The AGS First National Conference

Living Well

through the effective use of language in thought and action, with General Semantics



27-29 August 2010 at "Armagh", 226 Kooyong Rd, Toorak, Vic.

Draft Programme

Friday evening 27 August 2010

Everyone (who has arrived): Introductions, Dinner at Armagh
For introductions, etc,
with Tom, Earl and any of their friends they care to bring along, on Friday evening.
Maybe view a video or sumpin, or leave it unstructured ...

Saturday morning 28 August ("AGS Members")

Optional: A series of six Morning Meditations (Sat - Wed 7:30am) "Reflections on our Dreams, and the Art of Listening" presented by Jeanne and Robert (It's not about listening to us!)

Session 1 of 6: "Qualities of Deep Listening: Listening for Essence"

- RJ (as Convenor, briefly): Welcome to Guests, etc, Introduction of Laurie as AGS Founder and Long-Term Practitioner
 - * Welcome to all, Thank you for the Sydney people coming so far,
 - * Rejoice in the establishment of the Victorian Chapter of AGS,
 - * Some practicalities for delegates living at Armagh and those visiting,
- 2. Pauline (as President):
 - * Background, Hopes and Aspirations of this First National Conference,
 - * Note on our plans to follow-on to the UN Conference Mon-Wed,
 - * Introduction of Laurie as AGS Founder and Long-Term Practitioner -
 - * BA / MA Anthropology, Graduate of the GS Institute Course in the USA,
 - * Winner of the Institute's Talbot Winchell Award, presented in Las Vegas 2003.
 - * Author, Gatherer of the Flock and Half-Century practitioner,
 - * Other Pauline thoughts ... ?

- 3. Laurie: Keynote Address: "Living Well with GS ... "
 - * Why I've done it for 50 years ...
 - * How I've seen it help in people's lives ...
 - * How it has helped me ... Triumphs and Tragedies in the practice of GS ...
 - * Expectations and Challenges for the future ...
 - * What I hope from this Conference ...
- 4. Tom: "Sanity Unsanity Insanity" / Psychology / Journalism Lance Strate ?

Perhaps a condensed overview of my own interpretations of GS as applied to psychology and even journalism.

I have been in correspondence with Lance Strate on my blog and I hope he too can contribute.

Tom Valcanis

Masters candidate in Communications and Media Studies

Monash University at Caulfield

School of Journalism and Australian Studies

Freelance Journalist

http://www.crushtor.net

http://twitter.com/crushtor | http://www.linkedin.com/in/crushtor

Crushtor Media Services Ptv. Ltd.

Writing for screen, print and online since 2003

*** Morning Tea ***

5. Earl: "Null-A, Nexialism and A E van Vogt"

Earl: "In regard to a possible topic for the conference, David emailed me some time ago and suggested I do a session on Nexialism, which featured in one of A E van Vogt's novels, The Voyage of the Space Beagle. Below is part of the reply I sent him:

'A E van Vogt is one of my SF favourite authors, too, with The Voyage of the Space Beagle an influence (which I only realised recently) on my thinking and my writing. I'm re-reading it at the moment, along with the original stories that formed the basis of the novel. I'm also making plans and taking notes for a presentation on Nexialism. I may even include some material on van Vogt's Null-A novels. Maybe the session could be called Null-A, Nexialism and A E van Vogt.'

Saturday arvo ("Public Welcome")

- RJ: "Welcome to Visitors" (Probably mostly people from the IofC community, Earl & Tom's contacts, etc), Intro Laurie to Visitors
 To GS and the AGS - a brief statement, to be illustrated by the following proceedings
- David: "GS Happiness Formula update"
 How to live a happier life (or at least a less unhappy one) via the application of GS formulations.
- 3. RJ: "Sense of Purpose and Living Well Applications of GS Principles (Timebinding)" Our reason d'etre? Value systems: Relative or Absolute?

*** Afternoon tea ***

- 4. David: "Problem-Solving with GS"
 How you can use general-semantics formulations along with modern problem solving methods, to improve your problem solving ability and creativity.
- 5. Questions and Discussion Moderated by Pauline with panellists and all GS members.
- 6. Wrap-up by Jeanne:

"Thank you to our Initiatives of Change hosts at Armagh for looking after us here, Thank everyone you for coming - Hope it has been of some interest and value to you.

Thank you to the presenters.

Have a look at our books and materials, and please leave an email address or contact of some form for us to keep in touch.

After dinner, please join us for the evening's proceedings, which will be of a pleasant and edifying nature, as those of you who are familiar with this place will understand!"

Please join us now for dinner at (maybe a buffet on the lawns) ... "

Saturday night ("Public Welcome")

CJ: "Something creative"
 With Claire etc
 Impressions from Sat arvo
 Role of entertainment in communication eg core values?

*** Supper ***

Dave H: "Good to hear we are getting R&R on Saturday night".

Sunday morning 29 August ("AGS Members")

7:15am: J&R: "Reflections on our Dreams, and the Art of Listening"

Session 2 of 6: "Learning from Experience: Listening for New Possibilities"

1. Dave H: "Identity, non identity and then what?"

Korzybski showed up identification as one of the problems with group words. He proposed the solution of non identity. This talk takes this analysis further and proposes several other solutions to the problems we get into when we compare groups.

*** Morning Tea ***

- 2. Earl: "Creativity and creative problem solving" which I feel would incorporate material from GS, Edward de Bono and general principles of imagination and inspiration.
- (If we're not continuing this arvo): Closing Remarks by the Convenor (RJ), and Plenary Address by Laurie: Brief reflections upon the proceedings, Welcome to join in the afternoon frolics, Farewell to travellers (if any at this time) on their travels, A few thoughts towards the UN Conference this week.

Sunday arvo ("AGS Members")

River Cruise etc, and/or More GS!
 Low cost: Great for the visitors if weather is good!
 Dave:

Yes, Sunday afternoon, ... probably would prefer to do some more GS. Maybe we could leave him watching Milton's tape?

LOL (Yes, I know, ... -just a joke.)

A river cruise would be nice if the weather is good.

But if it's pouring or cold I think I'd rather stay indoors and talk GS.

(Inclement weather option) "Living Longer - Living Well - GS Formulations at Work"
How GS can help us live longer by intelligently applying its behavioural change
methods.

Sunday evening ("AGS Members")

 Everyone: "Reflections of AGS Conference, and Prep for UN Conference What did we learn? How can we apply it Who (Whom) did we meet - How can we follow-up with them? Appreciation to Armagh hosts!

Monday 30 August

7:15am: J&R: "Reflections on our Dreams, and the Art of Listening"

Session 3 of 6: "In Dialogue: Listening for Context"

UN Conference: Day 1 of 3.

Tuesday 31 August

7:15am: J&R: "Reflections on our Dreams, and the Art of Listening"

Session 4 of 6: "Hearing Nuances: Listening for Each Voice

UN Conference: Day 2 of 3.

Wednesday 1 September

7:15am: J&R: "Reflections on our Dreams, and the Art of Listening"

Session 5 of 6: "Patience: Listening with Intention"

UN Conference: Day 3 of 3.

Thursday 2 September

7:15am: J&R: "Reflections on our Dreams, and the Art of Listening"

Session 6 of 6: "Being Ourselves: Listening with authenticity - Principles of Dialogue"

Home we go!.

~ 0 ~