Subject: Global Archives Report from the June Archive Sojourn

Greetings,

We invite you to share our excitement and join with your passion In our whirlwind to discover the wonderful gifts still buried in the Global Archives.

During Archives Sojourn week, June 24-28, we unearthed the Delta Pace and Town Meeting documents. Delta Pace is a very successful Band of 24 project, located in Mississippi. One inspiring story found was an email from Betty Pesek in November 2005 (about 30 years after the project was launched) which stated:

Bishop James Mathews visited Pace recently and brought back great news! He said there is a new Senate Building, Town Hall, Post Office, paved streets, a water and sewage system, and public housing. He went to the Mayor’s Office and met a woman who said to him, *“These improvements have been made in the last 30 years since the ICA came here. There is night and day difference. I was in the Consult which the ICA hosted for us, and it transformed my life. I was in high school, and later went on to university and became a teacher. In Delta Pace, they named a street “Joseph Wesley Mathews”.*

Imagine what great stories there would be if we did a deep dive into the files to find the stories waiting to be rediscovered!

Our second task was to review the Town Meeting files for the stories, strategies and methods of the 1978 Bicentennial Town Meeting campaign. We chose Town Meetings because July 4, 2026 is the 250th year since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The federal government created America250 (<https://america250.org>) which now has offices in 43 states and territories. We put together a packet of materials to share with America250 for them to consider leading a state-by-state campaign of community meetings. Imagine how the U.S. would benefit from having communities sit down and dialogue with each other in this present day!

The next Archives Sojourn is **July 22-26, 2024**, and we would love for you to consider participating. Would you like to work on:

* Completing the Human Development Project reports?
* Discerning the learnings of various programs we created (e.g., Emerging Generation, Global Odysseys, Guardians, LENS, Training Inc)?
* Breaking loose the bottleneck of getting the scanned files online?
* Adding photos, cassette tapes, VCR tapes to the website?
* Writing stories that bring various parts of the website alive?
* Creating a vision for the Archives for the next two years?
* And more …

Please come join us. Call (312.758.2551) or email (ksnyder@ica-usa.org) with your plans and questions.

Peace and love,

June Archive Sojourners:

Edith Byers, Ed Feldmanis, Margaret Gergen, Sharon Rafos, Karen Snyder