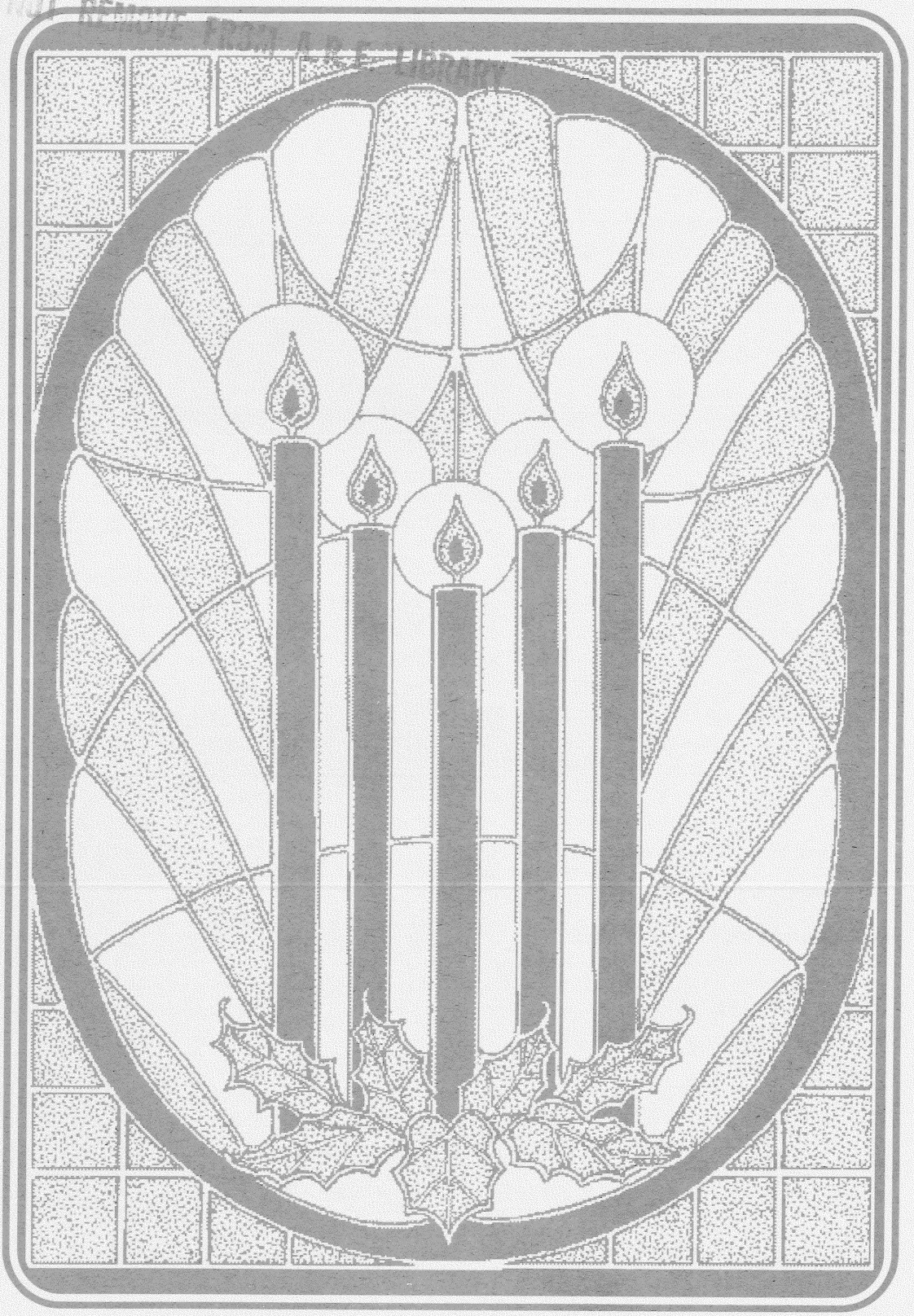
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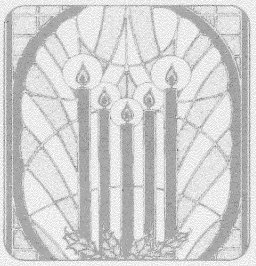
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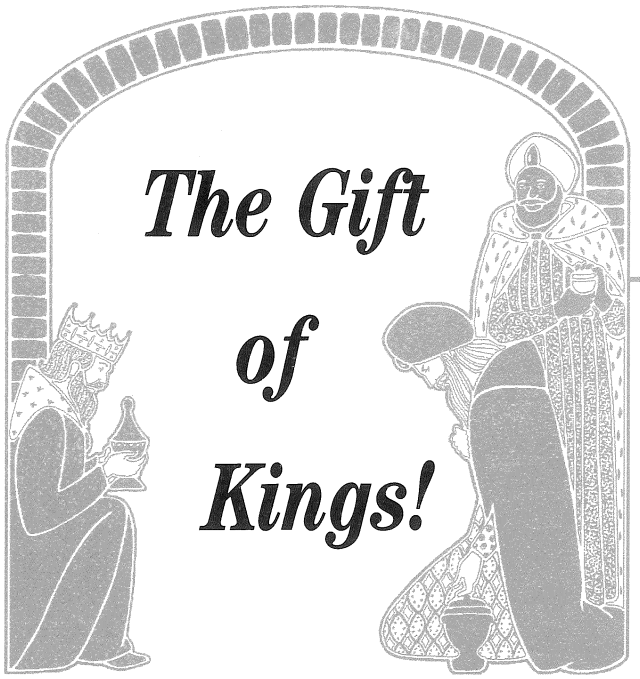
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The Gift of Kings!

BY THE REV. SANDRA PFORTMILLER, NST

Gold, frankincense, and myrrh were the gifts of kings and the *Bible* tells us these items were given to Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus at the time of his birth in Bethlehem. Frankincense and myrrh have long been considered rare and precious, more valuable than gold, rarer than precious gems, and was the stuff that wars were fought over. Ancient kings and queens used myrrh to perfume and beautify their bodies. It has been used in the civilizations before Biblical times and since for perfumes and medicines, and in the holy oil of the Hebrews.

Homer referred to the Egyptians as a nation of druggists, for this early civilization used great quantities of myrrh in their ceremonies, in their tombs, for perfume and medicine. Myrrh and frankincense were both mentioned throughout history and frequently in Biblical history.

The message of Christmas is important. It is that the Great Creator has given us life; that God promises us each day the birth of the Christ/Buddhic consciousness, for Infinite Intelligence is a part of all creation and expresses through this creation. Spiritualism teaches that we are all sons and daughters of God, each with a purpose to complete while in the physical for the Infinite, and each with something to do for the whole. Everyone has gifts to share.

Have you ever questioned what is your gift that you are presenting in this life expression? What can you contribute to the whole? The best gift, better than the gift of kings, better than gold or frankincense or myrrh is when we give of our self, when we offer our love. Just be yourself, for this is your individual relationship with the Creator. This is all you can be in truth, so your gift is to love and honor your self, your "I am" enough to allow the Eternal Unconditional Love to express through you, as you. We have heard the Shakespearian adage, "To thine own self be true. And then it follows as night the day that thou can'st be false to any man."

In the midst of the holiday frenzy it is important to make the inner discovery of our wee, small voice which is always present, always informing when we but pause to listen. Question the wisdom within how you can give more of yourself and ask for guidance. The answer I received was that transformation of awareness begins within; that love removes the blocks to awareness; that love flows as we accept life, forgive ourselves and others; and that each time we focus on love we change our reality. Each time we share our joy with another we release positive vibrations into the Universe. Our soul expands as we embrace God's Love and Light and then express and offer it. Love is the power to overcome all things.

We think of Jesus as a wayshower, a teacher, a healer and a medium. His great message was to love God, love yourself, love your neighbor as yourself. This universal truth shows us the way to live and grow and feel more of God's wonderful Universal Energy.

