The Raving MANIAC

Upcoming MANIAC Events

Afternoon Soirée: Slow Food
August 29, 6:00 pm
The Crossing, 1127 University Ave
Cost: $5
For info and registration Click here

Slow Food UW is a group for UW students who are interested in where our food comes from, geographically and culturally. This group is part of a global movement that appreciates the stories behind the meals we eat and builds on years of success in uniting local chefs, farmers, and students in bringing the rich traditions of slow, sustainable, and local eating to campus. We will join Slow Food UW in putting on one of their major projects, their weekly Family Dinner Night. MANIACs will be a part of the cooking process as well as serving the dinner to other guests from the community. Throughout the evening we will discuss how we can connect and apply the concepts of the Slow Food movement to the workplace.

UW-MANIAC Breakfast Series
September 20, 8-9:30am
Memorial Union
FREE! For info and registration Click here

We get inspiration from the most unlikely sources. Join MANIAC for a soiree to see some unlikely art and unlikely land formations. We’ll visit the scrap metal creations of Tom Every, aka Dr. Evermore, and then explore a hidden gem of Wisconsin, a 40-foot gorge called Pewitt's Nest. We’ll meet on campus at 9:30am then carpool to Dr. Evermore’s north of Sauk City. We’ll spend about an hour exploring his outdoor gallery with hundreds of scrap metal sculptures including the largest in the world, “The Forevertron Machine.” Then, we’ll travel a few miles to Pewitt’s Nest for a relaxing picnic lunch and short hike along the outside of the gorge.

We have a busy Fall Semester ahead of us! Save the date for these MANIAC Workshops and Events!

- Improv Skills for the Workplace—with Barry Callen
  Thursday, October 6, 2011, 9:00am-3:30pm
  Memorial Union, Cost: $90

- Getting Comfortable with Complexity—with Christine Kelly
  Tuesday, October 25, 2011, 9:00am-3:30pm
  Pyle Center, Cost: $90

- Innovation and Collaboration Learning Café Series Part 1
  Thursday, November 17, 2011, 8:30am-1:00pm
  Pyle Center, Cost: $15

- Developing Innovation through Collaboration, Creativity, & Communication—with Darin Eich
  November 30 & December 7, 2011, 1:00-4:30pm
  220 Ingraham Hall, Cost: $90

Stay tuned for “Yes And...” Exercise!—with Darin Eich
Thursday, September 15, 3:30-4:30pm
Memorial Union
FREE! For info and registration Click here

The “Jammin” networking session is similar to a facilitated workshop. It includes thinking about important questions, working on your “how you quickly communicate elevator speech,” and doing one-on-one speed networking. People leave with a more comfortable and activity-filled experience. They get to share with the whole group, hear from everyone, and go deeper one-on-one with many people. They actually get to connect and converse! This is connection-making learning, where you will get ideas for your own projects and offer ideas to others.

Check out the MANIAC Toolbox for directions for the “Yes And...” Exercise!

Stay tuned for “Yes And...” Exercise!

The Madison Area Network for Innovation and Collaboration
Creative conversations don’t mechanically follow “outline form,” but instead emerge from the synergies and interactions of participants in hard-to-predict ways. Is there a way to facilitate such dialogues? Is there a way to capture the creative ideas that emerge? Building from theories on synchronicity in innovation and other processes, you can learn to engage in a creative dialogue whose outcome is unknown and whose parameters will be co-created by the group. Learn about the possibilities of dialogue through this great insight. Follow the proposed “Rules of Engagement” seen in this worksheet and see what new things come out of conversation!

Find the worksheet here!

Check out the MANIAC Toolbox for more creative techniques!

Improv Skills for the Workplace
October 6, 9am-3:30pm
Memorial Union
$90, For information and registration Click here

The best way to learn these SERIOUS BUSINESS skills is to PLAY GAMES. Have fun. Goof up. Laugh a lot. Play. This class has no boring Powerpoints. No tests. No grades. No competitions. Nobody gets put on the spot. Nobody has to be a stand-up comedian. Story games, movement games, creative games! This creative teacher, Barry Callen, has co-founded three improv comedy groups, sold advertising ideas to Coca-Cola and First Alert and authored two McGraw-Hill books on advertising creativity, just to name a few. Sign up for a Play Date today!

