



New Book Features Stories of Servant-Leaders in Communities

Newsletter of the Robert K. Greenleaf Center

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Stone Soup for the World: Life Changing Stories of Kindness & Courageous Acts of Service is a newly-published collection of 100 heart-stirring stories of people whose caring and willingness to act is transforming the world. This book, edited by Marianne Larned and published by Conari Press, also includes a story by the Greenleaf Center's CEO, **Larry C. Spears**, on the interaction between **Robert K. Greenleaf, servant-leadership and TDIndustries**.

The stories in *Stone Soup for the World* show that the problems that seem so large and overwhelming not only have solutions, but are in fact an historic opportunity for us to recreate a compassionate basis for human interaction. There are inspirational stories by or about **Nelson Mandela, Robert K. Greenleaf, Mother Teresa, Edward James Olmos, Jimmy Carter**.

Wynton Marsalis and his program Teaching Jazz, **Reverend Cecil Williams, Steven Spielberg**, and many more. It profiles dozens of people from all walks of life, who are investing their hearts and

minds in a better, more compassionate future.

Stone Soup for the World is written in a direct, warm, and personal style with inspirational stories celebrating those who have laid the foundation and proved that when each of us gives a little, we can create a world of plenty for everyone. An extensive resource guide is included as well as a directory to link readers to a vast array of community-building organizations.

Stone Soup for the World is a celebration of the service of thousands of people and a vehicle for inspiring millions more to community service.

"*Serve First*," is the title of the story on servant-leadership and its growing impact on the world. It tells the story of how Bob Greenleaf was first inspired to write about servant-leadership through his reading of **Herman Hesse's Journey to the East**; how Greenleaf's thinking has helped to alter the ways in which many people and organizations now approach management and leadership; and, how one company, TDIndustries, has successfully practiced servant-leadership for the past 25 years.

TDIndustries, a Dallas-based construction and service company, has been widely-recognized for its innovative approach. Most recently, Fortune magazine named TDIndustries as one of the top ten companies to work for in America.

In "Serve First," Jack Lowe, TDIndustries CEO and board chair of The Greenleaf Center comments: "Servant-leadership has helped us build a great company. If you're going to succeed in today's business world, you've got to have a lot of trust, between employers, employees, suppliers, and customers. Servant-leadership has helped us build a trusting culture, and has allowed us to create change, embrace diversity, enhance quality and integrate technology. It has also gotten us through some horrible situations."

Inspired by the traditional **Stone Soup folktale** about a village that creates a delicious soup from a simple pot of water and a stone, the book's author, **Marianne Larned** has learned that when we all pitch in, there's enough for everyone. *Stone Soup for the World* offers people ideas for simple ways they can make a difference, one day at a time. *Stone Soup for the World* will be launched on April 17, 1998 with what is being called the, "**World's Largest Booksigning and Community Service Sign-up.**" On that day, in nearly 100 cities across America, there are planned events that will include book signings by contributing authors. And community service projects. Larry Spears will be involved in a book signing in Omaha, Nebraska, at the annual conference of the **National Association for Community Leadership**, and where the Greenleaf Center will also conduct a program on servant-leadership and community leadership.

"Stone Soup for the World is a clear expression of the growing affinity between the idea of servant-leadership and its practice by community leaders across the United States and beyond," said Larry Spears. "This cross-fertilization between servant-leadership and community leadership represents another growing edge for the work of The Greenleaf Center."

Stone Soup for the World (paperback, 256 pages) is now available in book-stores. Copies may also be ordered from The Greenleaf Center. The cost is \$20 (\$16 plus \$4 shipping-and-handling).