THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST SUMMIT

TNS

2001
CONVENTION

Spiritualism is the science, philosophy, and religion of continuous life

$2.00
USA

$2.75
CANADA

$4.50
EUROPE



The 109th Annual NSAC Convention
Rochester, New York – October 2001

Each year, on Saturday and Sunday, the delegates and guests begin to arrive amid lots of smiles, hugs, handshakes and "how was your year?" The New York trees put on a display of color for the guests that drove to the 109th Annual NSAC Convention in Rochester, New York, and our host church, Plymouth Spiritualist Church, welcomed us to the Four Points Sheraton with an aura of hospitality. What a great convention it was, and this picture record will help us to remember it.

The Plymouth Spiritualist Church organized a lovely Sunday Morning Worship Service for the delegates who had already arrived. The Mental Healing was conducted by Kathy Manikowski, Chairperson was Robin Higgins (NY), the Speaker was Lynn Gaffin (CT).

Sunday Hospitality Reception...

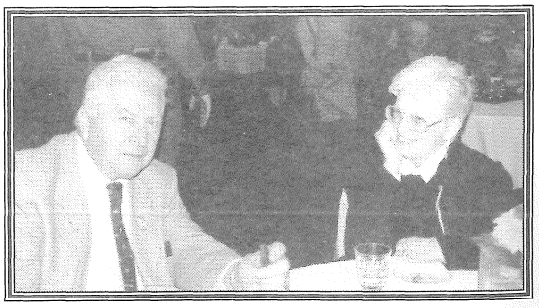
The Sunday afternoon reception sponsored by the host church featured cheese, crackers, fruit and cookies, along with tea and coffee. The Convention attendees used this time to socialize, catch up on news, renew friendships, make new friends, and enjoy the company of Spiritualists from around the country.



Robert & Sharon Bianchi, and John & Joyce Young



Two guests, Brad & Elizabeth Gosslin, Nancy Karolides, Mardi Galloway, and Jerry Wilson



Al & Charlene Kleinschmidt



Linda Pederzani, a friend, and Juanita Oyer



Florence Heyward, Judith Galar, and Ken & Marion Boesen

Sunday Hospitality Reception... (Continued from previous page.)



Lelia Cutler, a new attendee, Al Ferency, and Ellie Berger.



Gene Pfortmiller, Dee Austin, Carol Mumma, Janet Tisdale, Catherine Stewart, and Marylou Baumhoff



Emma Hoblitt, Brad & Elizabeth Gosselin, and Pam Schambow

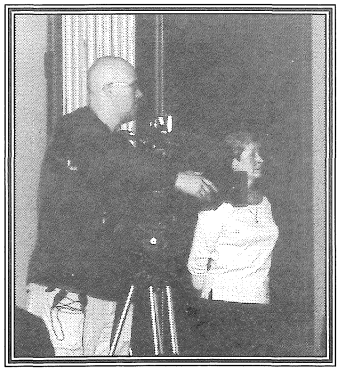


Sunday Evening Worship Service...

A Sunday Evening Worship Service is conducted each year by the NSAC Board. The Rev. Barbara Thurman, NST, led the healing worship and meditation service with Commissioned Healers sharing healing energy with those who came forward for contact healing. David Saunders was the Chairperson for the Service, and the address began with a solo played and sung by the Rev. Cosie Allen, NST. The evening's clairvoyants were the Rev. Pamla Ashlay, NST, the Rev. Catherine Snell, NST, the Rev. Sharon Snowman, NST, Sylvia Kincaid, the Rev. Lelia Cutler, NST, and Marrice Coverson.



Barbara Thurman led the healing meditation.



The Evening Healing Service was filmed for the local news station along with an interview of the Rev. Pamla Ashlay.

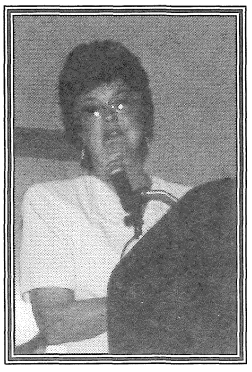


Standing: Pamla Ashlay, Sharon Snowman, Lelia Cutler, David Saunders. Seated: Cosie Allen, Marrice Coverson, and Catherine Snell

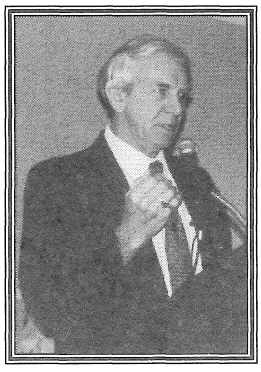
Monday Worship/Seminar...

"Spiritualism in the New Millennium"

Education and sharing are beneficial portions of our National Conventions. A way our NSAC helps Spiritualists continue to grow is with the Monday Seminars sponsored by the NSAC Service Clubs. The Rev. E. Ann Otzelberger, chairperson for the workshop, welcomed the attendees and introduced the speakers and the subjects. The Spiritual Healer's League, the Licentiate Ministers and Certified Mediums Society, The Ministerial Association, and the National Spiritualist Teachers Club join together to present various workshops each year, using the funds that are received to make scholarships available for Spiritualists to gain accreditation and education. The Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller, NST, began the morning, presenting at this year's seminar "Healing and the Aura," and the Rev. Gene Pfortmiller, NST, demonstrated how to help train the eyes to help one view the aura. Next was a very interesting segment on "Communication with your Congregation" by the Rev. Elaine Hager, NST. She taught about various personalities and how to reach each one by a variety of methods. The Rev. Nancy Lloyd, NST, spoke about "Spirit In Your Church," using the first letters of the title to make valid comments and points to bring to our congregations. The Rev. Jesse James, Jr., began the afternoon session with "Spirit Communication." Sometimes after lunch people get a little sleepy, but Jesse's animated presentation kept everyone alert. Patricia Duffield talked about "Spirit in Your Everyday Life" and gave many good examples and pointers. The next speaker, Rik Kristinet's title was "Mediumship and Natural Law" and his talk was filled with personal examples we could all relate to in our lives. So many good speakers, so little time, so the Rev. Ann Otzelberger, NST, gave a brief, quick and very good overview of "Mediumship and Natural Law." Lisa Butler, LM, gave an informative talk about "Electronic Voice Phenomena & Update," with examples of some Class A voices to listen to, and people were able to hear the electronic spirit voices. Tom Butler, LM, concluded the session with an "Update on the Department of Phenomenal Evidence." Be sure to check out the new website he has created for this important Department of NSAC at http://nsacphenomena.tripod.com and for AA-EVP, http://dreamwater.com/AAEVP.



Sandy Pfortmiller



Gene Pfortmiller



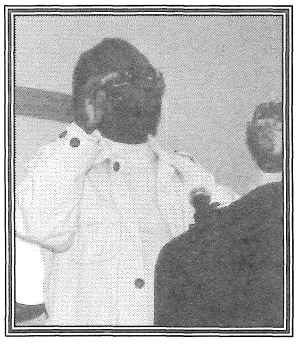
Nancy Lloyd



Elaine Hager



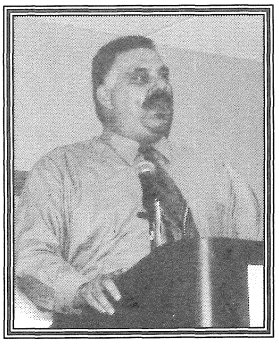
Chairperson and Presenter Ann Otzelberger, Jesse James, and Rik Kristinet



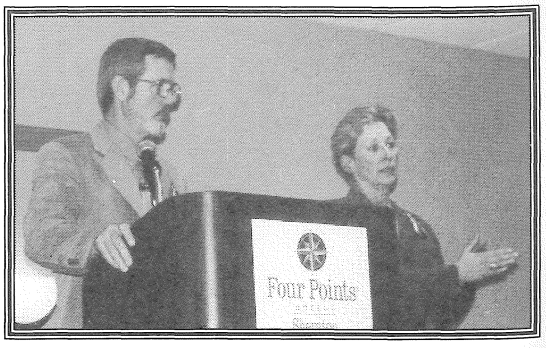
Jesse James



Patricia Duffield



Rik Kristinet



Tom & Alisa Butler

NSAC Banquet...

There was a festive mood as the delegates and guests gathered to enjoy an evening of relaxation, honoring, sharing, dancing and fun. We were welcomed to New York by William A. Johnson, the Mayor of Rochester. NSAC President, the Rev. Barbara Thurman responded, then presented the Presidential awards (see the President's Report for the complete list of her awards). The Director of the Bureau of Public Relations, Robert Egby, was not present, so a former Director, Marrice Coverson, gave the yearly NSAC Awards.



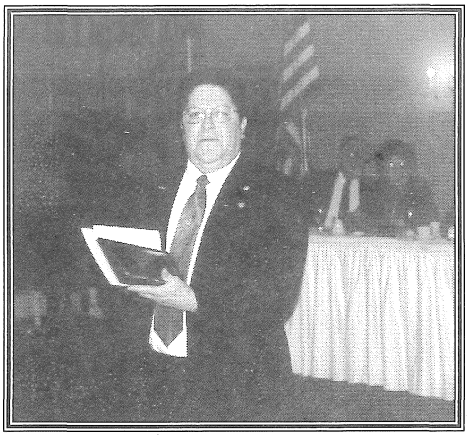
The Board and George Kincaid line up before the Banquet.

Awards...



Robbin Higgins accepts the President's Award for hosting convention.

NSAC Lifetime Service Award



Earl Wallace accepts the 2001 NSAC Lifetime Service Award for F. Merlon Cole.



Robyn & John Rothamel accept the President's Award for Church of Two Worlds.



Pam Strickland accepts the President's Award for Temple Heights Spiritualist Camp.



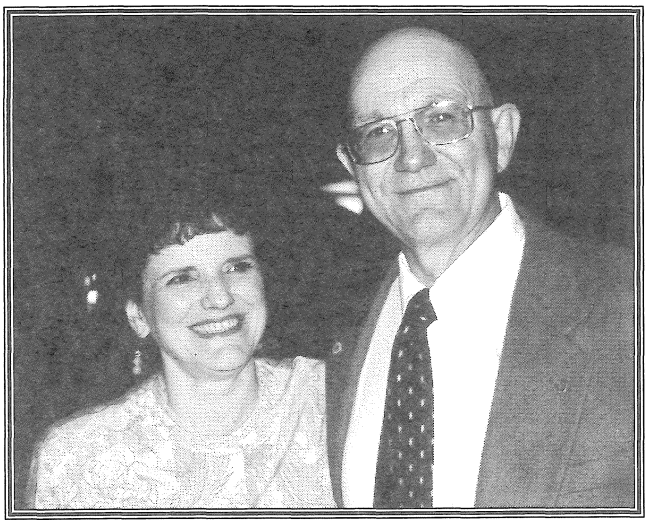
Sharon Snowman accepts the President's Award.

NSAC Outstanding Achievement Award

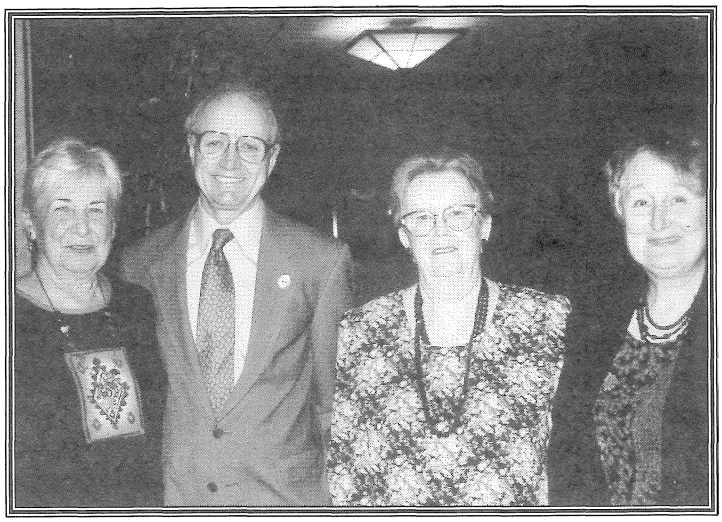


The Rev. Ruth Novak receiving the Achievement Award from NSAC. With her is the Rev. Jesse James, Jr., the Indiana State Association President, and the Michigan City (IN) Spiritual Science Church associate pastor Robert Bianchi, who received it at the convention on behalf of the Rev. Novak.

Dancing and having fun...



Kathleen & Frank Cribb



Engeltie & Del Lauderback, Louise Peruch, and June Johnson



Looks like an angel!



Brad & Elizabeth Gosselin, Nancy Karolides, and Fatima Heath





Patricia Schott, Juanita Oyer, Janet Tisdale, and Al Kleinschmidt

Making Memories...



Mr. & Mrs. Duffield, and Peter Berg



Standing: Pat Mason, Pat Schambow, Jerry Wilson, Rik Kristinat, and Bill Yate. Seated: Marti Galloway, and Kathleen & Frank Cribb.



