

2006 Relocalization Network Report



 **relocalization.network**
www.relocalize.net



The Relocalization Network annual report welcome

Greetings

Best Wishes from the Network Team

The 2006 year saw many changes for the Relocalization Network: the number of Local Groups in the Network almost doubled, we launched the website www.relocalize.net, and we started building and improving our library of resources and support services.

We thank everyone for their patience in working with us through this process of learning and experimenting with different tools and techniques for improving the foundation of the Relocalization Network. We are grateful to have had the opportunity to work with so many wonderful people.

Over the next year we look forward to building stronger connections with everyone in the Relocalization Network and to continuing to learn and adapt as we move towards a future less dependant on fossil fuels.

All the best,

Relocalization Network Team

About this report

This report provides information about the Relocalization Network for groups and individuals interested in getting involved and starting Relocalization projects in their communities. It includes a brief history of the Relocalization Network, and an overview of the year's projects and events. If you have any questions about the material presented here, please contact us at network@postcarbon.org.

The Relocalization Network annual report background and contents

Background

The Relocalization Network was created in 2003 as one of the first initiatives of Post Carbon Institute. It developed as a response to individuals' questions about how they could take action to address the implications of peak oil. We found that the most effective strategies are initiated at the community level. For this reason, Post Carbon Institute decided that establishing a network of Local Post Carbon Groups was the best way to provide concerned individuals with the support and resources necessary to coordinate effective action.

The Network Team supports Local Post Carbon Groups by providing on-line communication tools, developing valuable resources, facilitating connections between Local Groups, and cultivating a sense of working together globally on local responses. By providing the web-based communication tools that will help Local Groups pool resources, share project ideas and templates and collaborate on initiatives, the Relocalization Network will facilitate valuable connections between groups.

The Relocalization Network is now composed of nearly 150 Local Post Carbon Groups from all over the world that are working to prepare their communities for an energy-constrained future. These groups operate autonomously, while receiving guidance, educational resources, project and technical support and electronic infrastructure from Post Carbon Institute.

Some groups have started out with us, while other groups that were previously established have joined the Network to benefit from sharing experiences and collaborating with other Local Post Carbon Groups. The activities and projects of the different Local Groups vary, depending on their interests, resources and the needs of the communities they are working in.

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The Relocalization Network annual report about

What is Relocalization?

Relocalization is a strategy to build societies based on the local production of food, energy and goods, and the local development of currency, governance and culture. The main goals of Relocalization are to increase community energy security, to strengthen local economies, and to dramatically improve environmental conditions and social equity. The Relocalization Network helps Local Groups develop community activities and programs that can be used locally and as working models for other communities when the effects of energy decline become more intense. The Relocalization strategy developed in response to the environmental, social, political and economic impacts of global over-reliance on cheap energy. Our dependence on cheap non-renewable fossil fuel energy has produced climate change, the erosion of community, wars for oil-rich land and the instability of the global economic system.

What is the Relocalization Network all about?

Don't Re-invent the Wheel

We support Local Groups by developing valuable resources, toolkits and project support to facilitate successful Relocalization efforts based on the experiences and expertise of other Local Groups. As part of the Network, groups and individuals have access to an online repository of resources on www.relocalize.net as well as toolkits and other resources by the Relocalization Network team.

Opportunities to Network

Much of the value of the Relocalization Network is the connections that are created between Local Post Carbon Groups. It is through these connections that most of the information sharing, project collaboration, resource pooling and valuable working relationships develop. Being part of this Network of Local Groups gives people the sense of working together for a better future: you are not alone in your concerns and in your work.

Online Global Connections

The Relocalization Network rests on a web-based communication system that allows Local Groups to share their ideas, information, experiences and best practices. Post Carbon Institute provides Local Groups with a suite of communication tools, including full access to customizable group websites hosted on www.relocalize.net, group email subscriptions, discussion forums, event calendars, community and personal blogging and events posting.

The Relocalization Network annual report team

The Relocalization Network Team



President

Julian Darley

Julian founded Post Carbon Institute in 2001 and is the author of *High Noon for Natural Gas*. He has spoken across Europe and N. America and continues to raise awareness about Relocalization.



Executive Director

Celine Rich

Celine has been working with Post Carbon Institute since its inception in 2001. She oversees the operations of Post Carbon Institute and its initiatives.



Relocalization Network Coordinator

Shelby Tay

Shelby coordinates the operations of the Relocalization Network, and works closely with the tech team to develop www.relocalize.net as an online hub for information sharing and collaboration.



Web Support Coordinator

Tim Whiteway

As Web Support Coordinator, Tim develops www.relocalize.net and is the go-to person for web and technical support. Tim also handles systems administration and upkeep for Post Carbon Institute's Vancouver office.



Technical Coordinator

Zoë Neill-St. Clair

Zoë is the Technical Coordinator for Post Carbon Institute, whose responsibilities include upgrading old websites, building new ones, and programming and customizing new tools for the websites.



Technology Manager

Mack Hardy

Mack's responsibilities range from managing the website, to handling all technical related issues across the entire organization. He also works strategically to oversee the application of new technologies for Post Carbon Institute programs and operations.

The Relocalization Network annual report timeline

2004



April

1st group in the Network –
Benecia-Vallejo Outpost

June

Post Carbon Institute drafts statement
on Global Relocalization and begins
work on a guidebook for Local Groups



April 2004

Post Carbon People

Marilyn Bardet initiated the Benecia and Vallejo group in April 2004, which became the first group in the Relocalization Network. She began by inviting Post Carbon Institute founder Julian Darley to give an informal talk about the implications of peak oil and gas. During this talk, given to about twenty people in her home, Julian outlined some of the key ways in which communities can reduce their energy use with the eventual aim of not using any non-renewable hydrocarbons. A month later, Post Carbon executive director Celine Rich was invited to give a workshop called "Eating Down the Food Web: Growing Local Food," and Julian gave a public lecture called "Blacking Out: the Great Power Denial."

Marilyn and her fellow group members began working on developing garden networks, a car co-op, and community currency. Other members began installing solar power systems and planning to replace their natural-gas fired heating systems.

June 2004

The First Guidebook

In the spring of 2004, Julian Darley, Celine Rich, and staffer David Room began drafting a guidebook for starting a group towards reducing their community's reliance on fossil fuels. The guidebook, contained information about relocalization, and outlined various projects that groups could undertake, including how to hold meetings, conduct community inventories, and hold film screenings.

The Relocalization Network annual report timeline

2005

January

Release of the Guidebook for Local Groups
(see previous page)

August

First Relocalization Network
Coordinator hired

20 groups in the Relocalization Network

October

Development Coordinator hired to raise
funds for Post Carbon Institute

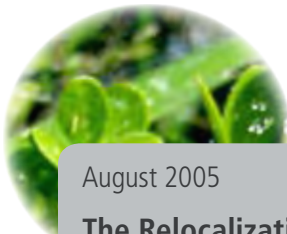
November

Post Carbon Institute Bay Area visit -
Bay Area Networking Meeting



December

56 Groups in the Relocalization Network
1st Coordinator Newsletter sent out
Franklin, New York passes peak oil
resolution (see p. 14)



August 2005

The Relocalization Network Grows

By August of 2005, there were 20 groups in the Relocalization Network - each with its own website on the www.postcarbon.org main site. Post Carbon Institute started featuring the work of Relocalization Network groups in the monthly Post Carbon Newsletter (see the online newsletter archive at www.postcarbon.org/publications/newsletter for past issues).

Post Carbon Institute began focusing its technical communications effort on developing a worldwide system to allow groups in the Relocalization Network to learn from each other, and to share and search for information about projects easily.

In August of 2005, Post Carbon Institute hired a Relocalization Network Coordinator to build connections within the Network and help new groups get started.

November 2005

Bay Area Networking Meeting

In mid-November, Julian Darley, Celine Rich and Liz McDowell (Development Coordinator) visited the San Francisco Bay Area in California. All group coordinators in the Bay Area were invited to meet and discuss current projects, challenges and plans for the Relocalization Network in 2006.



The Relocalization Network annual report timeline

2006

January

First interactive map by James A. Zack, see p. 26

February

83 groups in the Relocalization Network
Fundraising Toolkit for groups released, see p. 25

March

2nd Relocalization Network Coordinator hired
Outreach Toolkit released, see p. 25
1st Energy Farm Demonstration project launched at UBC farm (see www.energyfarms.net)
2nd Programmer hired
Peak Moment TV launched (see p. 11)

April

22

Groups in the Network organize events for Earth Day
San Francisco passes a Peak Oil Resolution, see p. 15

May

Post Carbon Institute becomes a registered charity with 501(c)3 status in the United States
Post Carbon Dublin co-hosts Convergence Festival, see p.18
Portland, Oregon passes Peak Oil Resolution, see p. 15

May 2006

Charitable Status

In May 2006, Post Carbon Institute received official charitable status from the Internal Revenue Service in the United States.

All contributions made by new and current Post Carbon supporters are tax deductible. All supporters who contribute \$100 or more per year will receive a tax receipt in the mail.

The Relocalization Network annual report timeline

- June
 - 100th group – Big Sur Powerdown, see p. 32
 - Website, www.relocalize.net, launched
 - Madison Peak Oil and RENEW organize the Midwest Renewable Energy Conference, see p. 19
- 9 BALLE Burlington, VT conference
- Vermont Groups networking meeting
- July
 - 19 Bloomington, Indiana passes peak oil resolution, see p. 16
- August
 - David Strongman “Routes to Relocalization” on the road project, see p. 10
 - Janaia Donaldson & Robyn Malgren – Peak Moment TV on the road, see p. 11
- September
 - Peak Moment TV visits Vancouver!
 - Resource section added to relocalize.net, see p. 26
 - Film Screening Guide released, see p. 25
- October
 - 1st Relocalize Newsletter issue, see p.##
- 17 Oakland, California passes Peak Oil Resolution, see p. 16
- November
 - A Guide For Relocalizing Our Communities* released, see p. 25
- December
 - Web Support Coordinator hired



June 2006

Vermont Networking Meeting

With Julian Darley’s speaking engagement in Burlington, Vermont at the BALLE (Business Alliance for Local Living Economies) conference at the beginning of June, the Network Coordinators organized a regional networking meeting between Julian and the Local Groups in Vermont.



The Relocalization Network annual report on the road projects

> On the Road Projects

David Strongman - The "Routes of Relocalization"

The Relocalization Network supported David Strongman's project and trip, the "Routes of Relocalization", where he visited Local Post Carbon Groups along the Northwest Coast of the United States. David documented his travels, capturing his experiences and personal encounters through photography and audio recordings that he is editing into a multi media representation of experiences of members in the Relocalization Network.

