THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST-SUMMIT

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009

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SPIRITUALISM'S



CIRCLE OF FAITH

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

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TNS
The National Spiritualist-Summit

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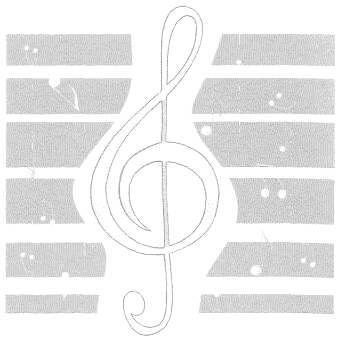
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We Are the Music

LAURA LEE PERKINS, EDITOR



For several decades, I was a professional musician – teaching, performing and writing music. Thinking about the transformational power of music, about how it can literally transport us into the realm of joy and sheer bliss, I suddenly realized that Spiritualism is like a symphony. Each one of us is a note in the music of Spiritualism; each one of us is equally important as a part of Spiritualism's voice. Whether we are cooking in a church kitchen, shoveling snow from a church walkway, serving as a speaker or medium for a service, or chairing a committee – we each are an integral part of Spiritualism.

If one attended a dress rehearsal before an orchestra concert and noticed an empty chair, your ears would also notice that something is missing from the whole. Each and every note is needed to create a complete performance. The composer wrote each part, and often there are 10-20 lines of music playing at the same time, to create the integrated whole symphony. Spiritualism is the same; each one of us is needed to play our part in order for our religion to remain vibrant.

The very nature of our universe involves transformation and evolution which is always thrusting toward optimization. What does this mean? In simple terms, it means that nothing stays the same. We live in a world that is in constant motion, and motion involves not remaining static. Motion involves opportunity as it unfolds…it involves change. If we can harness the desire to *embrace change* as we evolve and expand into higher and better ways of being, then our churches will thrive and grow.

Many people have a fear of change. Why? Because it involves moving into the unknown as we release the comfort zone of the familiar. If we *knew* that change would bring us better experiences, there is no doubt that we would be pushing for change in every church board meeting. However, embracing the possibilities inherent in change means *trusting* that we, as devout Spiritualists, can develop and implement changes that will serve us (and those who come after us) in ways that both honor our Principles and expand our base of operation.

Embracing change means that we have to be careful thinkers, listeners and speakers. Embracing change means moving forward into a future crafted by our local and national board members – those individuals whom we have elected to be our up-and-coming thinkers. Our leaders need to be visionary personalities who are filled with carefully honed ideas about what they envision for the future of Spiritualism. Our leaders will each take their turn at understanding the current problems and transforming those problems into opportunities for development and growth in our contemporary society.

At this moment in time, we stand forefront on the threshold of consciousness after the change called death. Let us celebrate the world's unfolding acceptance of one of our most important tenets – life never ends. We have an opportunity here to really connect with lovers of wisdom and the world of science as we move closer and closer together around the wheel of life. If we are truly authentic, operating from a position of integrity, the bond between Spiritualism and the rapidly unfolding arena of spiritual awareness and enlightenment will be enhanced. *Each one of us is carrying the Voice of Spiritualism out into the world. Let us walk our talk every day, in every moment.* It is a heart-felt challenge that we can strive to meet.

Many new people enter our NSAC churches every year. Most return for repeat visits, testing the waters of Spiritualism to see if they want to wade in deeper. How can we encourage their curiosity; how can we assist their spiritual explorations? We can—by being the very best Spiritualists we know how to be. How? Perhaps if we took just three minutes each day to repeat our Principles out loud, we might begin to be reminded more often of whom we have chosen to become. We have made a commitment to follow these Principles, which strive towards Love, acceptance, high personal standards, and a belief that Infinite Intelligence can guide and support us through life.

As we prepare to convene at our national convention in Houston, let us plan to celebrate the joys of Spiritualism. As our NSAC National Board grapples with problems and concerns facing our organization, let us pray that they will be guided toward decisions that are in the highest and best interest of all concerned. As they use their knowledge and understanding of where we are as an organization, we can all pray that they will be inspired to create new opportunities for Spiritualism to grow and expand in ways that offer service to more individuals and

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communities. When leaders' intuition is coupled with knowledge and understanding, then we all benefit. They use the ground base of Spiritualism's Principles as their foundation, and new insights emerge. When inspiration and awareness enter into a dance, higher levels of thinking evolve.

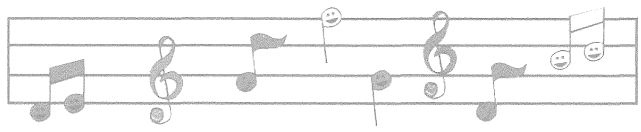
Those who refuse to embrace change choke our future. Those who approach change carefully, using a process of merging their ego into the good of the whole, often present us with the gift of spiritual wisdom that can lead us forward and upward. Tapping into the inherent unfolding and ever-changing thrust of the universe can enable us to remain viable.

Putting fear aside, while stepping onto the path of carefully planned change, can both reveal and create new avenues for prosperity in all ways. We must look back and understand where we have been. We must look at today's current status. And then we must plan for who we are becoming, and how we shall continue to forge a nitch for Spiritualism in our future world. There is no end to what we can achieve. Rather than simply trying to survive, we must plan to prosper. We trust our NSAC Board of Directors to provide that wisdom-filled plan for us, but we must each do our part.

When we embrace change, there is an excitement – a vitality of newness – that enters into the equation. When people are willing to work together, brainstorming free-flowing thoughts and ideas from within an atmosphere of acceptance and uninhibited discussion, amazing progress can occur. When we are allowed to be creative in a communal way, the excitement of birthing plans that will benefit everyone raises the level of involvement. We become the force that guides our own transformation. Rather than simply dealing with long-standing issues and problems, we move out of confinement and into our own conscious evolution.

Each one of our churches is like a musical symphony; we have many chairs that still need to be filled so that the harmony of Spiritualism can be heard. Decide what particular part you will play. Which chair will you fill to expand Spiritualism's future? ◆

Laura Lee Perkins, Editor



Strengthen Your Will Power

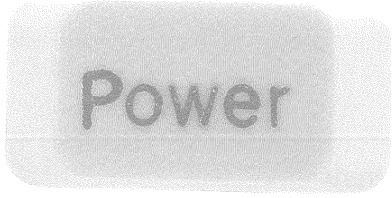
Inspirationally received by YVONNE CRESPO – Limoges, FL

We have choices to make about what we believe is right or wrong, in order to act properly and take control of our own lives. However, many give in due to lack of will power, and then suffer the consequences that range from the unsatisfactory to the disastrous. *And, you have no one to blame but yourself.*

Many people blame others or consider themselves a victim of circumstances. Yet, if they truly look *honestly* at what occurred, they will find they need to take personal responsibility for what has actually happened.

A consistent, determined and sincere will to accomplish goodness for yourself and/or for others also brings assistance from spirits in the Spirit World who want to help you attain the results and goals you are striving for.

Discipline yourself to strengthen your will power, using your reason to take charge of

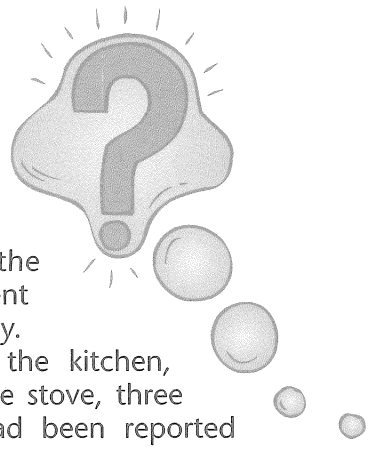


responsibility for your own life, to the best of your ability.

Assess your personal situation in life, pray for inspiration and guidance, still your mind and take some quiet time to contemplate your particular problems. Then come to a decision and do what is necessary to head in the right direction!

Only you can live your life...if you don't currently like what is going on in it, only you can change it, or, at the very least, how you are dealing with it. ◆

What If?



MAGGIE SIMPSON – Church of the Living Spirit – Glendale, AZ

How is it that we know we are Spiritualists? What does it mean to each of us? Take a few moments to think about your spiritual journey. Think about what you believe in and what it means to you.

I know, as Spiritualists, that we believe in personal responsibility and in the Golden Rule. We know that there are books full of scientific proofs that validate the science part of Spiritualism, which proves continuity of life after the change called death – the validation that we don't die; we just change energy signatures and continue on. So, how do we really know that we are Spiritualists? We each have our stories, our struggles, and we have now found our spiritual church homes. My spiritual home is at the Church of the Living Spirit in Glendale, Arizona.

Let us each look back in time; how did we get here? Some of us were born into this philosophy/religion/science and have embraced it from our youth. Even though some have grown up in Spiritualism, we still might have grappled with whether it was for us. Perhaps, more commonly, some of us came here after we struggled away from another religion, dogma or creed, with a restrictive code of conduct. Some of us even came here seeking freedom from religious persecution because we didn't fit in with the so-called moral majority. And then, some are here temporarily, out of curiosity or heart-wrenching, aching need.

Whatever the personal history, we were drawn into Spiritualism for a reason. I was one of the ones who struggled with the inner demons of being mentally different and not realizing what the something different – IT – was.

I remember that there were unsolicited school fights, like the one prompted by (this really happened to me in 6th grade) some braggart kid saying that while out for the weekend with his Dad, he caught a fish and it was "this big"...yet I could see a fish that got away and a fellow angler bringing in that talked-about specimen. Young and unsuspecting, I called him on it, and I got into a fight. I remember an unknown number of times that I got the "Oh, yeah, what are you, Psychic? Yeah!, well then read my mind!" followed by (remember I'm still unsuspecting here) my tuning into a jumble of thoughts in their heads, topped off by the thought, "No matter what you say you'll be wrong!"

Then there was the day I knew I was different and not going crazy. Mom and I were in the kitchen, doing something at the stove, three days after my dad had been reported missing while on a naval aviation mission.

The doorbell rang and I said, "I'll get it." "Get what?" says Mom. I go open the front door and see Dad in his full military flight suit. He had just a trickle of blood up on his right forehead. As I stood there and looked up (at age 12), in that microsecond or two of shock, the emotion that flew through my mind must have made quite a sight on my face. I started saying, "Dad, where have you been? Everyone has been looking for you! Do you know what they have been saying?" I was silenced by the parental commanding look. You know, the one you get from your parents. I'm vibrating in place, and notice his lips are not moving...I am not sure now exactly what he said..."I wanted to check and make sure you are all right. I have to go, there is a lot of important work for me to do...You'll need to take care of your mother now." And then he said, "She cannot know I am here." Shocked, I thought, "You're kidding—right!?..."

I stammer and watch him walk though the living room, looking around at everything, walk up to and then right past my mother, who blindly kept not noticing him there. I follow him in a stunned stupor, while his beloved poodle, Coquette, was dancing with joy, around him like dogs can do...He just keeps walking, turns, and leaves the kitchen! I turn to look at Mom. She is oblivious, and I'm stunned and turn back to find an empty room.

I wasn't dreaming. This was not a stranger in a situation I didn't understand, or whom I didn't have knowledge about. I couldn't dismiss this as an I'd "kind-of ignore it" situation. The dog and I knew... (My father was pronounced dead a week later.)

My Mom had taught me that God was in everything, and part of everything, and that He knew what would happen even though we had free will. She said God was sometimes sad, knowing the poor choices we would make and other times He was happy about the good choices we make, but that He always allowed life to play out anyway. You could say

Continued...

that my Personal Responsibility 101 Class and teaching of Spiritualism's Principles started young, and she didn't even know about Spiritualism. She was just a good Mom.

I was a thinking kid and what Mom said made sense. Some of the church stuff didn't though. I was, even at a young age, getting told to "take it on faith, young ladies shouldn't ask such deep questions, shouldn't question God, never question the Bible." That just did not fit into what my Mom had taught me about looking for answers in life and seeking out truth. She liked to say that I was American and that was special; put into the word American, at the end, were the letters "I can." As an American, I can do anything. (Mom, if you only knew what I CAN see, hear and sense sometimes.)

She made me feel that God was always watching me with personal interest. She said the Golden Rule and Ten Commandments that God asked us to live by were just that we lived and learned by having, among other things, a good and healthy conscience – knowing right and wrong without laws, teachers, police and parents telling us. She also said to always listen to that inner voice, and that it would never steer me wrong. I learned that all things happen for a reason, that right and wrong were not always easy sides to take, and that my conscience would lead me in the right direction if I let it.

I imagine Mom wanted to take that back years later when that very teaching led me away from church, thinking I was Hell-bound for questioning the Christian foundations and seeking out a bigger truth. How many of you had similar experiences? Think of your personal battles with "You must be..." or "You must not be..." of the same nationality, or sex, or color, or religion, or even clothing, skin piercing, or tattooing style as your parents, siblings, partners, friends, teachers or colleagues. Everything felt like a comparison.

Ostracized for whatever reason, we made it, sometimes bruised and battered, but we made it here. So again, how is it that we know we are Spiritualists? Most of us want to believe there is something, a higher (like Heaven), a better (like an ascension to the realm of the Gods), or a comforting something...if only to have peace without pain, when we leave this life.

We shall, and we all have had loved ones around us pass, cross over, die...bite the big one. The need to survive and to continue is a powerful force; the pain of the loss of a loved one can shower us with a powerful cycle of grief emotions. With this comes the sometimes desperate desire to know that life has or had meaning – that loved ones are safe or are happy, in Heaven maybe. For others, there can be the idea that when life ends, you're buried and the earth retakes your pieces over time. This last idea seems to become less and less appealing as an option when life's time seems to be in short supply.



With these scenarios, we begin to search the mental cosmos. Some seek physics, others use faith, still others begin to rethink. Through word of mouth, or that crazy person you've heard about and always steered clear of at work – you know, the one who thinks they can see or hear stuff, the psychic one, you begin to seek. Maybe through the ad in the paper, the metaphysical book seen at the store or garage sale, or the shingle you saw down the street, our minds grasp the concept of "What If."

Something tugs at us; we feel drawn by the spiritual comfort that we seek. We show up at a ghost, psychic, or spirit people church, hoping for some good news. We feel nervous, wondering what hocus-pocus might happen inside. Whew! We feel flooded with emotion and often relief at what we sometimes hear at this time when we desperately needed to believe. Wow, no one knew us at this strange church, no one tried to fake us emotionally with that profound stuff they said.

What happens is an affirmation of faith, a relief of fears, a soothing of the heart. We see, hear, and personally experience what science is now proving in repeatable experimentation results. "These Spiritualists are on to something." We see and share knowledge of the reality of continued life. We know from the spirit-obtained, scientifically validated evidence, as well as from looking at our daily lives, that our personal choices can guide our lives in positive, or not, directions. We receive challenges in simple day-to-day life and we grow and learn, or not, in how we personally choose to play life out.

How is it that we know we are Spiritualists? Some of us are here in Spiritualism for others we care about, and some of us are here because we are accepted for who we are in the philosophy of the Principles we share. Most of us know that there is spiritual energy all around us, manifesting in many ways. There is a continuity of life that has been proven both personally and by multiple scientific studies. We know that we are responsible for our own actions. We know that life is a maze of ever-constant change. Challenges yield knowledge, and we see that there is the reward of personal growth through responsible living. This is Spiritualism and what being a Spiritualist means to me.

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Morris Pratt Institute
featuring a report from an MPI student.

Is There More Than One Death?

Submitted by MPI Student Lana Farley.

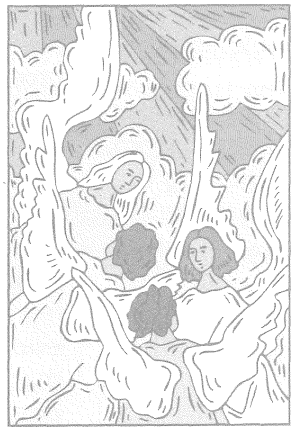
Frances Montgomery began this Mini Series with the topic "What If There is More Than One God?"

I want to continue it with "Is There More Than One Death?"

"Oh, Star of hope that shines to bless
The wanderer through Life's wilderness!
Angels of love – say are ye come
To lead the weary wanderer home?"

This is a quote from *A Wanderer in the Spirit Lands* by A. Farnese. The book was out of print for a long time but is again available through Amazon Books.com.

I want to ask you to consider if there is more than one death. The book starts out with the human death of the main character who is referred to as The Wanderer. He believes he is going to go to hell when he dies because he has been a physically depraved, selfish, greedy, self-centered individual, taking much of what he wanted at all costs until he met and married the love of his life. Even that did not change him completely. He tells of waking up after his physical death in total darkness, but of being aware of others around him, although he was unable to see or contact anything or anyone. The total despair he felt caused him to believe he was in actual hell. After a time of being so alone and affected by the darkness he cried out for help. Help came immediately at his call.



The Wanderer tells of an organization called the "Brotherhood of Hope" which came to assist him in finding the light he was searching for and teaching him how he could reach the goal that spurred him on—being able to see and talk with his beloved wife, who wept for and missed him deeply. When he attempted to reach her, he found himself bound by a cord which was attached to his decaying human body. Because of his obsession with the pleasures of the body in life, when he passed , it was as if he were tied to that body because he did not understand that in death or transition he had to give it up.

He was able to see his wife and hear her, sensing her grief, but unable to reach her. Standing around her were three forms which he recognized as spirits. He became aware of their bright radiance as compared to his darkness and realized these entities were her protectors. They prevented him from approaching her because of his dark and heavy aura. In conversation with her protectors, he reminded them that she was calling out for him and had visited a medium to try to make contact with him. The response was that he could eventually reach back to her after he had outgrown his current state of depravity.

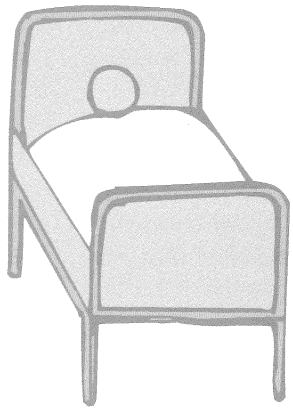
Our Wanderer requires help on this journey, so the Brotherhood of Hope arrives, explaining that his wife was on a much higher spiritual level than he had been; that for him to attain access to her he would need to make restitution before he could approach her. They begin to take him on journeys through different planes that will help him grow spiritually. He relates the conditions in the lower levels of spirituality (or lack thereof!). In describing them, we learn of battlegrounds where lower entities fight and are motivated by cruelty, hatred, killing, dying, then coming back to the same situation until, finally, tiring of the repeated cycles of conflict, they would eventually call out for respite. Sometimes the hatred was so strong it took thousands of years of killing and dying repeatedly in the spirit world before the despair would finally set in deeply enough that the souls would cry out for help. When any soul cries for help to grow forward, help is always readily available. With the aid of the Brotherhood of Hope, our Wanderer becomes capable of assisting those lower souls to become more enlightened and to raise their vibrations to a less dense, dark plane. He became a rescuer to those souls because, as our Principals state, "The door of reformation is never closed against any soul, here or hereafter." Any time a soul is ready to move forward and accept help, anytime a cry for assistance is made, an entity is available to come immediately to show the way to a higher level. As we have been taught, "when the student is ready the master appears" – someone from a plane above extends a helping hand and advances the Infinite Love and guidance necessary for the growth of a soul.

