

Slow Food Extravaganza at GISS – November 29, 2008

THANK YOU!

We, the co-founders of the Institute for Sustainability Education & Action (I-SEA), thank everyone that made this past Saturday's Slow Food Extravaganza at GISS a great success! Held at GISS in the multi-purpose room, the event raised awareness about I-SEA's eco-mentoring programs. Over 80 people attended the dinner and enjoyed the local, vegetarian, feast prepared by Bruce Wood. Bruce was able to source most of the ingredients from local farms and Natureworks; thank you, to all farmers for their hard work.

A huge thanks to the other I-SEA Board members, including, Brenda Guiled, Ellie Parks, Marion Pape and Peter Allan, many of whom spoke about their own mentoring experiences. We were lucky to also have several students of I-SEA, Roberta Skye and Jacquie Harkema share their own I-SEA project experiences. Marion and Manfred Pape also provided all the greenery and apple juice for the dinner, sourced from their own beautiful garden. More thanks are due to the Global Action Group from GISS, Kelsey, Sierra, Nicole, Olivia, Emily, Sam and Callum, who started the feast off by passing appetizers while modeling fair wage clothing from Om Grown. And thank you, Terri Bibby for the PR and Website support to get the word out!

Warm thanks to Alan Miceli for the soothing sounds before and during dinner, it was the perfect accompaniment to the fantastic food and conversation. Thank you to Island Escapades, the Driftwood, Om Grown Clothing and Salt Spring Coffee for sponsoring the event and supporting our eco-mentoring programs. Jack Rosen of Island Escapades deserves special thanks for his talk about Island Escapades role in eco-mentoring over the years, and sharing photos of the many trips Jack and Candace have taken with youth. And a fundraiser wouldn't be complete with the fantastic door prizes from Jill Louise Campbell, Rainbow Trading, Alan Miceli, Green Gecko, Om Grown, Louise Adele, Suzanne Ambers, Salt Spring Books, Graham Smith and Bruce Wood. We really appreciate your generous support.

We also thank all the volunteers, including many family and friends who spent most of their Saturday helping set-up the school to make it look like the candlelit dining room we had hoped for. We couldn't have done it without you! And those organizations who setup information tables, the Farmer's Alliance, SOLID, Earth Festival Society and Salt Spring Books.

The money raised from this event will help fund ongoing projects at I-SEA into 2009. To find out how to become a Friend of I-SEA and support these programs, please visit our website (www.i-sea.org) and click on 'Friends of I-SEA' to download the form. Also on the site is an updated list of all our recent sustainability events and projects, including our newest project, the Salt Spring Greenwise online map, in collaboration with Brenda Guiled.

It is a gift to live on this island, and it is our gift back to the island to have these awareness building events, that both strengthen our community and our planet. Thank you, Salt Spring.

Margery Moore & Mark Starik