# Better Together

WHAT'S NEW?

The Development Team has enlisted the aid of some professionals to design a user experience that helps bring more people together in groups of common interests throughout the Prosocial community.

In addition, we're working hard to leverage technology to assist people in finding the resources they need to improve functioning in their groups using Prosocial methods, connect organizations and groups with Prosocial facilitators, and share best practices.

Our aim is to design and configure a central hub for Prosocial so facilitators and groups can easily and intuitively access information about Prosocial, its use cases, and the tools needed to implement it effectively.

We are looking at building on a platform called Ning to integrate all of our communications.
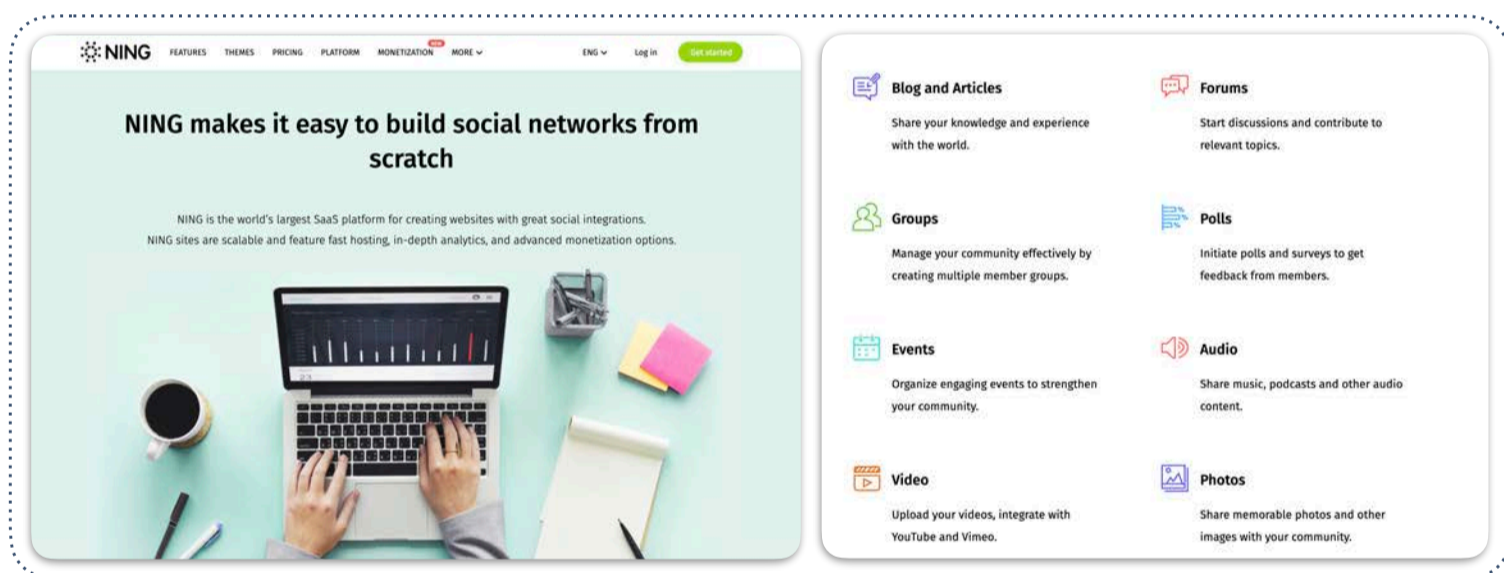
The taxonomy framework will be flexible and scalable to enable all kinds of groups to engage, from corporate to healthcare, leadership committees to front-line workers, and self-organized community groups to families. It can be applied in harmony with other management frameworks, such as Agile, which many of us have already encountered.

The site will be attractive, intuitive and inviting to enable users and groups to collaborate and engage with the platform and with each other. It will focus on simplicity (less is more), simple messaging (video versus text), and ease-of-use when accessing it.

We hope you are as excited about this project as we are while we continue to build Prosocial in a way that can positively effect everyone. As you know, we believe this is a tool that can make the world a better place, and we need that now more than ever.

If you have any ideas you would like to contribute to this endeavor, please contact us here to get involved.