Continued...

Man at Hospital

THE REV. DAVID BURR – California

I was in the first bed in a Peninsula Hospital in Burlingame, California, on December 10, 2007. A number of people were coming and going, visiting the different patients (seven in number). To my right, there was a toilet room. One man at the far end of the room walked to the toilet room three or four times during the day. He was pushing a pole with medicine on it as he walked.



About 3 PM, all of a sudden there was a loud bang and he fell head down on the floor in front of the foot of my bed. In a short time, the room was filled with medical personnel to help. One young man was kneeling next to his head repeating, "Mr. Tomilson, can you hear me?" Finally, they put him on a stretcher and put him back in his bed. Then they wheeled him out of the room. I heard afterwards that he had another operation, and he didn't come back.

Late that night, I saw another man with a walker, taking the same path to the toilet. All this time, this man did not look at me at all. The third time this man passed me, I was thoroughly awake and looked at him to see if I could call for help for him. He didn't look at me this time either. Suddenly the nurse's bell rang, and the nurse came running. I told her I didn't ring the bell, but there was a man with a walker going back and forth to the toilet; she went there.

I prayed, "Dear friends, please help him." Then I told the man he was now in the Spirit World, that he had died in that spot, and that was all he could remember. I said to him, "Look for the light, or someone you know, and you will be helped."

There was nothing after that. The nurses didn't talk to me about it. The only thing that was said by a different nurse, whom I told this to, was, "That was the man on the floor earlier that day." I replied, "No, it wasn't. The man who fell earlier had short black hair; this man at night had a lot of fluffy white hair around his head."

For me, this is a classic example of spirit returning to the scene of his passing.

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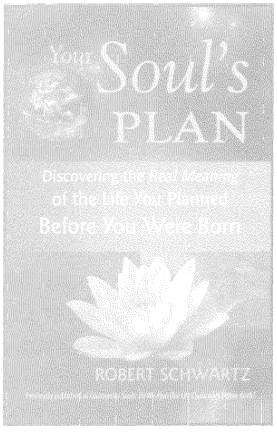
Education Speaks *Continued...*

During the Wanderer's excursions to assist a lower soul, he was wounded and actually died again. When he awoke this time something was different. He was no longer concerned about his decaying physical body; his desire to assist others to become enlightened was stronger, and the area he was in was much less dark and dense. He had been reborn on a higher plane. He had passed into a higher form. His teacher explained that he had overcome his gross attractions and his desire for physical depravity which enabled him to pass to the next sphere. According to his explanation, this passing much resembles the death sleep of a transition from the earth plane to a spirit plane. The next time he has this experience he explains retiring to his room, lying down in a dreamless slumber for what he describes as about two weeks of our earthly time. When he awoke this time, his soul had passed from the disfigured astral body and came forth as a new born child clothed in a brighter, purer, more spiritual envelope. He explains how the discarded astral envelope (body) he left was dissolved by spirit. Just as the earthly body would decay, so also does this astral body. Our Wanderer moved again to a higher spiritual level.

Eventually the Wanderer is able to make contact with his still grieving wife through a medium and then, as she develops on the earth plane, he learns to contact her directly. This brings both of them joy and he continues moving forward in spirit while she completes the rest of her earthly life. By the time she makes her transition, he has gained enough knowledge that they are able to share nearly the same plane on the spirit side of life.

This book gave me a stronger understanding of the progression souls make in the spirit world. I hope I have been able to assist you in learning more about the way souls progress once they are in the spirit world. Thank you. ◆

Book Reviews



Your Soul's Plan,
by Robert Schwartz

In a personal session with a medium in 2003, author Robert Schwartz was astonished to speak with non-physical beings who knew everything about him—not just what he had done in life, but also what he had thought and felt. They told him that he had planned many of his most difficult experiences before he was born. Realizing that a knowledge of pre-birth planning would bring great healing to people and allow them to understand the deeper purpose of their life challenges, he devoted the next three years to studying the pre-birth plans of dozens of individuals. The extraordinary insights that emerged speak to our heartfelt, universal yearning to know...why.

Robert Schwartz lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

For more information, visit: http://wwwYourSoulsPlan.com



Immortal Longings, by Trevor Hamilton, imprint-academic.com, Exeter, UK, 2009, 359 pages, $35.91 (available at Amazon.com and Amazon.com.UK)

The latter part of the 19th Century was a time of despair and hopelessness for many. "We were all in the first flush of triumphant Darwinism, when terrene evolution had explained so much that men hardly cared to look beyond," wrote Frederic W. H. Myers, a Cambridge classical scholar and poet before becoming a pioneering psychical researcher.

As with so many other educated people, Myers, the son of a minister, had lost his faith, and life had become a march toward an abyss into nothingness. He recognized that there were many who were "willing to let earthly activities and pleasures gradually dissipate and obscure the larger hope" during life's death march, but, perhaps because he was a deep thinker, Myers was unable to effectively use the defense mechanism called repression to overcome his death anxiety and the concomitant fear of extinction.

Subtitled "FWH Myers and the Victorian Search for Life after Death," this book details the efforts of Myers and several of his colleagues to make sense out of various paranormal phenomena which seemed to suggest that the world is not totally mechanistic and that consciousness does survive physical death.

Although Professor William Barrett, a physicist, is recognized as the prime mover in setting up the Society for Psychical Research (SPR) in 1882, he relinquished the leadership roles to Myers and his two Cambridge friends, Edmund Gurney, and Professor Henry Sidgwick. Their objective was to scientifically study the phenomena, including hypnotism, telepathy, multiple personalities, and mediumship, to see if they offered any evidence that mind was not totally dependent on brain and that there is something beyond the five senses. But they had to do it discreetly, cautiously, and indirectly. "To admit the literal reality of the ghost was to move back to the dark ages," author Trevor Hamilton explains their dilemma. There were simply too many "newly enlightened" people in the upper echelons of society who could not make a distinction between matters of the spirit and the superstitions of the church they had left behind and now scoffed at.

"It is too simple to represent Victorian England as a pious, fundamentalist land shaken by the advances of a materialistic and iconoclastic science," Hamilton states, pointing out that the census of 1851 revealed that well over five million people did not attend church on Sunday, March 30, 1851. However, it was clear, Hamilton adds, that the educated middle classes and upper-middle classes were emancipating themselves from their evangelical roots as a result of the scientific and scholarly advances. Darwinism might have been the crowning blow, but this emancipation had begun well before Darwin, during the "Age of Reason."

Drawing from Myers' diary, short autobiography

Continued...

written only for his friends, and other references, Hamilton explores Myers' early life and the influences which shaped his beliefs and disbeliefs. He acquaints us with his days at Cambridge, when he was called, "Myers the superb," and then discusses his conflicting love interests as well as other trials and tribulations. He tells how Myers hooked up with Gurney and Sidgwick and how the three intellectuals complemented each other in various ways – Myers often brash and assertive, Sidgwick reserved and cautious, Gurney meticulous and somewhere in between Myers and Sidgwick in his enthusiasm for their mission.

The SPR exposed many fraudulent mediums, although there is controversy over some of the exposures, including that of Madame Blavatsky. The mediumship of Eusapia Palladino was also very controversial, some members of the SPR convinced that she was a charlatan and others that she was a genuine medium, whereas the truth seems to be that she was a "mixed" medium – producing genuine phenomena at times and faking some at those times when her powers failed her. Theosophists, in the case of Blavatsky, and Spiritualists, in the case of various other mediums, argued that the researchers simply didn't understand the phenomena and were applying terrestrial science to celestial matters which they didn't understand.



As Hamilton sees it, Myers was caught in a Victorian dilemma. "One set of desires, the yearning for the immortal, spiritual universe, was opposed by another set, which was the wish for privacy and the hiding of any evidence that breached the unimpeachable facade of familial and moral behavior," he writes. "His need to prove and even preach survival was counterbalanced by his reticence over intimate evidence."

That "intimate evidence" involved a number of evidential messages coming to him through different mediums from Annie Marshall, his great love of the early 1870s (although apparently a platonic affair because of her marriage to Myers' cousin). When Annie killed herself because of her many frustrations, Myers grieved deeply. When he later married the beautiful and wealthy Eveleen Tennant, their marriage was troubled somewhat because of Annie's communications with Myers from beyond the veil – communications which Myers kept private and were destroyed by his wife after his death in 1901.

Although not educated as a psychologist, Myers has been credited with developing a systematic conception of the subliminal self as well as a theory holding that telepathy is one of the basic laws of life. In fact, it was Myers who coined the word "telepathy," previously called "thought transference." As Hamilton points out, Myers seems to have been ahead of Freud in exploring the subconscious (which Myers preferred to call the subliminal), although their theories bore little resemblance to each other. When Freud joined the SPR in 1911, he wrote an article making it clear that Myers' "subliminal" was not the same as his "unconscious." Hamilton quotes Aldous Huxley as saying that Myers' "unconscious" was superior to Freud's in that it was more comprehensive and truer to the data of experience. How much Myers influenced Freud is not clear, but there is little doubt that Myers' ideas significantly influenced pioneering psychiatrist William James. And yet, because Myers dared see a soul hidden in the physical shell, he is hardly remembered in psychology circles today as the prevailing paradigm remains the Wundtian approach, which holds that the only things that make sense are those which can be scientifically measured and quantified.

Myers died in 1901, a victim of Bright's disease. William James wrote that "his serenity, in fact, his eagerness to go, and his extraordinary intellectual vitality up to the very time the death agony began, and even in the midst of it, were a superb spectacle and deeply impressed the doctors, as well as ourselves."

After Myers death in 1901, various mediums began receiving messages purportedly coming from him. Some of these messages were very fragmented and made no sense until they were collected and pieced together to make complete ideas. "The whole process seemed at times like a giant Victorian word game (anagrams, cryptic puzzles, strange puns and rhymes), of which, in fact, Myers and his colleagues...were inordinately fond," Hamilton explains These so-called "cross-correspondences" were interpreted by other researchers as attempts by Myers, as well as by Gurney and Sidgwick, both of whom preceded him in death, to overcome some of the objections to mediumship, including fraud and telepathy. "(They suggested) a high level of collective design and purpose, implying character, intention and personality," Hamilton states.

One message for Sidgwick's widow, Eleanor, who had been very active in the SPR, read, "Now, dear Mrs. Sidgwick, in future have no doubt or fear of so called death, as there is none."

Hamilton concludes the book by asking if Myers' quest had been successful. "In personal terms it was," he opines. "He became convinced, on the basis of the intimate sittings he had with both Mrs. Piper and Mrs. Thompson, that he had communicated with human

Continued...

Breathe Just Breathe

THE REV. KATHLEEN CRIBB – Memorial Spiritualist Church – Norfolk, VA



My husband, Frank, and I just attended a teleconference featuring Mr. Gay Hendricks, author of *The Five Wishes and The Big Leap.* He asked us a pointed question that I would like to share with you. Please ask yourself this question. "Am I willing to feel good and have my life go well all the time?"

At first blush, we all answer that question yes. In reality, we all have a success comfort zone that we established when we were very young. Old programming taught us how to be afraid of success on an unconscious level. Hendricks told us that we each suffer from one or more of four false fear factors:

1. Fear of out-shining someone else.
2. Fear of becoming a burden on the family.
3. Fear of leaving people behind.
4. Fear that we are fundamentally flawed.

In order to achieve our greatest level of success in life we must learn how to work with these fear factors. We must identify which ones apply to us and then be willing to face them head on. First of all, we must learn how to face the emotional response called fear. Last year, when I climbed into the car of a roller coaster, I felt pangs of fear ripping through my mind and body. My initial reaction was to squeeze my eyes tightly shut until they ached, grip my hands around the handle bar until my knuckles turned white and hold my breath for as long as humanly possible. Now, I know that response only makes a frightening situation more terrifying. Hendricks says we need to breathe deeply and mentally acknowledge our fears. Then mentally wave or wink at our fears. Be sure to breathe deeply and purposefully. Three deep breaths will bring you into your center point of balance.

Hendricks said, "Fear is excitement without the breath." Now when I ride on the Big Bad Wolf or Apollo's Chariot, I breathe deeply, keep my eyes open, and scream and laugh all at the same time. It is now exciting and fun to release the bar, raise my hands and fly through the air like a bird on steroids.

When I was reviewing the four false fear factors, I realized that three of them could actually belong to me. The beauty of this new found knowledge is that now I know they are not real. Whenever I experience one of those old feelings, I will breathe deeply, mentally smile at the thought or feeling and turn away from it. It will no longer mold my character. It will no longer influence me or hold me back from leaping forward into the lime-light of success. They are false fears and have no validity over whom I am today or what I will accomplish tomorrow. ◆

The Highest reward for man's toil is not what he gets for it but what he becomes by it.
– John Ruskiin

Reading Matters *Continued...*

beings (however different their nature and post-mortem existence) who had survived bodily death. This belief was underpinned by his wide ranging reading and research in paranormal and abnormal activity across Europe and in the United States. It led to him bearing the onset of death with a kind of joyous resilience, almost even insouciance..."

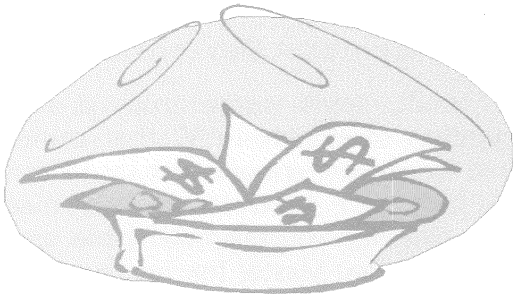
On the other hand, Myers obviously failed in his wider hope of establishing immortality for the spiritually-challenged masses. While the search for immortality continues today, more than a hundred years later, the foundation established by Myers and his colleagues seems to be slowly but increasingly appreciated.

Hamilton offers us a very interesting, intriguing, informative, in-depth, and even inspirational look at one of history's most overlooked and unappreciated contributors.

– Michael E. Tymn, Hawaii

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The Fourth September Sunday of Each Year!



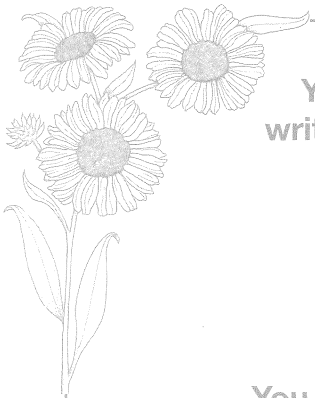
Sept. 27, 2009 NSAC Day

Let us celebrate by supporting our National Spiritualist Association of Churches

Our By-Laws state:

Article XVI (Miscellaneous) Section 5, NSAC Day. In celebration of our history and in gratitude to the pioneers of our organization, the fourth Sunday in September of each year shall be known as NSAC Day and a special offertory may be requested during church services to benefit the NSAC General Fund—Endowment Fund to provide for the future operating needs of the organization.

Please make sure that your church has a special offering for NSAC Day.



You can also make an individual donation by writing a check, payable to NSAC, & mailing it to:

NSAC
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Lily Dale, NY 14752-0217

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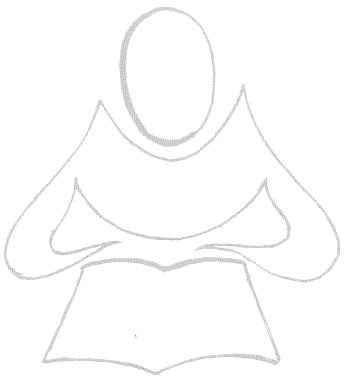
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Is There More Than One God?

FRANCES MONTGOMERY – Spiritual Life Center – Dayton, Ohio

As an avid reader, many things grab my attention; some I absorb, some I discard. Some of the ideas rolling around in my mind today are seeds planted from recent readings. Some sound pretty far fetched, but what if there is some truth in them? What if we are only beginning to be capable of comprehending what life is really about? Or how very far reaching things are? Or how very many levels of understanding or spiritual planes or experiences must we endure to actually reach back to the Oneness we believe we are supposed to achieve – Oneness with Infinite Intelligence – the Ultimate God Entity or Spirit or Force of Intelligence which we fully acknowledge is beyond our comprehension? We realize we cannot comprehend infinity.



My mental ramblings today are prompted by the book *Journey of Souls*, by Michael Newton, PhD. His experience caused him to think there may be one god assigned to each world throughout the universe who reports to another higher level of consciousness beyond that. While we do not embrace an anthropomorphic God (God in the image of man), but rather an androgynous spirit – male/female and all encompassing—what if there are more than one of these entities at different planes of understanding?

Then: What if the wheels, which were things people recognized as carts and chariots in Biblical times, were words they knew, but the things they were describing in Ezekiel Chapter 1 were actually space ships coming in from the sky, looking like saucers, perhaps, or giant wheels manned by people or intelligent entities? Biblical people didn't have the vocabulary to describe things as we could today. They couldn't even conceive of flying at that point. I read that a scientist at Wright Patterson Air Force Base took the dimensions from Ezekiel and built what had been described in a scale model ending up with a space ship prototype like the UFOs that we have many accounts of starting in the 1950's. That was in one of Jess Stearn's books.

What if, since we recognize Natural Law dictates that it takes a male and a female to impregnate a woman (at least until modern science recently started in vitro fertilization), Mary was impregnated by a space entity rather than by the Holy Ghost? Jesus was the result. Jesus came from a Higher Source, regardless of exactly HOW that came to be. Jesus came to end the era of burnt sacrifices/offerings, the "eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth" mentality and to teach love for yourself and those around you. He came as the last Master Teacher to walk the face of the earth.

Does it actually make any difference HOW he got here? What if some Spiritual Force beyond our comprehension saw that earth wasn't progressing according to plans originally set forth and utilized a method incomprehensible to people on the earth at that time to raise and correct the teachings and vibrations accepted as standard practice then? It certainly altered the whole course of history!

What if there really IS more than one God? Would it make any difference to you or to me? What if there are, as science is discovering, many more galaxies, many more planets, many more Milky Way systems "out there" who are populated with intelligent beings, whether in a form we humans recognize or in other forms which we are unable to comprehend? Mankind is searching for intelligent life, basically as we are able to recognize it. What if it is there but doesn't require water and oxygen to exist? That is the criteria we accept, but that doesn't mean life can't exist in forms unknown to us. It simply makes it beyond our comprehension according to our understanding at this point in time.

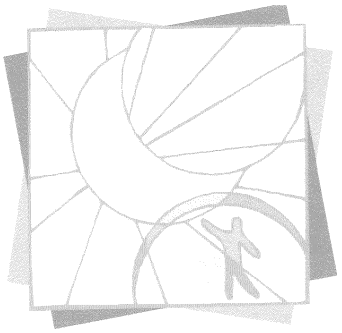
We know religion is man made. We gather together to share in the Spirit of Infinite Intelligence, not to be told what to do or how to think by any priest, minister, reverend, pope or preacher. We gather together because we learned in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." What if the God that we have been taught and conditioned to believe in – One God – was not the ONLY God? What if there are many levels or layers of God Force just as those of us who accept the idea of reincarnation realize there are many levels or layers of understanding from which we learn and which we earn by our actions? What if there are as many levels of Infinite Intelligence, each governing its own planetary assignment and reporting to another higher entity over a galaxy, and yet to another Governing level which we cannot

Continued on page 16...

