



Fall 2019

TRAINERS MENTORING CIRCLE

The mission of the TMC is to set standards and steward the path to becoming a certified council trainer and facilitator in the "Ojai Foundation, Way of Council" lineage.


Autumn Greetings from your TMC

This is the seventh biannual newsletter providing updates about activities on the Path as we seek to nourish relationship in this expanding trainer community. We've crossed the threshold of the equinox into autumn and now anticipate the solstice. Recent marches for climate action, accompanied by the clear and passionate voices of youth, bring hope that this waning time will be followed by a return of the light, and that the cycle continues for generations.

The Spiral

In the Spring Newsletter, we reaffirmed the TMC Mission, shared work from the last three years, acknowledged trainers who have served on the TMC since its inception and confirmed the vision of the TMC as an independent entity comprised of and in service to members of the trainer body. We also share our vision for encouraging diversity on the TMC – weaving the various geographical locations and council organizations together, while seeking diversity in gender, age and experience, place, and so on.

Jack Zimmerman has now spiraled out, returning to the rim after three years of invaluable service. Jack brought his clear vision and warm encouragement to the TMC. He contributed to the revision of all the path documents overseen by the TMC, and wrote new mentoring guidelines (see below.) His ever-present ability to hold each person in their highest light and potential was a gift. We are so appreciative of his love and commitment to the trainers and facilitators who live this way of council.

 Click here to view path documents and mentor guidelines

<https://waysofcouncil.net/resources/>

We welcome Marc Rosner to the TMC. Marc brings fresh and discerning ears and eyes as a founding member of Circle Ways. He adds the perspective of educators practicing council regularly in the classroom, and the children and families they serve.

Next Generation "Grasshopper"

Recently confirmed trainers are urged to contact us to serve on the TMC as a "next generation grasshopper." After serving for a year in a witness capacity, it's possible they would hop onto the TMC as a full member, replacing someone spiraling out. Please send your ideas for how the TMC can continue to better serve the community of trainers. We meet monthly to conduct business – and we welcome witnesses. Please arrange to join us by contacting Sarah, our administrative assistant at the email on page 2.


Celebrating New Trainers Who Have Completed the TMC Path

Three exceptional members of our community have completed the trainer path this year. Congratulations to Leonelda Castillo de Urena, Ann Seide and Kate Bunney.

- ♥ Leonelda, founder and academic director of the English Language Institute in the Dominican Republic, wrote her dissertation on *Council and The Biology of Love*.
- ♥ Ann is a doctor and palliative care medical director who brings council to prisons, social justice organizations, and to groups dealing with the aftermath of genocide.
- ♥ Kate is founder of Walking Water and a member of the Beyond Boundaries team.

We will gather and honor them under the teaching tree at The Ojai Foundation on Sunday November 17.

At future gatherings, we'll welcome those who have completed the Trainer's Leadership Initiative of Center for Council as they join the tradition of sitting under the teaching tree, witnessed by the greater council community.

 **ON THE PATH** Sherre Vernon is warmly welcomed to the trainer path this year, and we welcome Robert Ehnou to the facilitator path.

Community Zoom Council

You are invited to the next Community Zoom Council, facilitated by Kate Lipkis, on October 22, 2019, from 7:00 – 8:00.

Please mark your calendar now and send an email to Sarah to request the call link.

trainersmentoringcircle@gmail.com

We'll explore how our council practice lives in each of us right now, here in the fall of 2019. This is in service to a stated desire in the last Community Council to have ways of seeing each other and a way of gathering prior to our formal heart-to-heart gathering at The Ojai Foundation on November 17th. We look forward to hearing how each of us is sharing the gift of council in these troubled times. Please join us!

Mentoring Guidelines

In 2016, the Gathering at TOF included a day of inquiry into the nature of the mentoring relationship, capably facilitated by Joe Provisor and Bonnie Tamblyn.

In response, the TMC took up the harvest gathered at that event to create the mentoring guidelines accessible via the link on page 1. As with all TMC documents, they'll be posted on Ways of Council and will continue to evolve to reflect our current practice. May they serve you as you walk the path of mentorship. Please know we're here to serve you or to be called in as a third in any council mentoring relationships that may require additional witnessing.