

Joan Almon

Brigitte Goldmann

Many years ago, when the Council of the International Association was called „Kuratorium“, and met in Germany, most of the members were German speaking. Then Joan Almon joined the group as the representative of North America. With her a new voice, a new tune was there, and we started to translate into English. On the one hand Joan had a lot of humor and lightness, but when a decision had to be made, she was clear and determined, sometimes more than a little choleric. She and I were in a small group called the Finance Council („Wirtschaftsrat“,) where the budget of the international association was discussed. Her social feeling was quite strong, and she could be very creative with ideas how to help the work in countries without financial resources. We not only worked together, but also had fun, on the stage at conferences in Hannover and other places around the world.

Joan and her husband moved in 1978 for one year to Austria where she learned in our kindergarten from Bronja Zahlingen a lot about Waldorf kindergarten. She was my colleague there and so a personal friendship began. We did workshops on puppetry together in the USA, in Sacramento, Spring Valley and Nashville, and we spent vacations together talking for hours about how to work with little children. It was a time to develop new ideas. She had so many stories about unusual situations which brought questions to think about and often to have a good laugh. She was such a precious friend for me.