Use this holiday time of each year as a special reminder and a great opportunity to transcend the activities of the physical and experience the quiet presence of the Spiritual, of Infinite Spirit. It is a season to celebrate peace, light, love and holiness. The Inspiration of Creation touches us as we trust that It will.

Sometimes with all the gift buying we ask how will we have that finances for the gifts we want to purchase. Marianne Williamson in *A Return of Love* writes: "When we know that love is an infinite resource – that there is enough abundance of every kind for everyone and that only what we give to others we get to keep – then we stop denigrating other people and start blessing them instead." Blessing one another is what this Holy time is all about. We bless others when we share our self.

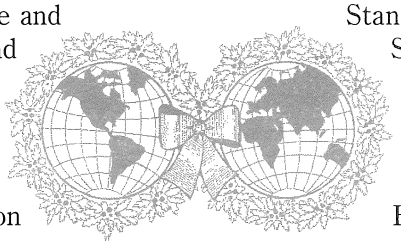
Sometimes the food and festivities, the celebrating with gifts and family/friends, the Christmas evergreen, the lights everywhere, the Hanukkah menorah, and all the various activities, we lose our focus and forget what the symbols of the season are supposed to mean – that of life, light, beauty, joy, peace, and love. Let the feasting be soul food, which is love. One of life's great truths to celebrate and remember is the perseverance of Universal Unconditional Love for all humankind. We need never fear a lack of love for Spirit is always there to nourish and support us. In this season, or any season, God's eternal healing or restorative energy is always available when we open ourselves in prayer or meditation to receive.

What a special gift to know that the Infinite Creator

(Continued on next page.)

World Healing Meditation

About twelve years ago a wonderful idea was conceived and then brought to completion by John Randolph Price (author of *The Planetary Commission).* Mr. Price was inspired to see if a Healing Meditation could be coordinated to take place around the world on the same day at about the same time. Since that year and each year following 1986, on December 31 there has been remarkable international energy of prayer, of singing, of visualizing, and of meditating shared by millions of people around the world. People have gathered in parks, meeting halls, temples, churches, asharams, hotels, public buildings, stadiums, or in their homes, in nature and in the quiet. These good souls ask and see a harmonious, peaceful world. They visualize a healed planet earth, harmony worldwide, a non-denominational, non-political, cooperative effort, a united people with a common bond of PEACE ON EARTH.



This is also a goal of Spiritualists and we hope that you will do your part. If possible spend an hour at the same time as others around the world are praying and you will be awed at the energy that seems to vibrate with the combined effort of good. It is an opportunity to experience the power and wonder of Infinite Intelligence as an open channel to the Great Principle is created.

Set your clocks to alert you at noon in London, England; at 2:00 a.m. Pacific Standard Time; at 4:00 a.m. Mountain Standard Time; at 5:00 a.m. Central Standard Time; at 7:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, etc. If you should sleep through your alarm, please try to spend some time during the day, as soon as you can, to send out prayers for peace and love. Thank you and Bless you.

THE GIFT OF KINGS *(Continued from previous page.)*

always loves us and our gift that we can return is to act from love, help our fellowman, extend the hand of friendship, share a smile and some of our time. Let us dedicate ourselves to finding joy and acceptance in our hearts for all others. As we practice being loving we will view things with our Spiritual nature and this is our true nature, for love is the outlet for Spirit. Love is a liberating and transmutative force. It is forgiving.

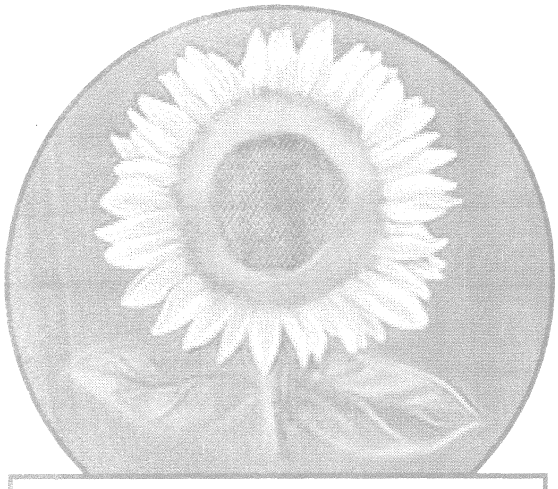
We live in our consciousness being – this is our true self. The absence of joy in the consciousness may result in illness, but the presence of love heals the spirit and restores balance. Practicing love is a life long experience, sharing love is necessary everyday. The more joy we give, the more joy we receive. Seneca wrote: "Only a wise man knows how to love; only a wise man is a friend." We attract others by the qualities we express and possess. We gain their friendship by sharing of ourselves. We gain their love as we share our love.

The *NSAC Spiritualist Manual:* "Love and Wisdom are the handmaidens of Divinity; they give strength and righteousness to character, and right direction to action and thought. To know one's self is wisdom; and to think purely, and to act charitable, are the fruits of wisdom . . . Love is the fulfilling of the law. Love is the greatest thing in the world. Love is the greatest thing in the universe."

The love energy is never lost, it never ends and it is always a blessing. Love is holy and our power, it flows from within. Love is a gift to us and a gift we can give to others, this holiday and everyday. God is Love and the **king**dom of God is within each of us, so the gift of kings is love from within, from the heart, from our Animating Spirit.

Let us pray to Infinite Intelligence with joy and gratitude. Oh Great Creator of the Universe, in this spiritual season we give thanks for all our blessings; for our family, friends and acquaintances; for our health, home and work; for our religion and church family; for truths learned and lessons of life experienced; for our angels and guardians who guide and commune from the next dimension of life; for all the gifts of Spirit you have bestowed upon us. We ask that the real spirit of Christmas – the giving of the self to life – be our goal for this holiday season and through all our life. May the glory of God be born in us and expand as we awaken to the power and the presence of Spirit that is all around us, without and within, in the physical and in the spiritual. May the Holiday concepts of peace, good will and joy be an actuality for all of humanity. In the Spirit of Truth and Love, So Be It.

As each of you honor Christmas or Hanukkah, celebrate Life and the Light of God in all Life. Know that your life follows an orderly plan of ever unfolding awareness of your oneness with the Divine. Let God's Will be your will; let Universal Love fill you and flow from you; let joy and peace radiate from you. I wish you all happy, happy holidays, and much love always!



Sunflowers Speak

BY THE REV. NANCY A. LLOYD, NST, NEW YORK

Isn't it wonderful how inspiration can arrive anytime, anywhere, and from the most common everyday things? I bought a roll of paper towels the other day because there were sunflowers on it. Looking at it more closely when I got home, I realized there was something written around each sunflower.

The first sunflower's message was, "Chase A Cloud." That's a great idea! Many people try to use their mind power to dissolve a cloud and that is good for developing focused concentration. However, if we use that same power to watch a cloud as it moves along, we can see that it is always changing shape. Our imaginations are stimulated by finding faces, dogs, cats or whatever as the cloud passes overhead. A vivid imagination is a valuable tool when we are trying to solve life's lessons. Positive imagining and imaging can lead to decisions that are beneficial to all concerned in any situation.

The second sunflower's message was, "Water A Garden." We all can have a spiritual garden planted with loving thoughts of those we love both on the earth and those who now live in the Summerland. Other plants might be thoughts of the nature of a Creator that has provided so much beauty for enjoyment and inspiration. Watch your garden grow as spiritual principles are applied to all of life's experiences. Water the garden with tears of joy that come from meditation or from helping ourselves and others to express the spark of Infinite Intelligence within each of us. Water the garden with compassionate tears of sorrow for those who, at this point in time cannot overcome the material part of life on earth. Water the garden with tears of gratitude for all of us have much to be thankful for.

The third sunflower's message was, "Wake Up Happy." Abraham Lincoln wrote, "Most people are as happy as they make up their minds to be." How true! Waking up happy gets easier and easier as an individual increases awareness of Infinite, Eternal Love through the experiences living a spiritually oriented life brings. We find that, "Let Go and Let God" really works. When we listen to our higher selves, our intuition, or that still small voice within, all things become possible. So wake up happy, we are guided, protected and dearly loved.