In Search Of...

VICKY HOMANN, PASTOR – Spiritualist Desert Church, NSAC – Las Vegas, NV

What exactly is Spiritualism and why is it important to me? I have been asked this and many other questions since I began my journey in Spiritualism, and would like to share some of them with you.



Who or what is God? • If there is a God, then why is "this" happening to me? God is also known as Infinite Intelligence, Great Spirit, the Divine Source, the Universe; a rose by any other name is still a rose. God is an energy force that is present in every facet of the Universe. That God-energy is a part of me and it is a part of you. God doesn't put you in certain situations, you do. The Universe - the physical and the spiritual - are governed by a set of Natural Laws that cannot be altered or changed. We each create our own realities, our own destinies, by how we act and react to these laws.

Do heaven and hell really exist? • I believe that man conceived the concept of a heaven or hell. I was brought up with the idea that if I didn't do certain things that God would punish me. This created a fear of God, which was manufactured by man, not by God. God's love is unconditional and always present. We create our own heaven or hell right here on the Earth Plane. Our thoughts and actions create our realities.

What really happens when we die? • There is no death; we continue our journey for an eternity. The physical body is the home for the spirit and the soul on the Earth Plane. When we discard our physical body, our spirit and soul are reborn into the Spiritual Plane. A nine-year-old girl once asked me, "If we leave this physical body behind, then when Mom goes to Spirit, how would I recognize her?" Before I could answer this question, an eleven-year-old boy responded by telling her that the physical body is just like a car; it is used to get you from one spot to another. I had to agree and took it a little farther. The car is like the physical body, some have newer models and some have older models, some have dents and some don't, but new or old, they all - at some point - need maintenance, an oil change, a radiator flush, perhaps new tires, and even seeing a mechanic for a tune-up once in a while. Our physical body also needs to be maintained, feeding it properly, getting enough rest, and seeing a doctor when needed. All cars are equipped to have radios in them, some choose not to have one, but that is a personal choice. The radio in your car/body is your connection to Spirit. Sometimes it is difficult to tune into the right station; it may take some time and work, but once you have found it you can set it so it stays on that station. However, sometimes we hit bumps in the road that can knock our station off course. We all have obstacles that can do this, but the station is still there, we just need to find it again.

The soul is the home of the spirit in the Spiritual Plane. When we take this journey, our loved ones who made the transition before us meet us. There is a time of rest and healing; Andrew Jackson Davis called this Summerland. Study and learning are continued on the Spiritual Plane; the quest for knowledge never ends.

The proof of this comes from our mediums. Are mediums fortune-tellers; can they read your mind? Do they always know what you are thinking? No. A medium is one who communicates with souls in the Spiritual Plane. They bring comfort to those who have lost loved ones on the physical earth. They offer proof that life exists beyond the physical.

If survival is guaranteed, why is it important to live a spiritual life here on Earth? • We keep our same personalities when we enter the Spiritual Plane. We retain the knowledge that we have gained in the physical life. The learning, the searching, continues on the Spiritual Plane. When my brother passed to spirit, even though I loved him unconditionally, he had a lot of work to do. Mediums have brought him through to me and I have seen his growth. I know for a fact that we continue to learn, no matter where we are.

Do you believe in the *Bible*? • The *Bible* is a good book, inspired by God and written by man, translated by man and interpreted by man. When I was younger, I was in a catechism class. I was confused and asked the Pastor, if we had one *Bible*, why were there so many different religions? His answer was about how the Bible was interpreted by different religions. I then asked how did we know that we were interpreting it the right way? As you can guess, I spent much more time in my catechism class.

Continued...

even begin to imagine? Is it possible there are many Gods or layers of Infinite Intelligence ascending up all those layers of evolution?

Michael Newton, who began his vocation as an atheist, segued into the retrogressions of people in his psychiatric practice, ended up working with souls between lives, investigating those who are readying to reincarnate. In the process, the Board of Elders who review souls prior to their next journey do not claim to be either Jesus or God – do not claim to have even met Jesus or God.

Since we can't understand how many spheres and levels there are, does it make any difference to us today? We know we are to strive to be better people on a daily basis. We know we are responsible for "our own happiness or unhappiness as we obey or disobey Nature,s Physical and Spiritual Laws." We know we are to emulate the last and greatest Master Teacher Spirit has provided us on this earth plane—Jesus.

May You Find Enlightenment

I do not ask you to believe or accept anything I have thought or written. I give this to stimulate your minds, to activate your curiosity toward how Great Infinite Intelligence is. How very far reaching the manifestation of God seems to have grown even in our finite world and during our lifetimes. One hundred years ago the work of Michael Newton would have been called blasphemy. Now it is an understandable work and converted HIM from atheist to believer.

Expand your mind and your beliefs. Tap into the Infinite at whatever level you are able. Take what you can learn and put it into use. William Ernest Henley wrote, "I am the master of my fate. I am the captain of my soul." Isn't that marvelous? God IS. That is all we really have to know. God bless you, each and every one.

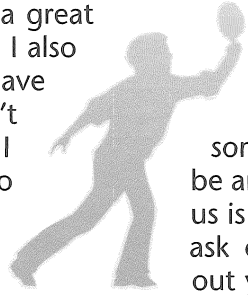
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Intending to Succeed – To authentically tread the path of conscious evolution means nothing less than intending to succeed in developing in such a significant way that our attainment is unmistakable to those who have the hearts and minds to recognize it. This is important, because for far too many of us, the mere idea of being on a spiritual path is enough for us to assume that we're living the human experience at a higher level, when this is often not the case. *Spiritual development is just like any other kind of development. It's about moving to a higher level, raising our center of gravity, getting to someplace new within ourselves that we have not yet reached.* This approach stands in stark contrast to so much popular spirituality...which often seems to be more about self-acceptance than it is about self-transcendence. There *is* a goal, there is a destination, there is a purpose, and there is a way—but we have to *intend* to get there. We don't get on a train or a plane or into a bus or a car simply for the ride. We enter those vehicles because we're headed to a *specific* destination. But when it comes to the spiritual journey, intending to get there is infinitely more challenging than simply being on the path. It changes *everything.*

– Andrew Cohen

In Search Of... *Continued...*

Why aren't you Christian? • I have had people physically step away from me when I told them that I was not a Christian. I know that Jesus was a great healer, a great medium and a great teacher. I also know that Jesus did not die on the cross to save me from my *sins*. As a Spiritualist, I don't believe in vicarious atonement. So, do I believe in a savior? Yes I do. All I have to do is look into a mirror and I see the reflection of my savior. We create our own happiness or unhappiness; we are each personally responsible for our actions and reactions.



We also know that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any soul, here or hereafter. We are our own saviors.

These are some of the questions that I have answered. I also have many questions, some will be answered here on earth and some will be answered when I cross over. I believe that each of us is searching for answers. Search in your own way, ask questions, study, investigate, meditate. Search out your truth; don't just believe, *know.* ◆

You Too Can Succeed

THE REV. ENID S. SMITH, Ph.D. – *From January, 1959 TNS*

Henry Ford, the great manufacturer, publicist, promoter of peace, once said, "To do more for the world than the world does for you—that's success;" and, Benjamin Disraeli, former Prime Minister of England, declared, "The secret of success is consistency of purpose."

Your mind is the compass of your success, for you will go in its direction. However, what others have done, you can do, especially if you are a Spiritualist and have the Angel World to help you. Being surcharged with Spirit will attract new opportunities, help, and friends to you. No one can stand in your way but yourself. It was Henry Thoreau, the writer, who understood people's excuses, when he said, "As long as a man stands in his own way, everything seems to be in his way—government, society, and even the sun, moon, and stars, as astrology may witness." In a lighter vein, Mark Twain, the humorist, speaks to those who cross bridges before they come to them, affirming, "I have had many troubles in this life—the most of which have never happened. "And still more encouraging is the *Bible*, the Spiritualist's Book, where it says, "Delight thyself in the Lord, and he will give thee the desires to thine heart. Commit thy way unto him, trust him, and he will bring it to pass."



If for any reason you think you cannot be a success, look for a split second at a few great successes who were severely handicapped. Theodore Roosevelt started life frail and sickly, became a healthy, vital, hard-working person, even a rough rider and lion hunter. Glenn Cunningham, who ran the fastest mile on record, was crippled in boyhood in a schoolhouse fire. Sandow, the strongest man of his time, started out as a weakling; likewise Annette Kellerman was ill and lame, yet became diving champion. Immanuel Kant, the great philosopher, suffered almost constantly with a bad chest condition. Beethoven, the great musician, was deaf and said, "If I could get rid of this affliction, I would embrace the world." Steinmetz, the great scientist, had a grossly deformed body, and Helen Keller is deaf and blind, Robert Louis Stevenson, the great author, suffered from tuberculosis, and John Milton wrote his best poems after he was blind.

Of course, the people who are a volcano or a civil war within themselves must learn self-control if they would be successful. Edwin Booth, the great successful actor, said, "Much of my life's struggle was in correcting the evils of an untrained disposition," and Dwight L. Moody, the great evangelist, remarked, "I have more trouble with Dwight L. Moody than with any other man I know," and Florence Nightingale, "the Lady with the Lamp," was so desperate in finding her real self that she wrote in her diary, "In my thirty-first year I see nothing desirable but death."

Even lack of finances and of education can be overcome. Abraham Lincoln, Benjamin Franklin, and Andrew Jackson had little formal education and came from very humble homes. Steward, who started the Wanamaker Store in New York, came to the City with only $1.50 in his pocket. Thomas Edison was a newsboy on trains, and Andrew Carnegie began his business life as a bobbin boy, working in a factory from dawn to dark for only $4.00 a month. These and countless others achieved their heart's desires by their ability to stick to their purpose, live right with faith in God.

In this way Vice-President Nixon met his crisis when his whole future was in a balance, and he could go up or down. He told an enquiring clergyman how this happened. Mr. Nixon said that he knew he had not done anything wrong, so his conscience was clear. He assembled his facts—prepared for the occasion, and on the way to the television and radio studio to make his speech, he went to see his mother. "We are Quakers," he said, "and my mother is a wonderful Christian woman. I wanted her to say something to me and out on the porch she did. 'Son, I'll be thinking of you.' The word 'thinking' with her is a synonym for 'praying'. I knew she would be praying for me. At the studio, just before I went on the air, I asked to be left alone for ten minutes. I too did some 'thinking' or 'praying.' "

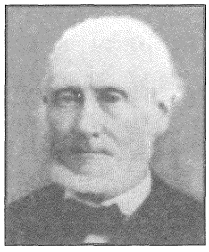
All succeed who are worthy and follow the laws and principles of success. Abraham Lincoln's idea of success was "To learn the plain physical facts of the case, ascertain what is possible, learn what appears to be wise and right—THEN DO IT!" ◆

The National Spiritualist Association Of Churches
Department of Phenomenal Evidence

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009 Department of Phenomenal Evidence Report

THE REVS. BRIAN AND LYNN KENT

A Visit to the #1 Creepiest Place in the US



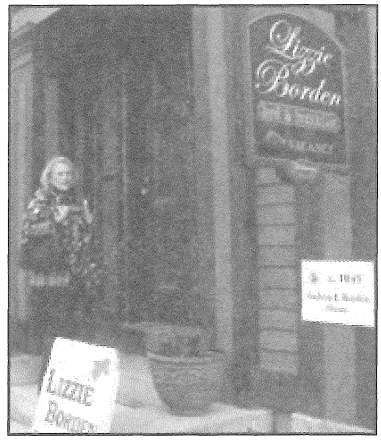
Andrew Borden



Abby Borden



Lizzie Borden



Lynn at Lizzie Borden B&B

The *Travel Channel* has many unusual lists of places to visit. One that caught our interest was the "Creepiest Places" list for the United States. Since the Lizzie Borden B&B in Fall River, Massachusetts was in the top spot, and only 10 miles away, plans were made to stay overnight!

My daughter, Melanie Lombardi, made the arrangements in gratitude to Lynn for taking care of Melanie's two children since their birth on Mondays and Fridays for the past seven years, while Melanie worked as a nurse. She made arrangements for us to stay in the John V. Morse bedroom on the second floor.

We arrived at the Borden B&B on Saturday, November 1, 2008. We certainly arrived with a heightened sense of excitement. We were on a quest to understand the history of this bizarre case that has endured in American pop culture for over 116 years.

As the story goes, John V. Morse arrived unannounced at 92 Second St. on Wednesday, August 3rd, 1892. Abby put him in the second floor guest room where he always stayed when he visited—the same room where her body would be found less than 24 hours later by the maid Bridget Sullivan.

Here are photos of the entrance to the Lizzy Borden B&B and the John Morse Room where we stayed and where the body of Abby was found in 1892.

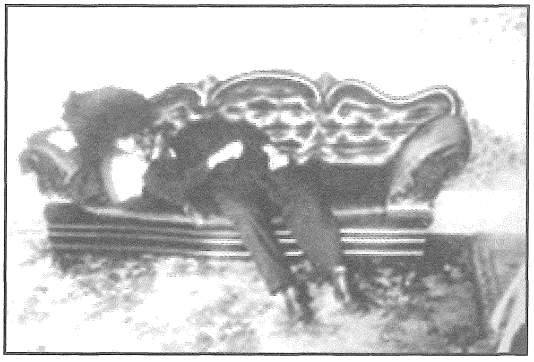


John Morse Room

We signed in, unpacked our bags and left for a dinner at a local steak house. Our conversation over dinner focused on our thoughts and impressions about our room and the house in general. What we saw and felt on our initial visit left us comfortable and without apprehension. Certainly the spirits did not send any negative impressions or feelings of dread our way. Yet later on, the "action" would start and continue into the early morning hours.

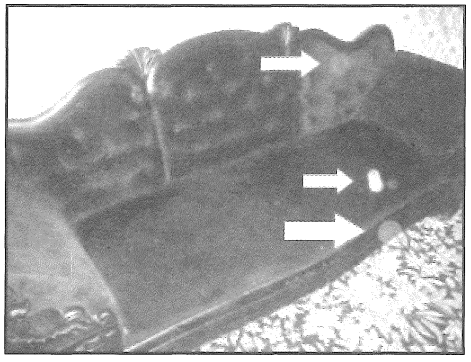
The B&B provides its guests with a very clean and well-furnished period house representing the time within which the occupants lived. From the kitchen to living and entry areas, all representing itself as a living museum with pictures and written documents adorning the walls throughout, along with display cases packed with recounts of the historic past events.

Continued...



This is the original photograph taken of Mr. Andrew Borden by the Fall River police department.

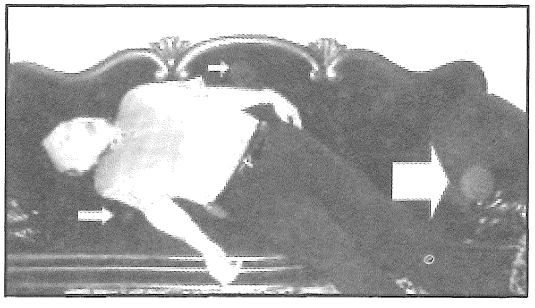
This photograph was one of the very first photographic evidence images used in police investigations in the US.



This is a photograph taken that evening showing a few energy ORBs on the couch.

Notice the ORBs are located to the right hand side of the couch, exactly where an open space is shown in the original photograph above.

Orbs are captured while Brian was posing as Mr. Andrew Borden.



The Orbs are located at the arrow points. Because of the faint appearances of the ORBs, the image was made brighter, and in the printed form, the ORBs might not appear, so the arrows denote their locations.



During the Borden house guided tour; this picture was taken in the back stairway leading to the Kitchen. Brian asked Lynn to turn around and he took this picture. A very strong energy ORB image was captured following me. A few others had cobwebby feelings on their faces when going up to Mr. and Mrs. Borden's bedroom located in the back of the house, over the kitchen, where Mr. Borden kept a bat-like piece of wood under his bed at all times. It had been speculated that Mr. Borden was into dark dealings at times.

Of course it is up to the reader to accept or reject the notion of ORBs and their significance. None of the other guests recorded energy ORB images, and there were certainly many photographs taken during our visit and tour of the home.

Now a little more of what to expect if one stays at this interesting historical site. On Saturday evenings a psychic comes and does table tipping with a table from the house. She describes herself as a medium, but I did not find her up to NSAC standards, so I call her a psychic. She is very good at what she does, and the table does move quite a bit, but continuity of life was not proved at the sitting. It is exciting for the visitors, and interesting for us, that others use table tipping to prove that there is spirit energy.

We did not know that there would be a psychic and some kind of phenomena trying to be established, so we brought our own personal table. We did not take it out; we allowed the table tipping to take place in the room we were staying in, the John Morse Room, as the psychic requested.

The psychic performed what we believed was her usual demonstration. When the table started to move, she automatically asked if it was Mr. Borden and then went on to ask her standard questions. During this time, we believed that there was some phenomena going on, but for us the energies were confusing in the room. We decided to wait to do more investigating after everyone left.

There were six women there who visit the Borden house every year—sisters and cousins; we did not find out that they were related until much later in the evening. After the show was over, these lovely, fun-loving women asked us if they could be included in our table tipping. Once they found out Lynn was a

Continued...

medium, they were very interested. Brian stayed for a while and then turned in around 11:00 P.M. I was very excited, and knew there was more to come, so I agreed to stay and conduct our own table tipping experience.

I first sat with the three older women in their late fifties and early sixties. I said an invocation and we all sang to raise the vibration, which started the table to move, easily at first, then very quickly, as if the table itself was excited.

A gentleman came through first, stating his name was Robert when on the earth plane. Shortly thereafter the table leaned on me; this is usually done when the spirit person wants to say more than what can be spelled out with the table. Robert made comments about being sorry he could not say good-bye to all of them and was glad they came here tonight! He also gave a description of how he had passed and that he was not there too long. These women were so excited; it was their brother who had passed about 6 months earlier and one of the sisters had been having dreams about speaking to him, but not with his usual voice. Additional personal information came through that was verified by the sitters. For them, this was very evidential and although they were believers in life after death, they had never met a real medium.

When the three younger women sat down a few other spirit people came to greet them by name and Robert was among them. Again, surprised by this, when asked how they knew him, the young blond woman stated it was her dad and that the others were his brothers. From that initial contact, personal information and messages where given. Most of us retired at about 1:00 a.m. It was easy to fall asleep quickly for me, but the women on the upper floors were too excited and continued their spirit communication through table-tipping, as they had learned from Lynn, that evening.

About 3:00 a.m. I was startled by a touch on my arm, almost like someone was trying to get my attention. For about 5 seconds I saw a hazy mist; not fearful, I tried communicating with the spirit form. The words I heard were *not who you think*! Then the mist dissolved and I went back to sleep, thinking it must have been a dream. The next morning at breakfast, I was informed that the misty appearance happens quite often. That was when I realized it was more than a dream.