Upcoming MANIAC Events

Jammin’ Innovative Networking Session
September 15, 3-4:30pm
Memorial Union
FREE! For info and registration Click here

The “Jammin” networking session is similar to a facilitated workshop. It includes thinking about important questions, working on your “how you quickly communicate elevator speech,” and doing one-on-one speed networking. People leave with a more comfortable and activity-filled experience. They get to share with the whole group, hear from everyone, and go deeper one-on-one with many people. They actually get to connect and converse! This is connection-making learning, where you will get ideas for your own projects and offer ideas to others.

UW-MANIAC Breakfast Series
September 20, 8-9:30am
Memorial Union
FREE! For info and registration Click here

These bi-monthly gatherings allow us to share creative approaches to professional challenges, identify new tools and strategies that can help us transform creative ideas into innovative solutions, and promote relationships that can help us address emerging needs as they arise. On September 20, MANIAC Amy Climer will be talking about her Semester at Sea. Join us at our first UW-MANIAC Breakfast to learn more about her Semester at Sea experience as an innovative approach to education!

Communicate to Innovate
September 21, 1-4pm
220 Ingraham Hall
$45, For info and registration Click here

Here is a new workshop zeroing in on what is important to managers, leaders, and change agents: Saving time, being clear & memorable, gaining buy-in, and reducing chance of failure by communicating for innovation. Here you can work on gaining tools and techniques for successful communication, gain helpful feedback to improve personal efforts and develop more professional relationships. This is connection-making learning, where you will make connections, get ideas for your own projects, and offer ideas to others that can help them make progress on their own initiative.

Save the date for these Fall MANIAC Workshops and Events!

• Getting Comfortable with Complexity
  Tuesday, October 25, 2011, 9:00am-3:30pm
  Pyle Center, Cost: $90

• Innovation and Collaboration Learning Café Series Part 1
  Thursday, November 17, 2011, 8:30am-1:00pm
  Pyle Center, Cost: $15
Upcoming MANIAC Events

Improv. Skills for the Workplace
October 6, 9am-3:30pm
Memorial Union
$90, For info. and registration
Click here

The best way to learn these serious business skills is to play games. Have fun. Groof up. Laugh a lot. Play. This class has no boring Powerpoints. No tests. No grades. No competitions. Nobody gets put on the spot. Nobody has to be a stand-up comedian. Story games, movement games, creative games! This creative teacher, Barry Callen, has co-founded three improv comedy groups, sold advertising ideas to Coca-Cola and First Alert and authored two McGraw-Hill books on advertising creativity, just to name a few. Sign up for a Play Date today!

Getting Comfortable with Complexity
October 25, 9am-3:30pm
Pyle Center
$90, for info. and registration
Click here

Complexity has a lot to offer us in how we approach many of the challenging issues in our society and our own lives. Most of us, however, have been educated to understand things by taking them apart. But in a highly complex world this type of thinking is not enough. This workshop will begin your journey to get comfortable with complexity. Our goal, using hands-on activities, will be to explore the question “How would you live, learn and teach differently in this world if you were comfortable with complexity?”

Know Your MANIAC: Libby Bestul

Being new to the University, Libby went looking for ways to get to know her new workplace and stumbled upon the Maniac event, “The Power of ‘Yes and’ Improvisation for the Workplace.” Being a lover of all things theater this sounded intriguing and she thought possibly quite useful. In fact, UW-Maniac was the door to a world of unique and interesting people and most of all ideas! At Learning Cafés Libby was able to attend last spring, she was challenged to think about what was described by one participant as a “dust storm of thoughts” and frame herself through the exercise, “What? So What? And Now What?” Upon reflection she feels like she has been asking those questions her whole life. Libby attended the U of M, Minneapolis, and in a round-about way earned a BS in Housing, with an emphasis in Marketing and Management; however, her college employment with the US Postal Service led her to a 15 year career there while she also completed an MS at Penn. While at the postal service, Libby explored positions in marketing, purchasing, government relations, human resources, communications and operations as a Management Intern. After stints in Washington DC, Philadelphia, Denver and numerous cities in California, Libby took an operations position in Denver supporting 11 states with operations training, promotions oversight, and managing the deployment of mail processing equipment. Then she took a career break – almost 10 years to the day – with a move to the mountains. Today as an outreach specialist, Libby supports 12 faculty members in the School of Human Ecology in their outreach efforts as Integrated Specialists through Cooperative Extension. Topics they cover range from parenting, aging, and youth-adult partnerships, to food insecurity, health reform, family financial education, cooperatives and program evaluation. In the past year Libby has learned to create web sites using Word Press, collaborated with specialists on their educational materials, and kept the faculty traveling and their expenses in check. At the end of the day she can say that “yes and...” has come in handy to accomplish her work tasks and in parenting her two adolescents.
**MANIAC Tool of the Month:**
Where Good Ideas Come From

“Good ideas normally come from the collision between smaller hunches so that they form something bigger than themselves.”