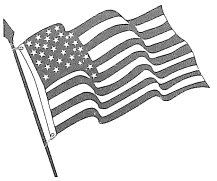
Dorothy Thurlow, Suzie Frank, John Baumhoff, and Beverly Burdick-Carey



Laura Joy, Steve Vogel, and Sandy Pfortmiller



Terry & Natalie Blakeslee, and Stephen Duffy



Good Times...



Catherine Stewart, Dee Austin, and Janet Tisdale



The Zernicek Family, and Martin Pina

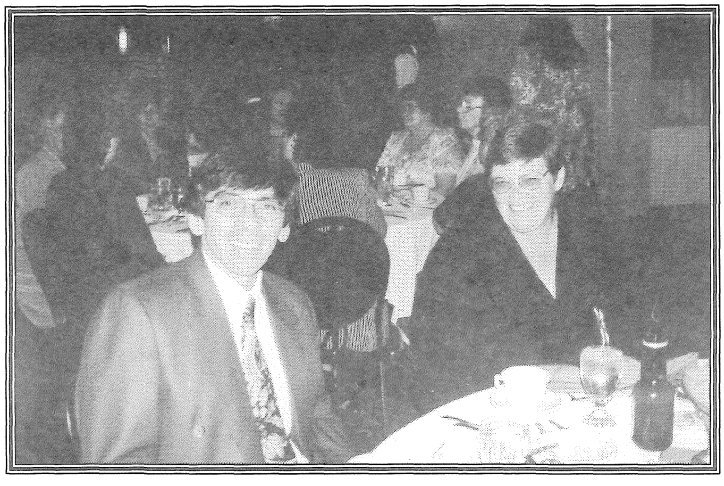


Sharon Rhymer,
and Elaine Hager





A Delegate, and Jesse James



Hugo Ruiz, and Peggy Johnson



June Raliki, and Gladys Kellerman

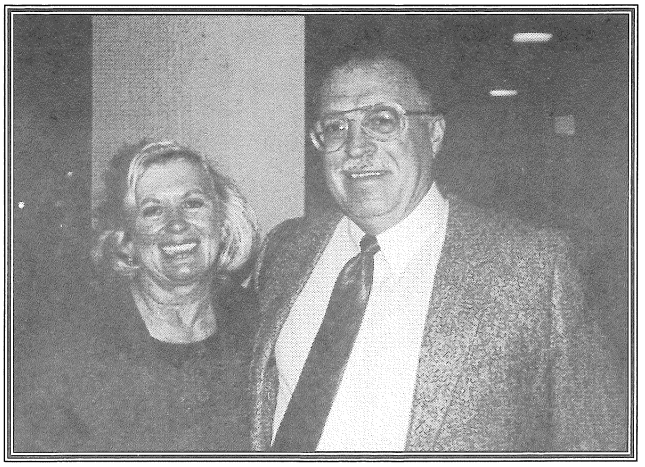
Good Pictures...



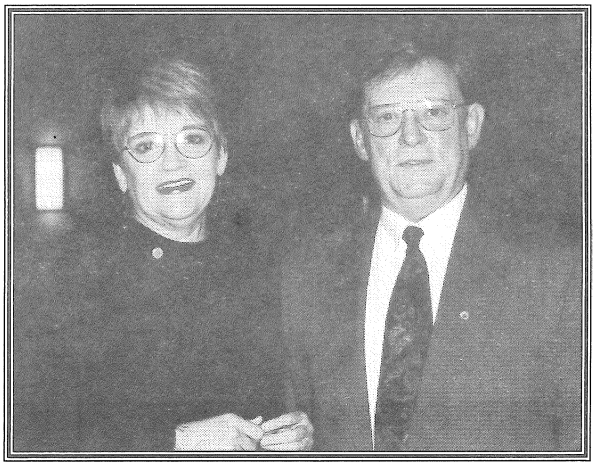
Barbara Thurman, Lisa Butler,
Catherine Stewart, and Gene Pfortmiller



Standing: Alvin Williams, April Sheerin,
Florence Hayward, and Judith Galar.
Seated: Arsenia Williams and Marion Boesen.



Marion & Ken Boesen



Marti Galloway and Jerry Wilson

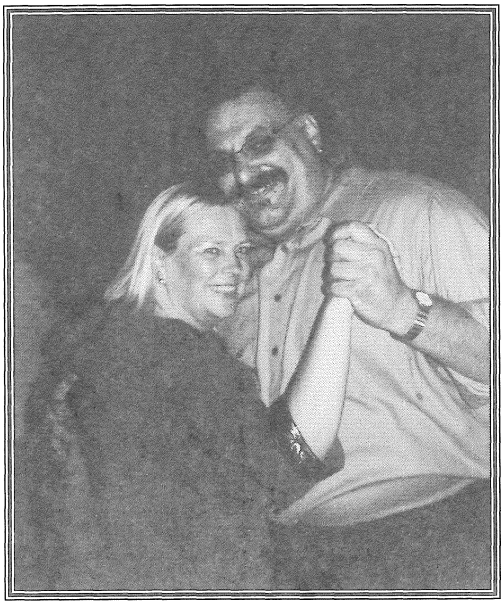


Fred & Patricia Stranahan, Barbara Starr,
Anne Gehman, Laura Joy, and Steve Vogel



Al & Charlene Kleinschmidt

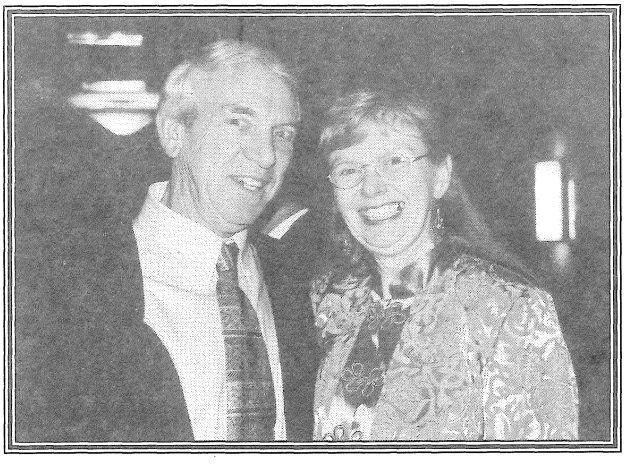
More Fun and Dancing...



Dancers Pamla Ashlay
and Rik Kristinat.



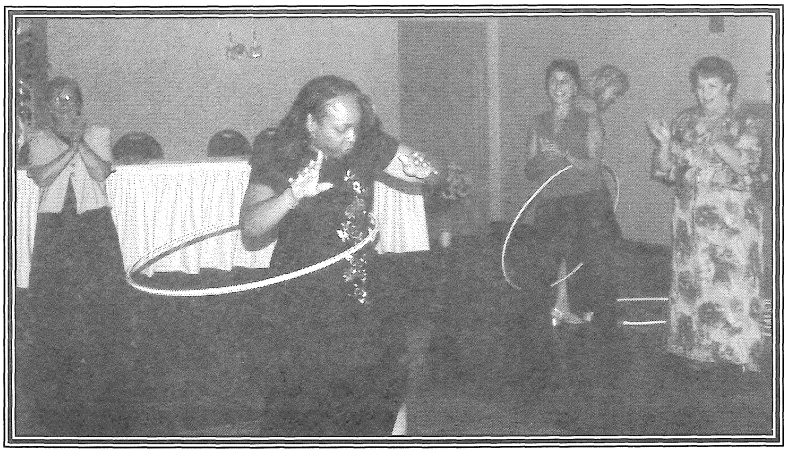
A Circle Dance



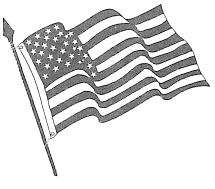
Gene Pfortmiller and Laura Joy



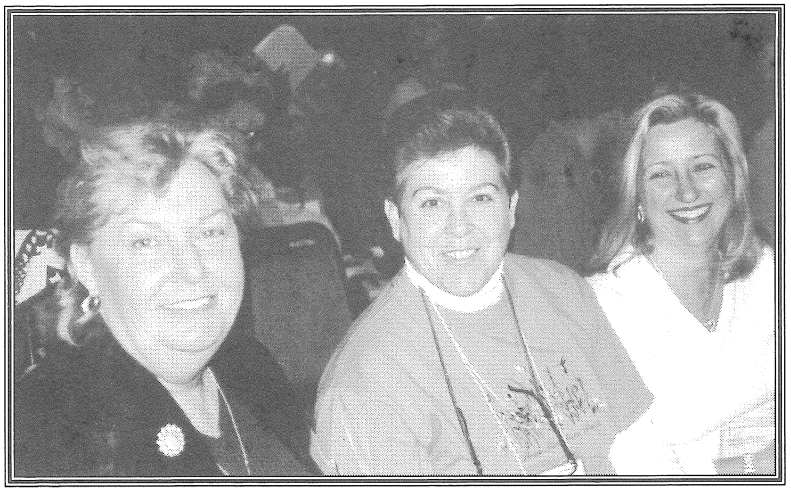
Hoola Hoop Contest: Patricia Schott,
Donna Azzarelli, and Elaine Hager



THE WINNER!



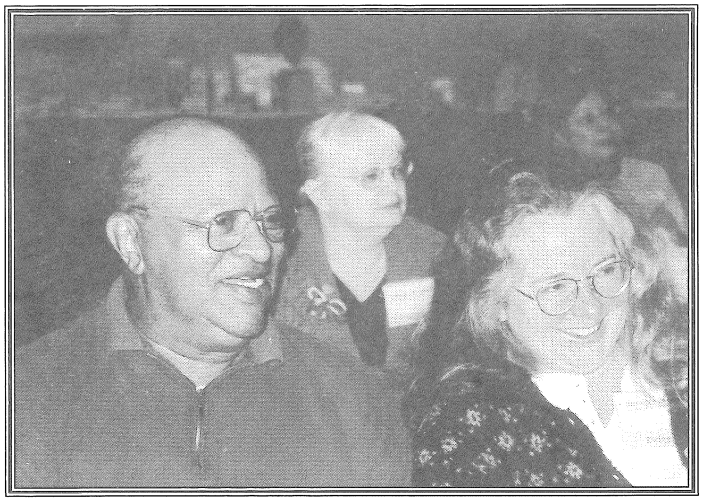
"Smile"...



Ann Otzelberger, Elaine Hager, and Sharon Rhymer



Juanita Oyer, Bunny Starr, and Sandy Pfortmiller



Ken Wingood, and Constance Evans. In the background, Pam Shambow, and Carla Gee





Susan Hazard



Linda Kent



Lisa Butler and Ann Otzelberger

More "Smiles"...



Barbara Thurman and Catherine Stewart



Jesse James, Sandy Pfortmiller, and Sonny Gee



Suzanne Moore



Carol Mumma, and Dee Austin

Future Convention Sites:

2002 – Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2003 – California

2004 – New York

– President's Report –



Rev. Barbara Thurman, NST

To the Officers and Delegates of the 109th Annual NSAC Convention:

Greetings:

First, we thank the members and friends of the Plymouth Spiritualist Church of Rochester, New York for their efforts in arranging and hosting this convention with only a year of preparation. We appreciate the many hours their willing workers gave to organize everything so beautifully.

This has been an interesting year, with many of the same situations the Association faces yearly. However, at least two major events outside the organization are presenting major challenges to us as Spiritualists.

Less than thirty days ago, our country experienced an incredible tragedy, with terrorist attacks on New York City and the Nation's capitol. This is an experience which, in spite of our Spiritualist understanding, was an extremely difficult situation to process within each of us. First, our thoughts and prayers go out to each of the friends and families of those killed and injured in the outrageous acts of aggression of September 11th. There is a need for much spiritual work to those who have perished, to encourage them to be aware of their situation and to support their progression in the Spirit World. Now we have the attacks by our country and our allies on October 7th.

We need to be reminded that delegates to a previous NSAC Convention adopted the following wording concerning similar conditions to those of the present day:

> The National Spiritualist Association of Churches abhors war in any form and supports every effort by any nation or group to maintain peace in the world. We do support our nation's young men and women who serve in the armed forces, but do not support war itself as a method of resolving disputes and differences. Wars at this stage of human progress are brutal and morally injurious to the welfare of society, and that all international disputes should be settled by boards of arbitration, thus ushering in the era of universal peace on earth, good will to all.

There is a challenge to offer guidance to those about us. Our basic Spiritualist beliefs help us meet the call. We, as Spiritualists, can be an example to others to carry on with our usual activities, such as this convention. Spiritualists understand Natural Law. Spiritualists know we attract what we are. We overcome negativity by using the opposite of it—Love, Peace, Poise, as well as many other positive attributes. We put our attention on what we want to experience or become, and not what we are trying to avoid, or fear. Spiritualism is a Religion of demonstration and as Spiritualists we demonstrate our teachings and are examples to others by demonstrating love, and not fear.



This is a time for us to band together, a time to reach out, and a time to manifest God's love to others through our words and actions. This is a challenge to each and every thinking person today. An e-mail message from the compiled thoughts of Neale Donald Walsh, James Twyman, James Redfield and Doreen Virtue offered the following:

> Look to see what it is you wish to experience in your own life, and in the world. Then see if there is another for whom you may be the source of that which they desire. If you wish to experience peace, provide peace for another. If you wish to know that you are safe, cause another to know that they are safe. If you wish to better understand seemingly incomprehensible things, help another to better understand...

