved with *Community Bridges*, which helps build neighborhoods. He also is working with town mural paintings. His phone number is: 610-925-2992 and kidservices2@yahoo.com
- Frankie DeLuise from *Traditions* works at COAD and mentors students at The Garage.

Other attendees were asked to bring their requests or announce their offerings:

- Cecilia Ross, Chair of the SCC United Way Campaign is looking for speaking engagements to share the benefits of contributing to a local United Way, which funds thirty one non-profits in SCC. She also would like stories (to be written by a professional writer) of the impact the United Way funding has on the lives of the vulnerable in our community. Cecilia may be reached at: 610-444-5003; c-ross@kennett.net
- Barbara DesJardins is from Peace Work Ltd---Art with Children. They need volunteers for a project for Family Fun Day on Saturday, July 31, 2004 at Anson B Nixon park. Volunteers may show up at 9:30am to help out. They also are looking for a home to purchase to house Peace Work activities. She can be reached at 610-388-3822.
- Jim Kimmel is from Kennett Friends Meeting. There will be a clothing drive at the Kennett site on Saturday, August 28, 2004 from 10-4pm. He is partnering with La Comunidad to get the word out to the Mexican community. His phone number is: 610-347-0789. Email: jpkimmel@mindspring.com
- Elaine Warren, Greater Works Ministries will be leading the Study Buddies on Thursday eves from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. She is looking for a van and driver from 5:00pm to 7:30pm on Thursdays, starting in September.. She also is looking for craft items for Anna Anderson for her childcare. You may reach Elaine at ebasgil@pyleco.com
- Robert Thee (Penn State Extension) conducts financial management seminars. He announced the Governors Task Force on Financial Literacy will be meeting at the Government Services Center. He also conducts Workforce Development Programs. He may be reached at: 610-696-3500; rthee@psu.edu
- Jeanne Searer announced that La Comunidad Hispana will have a fundraiser---*Mushrooms Around the World Dinner* and Silent Auction at Upland (same room) on Saturday, August 28, 2004 from 6-10pm. Tickets may be purchased for \$45. Email Jeanne at jsearer@kennett.net or phone 610-444-4545.
- Idalia Ortiz a new graduate of KHS will be attending Chestnut Hill.
- Nancy Ayllon, KHS Senior told about the MANA organization workshop that she and Idalia will be attending in Washington DC on 7/15-18/2004
- Antoinette Gomez, Family Services announced that there will be new services for HIV/AIDS testing and counseling at 106 W. State St (The Center) on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00am to 4:00pm. She also encouraged community members to become a mentor at The Garage, the Youth Center in town. One hour a week makes a real difference. She can be reached at: agomez242002@yahoo.com
- Ron Smith, Good Neighbors Home Repair, told us about the summer camp to be held July 18-23, 2004 to repair Senior citizens homes. They have 46uth signed up and 15 adult volunteers. They will be working on seven properties with three being on E. Linden Street. Ron can be reached at: 610-347-1695; RonMSmith1@aol.com

