

# Possumus - Peace through Pardon Summer Newsletter, 2011

## Possumus' Timeline of Accomplishments

- ✓ 2008 – Incorporation and Board Members Selected
- ✓ 2008 - 9/11 Memorial Gift - \$300
- ✓ 2009,2010,2011 Family, Friends, Forgiveness Summer Camp Scholarship Awards totaling \$3,000 given to adolescent girls
- ✓ 2009 – 100 mile Summer Bike-a-thon Fund Raiser
- ✓ 2010 – Possumus selected as recipient of the Pratt Institute's Logo Design Competition.  
**See winning logo below!**
- ✓ 2010 - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual 5K Forgiveness Education Fundraising Walk
- ✓ 2010 – Grace Network International receives \$5000 from Possumus
- ✓ 2011 - 1<sup>st</sup> Forgiveness Education Book Club meeting
- ✓ Ongoing - Family and Friends continue to support our fund raising efforts by individual donations and assisting with our can drive!

### What's in a Name? Possumus

is a Latin word in plural that means together **we can** accomplish something good, like world peace through forgiveness education.



**SAVE THE DATE:**  
Sunday, October 16, 2011  
**EVENT:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 5K Steps Toward Forgiveness Run/Walk  
**WHERE:** Cape Cod Canal, Bourne, MA – Buzzards Bay Entrance  
**REGISTER:** Email or Call Rosemary Lambert at (508) 295-4812 or [jtrlambert@comcast.net](mailto:jtrlambert@comcast.net) for registration form

## Announcing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 5K Forgiveness Run/Walk

**Sunday, October 16, 2011** on the Cape Cod Canal, Bourne, MA at the Buzzards Bay Entrance. **Start time is 11:00.** All participants should plan on arriving at 10:30 for check-in and 10 minute talk on forgiveness given by Rosemary Lambert, Board Member.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual 5K "Taking Steps Toward Forgiveness" – A Success

On October 10, 2010 at the Cape Cod Canal 35 Possumus Friends and Family members participated in this initiative to raise funds for promoting forgiveness education at home, at school and at work for the sake of world peace.

It was a beautiful Fall day and everyone who participated seemed to really enjoy themselves. Participants wore a t-shirt designed by Timothy Hubbard in order to encourage non-participants on the canal to stop by and ask questions or obtain information about our non-profit initiatives.

Several books and DVD/videos with themes of forgiveness and peace (for both children and adults) were on hand for review. A free copy of these resources can still be obtained by contacting Rosemary Lambert at [jtrlambert@comcast.net](mailto:jtrlambert@comcast.net).



**Top** – Eliza, age 10

**Bottom** – Rosemary Kite, Rosemary Lambert, Jocelyn Wolfe



## Families and Forgiveness –

### A New Challenge!

This year Possumus will introduce a forgiveness initiative for families. If you are interested in having your family learn more about the art and science of forgiveness, you may be eligible to win up to \$500.

The families selected for the “Families and Forgiveness” Award will receive books and curriculum to facilitate study and discussion of forgiveness in the comfort of the home.

For more information, email: [peacethrupardon@gmail.com](mailto:peacethrupardon@gmail.com)

Details of the program will also be available at the 5K Event this coming October.

*Possumus International*  
P.O. Box 1905  
Murray Hill Station  
New York, NY 10156-1905  
[peacethrupardon@gmail.com](mailto:peacethrupardon@gmail.com)

#### Board Members:

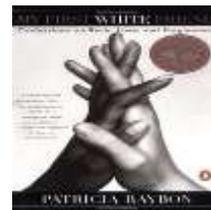
*Rosemary Kite, President*  
*Jocelyne Wolfe, Vice President*  
*Theresa Cuomo, Secretary*  
*Rosemary Lambert, Treasurer*

## Liberia Forgiveness Project receives Possumus grant

Grace Network International held its first “Forgiveness Conferences” in West Africa between January 15 and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010. Their vision is to train teachers throughout Liberia to use K-12 forgiveness education curriculum developed by Dr. Robert Enright from the International Forgiveness Institute in the States. Dr. Enright’s curriculum has already been used successfully in school systems in Belfast, Ireland and Milwaukee, WI.



Possumus issued a \$5,000 grant to Grace Network International to purchase the necessary forgiveness education teacher manuals and children’s books to kick off this initiative. The Ministry of Education in Liberia has endorsed this program geared to build a culture of peace. Possumus is proud to be a part of this long-term commitment to healing and reconciliation among the tribes and peoples of Liberia.



Possumus sponsored its First Forgiveness Education Book Club on February 6, 2011.

The Club’s first selection was entitled My First White Friend: Confessions on Race Love and Forgiveness by Patricia Raybon.

There were 6 participants one of whom joined the group from England via Skype! The Book Club’s discussion questions can be found at: [www.patriciaraybon.com](http://www.patriciaraybon.com)

### History – Did You Know?

- ✚ Liberia is a country in West Africa colonized in 1820 by freed American slaves. Its government is modeled on that of the U. S. Liberia was a founding member of the United Nations.
- ✚ In 1980 a military coup overthrew the Liberian government marking the beginning of two successive civil wars that left the country’s economy devastated. A 2003 peace deal led to democratic elections in 2005. Today, Liberia is recovering from the lingering effects of civil war and related economic dislocation, with about 85% of the population living below the international poverty line.

To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you. ~ Lewis B. Smedes



Possumus International Publications  
23 Pilgrim Avenue  
Wareham, MA 02571