Check out Steven Johnson’s YouTube Video to get inspiration for your good idea and prepare for the November 17th UW-Maniac Innovation and Collaboration Café!

Read some interesting posts on the UW-Maniac Blog!

Check out the UW-MANIAC Toolbox for more creative

**The Raving MANIAC**

**Upcoming MANIAC Events**

**UW-MANIAC Breakfast Series**
November 3, 8-9:30am
*Special Location: Sector 67*
2100 Winnebago St.
Madison, WI 53704
FREE! For info and registration
[Click here]

This UW-MANIAC Breakfast will feature a visit with Chris Meyer, Founder of Sector 67, a creative center for prototyping, technology, and advanced manufacturing on Madison’s near eastside. Chris will show us around and explain how Sector 67 offers a special creative space that has important implications for how we work creatively and collaboratively together.

**What is Happiness? Exploring the Nature and Cultivation of Well-Being**
November 3, 12-2pm
Health Sciences Learning Center, Room 2284
FREE! For info and registration
[Click here]

The purpose of this workshop is to facilitate dialogue on the subject of happiness and well-being. Topics include defining positive psychology, exploring how happiness and well-being are defined and studied in the scientific literature, and examining current methods that propose to cultivate well-being. This is meant to be a warm, casual event that encourages dialogue on the subject of well-being through lecture, group discussions, and activities. Participants are encouraged to bring their lunches to this event as it is over the lunch hour.

**Know Your MANIAC: Tina Hunter**

When I first heard of UW-Maniac, I knew that I had to be involved. I certainly have not been disappointed, as UW-Maniac is one of the coolest, most innovative opportunities at UW-Madison. Having been immersed in the UW-System as a student and staff member for 22 years (really, since I was a child), I am very selective about how I spend my time. My current position is as the Academic Department Manager in the School of Music. In addition to our hundreds of performances every year, our courses that serve thousands of majors and non-majors (as well as hundreds of community members), and our many outreach activities, we also are home to the UW Marching Band.

Since I spend my days surrounded by beautiful music and wonderfully creative people, and my evenings dealing with serious issues facing all school boards as an officer on Stoughton’s Board of Education, I find UW-Maniac to be an excellent outlet for me to use and explore my own talents and creativity. While I have absolutely no musical or visual artistic ability beyond a deep music and art appreciation, I do have a deeply creative side that I frequently find unfulfilled.

With a BA in creative writing, my imaginative side that I frequently find unfulfilled. With a BA in creative writing, my imaginative ability beyond a deep music and art appreciation, I do have a deeply creative side that I frequently find unfulfilled.

When I was a child, I was always the first one to play in the dirt. One that resonates most with me is the session where I got to play in the dirt. This was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices. It also was a powerful reminder of things I used to do every day, and how where I come from impacts my behavior and choices.

I believe that UW-Maniac is one of the best things our campus has to offer. I am thrilled and grateful for every opportunity to participate. I cannot wait for the next UW-Maniac event, and the adventures we will embark upon!
Developing Innovation through Collaboration, Creativity and Communication
November 30 & December 7
(2-Part Workshop)
1-4:30 p.m., 220 Ingraham Hall
$90, For info and registration
Click here

The Three C’s of Collaboration, Creativity, and Communication can help you to develop new innovations that can contribute to doing meaningful new things, improving processes for problem-solving, and having greater success in your work. You will meet new people and work with others to systematically generate and develop new ideas for the challenge of your choosing. Be guided step-by-step and activity-by-activity through an innovation process to develop and take action on new ideas for your real project. Learn the fundamental “best practice” activities for innovating and leave the workshop with more advanced innovation skills and a portfolio of new developed ideas.

Communication Skills Through Collaborative Art Making
February 15 & 22
1-4:30p.m., 220 Ingraham Hall
$90, For info and registration
Click here

Collaboration has the capacity to lead us in new directions, help us develop innovative approaches to old problems, and expand our effectiveness as leaders. A significant component to collaboration is effective communication. In this interactive, engaging, two-part workshop we’ll utilize effective communication tools that will increase your ability collaborate with people in your office or across your campus Inspired by Lily Yeh, we’ll play with painting, coloring, and doodling while getting serious about developing and practicing seven communication skills of collaboration.