The fourth sunflower's message said, "Laugh Out Loud." Laughter is the most effective stress reliever known to humanity. Laughing from the diaphragm, or belly laughter, removes tension from the muscles and quiets jangled nerves. Laughter brings down the blood pressure, too. One hearty, deep laugh a day, or more, can help us retain emotional balance. Balance is necessary, even crucial, for as another time-tested adage says, "When emotion rules, reason flies out the window."

Last, but definitely not least, our own sunflower says, "As the sunflower turns it's face to the Light of the sun, so Spiritualism turns the face of humanity to the Light of Truth."

Try to live every day using imagination, thinking spiritual thoughts, watching awareness expand, and learning with lots of humor applied to the learning experiences.



John Slater, Pioneer

BY THE REV. GENEVIEVE WOELFL, NST

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania was the birthplace of many great and noble achievements for the freedom of our progressive country. It also gave to the Spiritualist Movement one of its most illustrious pioneer champions, who labored long and assiduously for religious freedom in its all encompassing expression.

It was here on September 24, 1867, that John Slater was born of Irish parents. His Baptist Mother was Mary Killen and his Catholic Father was named Michael.

At the age of four, John Slater first experienced communication with the Spirit World. He saw and talked with his little playmate, Mary Powers, whose funeral he had attended a few hours earlier.

During the ensuing years, he was to witness countless spirit manifestations. They brought strength and purpose into his life. For despite his parent's lack of sympathy and faith in his beliefs, he remained active in the Spiritualist Movement – active even in the face of sneers, jibes and insults.

At 21 he made a decision which was to affect the balance of his life. He left home and began the endless task of devoting the rest of his life to advancing the Cause. The decision had not come easily. The question of whether to make it weighed heavily on him though, and it was a time when he, too, needed encouragement. John received it during a sitting with Mrs. Leah Fox Underhill. He and his friend, Mrs. Elizabeth Holmes, one of Spiritualism's early workers in Brooklyn, New York, sought her counsel in weighing the question. The occasion gave him his answer. In fact, the loud raps which corroborated Mrs. Underhill's remarks made it difficult to think anything else.

Mr. Slater had been told that he had been "born to do the work of the Spirit World." As he left Mrs. Underhill, who was standing as one Inspired, he said to his friend, Mrs. Holmes: "I shall put my shoulder to the wheel; I shall go on and do the work and I shall always remember Mrs. Underhill and be, as she advised, – a Man." Thus – he set out to travel under foretold "spirit-protection" always – the many miles over land and sea.

In 1889, San Francisco beckoned him. Then, it was the Hawaiian Islands, where Honolulu received him most graciously.

San Francisco, California was to be known as his home, for he settled in that beautiful city by the Golden Gate upon his marriage to Eugenie Browell in 1890.

Mr. Slater's wonderful work for the promulgation of Spiritualism was carried on in many places, giving him little time to spend at home, where he enjoyed good reading, the opera, movies, baseball and boxing.

John Slater's outstanding Sealed-Billet-Mediumship and his noted Trance-lectures made him a renowned public worker for over fifty years.

His spirit-control was his Uncle William Killen, a brother of his Mother.

His first Spiritualist Camp work was at Lake Pleasant, Mass. Thereafter he seldom missed a season at Camp Lily Dale in New York State. Its beauty enthralled him, and here he greeted his dear old friends and made new ones.

Perhaps his most remarkable Mediumship lay in his greetings from spirit people to loved ones here, which had to be authenticated later through investigation of records by those receiving the messages, and they always were. This was undeniable proof of intelligent communication with the Spirit World and the continuity of life.

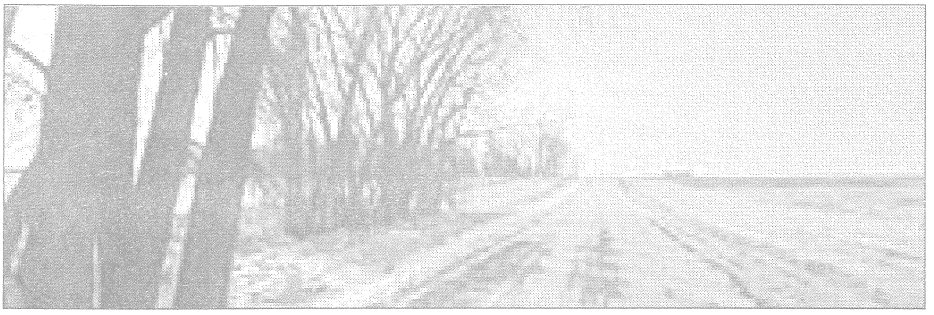
A now familiar story told of one of his experiences at Camp Lily Dale attests to his remarkable ability: As he stood near a group of young people, he overheard them laughing and jesting about Spiritualism. The story goes that he called to one of them, something perhaps like this, "young man, you there, standing near the young lady in the yellow dress! – be sure and stay clear of the lake today." Later when the boy went rowing, he apparently lost control of the boat and it capsized. It was evidently some time later when the boy's body was found floating in the reeds and rushes near the shore. John Slater's accuracy was often remarkable.

His son, John Slater, Jr., a resident of Santa Clara, California, often spoke of his father's careful tutorship of him. "He taught me that all actions are seen from the spirit side by dear helpers and guides." Young Slater tested the lesson, he recalled, by burying a potato next to the back

(Continued on page 27.)

DAYDREAMS

BY ELIZABETH HARRIS, DSNU, CANADA



Does it seem farfetched that daydreaming and Spiritualism have things in common? Not at all, claims Harry Edwards, for the world famous healer claims that **the condition called "attuning to spirit" which is necessary for spiritual healing, is the same condition as day-dreaming.**

Daydreams and fantasies are produced by a miraculous **image-inventing faculty of the human mind.** The psychologist Carl Jung calls it, **"expressions of psychic energy,"** and Albert Einstein claimed:

> **"When I examined myself, and my methods of thought, I came to the conclusion that the gift of day-dreaming has meant more to me than my talent for absorbing positive knowledge."**

There is a condition of mind known as 'day-dreaming', when thoughts are wandering oblivious of all else. This is the state of mind to be arrived at for spiritual healing.

– Harry Edwards

It is a well known fact that fantasies have enhanced the creativity of scientists, artists, and writers, and child psychologists tell us that for children, daydreaming in the form of imaginative play, is vital to the development of perception. **And we know now that the condition is conducive to spirit attunement.**

Moreover, there is evidence that daydreaming can change our lives. For they help us prepare for the future – they can make us aware of unfinished business – and serve as mental rehearsals. They can organize our lives – help us set goals, as well as fueling behavior and suggesting plans for the future.

Daydreams may also be a substitute for impulsive behavior and a means of providing relaxation. This amazing possibility was discovered in deviant behavior studies. It was found that **people prone to delinquency and violent behavior, or to seeking the artificial highs of dangerous drugs, tend to have fewer fantasies and daydreams.**

The Oxford Dictionary defines "daydreaming" as indulgence in fantasy or reverie while awake. It differs from dreaming while asleep, for when asleep one cannot control the fantasy. Yet they connect.

The psychologist, Sigmund Freud, of Vienna, the renowned pioneer of Dream Studies, claimed that daydreams are like nocturnal dreams because both are psychic energy.

Recent psychologists support this view, and agree that daydreaming and night dreaming form part of a single continuous flow. Eric Klinger says, "Daydreaming and night dreaming make up a single continuum of human consciousness, in which one continually shades into the other – much as each day, the varied world of daytime shades into the equally variable world of night."

From interviews with hundreds of adults, clinical psychologist, Jerome L. Singer (1975) reported: "Nearly everyone has daydreams or waking fantasies, every day – on the job – in the classroom – walking down the street – in fact, almost anywhere at any time."