- Nick Everhart, First Baptist Church, told us about the two houses that their church helped repair on Linden Street and the enjoyment of this work. He may be reached at: nickeverhart@peoplepc.com
- Peg Baker, After the Bell, will be starting the 6th year. This after-school program offers KMS students the opportunity to learn special crafts from the lessons of community volunteers. They have six week sessions that involve 300 students and needs 125 volunteers. She may be reached at: 610-444-0962; Sb29stnj@aol.com
- Jeanne Searers reminded us to call RSVP, Retired Volunteer Program, 610-436-6646. The volunteer registry also provides reimbursement for car travel.
- Joan Holliday encouraged community members to identify community needs for Eagle Scout Projects. You may email Den Kingery at DenBasking@aol.com.
- Joan also asked if anyone knew of potential community building space to help house Migrant Ministries. Contact Bob Walton at 610-347-0008.
- Mary Dugan, Underground Railroad, told about the tours on Sundays from 1:00 to 3:00pm. There is a charge of \$5 and tours of the museum are free. Contact Mary at 610-347-2237 and web site: www.undergroundrr.kennett.net
- Todd Palmer, previous Kennett resident would like to come back to live and work in the Kennett area community. He is fluent in Spanish. He brought his job resume. He can be reached at 610-527-5055; toddpalmer7@univision.com
- Mary Anderson, 2nd Baptist Church told us about the summer workshop on Alcohol and Drug Prevention for youth being held at the church and run by Mrs. Ruth Williams.
- Esther Rochester thanked 2nd Baptist Church for their volunteer support at the annual Study Buddies picnic.
- Harry Wackerman is the full-time Program Director for the Kennett Area Senior Center. He would like to be the “energizer bunny”, who helps “bridge” the community with the seniors. His phone number is 610-444-6341. hwackerman@kennett.net

The group then mingled and “bridged” for twenty minutes. The following “bridges” were made:

- Mary Anderson and Ron Smith shared stories of community volunteerism.
- Michael Hardy (His phone number is: 610-932-3269. MjHardy@mail.com) “bridged” with Ron Smith around refreshments for the youth working on home repair on Linden Street.
- Elaine Warren “bridged with Jim Kimmel around the clothing drive and crafts for Mrs. Anderson.

- Robert Thee and Jeanne Searer “bridged” on the Workforce Development Program for clients at La Comunidad Hispana.
- Margaret Miles and Nick Everhart “bridged” with Joan Holliday and Ron Smith around the Migrant Ministries space need.
- Mary Dugan “bridged” with Felice Verrachi (trueeye@comcast.net), who will help video tape a Round Table discussion of Kennett baseball players from the 1940s---the Gray Sox.
- Barb DesJardins and Doug Godfrey (a realtor) “bridged” around looking for a home in town to purchase for Peace Works
- Antoinette Gomez and Felice Verrachi “bridged” around an HIV/AIDs tape that Felice produced. He also brought Salvador Villicana a film for his use in his HIV/AIDs Outreach work for Chester County Health Department.
- Peg Baker “bridged” with Shannon Burke and Sandy Tesh for class presentations for After the Bell Program for KMS.
- Robert Thee “bridged” with Cecilia Ross around United Way distributing flyers to the non-profit agencies around Workforce Development Program.
- Cecilia Ross “bridged” with Paul Masudo for a speaker engagement with the evening Kennett Rotary and with residents of *Traditions*.
- Joan Holliday helped “bridged” Den Kingery with Daryl Hall for an Eagle Scout wall mural project
- Joan Holliday passed out Reader #17 of The Path of Potential and invited community members to **The Each and All Dialogue Group** on Wednesday, August 4, 2004 from 5:00pm to 6:30pm at The Anson B Nixon Park. Contact Joan at 610-344-5550; dochollisv@aol.com

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, September 08, 2004 at 7pm at La Comunidad Hispana, 314-16 E. State St., Kennett Square. Fifty dynamic community members attended. Jeanne Searer and Harry Wackerman facilitated the meeting.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting is currently being arranged. The hope is to hold it at Exelon. Please check the Community Calendar in The Kennett Paper for location.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 10, 2004 at 7pm. Please bring a new community member to enter the circle of the "bridging" community process.

Jeanne Searer opened the meeting with a moment of silence. Nancy Ayllon introduced the philosophy of the land---*peaceful, progressive, inclusivity* and the framework for *Bridging the Community* meetings. Jeanne Searer shared the principles that are followed in this community building process for eight years.

Doreen Matthews, Social Services Coordinator for LCH gave a history of the agency. It started in 1973 with a concerned group of community members, who provided support for the mushroom worker. The agency now has five core departments which include social services, education department, Project Salud (400 McFarlan Rd.), volunteer department and Mi Casa Su Casa. The agency serves the vulnerable in the community, either with direct services or being a referral source.. LCH moved to this site in November of 2003 due to the flood on Birch Street.