Know Your MANIAC: Aaron Crandall

Hello, my name is Aaron Crandall. I’m a Senior University Grants & Contracts Specialist in the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs and have been a MANIAC since close to the beginning of formation of the Network. I primarily work with negotiating the terms and conditions of research and other contracts but do a little bit of everything on the pre-award side of research administration. I’ve worked at the UW-Madison for over 8 years and am often seeking new and innovative ways of doing day-to-day things, which MANIAC definitely offers. Working in research administration, there always seems to be opportunities for innovation and collaboration, both on & off our campus.

Mostly, I attend the MANIAC breakfasts and always find them to be worthwhile events where I learn something new. Other MANIAC events I’ve attended include some afternoon sessions that tended to be more interactive and hands on. Many of the sessions, both breakfast and other, often cause me to get out of my comfort zone and explore new things. One of the more fascinating sessions was last year where the presenters had us do a warm up exercise where we had to yell as loud as we could at the person next to us and then so on around the large circle. That was a very interesting exercise and caused all of us participating to open up more and be more creative.

MANIAC is a great resource for all of us and can be utilized in many ways and can be very beneficial for all of us in the UW-Madison community. The learning is vast and I really appreciate the diverse instructors pushing us, the participants, sometimes to get us out of our comfort zones and cause us to be more innovative and collaborative thinkers. I’ve really enjoyed the opportunities I’ve had with MANIAC and hope you’ll be swayed to join us in a future session. Maybe I’ll see you at the next breakfast!
Cultivating Network Leaders:
Understanding Our Role in a
Time of Speed, Unpredictability
and Complexity

February 29 10:00a.m.-1:30p.m.
Memorial Union, TITU

In this era of increasingly complex
problems and shrinking resources, we
are called to offer a different kind of
leadership. Network (or connector)
leaders are skilled conveners who
recognize that resilient systems de-
depend on diversity and divergence, and
work intentionally with emergence,
connecting small actions and inviting
in surprise. Join author and commu-
nity-builder Deborah Frieze for a
morning of affirmation and practical
support for leaders discovering and
using these new approaches to com-
community building.

Leadership at Lunch
March 5 11:45a.m.-12:45p.m.
March 19 11:45a.m.-12:45p.m.
220 Ingraham

This event is a unique opportunity
for staff, faculties, students and
community members to come to-
gether over the lunch hour and
explore how we may best exercise
leadership capacities in our engage-
ment with one another on campus.
Participants will review articles,
view films and engage in meaningful
conversation about the impor-
tance of leadership in work and the
opportunities we all have to en-
hance the campus work environ-
ment. These themes will parallel
those of the Leadership Institute.

Upcoming MANIAC Events

Want to Join a Community of Practice?

First of all, what is a Commu-
nity of Practice (CoP)? A CoP is
a group of people who share a pro-
fession or interest and meet in
hopes of gaining and sharing
knowledge. These groups learn
from each other and are able to
develop themselves personally and
professionally.

UW-Maniac is just one CoP that
the university offers, however
there are many others that you
might not have heard about! Below
you can find a short description of
CoPs around the Madison campus
and community:

Public Participation Learning
Community: This group meets
monthly and shares strategies and
resources together including ad-
vice on projects that members are
undertaking in their work on
 campus and in the community.

Quilters Group: This group
explores alternative workplace
paradigms and the implications
for organization, work flow,
physical space, decision-making,
technology and related areas.

Servant-Leadership Learn-
ing Community: This CoP
meets regularly and sponsors
various workshops throughout
the year. The servant-leader is a
servant first and then makes the
conscious choice to lead while
growing as people. This type of
leader has an ideal leadership
form to which many people and
organizations aspire. Events of
this CoP work on developing
these servant-leadership skills.

Integral Thinkers Learning
Community: This group ex-
plores integral theory applica-
tion to health, spirituality, edu-
cation, conflict resolution, fa-
cilitation and other areas of
inquiry.

Want to read more?
Click here to visit our web page
for the Community of Practice
Network, find more informa-
tion or to join a group!
Sustainable Atwood
July 14, 2012, 4:30-6:00pm
2018 Helena St., Madison, WI
Click here for registration!

