

# Subud East Coast Spring 2009 Newsletter

## Subud East Coast 2009 Congress



STEVENS Institute, Hoboken, NJ June 4 -7

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Arrive the evening of June 4 for the gathering beginning Friday  
June 5 until midday Sunday, June 7

Lodging: Castle Point Apartments, roomy with private  
bathrooms, approx. \$70.

Dining: The college dining room, in the same building  
Breakfast \$8, lunch \$9, dinner \$13.  
(all prices quoted are approximate)

## Stevens Institute

Stevens Institute is the very same location that Bapak visited in 1981. For those of you who were fortunate to be there, this will be a wonderful "reunion" at a beautiful venue. For those of you who, like me, are visiting for the first time, we promise a wonderful, exciting and spirit-filled weekend.

A day for Dewan meetings is set aside for Thursday, June 4. Members and families who will not be a part of the meeting should plan to arrive Thursday evening.

A more detailed price list of accommodations and meals will be sent out shortly. Early registration is HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to help defray the cost of the deposit and facilities rental.

Stevens Institute is located just across the Hudson River from Manhattan. Kristiana Kaleb is living there when not at school, and reports on extra-curricular

## Links

Stevens Institute:  
[www.stevens.edu](http://www.stevens.edu)

2009 National Gathering:  
[www.subudusa.org](http://www.subudusa.org)  
click on National Gathering  
2009

World Congress 2010:  
[www.subudworldcongress2010.com](http://www.subudworldcongress2010.com)

**Send Us Your Stories!**  
Have a story to share?  
Send us your story, bio,  
how you came to Subud,  
an article, or anything  
Subud or spiritually  
related you would like to  
share with us. Submit it,  
and we'll print it in our  
next newsletter!

activities: "Hoboken has a gazillion fabulous restaurants with many different ethnic food choices within walking distance of the campus. Families should be encouraged to bring bikes, roller skates, skate boards, etc. There is a skate park a short distance from the campus. There is biking along the river and throughout the city (all of one square mile!) ... A ferry ride from Hoboken to NYC/Central Park Zoo & Carousel would make a great day trip for kids. Another day trip could be to take the Light Rail from Hoboken to Liberty State Park to visit the Liberty Science Center, the Interpretive Center, and/or take a boat from there to the Statue of Liberty or to Ellis Island.

Volunteers for various posts will be needed, so if you have any special talents, abilities, or just a desire to help make this Gathering one of the best ever, please let us know! We'll have positions for childcare, day trip chaperones, registration, enterprise booth, etc.

Ideas for workshops are welcome, too. If you have a musical or artistic talent you would like to showcase, send along your proposal as well.

## SEC Treasurer's Report, from Frederic

When I became SEC Treasurer in October 2008, there was about \$11,500 in the checking account. The helpers informed me that \$5,000 of that amount should be in a Certificate of Deposit ear-marked for a housing fund, as it had once been. An original housing fund CD of that value had been used sometime before to pay for an incurred debt.

A new \$5,000 CD was purchased on Dec 26th. A few days later a generous contributor sent \$2,000; half was to be for the housing fund, the other half for the checking account. \$1,000 was put in a Money Market until the CD matures in Sept. '09. A new CD will be bought then with the combined total.

The Annual Financial Report that was sent to Subud USA showed a total income of \$32,949.25, total expenses of \$33,966.97, for a net loss of \$1,017.72. The statement of Assets and Liabilities at end of year is a net worth of \$8,863.43.

Subud East Coast's geographical responsibility for helper travel is very large because it includes the Caribbean Islands. Recent expenses for helper travel to Trinidad was \$1,457.66, which presently leaves \$4,124 in our account. Our regular monthly expenses have been \$900.33, of which \$850 is our contribution to SUSAs.

Subud New York, Subud Boston, Subud Philadelphia, and Subud Washington D.C. are the only centers that contribute monthly to SEC for a combined \$1,050.00. Granted this is a difficult time to discuss money matters, but if any other Centers can support this region, now is the time. Up until now, there are only three members of the entire East Coast that contribute monthly.