David visited several communities along the way including in Bellingham WA, Orcas Island WA, Portland OR, Astoria OR, Ashland OR, San Francisco CA, Oakland CA, and Willits CA. You can read all about David's trip through his travel blog at www.relocalize.net/davidstrongman.

"The 'Routes of Relocalization' is a journey about the people and places that make up the Relocalization network. Because the structure of the network exists entirely on the internet, I felt it was necessary to move outside of the box and communicate directly with the people that form the backbone of the Relocalization groups, those that who committed to make a real change in their communities, inspiring us to redefine our relationship with energy, nurture new relationships with our neighbors and celebrate the diversity of life that we've been entrusted with on this planet.

It was an honour to share in the lives of a diverse range on individuals who, through a series of one-on-one interviews, shared their thoughts on living life on a planet dependent on fossil fuels for its survival. Their stories provide the context, my photography became a tool for dialogue.

Starting May 1st, 2007, we'll be officially launching 'The Routes of Relocalization,' the first in a series of photo essays presented on relocalize.net, showcasing the groups that I photographed from Bellingham to Berkeley. I'm excited to share these photographs with the Network as it will be the first time that the show will be presented to the public and is a great opportunity for me to honour those that helped me along the way.

Thanks to you all, and to the Post Carbon Institute whose continued support on this project is greatly appreciated."

- David Strongman



The Relocalization Network annual report on the road projects

Peak Moment Television “On the Road”

The Peak Moment Television program is a project of Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Local Economy (APPLE) Nevada CA, a Local Group in the Relocalization Network. Peak Moment TV grew out of the passion of two women who helped found APPLE Nevada, Janaia Donaldson and Robyn Mallgren, to document the work being done in communities to prepare for peak oil and climate crisis. They have filmed over 138 episodes to date.

In 2006, Janaia and Robyn made 4 trips along the Pacific coast and visited 28 communities in the Network between Santa Barbara, CA and Vancouver, B.C. Janaia and Robyn worked with the Relocalization Network Coordinators to plan the logistics of their trips and connect with Local Groups along the way.

In August, Janaia and Robyn visited Vancouver, B.C. and Post Carbon Institute at the northern point of their journey up the Northwest coast. We had a wonderful visit and talked about their trip, ideas and goals for the Relocalization Network, and their plans for Peak Moment Television.

Visit Janaia’s blog at:

www.relocalize.net/peakmomenttravels



Photo: Janaia and Robyn in Portland, Oregon (photo taken by Daniel Lerch)

We’re very grateful for the generous support of Peak Moment from Post Carbon Institute: Julian Darley and Celine Rich for hosting our programs on Global Public Media, Sarah Smith and Shelby Tay of the Relocalization Network for emailing Network coordinators along our route, to introduce us and our project. They also set up a “Peak Moment Travels” blog, where Janaia wrote about our travels as we journeyed along. The icing on the cake was to meet all the dedicated folks like Sarah and Shelby in the Post Carbon office, and for Julian and Celine to generously host us at their home in Vancouver.

The good news is that in every community we found far more to videotape than we could handle. The relocalization/sustainability movement is larger than we had imagined (though quietly at work). We met so many caring people deeply concerned for the future, actively reflecting and working to create the change they see is needed in the world. We feel deeply inspired by all these change agents—permaculturists, car-sharers, biofuels producers, recyclers, peak oil and sustainability activists. You’ll meet them in our Peak Moment Conversations.

- Janaia & Robyn



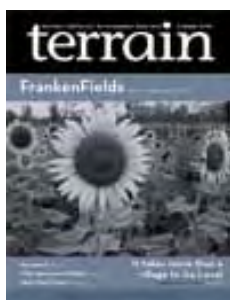
Peak Moment Conversations are half-hour conversations and tours. They can be seen or heard on www.globalpublicmedia.com, as well as www.peakmoment.tv and YouTube (peak moment channel). The Conversations are cablecast on about 20 community-access TV stations nationwide, and many of the local producers are Network members. Peak Moment also produces longer Specials available on DVD, such as presentations by Richard Heinberg, Steve Andrews, Guy Dauncey and David Korten.

The Relocalization Network annual report media

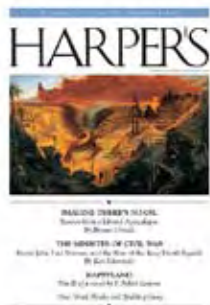
> Local Groups in the News

The Relocalization Network and Local Groups around the world received attention from many media sources over during 2006, including the publications below. The Relocalization Network is also regularly featured on *Energy Bulletin*.

Energy Bulletin



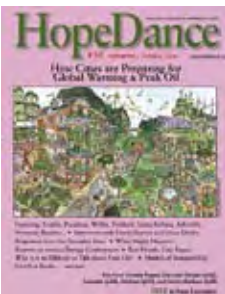
"Twenty-first century quandary: I think long and hard about driving an hour and a half north, guzzling fossil fuels, to learn about the Powerdown Project. Led by peak oil expert Richard Heinberg and project coordinator Ellen Bicheler from the Post-Carbon Institute, the project consists of an in-depth internship for four New College of California students...The project has gone far beyond a few-hour-a-week class commitment: it has become a life-study that demands high investments of time, energy, and motivation." (*Powering Up for Powering Down, City by City* by Trilby DuPont, *Terrain Magazine*, Summer 2006)



"The Post-Carbon Institute, on the Left Coast in Eugene, Oregon, keeps a list of groups participating in the localization revolution. A full 84 organizations are listed at www.postcarbon.org/groups, and about a third of those listed—and others too shy to court publicity on Post-Carbon's web site—came to a conference in Mendocino County, again in wild weather, on a snowy weekend in April. The conference was hosted by WELL—Willits Economic Localization—and it drew a couple hundred people from thirty active sustainable groups. Representatives came from Washington state, Ashland, Oregon, Monterey County, Mt. Shasta, Benicia, Santa Rosa, Sacramento, Sebastapol, Nevada City, Sacramento, San Francisco, and others. It was the first time these grassroots groups had come together in a conference setting, and it marked an important shift: while the focus for each group remains local, participants could sense the revolution is gelling as a movement while it also picks up speed, progressing from a baby crawl to a fast, chaotic toddle." (*The YIMBY Revolution* by Linnea Due, *Terrain Magazine*, Summer 2006)



"The "Relocalization Network," ...is one of several groupings of activists trying to swear off fossil fuels. The network has 128 local groups so far, mainly in the US, that create communities for a postcarbon world by such actions as Internet-linked car sharing, buying only local foods, walking and biking more often to destinations and, overall, reducing personal consumption." (*The Monitor's View*, from the November 01, 2006, "Cooling the planet at the gas roots.")



The Relocalization Network annual report local government actions

> Local Government Actions

Over the past year, there has been a significant shift toward government acknowledgement of peak oil and climate change, and their pending impact on cities. Europe is ahead of the curve, with both municipalities and national governments re-thinking planning policies in order to prepare for the post-oil economy.

In the United States and Canada, a growing number of local governments are responding to these challenges as well. Oakland CA, Burnaby BC, and Bloomington IN, are just some of the municipalities that have either conducted studies or called for task forces to study their energy vulnerabilities.

For more information about helping your locality prepare for peak oil and climate change, visit www.relocalize.net/resources/governance.

Post Carbon Cities Program

In March 2007, Post Carbon Institute launched the Post Carbon Cities program to help cities respond to the challenges posed by energy and climate uncertainty. The program provides technical assistance and resources to the people who work with and for local governments, from elected officials and staff to consultants and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The Post Carbon Cities website at www.postcarboncities.net provides daily updates on news, policy tools and other resources related to local government actions on peak oil and global warming. Post Carbon Cities will be releasing a guidebook for local government officials and staff in the U.S. and Canada. "*Post Carbon Cities: Planning for Energy and Climate Uncertainty*" explains the relevance of peak oil and global warming to local needs and concerns, and presents case studies of previous municipal actions as well as resources for developing local responses.



The Relocalization Network

annual report peak oil resolutions

Franklin, New York

On December 6, 2005, Franklin, NY, with a population of 2500, became the first town in the United States to pass a peak oil resolution. The passing of the Peak Oil Resolution by the Franklin Town Board to establish a Citizens' Commission on local impacts of peak oil was made possible largely due to the efforts of peak oil activist Gene Marner.

Town of Franklin in Upstate New York

by Gene Marner

I went to the Town Board (in NY State a town is a division of a county, not a municipality) at the November meeting to tell them that I thought we should have a citizens' commission on Peak Oil. Over the past five years, I had come to at least one of the monthly Board meetings each year to tell them we had to start talking about Peak Oil. But I never before offered anything specific to do. At the November meeting, I left each of the Board members with the 8-page synopsis of Richard Heinberg's *The Party's Over*. A week before the December meeting, I wrote them a letter and said I would come to the meeting and ask them to authorize a Citizens' Commission, told them it wouldn't cost anything and they would have no obligation to follow our advice. With that letter I included a copy of Rob Hopkins' article on the Kinsale Energy Descent Plan and a copy of the Tompkins County Relocalization Project outline. I didn't show them the resolution until the day of the meeting and, frankly, didn't think of writing one myself until a couple of days ahead of time. I realized, however, that I needed to make this as simple as possible for them and as advantageous as possible for us. So I wrote a resolution that had a bit of an argument and proposed some action. It really has no binding legal force but, for the local citizens, it will I hope give us a little more credibility and legitimacy.

It was approved on Tuesday, December 6, 2006. The following morning, I sent out a press release to all the local papers and radio stations. I have a very extensive press list because we run a theatre here in the summers. So far, I'm only aware of one radio station that interviewed me for the morning news but I'll be watching out for the newspapers. My object in sending out the press release was not to blow my own horn but to encourage other communities to go and do likewise.

You should understand that the Town of Franklin is an economically depressed, very rural area, with quite low population density. The Town probably has a population of around 2,600. Within the Town lies the Village of Franklin with a population of about 425. Until about 20 years ago, just about everyone's work was connected in one way or another with dairy farming or, if it wasn't, they had grown up in it. Now there are fewer farmers (but still quite a bit of milk being produced) but there are many who still have skills that will be useful post-Peak Oil.