It is our suggestion that anyone visiting the Lizzy Borden Bed & Breakfast, or any other establishment reported to have spirit manifestation, do some experimentation on their own, like table tipping, electronic voice phenomena recording, photography, and even meditations. You never know what kind of wonderful experiences you might have. ◆

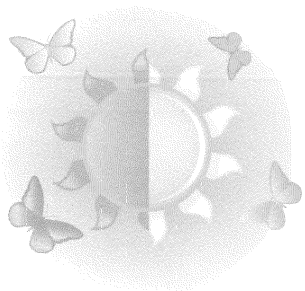
Twilight Enthusiasm

Inspirationally received by JULIE L. HARPER – Florida

If the enthusiasm of your youth has waned over time, remember that your Creator is full of infinite possibilities. In one's humanness, you have barely begun to uncover God's great mysteries. Even within your elder years, there is much to discover. An open and inquisitive mind allows for new awareness within a myriad of wondrous creations.

And also, though you may recognize the many gifts that God continually offers, it might be that you now take them for granted. Remember to be thankful—for not just what comes as a delightful surprise—but also for what seems familiar and dependable. Gratitude for the blessings that you recognize will promote comfort and joy.

With age comes a quieter pace, but life need not be mundane. A true appreciation of God's gifts allows for an enthusiastic heart. And to be grateful for life's blessings is to know the joys of a blessed life. That is enthusiasm with wisdom, and it evolves out of the maturity gained from life's many experiences.



May we always hold thankfulness for what blesses our lives now, and for the endless opportunities to experience blessings within each new day. For this, we can be enthusiastic!

◆ ◆ ◆






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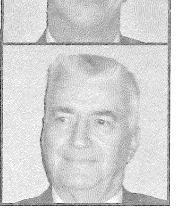
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KENT, Revs. Lynn and Brian, Certified Medium and Comm. Healer; specialize in physical phenomena table-tipping workshops, public readings for charity and grief counseling. (401) 864-8307; e-mail: lynn@lynnkent.com and spiritbriankent@gmail.com; website: www.lynnkent.com

• TEXAS •

HOUSTON

JESSUP, Rev. Jovita V., NST, Comm. Healer, Certified Medium, 5655 Meadow Creek Ln., 77017 - (713) 947-6586; e-mail: JessupJovita@aol.com

PFLUGERVILLE

BERG, Rev. Virginia, 20916 Bellerive Dr., 78660 - (512) 670-3408; e-mail: V.BergTX@aol.com

• VIRGINIA •

ALEXANDRIA

KRITHADES, Rev. Christine, J.D., NST, P.O. Box 7071, 22307 - (703) 317-1707; e-mail: ckckck@starpower.net

HAMPTON

BROWN, Rev. Carol A., NST, 712 Big Bethel Rd., 23666-2802 - (757) 826-9652; e-mail: CLBrown1@gmail.com

ROBINSON, Rev. Linda M., NST, 3 Redman Ct., 23669 - (757) 851-4735.

NORFOLK

CUTLER, Rev. Lelia E., NST, 7310 Midfield St., 23505-4126 - (757) 480-3799

SPRINGFIELD

GEHMAN, Rev. B. Anne, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 5409 Backlick Woods Court, 22151 - (703) 354-5767

VIENNA

STRANAHAN, Rev. Patricia A., NST, Certified Medium, 1717 Besley Rd., 22182 - (703) 938-2512

VIRGINIA BEACH

CRIBB, Rev. Kathleen, 900 Park Landing Ct., 23456 - (757) 471-2414, cell (757) 573-6704, e-mail: BubbaCribb@cox.net

• WASHINGTON •

AUBURN

PEMBERTON, Rev. LaVerne, Ordained Minister of Church of Spiritual Unity, 35008 Military Rd. S., 98001 - (253) 833-9279

• WEST VIRGINIA •

CHARLES TOWN

ROLNICK, Rev. Alexis Sharon, Certified Medium, 128 Burnlea Rd., 25414 - (304) 725-3763, (240) 447-8912; e-mail: asrolnick@aol.com; website: www.churchofjoyousliving.com; classes, circles, readings

GREAT CACAPON

STARR, Rev. Barbara, NST, Comm. Healer, 4245 Woodmont Rd., 25422 - (304) 258-4861

• CANADA •

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

ROSSNER, Rev. Dr. Marilyn, Ph.D., Pres./Pastor, Spiritual Science Fellowship, 1974 de Maisonneuve W., H3H 1K5 - (514) 937-8359; website: www.iiihs.org; e-mail: mrossner@111hs.org

DIRECTORY OF NSAC CHARTERED CHURCHES & AUXILIARIES

• ARIZONA •

GLENDALE - Church of the Living Spirit, NSAC • Church Location - 3736 W. Wahalla Lane, Glendale, AZ 85308; Mailing address: 9106 W. Willow Haven Court, Sun City, 85351; Co-Pastor, Rev. Janet Tisdale, NST, (623) 972-3916; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; website: www.churchofthelivingspirit.org

• CALIFORNIA •

CALIFORNIA STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION • Pres., Janice Foote, mobile: (360) 261-0470; Secy., Carol Whyte; Mail to: 484 Lake Park Ave. #333, Oakland, 94610-2730, (510) 917-4801, Fax: (866) 615-6144, e-mail: cssasecretary@aol.com

AUBURN - The Spiritualist Chapel of the Pines • 457 Grass Valley Hwy. #7, 95603; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; All Message Serv. Fri. 7:00 p.m.; Pastor, Vickie Gay; Pres., Rick Seybold; Secy., Linda Avery (916) 663-3848; Tel. (530) 823-1816, Fax (916) 663-4691; website: spiritualistchapelofthepines.com

MONROVIA - The Spiritualist Church of Revelation • 200 W. Colorado Blvd., 91016; Sun. Church Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Pastor Martin Pina; The President is Pastor Martin Pina; Secretary is the honorable Mr. Winston Lumley; Contact: SCRMonrovia@gmail.com / Phone (626) 256-3403, e-mail: greenry@earthlink.net; for class info Please call church phone.

SACRAMENTO - Central Spiritualist Church, NSAC • 2500 Marconi Ave., Suite 209, 95821-4855. Mailing Address: 4800 Auburn Folsom Rd., #63, Loomis, 95650-9328; Sun. Serv. 10:00 am.; Classes (see Pastor); Healing All Message Serv. 7:00 p.m., last Tues. of the month; Pres., Denise E. Bell; Pastor, Rev. Sandra G. Dawson, NST, (916) 652-4568; e-mail: rdawson@wizwire.com; Secy., Elisa Nicholas, P.O. Box 162303, Sacramento, 95816 – (916) 712-3512; e-mail: enicholas_1@hotmail.com

SAN BERNARDINO - Temple of Spiritual Truth, NSAC • Please call Pastor Rev. Sara (Sally) Estes, NST, (909) 886-9242 for time and location information.

SAN FRANCISCO - Celebrate Life Spiritualist Community – Joyous Spiritualism to a modern world • The Celebration service each Wed, weekly classes, Modesto, CA classes, weekend services - see website or call. Rev Drew Vogt, Pastor (415) 568-7571 - P.O. Box 640216, San Francisco, CA 94164. Email: revdrew77@ yahoo.com Website: ourcelebration.org

SAN FRANCISCO - The First Spiritual Temple, NSAC • "The Teaching Church." Pastor, Rev. Donald McFarland, NST; Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Alfred A. Conner, NST; Secy., Elsie Ann Soria, NST; Hillel House, 2nd & 4th Sundays of month, 33 Banbury Dr. (near SF State Univ.), 94132; Mail to: 1101 National Avenue, #1328, San Bruno, 94066, (650) 583-2739.

SAN FRANCISCO - Golden Gate Spiritualist Church • 1901 Franklin St. at Clay 94109; (415) 885-9976 / website: www.ggsc.org Sun Lyceum 9:30 a.m. Sep-May; Healing 10:30 a.m., Devotional Service 11:00 a.m.; Wed - Healing 7:30 P.M. Devotional Service 8:00 P.M. Classes Available - Contact the Church. Pastor, Rev. David Burr, NST; Pres. Sonny B. Gee / Sec. Engeltie Lauderback.

SAN JOSE - The Spiritual Science of Life Church, NSAC • "The Friendly Church," 729 Morse Street, (Corner of Morse St. & Naglee), 95126; Sun. Serv. 6:30 p.m., 2nd & 4th Sunday; Pastor Rev. Louise Peruch, NST; 1327 W. Hedding St., 95126; (408) 615-0214; e-mail: PeruchLise@aol.com

SAN LEANDRO - Spiritualist Church of Two Worlds • 1550 San Leandro Blvd., (Deaf Comm. Center) 94577; Sun. Serv. Healing 10:30 a.m., Reg. Serv. 10:45 to 12:00; Co-Pastors, Rev.'s Betty and Don Nauratil, (925) 283-1449; Pres., Phyllis Macdonald, 1956 Kirby Way, San Jose, 95124; All mail to Secy., Rev. Betty Nauratil, 1048 Via Roble, Lafayette, 94549-2925.

SANTA BARBARA - Summerland Spiritualist Church of The Comforter • 1028 Garden St., 93101; (805) 965-4474; Pastor, Rev. Sandra Cook, D.D., e-mail: revsandic@msn.com; Sun. Healing Serv. 10:30 a.m., Devotional Serv. 11:00 a.m., Unfoldment Class 7:00 p.m., Thurs. Message Serv. 6:30 p.m.

• COLORADO •

LITTLETON - Chapel of Spiritual Awareness • Pastor, Patricia J. Haskins-Schott, (303) 973-9993; **All mail** to: 6457 S. Xenon St., 80127; e-mail: chapelspiritawar@aol.com

• CONNECTICUT •

CONNECTICUT STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION • Pres., Rev. Lynn Gaffin, 70 Dell Ave., B5, New London, 06320, e-mail: Heart860@sbc global.net; Secy., Chris Bellamy, 66 Cedar Rd., Oakdale 06370, e-mail: jcb41756@hotmail.com

NEW LONDON - New London Spiritualist Church • 11 Freedom Way, Unit D6, Niantic, CT; (860) 701-1355; e-mail: nlspiritualist@sbcglobal.net; website: nlspiritualist.net; Mailing Address: 70 Dell Ave. #B5, New London, CT 06320; Pres., Lynn Gaffin, 70 Dell Ave. #B5, New London, CT 06320; Secy., Constance White, e-mail: ficaw@hotmail.com; Service Sunday 10:30 a.m., Medium's Days last Sat. of every month, 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

NEWINGTON - The Church of the Infinite Spirit • Masonic Temple, 80 Walsh Ave., 06111; Pastor, Allen Noddin; website: www.newingtonspiritualistchurch.org; Church Secy., Peggi Camosci, e-mail: peggic@comcast.net, tel. (860) 635-6396. All Welcome.

NIANTIC - Ladies Aid Society Camp at Pine Grove • (The only NSAC Summer Spiritualist Camp in CT.) For program listing all summer activities contact: Pres. Rev. Lynn Gaffin, 70 Dell Ave. B5, New London 06360, e-mail: Heart860@sbcglobal.net; Rev. Kathleen Rottino, 109 Capitol Dr., Willimantic 06226, e-mail: k.rottino@snet.net

NORWICH - National Spiritualist Church of Norwich, Inc. • 29 Park St. (off Main St.), 06360, (860) 886-8522; Sunday Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Pres., Rev. Jacquelyn W. Randall, (860) 887-0068, e-mail: cincyada@yahoo.com; Pres., Susan K. Graf, (860) 564-5575, e-mail: president@nscnorwich.com; Secy., Tiffany-Michelle White; e-mail: NSCNORWICH@yahoo.com; website: www.NSCNORWICH.com

OLD GREENWICH - Albertson Memorial Church Of Spiritualism • 293 Sound Beach Ave., 06870; (203) 637-4615; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m., all welcome.

WILLIMANTIC - The First Spiritualist Church of Willimantic • 268 High St., 06226, (860) 423-5774; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m. Sept. thru May; service twice a month June thru August. For more information, please call the church; Pastor, Joyce Orcutt, 14 Harbourt Dr., Winchester, NH 03740, (860) 742-7846.

• DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA •

WASHINGTON - The Church of Two Worlds, NSAC • 3038 Q St., NW, 20007-3080; Phone (202) 333-5114; Sun., Healing 2:00 p.m., Serv. 2:30 p.m.; Message & Meditation classes, call Sue Bracey (301) 920-1784; Pres., Michael Gallion, LM, (202) 237-7659; Sec/Treas James A. Longmore (301) 739-8227.

• FLORIDA •

ORLANDO - Spiritualist Church of Awareness, NSAC • 3210 N. Chickasaw Trail (mail to P.O. Box 4010, Winter Park, FL 32792), (407) 678-3688; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Wed. Serv. 7:30 p.m.; Healing, Sermon, Messages at all services; Sun. Children Lyceum; Pastor, Rev. Jean Kerr Lerch, NST, (407) 834-5378; Pres., Ronald J. Lerch, (407) 834-5378; Secy., Rev. Leslie Chaillou, NST, (407) 679-5846; Spiritualistchurchofawareness.org

• ILLINOIS •

CHERRY VALLEY - Cherry Valley Spiritualist Camp, Inc. • 8002 Service Rd., 61016, (815) 332-5359; Camp Season: June 1 thru Sept. 30; Serv., 10:30 to 11:00 Healing Meditation, 11:00 to 12:30 Church Service, Pot Luck follows; Pres., Ken Boesen (815) 626-5716; Secy., Marian Boesen, NST; e-mail: cherryvalleysc@verizon.net

CHERRY VALLEY - Christabelle Spiritualist Church • 8002 Service Rd., 61016, (815) 332-5359; Healing Serv. 10:30 a.m., Worship Serv. 11:00 a.m. every Sunday, Oct. thru May at Cherry Valley Spiritualist Camp; Pastor, Rev. Marian Boesen, (815) 626-5716; Pres. Kenneth Boesen, (815) 626-5716; Secy., Martha Witt, 1204 Game Farm Rd., Yorkville, 60560, (630) 553-2517.

CHICAGO - The Church of The Spirit • 2651 N. Central Park Ave., 60647-1101, (773) 489-5422; Chicago's Oldest Spiritualist Church; Sunday Family Worship: Healing, 10:00 a.m., Worship Serv., 10:30 a.m.; All Message Serv., 1st Wed., 7:00 p.m.; Call for current Development and Educational class schedule.; Pastor, Rev. Marrice Coverson; Secy., Dr. Alan Tenczar.

CHICAGO - Spiritualist Church of Truth • 6343 West Cuyler (1/2 block north of Irving Pk.) 60634; Serv. 2:45 p.m., Healing, Lecture, Messages every Sun.; Pastor & Pres., Rev. Florence Heyward; Sec., Judith Galar, 4050 N. Oriole Ave., Norridge, 60706-1117, (708) 452-8754.

CHICAGO - Tucker Smith Washington Spiritualist Temple • 6146 S. Ashland Ave., 60636, (312) 436-0366.

LE ROY - J. T. & E. J. Crumbaugh Spiritualist Church • 102 S. Pearl St., P.O. Box 174, 61752-0174); (309) 962-9076; Sundays-Adult Lyceum 11:00 a.m., Service 12:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. Bob Bianchi, NST; Pres., Charles Williams; Secy., Sharon Bianchi, (317) 945-8437. website: www.crumbaughchurch.org; e-mail: reverendbob@direct2spirit.com

• INDIANA •

INDIANA STATE ASSOCIATION OF SPIRITUAL SCIENCE
Pres., Rev. John Kampf, 4322 N. 500 E., Rolling Prarie, IN 46371; (219)

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778-8332; kampf4322@comcast.net. Secy., Joy Marsh, 7122 National Blvd., Michigan City, IN (219) 879-0292.

INDIANAPOLIS - The Spiritualist Church of Indianapolis • Sun. Serv. 6:30–8:00 p.m. Services are being held at: All My Relations, 1008 Main St., Speedway, Indiana 46224. Reading Day is First Saturday of the Month from 1–4:00. Call Pastor Bonnie J. Darby, phone 317-373-1746, for more information. Mail all correspondence to: P.O. Box 39419, 46236.

INDIANAPOLIS - New Dawn Spirit of Light Church, Inc., NSAC • 3637 W. 10th St., 46222; Sun. Serv: Healing 11:00 a.m., Devotional and Message Serv. 11:30 a.m. Wed. - 6:00 p.m. Development Class. Every 5th Sunday, All Message Service, covered dish dinner, 1st Sat. each month Reading Day 12:00–4:00 p.m.; Pastorand Pres., Rev. Mildred Schlagel, (317) 291-0799; Secy./Treas., Marilyn Smith; Church (317) 937-6292; website: www.newdawnchurch.org

• IOWA •

DAVENPORT - Spiritualist Harmony Church • 1429 W. Seventh St., 52802-1212, (563) 324-9659; Sun. Healing Serv. 1:30 p.m.; Worship & Message Serv. 2:00 p.m.; Secy./Treas., Rev. William Buchholz, (563) 326-3201.

• MAINE •

MAINE STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES • Pres., Graham Connolly, NST, 66 Martin Heights, Raymond, 04071, (207) 655-6673; Secy., Betty Simpson, 715 Newburgh Rd., Hermon, 04401, (207) 848-2273; Treas., Janice Nelson, 46 Homestead Rd., Washington, 04574-3620, (207) 845-2885; e-mail: mssac@mainespiritualism.org. Please visit our website, http://www.mainespiritualism.org

AUGUSTA - Augusta Spiritualist Church • Corner of Perham & Court Sts.; P.O. Box 2492, 04338; (207) 622-8980; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Thurs. Awareness Class 7:00 p.m.; Pres., Earl L. Wallace, 124 Spring St., Gardiner, 04345; (207) 582-2745; Co-Pastors, Rev. Earl L. Wallace and Rev. Kay Hawkins; Secy., Rev. Pat Wallace.

BANGOR - The Harrison D. Barrett Memorial Church • 514 Broadway, beside Coldwell Banker Realty, Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Secy., Betty Simpson, 715 Newburgh Rd., Hermon, 04401, (207) 848-2273, email: betty.simpson@maine.gov; Church services may be canceled due to inclement weather, also location may be changing; website: http://www.hdbspiritualistchurch.org will be updated in case of changes. Please call the secy. for more information, other contact number for the church is Kathy Goodness, VP, at 989-7266.

MADISON - Madison Spiritualist Camp • Located at historic Lakewood Theater Village just off Beach Rd. on Route 201, six miles north of Skowhegan. Camp season runs July & August; Camp (207) 474-0124. Off season contact Pres. Sue Jalbert, CH at (207) 655-6673 or Secy. Betty Simpson at (207) 848-2273; For program information and events, visit our website at www.madisoncamp.org or email us at madison@mainespiritualism.org

NORTHPORT - Temple Heights Spiritual Camp Assoc. • Shore Road with Penobscot Bay view. Pres. Ernie Van Den Bossche. Camp runs mid-May-Labor Day w/different medium each week offering private readings by appt. Church services Sun. @ 2:30 & Thur. @ 7:30 PM. Message Circles @ 7:30 PM Wed & Sat. Workshop Sat. morning, Seance Tues. @ 7:30 PM, Social Enlightenment Fri. @ 7:30 PM, "How Do Mediums Do That" class Sun. @ 12:30 PM. Lodging available. During Camp Season Ph: (207) 338-3029 / Off-season contact Sec. Tamara Jetton, 21 Old Windsor Rd., South China, ME 04358 or Email thsc@mainespiritualism.org Website: www.templeheightscamp.org

NORTHPORT - Temple Heights Spiritualist Church • Shore Road, Northport; Services 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Temple Heights Spiritual Camp from May to October and at Excelsior Lodge on the corner of Shore Rd. and Cove Rd. Northport, from Nov. 1 to April 30; Pres, Janice Nelson (207) 845-2885; Sec/Treas., Jean Bower, 159 Northport Ave., Belfast 04915-6003 - (207) 338-1355.

