



PATHWORK NEWSLETTER

PATHWORK IN
AUSTRALIA & TEXAS

Travels in China and Japan

In lieu of an October or November newsletter, I have set up a website that will contain essays on my adventures in presenting Pathwork lectures in China and Japan from October 11th through November 11th. You may view these essays at www.janrigsby.com (Yes, I am embarrassed to admit - this is a 'blog site'. I did not know any other way to keep a variety of groups informed while traveling. The first essay is enclosed below.)

Dual Chinese / English presentation materials in Microsoft Power Point Format on my website, www.pathworktexas.org. The Japanese materials are still being translated, only a few of them are available right now. I have attached a copy of the cover of the 2009 Chinese translation of 'The Undefined Self' which was published by Peking University Press and has opened up opportunities to speak to students in 12 highly reputable universities around China.

There will be 2 more public teleconferences in 2009: study materials may be downloaded from my website.

November 14th: Authority, pgl 46

December 12th: Commitment, Cause and Effect, pgl 196

In 2010, I will begin offering private teleconference sessions for small groups.

October 18, 2009 Letter number 1: Why, When, Where?

I write this note from Beijing, where David Schwerin and I have completed 3 presentations on Socially Responsible Business and Personal Transformation to graduate students of Beijing University. Tomorrow we speak to students of the Central Finance University before moving on to Tianjin, Shanghai, Suzhou and Fuzhou. By the end of October we will have made a dozen presentations to as many universities.

It's already been an extraordinary trip, surprising even for David (this is his 5th tour in China). He keeps telling me 'It's not normally like this!' but because it is my first trip to China. I have no frame of reference. It is simply extraordinary.

We were encouraged to share some of the trip events and details over the Leadership Circle 'live, reporting from China!' Yet it just didn't feel right to launch into the fun bits without offering some context. So I decided to share the Who, What, When, Where, and Why stuff first. The How (of preparation) was truly not much fun, but the results (in the form of PowerPoint presentations in both English and Chinese) can be downloaded from my website www.pathworktexas.org, where you can also see the beautiful cover which was designed for the Chinese edition.

David has left the reporting up to me, and so I may get some facts wrong as I have chosen to hit 'send' while the information and memories are fresh, rather than spend a week doing research and verifying details.

Continued on next page...

David Schwerin has been involved with New York and Philadelphia Pathwork for decades and served as the director of Pathwork Press for several years. His first book, *Conscious Capitalism* (1998), was translated into Chinese in 2001. The book sales far exceeded expectations, and David was invited to give presentations to the most reputable universities in China. On his 3rd expedition in 2005, after the publication (and translation) of *Conscious Globalism*, Donna Strauss was invited to join the tour, present Pathwork concepts, and meet with small groups of students who were interested in learning more about Pathwork. Donna generously shared some of her experiences (and traveling tips) with me.

It is a delicate process to introduce a spiritual practice such as Pathwork into China. The universities are given much more latitude than the general public, but all publications must still be reviewed by a government agency. On his last tour David was met by a government official who was assigned to review his first presentation; while nothing was said afterwards, this exemplifies how working within China can be extremely complex.

This year, Peking University Press agreed to publish the Chinese translation of Susan Thesenga's *The Undeclared Self*. This trip was planned to promote sales of the book by incorporating a talk on Pathwork concepts in David's business presentations. English copies of the book were sent to deans and department heads to gauge the level of interest and secure presentation commitments. Chinese networking was even more effective in generating interest and speaking dates - but more about that in another letter!

A calling forth was made on the Leadership Circle for Helpers who would be able to develop presentations and commit to an October journey. That's how I became involved. Being supported by a team would allow me to see China from the inside, and working with local people is my favorite way of learning about other cultures. Living and working as a Helper in Australia for seven years made me hungry for even more adventures, and I have a talent for translating concepts into every-day examples that helps me communicate with different cultures and life perspectives. I also had the time and resources to donate, as there are no salaries for these presentations and we paid all our own expenses for the 12 days plus international airfares. (Donations collected by the Pathwork Foundation were generously gifted to me to help with expenses. I am deeply grateful for this support).

There is so much to tell that I hardly knew where to begin. Spelling out the context of the journey feels somewhat dull, but perhaps this simulates how the trip unfolded for me – and why the actuality seemed so like a fairy-tale in comparison. Months of preparation and teleconferencing, trying to second-guess how to communicate with the Chinese and determining what concepts might be most relevant for them, followed by all the trip-planning details and itineraries... Even getting my visa was a new adventure, because it had to be applied for in person (by driving to Houston and staying over for a day or two while it was being processed) or arranged through a registered third-party agency. I wondered -- what kind of country wouldn't allow you to mail in your passport for a visa? The answer? The 3rd largest country on the planet, with one fifth of the world's population (1.3 Billion, with estimates as high as 1.6 Billion). China is extremely conservative when it comes to changing established policies and procedures for the sake of a few visitors.

I will write more tomorrow, as the day has been very long (and so is this first letter) and this Magical Mystery Tour deserves my best efforts to share it with you.

Best regards from David and Jan