Last year's SEC gathering in May cost \$8,499. I am concerned that we may not be able to meet our obligation at this year's June 4-7 gathering unless more of our members are willing to help. I understand these are times of economic uncertainty. However, that is why support is more vital than ever.

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I would like to resurrect a program formerly called "Six for SEC," which enabled members to contribute \$6.00 each month through a credit/debit card. I am calling this program "Six or More for SEC." Six dollars a month is a small amount for an individual contribution, but imagine multiplying that amount by 100 donations! Please print the following form and return it to me. I thank everyone for your help and consideration.

My love to all,

**Frederic Casilli, Treasurer**

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**"Six or More for SEC"**

Sign me up! I want to contribute \$6 (or more) per month to SEC via automatic credit card payment. I understand that I can end this agreement any time by notifying the SEC Treasurer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Apt # City, State Zip

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mastercard/Visa Card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

cvv2\* (the last 3 digits AFTER the credit card number in the signature area of the card) \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Frederic Casilli, Treasurer  
Subud East Coast  
212 Lemoyne Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

## Introducing New SEC Secretary Andrea Koontz



(Formerly "Laura"...Andrea is my Subud name, which I am using now)

I met and married Kris Koontz when I was 19-he was only 20. It was love at first sight, and we were married just 5 months to the day of meeting. I was raised Catholic in a family of 5 children-I was the youngest. Kris was raised a Subud baby, in a family of 3 children-he was the youngest. Both Kris' older sisters are in Subud: Deanna Kemler from Philadelphia, PA, and Erika Bell formerly of Chicago, Ill, who lives in S. FL near us. Kris' parents Jonathan and Henrietta

Koontz were opened in the 50's by John Bennett. The Koontz's were well known by many in Subud, and have been to many conferences and to several world gatherings. Henrietta passed away in 2003, and Jonathan in 2008.

Kris and I are still happily married, and we have 2 grown children-Mike, 24, and Rebecca, 22. We are recently 'empty nesters', and are enjoying it! Mike our son is also in Subud. Mike was very close to Jonathan, his grandpa. In 2005, Jonathan took Mike to Innsbruck, Austria for the world congress. It was the trip of a lifetime for them both.

In 2002 I suffered a cerebral hemorrhage (burst brain aneurysm) and was in a coma, then ICU for weeks; I am one of the few to survive this and not have any serious permanent disability. I had several brain surgeries, a permanent shunt put in to keep me alive, and I'm happy to say I'm now better than ever-not a day goes by that I am not very thankful to be alive! My life has been forever changed; my perspective on life changed, and I have been quickly growing and evolving into a new, better person since that experience. You know that saying "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger"? Well, it's really true!

Up until last year I was working as a professional musician as a church music minister/choir director, and also as a secretary at the same church. I have worked in churches my entire life singing, playing organ, piano, leading children's choirs, adult choirs, hand-bell choirs, bands, and small orchestras. Almost 2 years ago I left church work to be an office manager and administrative assistant for several famous, wealthy Palm Beach families. I love it. They treat me like gold, and I love having my weekends free for the first time in my adult life! I do miss the music, but I can fulfill that on my own with my piano at home.

I now have more time to devote to Subud since my weekends are free. I haven't been to many congresses or meetings at all due to having to work at the church every weekend for the past 24 years! I am REALLY looking forward to getting to know more of you, my Subud brothers and sisters, and am very happy to be finally contributing to the organization of Subud by stepping up to help as your new Secretary. Please, if you have any ideas or suggestions, feel free to email me at [laura@kkpcnet.com](mailto:laura@kkpcnet.com).

in love, Andrea

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## News from Trinidad!