PORTLAND AREA - Portland Spiritualist Church • meets at 719 Main St., Westbrook at the Unitarian Universalist Church; Mailing address: P.O. Box 6551 PTS, 04102; Sun. Serv. 6:30 p.m.; Fri. Class 7:30 p.m.; Pres., Rev. Graham Connolly, (207) 655-6673; e-mail: pschurch@maine.rr.com; website: www.portlandspiritualistchurch.org

• MASSACHUSETTS •

REHOBOTH - First Spiritualist Church of Brockton, Inc., NSAC • Services held at 10:00 a.m. every Sunday at the Anawan Grange Bldg., junction Rts. 44 & 118; Mailing address: P.O. Box 145, 02769, e-mail: firstspiritualistchurch.com. For more information contact Secretary, Sally Kubitschek, (508) 226-6580; e-mail: sallyrosekub@hotmail.com

SALEM - First Spiritualist Church of Salem • 34 Warren St., 01970; Sun. Early Serv. 5:30-6:00 p.m.; Lunch break 6:00-6:30 p.m., Healing & Evening Serv. 6:30-8:00 p.m.; Telephone for weather cancellations, (978) 745-2098; Church season is Sun. after Labor Day - June; Pres., Bradley Gosselin, 147 Sylvan St., Danvers, 01923 - (978) 774-1571, e-mail: BGoss92409@aol.com; Secy., Nancy L. Karolides, 144 Boston St., Middleton, 01949, (978) 774-4048.

SPRINGFIELD - The First Spiritualist Church of Springfield, Inc. • 33-37 Bliss St., 01105, (413) 732-1234; Worship Serv., Sun. after Labor Day until last Sun. in June at 10:30 a.m.; Development classes upon sign-up; Info on website: www.springfield.spiritualistchurch.com; Pastor, Rev. John Sullivan, Box 392, Worthington, 01098 - (413) 238-5344, e-mail: sully1942@hughes.net; Sec. Denise St Pierre, e-mail: denise1957@hughes.net

• MICHIGAN •

FERNDALE - First Spiritualist Temple of Detroit • 2724 Goodrich, 48220; Sat. Serv. 7:00 p.m.; Secy., Dianne Smith.

LESLIE - Flower Memorial Spiritualist Church • 430 Bellevue St., 49251; Serv. 10:45 a.m. Sundays; Contact Jackie North, e-mail J91943@ALLDIAL.NET or (517) 796-2858.

ROYAL OAK - First Spiritual Temple • 3224 Greenfield Rd. (1 1/2 blocks So. of 13 Mile), 48073-6534; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. Marguerite Gutt, NST, (248) 548-2240.

• MINNESOTA •

ROCHESTER - Third Spirit of Life Spiritualist Church • Meeting place: 1500 First Ave. NE, Ste. 112; Services Mon. 7:00 p.m.; Pastors, Rev. Joyce E. Young, NST, and Rev. John E. Young, NST; Secy., (507) 775-6358; Mailing address, P.O. Box 7312, 55903.

ST. PAUL - Spiritual Science Spiritualist Church • Conference Rm. - 411 Main St., Labor Union Hall; Sun. Morning Serv. only, 10:00 a.m.; Pres./Speaker, Joan LeDuc, 2169 Scheffer Ave., 55116-1255, (651) 699-4858; Secy., Gerald Kemling; Church phone (651) 225-4609.

• MISSOURI •

ST. LOUIS - Fifth Spiritualist Church of St. Louis • 6026 S. Kingshighway Blvd., 63109-3558; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Healing, Meditation & Message, 1st Wed. of the month at 7:00 p.m.; Assoc. Pastor, Marilyn Kalna, cell: (314) 707-3934; Pres., Carl Davis, 4451 Catherine Place, 63115 - (314) 383-5954; website: www.5thspiritstl.com

• NEBRASKA •

OMAHA - Spiritual Science & Philosophy Church, NSAC • 321 Hascall St., 68108-2121; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Sunday Philosophy Class Noon when scheduled; Pastor & Secy., Alace Jayne Fanslau, 321 Hascall St., 68108-2121, (402) 345-0101.

• NEVADA •

LAS VEGAS - Spiritualist Desert Church, NSAC • 3305 W. Spring Mountain Rd., Suite 51, 89102, (702) 876-8783 (message line only), website: www.spiritualistdesertchurch.com; e-mail: spiritualistdesertchurch@yahoo.com; Service times: Sun. 11:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m., Thurs. 6:30 p.m. for Healing and Meditation Service with a Development Circle following the service. Vicky Homann, Pastor (702) 234-1147.

RENO/Sparks - Spiritualist High Desert Church • Meeting place: Larry D. Johnson Community Center, 1200 12th St., Sparks, 89431, (775) 323-1114. Healing, Meditation and Message Service: Sunday 11:00 a.m. Pres., Mary Beth LoVecchio, website: _http://renospiritualistchurch.org; Mailing address: Secy. Rev. Lisa Butler, 3415 Socrates Dr., Reno, NV 89512, e-mail: tomalisa2@aol.com

• NEW JERSEY •

WESTVILLE - Church of Eternal Life • 243 W. Olive & Folsom Sts., 08093; Sun Healing, Worship & Message Service 11:00 a.m. Call (856) 456-2196 for cancellations. Pres Rev Dr John Bassett Jr., PhD, 320 Savannah Rd, Essex, MD 21221 (410) 391-3656. Sec Kathleen M. Pollack 430 S. Broadway, Gloucester, MD 08030 (856) 456-3401. Website: NJCOEL.org

WENONAH - Stow Memorial Foundation • Muriel De Young, 305 Carnegie Ave., Wenonah.

• NEW YORK •

EAST AURORA - First Spiritualist Temple • 29 Temple Pl., P.O. Box 465, 14052, (716) 652-5018, www.eastauroraspiritualism.com; Sun. Healing

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Service 10:30 a.m.; Lecture and Message Service 11:00 a.m.; Social Hour 12:15 p.m.; Dinner Day 3rd Sun. of month; Secy., Jeanne Phoenix Laurel, (716) 286-8628 or (716) 876-4805.

LILY DALE - Lily Dale Assembly • 5 Melrose Park, 14752, (716) 595-8721, Fax (716) 595-2442; Office Hours, Sept.-June, M-F, 10 a.m.-2 p.m; June-Aug, M-F, 9 a.m.-4p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon, closed Sunday; Camp Season: Last Friday in June to day before Labor Day; contact James Barnum, Secretary; website: www.lilydaleassembly.com; e-mail: lilydaleassembly@netsync.net

LILY DALE - Lily Dale Spiritualist Church • East St. Healing Temple, P.O. Box 1128, 14752-1128, (716) 595-3971; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Healing 11:00 a.m. Worship Healing & Message Serv. each Wed. 7:30 p.m. Sept. – June; website: www.lilydalespiritualistchurch.com

LONG ISLAND - A Sanctuary of Infinite Spirit, Inc., NSAC • Healing & Worship Service, Sun. 11:00 a.m. at the Smithtown Masonic Lodge, 34 River Rd. (Nisequogue River Rd.), Smithtown; Pastor, Rev. Patricia Anne Duffield, NST, (631) 588-5869; Mailing address: 10 Ackerly Lane, Lake Ronkonkoma, 11779; Church phone: (631) 648-0403; e-mail: kenpatduff@hotmail.com; website: www.asanctuaryofinfinitespirit-NSAC.com

LONG ISLAND - Summerland Church of Light, NSAC • Healing and Worship Service: Sunday 10:00 a.m. Service held at 120 Plant Ave., Hauppauge; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5209, Hauppauge, 11788-5209, (631) 467-2076; Pastor, Rev. Richard P. Schoeller, NST, (631) 470-0221; website: www.SummerlandChurchofLight.com

LONG ISLAND - Temple of Metaphysical Science, NSAC • So. Ocean Ave. & Baker St., Patchogue, 11772; Sun. Serv.: Healing and Worship 11:00 a.m.; Pastor, Rev. Hugo Ruiz, NST; Mailing address: P.O. Box 3400, Patchogue, 11772, 800-316-1231; website: http://www.TMS-Li.org

ROCHESTER - Plymouth Spiritualist Church • 29 Vick Park A, 14607; (585) 271-1470; Voicemail (585) 234-2362; Sunday Devotional Services: 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon; Third Wednesdays All Message Service with Spiritual Healing 7-9 p.m.; e-mail & website: Plymouthspiritualistchurch.org (check our website for up-to-date circle and development class information; Pastor, Robin Higgins; President, Joanne Antinore; Secretary, Valerie Grosche, Valerie.Grosche@xerox.com

• OHIO •

ASHLEY - Ashley Spiritualist Camp Association • 6 Wooley Park Drive, 43003; Mail to: Selina Duffey, Secy., P.O. Box 277, 43003-0277; For additional information contact: Steven Duffey, (740) 747-2212.

ASHLEY - First Spiritualist Church of Linden • 6 Wooley Park Drive, 43003; Mail to: Chrys Rice, Secy., P.O. Box 648, 43003-0648; Sun. Serv. 7:00 p.m.; For additional information, please contact: Treas., Steven Duffey, (740) 747-2212.

DAYTON - Spiritual Life Center, NSAC • 609 Watervliet Ave., 45420-2544, (937) 878-1165; Pastor, Rev. Raymond Moschke, e-mail: RMoschke@aol.com.

• OKLAHOMA •

OKLAHOMA CITY - Central Spiritualist Church • 2348 N.W. 36th St., Sun. Serv. 2:30 p.m.; Lyceum Sun. 1:00 p.m.; Pastor, Juanita Oyer; Pres., Charlotte Griffin, 1331 Lafayette; Secy., Juanita R. Oyer, 6216 S.E. 10th St., 73110, (405) 732-7975.

• PENNSYLVANIA •

McKEESPORT - First Spiritualist Church • 809 Locust St., 15132, (412) 672-1272; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m. Healing/Meditation, 11:00 a.m. Lecture and Messages; Tues. Mediumship Dev. Class; Minister, Carol O. Perella, L.M., (412) 398-7303; website www.firstspiritualist.org

PHILADELPHIA - The Celestial Spiritualists Church • Sun. Healing, Worship and Message Service 12:00 noon. Call for service dates and location; (610) 583-3268; e-mail: celestial.07@mail.com; Rev. Betty J. Hutt.

PHILADELPHIA - Second Spiritualist Association • 421 N. Preston St; Secy., Gladys Faison, 2118 N. Natrona, 19104.

• TEXAS •

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FALLS CHURCH - Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, NSAC • 222 N. Washington Street; Mailing Address: CSE (NSAC), P.O. Box 6535, 22040-6535; (703) 645-8060; website: www.TheCSE.org; e-mail: thecse@TheCSE.org; Year-round Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m. Healing Serv., followed by Devotional & Message Serv. at 10:30 a.m.; Children's Lyceum 10:00 a.m., Sept. through June; Pastor, Rev. B. Anne Gehman; Asst. Pastor, Rev. Patricia A. Stranahan; Pres., Shelly S. Wooldridge; Secy., Lesley Sand.

NORFOLK - Memorial Spiritualist Church, NSAC • 307 W. 37th St., 23508-3207, (757) 622-5070; website http://www.memorialspiritualistchurch.com; Services held on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Wed. at 7:30 p.m.; Healing available at 10:30 a.m. Sun. and 7:00 p.m. Wed.; Ministers: Rev. Lelia E. Cutler, NST, (757) 480-3799; Rev. Kathleen Cribb, (757) 471-4014; Rev. Carol A. Brown, NST, (757) 826-9652; Pres., Jim Watson; Secy., Ann Marie Croteau; Lyceum Director, Rev. Kathleen Cribb.

• WASHINGTON •

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MILTON - Camp Edgewood, NSAC • 1228 26th Ave Ct, Milton, WA 98354 Ph: (253) 927-2050 / Fax (253) 927-7531. Pres. David Chapman, Sec. Denice Chapman - Email: campedgewood@qwestoffice.net. Please visit our website for information on year-round Development and Educational Classes. http://campedgewood.nsac-churches.org

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• WISCONSIN •

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WONEWOC - Western Wisconsin Camp Association, Inc. NSAC, (Wonewoc Spiritualist Camp) • P.O. Box 187, 53868, (608) 464-7770; Open June-August; Camp website: http://www.campwonewoc.com

• CANADA •

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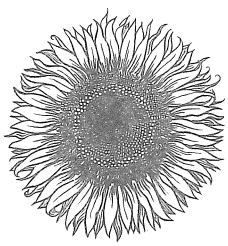
The First Spiritual Church of Montreal • 2186 St. Catherine St. West, Montreal, Quebec, H3H 1M7; English Serv. - Sun. 2:00 p.m. & Wed. 7:30 p.m.; French Serv. - Sun. 4:30 pm., 2nd & 4th Wed. 7:30 p.m; Rev. Mary Amato, Minister, (514) 365-0661.

Spiritualist Church of Canada • 3027 New Street, Burlington, Ontario L7R 1K3; Pres., Rev. James Kinnear; website: www.spiritualistchurchofcanada.com

Spiritualist Society and Gateway Psychic Centre • 1069 Kensington Rd. N.W., Calgary, Alberta T2N 3R2; (403) 270-3341; Pastor, Rev. Karen Voegelie; Sun. Serv. 7:30 p.m. weekly, 11:00 a.m. (2nd & 4th Sundays Only); Weekly Development Circles and Healing/Message Evenings; Website: www.gatewaycentre.ca

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I ask this in all sincerity and honesty and I will do my part.
I ask this great Unseen Healing Force to help both present and absent ones who are in need of help and to restore them to perfect health.
I put my trust in the love and power of God.

The NSAC Healing Center

serving as a Beacon of Light to bring illumination to those in need.

REV. KATHLEEN L. ROTTINO, NST

Spiritual Healing, recognized in many ancient religions, has always been a part of Spiritualism. Today, evidence is growing in the medical community about the importance of spiritual healing. It is now accepted that the whole person needs treatment, not just the illness.

It is easy to send a request for healing prayers for yourself or another. You can send your request through the NSAC site at www.nsac.org by clicking on *Healing* and filling out a form. You can e-mail k.rottino@snet.net, or call 860-642-7976 or write to me at 109 Capitol Drive, Willimantic, CT. 06226 with the name of the person you want healing prayers for.

The NSAC Healing Center has a Healing Booklet that includes the NSAC Healing Prayer explanation and 87 affirmations to guide an individual into uplifting thoughts (which we know are helpful to the healing process). The Healing Booklet is also a wonderful tool to use when teaching a class about spiritual healing. If you are interested in forming a Healing Prayer Group, please contact me and I will forward information to you on how to get started. While there is no charge for this booklet, any donation that is received will help off-set the printing expenses and postage.

You can make a donation to the Healing Center in memory of someone and a letter can be sent to their family, acknowledging your donation.

We all know the power of prayer. Each day, when saying your prayers, please include the names on the NSAC healing list.

Thank you and Healing Blessings,
Rev. Kathleen L. Rottino, NST

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NSAC Healing Center
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Natural Law

THE REV. STEPHANIE FROBESE, NST – Augusta (Maine) Spiritualist Church, NSAC

Natural Law is a subject that dominates the teachings of Spiritualism and is expressed in our Principles:

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

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

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.

We accept Natural Law as the nature of creation expressing itself, and that activity is from the source or our existence, the unseen, the creator of all that is. We need to understand these natural laws in order to live a life in harmony with that creative force. We know how well we are doing at that by how happy or unhappy we are. If we are unhappy we are not observing the natural order. If we go with the flow of life, of nature, we will be happy.

When you start to think about the question, "What are these Natural Laws?" it can be kind of mind boggling. There are so many "laws on the books." We humans do have a way of complicating any subject we get into. But Natural Law is simple; it is demonstrated all around us all the time. It is the "phenomena of nature" we speak of in our second principle and it is constantly in motion, always active. There's a law right there – The Law of Motion.

We are constantly in motion, going here and there – always moving. Even when we perceive ourselves to be in a state of rest, all the mechanics of our physical body continue to function – to move. As we sit in a quiet place to meditate, it would appear that all is still, but the planet is rotating as it orbits around the sun – imperceptible to us. We sit at the tip of a swirling vortex we call The Milky Way, which is also constantly spinning around some unknown center believed to be a Black Hole. Our tiny solar system is only one of millions, perhaps billions of spirals constantly turning within our galaxy. And our galaxy is but one of perhaps another million or billion spinning throughout the Universe. Wheels within wheels turning throughout the vast space we call the Universe.

The Law of Vibration is one that I always had a hard time getting my mind around, especially the concept of raising my vibration and Spirit lowering their vibration so that we could communicate. The Law of Vibration is intricately linked to The Law of Motion. Everything is in motion; everything vibrates because it is in motion. I knew this vibrational thing happened, but didn't quite get the mechanics of it. What I did understand was the concept in that 1960's tune, "Good Vibrations." If something or someone made you feel good, the vibration was good. If something or someone made you feel bad, the vibration was bad. Now I understand that it isn't about good or bad; it simply means our vibration is different and we do not resonate well when combined – we don't harmonize. And how do you feel when you are out of harmony with your situation or someone around you – unhappy. We have the power to bring about the harmony needed by changing our thoughts and feelings about a situation or person, or we can remove ourselves from it/them.

Doesn't this play right into The Law of Attraction? We are attracted to that which vibrates, resonates, and harmonizes with our vibration. This doesn't apply to just people either - our interests, our environment, the music we enjoy, our taste in dress, art, food – all the things that make us happy in life vibrate with us. Now to me, the Laws of Attraction and Magnetism are the same law, only one is demonstrated physically and one spiritually, as we state in Principle 2.

While the Law of Attraction is more of a mental, emotional and spiritual process, the Law of Magnetism is very concrete and physical in nature. It can be easily observed and duplicated in the laboratory. It is the magnetic fields around our planet that protect the Earth from the harmful rays that are moving all through outer space. As Spiritualists, we learn the technique of expanding our aura – the magnetic field around our bodies – to protect us from negative energies and to keep us happy and healthy,

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Steps To Growing A Church-Community

A Step-By-Step Guide

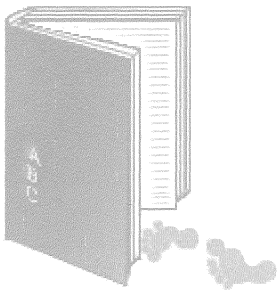
THE REV. DREW VOGT – Celebrate Life Spiritualist Community – San Francisco, CA

Inch by inch, anything's a cinch!

1. Start with useful classes and home circles. Attract new persons through word of mouth, advertising (Craig's List), special events, social events (potlucks), workshops, etc.

2. The type of community. Begin sensing what type of community people are needing/wanting. Is it the type that you as a leader or founder want to participate in for many years? Will your group have a theme or special purpose?

