BUILDING A CLIMATE ACTION COALITION IN CENTRAL OHIO

By Chuck Lynd

The Simply Living Board of Trustees recently endorsed an urgent call to action from world leaders at the U.N. Summit on Climate in Paris to act decisively in addressing climate change. As part of a nationwide 350.org event, Simply Living participated in and promoted two local events in Columbus. More than 2300 demonstrations took place in 175 countries before and after the Summit.

The SL Board's endorsement is significant, and reflects an evolution from encouraging individual actions to "green the earth" to a collaborative strategy to raise awareness at the community level about the need to address climate change. As the call went out to community partners — the Sierra Club, Citizens Climate Lobby groups in Ohio, Interfaith Power & Light, Blue Rock Station, FLOW (Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed), the Columbus Community Bill of Rights, Clintonville and other neighborhood sustainability groups, et al. — a new coalition was born.

The Central Ohio Coalition for Climate Action will continue to advocate and promote local projects that address climate change. In collaboration with 350.org, we intend

see Climate Action - page 6

NEW SLSU COURSES AVAILABLE

See Page 5 for Details
DIRECTOR’S COLUMN

Daily Life, Happiness and Climate Change.

Ignorance is bliss. Until it isn’t. When it comes to climate change, this seems an accurate statement.

Some days I wish I didn’t know what was happening. A little light reading on climate change is all it takes to rain on my mind’s regular parade. As I contemplate climate change, these are some of the words that come up: daunting, chaotic, frightening. Shall I go on? It can feel debilitating. What’s to be done? Sometimes it’s difficult to stay positive and be excited about the future.

But if this is the biggest challenge humanity has ever faced, we need to stay positive. How do we?

We can look at our dilemma as Confucius might: “Out of Chaos comes Opportunity.” Collectively, if we do it right, the Paris Talks will help us seize opportunities to speed up the pace at which we innovate and adapt — in agriculture, energy, transportation and other sectors. Similarly, as we get educated about the consequences of allowing the planet to heat up even an additional 1.5 degrees Celsius, we must remain motivated and be even more resolute about keeping up the pressure on politicians and policy makers, demanding true action and creative solutions to climate change. We know what needs to be done.

Meanwhile, what can we do as individuals to keep our balance? There are multiple lifestyle changes we can make and are achieving. We are working to get educated and simplify our lives. There are many actions, both simple and joyous, that we can make as we transition to a sustainable, ecological culture. As the lead article in our Winter 2016 newsletter states, activism can come in many forms.

As a social change organization, Simply Living is committed to providing resources, connections and fellowship that will help lead us to a sustainable future. To that end, we have good news: over the next several weeks you can expect to see a transformation in the navigability, organization, and interactivity of our website! This comes from our desire to work together to create a strong, local community. We look forward to its unveiling and hope you’ll share your feedback!

Thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers. Let’s stick together, welcome others and celebrate our successes as we move forward.

With gratitude,
Sarah

Winter Eco Tip

For homeowners in colder regions, winter calls for snow removal. Driveways and walks need to be cleaned off for function and safety with as much ease as possible. Here are some tips from OldHouseWeb.com that can help.

Clear the snow early in the day and then let the sun's radiant heat warm the surface to keep it safe and dry. Be kind to yourself—shovel before the snow reaches more than a few inches high. Removing relatively low layers several times is less taxing on the body than waiting and trying to deal later with a higher pile from a major storm. Make sure to bend at the knees and keep the back as vertically straight as possible when shoveling, to avoid back strain.

If opting for a snow blower, an electric machine is cleaner, quieter and easier to maintain, especially if it has solar panels. For more power, consider a dieselpowered unit that uses bio-diesel fuel. As a step up from old-fashioned fossil fuel machines, Honda makes a hybrid model with emissions 30 percent lower than Environmental Protection Agency Phase 2 standards.

Putting down some sand or black wood ash on dry surfaces will effect more traction during snow removal, plus help melt and evaporate some snowflakes when they land. A green option is EcoTraction, made by Earth Innovations from hydrothermal volcanic materials that absorb water. Sand should be used sparingly because it can clog local storm drains and create excess silt in waterways.

When considering ice-melting agents, be careful and wise. Many products claim to be green or eco-friendly, but contain harmful chlorides or acetates. Salt is bad for pets, grass, plants and vehicles, and will pollute local waterways. Products containing acetates are generally less corrosive than salts, but recent research has shown that potassium acetate, often used at airports, is toxic to marine life.

Sponsored by Natural Awakenings of Central Ohio
Cindy Dunigan, Partner Agent

When was Dunigan Real Estate Group established?

