

## Solar Cooker Review

# SOLAR COOKERS INTERNATIONAL

## 5<sup>th</sup> International Solar Cooking Convention: July 2014



From seventeen countries on six continents, SCInet Solar Cooking Convention participants gathered to make human lives and the world better. *Photo: Charley Cross, 2014*

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**Every one of these people came to Sacramento to impact the world and future generations.**

There was an infectious passion and vibrancy among the people assembled at the California Automobile Museum in Sacramento, California. They were sharing new designs for solar cookers that can provide hot food and safe water for hundreds of millions of people.

For three intense days, convention participants shared their challenges and successes about the ways we can help people use free sunlight to cook for their families. Thanks to generous funding from an anonymous donor, the Global Alliance for Clean Cook-stoves, the Agua Fund, Inc., and SCI donors, we were able to provide travel scholarships for twenty-one global solar cooking partners, who would not otherwise have been able to attend.

Participants shared stories about the

challenges they encounter in their field work: unsafe drinking water; vulnerable children; choking on smoke from open cooking fires that causes lung disease and 4.3 million premature deaths per year; unprotected women being assaulted or killed while searching for wood; children skipping school because they couldn't find the required firewood for their school's cooking fires. All of these are reasons we are driven to continue improving people's lives through simple solar cooking.

We have the technology, and we have the will. A constant stream of people worldwide contact SCI asking for help to bring solar cooking to their communities.

**All of these things are within our grasp, but there is still so much work to do, and we need your help.**

Ask your friends, neighbors, and relatives to join our efforts to benefit people and the environment. Together, we can help solar cooking take off!

**-Julie Greene-ED**

## CONVENTION PARTICIPANTS

Kathy Adler-USA, Matt Alonso-USA, John Amayo-Kenya, Jack Anderson-Canada, Berhan Araya-USA, Dave Barr-USA, Dr. Marguerite Barratt-USA, Barbara Barratt-USA, Paul Barth-USA, Gordon Bauer-USA, Rolf Behringer-Germany/Namibia, Lynn Bergeron-USA/Micronesia, Dr. Alan Bigelow-USA, Natalia Blackburn-USA, Jack Blanks-USA, Kerina Blue-USA, Beverly Blum-USA, Dr. Barbara Blum-USA, Dr. William Bradley-USA, Carolyn Bradley-USA, Sophie Brock-USA, Mary Buchenic-USA, David Chalker-USA, Dr. Ajay Chandak-India, Sharon Clausson-USA, Sharon Cousins-USA, Charley Cross-USA, Phyllis Davies-USA, Giannis Falelakis-Greece, Payton Fisher-USA, Scot Frank-USA/China, Dr. Paul Funk-USA, Jack Garvey-Jr. -USA, Julie Greene-USA, Dr. Bing Gu-USA, Alexandra Guerra-USA, Joshua Guinto-The Philippines, Roger Haines-USA, Candace Hanford-USA, Paul Hedrick-USA, George Hemholz-USA, Svetlana Hristova-USA, Joanne Kennard-Australia, Cecily Kihn-USA, Sheela Kiiskila-USA/Finland, Susan Kinne-Nicaragua, Edye Kuyper-USA, Jim La Joie-USA, Even Larsen-Norway, Dr. Arline J. Lederman-USA, Allart Ligtenberg-USA, Ineke Ligtenberg-USA, Kavanaugh Livingston-USA, Grace Magney-Afghanistan, Rocio Maldonado-Peru, Patricia McArdle-USA, Crosby Menzies-South Africa, Louise Meyer-USA, Patrick Minerva-USA, Bernard Mueller-Germany, Paul Munsen-USA, Dr. Yuichi Nakajo-Japan, Dr. Shyam Nandwani-Costa Rica, Dr. Michael Nicholas-USA, Rick Noss-USA, Faustine Odaba-Kenya, Joyce Ong Choon Kim-Malaysia, Fumi Oshimi-Japan, Dr. Pia Otte-Norway/Namibia, Dr. Janak Palta McGilligan-India, Nathan Parry-USA, Dr. Edwin Pejack-USA, Irene Perbal-USA, Carlotta Pham-USA, Lineker Phuong-USA, Dr. Catlin Powers-USA/China, Camily Wedende Ramonyi-Kenya, Dr. Jagadeeswara Reddy-India, Sathvik Reddy-India, Amy Reid-USA, Patty Roberts-USA, Sanjib Rout-India, Fumi Sakurai-Japan, Dr. Pete Schwartz-USA, Sierra Scott-USA, Guro Grytli Seim-Norway, Iseko Shirai-Japan, Sumio Shuto-Japan, Gabriele Simbriger-Williams-USA, Tom Sponheim-USA, Afzal Syed-USA, Motoharu Takizawa-Japan, Karim Tejani-Canada, Bonita Tindley-USA, Yuko Tomioka-Japan, Yasuko Torii-Japan, Donna Vial-USA, Winsome Wear-New Zealand, David Whitfield-Bolivia, Roger Whitten-United Kingdom, Kirstie Wilson-USA, Julia Wilson-USA.