The Relocalization Network annual report peak oil resolutions

San Francisco, California

San Francisco Oil Awareness (www.sfbayoil.org) successfully lobbied the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to pass a Peak Oil Resolution for the city of San Francisco. The Board voted unanimously to pass the resolution on April 11, 2006. The following is a short article about the San Francisco resolution originally featured in the April 2006 issue of the Post Carbon newsletter.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors Passes Peak Oil Resolution

Members of San Francisco Oil Awareness, a Local Post Carbon Group, successfully lobbied the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to unanimously pass a peak oil resolution. The resolution, passed on April 11, 2006, acknowledges the threats posed by peak oil and calls for the establishment of a city-wide study to assess San Francisco's vulnerability to peak oil. Due to the persistence and dedication of the members of this Local Post Carbon Group, San Francisco has become the first city in the United States to formally address this issue. The results of the study will indicate possible policies the city may adopt to reduce the impacts of energy supply disruptions and price shocks on San Francisco. The Resolution is available online at www.sfbayoil.org/sfoa/media/resolution_to_board.pdf.

Interviews on this resolution with members of San Francisco Oil Awareness are available online at www.globalpublicmedia.com.

Portland, Oregon

Portland Peak Oil (www.portlandpeakoil.org) lobbied its City Council to pass a Peak Oil Resolution to establish a Task Force on Peak Oil implications. The resolution passed unanimously on 10 May 2006 and called for the establishment of a Peak Oil Task Force to "develop recommendations on appropriate responses to uncertainties in the supply and affordability of oil."

The task force final report was accepted unanimously by the City Council on 7 March 2007. The report included eleven recommendations, including setting a goal of reducing fossil fuel use by 50% by 2032. Visit the Portland Office of Sustainable Development's Peak Oil Task Force page (<http://www.portlandonline.com/osd/index.cfm?c=42894>) to download the report, key resolutions and other valuable background materials



The Relocalization Network annual report peak oil resolutions

Bloomington, Indiana

On July 19th 2006, Bloomington, Indiana joined the list of forward-thinking municipalities to have passed Peak Oil Resolutions. The resolution was developed by Bloomingpeak: Bloomington's Peak Oil Community Awareness Project (www.bloomingpeak.com).

Bloomington is the 7th largest city in Indiana, and has a population of 70,000 residents plus a 40,000 student population. The resolution supports a global depletion protocol, like the one drafted by Colin Campbell and Richard Heinberg.

The passing of the resolution was featured on *EnergyBulletin*:
<http://www.energybulletin.net/18476.html>

Oakland, California

On October 17 2006, the Oakland City Council unanimously passed legislation, sponsored by Councilmember Nancy Nadel, making Oakland the first city in the U.S. to aim for oil independence by 2020.

Reporting within six months of formation, an Oakland task force composed of local, regional, and national experts will develop a robust oil independence plan, consolidating measures from around the world that can be used locally to reduce oil consumption citywide. This action plan will include bold initiatives to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, establish Oakland as a national leader in the green economy and green jobs creation, and secure Oakland's energy needs.

The Relocalization Network annual report events

> 2006 Conferences & Events

Local Groups have been active organizing and participating in conferences, focusing on relocalization. If you are interested in volunteering at an upcoming event on behalf of Post Carbon Institute and the Relocalization Network, contact us at network@postcarbon.org!

WELL Regional Localization Networking Conference, Willits, CA.



Willits Economic LocalIzation (WELL), a Local Post Carbon Group working out of Willits, California, is one of the most established and influential groups in the Relocalization Network, and is frequently used as a model by many other groups within and beyond the Relocalization Network. In April, WELL hosted a conference with the goal of advancing economic localization efforts through sharing best practices; developing a communications strategy to connect with the general public, business community, and political leaders; and working on enhancing regional communication between groups.

The focus of this conference was on sharing ideas among those working to implement a transition to greater community self-reliance. Keynote speakers included Julian Darley and Celine Rich, founders of Post Carbon Institute, and David A. Schaller, Sustainable Development Coordinator in the Denver Regional Office of the US Environmental Protection Agency. The event was a big success, with over 120 attendees from 30 groups participating in presentations, brainstorming and networking sessions.

The video of the Regional Localization Network Conference sponsored by Willits Economic LocalIzation (WELL) is available as a 3-DVD set. For more details and information visit www.relocalize.net/rlnc/videos.



The Relocalization Network annual report events



Local Solutions to the Energy Dilemma

April 27-29, 2006 in NYC

Peak Oil Conference

New York City, NY - April 27-29, 2006

Over 40 local and national experts gathered to discuss how New York City can prepare for higher energy prices, and begin our transition to a low-energy, sustainable society, while slowing global warming. The event was sponsored by Peak Oil NYC, a local group in the Relocation network. See <http://www.energy-solutionsconference.org> for details.

Convergence 11th Sustainable Living Festival

'Learning to Live without Oil'

Dublin, Ireland - April 19-23, 2006

The Post Carbon Dublin group co-hosted the 11th Annual Convergence Festival, a 5-day festival with the theme 'Learning to Live without Oil' in Dublin, Ireland. The conference focused on the convergence of challenges, most particularly global warming and peak oil, that have brought us to a point where we now need to act decisively and to "rethink how we use energy." This could mean a healthier, more fulfilling and ethical way of life that values efficiency, community and sustainability. There was no shortage of ideas about what to do to reduce the demand for oil. The Convergence Festival was a great success, and the recent oil price spike ensured that it made the national news.

For more information about this annual event, visit www.sustainable.ie/convergence.



The Relocalization Network annual report events

BOULDER VALLEY RELOCALIZATION

Boulder Valley Community Conference & Relocalization Resource Expo

Boulder Valley, Colorado, USA - January 14, 2006

On January 14, 2006, The Boulder Valley Relocalization (BVR) hosted an all-day event on the University of Colorado campus to increase community preparedness for the challenges and opportunities of the energy crisis. The event informed citizens about options for achieving long-term community self-reliance in energy, food and economy. The Relocalization Resource Expo was a major part of the day-long event, featuring tools, information, products, practitioners, organizations, citizen group, co-ops, companies, city/county government agencies, authors, artists, media producers and publications that help citizens prepare for the coming energy crisis.

Keynote speakers included Julian Darley, author of *High Noon for Natural Gas: The New Energy Crisis* and founder of Post Carbon Institute and Global Public Media; and Boulder's own Dr. Albert Bartlett, Professor Emeritus of Physics, University of Colorado. See www.boulderrelocalization.org for more info.

Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Fair

Madison, Wisconsin, USA - June 23-25, 2006

On June 23rd to 25th, 2006, the Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) put on the Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Fair, held at the ReNew the Earth Institute, MREA's educational facility, in Custer, WI. The Fair offered over 100 workshops presented by experts from across the US, working demonstrations of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and products that help consumers save money, save energy, and protect the environment.

Madison Peak Oil participated in the organization of the Fair in collaboration with RENEW Wisconsin.

For more information, please visit www.the-mrea.org/energy_fair.php, email Ed Blume, the group coordinator for Madison Peak Oil, at eblume@renewwisconsin.org, or visit their website at www.relocalize.net/groups/madison.



The Relocalization Network annual report events

Energy Festival - Pine Mountain Club

Pine Mountain, California, USA - November 4, 2006

Pine Mountain Club, CA, held an Energy Festival on November 4th featuring exhibits of various forms of alternative energy solutions as well as panels on a variety of energy-saving efforts from co-op shopping to ride-sharing and planting permaculture gardens.

A small mountain community of 2500 surrounded by National Forest, Pine Mountain Club is dependent primarily upon propane to heat local homes and residents must drive 30 minutes to an hour for most services. The *Let's Live Local* Post-Carbon group was involved in supporting the local Planning Committee to undertake this project and participated in organizing and putting on the event. For more information contact Sarah Edwards, 661 242-2624 or email sedwards@frazmtn.com

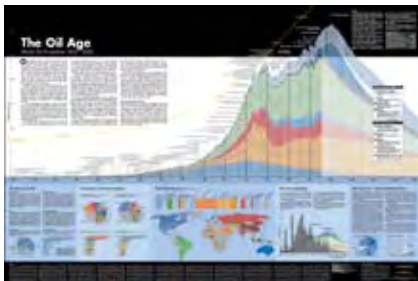


Solar Living Institute - SolFest 2006, 11th Annual Event

Hopland, California - August 19-20, 2006

San Francisco Post Carbon participated in this year's SolFest. Hosted by the Solar Living Institute, the festival is a weekend of world-class music, speakers and workshops in Hopland, California.

This year's lineup of panels and speakers focused on alternative fuels, with experts discussing pros and cons of biodiesel, hydrogen, ethanol and electric vehicles and renewable energy technologies and policy.



Richard Katz and Michael Poremba of the San Francisco Post Carbon group set up a booth on behalf of Post Carbon Institute and gave out information, sold copies of the Oil Age poster (a project of the group), and showcased their homemade solar oven!

The Relocalization Network annual report events

10th Annual Northwest Permaculture and Bioregional Gathering

'Creating a sustainable culture'

Eugene, Oregon, USA - August 25-27, 2006

Post Carbon Eugene and the Eugene Permaculture Guild held their 10th Annual Northwest Permaculture and Bioregional Gathering in Eugene, Oregon. The Gathering, August 25th to 27th, featured workshops, panel discussions and presentations and delicious meals and opportunities to network.

The Gathering's primary goal was to facilitate the creation of region-wide networks based on particular interests such as local food security, "people's" media, human potential, urban land use, rural land use, small town and rural networking, health and well-being, Social Forestry, renewable energy, relocalizing the economy, water issues and eco-building. In order to facilitate this networking the group designed a "Connecting Exchange" center that connected people based on common interest and geography.

For more information or to view the schedule, please visit Eugene Permaculture Guild's website at www.eugenepermacultureguild.com.



OCTOBER 26-27, 2006 BOSTON, MA USA GSU, 775 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE BOSTON UNIVERSITY

ASPO-USA **2006 Boston World Oil Conference**
TIME FOR ACTION: A MIDNIGHT RIDE FOR PEAK OIL

Center for Energy and Environmental Studies

CO-SPONSORED BY ASPO-USA AND BOSTON UNIVERSITY

2006 Boston World Oil Conference

Boston, Massachusetts - October 26-27, 2006

The Association for the Study of Peak Oil-USA (ASPO-USA) and Boston University's Center for Energy and Environmental Studies (CEES) co-sponsored the 2006 World Oil Conference, Time for Action: A Midnight Ride for Peak Oil, on the BU campus October 25-27, 2006 to explore the critical role that net-energy analysis should play in future policy decisions.. The Conference brought energy experts from around the world to discuss the likely timing, impacts, and intelligent responses to the growing Peak Oil challenge. Speakers came from the U.S. and Canada, as well as Europe, the Middle East and South America. Julian Darley of Post Carbon Institute, and Post Carbon Fellow and author, Richard Heinberg both spoke at the conference. For Conference details, please visit the ASPO USA website.