Dunigan Real Estate Group was established in 2002, specializing in Buyer and Seller Representation for Residential Single Family, Condos, Multi Family up to 4 units or Investment Property in the Franklin and Surrounding Counties.

What type of Green Initiatives have you implemented in your day to day business currently?

Recycling, composting, heating and cooling efforts with window blind management, programmable thermostat and ceiling fans to circulate the air. Plants in our space for cleaner air, lights with sensors. Unbleached toilet paper and paper towels, and non toxic cleaning supplies.

If you could encourage our Simply Living members to incorporate into their daily practice, what could we do that would increase our community impact and help protect and preserve our environment?

Eat local and more plant based!

www.CindyDunigan.com
3500 N. High Street
Columbus, OH 43214
614-361-8400

Erin Harvey

When was The Kale Yard established?

2011. I think of The Kale Yard as an experiment in small-scale agriculture, and I hope it helps people see you don’t need 100 acres and a giant tractor to grow a lot of food. In addition to selling vegetables and herbs, my newest endeavor has been developing a plant nursery.

Is there a resource you could share with our members that you use to stay committed to your mission of being sustainable?

I appreciate EWG and Ensia for their environmental research & reporting. In the farming world, there are so many... FEDCO Seeds, Cowpots, Ohio Earth Food, Growing for Market, the Permaculture Podcast.

If you could encourage our members to incorporate one thing into their daily practice to increase our community and environmental impact, what would it be?

Spend money locally. I’m really scared these days about local, independent businesses. Resilient communities depend on them and the relationships these businesses have with one another. And cook. From scratch.

www.TheKaleYardOhio.com
thekaleyard@gmail.com
740-808-9908
**SIMPLY LIVING EVENTS**

**DOCUMENTARY FILMS + LOCAL SOLUTIONS**

A showcase of independent, documentary films addressing a variety of current issues. Often followed by Q&A with experts representing local organizations. Thanks to The Puffin Foundation West Ltd. for supporting these monthly public screenings. For questions, contact Chuck Lynd at Chuck.Lynd@gmail.com or 614-354-6172.

- **JANUARY**
  - **FRI 15**
    - **7-9 PM**
      - The High Cost of Low Prices
      - Northwood High Building, Room 100, 2231 N. High St., Columbus 43201
      - An objective analysis of the effects Walmart has on individuals and communities. Produced by Brave New Films and directed by Robert Greenwald. Ruben Castilla Herrera will lead a panel to address local initiatives that support low income workers in central Ohio. More info on the film: [bravenewfilms.org/walmartmovie](http://bravenewfilms.org/walmartmovie)

- **FEBRUARY**
  - **FRI 05**
    - **6:30-8:30 PM**
      - The Ecological Footprint: Accounting for a Small Planet
      - Northwood High Building, Room 100
      - For the first time, humanity is in "ecological overshoot" with annual demand on resources exceeding what Earth can regenerate each year. Mathis Wackernagel, co-creator, explores the implications of these deficits and provides examples of how governments, communities and businesses are using the Footprint to help improve their ecological performance. More info on the film: [bullfrogfilms.com/catalog/efoot.html](http://bullfrogfilms.com/catalog/efoot.html)

- **MARCH**
  - **WED 23**
    - **7-8:30 PM**
      - The Suzuki Diaries: Future City
      - Gateway Film Center, 1550 N. High St., Columbus 43201
      - Brilliant environmentalist and TV host, David Suzuki, embarks on a cross-country journey to explore innovative solutions to sustainability issues in major urban cities, which now account for 80% of our population. Expert panel with Q&A to address local initiatives in Columbus to follow. More info on the film: [bullfrogfilms.com/catalog/suzdfc.html](http://bullfrogfilms.com/catalog/suzdfc.html)

**MEETUPS/SOCIALS**

Join Simply Living for "good green fun" at gatherings held in a different local business or organization each month. We learn from brief presentations by the owners or directors, followed by Q&A. We include plenty of time to socialize and network. Light refreshments are served. Free!

- **FRI 18**
  - **5-6 PM**
    - City Folk’s Farm Shop
    - 4760 North High St., Clintonville, 43214
    - Meet new co-owners Rebecca and Michele. SL Business Member City Folk’s Farm Shop was created to connect city-dwellers to goods, services, information and other people who are interested in city farming. Discover educational opportunities like beekeeping, chicken keeping, cheese making, and more!

**CARE + SHARE TIME BANK**

Share food, network, participate! Each potluck includes a program presented by a member or guest speaker. Topics vary each month. Potluck.

- **SUN 17**
  - **6:30 PM**
    - Potluck
    - Program features Norman Bird who will explain how an alternative currency, Bitcoin, may influence our economy in the future.