Another interesting happening outside our Association is what I identify as the "John Edward" phenomena. The John Edward program first appeared on the SciFi channel beginning in July of 2000. Some could receive the program while others of us did not have the opportunity at the time. Now that his program has been syndicated recently and broadcast to ninety-eight percent of our country, finally I can tune into this highly polished television production. Whatever you believe about Mr. Edward's mediumistic ability, he is making inroads on the belief systems of this nation. Although skeptics enjoy dissecting the Edward's presentation, undeniably this program is introducing this nation to the possibility of spirit communication. Additionally, any of the segments can be used as a tool for training mediums. His work has its good and not so good characteristics, but it offers a demonstration worthy of discussion with students of mediumship. Perhaps what I appreciate most are the explanations of the symbols he receives with his message work, and the few words of advice he offers at the end of each program. Is the John Edward phenomena a modern renewal of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism when knowledge of spirit communication spread throughout the population of our land in the 19th Century? With the general population being more and more introduced to the possibility of spirit communication, it well may be.

It may be the "John Edward phenomena," or it could be the financial conditions of the times, plus the

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recent catastrophic events which are increasing attendance in our churches. It has been my experience, there are more and more persons coming into our churches seeking. Some of these newcomers are not aware of the Religion of Spiritualism and what it offers, but usually they are requesting a reading with a medium. Does your auxiliary have a plan of action to implement when a newcomer attends your service or other events? Do you offer information on our Science, Philosophy and Religion to the person who attends for the first time? Do you have available copies of our publication—*The National Spiritualist Summit* and *The Spotlight*? Do you offer classes to teach the basics of the Religion of Spiritualism? Do you have opportunities for persons to receive a private reading in addition to the spirit greetings at a service? More and more persons are seeking information and instruction. What is your auxiliary offering to meet these needs? Church and camp programs need to be varied, and offer many opportunities for the newcomer to learn more about our Religion.

Although our Association has experienced an increase in the number of persons attaining certification at all levels, we still have many auxiliaries without credentialed persons serving the religious platform. It should be a goal of every auxiliary to have as many credentialed/ordained persons as possible serving the religious platform. Persons who serve in the student capacity for more than a few years should be encouraged to complete the requirements for certification. Respect for this Spiritualist Religion will increase even more if each and every church has an Ordained Minister, and a staff of Certified Mediums and Commissioned Spiritualist Healers to serve at the religious services as well as National Spiritualist Teachers to offer different types of classes. We need to be supportive of all who serve, and especially those who have accepted the challenge of acquiring additional education in preparation for the ministry. Petty jealousy of those who aspire for certification has no place in this Association. Natural Law operates—Many are called and few end up being certified for service.

Another problem is that once "certified" or "commissioned" some of our workers feel as if there is nothing further to do. Some have no interest in offering instruction to those on the pathway of knowledge or spiritual development. Some others feel that their education is completed with their certification and additional classes are not necessary. Learning is a life long activity and for that reason your National Board is still discussing the possibility of Continuing Education for the Ministry. It is not an easy topic, but eventually we will present some further information on this.

This Association still needs new churches in many areas of this country. The reports from our Outreach Program each year indicate we have many groups interested in Spiritualism and what it offers. We need trained, or certified persons to organize those groups. We need Ordained Ministers to replace ministers who retire. We need Ordained Ministers to fill positions in churches who have no Ordained Ministers. We need to increase our ministry numbers in addition to increasing the numbers of our church memberships.



At the preconvention board meeting, a committee report presented the possibilities for evaluating life experience in lieu of the Pastoral Skills requirement. It is exciting to know we as an Association can move forward with the possibility of giving credit to the person who has considerable life experience in the same areas covered in Pastoral Skills. The procedure is not complete at this time for presentation, but it may be a portfolio system of explaining one's background to demonstrate equivalence to the Pastoral Skills Course. Our goal is to have bylaw language for this for the 2002 Convention.

Also, your NSAC board has just begun a discussion concerning the Mediumship and Healing Affidavits and to why, in the case of the Mediumship Affidavits, they are limited to messages given only at church services. Your board will be presenting new wording for bylaws next year concerning the Affidavits. The consensus of the board is to lift the restriction of affidavits applying only to church services and allow Affidavits to be received in almost any Spiritualist activity. It is the opinion of the board that the signatures of two witnesses should be required for most affidavits, but with Healing Affidavits there may be some exceptions as with healing done in hospitals and nursing homes.

The Department of Education report from the Rev. Barbara Starr this year is offering a proposed organizational structure for the Department. As I personally review this structure—this is a blue print for progress. This is the plan for future action and we need this plan for future planning and implementation. Please give careful consideration to the recommendation of this Department.

The College of Spiritual Science is an inspiring venture. The President of the College, the Rev. Catherine Snell, has worked extensively to create the organizational materials for the College this past year and you will hear more about this in her report. Even though CSS has been in operation for a number of years, it has not had the distinct identity necessary for proceeding with accreditation. This year the initial Board of Directors for the College has been appointed, a proposed set of Bylaws for the governance of CSS has been formulated as well as the Articles of Incorporation. There will be an organizational meeting sometime during this convention to complete the application for an Educational Charter with NSAC. Other items will be necessary to proceed with the accreditation process. Her report will inform you concerning her other activities of CSS, which are many.

With regards to the Hydesville property, the NSAC board has had a boundary survey and the land has been cleared with some larger trees left in place. The ground was then seeded for grass. At this preconvention board meeting the NSAC Board ordered a topographic survey of the property as the next step. Also the Board "brain-stormed" some ideas for what may be included on the site. The ideas may include the following and are not the final list—protection for the remaining foundation of the former Fox cottage; a meditation area; pathways, benches; replacement of the

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monuments previously located on the site; placement of the Drummond headstones; other signs in addition to the information on the monuments; an informational area; a parking area, if necessary; and an irrigation system if necessary. We are excited about the forward movement in the steps necessary for the improvement of the site which is important to the entire Religion of Spiritualism.

Another quite different activity has been taking place. In the last few months there have been two meetings between representatives of the NSAC and the American Federation of Spiritualist Churches. How these meetings came about is still somewhat a mystery, but the origin is not important. At the NSAC Spring Board meeting, the entire board met with the Rev. Irene Harding of the AFSC for one evening to investigate the possibility of the two groups "merging," "reaffiliating," or whatever one wants to label this. She expressed her desire to make Spiritualism a stronger Religion with this possibility. Another meeting was held in Plymouth, Massachusetts in July with the Rev. Catherine Snell and myself representing NSAC, while the Revs. Charles and Irene Harding, and the Rev. Dr. Erle Myers represented AFSC.

At this point I wish to share some thoughts with you. Usually the word "merger" has a definite connotation within one's understanding. In doing some research I found that when similar organizations in the same field come together—say two Spiritualist organizations with similar functions, it is considered a horizontal merger. The results can be savings in overhead costs, and expanded services and resources which ultimately benefit Spiritualism. We may interpret this to mean that a merger of this type of two Spiritualist organizations would make Spiritualism stronger as a Religion for the future.

Although consolidations and so-called mergers in the nonprofit area are a definite pattern of our society, this process emphasizes the principles of our Religion—unity for strength. Jane Arsenault in her *Forging Nonprofit Alliances* notes that there are three basic scenarios to inspire organizations to consider some form of consolidation:

1. Survival as an organization is in doubt, and an organization's leadership desires to ensure survival of all or part of its activities.
2. The organization's leadership sees an opportunity to build dominance or leadership in a particular arena.
3. The organization needs additional resources to pursue an opportunity or maintain and increase a commitment to a mission driven program.

At the July 16th meeting, the Rev. Irene Harding reported that as a result of the AFSC Spring Board meeting, requests were to be presented to the NSAC for consideration. These requests were:

- At least one, and preferably two, AFSC members be placed on the NSAC Board.
- All AFSC credential holders transferred to NSAC without examination.
- Students currently in the AFSC educational system be allowed a period of up to three years to finish their education under their current system.
- The AFSC Dean of Education be utilized in the NSAC educational system.

At the meeting of July 14th, a "Statement of Intent" was created: "In merging our two parallel organizations, we strengthen the Religion of Spiritualism as presented to the world. By working together, rather than as separate organizations, a merger provides cohesiveness which offers strength, clarity, resources and knowledge."

At the meeting we openly discussed the similarities and differences of the two organizations. As a result of our discussions, we found far more similarities than differences between the two. An essential point is that the Philosophy of Spiritualism with the two organizations is the same. This Spiritualist Philosophy is the same because the founders of AFSC left NSAC due to political reasons and not philosophical or theological differences.

The AFSC Dean of Education opened their private files revealing the lesson work of their students, as well as their examinations and thesis materials. The NSAC representatives reviewed these files and are comfortable with what they found. We can recommend without reservation the transfer of AFSC credentials without examination. The AFSC educational system for certification is stringent and certainly equal to that of the NSAC. Those who have qualified under the supervision of the AFSC Department of Education should have their credentials accepted because each person's file contains all of their work for their educational courses as well as their testing materials. Students presently taking the AFSC courses should be given three years to complete all course work and AFSC examinations.

The NSAC representatives recommended the placement of two AFSC members on the NSAC Board for a period of three years with full voice and vote, bringing the total number of the NSAC board to eleven for this time period only. The reason behind this decision is to provide liaison to the "former AFSC auxiliaries" to guarantee a smoother transition and assimilation of the two cultures. AFSC would select these two board members at the appropriate time. At the end of the three years, these two positions would automatically be eliminated unless there would be further amendments made to the NSAC Bylaws for a larger permanent NSAC board which at this time is not recommended. Personally, I have heard remarks that this would not be appropriate, but I ask you to consider the position of those who have membership in the AFSC organization, and what would you think if you were in their position?

This is a historical move in the life of the NSAC. The aforementioned information should be implemented through the expertise of the attorneys and parliamentarians so that proper documentation is developed for this merger. References suggest two methods for "merger." One is to amend bylaws and the other is to create a special document for adoption by the delegates in convention. The special document method may be preferable, and any



(Continued on next page.)

President's Report *(Continued from previous page.)*

agreement or documentation would be presented to the NSAC delegates in convention next year for their adoption by a two-thirds vote. The materials for consideration would be distributed at least sixty days before the next convention. This process takes time.

Changes in other areas of our Association need consideration. In my many experiences with state association conventions over a period of thirty years, I have lived through many changes in their convention program formats. Almost all of the changes have been for the betterment of that association. So, at this time I wish to recommend some changes which may make our NSAC conventions more interesting, worthwhile and viable.

One recommendation is to have the NSAC Board present their Sunday religious service in the morning instead of in the evening. It is my opinion that the Board would appreciate serving earlier in the day.

A second recommendation would be to have an All Message Service Sunday evening. Perhaps this service would be chaired by a board member. Certified Mediums would sign up during the day on Sunday, and would give three messages each at this service. Perhaps students could be included if they had the written recommendation of their pastor.

A third recommendation is to have at least one outside speaker for our evening services. This might be the leader of another Spiritualist organization, an author, or whomever might have an appropriate message to share with our Association. This year I have elected to allow the Rev. Charles Harding, President of the American Federation of Spiritualist Churches to speak to you Tuesday evening in my place since I will be serving as guest speaker at the AFSC Convention later this month.

A fourth recommendation is that we have more workshop opportunities during the convention. In 1998, we had a bylaw proposal to begin the convention on Monday and then alternate business and workshops during the week. Each Service Club would still have an opportunity to present a workshop of their choosing and request a small fee. We have a Missionary list which states that many of our Missionaries have interesting Seminars and Workshops to offer. Perhaps offering them at our conventions would encourage churches and camps to book them for their programs. Next year there will be a bylaw proposal to assist this recommendation.

A fifth recommendation is that the Thursday evening religious service not be held, but in its place another type of activity, or activities be available for the delegates. This might be a special theatrical presentation, or a celebrity speaker, for example. Other activities may be suggested.

If you have any comments or further ideas to share on this report, please let me know.

Love and Light,

The Rev. Barbara Thurman, NST

The following is to be included in the printing of this report in *The National Spiritualist Summit.*

The NSAC Awards presented by the Department of Public Relations last evening at the Banquet, were the Lifetime Service Award to F. Merlon Cole of the Augusta, Maine Spiritualist Church, and Outstanding Achievement Award to the Rev. Ruth Novak of the Spiritual Science Church of Michigan City, Indiana.

Other individuals and auxiliaries worthy of recognition with the President's Awards are: The Plymouth Spiritualist Church of Rochester, NY, in appreciation for being Convention Hosts; to two auxiliaries—the Church of Two Worlds of Washington, DC and Temple Heights Spiritual Camp Association of Northport, ME, for updating and modifying their auxiliary's constitution and bylaws with a bylaws only format; to the Ashlay Spiritualist Camp Association of Ashley, OH for reinstituting a summer Camp Program; to the Western Wisconsin Spiritualist Camp Association of Wonewoc, WI for achieving great success with their first season under new management; to the Andrew Jackson Davis Memorial Lyceum of Lily Dale, NY for restoration of the winter and summer Lyceum Program for the children of the area; to Sherry Valentine Allers of Auburn, WA for her service above and beyond the usual duties as Camp Edgewood Treasurer; to Lois Carlisle for her contribution of artistic design and execution of a stained glass window for the Spiritualist Church of the Comforter, Santa Barbara, CA; to the Rev. Sharon Snowman of Lily Dale, NY for providing a monthly Study Group for a large number of students enrolled in courses for certification.