Ron Slabaugh, Coordinator of Addison County Relocalization Network (ACoRN) and Carl Etnier of the Vermont Peak Oil Network ran a volunteer table for the Relocalization Network at the conference. Over the course of the three-day event, they spoke with many people in the peak oil community, and attended presentations. Ron Slabaugh was kind enough to write up a report in which he reflected on his experiences at the conference. To read his full report, visit www.relocalize.net/asporeport06.

The Relocalization Network annual report events

The Sustainable Lifestyles Symposium

Burlington, Ontario, Canada - August 20-25, 2006

Sustainable Burlington, a Local Post Carbon Group, co-sponsored a symposium on personally and locally, for a low energy world.

The Sustainable Lifestyles Symposium Sunday August 20th - Friday 25th offered attendees three different tracks for morning sessions: Sensible Downshifting, Technology to the Rescue, and Building Lifeboats. The event included internet access, speakers (some by teleconference), demonstration projects, films, community building interludes and optional field trips. The program provided interactive and experiential learning that allowed participants to prepare for their scenario for the future. For speakers, topics, projects and timetable, see www.sustainablelifestyles.ca or read about it in the Burlington Post.



Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Local Economy

Reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and building the local economy

"Whatcha Gonna Drive?" for a Sustainable World

Nevada City, California, USA - November 19, 2006

On Sunday, November 19, at the Center for the Arts in downtown Grass Valley, APPLE of Nevada County (Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Local Economy), a Local Post Carbon Group, hosted a two-part fundraising event. First, the free Post-Petroleum Car and Bike show, displayed plug-in hybrids, several electric cars, all types of bikes, segways, multi-fuel vehicles, and some unique inventions. There were also a portable biodiesel plant and local biodiesel suppliers at the event.

Along with the car show, there were a series of demonstrations and workshops by local and nationally recognized experts. Topics included: Plug-In Hybrids – What's Under the Hood; Land Use and Biofuel Ethics; The Fine Points of Owning and Maintaining an Electric Car; What's Coming from the Big Automakers; and The Benefits of People-Powered Transportation.

In the evening, the APPLE Nevada group presented "Fueling the Future." Two dynamic speakers, fuel-cell researcher Glenn Rambach and Executive Director of the Biodiesel Council of California, Kimber Holmes, gave illustrated presentations. They discussed why we are on the brink of a massive change in personal transportation and reviewed the technologies that will enable us to make a sustainable transition. They also explored how much we will need to alter our consumption habits in the coming decades. More details on the program and ticket information is posted at www.apple-nc.org/coming_events.html

The Relocalization Network annual report pilot projects

>Pilot Projects

TimeBanks Pilot Project

In the fall of 2006, Post Carbon Institute sponsored a Relocalization Network group for a one-year subscription to TimeBanks USA as part of a pilot project to test run TimeBanks USA's new Community Weaver online software for time tracking and exchange. Worldwide, time banks are an exciting effort to strengthen local communities by creating a service-based local currency. Project Port Lyttelton, in New Zealand, will be participating in our TimeBanks Pilot Project, which was first presented in the October 2006 issue of *Relocalize*.



The goal of this pilot project is to allow other groups to learn from the experiences of Project Port Lyttelton with a Timebank. The project will run from February 2007 to February 2008. You will find monthly updates and reports from Project Port Lyttelton on their website at www.relocalize.net/groups/ppl as they experiment with this project. Stay tuned!

Regional Coordinator Pilot Project

In November of 2006, Andi Hazelwood joined our team for as the Relocalization Network Australasian Regional Coordinator. This new three-month Regional Coordinator position was created as part of a pilot project designed to give the Relocalization Network an on the ground presence in regions where there is a concentration of Local Groups and Relocalization activity. We are in the process of developing the position further and are considering creating similar positions in other regions.

Andi has been a part of the Post Carbon Institute since June of 2004, when she first volunteered to edit audio for Global Public Media. Since that time she's taken on a wide range of responsibilities with the various Post Carbon initiatives.

Now living in Queensland Australia, Andi recently started her own local Post Carbon group, called Relocalisation Works in the Burnett Inland (RWBI), with Chérie McGregor. In their first weeks, the RWBI co-coordinators had written a prospectus, partnered with the Relocalization Network and Foresters ANA, and received personal endorsements from Richard Heinberg and David Holmgren.



Chérie and Andi's ambitious beginnings have inspired the creation of a number of other local Post Carbon Groups in Australia, and we are grateful for all of her wonderful contributions towards developing the Relocalization Network initiative. Thanks Andi!

Read Andi's blog at
www.relocalize.net/blog/Andi_Hazelwood

The Relocalization Network annual report regional meetings

> Regional Networking Meetings

Northern California Post Carbon Network

A Model for Regional Networking

The Northern California Post Carbon Network is a network of coordinators of Local Groups in the Northern California region. They met for the first time on February 4th, 2006. The purpose of the meeting was to determine how a network of groups can most effectively share resources, information, and experiences with the overall goal of supporting regional relocalization efforts.

These are informal meetings for coordinators to meet one another and to share information on what their group are working on and challenges that they have encountered. The meetings also focus on developing strategies on how the local groups can support each other by sharing resources and information and collaborating on projects.

At the first meeting on February 4th, 2006, meeting participants agreed on the need to develop the following:

- Relocalization strategies for densely populated urban areas
- Greater networks for sharing resources, experiences, ideas, and best practices
- Greater collaboration on organizing events, such as community festivals
- Creating online communication strategies between groups to allow for greater participation while reducing the need for travel

The Northern California Post Carbon Network met again on May 20, 2006 and on September 30, 2006, and continue to include as many groups working on the issues of energy vulnerability and global warming, as possible.

If you'd like to know more about the Northern California Post Carbon Network, or about organizing a Network meeting in your community, contact Deborah Lindsay at decal@deborahlindsay.com.



The Relocalization Network annual report resources

Resources

Fundraising Toolkit

The fundraising toolkit was the first toolkit developed by the Relocalization Network team in response to interest expressed by groups in the Network. The first version of the toolkit was released in the fall of 2005 and subsequent versions have been released since. The toolkit was designed to help Local Post Carbon Groups develop fundraising skills, and includes guidelines on writing grant applications, receiving pledges for donations, and developing lifelong relationships with donors. To download the toolkit online, along with sample letters and templates, visit www.relocalize.net/resources.

Outreach Toolkit

In March of 2006, the Relocalization Network team put together an educational resource toolkit, to help groups gear up and organize activities for the upcoming April 22 United Nations Earth Day. The toolkit includes one-page handouts on various relocalization projects and strategies, information about the Relocalization Network and Post Carbon Institute and fact sheets on peak oil and the ramifications of our over-reliance on cheap energy.

Film Screening Guide

The Film Screening Guide is a collection of information on how to hold a film screening event. The guide can be downloaded along with flyer templates and other sample promotional materials under the resource section of www.relocalize.net. If you have a film to add to the list, let us know!

A Guide for Relocalizing our Communities

In November of 2006, the Resource section on relocalize.net expanded with the addition of a *Guide for Relocalizing our Communities*, a compilation of project guides on topics such as film screenings, gardening, gleaning projects, car-sharing, and running for municipal office.

To download the project guides and post your comments online, visit the website at www.relocalize.net/guide. We want your feedback! If you have any suggestions for scripts that you would like to see developed, contact us.



The Relocalization Network annual report on the web

Relocalize.net

Our goal on the web is to provide Local Post Carbon Groups with the tools and resources necessary to work towards a successful Relocalization strategy in their communities. These tools and resources include online communication tools and web space, toolkits and templates, monthly e-newsletters, and the annual Relocalization Network Report. Relocalize.net is the virtual hub of the Relocalization Network. Launched in May of 2006, relocalize.net allows group members to post events, news and personal blogs and search for useful resources posted by other members of the Relocalization Network.

Interactive Maps

James A. Zack, Coordinator of Sustainable Saratoga Springs (see page) in New York, has graciously provided his graphic design services since February of 2006 to put together an interactive map of groups in the Relocalization Network. This map indicates the location of each of the Post Carbon Local Groups. By clicking on the location you are interested in, you are immediately linked to the webpage of that group! We thank James Zack for all of his hard work on the creation and development of the map.



Resource Library

In the summer of 2006, we put together the resource section of Relocalize.net with listings of books, articles, reports, and links to online resources relating to aspects of relocalization and group development, including governance, food systems, transportation, production and manufacturing, currency, built environment, and culture.

Monthly e-newsletters

The Relocalize Newsletter is a monthly publication of the Relocalization Network. The first issue of the newsletter was released in October, 2006. The newsletter includes upcoming news and events and information about Local Group activities, Relocalization Network projects, the relocalize.net website and ways to get involved with the network. The Relocalization Network Newsletter keeps subscribers stay current and connected with the growing Relocalization Network community. Browse through past issues of the Relocalize newsletter online at www.relocalize.net/newsletter.

The Relocalization Network annual report web statistics

Web Statistics

Since the website, www.relocalize.net, was launched in June of 2006, the number of hits to the site has steadily risen. In December the average number of hits per day was over 20,500, with over 13,000 unique visitors to the site over the course of the month.

Below in Fig. 1 is a graph of the number of visitors (dark shading) and the number of visits (light shading) from the launch of the site in June, until December.

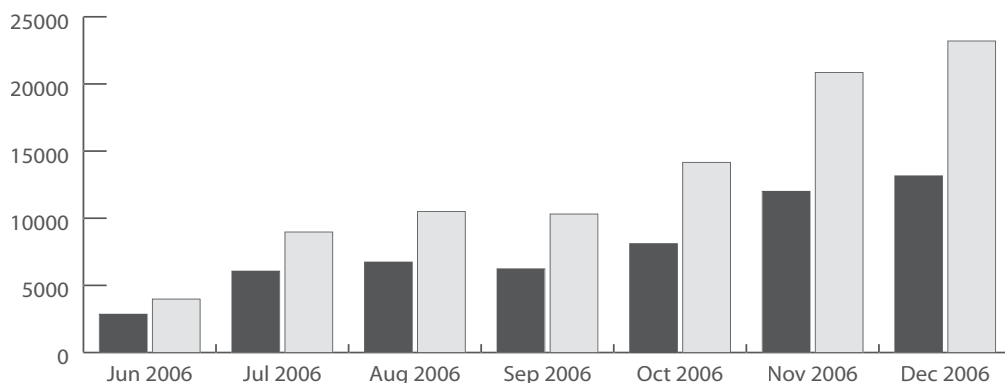


Fig. 1. Graph of the total number of visitors (dark shading) and the number of visits (light shading) per month from June to December, 2006.