Thanks for continuing to be a part of the Prosocial community!
— Prosocial Development Team

PROSOCIAL WORLD
The science of working better together

PROSOCIAL PROJECTS

A few months ago, David Sloan Wilson presented "Can Evolutionary Thinking Help Companies Foster More Ethical Cultures?" with Jon Haidt at NYU's Stern School of Business. In attendance was Toby Shannon, Chief Support Officer for Shopify, Inc.

Shopify is a Canadian company headquartered in Ottawa that provides online retailing services second only to Amazon. Leveraging the relationship that Shopify has with EthicalSystems.org, David Sloan Wilson and Ian MacDonald will be presenting at Shopify's annual support conference in Montreal at the end of the month!

This is a huge opportunity for Prosocial. The event will feature bits of the interview with David and a workshop that introduces the audience to the CDPs to get them thinking about them in relation to Shopify.

In addition, we'll be running a pilot Prosocial group training experiment within the Shopify support division. The experiment would involve test and control groups, performance metrics from our surveys, and possible integration with Shopify data for even more analysis.

We'll keep everyone apprised of the timeline and results and hope to realize the full potential of this burgeoning relationship with a global organization.

Please click here and let us know how you're using Prosocial. We'd love to spotlight your project!

GET INVOLVED

Last month, we reported that the Development Team was learning a socially responsible system of governance called Sociocracy. Its presumption is that those who perform the work in an organization are the experts in that work, and that they have the skills and knowledge to govern how their work is being done

Power is distributed with the work. As many decisions as possible are made at the most specific level of the organization. These are called, "circles." Any specific circle handles the decisions for their level through a consensus process.

Sociocracy translates to "those who associate together govern together." This sounds simple but it has some revolutionary implications — and parts of the process may be helpful in implementing Prosocial in groups.

To read more about circles, click here.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Beate Ebert, Clinical Psychologist

Beate Ebert is a clinical psychologist and behavioral psychotherapist who runs a private practice in Aschaffenburg, Germany. In addition to being a trained Prosocial facilitator and early contributor to the growth of Prosocial Beate is a peer reviewed trainer in Acceptance and Commitment Therapy. Among other things in her busy schedule, she provides training and lectures internationally.

In 2010, along with friends and colleagues, Beate founded commit and act, a non-profit organization to provide psychosocial support in Sierra Leone and other areas of conflict. With the help of her team, Beate has been successfully using the Prosocial approach since 2013 for behavior change, to empower groups of women in Sierra Leone, to reduce infection rates in the Ebola crisis and to reduce gender based violence in families. She has also used Prosocial for the integration of immigrants in Germany and in various teams of trainers and colleagues.

Beate has led and contributed to several workshops around the world to train Prosocial facilitators and is an invaluable resource and active participant in the Prosocial community.
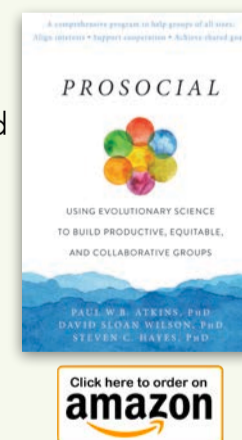
While Beate values spending time with her husband, friends and family, she is always open to helping anyone she can. If you think you or someone you know can benefit from her experience, feel free to contact Beate at be@beate-ebert.de.

Let's get to know each other better! Click here if you'd like to be featured in the Better Together Member Spotlight.

SHAREABLE
PROSOCIAL IS GETTING NOTICED!

Prosocial was listed as the #1 book to read in Sharable's December Newsletter article, 10 books to read over the holidays. Shareable is a large, award-winning nonprofit news, action and connection hub for the sharing transformation. The sharing transformation shows that it's possible to govern ourselves, build a green economy that serves everyone, and create meaningful lives together. It also shows that we can solve the world's biggest challenges — like poverty and global warming — by unleashing the power of collaboration.

PROSOCIAL

USING EVOLUTIONARY SCIENCE TO BUILD PRODUCTIVE, EQUITABLE, AND COLLABORATIVE GROUPS

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