**SUN 21**

- **6:30 PM**
  - Potluck
  - Program features participatory Game Night.

- **FRI 20**
  - **5-6 PM**
    - Ecohouse Solar
    - 1857 Northwest Blvd., Suite 201, Columbus 43212
    - Simply Living, NWEarth Institute and Ecohouse Solar sponsor a Solar Meet-up. Come and learn how to reduce your annual energy costs and about the role of solar in helping in our transition to renewable economy. Learn about the Simply Living-Ecohouse Solar partnership.

- **FRI 26**
  - **5-6 PM**
    - Ecohouse Solar
    - Simply Living, NWEarth Institute and Ecohouse Solar sponsor a Solar Meet-up. Come and learn how to reduce your annual energy costs and about the role of solar in helping in our transition to renewable economy. Learn about the Simply Living-Ecohouse Solar partnership.

**CSTB ORIENTATIONS**

For new members, anyone interested in how it works, and long time members who need a “refresher” on CSTB — activities, benefits, responsibilities and website procedures are covered.

For more information about Orientations, go to the CSTB website at [www.hourworld.org/bank/?hw=1057](http://www.hourworld.org/bank/?hw=1057).

- **JANUARY**
  - **FRI 15**
    - **4-5:30 PM**
      - Brothers Drake Meadery
      - 26 E. 5th Ave., Columbus 43201
      - Did you know that mead is the oldest fermented drink known to humankind? Join us to learn about the process and take a tour at SL Business Partner Brother’s Drake, an urban producer of these wines made from honey, right here in Columbus!

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- **SAT 20**
  - **12-3 PM**
    - 23rd Simply Living Annual Meeting
    - Northwest Masonic Temple
    - 2436 W Dublin-Granville Rd., Columbus 43235
    - Come meet our new board members and say hello to those you know! Let’s continue our tradition of being the “Best Potluck in Town.” This year, we will sip soup and break bread together. More details to come. Email Sarah at sedwards@simplyliving.org to update your contact information.

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Looking to build your sustainability knowledge and skills? Already an expert? Get involved with Simply Living Sustainable University, an initiative that organizes workshops/classes that train and educate people about sustainability topics and practices.

Simply Living Is Launching a New Initiative

Simply Living is creating a hub for community members interested in learning about sustainability issues and practices. Instructors and faculty are sourced from allied organizations and the community at large, and courses are offered at a variety of locations in and around neighborhoods and the community.

We will provide easy access to affordable, educational opportunities as we build environmental awareness, strengthen a healthy, local economy and target long-term community viability.

Questions? For more information contact Sarah Edwards at: sedwards@simplyliving.org or call 614.447.0296.

UPCOMING CLASSES

Solar Generator – DIY
Saturday, January 23
1-5 PM
$55 (includes course, detailed plans, and Jay Warmke’s book Assembling a Solar Generator)
Northwood-High Building Room 100, 2231 N. High St., Cols 43201
More info or to register: Jay Warmke at jay@bluerockstation.com

Goat College
Basics for Goat Keepers
Saturday, February 20
1-3 PM
$55 (includes eBook version of Annie’s Naturally Healthy Goat Reference), Addtl. Family Member +$45
Location: TBA
More info or to register: Annie Warmke at annie@bluerockstation.com

Detox Detective
The Toxins That You Love
Wednesday, February 17
7-8:30 PM
$10
6463 Proprietors Rd.
Worthington, OH 43085
More info or to register: bethany@homedetoxdetective.com

Solar Installation
Comprehensive Certification Training
February 27 & 28, March 5 & 6, March 12 & 13
8 AM-5 PM
$970
Columbus, in the Clintonville area
More info or to register: bluerockstation.com or Jay Warmke at jay@bluerockstation.com

Plastic: Corroding Our Future
How Petroleum-based Chemicals Are Altering Our Genetics
Thursday, March 10
7-8:30 PM
$10
6463 Proprietors Rd.
Worthington, OH 43085
More info or to register: bethany@homedetoxdetective.com

Personal Toxins 101
What Dangers Lurk In Items You Trust?
Tuesday, April 5
7-8:30 PM
$10
6463 Proprietors Rd.
Worthington, OH 43085
More info or to register: bethany@homedetoxdetective.com

Voluntary Simplicity
TWO CHOICES -
Wednesday Classes:
January 20 - February 24
OR
Sunday Classes:
January 24 - February 28
7-8:30 PM
$29 for the book
Simply Living Office:
2350 Indianola Ave., Cols 43202
More info or to register: Jake DaSilva at jake.dasilva6@gmail.com

In partnership with Northwest Earth Institute

Change is Our Choice: Creating Climate Solutions
Fridays:
January 15 - February 5
3:30-5 PM
$29 for interactive e-book
Co-sponsored by Ecohouse Solar:
1857 Northwest Blvd., Suite 201, Cols 43212
More info or to register: Kevin Eigal at kevineigel@gmail.com or 614-805-5776.