“Sustainable Atwood is a plan to measure, evaluate, expand and create sustainable practices, designs and systems in our neighborhood of 6,000 residents.” The historic Atwood neighborhood lies at the eastern end of the Madison’s Isthmus. We will meet with Twink Jan-McMahon, coordinator of Sustainable Atwood, and take a tour of Sustainable Atwood projects—a demonstration garden, a new community solar installation, the Little Urban Forest Library—and other initiatives. If folks are interested, we’ll continue the discussion at a local pub with good food, Alchemy Café.

Wormfarm Institute
July 26, 2012, 4:15-6:00pm
(Leave at 3pm)
E7904 Briar Bluff Rd.
Reedsburg, WI
Click here for registration!

“Dedicated to integrating culture and agriculture, the Wormfarm Institute is an evolving laboratory of the arts and ecology and fertile ground for creative work.” We will travel 50 miles north of Madison to take a tour of the Wormfarm Institute with founder Donna Neuwirth and learn about their Artist Residency program, Roadside Culture Stands, Fermentation Fest, Farm Art/Dtour, and other projects. Bring a snack to share after the tour.

Upcoming MANIAC Summer Forays

Hilltop Community Farm
August 6, 2012, 4:30-6:00pm
(Leave at 3pm)
S850 Heidrich Rd, LaValle, WI
Click here for registration!

“We are small-scale diversified farmers, dedicated to growing food sustainably and building community,” so states Erin, one of the original MANIACers, about Hilltop Farm. We will take a tour of the farm (located about 65 miles northwest of Madison) and its interesting fruits with MANIACer and Hilltop co-owner Erin Schneider, and check out her MANIAC-inspired Innovation Garden, hear stories gleaned and lessons learned in growing fruit and building community, and possibly even play with flower art. Please bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner.

A Visit from Jerry Wennstrom

“In the Hands of Alchemy: The Art and Life of Jerry Wennstrom, Artist and Visionary Extraordinaire”

Madison Visit June 14-17, 2012
Public Events

1. Lecture and Museum Tour at the Chazen Museum of Art
   When: Thursday, June 14, 5:30 p.m.
   Where: Chazen Museum of Art, 750 University Avenue, Auditorium

2. Hands-on workshop at the Children’s Museum
   When: Friday, June 15, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
   Where: Madison Children’s Museum, 100 N. Hamilton Street

3. Presentation and Dialog: Jerry’s Journey - Life on the Threshold
   When: Saturday, June 16, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
   Where: UW Arboretum McKay Visitor Center Auditorium, 1207 Seminole Highway

Check out the UW-MANIAC blog for more information about Jerry Wennstrom’s events at uwmaniac.blogspot.com!

For more information about Jerry Wennstrom and his work, check out his website: www.handsofalchemy.com

***These events do not require registration***
Upcoming MANIAC Events

**Sustainable Atwood**
July 14, 2012, 4:30-6:00pm
2018 Helena St., Madison, WI
Click here for registration!

“Sustainable Atwood is a plan to measure, evaluate, expand and create sustainable practices, designs and systems in our neighborhood of 6,000 residents.” The historic Atwood neighborhood lies at the eastern end of the Madison’s Isthmus. We will meet with Twink Jan-McMahon, coordinator of Sustainable Atwood, and take a tour of Sustainable Atwood projects—a demonstration garden, a new community solar installation, the Little Urban Forest Library—and learn about their neighborhood garden co-op, urban-wood-reclamation project, as well as other initiatives. If folks are interested, we’ll continue the discussion at a local pub with good food, Alchemy Café.

**“Jammin’ in July”**
Innovative Networking Session
July 19, 2012, 3:00-4:30pm
Union South (See TITU)
Click here for registration!

The “Jammin” networking session is similar to a facilitated workshop. It includes thinking about important questions, working on your “how you quickly communicate elevator speech,” and doing one-on-one speed networking. People leave with a more comfortable and activity-filled experience. They get to share with the whole group, hear from everyone, and go deeper one-on-one with many people. They actually get to connect and converse! This is connection-making learning, where you will get ideas for your own projects and offer ideas to others.

**Wormfarm Institute**
July 26, 2012, 4:15-6:00pm
(Leave Madison at 3pm)
E7904 Briar Bluff Rd., Reedsburg, WI
Click here for registration!