The Global Consciousness Project

http://noosphere.princeton.edu
http://www.boundaryinstitute.org/randomness.htm

We do not feel that our minds are isolated within our bodies. In truth, we experience the world with beautiful immediacy, we know our loved ones from afar, and we leap in thought to the stars. Research on anomalies of consciousness shows that we may have direct communication links with each other, and that intentions can have effects in the world despite physical barriers and separations. Evidence compels us to accept correlations that we cannot yet explain. It appears that consciousness may sometimes produce something that resembles, at least metaphorically, a nonlocal field. The Global Consciousness Project (GCP) takes this possibility as a starting point for a speculation that such fields generated by individual consciousness would interact and combine, and ultimately have a global presence. Usually, because we are busy with individual lives, there is little to produce structure in the field, so it is random and not detectable. But occasionally there are global-scale events that bring great numbers of us to a common focus and an unusual coherence of thought and feeling. To study the effects of a possible global consciousness, we have created a world-spanning network of detectors sensitive to coherence and resonance in the mental domain.

(Continued on next page.)

President's Report *(Continued from previous page.)*

Continuous streams of date are sent over the internet to be achieved and correlated with events that may evoke a world-wide consciousness. Examples that appear to have done so include the funeral ceremonies of Princess Diana, a few minutes around midnight on any New Years Eve, the first hour of NATO bombing in Yugoslavia, several major earthquakes, and now the WTC disaster.

The GCP began recording data in August, 1998. It has grown to about 40 sites around the world, each generating and reporting second-by-second data. Here we describe all aspects of the project, and we provide public access to the data. The top banner buttons will connect you to sections of the site concerned with the project's background and development (About), experimental methods and the prediction registry (Procedures), access to the data in various forms (Data Access), momentary activity reports (NetStatus), and useful information for people who are interested in helping (Participate). You will find summaries of the formal analysis as well as links to interesting and thought-provoking explorations on the Current Results page.

Please accept the frequent references to "global consciousness" as a convenient metaphor. It is a label for a possible source for effects and correlations that remain essentially mysterious. All this is subtle, and we can at this point only report the data, hoping to understand its meaning better as we go along.

You can read a detailed description of the GCP project using the Next Page links, or find brief accounts or search for specific information using the links below. The Site map link includes an Advanced Search tool. A Media Information page outlines our resources and expectations for public presentations of the project.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT COMMITTEE REPORT

To the officers, delegates, and members of the 109th annual convention assembled in Rochester, NY.

The President's Report Committee members agree wholeheartedly with our President that there is much spiritual work to be done by each of us sending our prayers and healing to those who made such a sudden transition to spirit and to the families, friends, survivors and all who were involved in the recent tragedies. As our president stated, "this is a time for us to band together, a time to reach out, and a time to manifest God's love to others through our words and actions."

We applaud the efforts of our NSAC Board and church leaders in recognizing and encouraging education and certification of our workers as well as the proposed organizational structure of the NSAC Department of Education. The President's report reiterates the progress that has been made and reminds us of the ongoing need for continuing education and the need to encourage and support our students. We must continue to provide the opportunities and incentives that will encourage current members to enroll in our educational programs.

As important as it is to educate our workers and congregations, it is just as important to educate the public and the current plans to develop the Hydesville property will heighten public awareness of Spiritualism when completed. This committee is heartened by the report's acknowledgement that an increase in attention to the phenomena and church attendance may be a result of television programs such as "Crossing Over" with John Edwards demonstrating spirit communication. The additional suggestions given in our President's report should help our churches and camps provide the services and fulfill the needs of those who are just discovering the truth of spirit communication and the philosophy of Spiritualism. This committee supports these suggestions and encourages our auxiliaries to consider them for use.

The recommended changes for NSAC convention program formats are quite interesting. This committee asks the NSAC Board to consider these recommendations for possible inclusion at future NSAC conventions. The all message service on Sunday evening was of particular interest—not only to this committee, but to other delegates we have talked to. Other suggestions might include a public event featuring private readings by certified NSAC mediums, healing by commissioned healers, and available educational literature.

This committee agrees with the intent and purpose of the proposed merger of NSAC and the American Federation of Spiritualist Churches (AFSC) to strengthen the religion of Spiritualism. As a result of our discussions, we suggest the following questions and concerns be addressed by the NSAC Board and presented to the delegates:

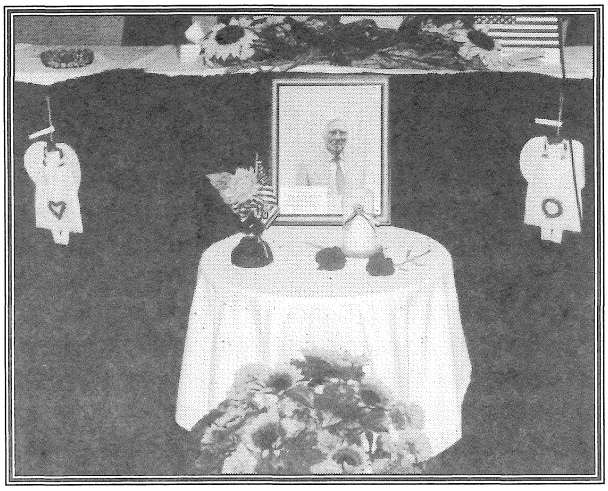
- The number of churches that will be joining our organization?
- The possibility that not all of the AFSC churches will join our organization—might some of them decide to become independent?
- Approximate number of active AFSC members in good standing that will be added to our roles?
- Approximate number of credentialed AFSC ministers, mediums, healers, etc. that will be joining our organization?
- What are the differences, even though minor, between the two organizations?
- Concern that the proposed addition of two AFSC members to our NSAC board for a period of three years:
  a. Would not comply with the NSAC Bylaws.
  b. Could be considered as favoritism or special treatment, possibly setting a precedent for future societies who want to transfer to NSAC.

We recommend the NSAC Board proceed to develop a plan that would unite these organizations, provide information/clarification on above questions and concerns, and present these to the delegates next year with the delegates having the option to vote on each aspect of the plan.



Respectfully submitted,
Carol A. Brown, Chairman,
Mary Montgomery-Clifford,
Pamela Strickland,
10/11/01

Honoring...



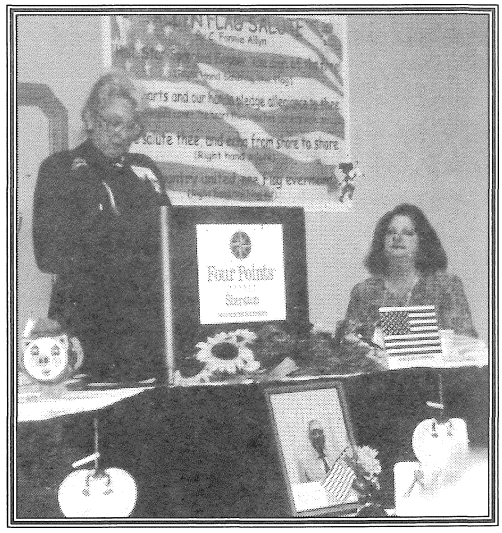
Memorial to Joseph H. Merrill.



AAEVP Demonstration by Lisa & Tom Butler.

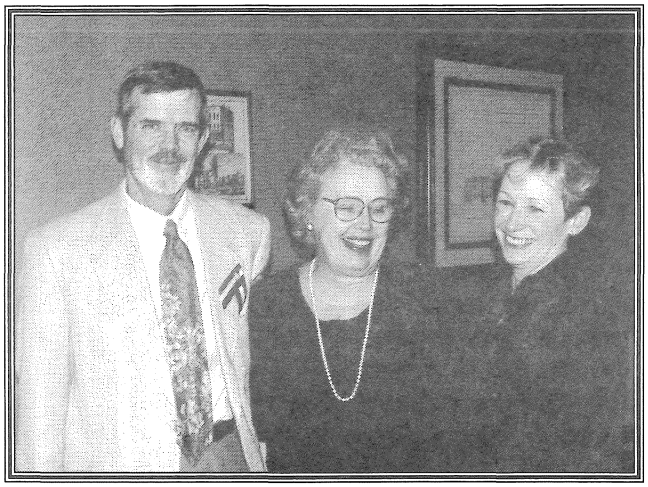


Workshop: Religion at the Turn of the Century. Robbin Higgins introduces the Librarian for the City of Rochester.



Memorial Service: Sharon Snowman and Kathy Manikowski

Ordination...



Tom Butler, Barbara Thurman, and Lisa Butler



Introducing the Rev's. Tom & Lisa Butler (center) following their ordination service on Wednesday evening.

Service Club Meetings/Officers...



THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST TEACHER'S CLUB
Officers pictured – Louise Peruch, John Young, Ann Otzelberger (President), and Pamla Ashlay.

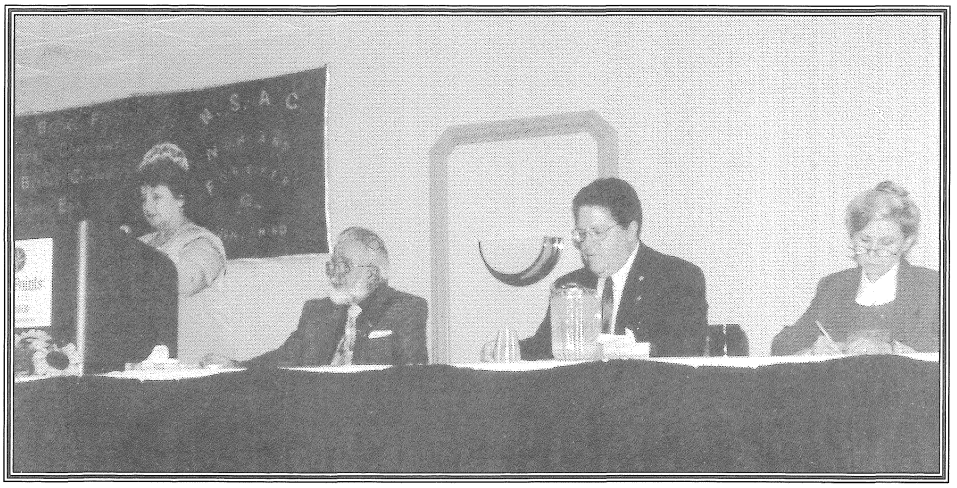


THE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
Officers pictured – Pamla Ashlay, Nancy Lloyd, Barbara Starr (President), and Elaine Hager.

THE SPIRITUALIST HEALER'S LEAGUE
Officers pictured – John Young, Al Kleinschmidt, Gene Pfortmiller (President), Susan Ferency and Ann Otzelberger.



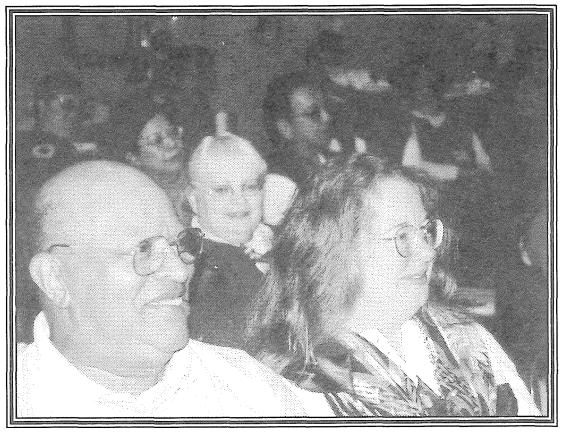




THE LICENTIATE MINISTERS AND CERTIFIED MEDIUM'S SOCIETY
Officers pictured – Janet Tisdale (President), John Young, Earl Wallace, and Patricia Stranahan.

Friends and Sharing...

A large enjoyable part of the NSAC Convention is the sharing and exchange of ideas and energy. It is a time to talk Spirit, Church, Healing, Guides, Experiences and find good listeners that understand and contribute. The informal activities, and meals unite us together and give us ideas to bring back to our churches.