For more details about these classes, visit SimplyLiving.university
to ensure that the historic agreement reached at the UN Summit in Paris achieves and exceeds its commitment to limit global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius, with an aim of 1.5 degrees.

Naomi Klein’s watershed book, *This Changes Everything: Capitalism Versus the Climate*, argues that climate change is not just another environmental issue. She calls it a “civilizational wake up call” that “could become a catalyzing force for positive change.” In this sense, climate change offers a unique opportunity to connect the dots across all the environmental and social justice movements. If everything changes, then we must all adapt.

Climate models show that business as usual – incremental adjustments to reduce fossil fuels, improve the techniques of industrial scale agriculture, and slow the destruction of the earth’s rain forests – will not be sufficient to avoid catastrophic disruption of the climate. Systemic changes will be required. Fortunately, movements are underway to reinvent our economic and financial systems, transition to renewable energy, transform our food system, create buildings that are net energy positive, plan new transit options, reclaim our democracy by eliminating corporate donations in our political systems, diversify our media communication systems, and revitalize our local communities in the process.

While all these systems have grown in complexity due to corporate globalization and overreach that threaten the earth’s ecosystems, the solutions emerging from the bottom up are relatively simple. Everyone is able to participate in local practices and policies that challenge the dominant values of our unsustainable consumer culture.

Simply Living’s vision “to create a compassionate and sustainable world through personal, community, and cultural transformation” aligns with the demand for systemic change. Our focus on living locally and sustainably is actually a
"solutions-multiplier." According to LocalFutures.org, the new localist agenda is a countervailing force that "simultaneously lowers CO2 emissions, restores democracy and provides secure livelihoods." We all have a role to play in the choices we make that will strengthen our communities through localization policies and practices.

Naomi Klein reminds us that the work of our time is bigger than climate change. We have the knowledge and the tools to eliminate fossil fuels by 2030 according to Mark Jacobson's work at Stanford. Frances Moore Lappé and daughter Anna know how to transform agriculture and transition to local food systems that can feed the world. David Korten, Marjorie Kelly, Michael Shuman and others have documented the path to "local living economies" that bring real prosperity to communities everywhere. So what is stopping us from implementing the work of these visionaries?

"We need to be setting our sights higher and deeper," says Klein. "What we’re really talking about, if we’re honest with ourselves, is transforming everything about the way we live on this planet." In other words, we need a cultural transformation. The move away from a materialistic, consumer society starts with individuals making sustainable lifestyle choices, and expands to the community level as ecological choices become institutionalized. Finally, our stories change and tell us who we are in this new world of complex, interrelated systems embedded in the earth’s magnificent living communities.

Thomas Berry expressed this new relationship succinctly: “The universe is a communion of subjects, not a collection of objects.”

Climate change can provide the catalyst for the cultural transformation necessary as we transition to an ecological culture. Simply Living's vision offers a useful framework to guide us as we implement a new localization agenda rooted in sustainable policies and practices.

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How to Engage with the Localist Agenda

**EAT (AND DRINK) LOCAL**
*Patronize farmers markets, locally owned restaurants*
Supports local/urban/organic farmers; local microbreweries, coffee roasters

**BUY LOCAL**
*Shift 10% of your shopping to locally owned retail stores*
Multiplier effect (2-4x) keeps $$ local; creates jobs, increases local tax revenue

**BANK LOCAL**
*Move your money to credit unions or community banks*
Keeps your mortgage local; more $$ available for small business loans

**INVEST LOCAL**
*Move 10% of your savings/portfolio to local investment funds*
Provides capital for small farmers, locally owned businesses, social enterprises

**LIVE LOCAL**
*Participate in your neighborhood and community; VOTE!*
Supports local arts, culture, festivals, fundraisers; vote for environment issues

**LEARN LOCAL**
*Take classes and workshops related to sustainability*
Supports agencies, businesses for clean energy, transit options, local foods

Learn more at ThinkColumbusFirst.org and SimplyLiving.org
Please support Simply Living’s local business members. In addition to yourselves, they help support our efforts to “build local.” You might also mention that you saw their listing in our directory.

