

# **A SIMPLE PLAN FOR USING THE ARCHIVED ITEMS AT WWW.OUTSIDETHEWALLS.ORG**

## **A NOTE FROM SITE OWNER DICK BERNARD**

There are 59 ideas archived in 12 segments from 2002 to 2008 at this website. There are a few additional commentaries as well.

Each of these came from simple observations of an existing reality. As this project evolved over eight years (beginning in 2000), I would simply observe happenings from an outside-the-walls perspective, and each month during the school year, beginning 2002, I would pick a single item to write about. (Normally, there would be several items from which to choose...it was not difficult to identify potential topics.) While I no longer do the writings, I know there is no lack of topics to write about.

Most of the archived items naturally group into three general categories:

1. Relationship issues
2. Communications disconnects
3. Public Relations (which relates to both #1 and #2).

The ideas are timeless...they are as current as today, because they largely report on missed opportunities in human interaction (or lack of same). They are 'high touch' and 'low tech'.

This is what I would suggest to most effectively begin to use this resource:

1. Find a dozen people to do a one-time task.
2. Assign each person to review a single one of the archives (which generally average about five ideas each).
3. At some early point, have a group meeting where there is a discussion about the essays.
4. Discuss a course of action which fits your own local circumstances.
5. If you're typical, this will require some significant change in usual behaviors with the usual problems accompanying change (see [www.outsidethewalls.org/blog](http://www.outsidethewalls.org/blog) post for April 25, 2011)
6. Then actually do something new and different - perhaps from one of these ideas, or something specifically suited to your state or local situation.

For the longer term, consider identifying some outsider in your own community who you can trust to tell the truth, and ask him or her to do the same kind of observing as I did. You may learn something useful (and uncomfortable)!