***Hosting Team for America’s Soul Cafés***

**Kim Crowley** is a training and dialogue consultant whose umbrella goal in life (both work and play) is to help people hear each other. Her toolkit includes skills in facilitation, workshop design and delivery, teaching, critical thinking, conflict management, NVC (Non-Violent Communication), brain science, experiential activities, writing, and a variety of methods for structuring conversations around things that matter. Themes that infuse her work include perspective-taking, curiosity, managing bias, and building clarity.

She completed training in the World Café methodology through the Berkana Institute and through a Sandy Hook community project (before tragedy struck the village). Additional training in dialogue practice has come through Essential Partners (formerly the Public Conversations Project), U. of Southern Maine, Everyday Democracy, Authentic Revolution, and (New Haven) Community Mediation.

Kim’s more recent spiritual journeys, locally and in Ireland, have focused on feminist and Celtic spirituality. She is beginning a year-long program in applied feminist spirituality at the Women’s Leadership Institute at Hartford Seminary and is also leading a Franklin Circle on living applied values.

She looks for the deeper level of enjoyment that is underneath everything but tends to focus on hiking, curiosity, vocal improv, good communication, and small group politics. She holds an MS in Industrial and Organizational Psychology and a double  B. Mus. Ed. in Music Therapy and Music Education.

Kim Crowley, Principal, Training & Development Support

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Bill Kelly is a retired university lecturer. He grew up in New York City and got Bachelor's and Master's degrees in philosophy at NYU. Leaving the United States, his travels during the 1970s brought him to Africa, India, Southeast Asia, and East Asia. Eventually settling in Japan, he remained there for almost twenty years, married a Japanese woman and had two children.

In Japan, he became interested in intercultural communication which he then taught at a junior college for 10 years. One consuming interest was understanding the causes of Japan's war with the rest of Asia and the United States and another was transpersonal psychology and exploring spirituality from Eastern and Western perspectives. He organized discussion groups, symposia, and lecture series, wrote articles, reviewed books regularly for the Japan Times, and gave many talks in Tokyo on cultural and spiritual subjects.

Returning to the United States in 1996, he received a PhD in communication studies at the University of New Mexico and his dissertation was on Japan-US relations. At UCLA and California State University, Northridge, he taught intercultural communication, communication theory, and interpersonal communication before retiring in 2014.

For over 30 years, he has been practicing in the Indian spiritual tradition. He has written a spiritual autobiography, It Didn't Come Easy, and continues to study philosophy, communication, culture, and politics. His website is billkelly.life.

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Robert Kauffman trained as an architect several decades ago and has been helping people discover their ‘perfect’ home ever since. He currently lives and designs in Atlanta, Georgia – along with his lovely wife, three cats and a bounteous garden.

Robert’s life journey has centered on communal living and spiritual search – in particular among people associated with the Emissaries of Divine Light. He lived in one or another of the Emissary communities for over 20 years. In the 1990s, he donated his time to the non-governmental (civil society) community of the United Nations, based at the New York headquarters. He was voted into the Executive Committee of the Department of Public Information NGOs and served for three years up until 2001. His aim was to foster engagement in the UN vision among American and international volunteers.

Authentic experience is ours for the living – if we just do it.

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Virginia Swain is a social entrepreneur, spiritual guide, leadership trainer, mediator and master coach, in everything she does, Virginia Swain draws on her background of certified leadership agility coaching, senior management in human resources, marketing and public relations in both corporate and nonprofit organizations, as well as 25 years of work experience at the United Nations in New York and on five continents. She was trained to host World Cafés at Fielding Graduate School.

Shortly after the attacks of September 11, 2001, she founded the Institute for Global Leadership to provide training and coaching for leaders and teams to adapt to the changed dynamics of our post-September 11th world. Together with her husband, Joseph Baratta, Ph.D., she is also the co-founder of the Center for Global Community and World Law.

An adjunct faculty member at Clark University, Baypath College, Quinsigamond Community College, Lesley University and Salve Regina University, Virginia has taught courses on career development, leadership, cross-cultural conflict transformation, change management, and managing in a global economy, and developed a customized leadership curriculum in the United Nations to redefine leadership.

She highlights human goodness and service to others in America’s Soul Cafés for a Spiritual Renaissance for America, her television show, “Imagine Worcester and the World,” which debuted in 2007, and in her blogs, found at virginiaswain.com.

Virginia earned a master’s degree from Lesley University in Community Building in Organizations and has advanced certifications from the Summer Peacebuilding Institute at Eastern Mennonite University in Ethnic Identity Consultation, Skills for the Religious Peacebuilder, and Consulting in Conflict Transformation and Reconciliation. She also holds certificates in professional holistic counseling and coaching, mediation, Reiki Advanced Energy Healing, Myers-Briggs team building, and parent effectiveness coaching. As an interfaith marriage officiant and spiritual director, Virginia prepares couples for marriage.

Read more about Virginia, her work and her impact on our world at VirginiaSwain.com, global-leader.org, and centerglobalcommunitylaw.org. She is the author of *A Mantle of Roses: A Woman’s Journey Home to Peace* and *My Soul’s Journey to Redefine Leadership: A New Phoenix Rises from the Ashes of 9/11* both published by Xlibris and available on Amazon.com. A fundraiser for America’s Soul Cafés can be found at <https://www.gofundme.com/HealingSoulUSA>

Virginia Swain 32 Hill Top Circle, Worcester, MA 01609 508-245-6843. Virginia has a coaching practice all over the world and in person at her home office. For more about Virginia’s global work, go to http://www.centerglobalcommunitylaw.org/wl\_founders.html.

Chester (Chet) Warzynski is an organizational consultant specializing in developing capabilities to strengthen performance in universities, hospitals, Fortune 500 companies, and SME’s. He provides strategic management services in personal and organizational assessment, executive coaching, team building, strategic planning, organization design, leadership development, and project management.

Previously, he was senior adviser at Carnegie Mellon University and executive director of organizational development at the Georgia Institute of Technology where he taught leadership their School of Public Policy. Other positions he has held include director of organizational development at Cornell University and lecturer in their School of Industrial and Labor Relations; director of corporate planning, training, and new venture development for a subsidiary of Dow Jones & Company, and director of education for St. Joseph’s Hospital and Mercy Hospital.

He completed his undergraduate and graduate studies in sociology at Southern Illinois University and the University of Western Ontario, and post-graduate studies in education, philosophy and social psychology at the University of Toronto, Florida International University, and the Taos Institute.

He served on board of directors for the National Consortium for Continuous Improvement in Higher Education, the Red Cross, and the 7th Arts Council. He has published articles and book chapters on leadership, strategic planning, organization development, project management and sustainability.

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