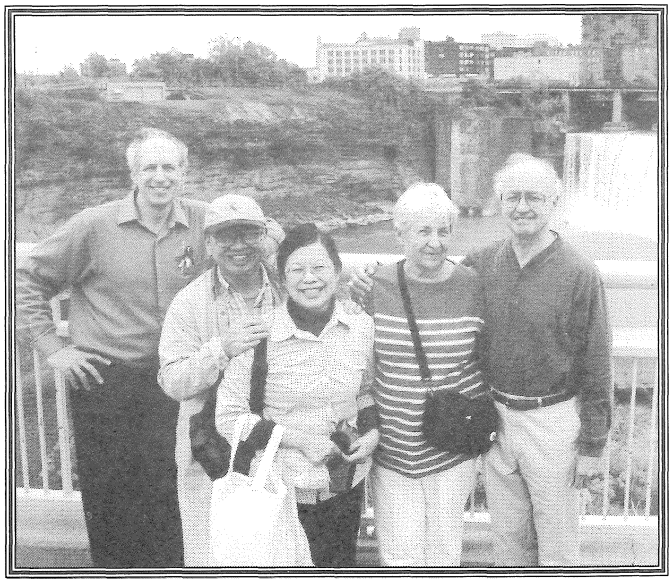


Ken Wingood and Constance Evans

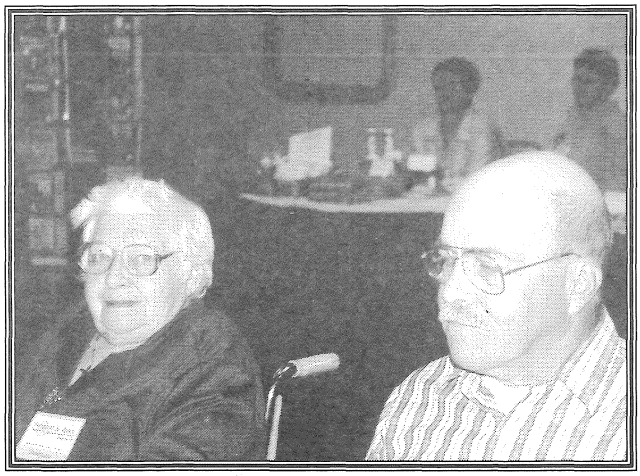
Delegates...



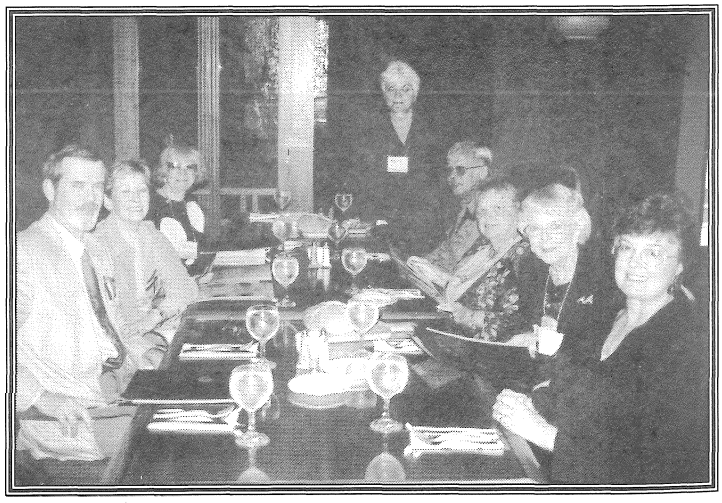
Barbara Thurman and Janet Travis



L-R: David Haddick, Sonny & Carla Gee, Engeltie & Delaney Lauderback



Margaret Tracy and John Tremblay

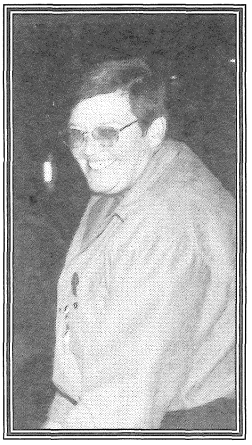


Dinner with friends.

Workers and Helpers...



Credential Table: Lisa Butler, Tom Butler, Barbara Starr, and Jesse James



Peggy Johnson



Jeff Lucas addressing the Delegates.



Gene Pfortmiller

Credential Committee
Bunny Starr, *Chairperson*,
Jesse James, Lisa Butler,
Tom Butler

Time Keeper
Beverly Burdick-Carey,
Michael Pillsbury

Book Table
Peggy Johnson,
Amanda Whitmore

Recorders
Sandra Dawkins *(Words)*,
Cosie Allen *(Video)*

Legal Council
Jeff Lucas

Parliamentarian
Betty Green

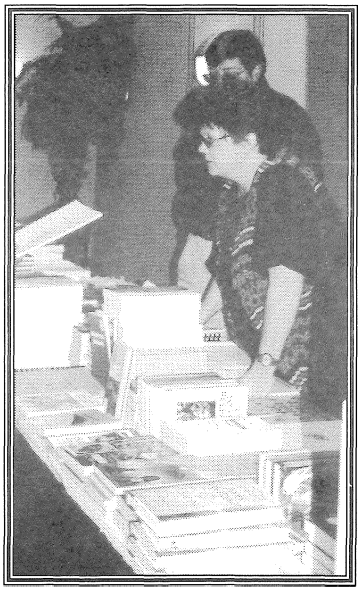
Sergeants-At-Arms
Gene Pfortmiller,
Guy Brewer

TNS
Sandy Pfortmiller

Lyceum
Arsenia Williams,
April Sheerin,
Marion Boesen



Sandy Pfortmiller



Book Table: Peggy Johnson and Amanda Whitmore



Betty Green, Parliamentarian

– Secretary's Report –



Rev. Sharon Snowman, NST

To the Officers, Delegates and Guests Assembled at the National Spiritualist Association of Churches 109th Annual Convention:

Greetings:

As the Secretary of the NSAC, it is my pleasure to present the following report on the NSAC General Headquarters as well as the statistical report to the Delegates of this, our 109th Annual Convention.

At the 2000 NSAC Convention, the Delegates approved a budget allocation of $30,000.00 for updating the NSAC Office and for upkeep and maintenance. Many of the plans for the badly needed renovation and updating of the office have been completed. Safer and more efficient office furniture has been placed in the NSAC office. These are in the form of workstations which have tremendously eased the work of the office.

New computer systems have been purchased for the NSAC Secretary, Bookkeeper and Bookstore along with necessary program updates. Two of the computers which had been previously in use were allocated to the Archives Room and a small workstation for use by visiting Board Members.

As these have been placed in areas that will not be carrying a great load of work, it is anticipated that they will be serviceable for their designated tasks.

Previously, due to a lack of memory, e-mail had only been connected to one computer in the NSAC Office. With the new computers being placed in service, e-mail is now available on all three business computers, each having its own e-mail address. This is proving to be a great asset. Not only does this provide the convenience of placing and receiving orders at no additional cost, but is being highly used for Board communications as well as responding to the needs and requests of many of our auxiliaries. This should provide a further decrease in communications billings. The same phone line which is used for the internet is also used daily for UPS tracking and credit card charges.

The carpeting project which had begun last year has been completed on the main floor and the rooms on the main floor have been painted. Due to ice damage last year, it has been necessary to repair the porch roof which extended over the filing room. A portion of this had been paid for by the Insurance Company but to prevent a re-occurrence in the future, the Board approved plans to restructure this section of the roof. This necessitated replacing four of the windows on the second floor and this work has been completed. In the process, it had been discovered that under the facade of the porch, there was still in existence, and in perfect condition, the original period gingerbread which adorned the building. This has been preserved and has enhanced the Victorian Era style of the building.



With all of the remodeling, painting, setting up and breaking down that was occurring, we found many friends who came to our assistance and offered services. Our thanks go to all of you who have not only helped the NSAC Office Staff, but also the NSAC Board members and this organization in so many ways throughout the year. Through your assistance and willing hands, you have made our tasks much easier.

The NSAC Board members continue to donate most all of their Board expenses to the NSAC and still continue to travel to visit auxiliaries. Funds are raised by the visiting Board Member through church activities while visiting to pay part or all of the expenses. This Board in its entirety should be commended for its efforts not only in the area of expenses, but in many others which will become more apparent as this convention proceeds.

It is also to be noted that in the Treasurer's Report, some areas of our expenses have risen, but this is due to circumstance, such as the rise in utilities which we have all experienced, and not to a lack of effort on the part of the NSAC Board to curb expenses.

The NSAC Book Store continues to grow thanks to the efforts of our Book Store Manager, Amanda Whitmore. Amanda is here with us for her first NSAC Convention. As most of you have worked with Amanda throughout this year by phone, fax or e-mail, be sure to stop at the Book Table and meet the person who is doing what she does best...selling books.

The Book Store continues to bring in new stock, and based on recommendations and reviews by various ministers, has added many new and valuable additions. These have been publicized in our Monthly Mailings, on our Web Site and featured in our Quarterly Book List which is sent to all auxiliaries and the retail book stores which obtain books and supplies from us. Most of these books are available at the Convention book table in limited supply or may be ordered from the NSAC office.

Although sales are down from last year, the NSAC Book Store has once again had a very busy year. It

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should be noted that the figures presented in this report will differ from what is presented by the Treasurer due to adjustments by the accountant's to inventory. As the NSAC operates on a cash basis of accounting, book sales from May and June are reflected in sales, but the income from these sales is generally not received until after the closing of the books at the end of June.

The income this year from the sale of books, NSAC Manuals, Spiritualist Hymnals and supplies, from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001 totals $35,190.00. On the positive side, public interest has been raised to new levels with the rise in media programs related to Mediumship. Inquiries regarding communications with spirit have been responded to through the publication of books, and positive press is being experienced all over the world. Interest in publications have been on the rise and we are doing our best to meet that demand with authors who promote the basic fundamentals of our Religion.

Cost of sales for the purchase of books, materials, and books for review for this year, $26,458.00.

Many questions have been raised this past year regarding Church Management, Bylaws, Robert's Rules and basic Parliamentary Procedures. These are all addressed in booklets which have been purchased from the National Association of Parliamentarians and cover all areas of concern for our auxiliaries. If your church does not have these booklets, we again recommend that these be acquired due to the wealth of information which they contain.

The NSAC Book Store is still making a concentrated effort to cut down on the amount of stock which is held in order to curb expenses, restock and to still provide for new and interesting titles and information. At present our inventory value stands at $98,877.00. Again, the major percentage of our Book Store stock comes from books which the NSAC has published and had ordered in large quantities to obtain more feasible prices.

Twenty-eight new books have been added to the NSAC Book Store this year. We have also expanded materials for the Lyceum by completing the availability of all of the Serendipity books and several other books which would be appropriate for Lyceum.

Templeton Foundation Press is the publisher of many fine books on Science and Religion along with other publications. The NSAC Book Store has taken advantage of a new section of the Templeton Foundation Press web site which went on line this fall. This site is specific and lists only what they consider to be the best books on science and religion. We have been invited to add the NSAC publications and we have begun to add the books that we publish ourselves on their site. Through the NSAC Web Site, we have made a concentrated effort to place the NSAC Free Literature on line and available for anyone who wishes to obtain copies for themselves. With access to the Web, many denominations of Spiritualism have produced Home Pages and are providing information regarding communication, Spiritual Healing and Natural Law. The NSAC Web Site has been linked to several of these that provide information which follows our teachings. Free Literature in printed form is still available from the NSAC Office for those who wish to acquire such materials. This printed literature is vital to our Public Relations, Missionary and Outreach programs and assists us in creating a greater understanding and public image for our Religion.



As promised at last years Convention, we have made an effort to place all forms of the NSAC on the NSAC Web Site. This had originally been accomplished under a separate free site which was linked to the NSAC Web Site. The time came when charges would be implemented for use of the separate site and therefore this information was being transferred to the NSAC Web Site. Most of the NSAC Forms are once more on the NSAC Web Site and the task of assuring that all forms are in place should be completed within the very near future.

There is an ever increasing problem regarding Annual Reports of the Certified workers. During the month of August, the NSAC office receives the Auxiliary Annual Reports from the NSAC Auxiliaries, Annual Reports of the Ordained Ministers, National Spiritualist Teachers and NSAC Missionaries, along with reports from the NSAC Service Clubs, organizations and committees within the NSAC.

At that time of year the NSAC Office is on overload in compiling these reports and preparing the copies necessary for Convention. There has been noted a tremendous increase of auxiliaries who are also submitting, at this same time, the renewals for Licentiate Minister, Certified Mediums and Commissioned Healers. With the influx of reports and paperwork, we can not handle these late filings at this time of year in a timely manner.

January of each year would be a better time for various reasons to effect a renewal of these credentials. At next year's NSAC Convention we will present a proposed Bylaw change for consideration; that the annual renewals for all Licentiate Ministers, Certified Spiritualist Mediums and Commissioned Healers be moved to the month of January of each year. The proposal will carry a rationale and a pro-rated table to assist in bringing the renewals current to 2004.

The statistical report of the NSAC is as follows:

It is a pleasure to announce that the NSAC has issued twenty-eight credentials since last year's convention.