Bridging the Community's Website is: www.bridgingcommunity.com Minutes will be posted on this website, and community members may post upcoming events on the Community Calendar. Minutes are also kept at the Kennett library for those who do not have computers.

New attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings or requests:

- Jay McGinley from West Chester has access to good used mattresses on a regular basis, but needs someone to transport to the clients in need. He also does video and is interested in filming spirit-filled community experiences. His phone number is: 610-869-5515 and his email jymcginley@cs.com
- Kat Muse, YMCA Youth Outreach Coordinator, is in need of volunteers to work with after-school activities for youth and Adventure Guides. Email: kmuse@ymcabwv.org
- Raymond Ramos would like to volunteer in the community. He has a Cleaning Service called Dragon Fly and he enjoys dancing and being an MC. Call: 610-925-0594.
- Juan Avila is a singer and songwriter and is open to community volunteering and jobs for hire. His email is: juanavilamusic@yahoo.com
- Frankie DeLuise is now working at The Garage with the after-school tutoring program. He is a CTC Program Coordinator with Patti Olenik. Call Patti at: 302-5530-4878.

- Kitty Bijek is a retired community member, who is involved with Chester County Community Gardens. She also is interested in historic restoration. She is looking for some assistance in maintaining some gardens that had been created through an Eagle Scout project. Call Pam Carter for her phone number at: 610-444-6443
- Karen Markey is from The Kennett Symphony and works with the community children's choir. She is recruiting new choir members and looking for opportunities to "bridge" in the community. Her phone number is: 610-444-2835
- Paul Seaver from Lincoln University brought Abraham Hoff, Student Government President and a woman T.A. from Argentina, who will be working with the Spanish program. They are looking for opportunities to work in the Kennett community. They need transportation. Email: pseaver@axs2000.ent or phone at: 610-692-0653

Other attendees were asked to bring their requests or announce their offerings:

- Harry Wackerman is Program Coordinator at the Kennett Area Senior Center. He spoke about his desire to continue to "bridge" the Seniors with the larger community. He also announced the news of Hector Gomez becoming Member Services Director to the Latino Seniors. He is bi-lingual. Harry can be reached at 610-444-4819 or email: hwackerman@kennett.net
- Jeanne Searer gave information for R.S. V.P, which provides Seniors the opportunity to volunteer. They may be contacted at 310 N. Matlack St., West Chester, PA 19320-2678. Jeanne may be reached at 610-444-4545 or email: jsearers@kennett.net
- Dave Haradon from Church of the Advent and Longwood Rotary Club said that the church has a van that seats 14 people and they also have volunteer drivers. His phone number is: 610-444-4624 or email: haradon@chesco.com
- Peg Baker, After the Bell, is starting its sixth year at the KMS. It will start on 9/28/04 and this program always needs volunteers. Her email is: Sb29stnj@aol.com
- Jane Shafta is looking for a house to live and house her business of providing craft projects for promoting peace. You may call Barb Desjardins at 610-388-3822 to obtain info.
- Antoinette Gomez from Church of The Open Door spoke about the valuable experience of attending Playback for Peace Training: A Dramatic Storytelling Technique that celebrates diversity and promotes peace and harmony. Contact her at 610-444-5586 or email: agomez242002@yahoo.com. The training will take place October 22, 23, and 31 and 29, 30, and 31, 2004. The experience has no fee because of MLK grant.
- Fiona Allison from MYKE reported that she, Sue Yocum, Suzanne Pusey and Pam Carter will be heading up the elementary school mentoring process. She explained that they need help recruiting new mentors as the leader, Gerry Zippilli has moved away and has been instrumental in starting the process and keeping it growing. Her phone number is: 610-793-2458. Her email is: fallison@wchester.net