## CONVENTION WORKING GROUPS

- Global Solar Cooking Promotion: Moving Forward
- Making Solar Cookers Affordable:
  - Finance Models for Users and Income Generation
- Sustainable Project Model: Best Practices
- Standards for Solar Cookers
- Solar Cooker Certification Process:
  - Consumer Rating System
- SCInet: Our Direction for Global Collaboration
- Rotary: Best Practices for Solar Cooking Projects
- Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality
- Promoting Solar Cooking in Your Community
- Collective Advocacy Statement for the United Nations
- For Profit Business

**More About the International Convention on Page 12**

The **Solar Cooker Review** (SCR) is published by Solar Cookers International (SCI) and is available online at: [www.solarcookers.org](http://www.solarcookers.org)

SCI is a 501c(3) non-profit organization working to benefit people and the environment.



### CONTACT US

Send letters to [info@solarcookers.org](mailto:info@solarcookers.org) or Letters, SCI, 1919 21<sup>st</sup> St., Suite 203, Sacramento, CA 95811 USA. Include a telephone number and address. Letters may be edited for clarity or space. Because of the high volume of mail we receive, we cannot respond to all letters. Send queries about SCI to [info@solarcookers.org](mailto:info@solarcookers.org).

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## John Collentine 1920 – 2014

SCI celebrates the life of John Collentine, a remarkable man, dedicated to impacting the world and future generations through solar cooking.

John enjoyed a long history with SCI, serving as volunteer Board President and interim Executive Director. John received SCI's Order of Excellence in 2001 for his outstanding contributions to the spread of solar cooking worldwide. As he wrote for the "President's Corner" of the Solar Cooker Review in 1996, "If I sound over-enthused, it is because I get to hear news firsthand during the time I spend in the office each week—news from dedicated people from all corners of the world.... My enthusiasm for solar cooking increases regularly as they report to us its benefits in their lives and what they are doing to help many more."

We're grateful that John chose to focus his considerable talent, intelligence, and skill on solar cooking and Solar Cookers International. He'll be greatly missed by all of us at SCI, and by many in the greater Sacramento community—in short by all who were fortunate to be within the sphere of his influence.

SCI thanks the Collentine family and friends who made gifts in John's memory, which continue SCI's work, that John valued so highly.



Anonymous (1)  
George & Beverly Blum  
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Jim Middleton & Kathy Downey  
John & Betty Downey  
John & Carol R. Downey  
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Richard & Rita Haugner  
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Philip & Jan Stohr  
Glen & Meradee Wagers  
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*If you'd like to make a gift in John's memory to help spread solar cooking, please visit [www.solarcookers.org/donate](http://www.solarcookers.org/donate) or call +1-916-455-4499.*

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John's vision for solar cooking and SCI are as relevant in 2014 as they were in 1996, when he wrote "The President's Corner" for the Fall *Solar Cooker Review*. In honor of his dedication and vision for SCI, we're pleased to be able share with you John's article, which we have reprinted on page 11.

## Meet Herina



*Photo: Deena Chienjo 2014*

Herina is 65 years old and lives in Kandaria West village in Western Kenya. Widowed, she now cares for four grandchildren, all enrolled at the local primary school. Herina works on a farm to earn money for her family.

Last March, a curious Herina attended a solar cooking demonstration in her village sponsored by Solar Cookers International. The crowd enjoyed hot rice, cabbage, meat, nuts, cake, and safe water that day, knowing all had been cooked with the power of the sun. Herina was later selected to receive a CookKit and WAPI, through the Friends of the Old (FOTO)/SCI partnership.

The stakes for women like Herina are high. **Women and children disproportionately bear the negative consequences of cooking over open fires.** Each year, 4.3 million people suffer an early death because of respiratory diseases caused by breathing thick smoke from cooking fires. Women must stay close to their cooking fires to add wood, and stir food so it doesn't burn. Because the small children in Herina's culture stay close to their mothers, they also breathe in this thick smoke and risk burns from open flames.

This is why knowledgeable people like you have

chosen to support solar cooking. You have confidence knowing your gift to SCI can provide solar cooking tools and knowledge as a life-saving possibility for more women like Herina.