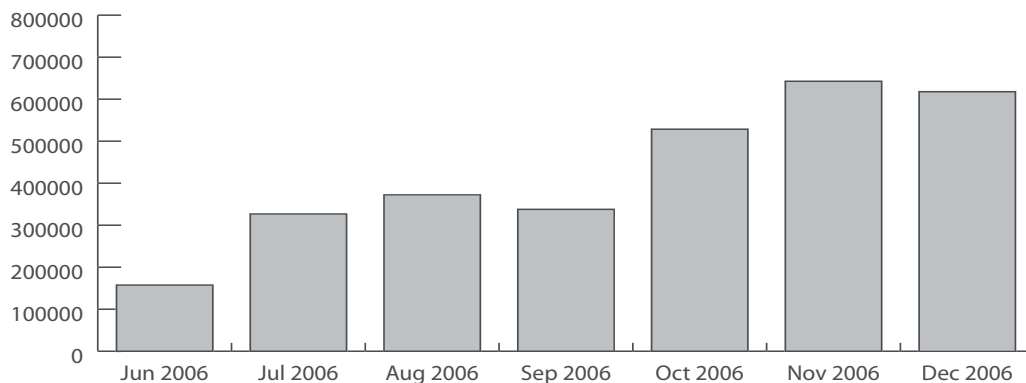


Fig. 2. Graph of the total number of hits per month from June to December, 2006.



The Relocalization Network annual report goals for 2007

Our Goals for 2007

- Improve the functionality and customizability of the group features on the Relocalization Network website.
 - » New groups site module with customizable menus, layout, and themes
 - » Advanced RSS feeds
 - » Increase active participation in the Network and encourage a greater degree of documentation, communication and feedback.
- Provide more direct support and useful resources for Local Post Carbon Groups.
 - » More personal communication with the Network Team
 - » Create additional toolkits and templates
- Facilitate stronger connections between groups in similar geographic areas by organizing more regional networking events.
- Provide fiscal sponsorship for Local Groups and projects that do not have their own tax-exempt status.

Feedback

Online Surveys

We would like to extend a big thank you to all the Relocalization Network Coordinators who participated in our 2006 online surveys.

Your feedback is invaluable in helping us continue to improve the services that Post Carbon Institute provides.

If you have any questions or comments, please email us at network@postcarbon.org.



The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Group Profiles

The following pages are a compilation of reports submitted by groups that highlight the work that they have done over the past year.

Thank you to everyone for their contributions for this report!

Contributing groups:

Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Local Economy (APPLE)- Nevada, CA

Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Local Economy (APPLE) - Shasta, CA

Big Sur Powerdown

Central Ohio Relocalization Effort (CORE)

Chatham-Kent Oil Age Planning Group (CKOAP)

Earth Charter Lifeboat Academy of Pennsylvania (ECLA PA)

Energy Forum of Western Pennsylvania

Garden Route Energy Emergency Action Network (GREEAN)

Leeds Sustainability Network

Peak Oil NYC

Philadelphia Organic Democracy

Post Carbon Ithaca

Post-Carbon London

Post Carbon Salt Lake

Post Carbon Toronto

Sustainable Burlington

Sustainable Monterey County - Beyond Peak Oil

Sustainable Saratoga Springs

Sustainable Thornbury

Sydney NS (Canada) Post Carbon Group

Titanic Lifeboat Academy

Willits Economic Localization (WELL)



The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Economy (APPLE)

Nevada County, California, USA

Joined the Network:

July, 2005

Websites:

<http://www.apple-nc.org>
<http://apple.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinator:

Janaia Donaldson

Contact email:

info@apple-nc.org

Our Mission: *Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Local Economy is working to reduce dependency on fossil fuels, and to promote a more self-reliant local economy in Nevada County, California.*

Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Local Economy is a grassroots group concerned about the repercussions of declining oil and natural gas in Nevada county. APPLE is a local forum where citizens are gathering to develop practical solutions to the challenges ahead. Our vision is a more self-reliant, sustainable local economy which is localized — the opposite of globalized: we produce locally what we consume locally.

People are beginning to inventory local resources for energy, transportation, food and water, preparedness, and the economy. We are sharing information and envisioning alternatives in electrical power sources, locally-grown foods, transportation, and innovations by like-minded groups in other areas.

APPLE is beginning to build alliances with local organizations, government, and businesses to share information and engage other groups in creating their own local sustainable solutions.

This year, we have emphasized public education, local government resolutions, and climate change issues. We launched The Clean Power Co-op, helped form a Local Food Coalition, helped birth the Peak Moment TV show, and sponsored large alternative car & bike show/expo. We hold monthly Town Hall events and support other groups with similar goals.

Also, we are applying for 501(c)(3) status.



Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Local Economy

Reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and building the local economy

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Local Economy

Mount Shasta, California, USA

Active since:

February, 2006

Joined the Network:

April, 2006

Website:

<http://www.apple-shasta.org>

<http://www.feedmtshasta.org>

Group Coordinators:

Molly Brown, John Roshek & Donald Noback

Our intention is to envision and build a viable local economy in the Mount Shasta region, centered in cooperative production of the essentials for life. We see the twin challenges of peak oil and global climate change as opportunities to reshape our communities, and establish meaningful relationships with our neighbors, based on shared work, interdependence, and responsibility for our own lives and the common good.

Our primary focus has been creating a community garden; we obtained 1/3 acre of land through the Parks and Recreation Department, and cleared the area. We are now meeting to plan how the garden will be governed and organized.

We have put on a few of public events with videos (The End of Suburbia and The Power of Community) and discussions. We hosted a presentation by Janaia Donaldson of Peak Moments video. One public event focused on creating bike paths and lanes in the City of Mount Shasta, and was very well attended.

A couple of us have attended meetings of the City Planning Commission and have contributed ideas to the Draft General Plan revisions now underway. Some of the ideas will be included in the DGP presented to the City Council.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Big Sur Powerdown

Big Sur, California, United States

Active since:

2006

Joined the Network:

2006

Website:

<http://bigsur.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinators:

Randall Wallace, Linda Parker, Juliet Johnson & Richard Mathis

Our group began in June of 2006. We named ourselves Big Sur Powerdown after Richard Heinberg's Peak Oil term Powerdown. We began our grassroots movement with guest speaker events at the Henry Miller Library on Highway One in Big Sur. Our first event hosted Michael Poremba of East Bay Peak Oil and Pierre Chomat author of "Oil Addiction, The World in Peril." Our second event hosted Julian Darley Founder of Post Carbon Institute and Jerry Mander Author of "Four Arguments for the Elimination of Television," possibly his most well known book. Our third event hosted Brian Weller of Willits Economic Localization. We ended the summer speaker's series with Richard Heinberg author of "Powerdown." Through these series of speakers we all got an education on Peak Oil and enrolled our community to join our group.

We now have monthly community meetings at our local Grange Hall which are wonderful opportunities to share information such as Fruit Tree Grafting, learning to make Olive Oil Lamps, sharing recipes for Sour Dough Starter and more! We have Powerdown Movie Night at the Grange twice a month. We show thought provoking films such as "Crude Impact," and "The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil." We have about 30 members in our group who show up regularly at our meetings. We have plans for a Powerdown Green Music Festival in October of 2007. Many in our Big Sur community are embracing our group with enthusiasm and passion, while another part of the community is observing us with a sense of hopeful optimism. The enthusiasm in our community for Big Sur Powerdown's message has been dramatic. We look forward to our second year.

Our Mission Statement: *Big Sur Powerdown is our community cooperating and communicating to address diminishing natural resources and climate change by applying strategies for relocalizing our resources, reducing fossil fuel dependency and having fun while doing it.*

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Central Ohio Relocalization Effort

Columbus, Ohio, United States

Active since:

January 2006

Joined the Network:

January 2006

Website:

<http://columbus.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinators:

Anita Laurin & Dale Hooper

Group Advisor:

Professor Seppo Korpela



End of Suburbia Producer Barry Silverthorn featured at Gateway Theater - May 2006

We have been reaching out to organizations in our community who are currently working on solutions. Also, we have spent much of the year trying to increase citizen awareness regarding oil and gas depletion.

EVENTS

We have sponsored or co-sponsored 7 events - six filming showings and one presentation called "Update from Italy" with member of ASPO - USA's Advisory Board, Professor Korpela. The photo of Barry Silverthorn's car was taken at a commercial showing of the End of Suburbia that our group sponsored. He was present to answer questions. Three of our events were promoted to media and press packets were prepared.

MEETINGS

- Reserved a meeting room at 2231 N High for 2nd Monday of each month and held 10 Central Ohio Relocalization meetings in past year.
- Met with Upper Arlington City Manager, Virginia Barney

CAMPAIGNS

- Launched two promotional campaigns - one for Ohio Hub (rail system) and one for COTA's recently passed bus levy.

EDUCATIONAL AND PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

- Updated and distributed Post Carbon Institute's Relocalization Manual (with permission)
- Prepared and distributed programs for End of Suburbia showings
- Prepared and distributed a "Conservation Checklist" designed to help citizens prepare for an energy-constrained future

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Central Ohio Relocalization Effort (cont'd)



- Prepared brochure for Central Ohio Relocalization Effort
- Prepared and distributed announcements regarding our group's formation
- Located both the Community Supported Agriculture farmers and Farmer's Markets in Central Ohio and distributed the information .
- Compiled a comparison of Mayor's Climate Change Agreements and Peak Oil Resolutions that was published on Energy Bulletin .
- Compiled two-page chart demonstrating relationship between global warming, peak oil and population.
- Authored article for Energy Bulletin regarding ethanol and environmentalists

OTHER

We purchased multiple DVD's and started a group library. Now we are working with representatives from different groups in our community on getting the City of Columbus to pass a Peak Oil Resolution.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Chatham-Kent Oil Age Planning Group

Chatham-Kent, Ontario, Canada

Joined the Network:

May, 2006

Website:

<http://chatham.www.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinator:

Lance Meredith

Contact email:

CKOAP@relocalize.net

The mission of the Chatham-Kent Oil Age Planning Group is to help prepare our neighborhoods and county for the post-oil era. CKOAP is a group of residents of Chatham-Kent and surrounding areas who work together to develop stronger households, neighborhoods and community in the face of imminent threats to global sustainability including, peak oil, global climate change, destruction of ecosystems worldwide and other challenges.