3. Vision Setting & Brainstorming sessions. When the idea of becoming a legal non-profit church-community is birthed, let it grow naturally with Spirit's input. Do this by holding Vision Setting meetings and Brainstorming sessions for just one hour each per month. Invite whoever is interested in attending to participate.



The Vision Setting meetings begin with a prayer, meditation, and people are prompted to ask what Spirit and Infinite-God sees as the emerging vision/purpose of the group. The Brainstorming sessions also start with a prayer and meditation, but then participants are asked to creatively come up with what the emerging organization will be like, how it will work, what it will do, where it might be, what it will feel like, etc.

After the church gets started, Vision Setting planning needs to be done with the input of the Board and Pastoral Committee. This Vision Setting process will include defining short term, midterm, and long term goals, as well as the motto, mission statement, and logo.

4. Commitment. As the relationships grow and the ideas for the new group emerge, begin to solicit people's level of commitment. Do they really want this new group to legally organize, and why? Which ones will commit to creating it? Which ones will become the first Board members? These are the influential ones who will set the tone and culture that will last for decades.

5. Consistent Meeting/Marketing: When you have a group commitment, launch a regular meeting, for example, on Sunday or Wednesday, whenever most of your people are likely to meet. (It could be just once/twice per month. See NSAC requirements prior to Chartering.) This may draw some attendees away from classes or home circles, but you need this step to begin to *show* everyone what they can build together.

This public meeting is the "sample" that whets their appetite as to how good and innovative it can become. This is where you could have live music, guided meditations, spiritual healing, guest speakers, fresh flowers and need-filling exercises. These meetings should be short, upbeat, and packed with interesting parts. For most contemporary audiences, this is the place where they get the message that *this is not your father's church—we're contemporary!*

Focus on inviting students and the general public—not people from other churches. Positive growth for Spiritualism is achieved when we bring people in who are *unchurched* (not transfers from existing Spiritualist churches). In our church, we've had good responses from listing our events on Craig's List. In those postings, we can also include a link to our website! Specialize in meeting peoples' needs with positive, optimistic programs and upbeat music. If you bore them, they'll stay home; if you feed them spiritual food, they will come!

Support your ideas and building strategies by reading from those who have already been successful at it. Two of the best books on the subject are as follows: *The Purpose Driven Church* by Rick Warren and *Your Church Has a Fantastic Future* by Robert H. Schuller. (These both have a Christian tone, but the concepts are universal and applicable, especially to a modern culture.) The NSAC bookstore has an excellent 20 page

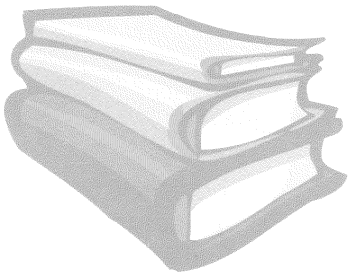
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booklet called, *Marketing Your Church*, by Robert Egby.

6. Attractive Brochure. This one page or tri-fold brochure is used at the regular meeting and contains the following elements: A) General program outline, B) The NSAC Principles, C) A brief, upbeat Welcome that introduces the group's intention to the public and what Spiritualism is about, how it will benefit them, etc. Make it simple and well-crafted. D) Contact info, i.e. who's in charge, phone numbers, emails, website address, etc. E) Class and Home Circles listed. F) Mission Statement. (A tri-fold template is available in MS Word, or email Drew Vogt for one.)

This brochure will serve three general purposes. It serves as:

A) General program for the regular meeting,
B) An invitation to advertise the meetings, classes, and circles,
C) An invitation in the classes and circles to the meeting.



7. State Fund. Since your group doesn't legally exist, you won't yet have a non-profit bank account. It may be possible for your State Spiritualist Association to set up a fund to which you can make deposits from your growing offerings. This will give you a fund from which you can request reimbursements for operating expenses such as rent, musicians, flowers, printing, etc. Set up an agreement with the state association to return all unused funds when you receive your charter. At this beginning stage of your group, *the leadership sets the tone on the subject of abundance*, prosperity, and generosity. If you teach and live it, the money will flow. Don't be cheap if you don't have to be...do things well, attractively, and professionally! For example, use professional musicians and fresh flowers whenever possible!

8. Creating the Board. Determine who will serve in what capacity on the board. During this incubation time, it is most important for the visionaries, founders, and prospective board members to be of like-minds. Their foundation should be in love, service, and with an understanding of the Law of Attraction. The person functioning as the primary spiritual leader (usually a minister) should set this standard by being an example, and while teaching it, demonstrate this in the meetings, classes, etc. Without this sure foundation, the group will not be ready.

9. Request from NSAC office the following: Instructions on how to Charter a church-society, a sample copy of church Bylaws, copy of NSAC bylaws.

10. Bylaws: Begin crafting them realizing that they will help set in "stone" a culture of how your group will operate. Consult with successful, experienced ministers for their advice. Many aspects of church bylaws are required by law, others are merely customary or inherited—thus changeable based on what you want to create. Know the difference. In your bylaws you will want to make sure the church roles and functions are clearly outlined, and should divide the administrative from the spiritual, like this: The Board of Directors handles all business and administrative functions. The Pastoral Board /Committee handles all spiritual functions, classes, services, counseling, etc. The Board should NOT manage the spiritual functions of the church. This mistake is the demise of many churches.

11. The Role of Senior Pastor. The Senior Pastor and the Pastoral Committee are solely responsible for the spiritual functioning of the church, and only accountable to the Board regarding administrative, legal, operational, and financial issues. If your church is starting with only one pastor, he/she can immediately assemble a small committee of those who want to become Ministers, Mediums, and Healers. They should be encouraged to start the Morris Pratt courses whether they want to get credentialed or not, so that they have a full understanding of Modern Spiritualism and what Laws and Principles are involved with their *service to the community.*

All credentialed members should have a role, or voice on this committee, and as soon as possible the Senior Pastor should select or elect an Assistant Pastor. This person should possess the highest moral and ethical standards, as well as leadership abilities, because this is the person who most likely would be the stand-in Pastor if the Senior Pastor moves away, becomes ill, or makes his/her transition.

12. The Name: The group will need to decide upon a name that conveys the essence of the group to the public. This legal name for chartering and incorporation purposes will probably be longer and more official sounding than the shorter name people will usually refer to it as. It is important to solicit

Continued...

everyone's input on this. But it should be a Board decision because you'll be living with the name for many years. The essence of the name should be attractive and fresh so that strangers and *the general public will like it when they hear it—before* they know what you stand for! Be aware of the culture and demographic you're working within, and strive to be "current" or contemporary to reach a modern audiences. Be careful of words that may sound old-fashioned, such as society, fraternal, etc. Merely naming yourself a Spiritualist Church could be off-putting and exclusive in nature because it denotes being *for Spiritualists* not the general public (especially since most of the public do not consider themselves Spiritualists). For example, a sign that reads "Baptist Church" is interpreted by the general public as "that's the church for *Baptists*; I'm not one, it's their church."

> As soon as a name is chosen, select a color and font type to convey your name. Do this carefully, as some font types appear cold, old-fashioned, aloof, etc. The font and manner in which your name is printed should convey the "look and feel" of your essence. Always solicit the advice of professional graphic designers! If you don't look professional to our modern, educated audience, do you think they'll want to be a part of it?

13. Announcement: Announce the name and launching of the new church-community and that Charter Membership is now open. Make it clear *what* this new group will be, *how* it will be a spiritual family, and what *benefits* the members will receive.

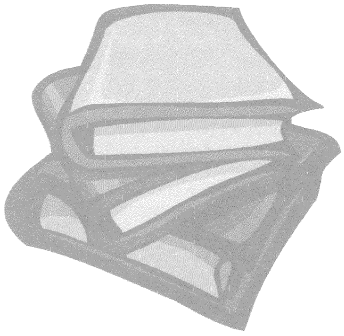
14. Charter Members. You need 15 Charter Members to apply for a NSAC charter. Sign up only those who sincerely want to launch this for humanity and for Spirit. Let love and the Law of Attraction bring the "right ones" to you. Have no concern about the number, just the quality. Be interested in those who want to build community over time. This is a time of learning to trust each other, communicate effectively, and being willing to work together as team members. Ego issues may emerge, and this is the rich time to learn how to address them, and to love one another through the process.

15. Charter Package. When the Charter Application is ready with required documents, bylaws, etc. send it to your State Spiritualist Association for approval. They will then approve it, and send it to the NSAC office.

16. When this is happening, begin your State incorporation application process. (i.e. the State of California, Virginia, etc.).

17. Securing the name. When your name is approved and you're incorporated at the State level, secure the name on the internet by purchasing the domain name before someone else does. You might also want to purchase additional similar versions of the name.

18. Build excitement and interest while the Charter is processing. When your charter receives preliminary approval from the NSAC you can set a date for the official Charter Ceremony. Give yourself enough time to make this a wonderful, memorable event! *Remember, everything you do at these beginning stages sets a precedent for the future.* These beginning events give the initial public perception of what you're about, determines who you will attract—and they will attract the people upon which your church community is founded.

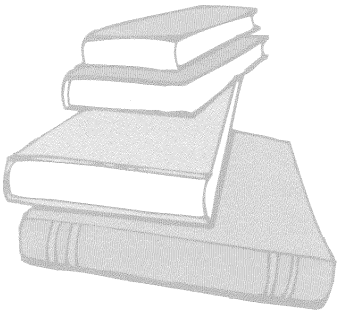


19. Invite Everyone. Your Charter Ceremony is your first opportunity to create a community event for everyone, not just Spiritualists. This Ceremony announces to your area that you exist—and have wonderful goals to empower and assist. Since this Charter ceremony is a celebration of your fantastic launching, you may opt not to take up a love offering. We announced that ushers at the exits would have offering baskets available for donations. You might also wish to have the evening professionally photographed, and or digitally recorded for video clips or a DVD to be used for future public relations, advertising, etc. Consider inviting the Religion Editors from your local papers, and other key officials.

20. Classes & Services: When you get into the routine of your weekly classes and services, embrace change and flexibility. Be strong and flexible while consistent in meeting people's needs. This will be easy to remember, if you let this be your motto: *People first, process second!* If your welcoming style is open to getting to know the people, you'll learn who they are, what talents and assets they bring forward and HOW you can put them to work for Spirit—in your new community.

Continued...

Invite respected leaders in your area to speak at your programs. If they aren't inclined to give a talk, they might give a power point presentation, or be interviewed for a few minutes about their project. A focus night on health and wellness is of broad appeal. Welcoming local leaders will show that you're open to new people. Don't wait for people to become members before you get them involved. Asking people to assist on a one time basis is a great way to grease the skids for their possible future involvement. Appreciation for what they're offering can help draw them in, and show that your church community is a safe and healthy place where they can grow. As soon as you have regular meetings of the Board or new members, you can start the planning process for a website (see #23 below).



21. New Members & Involvement. When new members join, make their Admission into Membership a special, spiritual part of the program. If someone is overly shy about doing this in front of the congregation, they can do this in private with the Pastoral Staff and Board present. Every new member needs to be given a volunteer task to do in the church. This allows them to A) Immediately take ownership of the church, B) Feel needed and a sense of giving back, C) Integrated/Connected to others as a team or partnership, D) Create new relationships that help them feel invested and spiritually fed.

Their volunteer positions should be what they desire to do, based upon their choice, their interests/talents, and/or growth areas where they want to grow. No one should ever volunteer where they don't feel inclined to do so. Pressure or coercion is totally unacceptable. For those taking Morris Pratt, they might immediately be interested in accepting a position that involves their area of interest, i.e. Healing, assisting the Pastors, etc.

22. Positions/Roles: Your new church is starting a NEW church culture, which new members will learn as they start attending. For church roles or functions, we never use the words which are so common in other churches, such as "work, worker, job, serve, " etc. The connotation is not friendly and suitable for church roles that come from the heart. Besides, "work" usually is not something people want to do outside of their regular job.

23. Key Founding Principles to Incorporate: Of course your new church is based on classic, pure Spiritualism. And what else? What does your church feel like based upon the emotional atmosphere and dominant topics? When our church was in the formation process, we agreed on three key principles that we wanted to embrace, with the understanding that if we made them our "dominant topics" we'd be a success for sure. The three are:

A) **The Law of Attraction—If our new culture is grounded in the Law of Attraction, everyone will be empowered to create the life and spirituality of their dreams.**

B) **Prosperity & Abundance—These create a culture of generosity, divine flow, and optimism. Although we do not teach the Judeo-Christian concept of Tithing 10%, we can teach folks to make a monthly commitment based upon their income and comfort level. People tend to give more generously when they know specifically where and how their money is being used. They are moved to generosity when they're excited about making a difference in their community or world. Folks who are extra generous should receive thank you cards, from at least a Board representative, preferably the Pastor or President.**

C) **Love—Love sets the most important foundation in place, without which, there's no need for a church! Make Love the most important aspect of your community. In this family-like atmosphere, people not only feel loved, they feel respected, supported, and cared for. In this atmosphere one of the most important Spiritualist principles is intact: The Golden Rule. Rather than being recited, this principle is being modeled. Herein there is no room for gossip, backbiting, or passive-aggressive behaviors. Herein is a climate conducive for healthy relationships, forgiveness, open communication, and conflict resolution.**

24. Website: As soon as you have a Board in-place, you are ready to delegate someone to start the website construction. This person or team should be tech-savvy. The website will not go public until the

Continued...

Natural Law *Continued from page 29...*

demonstrating our 7th principle. And isn't it interesting how the Law of Magnetism plays into the Law of Attraction by creating *polar opposites*. Isn't that how the dynamics of a loving relationship between sentient beings has worked throughout history? Opposites attract, just as like attracts like.



The Law of Polarity is the result of the play of the positive and negative forces of nature. When you merge two positive forces or two negative forces there is no energy. But when you merge the positive and the negative you have energy, electricity is the classic example. Scientists have taught us that the polarity of our planet is caused by the dense elements of iron and nickel at the center of the planet becoming electrified by the motion of the planet which in turn results in the magnetic fields being generated around our planet. But just as there is physical electricity, there is spiritual electricity that happens between people, or when a situation sparks that reservoir of happiness from deep within us, I call that electricity Spirit. Another example of that spiritual electricity is how thoughts of love and joy deep within us can energize our spirit and enable us to perform magnetic healing on others.

The concept of negative and positive leads us then to The Law of Duality. North – South, male – female, light – dark, spirit – matter are all polar opposites. The old concept of good or bad being the driving force in our lives can be transmuted and transformed into the understanding that we are just different, we vibrate at a different rate and so sometimes are not harmonious. Differences, The Law of Diversity, also play a role in the symphony of Natural Law playing out all around and about us. Differences that are physical, emotional, mental and spiritual can cause a great deal of disharmony and unhappiness in our lives unless we can change our perspective and see them as different vibrations rather than as good or bad.

And that, I believe, is part of our journey on this path of progression we are all traveling. We progress in material ways through our physical being from infancy to old age. We progress in our emotional being by accepting who we are and what our relationship is to those who touch our lives. We progress mentally by seeking knowledge and developing wisdom. So we come around, full circle through some of the Laws of nature, back to the Law of Motion, or as one of my teachers would express that First and Last Law – The Law of Progression. The song written by Alan & Marilyn Bergman & Michel Legrand for the movie, *The Thomas Crown Affair,* plays in my mind when I think of these things.

Like a circle in a spiral,
Like a wheel within a wheel,
Never ending or beginning,
On an ever spinning reel....

Like the circles that you find
In the windmills of your mind![1]

[1] *Theme from "The Thomas Crown Affair," 1968*
Words & Music by Alan & Marilyn Bergman & Michel Legrand
Recorded by Dusty Springfield, 1969

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Steps To Growing... *Continued...*

Board and Pastor have approved it. Later, when you have a Marketing or Public Relations team in place, they, not the Board, will approve and maintain the site. The website will need to convey the essence and feel of your church, which is also conveyed in your name and logo.

25. Branding: Find an experienced professional to facilitate this branding process with the Board and Pastoral Committee. This process is dependent on the results from the initial Visioning process (see #3) and integrates your community's look and feel, logo, motto, mission statement, signage, printed brochures, etc. They all need to work together and carry the consistent "message" of who you are, and what you're offering.

26. Let Spirit Guide. We teach spirit guidance. Now, as a new church, model it. Seek Spirit's guidance on your plans, decisions, and on how to make a difference. More and more we are living in a global society, not one of exclusivity and division. If we are to share Modern Spiritualism in order to make a positive difference in our communities, we must first be modern. Then be open to change, and ask and follow Spirit's guidance. This requires humility, flexibility and commitment. In this way, you will make a difference!

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www.OurCelebration.org www.DrewVogt.org

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Dr. Raymond Moody – A Modern Day Pioneer

ERNEST LEARD – Memorial Spiritualist Church, NSAC – Norfolk, VA



Dr. Raymond Moody

Researcher Dr. Raymond Moody is the guest speaker at this year's convention in Houston. He will be delivering a presentation on *Psychomanteum* as the major part of his address to the NSAC membership.

Dr. Moody's initial work was as a physician and as a psychiatrist. In the course of working with his patients, he began to collect stories of individuals who had experienced clinical death, but had been resuscitated. These people had reported going through an otherworldly experience, which he named the "near-death experience", or NDE. Though not all the patients reported experiencing the same things, there was an amazing consistency between the reports. Many reported real, physical facts or observations which indicated both that the patients had retained their "consciousness" while they were clinically dead and that they were being truthful in what they described.

The elements of a near-death experience as enumerated by Dr. Moody include:

- a feeling of peace and painlessness,
- having an out-of-body experience,
- feeling of traveling through a tunnel,
- feeling of rising into the heavens,
- seeing people, often dead relatives,
- meeting a spiritual being, such as God,
- feeling a reluctance to return to life,
- upon returning, feeling a need to do more, to live a more spiritual, more meaningful life, to help others learn and grow.

Dr. Moody was so struck by these reports that he began to focus much of his energy on this phenomena. He published the first of his work results in 1975, in a book titled *Life After Life.* In addition to his work on NDE's, Dr. Moody has also researched past-life regression.

Unlike Spiritualists Sir Oliver Lodge and Prof. J. S. Loveland, Dr. Moody did not begin his work as a Spiritualist, but as a scientist who observed some interesting phenomena which he thought deserved further exploration. Later he eventually became convinced that his observations were valid and, indeed, groundbreaking. In the conclusion of his book, Dr. Moody acknowledged that his work was only anecdotal, and not scientific, and he encouraged others to follow up his work with more rigorous, scientific studies of the near-death experience.

In a separate, but related, paranormal effort, Dr. Moody created what he called the *Psychomanteum.* For this work, he is less well-known. Basically, the *Psychomanteum* is quite similar to a medium's cabinet—a small, darkened room in which a seated individual can focus on a large mirror for an extended period, usually resulting in experiencing fleeting images, symbols, faces, etc. It appears likely that the *Psychomanteum* facilitates the development of an altered state, making a person more sensitive to psychic phenomena. What a person experiences, as a result, is very similar to scrying or clairvoyance.

Some 15 years after Dr. Moody published *Life After Life,* Dr. Melvin Morse, a pediatrician and an intensive care physician, had observed similar experiences. Dr. Morse's interest in NDE's was also prompted by conversations with his patients. His research included studying Moody's work, and deciding to take up Moody's challenge to conduct more rigorous, scientific studies. Dr. Morse's work basically substantiated Dr. Moody's earlier findings, and resulted in the publication of a 1990 book titled *Closer to the Light.* Another major researcher working today on NDE's, particularly those involving children, is P. M. H. Atwater, who has published a number of books on the subject.