ORDINATIONS CONFERRED: 5 - Rev. Catherina Cupples, *Connecticut;* Rev. Gail Tierney Griffith, *North Carolina;* Rev. Elaine Hager, *Florida;* Rev. Gloria Nye, *Maine;* Rev. Kathleen Rottino, *Connecticut.*

NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST TEACHERS DEGREES: 6 - John Bassett, *Maryland;* Gail Tierney Griffith, *North Carolina;* Gloria Nye, *Maine;* John Rothamel, *Maryland;* Kathleen Rottino, *Connecticut;* Antonio Santos, *Massachusetts.*

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Secretary's Report *(Continued from previous page.)*

LICENTIATE CERTIFICATE: 8 - Robert Bianchi, *Indiana;* Marrice Coverson, *Illinois;* Lois Croes, *Maine;* Brian Kent, *Rhode Island;* Linda Kent, *Rhode Island;* Rik Kristinat, *Illinois;* Virginia Norris, *Maine;* John Rothamel, *Maryland.*

CERTIFIED MEDIUM: 5 - Robert Bianchi, *Indiana;* Alisa Butler, *Nevada;* Thomas Butler, *Nevada;* Patricia Duffield, *New York;* Antonio Santos, *Massachusetts.*

COMMISSIONED HEALER: 4 - Robert Bianchi, *Indiana;* Joseph Kaminski, *California;* Owen Stevens, *Maine;* Linda Pederzani, *Texas.*

In addition to these, the NSAC Board has reinstated the credentials of the Rev. Frances Lafler for Ordination, Certified Medium and Commissioned Spiritualist Healer.

Six examinations will be given at this Convention by the NSAC Board. Four for Ordination and two for National Spiritualist Teacher Degree.

It is indeed a pleasure to announce that during this past year, the NSAC Board has approved re-entry into the NSAC for three former NSAC members: Marilyn Awtry Smith, Way Memorial Temple, Wheeling, West Virginia; Marilyn Louise Willard, Golden Gate Spiritualist Church, San Francisco, California; and Frances Lafler, Church of the Living Spirit, Glendale, Arizona.

These former members have been made most welcome in their church homes. We feel confident that these people will enjoy the fellowship offered and that they and their respective churches will be richly blessed through their combined endeavors.

Four NSAC Ordained Ministers have made their transition since the last Convention. The Rev. Marie Buker and the Rev. Stanley Gutt of Michigan, the Rev. Dorothy Buss of Missouri and the Rev. Joseph Merrill of New York. Our prayers and thoughts go out to each of these individuals, their families, churches and all who knew them. The manner in which they have touched our lives will not be forgotten and their inspiration will live on for years to come.

One of the greatest desires of the Rev. Joseph Merrill was for all religions to come together in harmony. Even more, he desired the unity of all of Spiritualism and the strengthening of our churches. He asked that we not dwell on our differences or policies, but that all people should know the glorious truth of this religion—that there is no death.

Rev. Merrill gave us an example to follow with the ecumenical steps he had taken to bring his "dream" into reality through his work with various organizations. He has left a great legacy and great strength to carry us through the work that lies ahead. And he has left a fervent prayer for some form of unification of all the Spiritualist organizations for the benefit of humanity as a whole. That "dream" passes on to us, and with his guidance, we know we can see it through.

It is almost as if his call for unity was prophetic. If there has ever been a call for unity, we have seen it this year. The attack on New York City's Twin Towers and the Pentagon in Washington, DC, brought the people of all walks of life together in a common bond. Prayer vigils were held throughout the United States and our churches, camps and homes. Some were ecumenical and some were not, but the prayers went out throughout the world and the healing began.

Our statistical report shows that we have had thirteen auxiliaries which did not turn in Annual Reports. These auxiliaries have been contacted and notified of the importance of these filings and that they will not be able to seat delegates at this convention according to the *NSAC Bylaws*.

We have had six NSAC Auxiliaries close since last Convention: Chapel of the Sunflower, NSAC, *Sun Lakes, Arizona;* Ohio State Spiritualist Association, *Ashlay, Ohio;* National Spiritualist Church, *Binghamton, New York;* Texas State Spiritualist Association, *Bellaire, Texas;* Church of Divine Spirit, *Rosharon, Texas;* Science of Serenity Church, NSAC, *Galveston, Texas.*

These auxiliaries have closed due to the transition of their leaders, or a lack of available leadership. We can not stress enough the need of each auxiliary to look to the future and to train workers and assist them in obtaining their credentials.

The need for Credentialed workers in the churches who are willing to assume the responsibilities incumbent in their certificates, is vital to the future of the individual churches and to this organization.

It is a sad mistake to live in the complacency of the moment and hope that the future will take care of itself or that someone will always be there to do it for us. No matter what our advancements, they do not replace the auxiliaries which are being lost because of lack of workers, leadership and initiative.

The Outreach Committee has several groups working towards the possibility of forming future churches. We are hearing from Independent Churches and Organizations of Spiritualists who wish to join with the NSAC in an effort to unify Spiritualism and to bring together like minds for the advancement and promulgation of the Science, Philosophy and Religion of Modern Spiritualism. It is time to reach out in thought and deed to bring about the unification of Spiritualist ideals and principles and to be willing to step forward when needed to assist our churches.

To Plymouth Spiritualist Church, our host for this Convention, we gratefully acknowledge your effort and the tremendous work you are still performing to assure us a harmonious Convention. During such trying times and with such short notice, you have exceeded yourselves. Our thanks go to all of you who have worked so hard to make this time and experience together so memorable. Thank you.



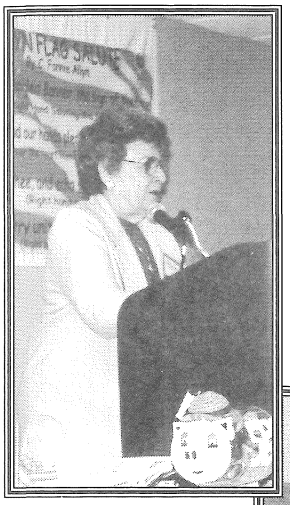
Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Sharon L. Snowman,
Secretary

Business Meetings...

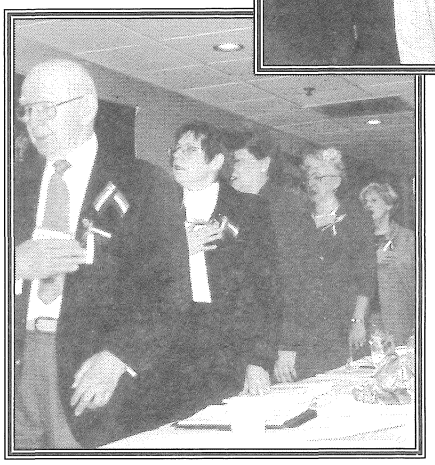
Each morning the business meetings began with an Invocation, a Patriotic Hymn, the American Flag and Fannie Allyn salutes.



Speaking and listening to the issues...



Sylvia Kincaid, Bylaws Committee







John Rothamel, Department of Publications





Ann Otzelberger, Missionaries Report



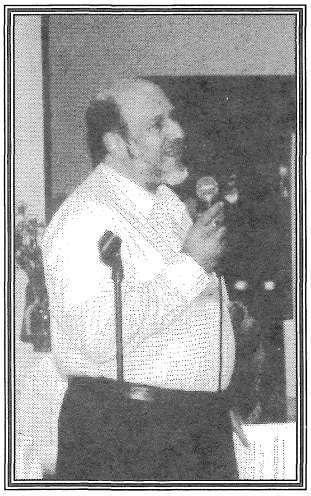
Speaking and Listening...



Carol Brown as Chairman of the President's Report Committee.



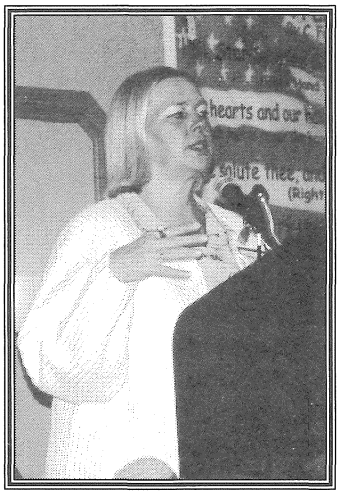
Barbara Starr, Credential Report



Mark Loschin



Davita Horne

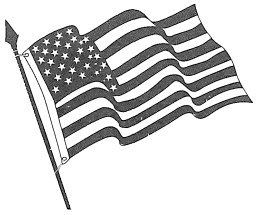


Pamla Ashlay, Morris Pratt Institute Report



Catherine Snell, College of Spiritual Science Report

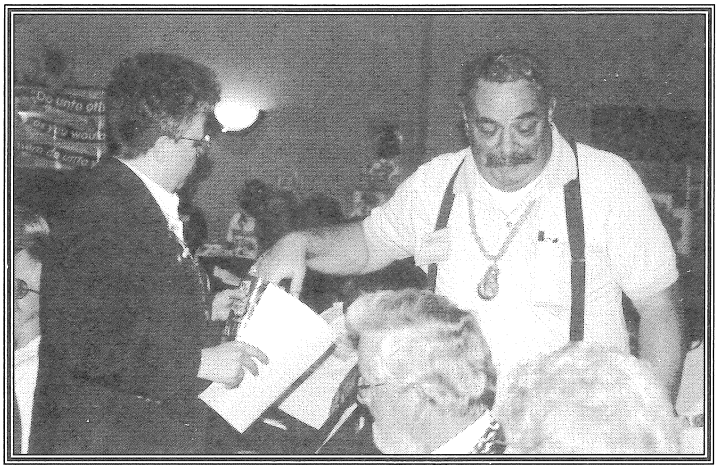


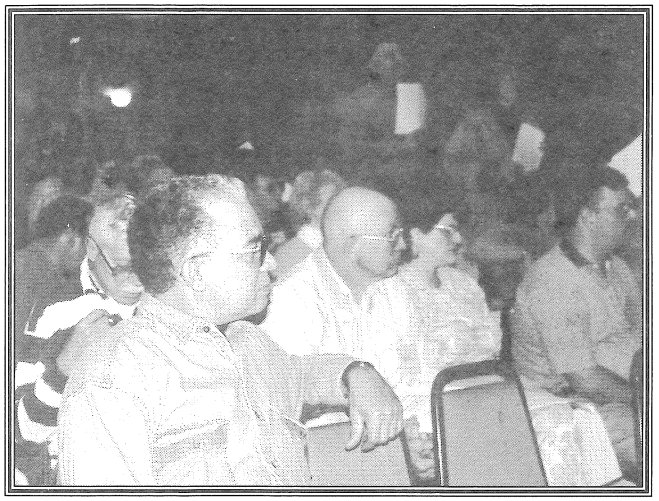


Speaking and Listening.....

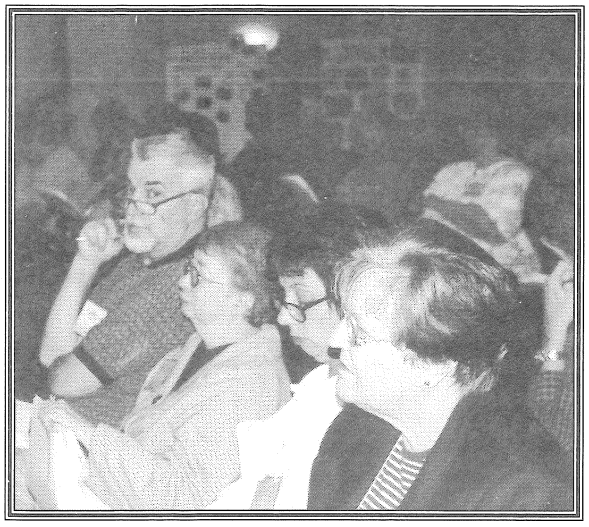


Cosie Allen, and John Baumhoff "contributing" to *The Spotlight*.











Evening Healing Services...

Each evening, there were Worship Services beginning with a Healing Service. During this time Commissioned Spiritualist Healers offered Spiritual Healing and a Healing Chairperson conducted a mental healing meditation. This year's Healing Meditation Chairpersons: Tuesday, Gene Pfortmiller; Wednesday, Janet Tisdale; Thursday, Barbara Starr; and Friday, John Young.



Janet Tisdale

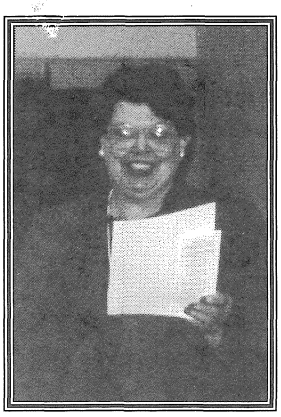


Barbara Starr

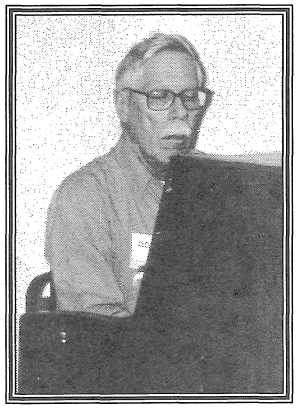


Healers at work.

Music and Singing...



