



## Servas Canada: Furthering peace through multicultural dialogue

Occasional Bulletin 1

March 2017

Dear Servas members:

As National Secretary, I receive a number of notices from other Servas member countries about upcoming activities or news. I hope to regularly put this information on our revised Servas Canada website.

Occasionally though, I may include them in an edited short one or two-page bulletin. J.

Julie L. Cormack, National Secretary  
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Welcome to Servas Canada's Occasional Bulletin!

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### INTERNATIONAL

#### Launch of new Servas Website

On February 1, 2017, Servas International launched its modernized website in the existing Internet domain [www.servas.org](http://www.servas.org). The new website will have all current information, news items, Servas history, and details that promotes our organisation. This website is built on the ServasOnline platform that also contains a search engine for easy communication between travellers and potential hosts. The ServasOnline platform gives member groups/countries tools to handle the important task of member administration.

In July 2016, Servas France was the first country to transfer its member data to ServasOnline. Since then, several countries

have transferred their member data; as of January 2017, almost 40 countries are stored on ServasOnline.

ServasOnline will become the main solution for member administration in Servas, which means older systems like Dolphin, Whale, and country-specific systems will be replaced by ServasOnline. Until the transition is complete, the current Dolphin Host List Storage Area will remain active and Key Dolphin will be available. There will be regular communications about the progress towards completing the move to the new ServasOnline member system.

[Julie NB: Servas Canada's data has been fully transferred to ServasOnline with the dedicated work of Judy Bartel and Jim Leask; thanks Judy and Jim!!]

Questions? Send to [servasonline@servas.org](mailto:servasonline@servas.org)

#### \* **ServasOnline Member System Manager:**

Pablo Colangelo (SI Exco & Servas Argentina)

#### \* **ServasOnline National Coordinators:**

Judy Bartel (Servas Canada), Harley Thomas (Servas Sweden), Jorge González (Servas Spain)

#### \* **ServasOnline Development Project**

**Manager:** Bernard Andrieu (Servas France)

\* **ServasOnline Transition Manager:** Guy Gourmellet (Servas France)

**Managing Web Editor** for [servas.org](http://servas.org): Jonny Sågänger (SI Exco & Servas Sweden)

Jonny Sågänger, President, Servas International  
[president@servas.org](mailto:president@servas.org)

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**ITALY**

Dear Servas member countries:

I am writing to you about the traditional summer meeting in the Alps:

**Pathways Together 2017**

Come and meet joyfully old and new friends, share memorable moments in a wonderful environment. The event is open to members worldwide and will take place from *Friday 30 June to Wednesday 5 July 2017* in the Varaita Valley, Italian Alps.

The program has daily excursions and a **three-day trek** exploring the Varaita Valley and Monviso mountains. There will be various levels of difficulty: high, medium, and easy.

Please find the detailed program at <http://www.segnavia.piemonte.it/sentierin sieme2017.html>

If interested, please book as soon as possible because the event fills up.

**Arrivederci! Hope to see you there!**

Anna Cristina Siragusa (member of Italian Executive Committee of Servas) [annacristinaservas@libero.it](mailto:annacristinaservas@libero.it)

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**MALAWI**

Hello! Happy New Year from Servas Malawi

Please find attached our latest newsletter from the very sunny and very smiley part of Africa! We are in the middle of our rainy season and pleased as it helps our maize grown tall - our staple food.

Here's what we have been up to. I for one am looking forward to our next social meeting in March to hear all about Jamaica - a country I have always wanted to visit. I have attached information about our SYLE programme in Malawi in case you may be interested in coming to visit us.

IN peace - smiles

Demelza Benbow  
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[Julie NB: The Malawi newsletter and SYLE details will be available on the Servas Canada website soon]

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**ARGENTINA**

Dear Servas member countries:

We're organizing the **CSE (Cultural Servas Exchange program)** focussed on the Tango. It is a three-week program. We invite females and males who wants practice their *Spanish language skills and tango* in our country to contact me so we can coordinate your participation and dates. The participant pays their ticket, meals, and extras during their stay (i.e., classes, tickets for milongas, taxis, etc.). Servas Argentina members will offer all kind of tips and orientation as well as company, in addition to the tango classes and milongas. Spanish classes will be scheduled. There are no special dates for this program; we arrange everything depending on the participant's trip. We have four programs/year. It is necessary for the participant to have some Spanish language knowledge and some tango experience before coming here. We hope the participant will speak about his/her country and his/her profession, teach us how to cook special dishes, but most important be an ambassador of his/her country and offers things in return. **Our CSE program has run many times and it is always a very successful experience. I hope I've tempted you to do it. I'll be waiting to hear form you!** [Please consider that we need some time to organize all details.]

Ana Manghi, National Secretary, Servas Argentina  
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