- Joan Holliday reported that Marge Wolf, Borough Manager, has expressed interest in attending the next *Bridging* meeting and was looking for ways that volunteers could get involved in promoting good neighborhood relations in the Stenning Hills area. Joan can be reached at: 610-344-5550 and email: dochollisv@aol.com
- Mike Pesce, an original attendee of *Bridging the Community* in 1997 and leader of The Chip and Dip Festival, has graduated from college and also has spent some time in Honduras. He now speaks Spanish. He complimented the grassroots effort of Bridging and announces that he would like to find a way to take on an active role in the Kennett community. His phone number is: 610-444-4883
- Teresa Bass, from Historic East Linden Project, reported that things are moving forward. The street has received funds for a Street Manager and a Street Community Organizer. They had a street meeting the previous evening and over 30 people attended. They were looking at ways to provide wholesome recreation for the high number of youth, who live on the street. Someone suggested that HELP contact Habitat for Humanity for assistance. Teresa can be reached at: 610-444-6735.
- Lindsey Sweet, formerly Lindsey Pugh, was married over the summer to Josh Sweet. She works at Migrant Education and reports that they are looking for a support specialist for Mary D Lang Elementary and they also have two MANA positions for leading Brownie and Junior Troop groups. Lindsey can be reached at: lindsey@cciu.org
- Pam Carter from the Kennett Historic Commission is heading up the 150th Anniversary of Kennett and would like to link up with other Kennett community events. They are looking for ideas. Her email is: PCarter@longwoodgardens.org
- Esther Rochester, Bethel Church Study Buddies, is the prime leader this year. Joan Holliday has stepped down. Esther is looking for tutors and snacks for the youth, who range from K-6th grade and attend Study Buddies on Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:30pm. Her phone number is: 610-444-8860.
- Joan Holliday explained that *The Reader---A Spirit Manifested* was a gift from Terry Anderson and Sandra Maslow, who have been mentors to our community in learning how to “work from potential”. The web site for other articles is: www.pathofpotential.org
- Paul Masuda, from the evening Kennett Rotary, arrived after the Mary D Lang Open House and brought his three sons and wife, Ayako. He plays the community role of recruiting new community members to attend Bridging the Community meetings. He can be reached at: PSmasuda@aol.com
- Rich Pesce from the Kennett Borough was present and wanted all community members to know that as a representative of the community, he is open to receiving phone calls or emails regarding concerns in the Kennett Borough. His phone number is: 610-444-4883. His email is: pesce@axs2000.net

The group then mingled and “bridged” for twenty minutes. The following “bridges” were made:

- Becky Matos from Chester County Futures “bridged” with Kitty about the gardening maintainance that is needed---the mentees will help out.
- Micke Pesce “bridged” with Linsey Pugh and would like to apply for the job at Mary D Lang Elementary
- Dave Haradon made a “bridge” with Pam Carter and will find a way to connect the 100th anniversary of the Rotary with the 150th of Kennett.
- Lindsey Pugh “bridged” with Raymond Ramos about a cleaning contract for offices and she also “bridged” with Lincoln University students for tutoring at Oxford Villages.
- Felice Verrachi “bridged” with Raymond and Jay McGinley around filming certain events. (Felice’s email is:)
- Esther Rochester “bridged” with three community members who will help out with Study Buddies at Bethel Church
- Antoinette Gomez “bridged” with Jay McGinley for filming Playback for Peace Training. She ‘bridged” with The Longwood Rotary Club, Westminster Presbyterian and Michael Hardy from Emmanuel Temple for making presentations about the training.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Chief McCarthy who told her that it was his 25th Wedding Anniversary on 11/10/04, the next Bridging meeting, and that he would honor this event with his very supportive wife. He also gave Joan information about funds for a resident housing need.
- Jane Shefta “bridged” with someone who will help her with gardens.
- Peg Baker “bridged” with Paul, who will help out at After the Bell
- Pam Carter “bridged” with several people who would like to help out with MYKE.
- Karen Markey “bridged” and recruited two children for the choir.