### Regional Helper Visit, February 13-18, 2009

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Since Subud East Coast is currently responsible for the Caribbean area, Jasmin Webb and Laurie Lathrop traveled to Trinidad, an island only a few miles from South America. We had been told that there was one woman there doing latihan at home and two women waiting to be opened. Although we asked how they knew about Subud, their names, and what they might have read, we didn't have any answers by e-mail. By the time we arrived the woman who had been opened was no longer active and declined to meet with us, and one of the applicants had dropped out. So the group then consisted of four men. One, Latiff Westmaas, is the helper as well as an imam, and they do latihan in his mosque twice a week. Off and on they have visitors like Hillary Marica (kejiwaan councilor from Suriname) and Mattheus Kaslan (an international helper for Area 3). Latiff met us at the airport and dropped us off at the home of another member, Stacy Seecharan, who had kindly offered us his place to stay. Latiff was a marvelous host! He picked us up at Stacy's each day, took us sightseeing, to meetings with the applicant, to see the beach (in the rain unfortunately) and to taste all kinds of local foods. We thank Latiff enormously for all his time and kindness to us.

The applicant who remained interested, Carol Dookie, was happy to meet with us. We spoke with her for the two nights Jasmin was there, and we could feel that the process prior to opening was beginning to work in her. However, testing suggested that she was not yet ready to be opened. In addition, we both felt a concern about opening someone who had no other woman to do latihan with, basically without support except by e-mail and occasional phone calls. Jasmin had to leave the next day, but Carol met with me that evening. Like the two previous meetings, it was lengthy, moving, and intense. When I tested the following day it seemed clearly right that it was time for her opening. The opening went smoothly, and Carol was able to describe her experience in detail. It left her quite peaceful and joyful, and both of us felt enormous gratitude to Almighty God.

As it turned out, she will be able to go to latihan twice a week at the mosque at the same time that the men are there. That evening Carol cooked and served a delicious dinner for her husband, son, and me, an Indo-Trinidadian curry with homemade roti! And it was topped off by a creamy dessert called sawine. What a fine taste treat of Trinidad to conclude the visit!

Jasmin Webb and Laurie Lathrop

### Commercial Printer Available

A Lexmark C912 printer was given to Subud East Coast and is currently in the office of Alexandra terHorst. While it was a most generous gift, Alexandra is not able to find a way to use it for the SUSA newsletter as she had hoped. As the terHorsts need the space in their office for other things, we are hoping to find another use/home for the printer. Perhaps a church, school or other business would be interested in purchasing it. If anyone is able to help, please contact Amelia Casilli (412-561-4511)\_ for more information.

**FIND EACH OTHER! SUBUD USA NATIONAL DIRECTORY 2009**

**NOW AVAILABLE**

USA Names, addresses, phone, e-mails, fax-Huge Subud Websites List-Local, Regional, National, Zonal , International information

THIS YEAR'S TREAT: POETRY from SUBUD WRITERS

ORDER FORM: Available from Subud USA, 14019 NE 8th St #A, Bellevue, WA 98007. One to four are \$15 each. CENTERS -5 or more copies are \$14 each.

Please send \_\_\_\_ Copies of SUBUD USA DIRECTORY 2009 @ \$\_\_ ea

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**SUBUD USA SICA CALENDAR 2009**

This handsome SICA-USA Calendar was produced by SICA chair Leonard Dixon.

Purchase now from Subud USA for yourself and as gifts for friends and family! ONLY \$6.95 each! Sale PRICE \$5.95 YOU JUST CAN'T BEAT THAT! Pictures speak louder than words!

Subud USA Order Form for SICA CALENDAR 2009

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Shop at [www.igive.com](http://www.igive.com). 650 stores give a % of your purchase to Subud USA. Join free, and choose Subud USA as your favorite charity!

AND go to our Subud Gift Shop at <http://www.subudusa.org/GiftShopOnline.html>

Please contact us. We would love to hear from everyone!

Blessings and love,

Amelia Casilli, Chair

Subud East Coast

[ameliacasilli@yahoo.com](mailto:ameliacasilli@yahoo.com)

412-451-4511