Peter D. Ouspensky, the Russian philosopher agrees. He says, "We have dreams continuously, both in sleep and in the waking state. In fact dreams never stop. We don't notice them in our waking state amidst the continuous flow of visual, auditory and other sensations."

Daydreams are reveries, and the fantasies they produce have enthralled mankind for centuries. **They are as essential to our minds as the air we breathe,** for psychologists tell us that all dreaming is necessary for a healthy mind, and, among many benefits, it is a way of letting go of "bottled up" thoughts and feelings.

They float in and out of our consciousness – sometimes

(Continued on page 23.)

HOLIDAY BLESSINGS TO ALL!

Our church family wishes each of you Godspeed for the coming year.
Spiritualist Church of Awareness
Orlando, Florida

Blessings and Love for this Season and Always.
Central Spiritualist Church
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Joyous holiday greetings and all the blessings of Spirit to our friends around the world!
Ron and Jeannie Lerch
Casselberry, Florida

Wishing you continued Growth and Peace on your journey toward your goal.
Morris Pratt Institute
Board of Directors and staff

We wish each and every reader of this, the greatest health, happiness and love possible for the entire year!
Renate and Bernard Baker
Sun Lakes, Arizona

May the joy and Spirit of Christmas be with you throughout the New Year.
Bill, Cosie, John and Mike Allen
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Love and Blessings to ALL this season and through the New Year.
Rev. Pamla Ashlay, NST

Greetings of Peace and Joy.
Third Spirit of Life Church
Rochester, Minnesota

Love Heals, so let us carry the love of the Season into the New Year.
The NSAC Spiritualist Healers League
and the NSAC Healing Center

May Infinite Love be in your heart and in your Holidays.
May Spiritualism expand in harmony and light.
May your New Year be filled with Spirit's Special Vibration!

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Sylvia Kincaid
Mary Lou Baumhoff
David Saunders

As Spiritualism Lights the World, may this season of light illumine all mankind.
The Memorial Spiritualist Church
Norfolk, Virginia

May your days be filled with peace, love and harmony.
The Redwood Church of Spiritual Science
Redwood City, California

Spiritual Greetings throughout this Holiday Season.
A Sanctuary of Infinite Spirit, NSAC
Smithtown, New York

Many blessings this Holiday Season and all through the New Year.
Will, Sara, Cameron and Caleb Allen, Michigan

During the holidays open your heart to the Love of Infinite Intelligence. Allow the Love energy to be always present within and expand outward to the next millennium, to all creation.
Gene and Sandy Pfortmiller
Phoenix, Arizona

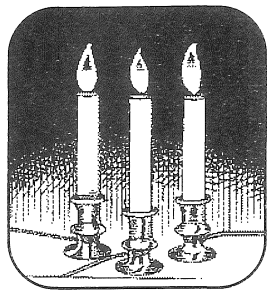
Seasons Greetings to our fellow Spiritualists.
Spirit of Life
Spiritualist Church
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Christmas Joy and Blessings.
Spiritualist Desert Church, NSAC
Las Vegas, Nevada

We send Spiritual Greetings of Love, Peace and Harmony to all, for all seasons to come.
Spiritualist Church of Two Worlds
San Leandro, California

To my beloved husband Bill Davis. Have a wonderful new life in the White Light.
Happy Holidays, your wife,
Janie Davis

Representing Spiritualism



*Each month **The National Spiritualist** will feature the writing from a student who is currently taking the education course from the Morris Pratt Institute. Featured this month is an essay written by **Gail Griffith** of The Temple of Metaphysical Science in Patchogue, New York.*

The Morris Pratt Course teaches "Our basic freedoms include freedom of worshiping God according to the dictates of one's own conscience." This is preceded by the statement, "Religion in all forms is subject to change in our modern times and such changes are creating a competitive arena for religious beliefs." (MPI) Keeping in mind the fundamental right to worship as one pleases and the modern concept of moving from one religion that may not be satisfactory to another that is more so, let us concentrate on providing for the Spiritualist ministry guidelines of conduct.

"What does church do for people?" Among many benefits are fellowship, comfort, possible solutions for daily problems, and a common bond. The individual attends church for spiritual nourishment, to "unravel the mysteries of life," and to recreate the vision of the God within. To help one's congregants to meet as much of these needs as possible certain injunctions are placed upon the Spiritualist minister. First, there is the reminder that she is a representative of a modern religion with roots in ancient history. For that reason, the religion must be represented "in a dignified, impressive, solemn, and yet simple" manner. Another question that might trouble converts from Christian religions, "Why is the symbol of cross not used?" The answer, when put in perspective, seems simple. Since vicarious atonement is not a teaching to which Spiritualism adheres, the cross is an inappropriate symbol. The religion does not depend on symbols, tremendous edifices, ritualistic devices or ecclesiastical garb. One of the few physical requirements is that a Bible should be on the lectern during each service. Other sacred texts are also represented and utilized. "A public service is the showcase of our religion."

The Spiritualist ministry must consider planning and platform decorum. Planning begins with the supposition that one has been invited to serve a church and then delineates the steps to take in that circumstance. Begin, of course, by being sure that the invitation fits into one's schedule. Once a commitment is made, there should be no reason to cancel. What are to be the responsibilities? Lecture or message work or both? How many services? Are there other meetings to be attended, participated in or possibly lead? How much time is allocated for one's work? Is there a dress code? Is there a subject of particular interest to the congregants? May the speaker make materials available for sale? Inquire about overnight accommodations. It also behooves the speaker to advise the church to be visited of travel plans, including flight numbers and time schedules. One should be properly prepared and make every effort to fit into the regular service plan.

"The moment you step into view, YOU ARE SPIRITUALISM. YOU are the prime cause many attended." Platform decorum is a necessity. From the time the minister enters, she has the attention of those assembled. So, from the punctual, dignified, quiet and unobtrusive entrance to the closing prayer certain behaviors are to be observed and others avoided. The first thing the congregants see is the minister and how she is presenting herself to them. Her dress makes an immediate impression. Appropriate dress is tasteful, conservative in color and style, inconspicuous and appropriate to the season. It reflects the good judgement and taste of the individual wearing it.

There are eight behaviors to avoid on the platform: Gazing around and waving are distractions. So are adjusting one's clothes, accessories, hair and make-up. Crossing and recrossing one's legs or swinging one's feet also can distract. Lounging in one's chair is not particularly dignified. One should avoid overuse of one's handkerchief. Talking, laughing, whispering with others on the platform is not only distraction, but also rude and inconsiderate. "Respect for one's co-workers is mandatory." Fumbling through one's hymnal suggests lack of preparedness. And, rising to approach the podium ahead of time suggests inattentiveness and impatience.

There are many opportunities to participate in a service and for each there are guidelines. The Spiritualist who gives an invocation is "seeking the cooperation of spirit . . . not begging a favor from a personal God." It should be worded in a brief, concise and pointed manner in order to help those present to focus and attune to the spiritual presence. Announcing the hymns is a simple, yet necessary activity. Hymns should be announced by number and title more than once. And, if only some of the stanzas are to be sung, these should be clearly announced and clarified. The congregants should also be clearly told whether they are expected to

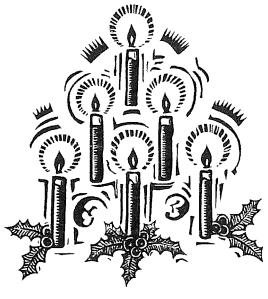
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stand or remain seated. The reading of The Declaration of Principles is an important part of the service. The minister may take the opportunity to give a brief history of their development, which helps to define Spiritualism as a growing and evolving religion, not one entrenched in old ideas and stagnant. It is good to remind the group that "The declaration is not dogma or creed, but rather a simple expression of our understanding." This reading should be slow and distinct, allowing the people the opportunity to absorb the meaning of what they are reading. Since this is a devotional service, such expressions of greeting as one might hear at a banquet are inappropriate. The speaker need only step to the podium and address the congregation.