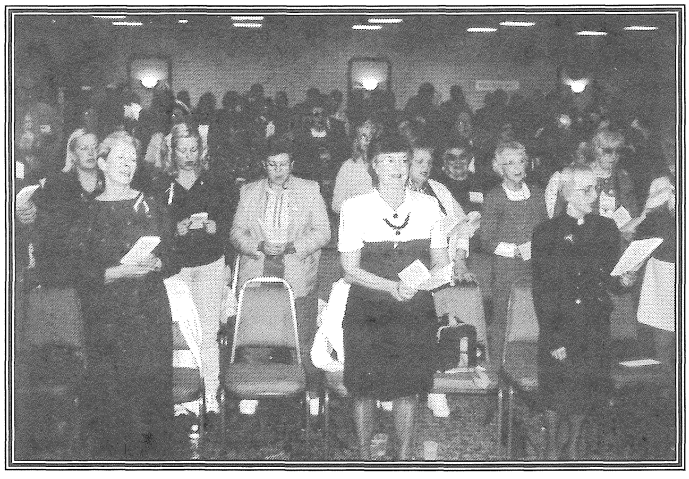
Lelia Cutler



Fred Brown



Laura Joy



Congregation



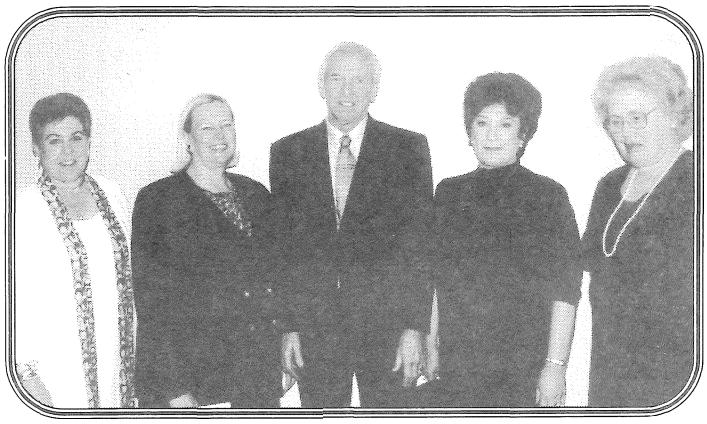
Massed Choir

Evening Worship Services...



Tuesday Evening Worship Service

Chairperson . . . . . Catherine Snell
Address . . . . . Charles Harting
Clairvoyance . . . . . Linda Kent, Thomas Butler, Louise Perusch



Wednesday Evening Worship Service

Chairperson . . . . . Pamla Ashlay
Address . . . . . Barbara Thurman
Clairvoyance . . . . . Gene Pfortmiller, Elaine Hager, B. Anne Gehman



Thursday Evening Worship Service

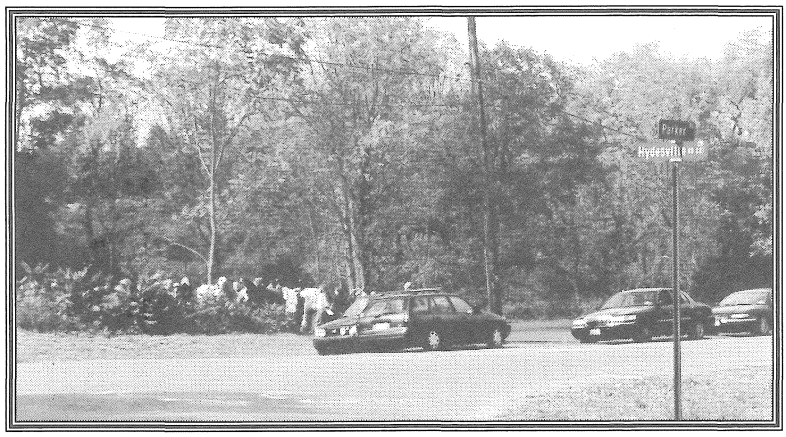
Chairperson . . . . . Lelia Cutler
Address . . . . . John Rothamel
Clairvoyance . . . . . Dorothy Thurlow, Lisa Butler, Beverly Burdick-Carey



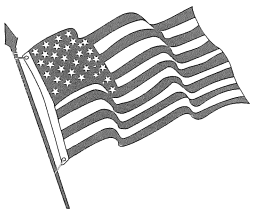
Friday Evening Worship Service

Chairperson . . . . . Sharon Snowman
Address . . . . . Arsenia Williams
Clairvoyance . . . . . Antonio Santos, Ann Otzelberger, Jesse James

Thursday Tour—Fox Property...



Fox Property on Hydesville Road.

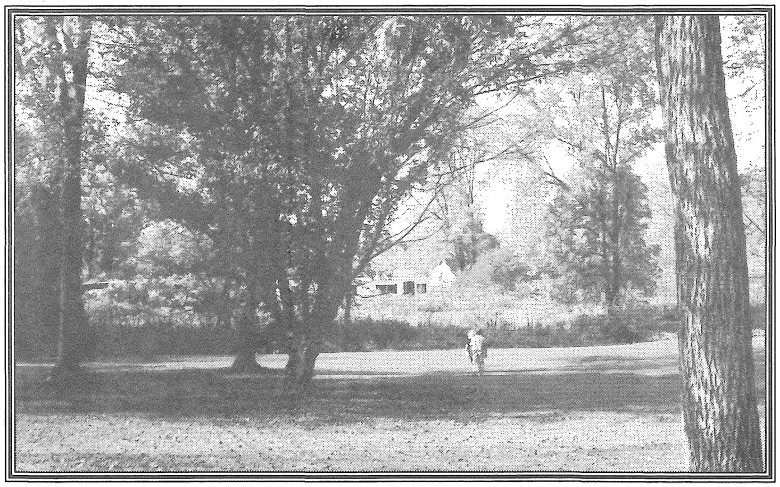




Cosie Allen standing on the Fox Cottage foundation.

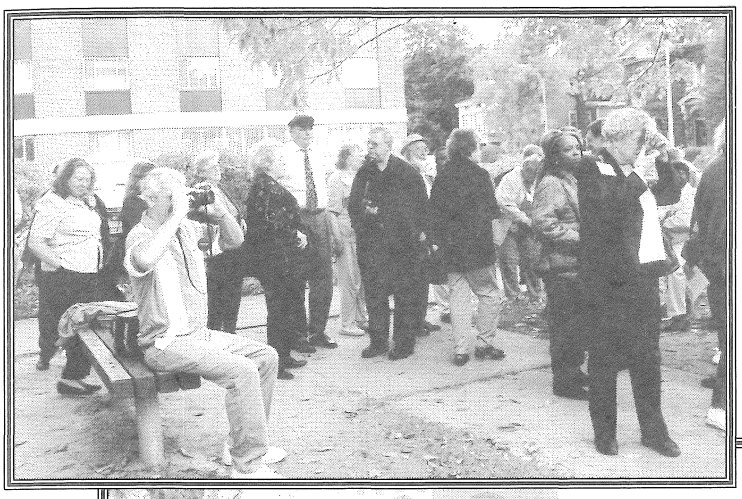


An energy circle was formed over the Drummond grave site.

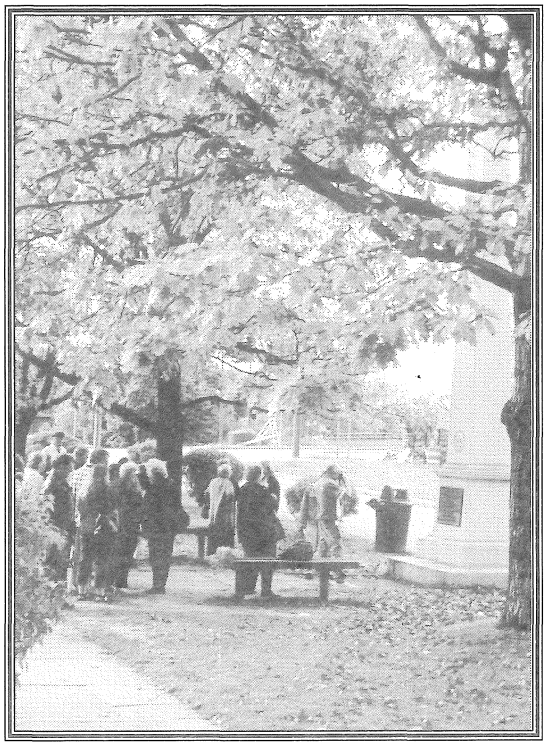




Thursday Tour—Commemoration Obelisk...

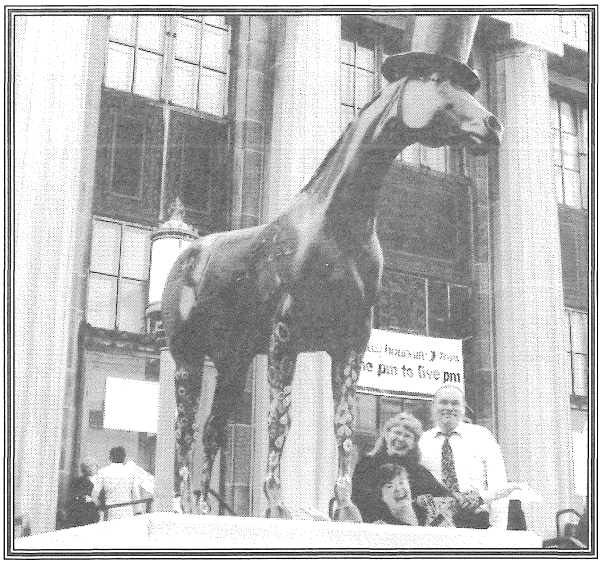






This Obelisk was erected December 4, 1927, by Spiritualists of the World in commemoration of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism at Hydesville, March 31, 1848.

Public Library...



The City of Rochester is filled with horses, and the Library had several on display outside.



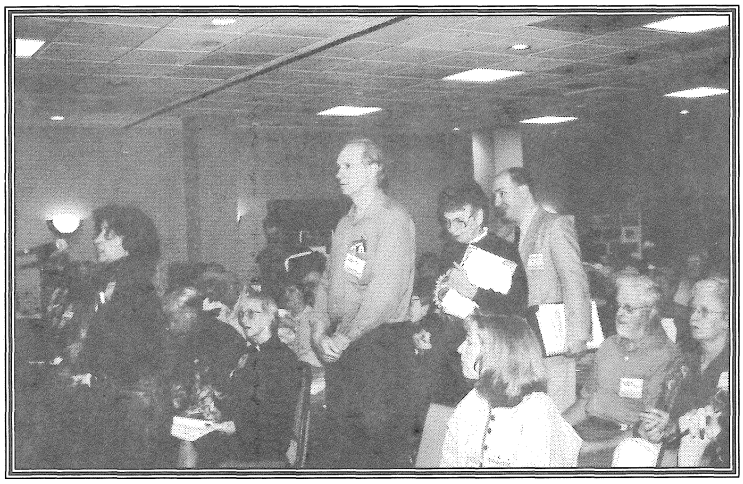
There was a wealth of information on Spiritualism in the Rochester Public Library.

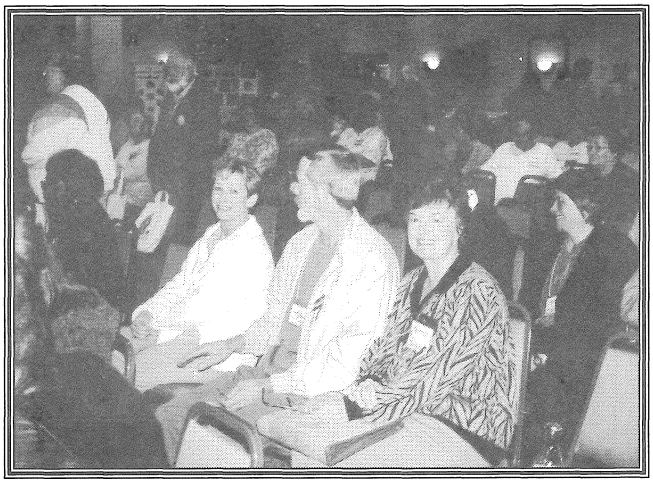
Delegates—Listening and Speaking...

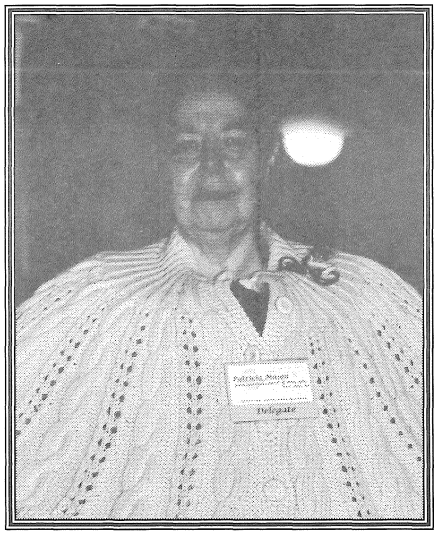




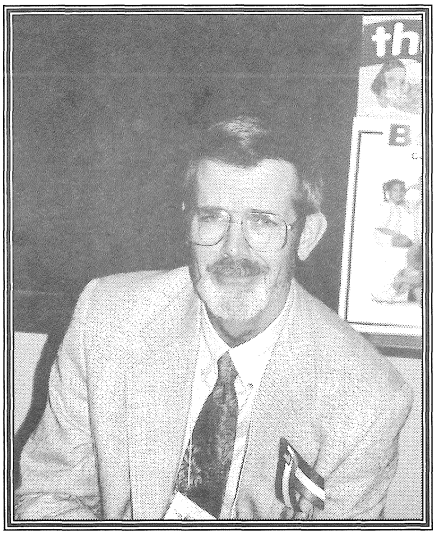
Speaking...