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, November 10, 2004 at Exelon Generation. Tom Hoehle and Jeanne Searer facilitated the meeting. Fifty six spirited community members attended who represented a broad spectrum of community life.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 12, 2005 at 7:00pm at The Kennett Borough Hall, E. Marshall Street, Kennett Square, Pa. Please bring a new community member to enter the circle of the “bridging” community process.

Tom Hoehle opened the meeting. Joan Holliday asked for a moment of silence, then spoke on behalf of Mary Rucci about Exelon Generation.

This facility serves as a headquarters to three of Exelon’s operating groups – Exelon Nuclear, which owns and operates the largest nuclear power fleet in the country; Exelon Power, which operates Exelon’s fleet of fossil and hydro plants in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Illinois, and Texas; and Power Team, the wholesale power marketing and trading operation. About 800 people work at this site. In 2000, PECO Energy, our Philadelphia-based electric company, merged with Chicago-based, ComEd, the utility in that city. Today, Exelon Corporation has more than 5 million customers and generates more than \$15 billion in revenue annually. Exelon’s goal is one of being the best, and most profitable, electric and natural gas company in the country. They also are community minded and have contributed more than \$10 million to non-profit organizations, events and programs in the region. Although PECO Energy merged with ComEd, it still operates as PECO Energy, and still handles what we call the “poles and wires” part of the business. That is, PECO still delivers the electricity to your homes and businesses.

Diana Rarig introduced the philosophy of the land---*peaceful, progressive, inclusivity*, the framework for *Bridging the Community* meetings and the principles that are followed in this community generating process for eight years.

Bridging the Community’s Website is: www.bridgingcommunity.com Minutes will be posted on this website, and community members may post upcoming events on the Community Calendar. Minutes are also kept at the Kennett library for those who do not have computers.

New attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings or requests:

- Justin, Elisa Maebe and Rebecca Watson (UHS Students) spoke about Study Buddies and their participation at Bethel Church Study Buddies. They need tutors, snacks and some financial help to take the students on field trips. Call Esther Rochester at 610-444-6680. At this time, Joan Holliday presented each Study Buddies leader the KEF award to Study Buddies, The 2004 Outstanding Educational Program. Tutors in Study Buddies received sunflowers. Nellie Twyman introduced herself as a new Study Buddy tutor at Bethel Church.
- Lindsey Larson (COAD) spoke about the educational materials and support they have for stopping drug, cigarette and alcohol use. Her email is: llarson@coadgroup.com

- Janice Taylor (Kennett Parks) spoke about the many events held at the Anson B Nixon Park and also opportunities for teens involvement. janice.taylor@businessware.com
- Dr. Robyn Gable (Psychologist—new in town) said she was attending the meeting to learn about the community so she could “bridge”. Email: drgable@comcast.net.
- Dara Gordon (Longwood Gardens) is looking to involve the Mexican children and their culture in the Performing Arts at Longwood. Email: dgordon@longwoodgardens.org
- Christian Galindo (Graduate Student at the University of Delaware) is helping Dara Gordon “bridge” the Latino culture with Longwood. He held focus groups. Email: cgalindo@longwoodgardens.org
- Kate Rentschler (Kennett School District Psychologist) introduced herself and is open to “bridging” community efforts with the youth. Email: KRentschler@kcsd.org
- Joan Holliday (Public Health Nurse) introduced Salvador Villicana, who brought two friends. Salvador and Samuel Zavala are featured in a published book with stories of the migrant workers. The book is called *Mirrors and Windows*. Call Salvador to purchase a copy for \$20 at: 610-444-1062
- Antoinette Gomez told about the annual Penn State Extension dinner to be held on Thursday, November 11th at The Red Clay Room. The speaker’s topic is “Good Neighbors Relationships”. She also was offering four free tickets to the dinner. Email: agomez242002@yahoo.com
- Mike Pesce, (Migrant Education teacher) told about his good luck in attending the last “Bridging” meeting and obtaining a job through his attendance at the meeting. He brought up the idea of adopting families year around to recognize significant holidays and events, as community “buddies”. He can be reached at pesce@axs2000.net
- Ruth Williams (2nd Baptist Study Buddies) at a previous Bridging meeting expressed a need for a computer for her students and thanked Tom Hoehle for the computer he helped them obtain. Now she needs Internet service. She can be reached at: 610-384-3243
- Anita Powell (Church of the Open Door) told about Playback for Peace workshop. Eighteen people attended over 30 hours of training. There will be a special demonstration of their learnings on November 13, 2004 from 5:00-6:30pm at The Garage. Email: MAKK@fast.net
- Tom Hoehle (First National Bank) reminded everyone that they are welcome to join in the Intercambio process at The Kennett Area Senior Center every Thursday night from 7:30 to 9:00pm. Learning Spanish and English language without complicated lessons and building community relationships. Email: thomas.hoehle@fnbchestercounty.com
Tom also promoted the Kennett symphony, which is in its 56th year.