**AUTOMOTIVE**

TONGDA AUTO SERVICE  
Cols, 43214  
614-262-1426

Auto Service | Sales | Lease | Rental

TongDaAuto.com

**BANKING**

KEMBA FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION  
614-235-2395

Kemba.org

**CLASSES / WORKSHOPS**

Boline Apothecary (see Health & Wellness)
Dabble and Stitch (see Sewing/Crafts)
Pearls of Wisdom (see Shops)
Randall Loop (see Health & Wellness)
Wholly Craft (see Sewing/Crafts)
City Folks Farm Shop (see Shops)

**COMMUNITY MARKETS**

BEXLEY NATURAL MARKET  
508 N. Cassady Ave.  
Bexley, OH  
614-252-3951

BexleyNaturalMarket.org

CLINTONVILLE COMMUNITY MARKET  
200 Crestview Rd.  
Cols, 43202  
614-261-3663

CommunityMarket.org

**ECO-SOLUTIONS**

ECOHOUSE SOLAR  
614-456-7641

EcoHouseSolar.com

GREEN TECH OF OHIO  
614-975-1206

GreenTechOfOhioLLC.com

**FLORISTS**

ECOFLORA  
614-266-1518

EcoFloraDesign.com

**HEALTH & WELLNESS**

KARYN DEIBEL, CERTIFIED SENIOR TRAGER® PRACTITIONER  
614-261-6480

The Trager® Approach

Karyn.Deibel@gmail.com

**ECOFLORA**  
614-266-1618

EcoFloraDesign.com

**GO SUSTAINABLE ENERGy**  
3709 N. High St., Ste. 100, Cols, 43214  
614-268-4263

GoSustainableEnergy.com

**GREEN TECH OF OHIO**

614-975-1206

GreenTechOfOhioLLC.com

**KARyN DEIBEL, CERTIFIED SENIOR TRAGER® pRACTITIONER**  
614-261-6480

The Trager® Approach

Karyn.Deibel@gmail.com

**ALL LIFE CENTER FOR INTEGRATIVE WELL BEING**  
123 Hyatts Road  
Delaware, 43015  
740-201-8242

AllLifeCenter.org
Simply Living is a community organization that celebrates and connects people to learning opportunities that promote community sustainability, environmental awareness, and our local economy through educational outreach and partnerships within our community.
BECOME A MEMBER OF SIMPLY LIVING

Fill out and mail in the form below along with a check OR sign up online at SIMPLYLIVING.ORG.

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**EMAIL**

PLEASE ADD ME TO: ☐ NEWSLETTER ☐ COMMUNITY UPDATE

**PHONE**

Make checks payable to Simply Living and Send to:

Simply Living  
PO Box 82273  
Columbus, OH 43202

Simply Living is a 501(c)(3) organization. Membership dues and contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

**LOCALIST LEVELS**

- $35 Individual
- $50 Family
- $20 Young Adult (<30) or Senior (>60)

**SUSTAINER LEVELS**

- $500 Community Builder
- $250 Idea Launcher
- $100 Friend
- Other $ ____________

**BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP**

Our members and the community at large refer to Simply Living for relevant and current resources. Join us as we build a vibrant local and supportive community for a resilient future! Questions? Contact Sarah Edwards at sedwards@simplyliving.org or call 614.447.0296 for more details.

CONTINUING OFFER . . .
GET A FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO YES! MAGAZINE! HOW?

- Join at the Friend Level ($100) or higher
- Become a Sustainer when you Donate $10 per month or more through your bank or credit card

Monthly pledges mean no more requests to update your membership! Save Trees!

WHO WE ARE

By Simply Living Board of Directors

Our members have been pioneers for 20+ years in learning to live responsibly and joyfully on the earth. Today, Simply Living is a hub of the wheel turning communities toward a sustainable future. We have a broad vision to co-create “a compassionate and sustainable world through personal, community, and cultural transformation.” As individuals, we encourage voluntary simplicity. As a community, we advocate for localization to rebuild our local economy, our food system, and transition to renewable energy. As a culture, we promote holistic approaches to living in harmony with nature.

The global consumer economy is not sustainable. Business as usual is not sustainable. Simply Living attracts cultural creatives working to change this status quo. We are a nonprofit, grassroots organization affiliated nationally with the Transition Town movement and the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies. We are intergenerational and welcome people of all ages, colors, creeds, or gender preference.

Please join us in our work to leave the world better than we found it for future generations.

E-mail: Hello@simplyliving.org.
Simply News, a publication of Simply Living, is published on a quarterly basis.

Thank you to all—volunteers, donors, and first timers—who helped make this such a successful and welcoming event!

23RD SIMPLY LIVING ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, February 20
12-3 PM

See Page 4 for Details!