We recognize that Chatham-Kent has a wealth of assets that can form the basis of a sustainable community, foremost among them the skills and knowledge of its citizens. By working together we can make our community stronger household by household, neighborhood by neighborhood, and in the process regain some of the community values that we have lost. By working together, and bringing this issue to the public to allow for informed decisions, we can build a sustainable economy and future for Chatham-Kent.

The focus of our group this past year has been on education of the public at large as well as community leaders. We are also linked to the local community gardening project. We have conducted a SWOT analysis of the community and researched avenues that would best allow the community to cope with PE.



The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Earth Charter Lifeboat Academy (ECLAPA)

Warminster, Pennsylvania, USA

Active since:

Joined the Network:

July, 2006

Website:

<http://earthcharterpa.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinator:

Larry Menkes

Contact email:

soundsynergy@comcast.net

The primary focus of the Earth Charter Lifeboat Academy has been to get organized, get our prospective members online at the website, encourage the formation of new regional "outposts", and present and/or display as a local Post Carbon group at three major area events.

The other focus of our activity has been the creation of an online "Academy" to educate people on the essentials of sustainable energy use. This has proceeded slowly, in part because of our preference for Apple computers, and our unfamiliarity with the PC website.

In cooperation with Kevin Hanson (www.pierreterre.com), the ECLA PA (us) is developing a series of dvd's on how to make your home energy efficient and sustainable. The first, for existing homes, is well into production with script, a lot of video "in the can" on regional homeowners (in their homes) that model how it can be done. When finished, it will become a powerful tool for Relocalization groups. We plan to offer it at a low price to allow you to use it as a fundraiser. We also plan to offer it to other organizations that we partner with, such as the Chesapeake Climate Action Network, The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, Rocky Mountain Institute, and the Knossus Project. Other uses are being considered.

We have already shot some video for the second DVD for people who are planning to build a new home. We intend to partner with the US Green Building Council, the American Institute of Architects, and others on creating this.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Energy Forum of Western Pennsylvania

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Active since:

April, 2006

Joined the Network:

October, 2006

Website:

<http://energyforwesternpennsylvania.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinators:

Herb Caponi & John Hemmington

Board of Directors:

John Hemington, President

Karen Reifer, Vice-President

Jeanetta K Lee, Treasurer

Mary Beth Thakar, Secretary

Stan Sattinger, Moderator

Our chief focus has been organizing our group. We formed our group in April 2006, joined the Relocalization Network in October 2006, and formed a Board of Directors in November 2006. We are currently considering incorporation, also considering becoming a formal IRS Section 501(c) (3) organization.

We determined that although our forming focus was, and continues to be, the Peak Oil phenomenon, we should be addressing the issues of all fossil fuels use, climate change, and food and water limits. We, therefore, decided to focus on energy education and action as our key mission, and reflected this in our name, Energy Forum of Western Pennsylvania. We also decided that relocalization was the appropriate strategy to realize our goals, and consequently joined the Relocalization Network.

As part of our organizing activities, we focused on determining what local resources are initially available for presenting outreach programs. We have presented programs at two local facilities, The Mount Lebanon Public Library, and the South Hills Unitarian Universalist Church, both located in the suburban south hills area of the Pittsburgh metropolitan area.

In 2006 we have shown the movie, End of Suburbia, twice. It was shown once at the Mount Lebanon Public Library, and once at the South Hills Unitarian Universalist Church, church. In addition, we have given presentations by Byron King, a local geologist, attorney, and expert on peak oil, by Conservation Consultants, Inc., a non-profit home energy audit organization, and by Frank Sanns, Jr., a local alternative power expert. All these were given at the Mount Lebanon Public Library. All the events have been well attended.

In 2006, we were able to locate several organizations that have like-minded goals, but none that focus on the phenomenon of peak oil. We have done some joint actions with these groups, such as program presentation, signing petitions for favorable legislation, attending meetings, and general networking. The main groups were Penn Energy, Penn Futures, Sustainable Pittsburgh, Upper Saint Clair Citizens for Land Stewardship, Green Building Alliance, and Conservation Consultants, Inc.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Energy Forum of Western Pennsylvania (cont'd)

In 2006, we formed a partnership with Mount Lebanon Public Library, which is located at 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard, Mount Lebanon, PA 15228. As a result of this partnership, we were able to present the End of Suburbia DVD, and the Byron King and Conservation Consultants Inc. We hope to continue partnering with the library in 2007 and beyond. We would like to especially thank Mary Beth Thakar and Caroline Tibbetts for all the work they did in initiating this partnership.

Our plans for 2007 include completing our formal organization, continued outreach to the community for like-minded organizations and individuals, to continue our partnership with Mount Lebanon Public Library, and to initiate outreach to local governments. A member of our group, Karen Reifer, is also Head Of The District Council of a group presenting Mandate For Change, a photo petition presenting several issues, including, alternative energy solutions, on a national basis to federal, state, and local officials in February. Karen will present the petition, which has over 75 photos, including many group members, directly to our own Congressional representative. This will provide her the chance to engage the representative one on one.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Garden Route Energy Emergency Action Network (GREEAN)

George, Southern Cape, South Africa

Joined the Network:

December, 2006

Website:

<http://greean.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinator:

Lara Johnstone

Contact email:

greean@telkomsa.net

GREEAN is a place for people to communicate, network, and learn about relocalisation, peak oil, climate change and sustainable living and how they can make small and simple changes within their own households and local communities to counter these important and topical global issues.

GREEAN offers the community of the Garden Route in South Africa - in particular those living in George, Wilderness, Oudshoorn, Knysna & Mosselbay and surrounds - the opportunity to become informed and proactive, to network, to be empowered and to use their community and consumer voice to make a real difference in the region and to help build a more sustainable life for future generations and beyond.

We have just very recently been founded and getting started. So far we have managed to get an article on Peak Oil in the countries foremost magazine devoted to Farmers in South Africa. We have also been invited to write an article on Peak Oil, in response to a former article debunking Peak Oil, in a well-read Business Magazine for 'Maverick' business men, known as Maverick.

We have also contacted in a major FaxBlitz just about every single national and regional government department and or minister, to request their Official Position on Peak Oil, and if they did not have one, to provide them with a 3 page Peak Oil Fact Sheet. The response has been better than expected, with among others the following Governmental Offices acknowledging receipt and taking note of the request:

- Office of The Presidency: Director-General: Mr. F. Chicane
- Ministry of Finance: Minister TA Manuel, MP
- Ministry of Trade & Industry: Ms. M. Mpahlwa
- Ministry of Arts & Culture: Dir. General: Prof. I Mosala
- Ministry of Communications: Min. I Matseppe-Casaburri
- Ministry of Minerals and Energy: Ms. B. Sonjica
- Western Cape Prov. Gov: MEC of Local Gov. & Housing: Mr. R. Dyantyi
- Office of the Executive Mayor of Cape Town: Ms. Helen Zille
- Transnet: Group Chief Executive: Ms. M. Ramos
- and others.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Leeds Sustainability Network

Leeds, Yorkshire, UK

**Active since:**

January, 2006

Joined the Network:

March, 2006

Website:

<http://www.leeds-susnet.org.uk>

Group Coordinator:

Joe Atkinson

We are a network of small businesses, environmental groups, sustainability professionals and individuals in Leeds who want to help the city to become more sustainable, to help people save money in the process, and maybe even have some fun along the way!

In addition to being a member of the Relocalization Network, we are affiliated with Powerswitch, the UK campaign to raise awareness and discussion about Peak Oil and its causes and consequences. We also have strong links with the Leeds Permaculture Network, who are involved in projects such as designing and planting a forest garden at Swillington organic farm.

So far our group has focused on building a local profile as well as developing content for the website and building up a list of subscribers to the email list. The key element of this was putting together a directory of local businesses & organizations that are in some way concerned with sustainability.

Several screenings of End of Suburbia have been conducted as well as holding a small bookstall at a screening of "Crude Awakening: The Oil Crash" as part of the city's film festival.

Another aspect of the group's activities has been to identify other groups and active individuals in the city who are working towards similar goals (especially the local permaculture group, Schumacher Society and the Stop Climate Chaos coalition) and build relationships with them. Also, links with sympathetic staff at the local authority have been developed.

Goals for the year ahead include organizing a local "green expo" event as well as possibly merging with other local groups interested in pursuing the Relocalization agenda. Also, the idea of an energy co-operative and advice service is being considered; the aim of this is to enable citizens in fuel poverty to gain access to energy saving technologies by simplifying the process of applying for grants/subsidies, as well as providing a mechanism to make the necessary capital available.

We also aim to use our knowledge and experience of sustainability to support Leeds City Council in their efforts to meet the wide range of sustainability challenges that the 21st century has in store.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Peak Oil NYC

New York City, NY, USA

Active since:

January 1, 2005

Joined the Network:

January, 2005

Websites:

<http://www.oilawareness.meetup.com/36>

<http://www.beyondoilnyc.org>

<http://www.tristatefoodnotlawns.org>

<http://www.peakoilnyc.org>

Group Coordinator:

Dan Miner

Contact email:

beyondoilnyc@yahoo.com

Steering Committee:

Bill Burke, Lois Sturm, Gusti Bogok & Simon Whelan



With a few volunteers and a modest budget, we put together a three-day peak oil conference in April 2006. Over 500 attendees heard over 40 speakers, including Julian Darley, Michael Ruppert, Derrick Jensen, Matt Savinar, James Kunstler, and Pat Murphy. See <http://www.energysolutionsconference.org> for details. Despite energetic outreach, there was no mainstream press coverage. Most New Yorkers have been extremely reluctant to discuss fuel depletion, and despite new information about it, we expect that indirect approaches will continue to be helpful.

Since the conference, we've been focusing on more modest, co-sponsored events. We continue to hold monthly Meet-Up discussions, we've started a bi-monthly book group, and we distribute "Peak Moments" DVDs to local public access cable. Our monthly presentations with single speakers draw up to 100 people.