- Elaine Basgil Warren (Greater Works Study Buddies leader) put out the call for more tutors. Email: ebasgil@pyleco.com
- Frank Deluise (CTC Program Coordinator) works at The Garage with the teens. Mentors are needed. Also, the teens are looking for sites to perform English and Spanish Christmas carols. Email: deluisef@comcast.net
- Suzanne Pusey (MYKE) is looking for more mentors for elementary students. She spoke of the benefit and reward of mentoring a child 45 minutes a week. She is looking for mentors. Email: suzpu@yahoo.com
- Alfonso (KHS Student) told about the fundraiser that youth are leading to raise funds for Mision Santa Maria. The dinner will be held on November 12, 2004 at The Garage. Mision Santa Maria meets basic needs of the new Mexican migrant community. Contact Gabriella at the mission at: (610) 444-0615 or (610) 306-7210
- Lindsey Sweet (Migrant Education) told us about the Silent auction that MANA (Organization for Latino women career development) will be having February 12, 2005. Silent Auction items needed. Email: lindseys@cciu.org
- Joan Holliday (Public Health Nurse) relayed the information that someone had an updated computer to donate to a worthy cause. Also, she relayed the information that one of her clients was having triplets at Christmas and that this would be a special family to recognize with gifts—the giver would have the joy of experiencing the potential of new birth three times. Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- Sue Yocum (New Garden 2nd Grade Teacher) reported that she now has her book for youth, “Let’s Go to a Pennsylvania Mushroom Farm...” in Spanish. She was pleased to announce that the mushroom growers have provided \$5,000 for production of this book. Email: SmidgenToo@aol.com
- Peg Baker (After the Bell) reminded us that volunteers are always needed. Over 300 students have signed up to learn about a variety of extracurricular subjects. Email: Sb29stnj@aol.com
- Felice Verrecchia (Award Winning Film Maker) told us about the “bridging” that he has done with Mary Dugan from the Underground Railroad. They are looking for information about the Kennett Grey Sox (a semiprofessional black baseball team formed in the early 1920s). Email: trueeye@comcast.net
- Raymond Ramos would like to volunteer in the community. He has a Cleaning Service called Dragon Fly and he enjoys dancing and being an MC. Call: 610-925-0594. He invited community participants who wanted to learn more about the HMO options from public assistance. There will be an event on December 8, 2004 at the West Chester YMCA. Call 1-866-622-4228 for more information.