The service requires careful planning. Among those things to be considered and acted upon on (1) selection of a guest worker; (2) selection of musician, hymns and chairperson; (3) a chronological list of important announcements; and, (4) selection of readily available special reading material. Guest ministers should be introduced with a minimum description: "The Reverend John Smith, National Missionary." The chairperson should be provided with an outline of the service, be advised not to praise or comment on another's work nor to summarize it.

Spirit Greeting forms the basis of the religion of Spiritualism and is proof of the continuity of life. As such, it requires a high level of integrity and decorum. The message minister should observe certain protocols. First, remember that "Spirit does not need to ask questions." Second, if giving a message seems inappropriate, don't give it. Theatrics should be avoided, as should facial expressions and contortions. Playing with one's handkerchief, snapping one's fingers or swaying back and forth are also unnecessary and objectionable. The healing service requires discretion, humility and a channel through which Spirit forces can flow. It does not call for dramatic motions or special attitudes. Finally, one must decide whether to conclude with a closing prayer or a benediction. It is important to remember that you will be leaving the congregation with a thought which may sustain them through the week ahead. "A prayer is speaking to God; a benediction is a blessing on the congregation." Be specific in your choice and then speak accordingly.

The lecture is an important part of a service. Some speakers work from notes, others from fully written scripts. Both forms of preparation are acceptable. However, it is not acceptable to simply read to the congregation. This creates a separation between the speaker and the listener. Fill-in or personals are used as examples and not as the basis of a lecture. It should be obvious to the listener that the speaker knows the topic well and uses the language equally as well. There are three types of lectures: those you can listen to; those you can't listen to; and, those you can't help but listen to. Each speaker develops an individual style to get and hold the congregation's attention. The speaker's effectiveness goes to the root of careful thought and preparation. One should be able to answer in the affirmative the question, "Am I making a real contribution to their knowledge or imparting information that will benefit them in some way?" A well-delivered talk should give an affirmative answer to such questions as: Are they listening? Are they tuned in? Are they receiving? Poise, self-confidence, faith in one's topic, a carefully prepared, well-organized lecture, and a pleasant speaking style all contribute to the success of a talk. A retired minister gave an eight-point list of listener expectations. They are: the ability to hear clearly; acknowledgment of the speaker's attention; simplicity; a message from the Infinite; reality; intellectual stimulation; color and warmth; and, a renewal of faith and hope for tomorrow.



The minister is the representative of the religion. What she says and does reflects on the religion even more than upon herself. The minister's conduct must be above reproach. She must be dignified, tactful, and diplomatic. The responsibilities are many and demanding. The minister works to build and maintain the congregation "wearing out your shoes and automobile tires." This is a full-time job, the focus of the minister's life. "The minister is a leader, a teacher, a counselor and a friend." She is responsible for the spiritual leadership of the church and its members. The business and administration of the church is left to the board. Visitations are an important part of a minister's duties. This activity helps her to know the people better and gives them the opportunity to talk privately and feel their importance to the church. Visiting the sick requires particular sensitivity on the part of the minister. There are no clear cut rules except good manners, sensitivity to the needs of the patient and the family, and the commitment never to impose prayers or healing on them.

Unless it interferes with the needs of the church, the minister's involvement in the community is highly desirable. It establishes a relationship, inspires interest, and draws the church into the community as a whole. The minister must be aware of the proper procedures for weddings, funerals, naming ceremonies and special events. She must also be "fully aware of the requirements of her own association, as well as the laws of the state."

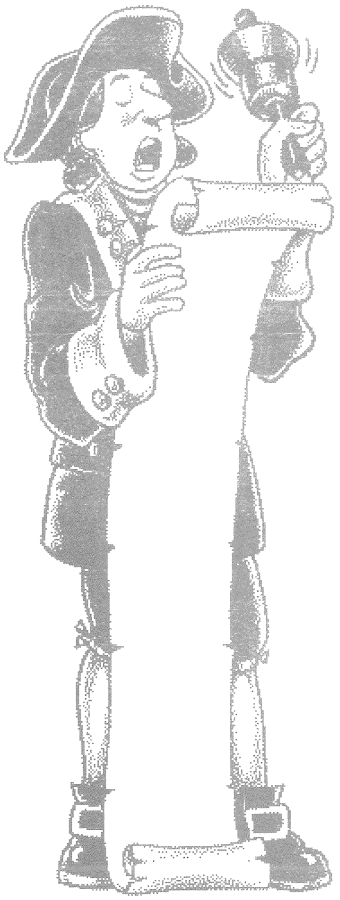
Earlier in this article the invocation, benediction and closing prayers were discussed. Another prayer of importance is that said at the time of the offering. Since it is the collection that finances the church this should be announced. Then a prayer of thanksgiving for the gift and for the giver. Prayers in general should be brief, sincere, literary and insightful of people's needs. Here is an indictment that all of us should commit to mind and to practice:

"Let all things be done in an orderly fashion!"

Keeping Spiritualism Alive

BY THE REV. RUPERT SIGURDSSON, NST, MAINE

Recently I watched a series of programs on the Learning Channel on the "Debunking of Spiritualism." They only showed how phenomena could be faked, and the cases where fake mediums have been exposed, but not the thousands of honest mediums and the genuine phenomena that has been produced over the years. **I know there is genuine phenomena because I have witnessed it, in the light, at my home and my parents' home during the 1940's and 50's.** The media says there may be one medium, D. D. Home, that they couldn't prove how he did his phenomena. This is what the general public is being fed and Spiritualism must work to counteract.



The ingredient for success with phenomena is very simple, but a group needs to realize the importance of a few simple rules:

PUNCTUALITY – This means that if the meeting is for 7:00 p.m. on a Friday evening you are there at 6:45 p.m. so you are relaxed and ready for the class by 7:00 p.m. and you are there each week 52 weeks a year. Time is an appointment with **SPIRIT.** They are there **FOR YOU** and you are expected, no excuses except serious illness or death, and even then you are expected there in spirit.

DEDICATION – The acceptance that this class is a very important part of your life and you are not going to let other desires, whether it be an invitation to a party or some other event, interfere with your date with spirit. That is how those members of the past did it in order to get the phenomena that was credited to them.

Spiritualism is the science of proving the continuity of life and the communication with the so-called dead. **VERIFICATION AND REPEATABILITY** are two words that scientist's love to use to prove a theory. We know that spirit communicates with us, now is the time to prove it to others and put the debunkers in their place. Maybe even one of our churches will be collecting the money offered by the debunkers with proof of spirit communication that they can't deny.

I am interested in all genuine phenomena that can be verified and witnessed and as the current Superintendent of the Bureau of Phenomenal Evidence I would like, for the good of Spiritualism, to see a real push in this area. Spiritual phenomena has been dormant too long and it is imperative that we incorporate rules in obtaining phenomena that the general public can accept.

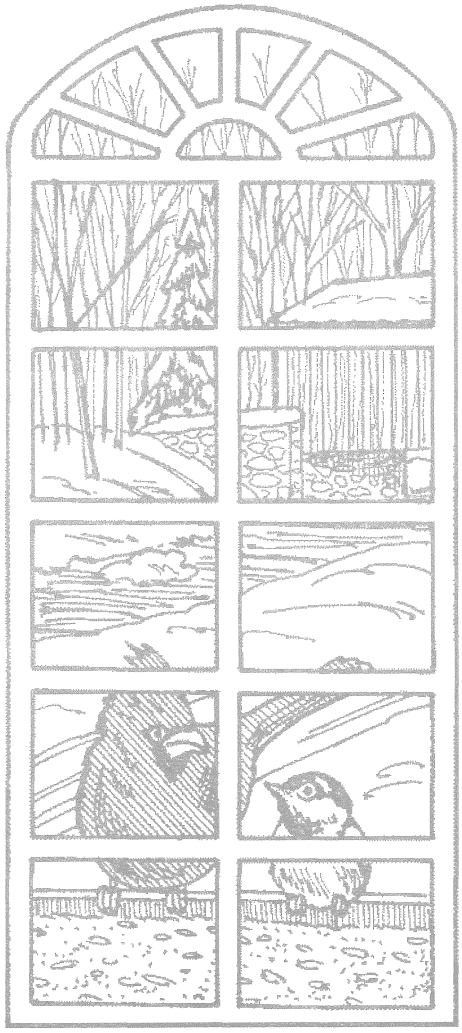
It is very important to have enough light in the room to see what is taking place when sitting for phenomena. A small night light is sufficient as the eyes get accustomed, the events in the room can be clearly seen. Some recommend a red or blue light. A completely dark room encourages fraud and makes phenomena almost impossible to verify. As the psychologists say, almost everyone has a little fraud in them.