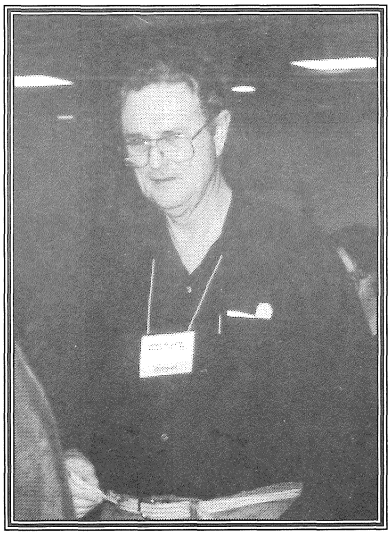




Patricia Mason

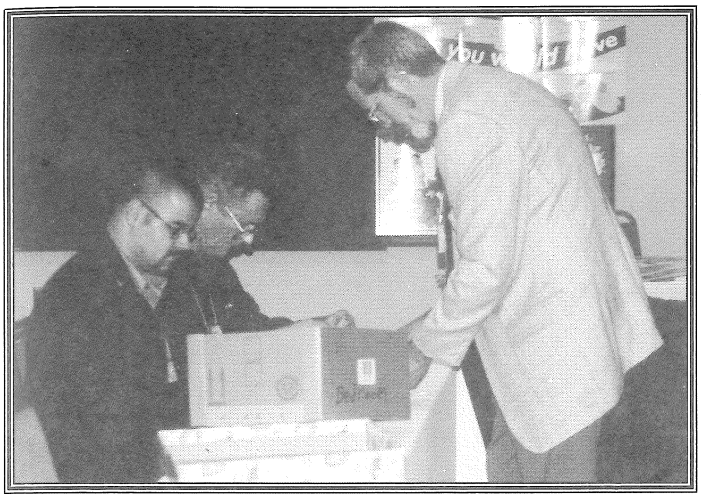


Tom Butler



Tommy Mayfield

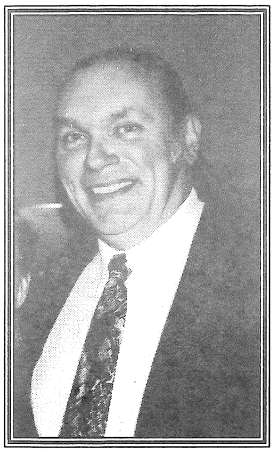
Elections...



ELECTION COMMITTEE
Antonio Santos, Tommy Mayfield,
Tom Butler (standing), and Steve Vogel (pictured below).



Pamla Ashlay speaking.



Steve Vogel



Sharon Snowman accepting.



Mary Lou Baumhoff



Furthering...



The Board votes first.

Elections...

Nominating and Furthering...





Cosie Allen



Ann Otzelberger



Susan Zernicek

More Furthering...



Voting...





Election of Officers...



Friday afternoon, the final roll call was taken by the credential committee chairperson, Barbara Starr, and showed there were 140 delegates. After the reading of the election rules and procedures by the election chairperson, Thomas Butler, a moment of silence was held followed by the salute to the flag. This was to honor those who had given their lives in the September 11, 2001 tragedy, and in accord with a USA President Bush's request that all schools recite the Pledge of Allegiance at 2:00 p.m.

Following this, the floor was opened for nominations. Because there was a newly passed Bylaw the election of the President and the Secretary of the NSAC Board were moved to different years. This created a change in the election of officers. The position of Vice President was the office open, and the Rev. Pamla Ashlay, NST, and Mary Lou Baumhoff were nominated. Both women were furthered and both spoke to the delegates. Ballots were passed out and we proceeded to voting. Pamla Ashlay was elected. The position of the Secretary of the NSAC was announced and the Rev. Sharon Snowman, NST, was nominated. There were no further nominations and Sharon Snowman was elected by a voice vote. The office of Trustee for three years was announced. Cosie Allen, David Saunders, and Mary Lou Baumhoff were nominated. Many furthered each nomination and each candidate spoke to the delegates. We then proceeded to the ballots. Cosie Allen was elected. The office of Trustee for two years was announced. David Saunders, Ann Otzelberger and John Rothamel were nominated, furthered, and spoke to those assembled. David Saunders was elected. Our NSAC Board remained the same for the next year. We ask a Blessing on our Board and that they may each be inspired in all of their decisions that Spiritualism may grow and prosper. We also thank our NSAC Board for all their time, effort and energy.



Delegates voting.



The Board receives a standing ovation.

The 2001 - 2002 NSAC Board

PRESIDENT
Rev. Barbara Thurman, NST

VICE PRESIDENT
Rev. Pamla Ashlay, NST

TREASURER
Rev. Lelia Cutler, NST

SECRETARY
Rev. Sharon Snowman, NST



TRUSTEES

Rev. Cosie Allen, NST

Rev. Catherine Snell, NST

Sylvia W. Kincaid

David Saunders

Marrice Coverson

Lyceum Raffle...



Pam Strickland (winner again), Arsenia Williams, Marian Boesen, and April Sheerin with time-out doll.



April Sheerin made these time-out dolls which were raffled. We have a winner, Ellie Berger!





Del Lauderback, Janice Foote, Melissa Austin—those lucky Californians!



Marian, April and Arsenia with more Lyceum raffle items.

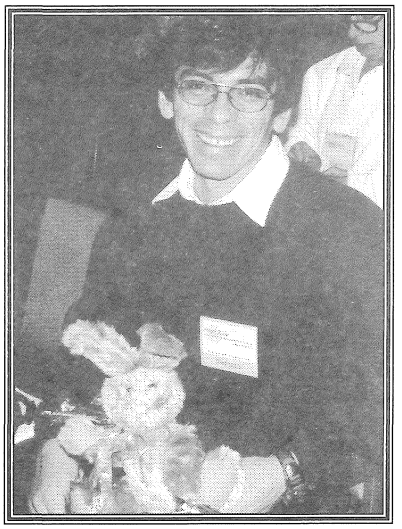
Ways and Means...







Pam Strickland—one of the 50/50 winners!



Hugo Ruiz



Louise Peruch...I WON!



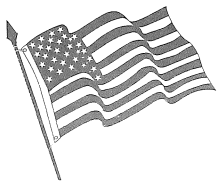
Pamla Ashlay draws a ticket for a raffle.



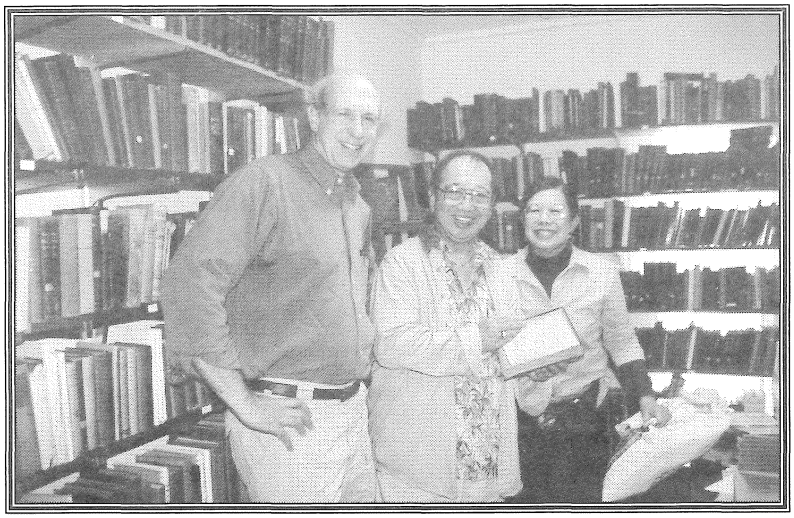


Saturday Lily Dale Tour...

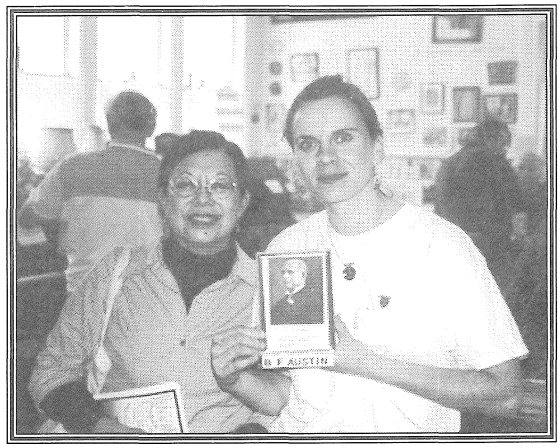




Bus arriving at the entrance to Lily Dale, New York (Field Trip), October 13, 2001.



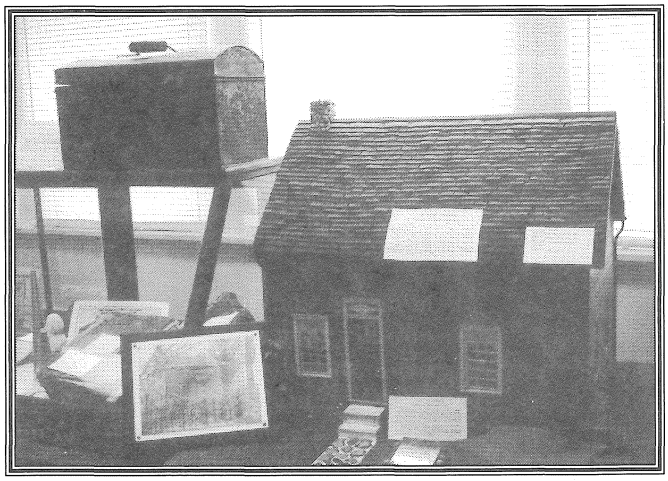
Dave Haddick, Sonny & Carla Gee in the book archives at the NSAC office at Lily Dale, New York.



Carla Gee and Melissa Austin in Lily Dale Museum. Photo in hand: "Perhaps this medium is a distant relative?!"



A wonderful and varied display of Spiritualism past history is displayed at the Lily Dale Museum.



The peddlar's trunk and the Fox Cottage model displayed at the Lily Dale Museum

Saturday Lily Dale Tour... *(Continued from previous page.)*

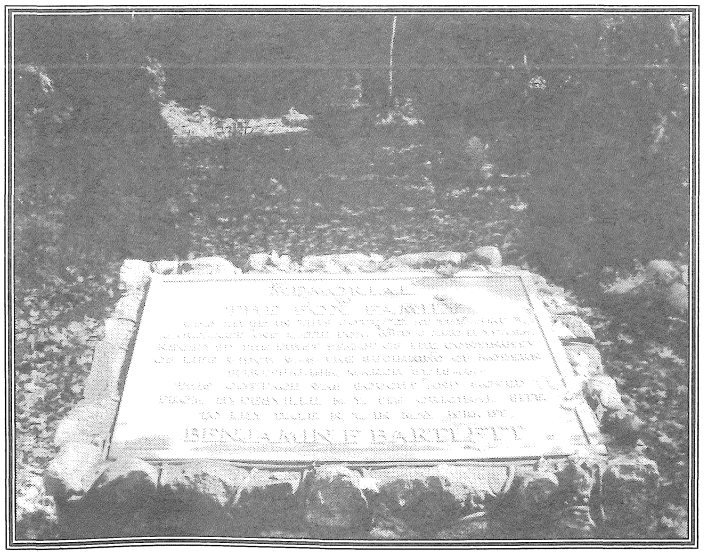


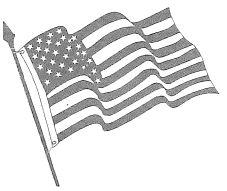


On the far left is Joyce LaJudice, historian and curator, who led the tours at the Lily Dale Museum.

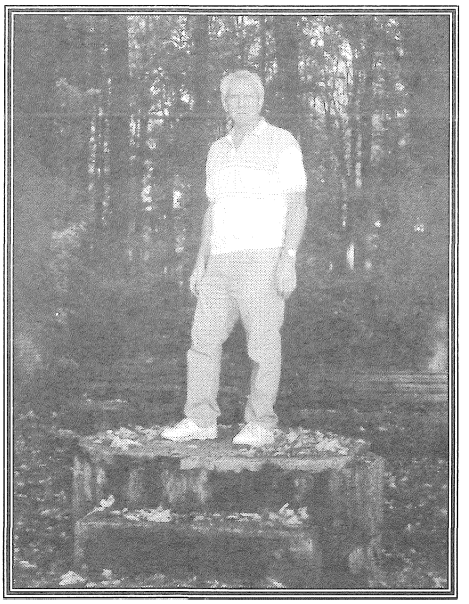








Gene Pfortmiller on the Lily Dale Inspiration Stump.



Declaration of Principles

National Spiritualist Association of Churches

1. We believe in Infinite Intelligence.

2. We believe that the phenomena of Nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.

3. We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith, constitute true religion.

4. We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death.

5. We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact, scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism.

6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you do ye also unto them."

7. We affirm the moral responsibility of individuals and that we make our own happiness or unhappiness as we obey or disobey Nature's physical and spiritual laws.

8. We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any soul here or hereafter.

9. We affirm that the precepts of Prophecy and Healing are Divine attributes proven through Mediumship.



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