Our upcoming projects are in two tracks. First, we are promoting the permaculture solution by bringing in permaculture speakers like Albert Bates and Toby Hemenway. As Tri-State Food Not Lawns, we are organizing permaculture workshops and courses, one of which will be co-sponsored with the NY Open Center. We are also organizing permablitzes, which are one-day makeovers of urban yards. Second, we have also issued a substantive report – through NYC Sierra Club – on the increasing likelihood of fuel price shocks and shortages. By focusing on the economic and national security impacts of higher energy prices, the report urges City officials to prepare short-term responses that tie into long-term initiatives to increase energy efficiency & conservation, renewable power generation, and mass transit. The report addresses global warming and fuel depletion indirectly and is available at www.beyondoilnyc.org. We hope that our carefully calibrated message and our connections with local networks will help us build coalitions around politically feasible early responses.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Philadelphia Organic Democracy

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Joined the Network:

September, 2006

Website:

<http://pod.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinator:

Liz Mednick

Contact email:

LizMednick@gmail.com

The age of oil began in Pennsylvania. We would like to see it end here in a civilized, peaceful, and orderly fashion. We want to take on several preliminary tasks. First, to produce a Philadelphia Energy Descent Action Plan, along the lines of the Kinsale EDAP. Second, we would like to develop a presentation to share this plan around the city, in person, online, and via printed material. Third, we would like to form strategic alliances with organizations and agencies capable of implementing parts of our plan, such as the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, the City's Department of Public Property and Fairmount Park Commission, and local colleges and universities. Finally, in the longer term, we would like to establish a center for community supported manufacture and agriculture, and to set up pilot projects (such as permaculture stations) around the City. In addition, we would like to introduce a peak oil resolution and participatory budgeting to our City Council, and we believe other groups around the City would join us in this effort.

So far we've attended the Philly Beyond Oil Conference and we're working on a template for a local newspaper which will focus on relocalization. We've also made some contacts with the PA Horticultural Society and city government which we hope will lead towards regional permaculture stations.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Post Carbon Ithaca

Ithaca, New York

Active since:

October 2005

Joined the Network:

October 2005

Website:

<http://ithaca.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinators:

Bethany Schroeder and Jon Bosak

The primary focus of Post Carbon Ithaca has been to provide a forum for interested residents of Ithaca and the surrounding Tompkins County area to discuss issues related to living in a world of reduced energy. To further this goal we have attended local meetings at Cornell University, Ithaca College, Sustainable Tompkins, Finger Lakes Permaculture, among others in order to share ideas about the role of relocalization in an altered environment.

From the inception of the group we have been associated with Tompkins County Local (TCLocal), a collection of researchers and writers who have joined together in order to create a relocalization document for the region. In addition to developing alliances with other area and regional groups, we have conducted on an ongoing basis a monthly group that meets in a public space to discuss previously announced articles and blogs related to a post carbon way of life. In addition, we have published articles in local papers about the issues, as well as the efforts being made to address them.

Because the area is so rich in environmental and sustainability-oriented groups, we maintain a close alliance with them and endeavor to avoid duplicating their dedicated work. We have had and continue to have opportunities to join with other groups in educating the community. For example, we will table at the local Earth Day event with another local group, Prepared Tompkins, because we have a similar philosophy about earth's prospects and because we share members between the two groups.

Finally, in conjunction with the work of Post Carbon Ithaca and TCLocal, the coordinators have both begun to develop connections and alliances with other area groups, the members of which might not perhaps see themselves as sharing overt points in common with us. Jon Bosak has recently joined an advisory group for the area's transportation company and a climate change group that emanates from the City offices. Bethany Schroeder works with a subcommittee on health of the Workers' Center and has joined the board of directors for the Ithaca Health Alliance and the Ithaca Free Clinic.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Post-Carbon London

London, Ontario, Canada

Active since:

June 10, 2006

Joined the Network:

November 17, 2006

Website:

<http://postcarbonlondon.ca>

Web Group Coordinators:

Toban Black & Dan Bashaw

Steering Committee:

Dan Bashaw

Jim Lamantia

Toban Black

Shane O'Neill

Mitchell Brogan

Diane Szoller

Dale Green

Post-Carbon London organizers began meeting in the summer of 2006 to discuss how to address peak oil locally. We decided to focus our efforts on informing the community about peak oil. To this end, our group organized a series of fall events, the first of which included a screening of *The End of Suburbia* and a discussion between the audience and film producer Barry Silverthorn. Two days later there was a Post-Carbon London fundraiser screening of *Who Killed the Electric Car?* at the Hyland Cinema, an independent movie theatre here in London. Our next event was a forum where two presenters – Randy Park and Richard Embleton – spoke with the community about peak oil issues. Politicians running for a fall municipal election also attended this forum event to speak with the audience.

As Post-Carbon London raised peak oil issues last fall – at events (a few of which have not been mentioned because we did not organize them), through display boards set up in the community to inform people about Post-Carbon London and peak oil, and through local media outlets that were open to what we had to say – we tried to influence the agenda of local municipal election campaigning that was happening at the time. One approach we took to linking our efforts to the municipal election was to prepare questionnaires for candidates, who we also encouraged to attend our events.

After our film/Q&A event and our presentation/Q&A event, we hosted roundtable discussions to bring together community members who were concerned about fossil fuel dependency. At this roundtable event we focused on deciding how to proactively respond to problems surrounding fossil fuels. Point form notes written during these discussions were typed and posted to our web site.

After a busy fall, the Post-Carbon London organizers set about trying to build a more formally structured organization that could tie together the various projects that we hope community members will initiate and help with in the coming year. We will be working to collaborate with other groups while serving as an incubator for initiatives and discussion, rather than acting as a stand-alone organization.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Post Carbon Salt Lake

Salt Lake City, Utah, United States

Active since:

November 2006

Joined the Network:

January 2007

Website:

<http://saltlake.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinators:

Jean Arnold & Sam Schmidt

Contact email:

saltlake@relocalize.net



***MISSION STATEMENT:** Post Carbon Salt Lake seeks to raise awareness in our community about peak oil and the need to prepare for “energy descent” by transitioning to reduced-energy lifestyles and by strengthening local communities - promoting local food, local economy, and local energy.*

We are a new group, and to begin with we want to focus our efforts on educating people in Salt Lake about Peak Oil, since awareness is still low here. We held a screening of “End of Suburbia” in January – we had a full house of over 100 attend the event. We will continue to host screenings; we are also developing a Powerpoint presentation that group members can then present to various meetings and organizations. We also hold informational meetings, usually monthly.

Our city has gained international attention for its efforts to mitigate for Climate Change. We would like to see Peak Oil become a part of our city’s initiatives and focus as well.

We have also gathered information on allied organizations working on similar goals, and have posted that information on our web-page, and are about to distribute the info to everyone on our list. We have recently formed a Steering Committee to plan meetings, screenings, etc.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Post Carbon Toronto

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Active since:

May 2004

Joined the Network:

November 2004

Website:

<http://toronto.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinator:

Rose Kudlac

Board of Directors:

Randy Park

Rose Kudlac

Kjel Oslund

Jeff Berg

Judy Vellend

Lee Boal

Ron Kidder

David Elfstrom

Adriana Mugnatto-Hamu

Post Carbon Toronto is a group of Toronto citizens working together to envision and transition Toronto and its bioregion into sustainable, low energy communities. The common thread that binds us together is concern that oil production is peaking globally due to geological limits, leading to severe social and economic repercussions. There is an urgent need to raise awareness, begin transition, and support alternatives to current high-energy modes of living.

We organize a monthly "Meetup" meeting on issues relating to transitioning the Greater Toronto Area to a sustainable, lower energy community. This year, in order to facilitate involving more people and increasing our impact, we created and approved a new Constitution. The goal is to put in place the framework to involve people who want to help with this transition.

We also created and hosted the PledgeTOGreen event (www.pledgetogreen.ca) in connection with the municipal election. The goal was to have candidates pledge to implement the Toronto Environmental Plan which had already been approved by Toronto Council. The plan provided a specific focus for action, and work on this project continues this year.

We are also establishing relationships with other groups so that we can act as a resource for information regarding the decline of energy supplies.



The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Sustainable Burlington

Burlington, Ontario, Canada

Joined the Network:

June, 2006

Website:

<http://burlingtoncan.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinator:

Ian Graham

Contact email:

burlingtoncan@relocalize.net



Photo from left: Ian Graham (founder, head of community gardening taskgroup), Karin Groen (head of Energy Preparedness Research task group), Tracey Pingle (co-founder, head of communications), staffing a display at the Health and Wellness Fair at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Jan 13-14, 2007.

Sustainable Burlington is a community-led initiative which advocates the creation of an Energy Preparedness Action Plan for Burlington. We believe that a city using much less energy than we presently consume could, if properly planned for and designed, be more resilient, more abundant and more pleasurable than the present growth-dependent economy will be able to provide, in the 3 to 5 year time frame.

The intent of Sustainable Burlington is to cultivate our citizen responses to urban sprawl, energy issues, and climate upsets, with appropriate lifestyle choices. We are learning about and experimenting with appropriate scale of living options. Some of us may actively prepare for disruptions in the marketplace of goods and services we now take for granted. We see important areas for citizen involvement such as public transit versus cars, local shopping and workplaces, residential neighborhoods and public spaces, food quality and local production, to name a few.

We will inform the city government of our ideas, mobilize and lobby as appropriate, and actively change what we can in our personal situations. We are intent on cultivating the ability of neighborhoods to engage, support and rely on each other, especially in times of stress.

We have been getting a core group started, finding a public project (Walmart-type box stores), film series, and finding people to head up Energy preparedness research project and community garden project.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Sustainable Monterey County Monterey, California

Monterey County Monterey, California

Active since:

September, 2005

Joined the Network:

September, 2005

Website:

<http://www.sustainablemontereycounty.org>

Group Coordinator:

Deborah Lindsay

Steering Committee

Ruth Smith, Mark Folsom, Pierre and Virginia Chomat, Denyse and Robert Frishmuth, George Wilsom, Deborah Lindsay



Our main campaign is the "10 Cities Sustainability Project" which is a countywide education and incentive program promoting an orderly transition through the fossil fuel decline by galvanizing citizens to take local action to lower their energy use and relocalize their communities. The 10 cities SMC chose to approach but are not limited to include: Monterey, Pacific Grove, Carmel, Marina, Salinas, Seaside, Pebble Beach, King City, Greenfield and Moss Landing. Big Sur and Carmel Valley have begun establishing their own sustainability programs using SMC resources and are a part of the overall effort.

Outreach elements include monthly newsletters, a weekly radio program, regular lecturing, monthly discussion meetings, community brainstorming and visualization, action group mentoring and networking, City Council coaching, and printed educational material. SMC hopes to have a resource center to add to this list soon.

Other Sustainable Monterey County Projects

Monterey County Peak Oil Resolution – A resolution acknowledging the challenge of Peak Oil and the need for Monterey County to prepare a plan of response and preparation.