“Dedicated to integrating culture and agriculture, the Wormfarm Institute is an evolving laboratory of the arts and ecology and fertile ground for creative work.” We will travel 50 miles north of Madison to take a tour of the Wormfarm Institute with founder Donna Neuwirth and learn about their Artist Residency program, Roadside Culture Stands, Fermentation Fest, Farm Art/Dtour, and other projects. Bring a snack to share after the tour.

**Hilltop Community Farm**
August 3, 2012,
4:30-6:00pm
(Leave Madison at 3pm)
S850 Heidrich Rd, LaValle, WI
Click here for registration!

We will take a tour of Hilltop Community Farm (located about 65 miles northwest of Madison) and its interesting fruits with MANIACer and Hilltop co-owner Erin Schneider, and check out her MANIAC-inspired Innovation Garden, hear stories gleaned and lessons learned in growing fruit and building community, and possibly even play with flower art. Please bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner.

Don’t forget... part of being a MANIAC means not only working creatively, but also playing creatively! Take some time for rest and relaxation this summer!

Have a great Independence Day!
The Raving MANIAC

Issue 19
July 16, 2012

Upcoming MANIAC Events

“Jammin’ in July”
Innovative Networking Workshop
This Thursday, July 19, 2012
3:00-4:30pm
Union South (See TTU)
Click here for registration!

The “Jammin” networking session is similar to a facilitated workshop. It includes thinking about important questions, working on your “how you quickly communicate elevator speech,” and doing one-on-one speed networking. People leave with a more comfortable and activity-filled experience. They get to share with the whole group, hear from everyone, and go deeper one-on-one with many people. They actually get to connect and converse! This is connection-making learning, where you will get ideas for your own projects and offer ideas to others.

**You don’t want to miss this great (FREE!) workshop**

Wormfarm Institute
July 26, 2012, 4:15-6:00pm
(Leave Madison at 3pm)
E7904 Briar Bluff Rd.
Reedsburg, WI
Click here for registration!

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Mark your calendar…

Developing Innovation through Collaboration, Creativity, & Communication
October 10 & 17, 2012, 1:00-4:30pm
220 Ingraham Hall, Cost: $90
*2 day session*
Click here for more info and registration
*Hurry! Space is filling up quickly!*

And stay tuned for these upcoming workshops and events this fall:

- UW-MANIAC Breakfast
- “Getting Comfortable with Complexity”
- Innovation & Collaboration Café Series

*See the “Upcoming Events” page for information and registration*

For more helpful tools, techniques, and articles, be sure to check out the UW-MANIAC Toolbox and Blog!

MANIAC Website
The Madison Area Network for Innovation and Collaboration
Hilltop Community Farm
August 3, 2012,
4:30-6:00pm
(Leave Madison at 3pm)
S850 Heidrich Rd,
LaValle, WI
Click here for registration!

We will take a tour of the farm (located about 65 miles northwest of Madison) and its interesting fruits with MANIACer and Hilltop co-owner Erin Schneider, and check out her MANIAC-inspired Innovation Garden, hear stories gleaned and lessons learned in growing fruit and building community, and possibly even play with flower art. Please bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner.

Last Foray of the Summer!

Know Your MANIAC: Hildy Feen

HILDY FEEN—“I was introduced to UW-MANIAC when I participated in the MANIAC Café Series with other work team leads a few years ago. I’ve been hooked ever since. Attending MANIAC events has helped me energize my creative spark and release my “creative brain power,” not only in my work life, but also in my personal life. As a dancer (aerial and on the ground) and choreographer, MANIAC activities like the café warm-up exercises (e.g., quickly characterizing a made-up invention) has led me to innovative ideas. After one café, with management permission, I created a play station in an office corner, to let co-workers take a creative break when stuck on a problem, and perhaps allow for a “eureka” moment.

Since becoming a part of the UW-MANIAC Design Team about a year ago, I have been able to develop my bent for collaboration by working more closely with other team members to develop some of the MANIAC programs. An event I initiated was a visit to Sector 67, a hacker space on the east side of Madison. One of the goals of Chris Meyer, the creator of Sector 67, is to help people bring ideas to reality. The latter became the theme for the MANIAC Café Series this past year.

Although I have retired from my position as support team lead on the Learn@UW project in Academic Technology, I have not retired from UW-MANIAC. By staying connected to MANIAC, I can continue to reap the benefits of working together to increase creativity, collaboration and innovation.”

Check out some pictures from our Summer Forays!
Some of the MANIAC group at Sustainable Atwood on July 14