One of the easiest forms of phenomena and easiest to verify is the Electronic Voice Phenomena. Anyone can do it and get a few words from spirit on a blank tape. All that is needed is an audio tape recorder with a counter, a microphone, white background noise from an FM radio between stations where no radio voice is heard seems to help, a blank tape and a set of headphones. The nice thing about EVP is that it can be done anywhere and with one or more persons. The same rules do apply as with other phenomena: that is keeping appointments with spirit and dedication to the project. Not more than five minutes should be recorded at one time asking a short question each minute as listening to it takes a lot of time as the spirit voices may be very weak to begin with. Some improvement and development needs to be done in this area, to be able to get longer communications from spirit, but it is a great field for those that have some electronic background. At the present time it is in the same stage as the very early radio.

We also need to express our philosophy more, that is, in the Declaration of Principles. Following those Principles can give a person a very good life and by following them ourselves we can be an example for others to follow.

Always remember Spiritualism is a wonderful Religion, Philosophy and Science and each area needs to be understood and promoted if we are to continue to be a strong belief system going into the next century.

GOD IS!



Spiritualism teaches that there is truth, light, love and God in all religions. The various religions of the world describe the various attributes of the Divine Source, Infinite Intelligence, the Ultimate Reality and these few descriptions are but a part to help us understand a bit of the whole.

We believe in Infinite Intelligence. We believe that the phenomena of Nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence. We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith, constitute religion.

– Spiritualism, *NSAC Manual*

In the beginning was God,
Today is God
Tomorrow will be God.
Who can make an image of God?
He has no body.
He is as a word which comes
out of your mouth.
That word! It is no more,
It is past, and still it lives!
So is God.

– *African Traditional Pygmy Hymn*

Mark well three things and you will not fall into the clutches of sin; Know what is above you – an eye that sees, an ear that hears, and all your actions recorded in the book.

– Judaism, *Mishnah*

Our Lord! Lo! Thou knowest that which we hide and that which we proclaim. Nothing in the earth or in heaven is hidden from God.

– Islam, *Qur'an*

(God) is not far from each one of us, for "In him we live and move and have our being."

– Christianity *Bible, Acts 17:27-28*

God is formless. If you think He is big, He is infinite, and if you think He is small, He is infinitesimal.

– Unification Church
Sun Myung Moon

The eyes are not prevented (from seeing) by a hedge; God has nothing hid from him.

– *African Traditional Religions*
– *Proverb*

There is only one God; all the "gods" are but His ministering angels who are His manifestations.

– Omoto Kyo, *Michi-no-Shiori*

"In what does the Infinite rest?"

"In its own glory – nay, not even in that. In the world it is said that cows and horses, elephants and gold, slaves, wives, fields, and houses are man's glory – but these are poor and finite things. How shall the Infinite rest anywhere but in itself?

"The infinite is below, above, behind, before, to the right, to the left. I am all this. This Infinite is the Self. The Self is below, above, behind, before, to the right, to the left. I am all this. One who knows, meditates upon, and realizes the truth of the Self – such a one delights in the Self, rejoices in the Self. He becomes master of himself, master of all worlds. Slaves are they who know not this truth."

– Hinduism, *Chandogya Upanishad*

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them

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all in every one. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
– Christianity, *Bible, 1 Corinthians 12:4-7*

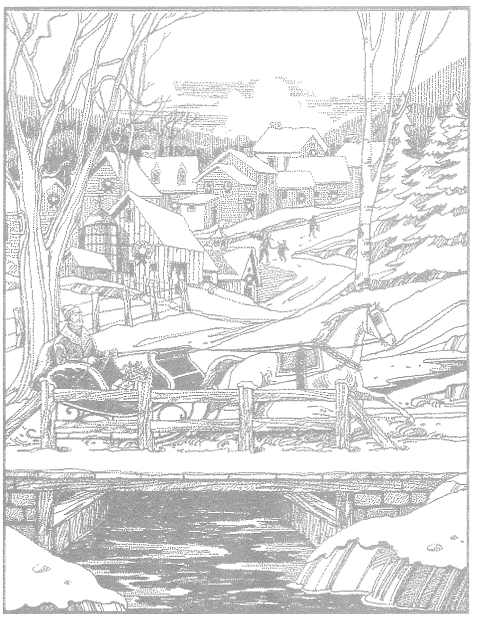
No vision can grasp Him,
but His grasp is over all vision;
He is above all comprehension,
yet is acquainted with all things.
– Islam, *Qur'an*

Why do you go to the forest in search of God?
He lives in all and is yet ever distinct:
He abides with you, too,
As fragrance dwells in a flower,
And reflection in a mirror;
So does God dwell inside everything;
Seek Him, therefore, in your heart.
There was something undifferentiated and yet complete,
Which existed before heaven and earth.
Soundless and formless, it depends on nothing and does not change.
It operates everywhere the mother of the universe.
I do not know its name; I call it Tao.
If forced to give it a name, I shall call it Great.
Now being great means functioning everywhere.
Functioning everywhere means far-reaching.
Being far-reaching means returning to the original point.
– Taoism, *Tao Te Ching*

God is incorporeal, divine, supreme, infinite Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle, Life, Truth, Love. Science reveals Spirit, Soul, as not in the body, and God as not in man but as reflected by man. The greater cannot be in the lesser . . . We reason imperfectly from effect to cause, when we conclude that matter is the effect of Spirit; but a prior reasoning shows material existence to be enigmatical. Spirit gives the true mental idea. We cannot interpret Spirit, Mind, through matter. Matter neither sees, hears, nor feels.
– Christian Science, *Science and Health*

Unto God belongs the sovereignty of the heavens and the earth and all that is therein, and it is He who has power over all things.
– Islam, *Qur'an*

The Wise One is the most mindful of the plans,
Which, indeed, were wrought in the past,
By demons and by men,
And which will be wrought hereafter!
He, the Lord, is the sole decider,
So may it be unto us as He wills!
– Zoroastrianism, *Avesta, Yasna*



With men it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God.
– Christianity, *Bible, Mark 10:27*

The Creator of the heavens and the earth; and when He decrees a thing, He but says to it "Be," and it is.
– Islam, *Qur'an*

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.
– Christianity, *Bible, Revelation 22:13*

If God removes his hand the world will end.
– African Traditional Religions, *Proverb*

Nothing whatsoever exists without me or beyond me. The atoms of the universe may be counted, but not so may manifestations; for eternally I create innumerable worlds.
– Hinduism, *Srimad Bhagavatam*

Tao never acts, yet nothing is left undone.
– Taoism, *Tao Te Ching*

To love is to know Me,
My innermost nature,
the truth that I am.
– Hinduism, *Bhagavad Gita*

The Great Compassionate Heart is the essence of Buddhahood.
– Buddhism, *Gandavyuha Sutra*

I have no corporeal existence,
but Universal Benevolence is my divine body.
I have no physical power,
but Uprightness is my strength.
I have no religious clairvoyance beyond what is bestowed by Wisdom.
I have no power of miracle other than the attainment of quiet happiness,
I have no tact except the exercise of gentleness.
– Shinto, *Oracle of Sumiyoshi*

What is God? He/she is an existence that absolutely lives for others.
– Unification Church, Sun Myung Moon

He (God) makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust.
– Christianity, *Bible, Matthew 5:45*

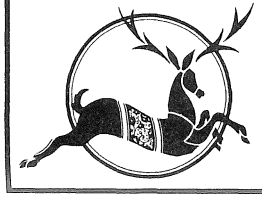
I am Father and Mother of the world.
– Hinduism, *Bhagavad Gita*

The majority of these quotes were taken from World Scripture, A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts, *A Project of the International Religions Foundation, Paragon House, New York.*

Positive Statements To Help Create a Positive Day.

