



# Inevitable Gift Economy

## TRADE ROUTE

A form created to foster interdependence and support for diverse groups of self-organized souls. A form to expedite the use of land that people are actually living on to become the basis for ways we like to live.

The purpose of our trip was to assess gardeners, co-ops, farmers, craftsmen, etc., in the Northeast and find out what it is they grow, what they could and would like to do, and what their ideas on regional interdependence might mean or be. To put this together in a report which would be sent back to everyone we visited, in an effort to disseminate information as to what the region looked like from a human perspective, and to cross-index a whole lot of folks with each other.

What we would like to see happen, and in fact what is planned, is a gathering this Halloween with people bringing some portion of their surplus to trade for something that someone else has: be it produce, luxuries, wild foods, herbs, tools, whatever.

There are numerous forms that this could take initially, but rather than trot them all out here, we'll leave them to be introduced by our courier so that the discussion can become a form by which we come to know each other better.

The Turkey Ridge People



### EXCERPTS

**DeVore, John**  
*Phippsburg, Maine*

Boat-builder, 1/2-models and rigged models. Offering East-coast transportation by boat. Needs: Astronomy teacher.

**Evans, Laura & Eric**  
Box 6  
*Burkettsville, Maine*

Need: Outlet for hand-drawn Xmas cards and blueberries. Interested in SCRAP windmills and stone and timber bldgs.

**Ken Kantro, Frankie Gardiner,  
Vernon LeCount, Nancy Grossman  
& Linda Swift**  
28 Exchange St.  
*Portland, Maine*

Ken and Frankie have been doing Japanese style pottery for about 2 yrs. Nancy and Vernon and Linda are now apprentices. We have a place in Portland, are learning and making pottery. We would like to become involved in exchange of skill and products with others. Next yr we would like to travel around the country and meet people who would like to exchange pottery for whatever they know or have. This summer we will begin using primitive kilns and natural elements for clays and glazes. We will be able to travel in our vehicle with kick wheels, to your spot, to meet you and set up wood fired kilns, scout out elements in yr area and make yr pottery for whatever you have or can share. If you'd like us to come visit, let us know. If you'd like to come up feel welcome.

**Twitchell Hill**  
*Freedom, Maine*

Ferg, Marc, Jack, George and Sue. Knowledgeable about stone and cement wall building. Herbs. Have tan bee-hives and tons of blue-berries. Need: stained glass windows. truck or Chevy 283 or cab for Chevy Truck.

**Gary Lawless**  
40 High St.  
*Belfast, Maine*

Put my poetry magazine, "Salted in the Shell", and its editors, myself & Richard Cass, on the New England trade route. We would trade copies for anything really useful—especially food, stamps, and other people's poetry, and are also very happy to do benefit readings (both organizing and reading) in return for good company, new friends, etc.

**Schiff, Ken**  
34A Maple St.  
*Cambridge, Mass.*

Editor of text books, novelist. Needs: good food. will trade access to libraries, research on any topic. Very knowledgeable about cancer and nutritional approach to cures.

**Earth Guild**  
149 Putnam Ave.  
*Cambridge, Mass.*

Organized as Grateful Union Family Trust. Have knowledge of trusts as legal form. Complete crafts center — library, spinning wheels, batiks, wool, wax, dyes. Open to trade when it is right. Have a basic business nut to float so items must be of use. Interested in: looms, bees-wax, wool, craft raw materials.

**Todd, Dick and Susan**  
Dean Hill Rd.  
*Fitchburg, Mass.*

Have 2-acre organic vegetable garden. Apple press and orchard. Susan into all sewing crafts. Need: mechanical and carpentry skills. Body work on Ford Woody.

**Thunder Ridge Farm**  
Old Cabin Rd.  
*East Alstead, N.H.*

Commercial organic farming operation. **Elaine:** wool, spinning, exotic perennial flowers. **Jinx:** Pottery. **John:** stained glass craftsman; printer. Does logos, silk screening, textile designs. Needs: non-lye soap recipe. **Tom:** Needs a piano. **Gail:** Needs a treadle machine fixed or instructions. **Kathy:** Can give basic macrobiotic cooking techniques and recipes. **Anton:** Needs corn cutter and bundler. Wants to learn about reaper and binder.

**Wooden Shoe**  
*Canaan, N.H.*

**Jake:** Rain in the middle of January is weird. People should know about NOFA: Natural Organic Farmers Association in the Northern New England Area. We're selling good food to kids in NYC ghetto areas as well as to other folks there, and have a growing trust and love beginning with these city people who are getting the trip together. Very interesting process coming out of it. Our old political fantasies return full circle but come from such an unlikely place: Food. Food for the people. Health to the Earth. Goodness for us all. Don't abandon yr political conscience; but see what it really is and move with it where you feel it. Food is a good beginning.

**Odessa:** Today is very magical outside. Not knowing whether to storm or clear so doing both all at the same time. The wind comin and goin, ripping around me, pushing the thick grey clouds. January is really alright so I keep living and looking. I've recognized some cycles of the same sort of feeling I've felt before this time of year. I'm learning to ride some of this motion so as to stay in harmony with the things around me. It's so good to be alive. To be responsible for myself, to be conscious of the choices I have made to make me be a part of this Earth and know it.

**Carol:** It's nice to have kids around. Living at the end of the road, 2 kids, 4 women, 5 man. Our small friends are dominated, so visits with kids are good. (ed. note: we brought two) I'd like to learn fiddle tunes. The bombs are changing the weather. I feel good even though it's my first day of monthly bleeding cause I'm using sphagnum moss collected and dried last summer, wrapped in loosest cheesecloth. It's really different from using \$2.00 a box Tampax.

**George Crane**  
RFD

*Craftsbury, Vermont*

Ask for Furlong Farm at the General Store in Craftsbury. Please come anytime. To listen to Japanese Koto music and if someone you know is in need of Northern American herbal medicines: mugwort, golden seal, moxibustion, Shiatso Kiultii massage. May you continue to radiate joy to everyone you meet.