A large, international study into NDE events called *AWARE* was announced last fall, involving hospitals in Britain, the U. S., and Canada. It will run for three years and will involve 1500 survivors, to see if people with no heartbeat or brain activity can have out-of-body experiences.

There are two reasons why I write about Dr. Moody and NDE events. First, I want to give you an introduction to Dr. Moody prior to his presentations at this fall's 2009 NSAC convention. Second, I want to raise a question for your consideration. The Morris Pratt Institute Correspondence Course on Modern Spiritualism discusses out-of-body experiences and comments that they are similar to, or related to, NDE's, but it doesn't say much more than that. When I reviewed this material, the question that came to my mind was, "Shouldn't we, shouldn't Spiritualism, put

Continued on page 38...

MEDIA WATCH

BY THE REVS. TOM AND LISA BUTLER, NST



The Explaining Religion Project (EXREL) is a three-year interdisciplinary research initiative that seeks to understand both what is universal and cross-culturally variant in religious traditions as well as the cognitive mechanisms that undergird religious thinking and behavior. The project, funded by a two million Euro European Commission grant, is large-scale and ambitious in scope, integrating the world's leading centres for psychological, biological, anthropological and historical research on religion. There are fourteen universities involved with Professor Harvey Whitehouse, of the University of Oxford, coordinating the effort. One interesting sub-project being done by Florian Kiessling and Josef Perner is investigating afterlife concepts and the ways in which behavior is modified when actions take place in the presence of supernatural agents.

The following advertisement for a radio interview with Harvey Whitehouse on the Canadian Broadcast Corporation this past December sure caught our attention. "Have you ever been all by yourself, yet had the distinct feeling that you're not alone? Or communicated—somehow—with a loved one who has passed away? Or knew in your gut that your favorite team would only win if you wore the right shirt? If so, it's true, you're not alone. A new breed of anthropologist, armed with research into cognition and neuroscience, thinks all human beings are predisposed to this kind of intuition. And that may help explain why disparate cultures from opposite ends of the earth seem to arrive at strikingly similar conclusions when it comes to religion and spiritual beliefs; from the prevalence of creation myths to ideas about life after death. ..."

From: www.cam.ox.ac.uk/ Photograph is of Harvey Whitehouse and is taken from the University of Oxford website.

Baylor Study on Religious Practices • A survey done by Baylor University of 1,648 adults revealed that a significant majority of people are comfortable with the supernatural. Participants were asked 350 questions on their religious practice. Half of those surveyed believe that they are protected by guardian angels, one-fifth said they've heard God speak to them, one-quarter said they have witnessed miraculous healings, sixteen percent said that they had received one and eight percent said that they prayed in tongues. Researchers also said that the supposed 'new atheism' that everyone seemed to think was taking place was barely discernable and that the number of atheists in America had stayed at four percent since 1944.

From: *Washington Times* "Half of Americans believe in angels," by Julia Duin
http://washingtontimes.com/news/2008/sep/19/half-of-americans-believe-in-angels/

Living in a Death Denying Society is Costly • Terminally ill patients who talk over end-of-life treatments with their doctors spend less money and do not die any sooner but die more peacefully than those receiving aggressive care, researchers say. Patients who have the discussion tend to opt for cheaper palliative care in a hospice or at home rather than costly treatments like emergency resuscitation, ventilators to breathe for them and movement to a hospital's intensive care unit. The goal of palliative care is to relieve suffering rather than to halt progression or cure the disease. If half of the estimated 566,000 American adult cancer patients who died in 2008 had the end-of-life discussion, the projected savings would conservatively be $77 million, according to a report published in the *Archives of Internal Medicine.*

From Discussing end-of-life care lowers cost: U.S. Study By Andrew Stern
http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20090309/hl_nm/us_usa_dying_1

Magnetic Fields and Our Health • Many animals can sense the Earth's magnetic field, so why not people, asks Oleg Shumilov of the Institute of North Industrial Ecology Problems in Russia. Shumilov looked at activity in the Earth's geomagnetic field from 1948 to 1997 and found that it grouped into three seasonal peaks every year: one from March to May, another in July and the last in October. Surprisingly, he also found that the geomagnetism peaks matched up with

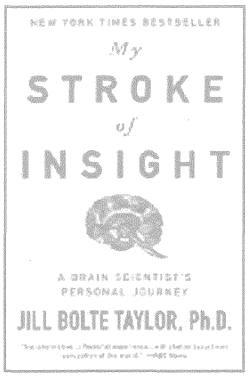
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peaks in the number of suicides in the northern Russian city of Kirovsk over the same period.

There are several other studies suggesting a link between human health and geomagnetism. A 2006 review of research on cardiovascular health and disturbances in the geomagnetic field by Michael Rycroft in the journal, *Surveys in Geophysics,* concluded that a link was possible and that the effects seemed to be more pronounced at high latitudes. Rycroft believes geomagnetic-induced health problems may affect ten to fifteen percent of the population. In 1994, a study was published suggesting a 36.2% increase in the number of men admitted into hospital for depression in the second week after geomagnetic storms.

From: *The New Scientist,* www.newscientist.com

Stroke of Insight: • Jill Bolte Taylor is a Harvard-trained brain researcher who had a rare form of stroke that shut down the left hemisphere of her brain. For months, she was unable to talk, walk, read, write or recall events of her life but the stroke also shut down and silenced the mental chatter leaving her in a state of bliss. Taylor, forty-nine, has regained full brain function but is convinced that the stroke was the best thing that could have happened to her. It has taught her that the feeling of nirvana is never more than a mere thought away. She writes that "By stepping to the right of our left brains, we can all uncover the feelings of well-being and peace that are so often sidelined by our own brain chatter." She says that "When you pay attention to the richness of the present moment you are in 'right-minded awareness.' The left brain is preoccupied with past and future, projecting fears and contemplating ideas that aren't relevant to the here and now. Once you realize you have these two different brains, you can learn to choose, moment by moment, how you want to live." Taylor has written *My Stroke of Insight* (Viking, 2008).



From: AARP November/December 2008

Brain to Brain Telepathy • Robert A. Charman writes that findings in studies in which "sender" and "receiver" brains have been brought into similar mode of functioning when their owner engage in meditation and/or when there is a sense of mutual empathic rapport, including the healer/healee mindset, have shown that sudden surprise stimulation of one brain will "evoke" a similar response in the non-stimulated brain as recorded by EEG. This response is not blocked by screening out electromagnetic (em) radiation, nor when the "receiver" brain is subjected to intense Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) fields. Any explanation of brain to brain telepathy based upon em radiation seems unlikely, because brains are very low-powered bioelectrical systems. Their faint magnetic field is far too weak to affect an adjacent brain let alone a brain in another room. If brain "transmission" and "reception" by radio waves is not the agent, then some other means of communication must be, and the answer must lie in some unsuspected and therefore unexplored, property or source.

From *Paranormal Review* April 2008 Issue 46 "Psi, Sigh, and Psi Again" by Robert A. Charman

Stress Delays Healing • A study at Ohio State University in Columbus showed that small wounds created before a big exam took forty percent longer to heal than identical wounds created during summer vacations. Another study published in 2005 in the *Archives of General Psychiatry* showed that wounds of the same shape, size and depth that were experimentally induced in couples, healed much faster if the couples were loving toward each other rather than hostile. So if you are ill or injured, you should welcome those who reach out to you. And if you know someone who is ill, realize that your love can help them heal.

From: AARP, November/December 2008, "Putting Your Mind To It," by Julie K. Silver, M.D

Pre-Conference talk on Survival • The Institute of Noetic Sciences (IONS) held its thirteenth International Conference in Tucson, Arizona on June 17-21st. As part of the pre-conference Dr. Dean Radin, IONS Senior Scientist, and Dr. Julie Beischel, Director of Research at Windbridge Institute for Applied Human Potential, gave a presentation titled *Survival of Consciousness: A Matter of Life and Death.* They described recent advances in mediumship research methods and attendees had the opportunity to participate in a demonstration with certified research mediums.

From:
http://ionsconference.org/2009/sites/default/files/IONS_2009ConferenceBrochure.pdf, www.windbridge.org/

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It's what you learn after you know it all that counts.
– John Wooden

What happened in SEPTEMBER *throughout the years?*

SEPTEMBER 3, 1967

Arthur Ford appeared on television in a séance with Bishop Pike.

SEPTEMBER 5, 1860

Wilberforce Juneval Colville was born during a shipping voyage between Europe and America. After hearing a lecture offered by Cora L.V. Tappan in 1874, he immediately established his own communication style with spirit at the very young age of 14. As soon as he was of legal age, he began traveling, lecturing and was widely known for his excellent physical phenomena mediumship. He made his transition in 1917.

SEPTEMBER 7

Labor Day honors United States workers who have dedicated their lives to building the country that we hold so near and dear. THANK YOU!

SEPTEMBER 8, 1826

Marion H. Johnson Skidmore grew up in Laona, New York. Her father was involved in some of the earliest investigations of the "new movement" and he practiced mesmerism. After marrying Thomas J. Skidmore in 1854, they settled in Lily Dale, New York where *The Marion H. Skidmore Library* stands as a testimony to her life work in Spiritualism.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1950

Elizabeth Harlow Goetz made her transition after devoting more than 50 years to Spiritualism, including serving as a NSA Trustee.



SEPTEMBER 11

The Rev. Lelia E. Cutler celebrates her birthday. Her wise and generous nature, combined with dedicated professionalism, gifts our organization in her current role as NSAC President. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

SEPTEMBER 14

Elsie Butler Bunts was born in 1885, and made her transition in 1980. Her long life included dedication to the written word to promote Spiritualism. In 1945 she began the *Lyceum Spotlight* and remained as Editor until 1972.

SEPTEMBER 27

National Spiritualist Association was founded in 1893 in Chicago, Illinois.

SEPTEMBER 29

On this date in 1903 the ***Morris Pratt Institute*** opened as a school of learning. Incorporated on December 11, 1901, the *Institute*, under the leadership of Moses Hull, opened after Morris Pratt's transition in 1902. The *Morris Pratt Institute* has served as an effective training platform for Spiritualist workers and leaders for more than a century.

Success is not the result of spontaneous combustion. You must first set yourself on fire.
– Fred Shero

Dr. Raymond Moody... *Continued from page 35...*

more emphasis on NDE as a part of its beliefs and teachings?" Spiritualism seeks to demonstrate the Continuity of Life, primarily through spirit communication. Near-death experiences appear to be another form of psychic phenomena: one that can give us direct, first-hand proof of the truth of the Continuity of Life, based on the statements of individuals whose consciousness has survived physical death while observing various aspects of what awaits us after we cross over.

In closing, I would like to pose one additional point for you to consider. The last element of an NDE is the feeling of a need to live a different kind of life, a more spiritual life, in a manner that might bring knowledge and insight to others. If you went through a near-death experience and came back, how would you live your life differently? What would you do with the extra time you had been given? Why not start now?

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What happened in OCTOBER *throughout the years?*

OCTOBER 1

American **Dr. Henry Slade** was brought to trial for fraud in England in 1876. As a physical phenomena medium, Dr. Slade had some difficult experiences. He travelled throughout European capitals giving demonstrations of slate writings and materializations. He had many staunch supporters throughout his life and made his transition in Michigan in 1905.

OCTOBER 4-9

2009 NSAC Convention in Houston, Texas. SEE Y'ALL THERE!

OCTOBER 6

The Rev. Joseph H. Merrill, born in 1903, was presented with the *Lifetime Service Award.* Rev. Merrill served as the 6th NSAC President, 1973-1994.

OCTOBER 6

Elizabeth Lowe Watson was born in 1843. She was an inspirational speaker and writer and a poet. She was fondly called *The Silver-Tongued Orator of the Golden Gate.*

OCTOBER 7

Margaretta (Maggie) Fox Kane was born in 1837 in Concedan-Ontario, Canada. She lived 55 years, and became well-known, along with her younger sister Catherine, for communication with the spirit of a murdered peddler named Charles B. Rosna. The sisters' experiences were instrumental in the founding of Modern Spiritualism, which they continued to serve throughout their lives.



OCTOBER 8

Happy Birthday to our NSAC Vice-President, **The Rev. Catherine Snell.** Please wish her HAPPY BIRTHDAY during our 2009 NSAC Houston Convention.

OCTOBER 25

On-I-Set Wigwam Spiritualist Camp was incorporated in 1893 after two years of planning. The camp was erected to "the memory of the Redmen" and continues to remain active.

OCTOBER 30

Robert Bas, who was affectionately known as Arthur Ford's personal medium, was born in 1923. His life was short with his transition happening in 1971.



Individual character, warmth and personality gain shape through love, discipline and ideas. It is the quality and quantity of these three things that mold each life and forge it into the spark of uniqueness that will last throughout eternity.

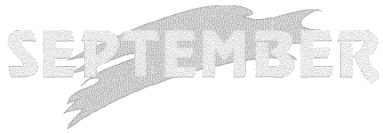
Otto Schuh – TNS, 1976



Create the best for yourself and for others. Every thought is a basis toward all progress or all retrogression, all success or all failure, that which is desirable or undesirable in our lives. It is the deep thinkers who really move the world.

Ralph W. Emerson

2009 Quotes to Bless Each Day SEPTEMBER 2009

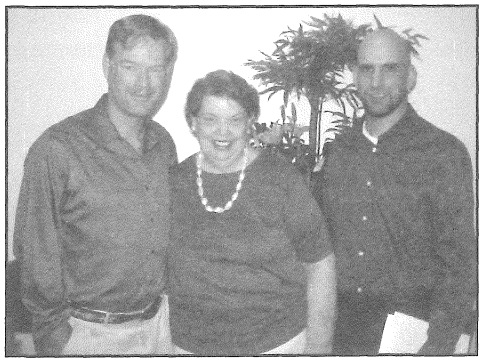
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		**1** Great men are they who see that the spiritual is stronger than any material force. *Ralph W. Emerson*	**2** Start the day with a song and keep it all day long. *Nancy Ashworth*	**3** The purpose of life...is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost...without fear for newer and richer experience. *Eleanor Roosevelt*	**4** He who has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices. *St. Teresa of Avila*	**5** Only that which is within can we call our own. *Hazrat Inayat Khan*
6 We are thinking, willing, knowing, conscious centers of Life. *Ernest Holmes*	**7** No matter what your work, let it be your own...let it be organic...let it be in your bones and the affluence of heaven and earth shall stream into you. *Ralph W. Emerson*	**8** We are surrounded by, immersed in, and there is flowing through us, a creative Something...call It what you will. *Ernest Holmes*	**9** Appreciation of life itself...being alive...can turn what we call ordinary life into a wonder when we recognize our connection to a spiritual dimension. *Dan Wakefield*	**10** A box is just a box until you make it a present. A life is just a life until you make it yours. Make your life a present. *Nancy Ashworth*	**11** Hold fast to the ethical potential of a life shaped by Spiritualism.	**12** Always remember that we have decades of historical evidence to prove that Spiritualism works.
13 Share your insights into the heart and soul of Spiritualism.	**14** Spiritualism will thrive when we use our independent minds to develop universal goals.	**15** Truth is always hidden. We have to search to find it. *Madam Helena P. Blavatsky*	**16** A Spiritualist relationship requires trust, patience, persistence and a commitment to listen.	**17** Fill your cup full of blessings and offer appreciation for what you are given. *Nancy Ashworth*	**18** Hold the capacity for amazing grace to lead you through life's upheavels.	**19** Spiritualist mentoring is about working together.
20 A problem can be shortened or lengthened depending on your view. *Nancy Ashworth*	**21** God never abandons us, but sometimes we try to abandon God.	**22** Take joy in discovering who you are, where you fit, and where your life's journey is headed.	**23** Searching dialogue and inquiry will continue to strengthen Spiritualism.	**24** As Spiritualists, let us cultivate our capacity for empathy and generosity.	**25** You may not know where to start, or where you will end, but stay on the path and do something.	**26** Walk upright in The Light. *Nancy Ashworth*
27 Darkness can shroud the sun, but nothing can dim Spirit's Light. *Nancy Ashworth*	**28** Constant change and eternal growth are man's natural inheritance. *The Rev. Melvina Hafnrer*	**29** To be more, you have to give more. *Nancy Ashworth*	**30** We do not live with the hope of reward or with the fear of punishment; we live because life is the DIVINE gift of God. *The Rev. Melvina Hafner*			

2009 Quotes to Bless Each Day OCTOBER 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				**1** Everything that we have on the earth and in the land beyond must be earned. *The Rev. Enid S. Smith, Ph.D.*	**2** Quiet people aren't the only ones who don't say much.	**3** All prayer is answered. Don't tell God *how* to answer it. *Edgar Cayce*
4 To gain at the expense of another is to lose. *Glenna Clark*	**5** Just have faith. Then you won't be wasting your years worrying. *Grandma Moses*	**6** We are here to make a difference by bringing balance in a time of distress to our incredible planet. *Mika Sutton*	**7** Prayer irrigates the earth and heart.	**8** If we carry out our free-will towards self-indulgence, unhappiness follows. *Edith Woodruff Gravem*	**9** Life is serious business – it is for spiritual service and self development to become closer to God. *The Rev. Enid S. Smith, Ph.D.*	**10** One cannot run away from fear because fear only follows. *Otto Schuh*
11 Mediumistic phenomena have the stamp of absolute certainty and incontestability, and amply suffice to prove that unknown forces exist outside the ordinary domain of natural philosophy. *Flammarion*	**12** To do more for the world than the world does for you – that's success. *Henry Ford*	**13** I have had many troubles in this life – most of which have never happened. *Mark Twain*	**14** Much of my life's struggle was in correcting the evils of an untrained disposition. *Edwin Booth*	**15** Learn the facts, ascertain what is possible, learn what appears to be wise and right – then DO IT. *Abraham Lincoln*	**16** Prayer enables you to forge a relationship with something you cannot see...but it is truly there. *John Holland*	**17** A single, grateful thought raised to heaven is the most perfect prayer. *G. E. Lessing*
18 All kinds of love are doorways to healing. *Jeanne Achterberg*	**19** I know that besides myself spirits must exist above me, and that truth is in this universe. *Leo Tolstoi*	**20** The person who accepts Spiritualism knows the meaning of life and can live it more abundantly. *Edith Woodruff Gravem*	**21** Through prayer, Divine Source will reach out to your consciousness, your mind and your soul. *John Holland*	**22** There are many in your spiritual family who are available to remind you of what you already know. *Mika Sutton*	**23** May the Sun shine upon you, Love surround you, and the Pure Light within you guide your way.	**24** If the only prayer you say in your whole life is "thank you", that would be enough. *Meister Eckhart*
25 It is the attitude with which you pray that defines the solution. *Abraham*	**26** As a drop of water is one with the ocean, a ray of light with the sun, even so God and man are one in being. *The Rev. Melvena Hafner*	**27** God wants your love, which is the highest form of praise. *John Holland*	**28** I can never perish but shall always exist and have always existed. *Leo Tolstoi*	**29** There is, before everyone, an open door that will lead the seeking soul into the knowledge of truth. *Edith Woodruff Gravem*	**30** History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again. *Maya Angelou*	**31** Spiritualism embodies the premise that man is a dual being; consisting of a physical and a spiritual component.