Affirmations . . . DECEMBER 1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Be of one mind, live in peace and God will be with you.	**2** I open myself to Spirit so that I may create truth.	**3** Meditation is a pathway for the realization of Oneness.	**4** I express more and more love and light each day.	**5** There is Spirit in all life now and forever.
6 "The answer to prayer is in the prayer." SOM	**7** This day was created for me by the Great Creator.	**8** I am surrounded by my spirit guides and loved ones.	**9** Today I will look to find the Divine in others.	**10** Infinite possibilities are available as I am inspired to create.	**11** My consciousness expresses the loving presence of Angels.	**12** We all have divine qualities, divine inspiration.
13 Energy, light and love are the miracles of Life from God.	**14** Today I light a candle to remind me of God and of peace.	**15** I am blessed with health and I do my part to maintain it.	**16** The music of the season brings joy to my heart.	**17** I create a center for my soul to find peace, Infinite Love.	**18** Eternal life is a Divine fulfillment.	**19** My mind awakens to new truths each day.
20 Life never stops but is an ongoing ascent.	**21** Spirit, bless all energies and thoughts that go out this day.	**22** "Creativity is another word for *Surprise!*"	**23** My thoughts reflect the spirit of the season which is Love.	**24** I celebrate new life and the Light of God in all life.	**25** God is creation, God is love, God is life, God is All.	**26** I consider life an opportunity to grow in love.
27 My mind is filled with peace and joy and harmony.	**28** Creativity is a deep impulse of our potential.	**29** Spirit is always at work in our lives.	**30** Evolution adds exciting new elements, while including previous stages.	**31** Prayer for our world has peace and power according to our intentions.		



Joyous Christmas Greetings!



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CASSELBERRY

LERCH, Rev. Jeannie Kerr, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, classes, seminars, private consultations, 335 Piney Ridge Rd., 32707-3805 - (407) 834-9875, E-mail: lerch5378@aol.com.

DAYTONA BEACH

SIKORA, Rev. Arlene, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, private consultations, 2800 N. Atlantic Ave. #516, 32118 - (904) 228-3864.

ORLANDO

OTZELBERGER, Rev. E. Ann, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, seminars, private consultations, 4332 Woodlynne Lane, 32812 - (407) 826-0807.

• ILLINOIS •

CHICAGO

GROSS, Anna, Medium, 10930 Avenue M, 60617-6929 - (773) 734-1979.

• INDIANA •

GARY

JAMES, Rev. Jesse Jr., Medium, by appt. only, 1301 Pennsylvania St., 46407- (219) 885-0091.

TOUSANA, Mable, Certified Medium , by appt. only, 1421 Pennsylvania, 46407 - (219) 883-1635.

• IOWA •

CLINTON

HORSTMAN, Rev. Bonnie, NST, Medium, 1958 Glendale Rd., 52732 - (319) 242-8460.

HORSTMAN, Rev. Harvey, NST, Comm. Healer, Medium, 1958 Glendale Rd., 52732 - (319) 242-8460.

REED, Rev. Georgia Milton, Minister & Medium, 92 - 28th Ave. North, 52733-3191 - 1 (319) 243-9738.

DAVENPORT

BUCHHOLZ, Anita J., Licentiate & Medium, 1502 W. 7th St., 52802-1212 - (319) 326-3453.

BUCHHOLZ, Rev. William E., Medium and Comm. Healer, 806 E. Thirteenth St., 52803-4240 - (319) 326-3201.

• MAINE •

AUGUSTA

TRACY, Rev. Margaret M., Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 6 Gray Birch Dr., Apt A8, 04330 - (207) 623-7264.

CANTON

SIGURDSSON, Rev. Rupert, NST, Comm. Healer, Rt. 1, Box 91, 04221 - (207) 597-2600, rupert@megalink.net.

GORHAM

HALDANE, Thomas B., Licentiate & Certified Medium, 32 Cumberland Lane Unit 5, 04038-1329 - (207) 839-4878.

• MASSACHUSETTS •

EAST WAREHAM

HATHAWAY, Pauline R., Licentiate Minister, Certified Medium, consultations by appt., P. O. Box 664, 02538-0664 - (508) 291-7176; e-mail - phathaway@bobsworld.win.net.

HARVARD

ROOF, Louisa, Licentiate, Medium, private consultations by appt., 19 Woodside Rd., 01451 - (978) 456-3941.

• MINNESOTA •

ROCHESTER

YOUNG, Rev. Joyce E., NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 4814 115 Ave. NW, Byron, 55920 - (507) 775-6358.

YOUNG, Rev. John E., NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 4814 115 Ave. NW, Byron, 55920 - (507) 775-6358.

ST. PAUL

OLIN, Rev. Belinda, Box 1a, Yacht Club Rd., 55102 - (612) 291-7187.

• MISSOURI •

ST. LOUIS

WITTICH, Rev. Brenda J., Medium, classes, private consultations by appointment only, 3903 Connecticut St., 63116-3905 - (314) 773-0106.

• NEBRASKA •

OMAHA

FANSLAU, Alace J., Licentiate Minister & Medium, consultations by appt., classes at Spiritual Science & Philosophy Church, NSAC, 321 Hascall Street (on So. 4), 68108-2121 - (402) 345-0101.

• NEVADA •

LAS VEGAS

STEWART, Rev. Catherine, NST, Certified Medium, 5532 Morning Swim Lane, 89113-1543 - (702) 871-1152 or Fax (702) 257-7506.

MINDEN

POTTER, Rev. Louis, Ordained Minister, Certified Medium; Pastor, Spiritualist Chapel of the Pines, Auburn, CA; P.O. Box 1657, 89423 - (702) 782-3108.

• NEW MEXICO •

SANTE FE

VOGT, Mr., Certified Medium. For classes, lectures, readings, contact Sunrise (505) 424-0620, P.O. Box 6147, 87502-6147.

• NEW YORK •

CLIFTON PARK

KRAMER, Rev. Hillary, NST, Certified Medium, 15 Huntwood Dr., 12065 - (518) 371-8975.

EAST AURORA

KLEINSCHMIDT, Rev. Charlene, NST, Certified Medium, 1071 Wish Circle, 14052 - (716) 652-4972.

KLEINSCHMIDT, Albert C., Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 1071 Wish Circle, 14052 - (716) 652-4972.

FARMINGVILLE

LLOYD, Rev. Nancy A., NST, Certified Medium and Counselor (call or write for appointment); Mail: P.O. Box 7, 11738-0007 - (516) 736-1058.

HOLBROOK

BERG, Rev. Virginia, Pastor, A Sanctuary of Infinite Spirit, NSAC, 1280 Claas Ave., 11741-3902 - (516) 588-3150.

LILY DALE

BURDICK-CAREY, Rev. Beverly, Certified Medium, 13 3rd St.,P.O. Box 1087, 14752 - (716) 595-2205.

LONG ISLAND

SNELL, Rev. Catherine, NST, Certified Medium, 17 Ann Court, Kings Park, 11754 - (516) 724-8025; csnell@hoflink.com .

TRAVIS, Rev. Janet, NST, 17 Ann Court, Kings Park, 11754-2001 - (516) 724-8025, jtravis@hoflink.com.

SCOTTSVILLE

FEATHERSONG, Elsie, Certified Medium, private readings by appt., public lectures and workshops, 220-3 Robert Quigley Dr., 14546 - (716) 889-4434.

• OHIO •

WESTERVILLE

GRIFFEN, Rev. Neil C., Ph.D, Cert. Med., Comm. Healer, 8521 Olde Worthington Road, 43082-8852 - (614) 895-0873.