**Imagine Herina, at 65—the average age of retirement in the U.S.—and her neighbors as they gather firewood: trudging, bending, lifting and hauling wood, trekking up to 20 blistering kilometers (12 miles) just so they can cook a meal or have a hot drink.** Because a solar cooker can save Herina up to one ton (900kg) of wood annually, it will save her and her grandchildren hours of dreary labor scouring the countryside to find scarce wood and twigs to burn. Women like Herina know

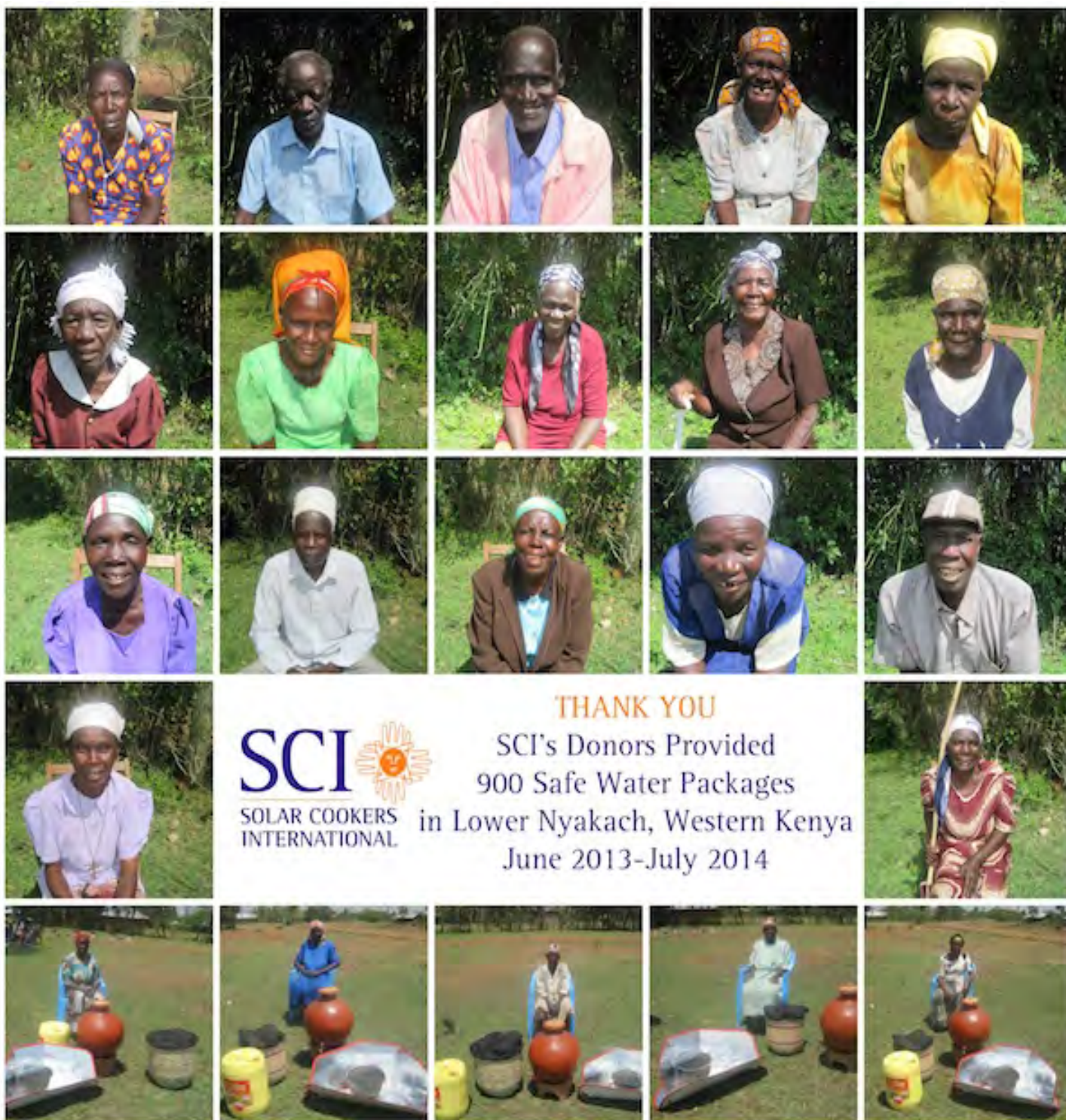
their granddaughters are also at risk since they must share the task of gathering firewood. A horrible reality faced by women worldwide is their vulnerability to human predators when they travel far from home in search of firewood. Having a solar cooker makes them safer by dramatically reducing the need to gather wood by as much as 40%.

**Hundreds of millions of women around the world face these choices every day.** Because for them, solar cooking can mean survival. They need your gift today to ensure solar cooking tomorrow and for years to come.

There are many women like Herina, needing your gift to introduce them to solar cooking and provide the human necessities of hot food and safe water. Your help is urgently needed to improve daily life for these women and their loved ones on every continent, every day, with solar cooking.

*We honor Herina O. of Kenya by placing her portrait on the envelope inside this Solar Cooker Review. She and thousands of women just like her inspire us to keep spreading the good news of solar cooking worldwide. With your help, we can help people and our planet with solar cooking.*

–Julie Greene, Executive Director



## Solar Cooks in Lower Nyakach

*Photos: Dinah Chienjo, 2014*

## Great Potential in Tanzania

by Rose William Shangarai

I live in the Kilimanjaro Region in a rural village. I am a retired professional primary school teacher. I run a small farm of about three acres where I grow coffee, bananas, corn, beans, fruits and vegetables. I also keep non-grazing milk cows and chickens.

After my retirement, I thought of using my knowledge to help my co-women. I motivated them to form a women's group where we could meet once a week and get new ideas. We were about twenty women. Eventually, we were recognized by government officials. They sent an agriculture officer to teach us modern ways of farming, animal husbandry, health issues and environment. The women's group is still very active and it has benefited a lot of women in our village and the villages of the neighborhood area.

Our mothers, sisters and aunts in the villages are among the millions of women who suffer day in, day out to get firewood to cook family meals.

In some areas, because of the loss of trees, they use dry animal manure as fuel. This in turn makes smoke, which makes their eyes become red and painful.

Solar cookers will solve our biggest problems ever, and really save our environment.

We have some who can afford daily life expenses and some who are really struggling to get food and even to cook it.

I will have to meet with the Officers of the Ministry of Environment in my location so that they can bless this idea and find a way to bring this technology of solar cookers to our country, as we really need it.

Tanzania has found gas [LPG] and they are working on it but even so, our mothers will not be able to afford its price, and on top of that, it will not be very safe for them because they have to have a special kitchen to accommodate the gas stove.

My co-women and I learned to build firewood-saving stoves, which would help to minimize the firewood needed in cooking meals. With the help of that government agriculture officer, we were able to build one for each of us. It was a joyful activity, for it really helped to save wood, but doesn't last long; it breaks and one has to repeat the process again and again.

The solar cookers will help our mothers in so many ways. On sunny days,

- No longer will they have to walk miles away to look for firewood.



Rose Shangarai and Dar Curtis in Washington D.C.

*Photo: Janice Hamer, 2014*

-No longer will they risk their lives by facing dangerous beasts, snakes and people.

- No longer will they have to face the pain of seeing their children crying because of not having food, because Mom could not get firewood to cook it.

- No more fights when the man comes home and finds no cooked food.

-Last but not least: our women will get time for themselves, in which they will be able to relax and work on crafts as they watch the food cooking.

I know our women's group, if taught, can manage to make those cookers. My concern is the materials. I don't know what kind of materials will be needed and how to get them. Some women might be able to afford to buy them, but the majority will not. --RWS

*Rose William Shangarai lives in a village of 7,000 at the SW foot of Mount Kilimanjaro, north of Moshi city, Tanzania, population 184,000 (3.21 S – 37.2 East).*

*During Rose's visit to the eastern USA, Solar Cookers International heard her story and connected her with Darwin Curtis, Co-Founder of Solar Household Energy and SCI's 2013 Order of Excellence recipient. Dar invited Rose and her friend to his home, where Rose viewed the solar cooking equipment options in Dar's garden. He showed samples of the box, the panel and the parabolic devices and they talked about the features of each. Rose and SCI will continue to work to make solar cooking a reality in her community.*

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## NEWS YOU SEND

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Solar Cookers International invites the 500+ registered members of the Solar Cookers International Network (SCInet) to send in news and share their stories with our global solar cooker community.

Join the Network at: <http://tinyurl.com/SCInet-join>

Please note that SCI does not have the resources to research—nor can SCI be held liable for— the accuracy of these contributions.

### AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan, with more than three hundred days of sunshine every year, is a prime location for solar cookers. Your support has allowed SCI staff and volunteers to help link SCInet members like Grace Magney, who has lived in Afghanistan for forty years (*and who was able to attend our July convention*) with NGOs like Trust in Education (TIE) which is providing homeless Afghan families with CookKits. Working with Karim, TIE's Kabul representative, Grace's language skills and her expertise in solar cooking have helped to make TIE's efforts even more successful. TIE reports that with the help of U.S. high schools associated with Rotary International, it has so far distributed CookKits to 1,142 families (two per family plus a Water Pasteurization Indicator-WAPI). [jdhowell@ix.netcom.com](mailto:jdhowell@ix.netcom.com)



Karim teaching Afghans to use their new Cookkits Photo: TIE, 2014

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### GREECE

Greece is a place where the sun shines almost every day of the year. SCI's July convention was fortunate to attract Yannis Falelakis, an enthusiastic new solar cook from that very sunny country. He and his friends began experimenting with SCI's CookKit solar cooker in 2012. Inspired by SCI and the Greek economic crisis to spread the word about solar cooking and promote sustainable living, they formed the Aftarkeia Network. Yannis likes to remind people that in just a few decades, humans have managed to exhaust much of the world's supply of fossil fuels which took billions years to form. He and his friends are selling a CookKit-style solar cooker built of thin wooden panels. In his message to SCI Yannis recalls the ancient Greek myth of Prometheus who stole fire from the gods and gave it to humanity. He and his friends want to do the same with solar energy. [John.falelakis@aftarkeia.org](mailto:John.falelakis@aftarkeia.org)

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### INDIA

Spreading the word about solar cooking globally is an important goal of SCI, which your donations are helping accomplish. In April 2014, SCI partnered with Washington, D.C.-based Solar Household Energy to provide a travel/sponsorship grant to former SCI board member Deepak Gadhia (known as the father of solar cooking in India). He had been invited to come to the U.S. to present a paper on an Indian smoke-free solar village at the UC Berkeley MES-BREG 2014 symposium. An esteemed cookstove health expert, after visiting the solar powered Muni Seva Ashram where Deepak lives, proclaimed solar cooking to be a partial answer to fuel shortages in the developing world.

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*More "News You Send" stories on page 8*

*News You Send***IRAN**

With your support, the SCI Network Wiki allows us to reach people and organizations in countries where even American diplomats are not allowed to travel. A new member of SCInet is Soheil Salimi, a professor at Shiraz University and the president of Engineers Without Borders - Iran (EWB-I). Soheil has organized an education program to promote solar cooking in a remote region of Iran where he taught women and girls to solar cook and to build their own solar cookers. Soheil also took this opportunity to give students a science and current events lesson by explaining the trajectory of the sun and telling them about Anousheh Ansari, the first astronaut of Iranian descent and the first female, private space explorer.



Photo: EWB-I, 2014

**KENYA**

Thanks to donors like you, SCI's Project Partner, Ms. Dinah Chienjo of Friends of the Old (FOTO), led a solar cooking demonstration at the Kandaria West village in March. She wrote, "The weather was very good on this day, and many people turned up in large numbers to attend the solar cooking demo. The participants were taken through food preparation and measurements before the start of the actual solar cooking. "Being very sunny by around 1 PM, all food items were ready to be served. Many people appreciated the food as being sweet and delicious and hygienically clean. Thanks to SCI's supporters, they enjoyed rice, cabbages, meat, nuts, cake, and clean water that day." **SCI donors contribute \$204 each month to fund Dina's demonstrations, which provide twelve community groups with solar-cooked foods so they can experience first-hand the delicious results of cooking with the sun.**

Preparing food for a solar cooking demo.  
Photo: Dinah Chienjo, 2104**NEPAL**

This stunningly beautiful country in the Himalayas is dealing with severe deforestation and air pollution caused in part by the cutting down and burning of trees for cooking fires. Although the Nepalese people have been encouraged by their government to switch from wood fuel to bottled cooking gas (LPG), few can afford this fossil fuel without significant subsidies. **Your donations have allowed SCI to provided direct assistance to the Foundation for Sustainable Technologies (FoST), a non-profit SCI grantee in Nepal.** Director Sanu Kaji Shrestha's most recent report to SCI on FoST's work reveals that families using LPG have been able to decrease their fuel cost by 33% on average when using a solar cooker during Nepal's many sunny days (more than 300 per year). Cooking with the sun has given these families extra money to pay for school, medical care and food.

Teaching solar water pasteurization.  
Photo: FoST, 2014

*More "News You Send" stories on page 9*

## Meeting Needs, One Child at a Time

Have your children ever cried because you couldn't cook hot food for them? If you're reading this, probably not.

But in many poor regions of the world, parents are confronted with their crying children, and see grains and beans in their kitchen but can't eat them *because there's no fuel to cook with*. To see food, and yet not be able to feed one's children, is a parent's heartbreak.

In the Lower Nyakach in Kenya, a region of rampant poverty, nearly 10,000 households can't find, or can't buy, wood or crop waste to burn for cooking. Since 2012, this changed for - 1,346 needy households in Lower Nyakach, Kenya. Each of these households, with your help, received a solar cooker, water pasteurization indicator, and other alternative cooking and safe water tools.

But nearly 8,000 more households in Lower Nyakach are waiting for solar cooking that can turn beans and grains into a meal for their children, and give them safe drinking water, too. Aseba is 84 years old and makes rope for a living, supporting her three elementary-school-aged grandchildren. At 66, Juliana, whose husband and children have passed away, cares for her three grandchildren. Jacob farms and repairs clothing to earn his living. At 82, he lives with his three grandchildren and helps them attend primary school. These three residents of Lower Nyakach can now use a solar cooker to cook meals on sunny days for the vulnerable children in their care, thanks to you and SCI donors like you.

In August, the United States President Barack Obama announced that the U.S. NGO community, which SCI proudly belongs to, invested over \$1.5 billion in Africa last year. This is a vast enterprise. With solar cooking, SCI's generous donors make an important difference one household, one family, and one child at a time.

Children need many, many meals to grow up healthy and strong. Your support for solar cooking can change lives one solar-cooked meal at a time. Will you help with a donation today?



A Friends of the Old (FOTO) display at a county show in Nyakach, Kenya.  
Photo: Dinah Chienjo, 2014

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### *News You Send* SOUTH AFRICA

On a cold night, a mother in a poor South African neighborhood who wanted to provide warmth for her children lit her charcoal stove when they went to bed. In the morning, neighbors found the mother in a coma. The three young children had perished from asphyxiation. What a tragedy for this mother as she awakened to learn what had happened, all for the want of warmth for her children. A concerned SCI supporter contacted SCI asking if solar cooking could prevent future tragedies like this one. We'd like to think solar cooking is *the* solution for devastating stories like this one. Currently, it's not: but there is hope. Student researchers from UC Irvine, and two other universities are currently working on solar thermal heat storage applications for solar cooker designs. It may be possible to provide warmth for a family in future with this technology. Your support helps advance solar cooking technology. We anticipate a day when stories like this one are no more. [SCI plans to contact the mother's neighborhood association to explore the benefit of solar cookers for families in their community.--JG]

***More "News You Send" stories on page 10***

## TECH TALK

*This section celebrates innovations that elevate solar thermal cooking. Inclusion in Tech Talk does not imply that SCI endorses or promotes any of the featured technologies. SCI cannot be held liable for the accuracy of the contributions submitted by designers and inventors. More details on these designs can be found on the SCInet wiki page. ([www.solarcooking.org](http://www.solarcooking.org))*

- In July 2013, the Swaminarayan Akshardha temple in New Delhi installed India's first ARUN®100 solar steam-generating system for community cooking. The Indian government partly funded this installation. Clique Solar, which manufactured and installed the ARUN®100 has won the 'Best Solar Thermal Technology' prize at the prestigious Intersolar Awards in Munich, Germany for their new design. In October a youth hostel in Chennai, India, installed a newly-designed heat storage device for use with this ARUN®100 solar steam system. The hostel wanted to save money, but since they cook breakfast at 4.00 a.m., lunch at 7.00 a.m. and dinner after 5.00 p.m. they also needed method for storing the solar thermal energy. They are now cooking with the sun—at night!
- SCInet member Dr. Pete Schwartz, is an Associate Professor at the Cal Poly Physics Department in San Luis Obispo, California. He and his students are developing a durable, lightweight parabolic solar cooking system using fiberglass instead of metal.
- SCInet member Dr. William Bradley presented a paper at the SCInet Convention that impressed many of the designers in the audience. since it will allow them to easily test the reflectivity of their solar cooker designs indoors by placing a light where the pot normally sits and then observing how the light is visible in the reflectors from various angles. Dr. Bradley is already using his test to measure the effectiveness of three solar cookers he obtained at the Sacramento conference.

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## News You Send

### UGANDA

SCI board members like Monica Woods are actively promoting solar cooking technology via their contacts around the world. Thanks to Monica's efforts, the SCI staff has been introduced to Ugandan Florence Kaweesa, who is building a school for 1,000 vulnerable orphans in her country. Monica made the connection because she knew that solar cookers could reduce the expense of purchasing fuel for the orphanage. SCI's Executive Director Julie Greene contacted one of the SCI Network's international experts, Heike Hoedt with Simply Solar in Germany, to obtain information for Florence on the requirements for installing a Scheffler community solar kitchen at the orphanage. Fuel savings would be significant if the orphanage could cook most of its meals with sunshine. The added advantage of a Scheffler solar system is that the cooks can work all day long inside a cool, smoke-free kitchen, while the Scheffler solar reflectors outside automatically track the sun and direct solar energy through openings in the kitchen wall to indoor solar ovens. This is another example of how SCI links those who need solar cooking technology with those who can make it happen!



Monica Woods, Florence Kaweesa, Julie Greene  
Photo: Pamela Anderson, 2014

### USA

For the first time ever, a mainstream American cookbook has included a chapter with recipes for solar cookers. In April 2014, the editors of *Sunset Magazine*, published *The Great Outdoors: Adventures in Cooking Under the Open Sky*. The two solar cookers featured are the SOS Sport and the Sun Oven. The editors noted that people who saw them using a solar oven in their outdoor test kitchen would invariably ask if it really worked. Their reply: "We're very happy to report that it does. If you live somewhere that has a lot of sun and you use the right recipe, you can make incredibly good food without using a single drop of fossil fuel. And the small solar ovens are great for camping too."

*Continued from page 3*

## “The President’s Corner”

(Reprinted from the Fall 1996 *Solar Cooker Review*)

“Greetings. As you read in other parts of this Solar Cooker Review, exciting things are happening, and a new project in Zimbabwe is off to a great start. We continue receiving requests to bring solar cooking to people and environments in other areas of the world. When I think of SCI and all of you individual supporters who are making this happen, the word "synergy" comes to mind: individuals working together to accomplish much more than they could alone. SCI is synergistic. By your membership and support you are helping bring sustainable energy to people of the world, including thousands of refugees.

We are a small organization compared to many in the international "sustainable energy" league, but our solar cooking education and training expertise are well recognized, and many are coming to us for collaboration and consultation.

To fill these requests we must expand our sights. You members have responded splendidly to our requests for additional support, and I have no doubt this will continue. In addition we need your help to increase our numbers of members by at least double to help SCI meet the challenge of our mission, "To promote solar cooking to benefit people and environments worldwide."

In the Spring issue I suggested that we all tell others about the opportunity to participate in this tangible way to benefit both today’s needy people and also all future generations- "every member get a member." Again I encourage you: please tell your friends, relatives and neighbors about solar cooking and SCI’s successful efforts to spread its benefits. Tell them how the new, simple panel solar cooker is making life healthier for thousands and could for millions more. Tell them how dedicated volunteers used their vacations from work to provide training in two refugee camps and started a multiplying process that now continues to spread by refugees themselves. Give others a chance to get involved in this wonderful grassroots effort.

If I sound over-enthused, it is because I get to hear news first hand during the time I spend in the office each week—news from dedicated people from all corners of the world. My enthusiasm for solar cooking increases regularly as they report to us its benefits in their lives and what they are doing to help many more. All of you-our members, our active volunteers, and the dedicated staff-inspire me, and amaze the many who hear me tell SCI’s story.

Let’s double our ranks. Each one find one new supporter. You can make it possible. Let’s give it a try.”

**-John Collentine (1920-2014) President of Solar Cookers International**

### 2014 SCI Convention Moments

Photos: Charley Cross, 2014



“It is such a gift to see people from all over the world, from different disciplines, and many generations come together united in their passion for making the world a better place through solar cooking.” --Carlotta Pham, UC Irvine student researcher USA



“Without [your scholarship] we wouldn't have had a chance to be there... We will be in touch to achieve the goals that we all set!” Yannis Falelakis, Aftarkeia, Greece

"There is a lot of work ahead of us... I'm looking forward to working with SCI...and other players in our industry to take the right steps!"  
-Dr. Catlin Powers, USA/China



“...best SCI conference yet.... a sense that this industry is maturing.”  
– Dr. Paul Funk, USA



## SACRAMENTO SOLAR COOKING FESTIVAL JULY 2014

Sunshine was bright and abundant by the time I arrived at 8 a.m. SCI staff and volunteers were hard at work—canopies had been erected, colorful signs posted, SCI displays neatly set out on tables and infectious enthusiasm pervaded the scene as people bustled about. As I set up my ovens next to a gentleman who had brought a parabolic-style cooker (that folded into a zippered canvas bag with specially-designed pockets to hold all the smaller pieces), we began to chat, despite the fact that we spoke different languages. We both were excited to be at the festival sharing information about the “magic” of solar cooking.



Photos: Charley Cross and Pat McArdle, 2014

I meandered through the patchwork of solar cookers spread across the lawn. There were almost as many different designs of solar cookers as there were cooks! I met an American woman who lives in Afghanistan and teaches solar cooking to anyone who is willing to learn. I heard different languages being spoken and admired beautiful African garb, all adding to the international flavor of the event.

Throughout the day many people asked many questions and received many answers. But what really made people smile was when they inhaled the enticing fragrances wafting from a pot full of stew, a pan of sautéed scallops, or a sheet of cookies. I saw amazement and then the dawning realization that all of the food was cooked using only the power of the sun.

Food serves as a method of communication independent of language—one doesn't need to speak to convey that something smells or tastes good—and sharing food is one tasty way to bridge barriers.

*Under the leadership of Cathy Vollmer (SCI co-Volunteer of the Year 2013) the 1<sup>st</sup> Sacramento Solar Cooking Festival was held on Saturday, July 19, 2014. SCI volunteer Maureen Dannen tells us about the day in her own words.*

## TRIBUTE GIFTS TO SOLAR COOKERS INTERNATIONAL:

Lawrence Lee Adrian	In honor of Laura Adrian
Anonymous	In honor of Lorraine Anderson
Mary G. Blough	In memory of Marvin E. Blough, M.D.
C.C. & D.A. Brechtelsbauer	In honor of Luke Brechtelsbauer's birthday
Richard & Sarah Heend	On behalf of Jane Dunehew
Allen & Ellen Zerkin	In memory of Anne & Marvin Einhorn
Jonathan & Elizabeth Glasier	In honor of Devin Gattey
Randall & Nora Gray	In honor of Jason & Linda Gray
Patricia D. Heuer	In memory of Jim Heuer
Clover Gowing	In honor of Karen & Steve Holt
Keith Brinton & Claudia Krich	In memory of Paul F. Hom, M.D.
Leianne Jones	In memory of Shirley Jones
Anna Korn	In memory of Granino A. Korn
Jerry & Jill Hultin	In honor of AJ Lederman
Carol Cox	In honor of Erin Livingston for her marriage to Matt Holzhauser
Deborah Pietruska Nathan	In honor of Rebecca Lomonaco and Laura's wedding
Marian Hamlin	In memory of Mag & Paul Matthews
Thomas Bott	In honor of Dr. Bob Metcalf
Joan Murphy	In honor of Eileen Murphy
Ruth Randall	In honor of L.W. Randall
Dr. Bella Desser	In honor of David & Barbara Schimmel
Carol Cox	In honor of Mayetta Steier, for her high school graduation
Gary Thompson	In memory of Margaret Thompson
Therese A. Edlin	In memory of David R. Toma
Marilyn Wright	In honor of Robert Tucker's graduation from high school
Ruth Ritters	In honor of Shirley Wilson
Leanne Grossman	In honor of the women of Africa
Christ Episcopal Church of Roanoke Virginia	On behalf of Christ Episcopal Church's Easter Offering

*This list includes gifts received by August 4, 2014 print deadline. If you would like to make a tribute gift, please visit [www.solarcookers.org/donate](http://www.solarcookers.org/donate) or call +1-916-455-4499.*



### Your Legacy is Our Future

All of us, regardless of age, wealth or affiliation, have the ability to leave a legacy. Solar Cookers International thanks the following legacy gift visionaries, who recognize that solar cooking is an important investment for growing healthy future generations and preserving our environment:

- |                         |                                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| * Charles & Neva Glenn  | * Eleanor P. Laubly              |
| * Dennis Holz           | * Jim Moose & Kirstie Wilson     |
| * Bill & Debra Hudson   | * William H. Svabek & Teddi Dunn |
| * Dick & Sandra Johnson | * Valerie Watt                   |

## LEGACY GIVING



**Leaving a bequest to Solar Cookers International ensures solar cooking knowledge for future generations.**

Your gift to Solar Cookers International guarantees healthier people, a healthier environment, and a healthier future for us all.

Leaving a legacy gift is simple—as simple as using the following language in your will: “I give, devise, and bequeath to Solar Cookers International, a nonprofit corporation located in Sacramento, California, \_\_\_ percent of my estate (or the sum of \$ \_\_\_, or the property described herein) for its general purposes.”

Such a gift gives forward-thinking, generous partners an opportunity to express their passion, purpose, and commitment to future generations.

**It is with deep satisfaction that:**

\_\_\_ I have made a provision to make a gift in my will or estate plan

\_\_\_ I intend to make a provision during the next \_\_\_ months

**I plan to establish a gift through a:**

\_\_\_ Bequest in my Will or Trust                      \_\_\_ Undecided

\_\_\_ Life Insurance Policy                              \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Remainder of Retirement Plan

**I wish to support (check all that apply):**

\_\_\_ Solar Cookers International’s current operating funds

\_\_\_ Solar Cookers International’s Endowment Fund

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**To encourage others to commit to the future, SCI occasionally lists Legacy Givers in our outreach materials.**

\_\_\_ Yes, use the following name in marketing materials: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ No, I prefer to remain anonymous

**I understand that this letter of intent is not a legal obligation and may be changed at my discretion at any time.**

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Share your decision to leave your solar cooking legacy for future generations by sending this completed page to:

**Solar Cookers International**  
**1919 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 203 • Sacramento, CA 95811**  
*For more information, contact: [data@solarcookers.org](mailto:data@solarcookers.org) or call 916-455-4499*

## Solar Cooker Review

**Solar Cookers International**  
1919 21<sup>st</sup> Street, #203  
Sacramento, California 95811 USA  
Tel. +1 (916) 455-4499  
Fax. +1 (916) 455-4497  
Email to: [info@solarcookers.org](mailto:info@solarcookers.org)  
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### THANK YOU AND PASS IT ON

The more supporters SCI has, the more we will be able to do. Without your support, we are just an idea. Share this Solar Cooker Review with friends, family and colleagues. Think how wonderful it is to participate in a mission that will impact the world and future generations!



Surya and Savitri Tamang of Nepal with their new solar cooker. With your help we can create more solar cooking moments like this. *Photo: SCI partner, Foundation for Sustainable Technologies (FOST), Nepal 2014*