Countywide Tri-Business Education Program – An outreach program to the three largest employers in our County which include:

- Agriculture
- Educationourism
- County Emergency Preparedness Training – A County level emergency preparedness training for the extended black outs.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Sustainable Saratoga Springs

Saratoga Springs/Saratoga County, New York, USA

Active since:

December, 2005

Joined the Network:

December, 2005

Website:

<http://saratoga.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinator:

Jim Zack

Contact email:

sss@spatialexperts.com



Our group of approximately two dozen members has focused on meeting one another and exchanging information about our interests, politics, philosophies, and activities germane to issues of relocalization, Peak Oil, environmental and social activism, and alternative transportation and energy. We have held three potluck/salons, each featuring a vegetarian/local/organic buffet, an outdoor/local project spotlight, and a film/video followed by discussion. We have had a backyard wildfood identification demo, a tour of a backyard bio-intensive organic vegetable/fruit garden, and ongoing monitoring of a sample suburban compost bin.

Our kickoff event featured screening of the Zero Mostel/Gene Wilder cult film "Rhinoceros," a screen adaptation of the Eugene Ionesco play on the perils of conformism of the masses in the face of arising wave of fascism and nationalism. Since then, we have screened and discussed "The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil," and "Wal*Mart: the High Costs of Low Prices."

Our group has been a liaison to other local and regional energy action and environmental organizations and was a major sponsor of "Richard Heinberg Day" in the (New York) Capital Region on June 16th 2006. We brought Dr. Heinberg to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (Troy, NY) for a public lecture that was preceded by a luncheon with local and regional politicians, and followed the next day by a breakfast attended by members of SSS and Dr. Heinberg.

We also have members who participate in other organizations that align to some degree with those of the Post Carbon Institute and Relocalize.net including:

- Saratoga Healthy Transportation Network
- Saratoga P.L.A.N and Open Space
- Northeast Organic Farmers Association (NOFA)
- Northeast Organic Network (NEON)
- 100-Mile Diet
- The New York Green Party

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Sustainable Saratoga Springs (cont'd)

- Residents' Committee to Protect the Adirondacks
- Northwest Earth Institute

We continue to work with these other groups in an effort to inform, influence, and otherwise raise consciousness on issues of Peak Oil, Relocalization, Local Food and Energy Production, Global Climate Change, Community Building, Environmental Stewardship, and Land Use Reform.

For 2007, we would like to conduct Sustainability and Energy Assessments of our bioregion, investigate community-based energy production, and propose a Peak Oil/Climate Change Resolution to our political leaders.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Sustainable Thornbury

Thornbury, Gloucestershire, UK

Active since:

January 2006

Joined the Network:

January 2006

Website:

<http://www.sustainablethornbury.org>

Group Coordinators:

Howard Yeomans & Heather Witham

Contact email:

info@sustainablethornbury.org



Caring about the future of our community

Our group started in January. We put together a constitution, held an AGM, and elected officers. On the non-business side of things, we held three energy education events, facilitated a climate change education group, a monthly Sustainability Cafe, a Green Pub Quiz fundraiser, monthly meetings for: Community Energy Generation, a Loyalty Card scheme, a Credit Union / Savings Club, Grow Your Own Food, and ecopsychology.

Our focus this year has been on raising awareness around energy issues, starting an energy efficiency campaign, and saturating the local media with information about sustainability. We are also on the South Gloucestershire Local Food Partnership and have met with and worked with other local sustainability groups in the region.

Helping to promote a vibrant and sustainable community for the area. Sustainability includes all things economic, environmental, and social – particularly democratic participation.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

SYDNEY N S Post Carbon Group

Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Canada

Active since:

2004

Joined the Network:

October, 2005

Website:

<http://sydneycanada.relocalize.net>

Group Coordinator:

Frances Oomen

We have been working with other groups in the community to raise awareness, educate people and teach useful skills. Movies such as "The End of Suburbia" and "The Power of Community" have been shown to small groups at the public library, the Cape Breton Farmer's Market, and in private homes.

Last summer, we worked with the Farmer's Market to enable children to experience growing their own food in a program called "Green Thumb Kids" (www.relocalize.net/groups/greenthumb). Approximately 42 children and their parents participated. We are planning on doing the programme again next year.

Recently we worked with the Ecology Action Centre (Halifax, N S). Fifty people, including a good number of students from a local high school, gathered in Sydney to see and discuss "An Inconvenient Truth". Later this spring, in the same Education and Outreach series, we will be showing "The End of Suburbia", "The Power of Community", "The Next Industrial Revolution" and "Who Killed the Electric Car". This will provide a new opportunity to focus on oil depletion with a greater number of people.

A Cape Breton LETS group was recently started. We have 15 members. In our community there is also an active FreeCycle group.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Titanic Lifeboat Academy

Astoria, Oregon, USA

Active since:

2003

Joined the Network:

2004

Website

<http://lifeboat.postcarbon.org>

Group Coordinators:

Caren Black , MA, MEd, Educational Director

Christopher Paddon, MA,
Appropriate Technology & Design Director

Board of Directors:

Dominie Cappadonna, Ph.D.

Marco Mangelsdorf, Ph.D.

George McClendon, LM FCC, MBA

Richard C. Murphy, Ph.D.



Building our sustainable living demonstration site has seen the bulk of our effort. Christopher has completed the barn, which now houses our two goats. Our harvest was abundant this year, forcing a steep learning curve for Caren in food storage. Caren also produced new additions to our poultry flock, through the efforts of two broody hens. We enlarged our greenhouse, designed two more, designed and built a new chicken coop and installed solar panels (both photovoltaic and thermal) and a rainwater catchment system. We added south-facing windows and wood burning stoves to the house. We completed our barn and are in the process of installing a 1.8 KW wind turbine.

For our outreach, we produce The Lifeboat Show the third Monday of each month at 9:30 am on community radio, simulcast online (www.coastradio.org), archived on Global Public Media, and distributed through our website and presentations. Our topics included "Seeds 101," "Your Ecological Footprint," "The Great Turning," and "The Psychology of Denial." Our guests included Dr. Bill Rees of UBC, John Abrams of South Mountain Company on Martha's Vineyard, and other experts from across the country (whom we interview by phone) as well as a local couple who took a three-week Lifeboat learning adventure in their hand-built sailboat.

As part of our community outreach, Christopher has written two grant proposals for a community wind project for Pier 3 of the Port of Astoria, and was recently promoted from "rookie" to Firefighter 1 at our local fire department.

We've continued our research on gardening, animal husbandry, and general sustainability topics, given presentations at SolWest and the Eugene Permaculture Gathering, participated in local food education groups, trained four interns, and offered our first online course. We are also sponsoring a local alternative gifts fair in December. Our wind turbine recently arrived and we have completed all necessary permits for our wind turbine, a process which required educating local county officials on wind energy.

The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Willits Economic Localization (WELL)

Willits, California

Active since:

2004

Joined the Network:

2004

Website:

<http://www.willitseconomiclocalization.org>

Coordinating Committee

Brian Weller	Mary Zellachild
Freddie Long	Rachel Olivieri
Jason Bradford	Ron Greystar
Liam UiCearbhaill	Ron Orenstein
Marc Grail	Suzie Gruber



Several exciting food projects were started in Willits last year. A community garden was started at the county's Willits Integrated Services Center (WISC). A volunteer crew installed a fence and initial plantings, and now WAG funds (\$3000) a part-time garden coordinator and equipment (\$600) to develop the site. The project will create a garden that is a beautiful, rewarding place for adults and youth to come together, cultivate healthy food and relationships, and serve their community.

A one acre mini-farm was started at Brookside Elementary School. This farm which will grow organic food, will also serve as an educational center for the students at Brookside School. Additionally, Brookside Farm is one of Post Carbon Institute's Energy Farms

The Grateful Gleaners continued their amazing success at gleaning unharvested produce from local gardens. In 2006, over three tons of fresh fruits, vegetables and nuts were collected and portions distributed to local food banks, soup kitchens, schools and service clubs.

In addition to these efforts several people started gardens at their homes with the intent to bring neighbors together to grow and share food. One such effort is the Marin Street Gardens.

To better understand and solidify the relocalization movement in our bioregion, WELL hosted a "Regional Localization Networking Conference" in April 2006. Thirty communities were represented with over 120 people in attendance. Sponsors included the City of Willits and Post Carbon Institute.

(Continued on next page)

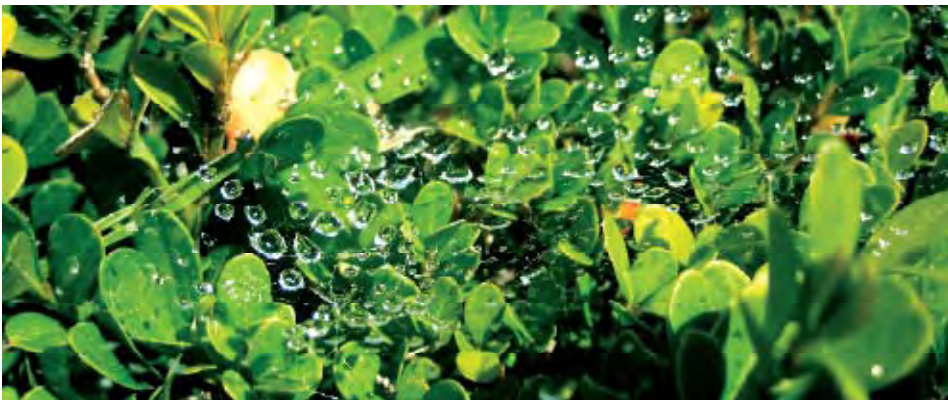
The Relocalization Network annual report group profiles

Willits Economic Localization (cont'd)

Out of WELL's Energy Group, a city council member asked the city council to establish an ad-hoc energy committee. This committee recommended that the city install solar panels to offset the electricity used for city services, especially the water treatment and sewage facilities. The City Council approved a project at the water treatment plant. Grants were submitted by the city and they were received on the order of one million dollars. Currently the City is reviewing contractor proposals which will lead to the installation of a photo-voltaic system to pump water from the city reservoir, through a treatment plant, and into storage tanks for distribution to the town. Installation will be completed during summer 2007.

WELL also spent a tremendous amount of time organizing itself this year. Many volunteers spent significant time creating WELL's Membership document, Strategic Plan and Governance structure. WELL now has 245 members and a member-elected Coordinating Committee that coordinates WELL's efforts.

Photo Credit: David Sund (front cover / back cover)



relocalization.network

Get Involved

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www.relocalize.net
www.postcarbon.org