CALIFORNIA

CELEBRATE LIFE SPIRITUALIST COMMUNITY
San Francisco, CA



L-R: The Rev. Drew Vogt, Pastor of the new Celebrate Life Spiritualist Community, Guest The Rev. Lelia Cutler, NSAC President, Jeremy Damec, CLSC member and Morris Pratt student. While serving the Callifornia State Spiritualist Association convention, The Rev. Lelia Cutler enjoyed a visit to the Celebrate Life Spiritualist Community.

CENTRAL SPIRITUALIST CHURCH
Sacramento, CA



Central Spiritualist Church has been selected for the 2009 Best of Sacramento Award in the Places Of Worship category.

"In recognition of this achievement, this Award has been designed for display in your church. Each year, the US Commerce Association (USCA) identifies companies that we believe have achieved exceptional marketing success in their local community and business category. These are local companies that enhance the positive image of small business through service to their customers and community."

CONNECTICUT

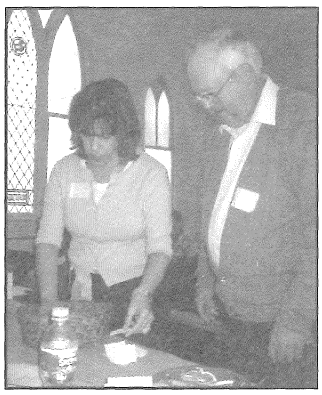
CONNECTICUT STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONVENTION

The CSSA annual convention was held May 2-3, 2009. The Albertson Memorial Church of Spiritualism hosted the convention at their church in Old Greenwich, CT.

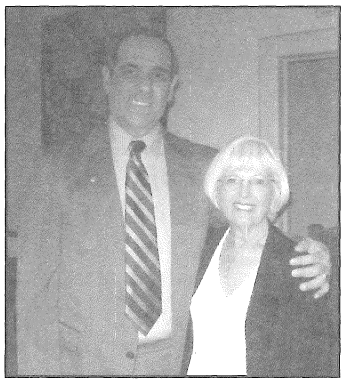
The Rev. Graham Connolly, NST from Maine was the guest speaker. He pointed out to delegates that they should be proud of the fact that the NSA, now the NSAC, asked the already formed CSSA to join their newly formed national organization. 2009 marks the 122nd annual convention for the CSSA and the 117th annual convention for the NSAC.



The Rev. Graham Connelly guest speaker.



Peggi Camosci & Eddie Orcutt, Tellers for elections.



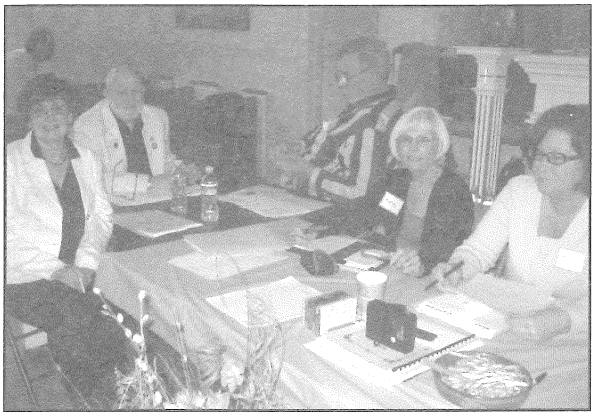
The Rev. Simeon Stefanidakis, Pastor of Albertson Memorial Church of Spiritualism, & The Rev. Kathy Rottino.



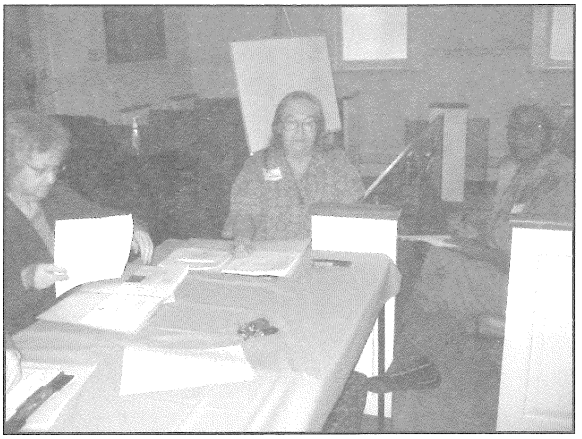
The Rev. Kathy Rottino, Treasurer, Chris Bellamy, Secreatry, The Rev. Lynn Gaffin, President.

Continued...

Connecticut, *Continued...*



Joan Wooster – Trustee, Homer Wooster – Trustee and past President, George Wiley – Vice President, The Rev. Kathy Rottino – Treasurer and Chris Bellamy – Secretary.



Verline Eldridge – Trustee, Kay Weeden – Trustee and The Rev. Jackie Randall – Trustee.

events that evening, making this an extra exciting evening for their family and friends.

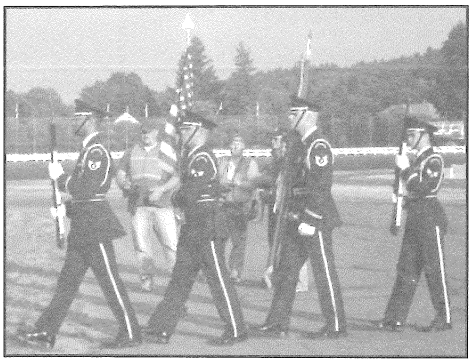


Kelsey Rottino



Kathy Rottino

CONNECTICUT INVOCATION
Stafford, CN



National Guard presenting our Nations' colors.

Hometown NASCAR track for The Rev. Kathy Rottino is the Stafford Motor Speedway in Stafford Springs, Connecticut. It was here on Memorial Day weekend that she delivered the invocation as part of the pre-race celebration leading up to the thrill of watching NASCAR racing under the lights. Her oldest grandson Kelsey Rottino was driving in one of the featured

CONNECTICUT SPIRITUALISTS
Manchester, CN

Connecticut Spiritualists recently had a rare opportunity. They were treated to a private tour to step back in time as they entered the Cheney Homestead in Manchester, Connecticut where some extraordinary phenomena took place in Spiritualism's Connecticut history.



Looking outside from the parlor.

Kate Fox held seances for the Cheney family in the parlor and a conte-crayon portrait of

Continued...

Connecticut, *Continued...*

Kate, drawn by Seth Cheney, is on display. The tour crossed the road to the Great Lawn, where Susan Barlow, our tour guide and historian, described the house where D.D. Home visited in 1852 and was seen levitating twice and then rising up to the ceiling.



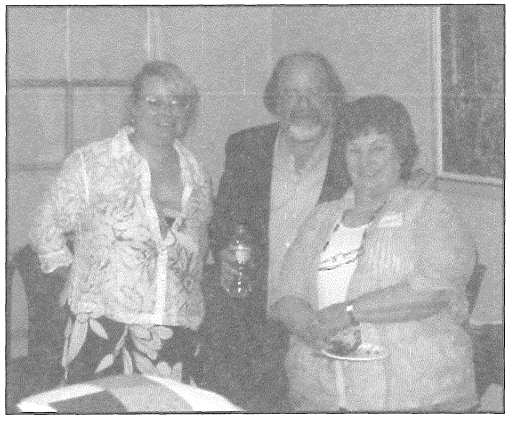
Conti-crayon of Kate Fox.



Pathway on the Great Lawn.

ARIZONA

CHURCH OF THE LIVING SPIRIT
Glendale, AZ

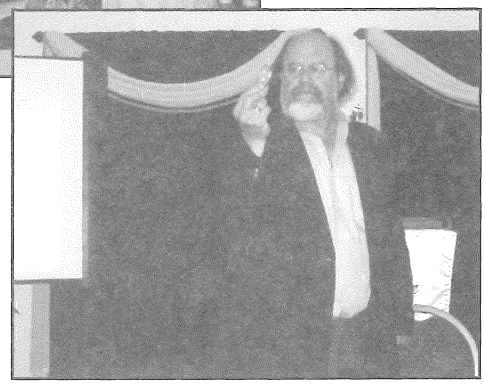


Dr. Gary Schwartz, University of Arizona, with (R) The Rev. Janet Tisdale, and (L) Barbara Nanna.

Dr. Gary Schwartz, NSAC's 2008 keynote convention speaker, presented a popular workshop at the Church of the Living Spirit in Glendale, Arizona recently.



Dr. Gary Schwartz with Linda Chiles.



Dr. Gary Schwartz instructing.

Richard McCarthy of the Church of The Living Spirit, Phoenix/Glendale, Arizona, was ordained on May 17, 2009. The ordination took place at the church, and was performed by The Rev. Janet Tisdale, Pastor. The Rev. McCarthy is a 4th generation Spiritualist who was most influenced by his grandmother, The (late) Rev. Hazel Book of Buffalo, New York. A full gourmet brunch was served to those who attended the ceremony.



Connie McCarthy, The Rev. Richard McCarthy, Havi Richards, The Rev. Janet Tisdale, Saloma Cassens, and Norma Turner.



The Rev. Tisdale and others enjoy brunch after the Ordination ceremony.

Continued...

MAINE



Laura Lee Perkins

TNS EDITOR AWARDED GRANT IN MAINE

***TNS* Editor Laura Lee Perkins** has been chosen to receive the first *Alex Tanous Foundation Grant Award for Scientific Research*. Dr. Alex Tanous was a devoutly religious Maine man who spent his entire life exploring his gift of spiritual connection and receptivity.

In June of 2002, the *Alex Tanous Foundation for Scientific Research* announced a donation to the Rhine Research Center to build The Alex Tanous Research Library. Located in the Rhine Center, the library is a visible accomplishment dedicated to fulfilling Alex's dreams and furthering the mission of the *Alex Tanous Foundation for Scientific Research*. Dr. Alex Tanous believed with all his conviction, and practiced with all his being, that the paranormal exists and will continue to find its way into the fabric of our lives – bringing with it contributions to society that will lend a hand by way of healing, remote viewing, telepathy, and creativity throughout all sectors including education, medicine, and law enforcement.

The Rhine Research Center is a hub for research and education on the basic nature of consciousness. The Center presents a wide range of educational offerings - drawing together and presenting the most interesting and challenging current ideas on the nature and enhancement of consciousness. They present conferences, teach classes, and offer workshops, lectures, study groups, and other events. They conduct careful scientific studies on the para-psychological dimensions of consciousness: the nature of consciousness, its reach, its durability, its power, its healing potential, and the extent of its autonomy and independence of physical constraints.

Laura Lee Perkins used the grant to offer a free spiritual development class in July-August, 2009 for 35 eager participants for seven weeks. An intake questionnaire, carefully-honed spiritual connection exercises (both in-class and at-home), and evaluation tools were included. Laura has been invited to speak at the 2010 September banquet to honor the *Alex Tanous Foundation's* 20th Anniversary. Laura lives in Maine (summer) and Arizona (winter).

TEMPLE HEIGHTS SPIRITUALIST CAMP Northport, ME

– A Visit To Remember –



The Rev. Kathleen Cribb, NST and The Rev. Carol Brown, NST photographed in the NIKOWA ROOM while serving Temple Heights Spiritualist Camp in Northport, Maine in June.

We had often heard of the Temple Heights Spiritualist Camp in Northport, Maine, but had not visited the camp until this year when I accepted their offer to serve spirit at the camp during the week of June 21st through 27th.

The Temple Heights Board of Directors scheduled two ministers/mediums to serve the camp each week during the summer season this year, so The Rev. Kathleen Cribb and I were at the camp during the same week. While the camp itself is quite small – an old, large, very rustic lodge and a large church – everyone there was welcoming, loving, warm-hearted, because Temple Heights is right on Penobscot Bay and it's cold in Maine at the end of June. There is no central heating – thank goodness for blankets and space heaters!

Our house-mother, Jeannie Bower, was a delight! She treated Kathleen, Frank, Larry and I like royalty and saw to our every need. Jeannie is amazing…she cooks (for visiting mediums and spouses only), cleans, does laundry, buys supplies and fixes whatever is broken (it was the water heater the week we were there). She also answers the telephone, schedules consultations, takes care of appointments for workshops, classes and message circles, collects the fees, times the readings and keeps track of the ministers/mediums earnings for these activities and for the church services on our schedules. Jeannie has a can-do attitude and is truly dedicated to the cause of Spiritualism.

Larry and I took advantage of our free-day and drove to Bar Harbor where we bought tickets for an Ollie's Trolleys tour of the Acadia National Park – really beautiful.

And, of course, on any trip to Maine one has to have a dinner (or two or three) of freshly caught lobster with drawn butter, baked potatoes, salad, home-made hot bread and butter…Yummmm!

Continued...

Notes From The Field *Continued...*

A hearty thank you to all our new friends at the Temple Heights Spiritualist Camp...for welcoming us to your church and camp, for making us feel so much at-home and for the wonderful memories you have helped to create.

With Love and Blessings,
The Rev. Carol A. Brown, NST

FLORIDA

NEW VISION SPIRITUALIST CENTER, NSAC
Orlando, FL

New Vision Spiritualist Center, NSAC is in the process of organizing. We had our first Membership meeting on May 31, 2009 and have been making steady progress since then. We are working to receive our NSAC Charter at the 2009 NSAC Convention in Houston, Texas.

We already have 27 people who have committed to becoming members, with more attending our classes and services. Everyone who attends New Vision Spiritualist Center is proud to be part of this new group. We are looking forward to a church where everyone is welcome, knowing there is love and happiness all around.

If you are visiting the Orlando area, you are invited to serve our church for Sunday services, or present a seminar. Our intent is to present an Introduction to Spiritualism Course this fall, along with our Mediumship Development Class that is in progress.

We are currently meeting at the Center For Spiritual Living, located at 709 Edgewater Drive (corner of Edgewater and Hwy 50) every Sunday at 1:30 pm and every Thursday at 7:30 pm.

Check our website at NewVisionSpiritualistCenter .org and sign our Guestbook; you can also write us a note on Twitter and Facebook. If your church would like to link with us, just let us know.

Love and Blessings,
The Rev. E. Ann Otzelberger, NST, Pastor

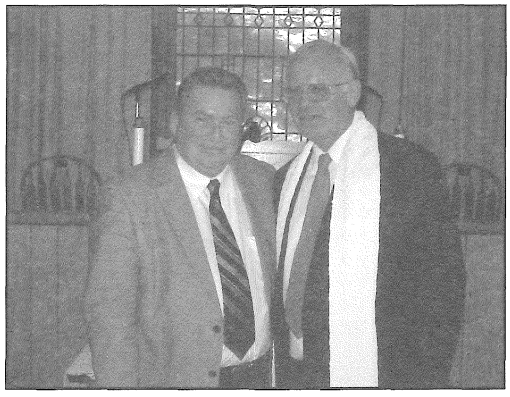
NEW YORK

NEW YORK SPIRITUALIST CHURCH
Lily Dale, NY

Michael Pillsbury of the Lily Dale Spiritualist Church, New York was ordained at his church on June 14, 2009. The Rev. Sharon Snowman performed the Ordination ceremony. The Rev. Pillsbury is very active in his church, and also makes the Church of The Living Spirit, Phoenix/Glendale, Arizona, his home church during the winter months. Lunch was served in the church after the ceremony.



Elaine Pillsbury, The Rev. Michael Pillsbury, The Rev. Sharon Snowman.



The Rev. Richard McCarthy attended The Rev. Michael Pillsbury's Ordination in Lily Dale, New York. They are close friends and they attended each other's Ordination Ceremony.

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117th Annual NSAC Convention

Houston, Texas
October 4-9, 2009

Please mention that you are booking under the NSAC Convention rate when you call to make your reservation so that we will get our meeting rooms for free.

www.houstonspiritualistsconvention2009.com

Location

Both the convention and lodging are at:

The Crowne Plaza Hotel
Houston North – Greenspoint
425 N. Sam Houston Pkwy. E.
Houston, TX 77060
Desk: (281) 445-9000
Fax: (281) 445-9826

Reservations/Deadline

Please make your reservations at The Crowne Plaza Hotel by **Sept. 16, 2009.**

Accommodations

2 double beds (rooms sleep 4)
or 1 king size bed:
Luxurious comfort, seven pillows.
$99.00/night, plus 8.25% tax

- Sleep Amenities – Lavender spray, CD, Eye Mask, Ear Plugs, Night Light, Drape Clips, 3 telephones in rooms.
- Dual Line phone with voicemail, modem port, dedicated data line.
- Nonsmoking & handicapped accessible rooms
- Concierge Services
- Fully equipped fitness center
- Relaxing outdoor pool & Jacuzzi
- 24 Hr Full-service Business Center
- Full Dining Services
- Nueces River Grill – American Cuisine/breakfast, lunch & dinner
- Lobby Piano Lounge

Directions

The Crowne Plaza Hotel
Houston North – Greenspoint
(281) 445-9000
is located close to area restaurants and only 20 minutes from Downtown, The Woodlands, The Galleria, & Willowbrook Mall and Cinema, Sam Houston Race Park, Red Stone Golf Course & Tour 18.

Transportation

Houston Intercontinental Airport (IAH)
Complimentary Airport Shuttle
Taxi (one way – 7 miles to Hotel):
$20.00 (10 minute drive)

Houston Hobby Airport (HOU)
Taxi (one way – 17 mi. to Hotel):
$50.00 (40 minute drive)

Calendar of Events

Sunday, October 4
To be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel
Morning Service: 11:00am
Come join us at 2:00pm as Peter & Virginia Berg renew their Wedding Vows in honor of their 50th Anniversary.
Delegate Reception: 2:30pm–5:00pm
Healing: 7:00pm
Evening Service: 7:30pm

Monday, October 5
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Keynote Speaker – **Dr. Raymond Moody**
Author of many books about his investigation of Near Death experiences.
Workshop will be about his work with the
PSYCHOMANTEUM
Cost: All Day – $30.00 for delegates
Banquet: 6:00pm

Tuesday, October 6
thru Friday, October 9
9am to 5pm – Convention Business
7pm – Healing; 7:30pm – Evening Services
Service Club Meetings to follow
(Details to come)
Delegate Convention Registration is $20.00

Banquet – *Dinner*

Dancing & Entertainment
$40.00 per person

Tour

TRIP TO OLD TOWN SPRING
For a unique jaunt to a quaint turn of the century town composed of shops, restaurants, museums, and art galleries.
$25.00 per person

Deadline for payment:
September 16, 2009

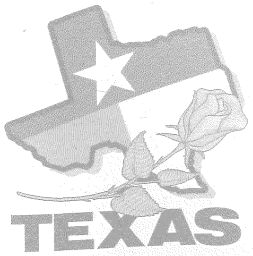
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The Woodlands, TX 77380

Please designate if your payment is for Banquet or Tour.

WAYS & MEANS

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2115 Turner Dr.
Houston, TX 77093

Afghans & donated items,
send to
Maria Garcia
7711 Fall Creek Bend
Humble, TX 77396



Hosted by:
First Church of Divine Science, Houston, Texas
First Spiritualist Church of Austin

Theme:
"Natural Law Is the Way"



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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: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."
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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