• TEXAS •

AUSTIN

BROWN, Mrs. Frances, Licentiate and Medium, 2723 S. Congress, Apt. 2311, 78704 - (512) 447-2188.

HAMNER, Dr. Jean, Licentiate Minister, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer; P.O. Box 4001, 78765 - (512) 376-9433; Lectures, workshops, classes, readings.

EDINBURG

MUSE, Evelyn, Rev., Minister, Certified Medium, NST, 1104 Susan Dr., 78539 - (512) 383-2510.

DALLAS

HANSON, Arthur E., Licentiate Minister and Healer, Rosie Lee, Licentiate Minister, 4653 Cedar Tone Dr., 75211-7723.

• UTAH •

ST. GEORGE

SAVAGE, Virginia, Licentiate Minister, Certified Medium, 1444 Basswood Way, 84790, (801) 634-9467. Summers: Box 1064, Lily Dale, NY 14752 - (716) 595-3046. Phone reading available.

• VIRGINIA •

ALEXANDRIA

KRITHADES, Rev. Christine, NST, 8725 Stockton Pkwy., 22308 - (703) 799-4774.

ARLINGTON

BATES, Virginia E., Licentiate Minister, 2716 N. Lexington St., 22207 - (703) 538-5164.

NORFOLK

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

SPRINGFIELD

GEHMAN, Rev. B. Anne, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 7317 Westmore Dr., 22150 - (703) 451-7705.

VIENNA

STRANAHAN, Rev. Patricia, NST, 1717 Besley Rd., 22182 - (703) 242-8823.

• WASHINGTON •

MILTON

JOHANSON, Rev. Lillian, Box 132, 98354-0132 - (206) 927-5579. SEATTLE: 4524 - 2nd Ave. N.E., 98105 - (206) 633-3438.

• WEST VIRGINIA •

BERKELEY SPRINGS

STARR, Rev. Barbara, NST, Comm. Healer, 397 Quaint Acres Lane, 25411 - (304) 258-4861.

WHEELING

GASBER, Rev. Velma, 104 N. Broadway St., 26003, Pastor of Way Memorial Temple - (304) 232-5795.

• CANADA •

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

ROSSNER, Rev. Dr. Marilyn, Ph.D., Pres./Pastor, Spiritual Science Fellowship, 1974 de Maisonneuve W., H3H 1K5 - (514) 937-8359.

DIRECTORY OF NSAC CHARTERED CHURCHES & AUXILIARIES

• ARIZONA •

PHOENIX - Chapel of the Sunflower, NSAC
Pastor, Rev. Bernard Baker, NST, (602) 802-2768; Asst. Pastor, Rev. Janet Tisdale, NST; Sun. Serv. 2:00 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m.; Call for details. e-mail: revbaker@ix.netcom.com.

PHOENIX - Church of the Living Spirit, NSAC
2641 W. Union Hills Dr. (at the Wyndham Garden Hotel); Mailing address: 3521 W. Topeka, Glendale, 85308-2325; Co-Pastors, Rev. Gene & Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller, NST, (602) 581-5544; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Call about Classes Wed. at 7:00 p.m.; Pres., Rev. Gene Pfortmiller.

PHOENIX - Harmony Chapel, NSAC
1522 W. Encanto Blvd., 85007-1203; Rev. Frank Staats, (602) 340-1939; Sun. Serv. 7:30 p.m.; Wed. Serv 7:30 p.m.; Thurs. Classes 7:30 p.m.; Sat. All Message Serv. 7:30 p.m.

• CALIFORNIA •

CALIFORNIA STATE SPIRITUALISTS' ASSOCIATION
Pres., Rev. Sandra Cook, (805) 965-4474; Secy., Evadell Sordelet, 5537 Whitney Ave., Carmichael, 95608, (916) 481-8729.

ARCADIA - Spiritualist Church of Revelation
Sun. Serv. - Pastor/Pres., Martin Pina; Secy., Rev. Tamara Ervin; Info. Contact Teddie Harringer, (626) 791-9212.

AUBURN - Spiritualist Chapel of the Pines
Direct Mail to 461 Grass Valley Hwy., #19, 95603; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Fri. All Message Serv. 7:00 p.m.; Church phone (530) 823-1816; Secy., Shyrlee Cole.

LONG BEACH - Spiritualist Society
3212 E. Eighth St., 90804; phone (310) 927-7079.

REDWOOD CITY - Redwood Church of Spiritual Science, NSAC
149 Clinton St., 94062; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Pres., Angela C. Di Berardino, (650) 964-6350; Secy., Jan Lurie, (415) 285-4120.

SACRAMENTO - Central Spiritualist Church, NSAC
2500 Marconi Ave., Suite 210, 95821-4855. Mailing Address: 4800 Auburn Folsom Rd., #63, Loomis, 95650-9328; Sun. Serv. 10:00 am.; Classes - first Tues. of the month 7:00 p.m., last Tues. of month Healing and All Message Serv. 7:00 p.m.; Pres., Denise E. Bell; Pastor and Secy., Rev. Sandra G. Dawson, NST., (916) 652-4568.

SAN BERNARDINO - Temple of Spiritual Truth, NSAC
732 N. Sierra Way. Direct Mail to: 27124 Cole Ct., Highland, 92346; Sun. Serv. & Healing 11:00 a.m.; Pres., William Sanabria, (909) 825-6809; Secy., Margaret Haskins, (909) 862-4376.

SAN FRANCISCO - First Spiritual Temple and First Temple of Spiritualism
3324 - 17th St., 94110, (415) 621-0491; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Classes 1st & 3rd Tues. 7:00 p.m.; All Message 2nd & 4th Tues. 7:00 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO - Golden Gate Spiritualist Church
1901 Franklin St. (Corner of Clay) 94109; Sunday, Lyceum 9:30 a.m., Sept. thru May; Healing 10:30 a.m., Devotional Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Student Service, Healing 6:00 p.m., Devotional Serv. 6:30 p.m.; Wed. Healing 7:30 p.m., Serv. 8:00 p.m., (415) 885-9976; Pastor, Rev. Donald Haddick, NST; Pres., Sonny B. Gee; Secy., Frances Richardson.

SAN FRANCISCO - San Francisco Spiritualist Society
1832 Buchanan (between Bush & Sutter); Church phone, (415) 927-2139; Sun. Serv., 6:00 p.m.; Pastor Rev. Barbara Thurman, (415) 924-1106; e-mail: bthurman@earthlink.net; President, Janine B. Milam, (415) 440-8464; JBMilam@aol.com; All mail to Secy., Rev. B. Thurman, 200 Marina Vista, Larkspur, 94939-2144.

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; 4504 Independence Rd., P.O. Box 310, Glencoe, 95232-0310, (209) 293-4795.

SAN LEANDRO - Spiritualist Church of Two Worlds, NSAC
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., Jean McFarlane, 816 Cary Dr., 94577, (510) 483-5630; 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. Sandi Cook, NST; Sun. Healing Serv. 10:30 a.m., Devotional Serv. 11:00 a.m., Wed. Message Serv. 6:30 p.m., Unfoldment Classes Monday and Thursday evenings 7:00 p.m.;Call for information on the Rev. Foard Memorial Library.

VAN NUYS - Spiritualist Chapel of the Flowers
7417 Van Nuys Blvd., Suite "R", 91405; Sunday Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Mailing address for church and Rev. Pat Smith, NST, 8901 Eton Ave., Sp. 39, Canoga Park, 91304, (818) 701-7633.

• COLORADO •

DENVER - Chapel of Spiritual Awareness
1939 S. Monroe Street, 80210; (303) 794-3154; Sun. Healing Service 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School/Lyceum and Worship Service 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Spirit Greetings 11:30 to 12:00. Beginning Spiritual Awareness Classes & Advanced Unfoldment are offered. Licentiate Minister, Dorothy Haskins; Pastor/Pres., Patricia J. