

Report from the Online Waldorf Library

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The RIWE's springtime colloquium, held in Amherst last May in conjunction with the Institute's annual board of trustees meeting, focused on the health-bearing strength of observational science as antidote to the effect of excessive usage. Craig and Henrike Holdrege of the Nature Institute led the expanded RIWE board group, including John Barnes of Adonis Press and Melanie Reiser of AWSNA. We investigated our own powers of observation and sensory acumen through exercises and discussed these in light of directives given by Rudolf Steiner concerning the path to reality (not illusion) and the need to allow phenomena to speak to us before we project what we know onto them. John Barnes presented a glimpse into his newly published edition of Wolfgang Schad's long-awaited, two volume *Understanding Mammals* (Adonis Press, 2018). And Douglas Sloan, RIWE board member *emeritus*, offered a summary of his compelling book on Darwinism and our relationship to animals, *The Redemption of the Animals* (SteinerBooks, 2016). Douglas's call for consciousness concerning our animal brethren informed with compassion our discussions. Schad's revised book will be featured in an extended workshop led by Mark Riegner from Prescott College at AWSNA's Waldorf100 teachers conference in June 2020.

The Online Waldorf Library continues to be a positive and effective resource for those interested in Waldorf education in countries all over the world. Our 2018 data indicates 198,500 visitors to the OWL. Although site visits from English-speaking countries predominate, Spanish-speaking site visitors are on the increase. Interestingly, in 2018 the OWL saw the same number of site visits from Kenya as from Switzerland... 393 visits from each country! Djibouti accounted for just one site visitor and the United States for 47,000.

We are fortunate to be able to offer an ever-expanding number of eBooks, available in PDF format, which can be accessed by downloading free software from Adobe Reader.

eBooks added since the Fall of 2018, in English, include:

- *Dancing Hand—Trotting Pony* by Wilma Ellersiek
- *Research Institute for Waldorf Education issue on Technology*
- *The World of Fairy Tales* by Daniel Udo de Haas
- *Walking with Our Children* by Nancy Blanning
- *The Mood of the Fifth*, edited by Nancy Foster
- *Merrily We Sing* by Ilian Willwerth
- *Toymaking* by Gun Lee Blue
- *Love as the Source of Education: The Life Work of Helmut von Kügelgen*, edited by Susan Howard

eBooks added in Spanish include:

- *Creando un Círculo de Liderazgo Espiritual Colaborativo*, edited by Roberto Trostli
- *El Desarrollo infantil Los primeros siete años*, WECAN, Gateways Series #3
- *Una bienvenida cálida y apacible: Niños de cero a tres años*, WECAN, Gateways Series #5

New articles in Spanish are posted every month and can be accessed from the Home page and clicking on *Artículos en Español*.

As always, back issues of the *Research Bulletin*, *Gateways* (Waldorf Early Childhood Assn.), *Pedagogical Section/Rundbrief* and a number of other international publications are available online in our Journals section.

The Online Waldorf Library welcomes your questions and we are happy to help you with your research projects.

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