



— Building Bridges to a New World —

1. What is community network weaving?

Beyond the current, one-dimensional concept of networking strictly for business purposes, *community network weaving* is the conscious integration of community resources applying the universal spiritual virtues of Love, Integrity, Courage, Service, and Respect.

Weaving works by getting back to the basics of our humanity—connecting people heart to heart in a common effort to build the world we want. An integrated spiritual life is essential to be able to transcend our own likes and dislikes so that we can be useful in breaking down the walls of separation that we ourselves have erected and give birth to a new, life-affirming culture. In this process, we release energy that becomes available to build a new, awakened conscious community.

2. Why is community network weaving necessary?

We raise consciousness by building bridges and networks within and between areas of community life (building blocks) to demonstrate a new way of living with each other and the planet. We create a pro-active response to global issues by working to keep our efforts local. We bring together those already working to "do good" in a concerted effort.

Weaving will:

- release the "creative intelligence" within community organizations, businesses and residents to establish positive virtues, technologies, social structures, and economic health that reflect our vision of a cooperative and supportive community way of life,
- come from the highest spiritual intention by demonstrating universal virtues while looking for common opportunities in connecting our community to solve practical issues within the building block areas, and
- help us to build bridges, be a source of healing, and raise community consciousness in this troubled, yet extraordinary period in history.

3. What is the goal of CCN network weaving?

To move beyond an ego-based way of living in order to build a new society (an "Ark") based on universal spiritual virtues, interconnection, and service. Our goal is nothing less than spiritual, social, and economic transformation of society, starting with ourselves.

4. What is an "Ark"?

The Ark is a metaphor for a new social and economic infrastructure that supports the growth of a new society within the old. We focus spiritual power, energy and the social and material resources in our local region—in a process of "localization." It is an "intentional" community without walls within a modern urban area that can support itself even with global "dislocations" such as economic depression, and natural and human-made disasters. An Ark results when community organizations, businesses, religious and spiritual groups, activists, government, and people with a lot of heart consciously connect and embrace this common effort. This intentional process is achieved via a series of "building blocks" involving all aspects of a community concurrently. (see sidebar).

BUILDING BLOCKS

Local Economy

- Cooperating with local, independent businesses to increase "local economic multiplier" (jobs; more contributions of money and volunteers to local non-profits; more spending to other local businesses; increase tax base for public finding of local infrastructure); and, to encourage virtuous behavior within business that focuses on service to people and the planet.
- Examples: Breakfast meetings, physical/online director, "Keep Truckee Meadows Wild and Independent" branding

Clean & Healthy Natural Environment

- Preserving and protecting our community's natural resources.
- Examples: Breakfast meetings on Water and Sustainability

Community Peace & Safety

- Providing safety to our community by increasing the connections amongst neighbors and with community organizations, and by fostering goodwill in our community
- Example: *Get to Know Your Neighbor Day*

Food

- Providing healthy, sustainable, and affordable food for all by increasing the local production and consumption of food in our community.
- Example: Local Food System Network

Neighbor Helping Neighbor

- Being of service to our neighbors wherever we may find them—next door, at work, throughout the community, and world.
- Example: *Get to Know Your Neighbor Day*

Community Empowerment of those on the "margins"

Networking resources and skills so that ALL community members can help themselves meet their basic needs, e.g., homeless, elderly, children, and youth.

Local Energy

- Encouraging a sustainable and self-reliant energy future for our community.
- Example: *Sustainable Community Expo*

Arts & Culture

- Raise awareness and connect the passions and perspectives of our community members and organizations through arts and cultural activities.
- Examples: *Valentine's Day Dance*, Christmas caroling, the annual celebration bringing together business and the arts

CCN builds connections and networks in every “building block” simultaneously and, more importantly, we infuse spiritual awareness and virtues in the building of connected networks that make up the Ark.

5. On a practical basis, what does the network weaver do each day?

Be available and become aware of and engage in opportunities to be of service to those who are already working to make a better world in the 12 building block areas by connecting them to other individuals and groups who can help them become more effective.

A weaver:

- demonstrates a new way of living by “walking our talk”: practicing universal virtues and being of service to help others who are passionate about making a difference.
- connects individuals and groups to each other (especially to those that you may not affiliate with) and to resources that will help them realize their dreams of a better world—while connecting these projects to the broader conscious community network for change.
- describes the foundational aspects of CCN and networking and how this is overcoming community divisiveness and instead is raising community consciousness, which is spreading around the globe.

6. Reaching critical mass for spiritual and community change.

Weaving works through a catalytic effect that comes from applying spiritual virtues as part of connecting community. A weaver triggers a chain reaction—we enlist those who we have helped to become change agents themselves—to practice the virtues by helping still others, and asking them to make linkages to still other “nodes,” thus, expanding the growing movement for community transformation.

We have used a grass roots approach that goes directly to the people instead of becoming immersed in the “political” or institutional aspects of community life. In this way, we infuse positive spiritual power and energy into the developing community infrastructure the weavers are actively building. A small number of weavers can help spread the word to others who will spread the word and so on until we have reached an alignment of “community intention” or critical mass to move in this positive direction. This sets the stage for a series of what could be called quantum leaps in building a new society.

After 4 years of community building, we now are expanding the number of weavers to create a “distributed” leadership throughout the northern Nevada region to greatly magnify the effects and build a critical mass of people who are working in a coordinated way. We are enlisting community members to be a part of teams of weavers who are passionate about particular aspects of community life and who are also committed to the overall effort to build a new society from within the old—a modern “Ark.”

What is your passion? Check the building blocks to the right and join a team of weavers. Or, be a generalist.

**If you are interested, we meet the first Monday of each month.
Contact (775) 851-2993 for more information.**

Housing

- Providing affordable and safe housing for all of our community; green building.
- Example: Breakfast meeting on “Housing for All”

Family and Community Health & Wellness

Promoting the physical, mental, and emotional wellness of families and our community through daily practices of healthy living.

Education/Mentoring

Encouraging life-long learning for all members of our community, and proving opportunities for relationships to develop through mentoring.

Spiritual Awakening

This is the foundation of all activities to build community – rooted in demonstrating the common virtues of Love, Integrity, Courage, Service, and Respect. We provide support to each other so that we can consistently come from a “power greater than ourselves” as we connect the community.

FIVE VIRTUES

Love: power that connects.

Compassion	Humility
Kindness	Patience
Generosity	Joy
Forgiveness	Appreciation

Integrity: do what’s right, the ability to hold together and properly regulate all of the elements of one’s personality.

Authenticity	Balance
Responsibility	Self-Reliance
Honesty	Simplicity
Trustworthiness	Honor

Courage: strength to do what’s right, overcome fear, adhere to a higher standard no matter what happens.

Strength	Discipline
Perseverance	Restraint
Acceptance	Nobility
Dedication	

Service: an ethic of “Service to Humanity” in daily life.

Goodwill	Involvement
Sharing	Community
Caring	

Respect: demonstrating positive regard for ourselves and others

Mindfulness	Cooperation
Fairness	Dignity
Civility	