- Jeanne Searer (LCH Volunteer Coordinator) gave information for R.S. V.P, which provides Seniors the opportunity to volunteer. They may be contacted at 310 N. Matlack St., West Chester, PA 19320-2678. Jeanne may be reached at 610-444-4545 or email: jsearers@kennett.net She also told the group that La Comunidad Hispana has hired a new Executive Director and there will be an Open House at the agency on December 2, 2004 from 5:00-7:00pm.
- Shannon Burke (WCU Graduate Student) has received grant monies from the University to study the Kennett "Bridging the Community" process. She will be calling long-time attendees for interviews. Email: Shannoneburke@comcast.net
- Pam Carter from the Kennett Historic Commission is heading up the 150th Anniversary of Kennett and would like to link up with other Kennett community events. They are looking for ideas. Her email is: PCarter@longwoodgardens.org
- Diana Rarig (HR Phillips Mushrooms) gave everyone the hotline for Smoking Cessation. Email: dmr@supernet.com
- Salvador Villicana (CCHD HIV Testing) spoke of LCH's outreach for smoking cessation in the Latino population. Call him at: 610-444-1062
- Teresa Bass (Historic East Linden Project) reported that things are moving forward. The street has received a \$75,000 grant for a Street Manager and a Community Organizer and are about to interview several candidates. Teresa can be reached at: 610-444-6735.
- Ron Smith (Good Neighbors) spoke of the successful fundraiser they held this fall and continue to take referrals for home repair for the elderly and others. Email: RonMSmith1@aol.com
- Jeanne Searers told us that Kate Muse (Kennett YMCA Outreach) is recovering from a car accident. She would like names for the Angel Tree. Email: kmuse@ymcabwv.org
- Ann Humes (Kendal Crosslands) told of the community's 30th year anniversary.
- Lindsey Sweet told everyone that the Fiesta that was normally held by Migrant Education and Penn State Extension will now just be a dinner of welcome for new migrant families.
- Harshad Dodia (Kennett Rotary) spoke of the many community projects that the Rotary is involved in---from scholarships to providing funds for community projects. Email: hdodia@comcast.net

The group then mingled and “bridged” for twenty minutes. Following are the “bridges” that were made:

- Tom Hoehle “bridged” with Sue Yocum to purchase her book about mushrooms in Spanish and English for Intercambio group.
- Robyn Gable “bridged” with Suzanne Pusey to become a MYKE mentor.
- Doug Godfrey “bridged” with Peg Baker to become a volunteer for After the Bell.
- Lindsey Sweet “bridged” with Officer Holdsworth for a program with Migrant Education.
- Sylvia McGonigle Barrios “bridged” with Dara Gordon for Latino culture project.
- Ron Smith “bridged” with Frank Deluise and Robyn around home repair work.
- Sue Yocum “bridged” with Antoinette Gomez around becoming a Board member for After the Bell.
- Frank Deluise “bridged” with Janice Taylor around the youth being involved in projects at Anson B Nixon Park.
- Pam Carter and Felice Verracchia “bridged” around Kennett’s 150th anniversary & a video.
- Antoinette Gomez found four interested members in the free tickets for the Penn State Extension dinner and talk.
- Antoinette Gomez, Pam Carter, Dara Gordon “bridged” around the 4-H and Longwood Gardens project.
- Joan Holliday started a 25th Wedding Anniversary Card for Chief McCarthy and his wife, Cheryl and “bridged” with Officer Bill Holdsworth to make the delivery.
- Lindsey Larson and Elaine Basgil Warren “bridged” to provide a drug and alcohol and smoke free education program for Greater Works Study Buddies.
- Esther Rochester and Elaine Basgil Warren “bridged” with the UHS students to develop a fundraiser for field trips.
- Dara Lourdes “bridged” with Elaine for tickets for Longwood Gardens for Black History month.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Anita Powell who will gladly accept the donated computer for Church of the Open Door.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Suzanne Pusey and Frank Deluise around Christmas giving to the family with triplets.
- Antoinette Bowers “bridged” with Dara Gordon to receive a name of an employee at Longwood about a flower arrangement project she would like to start.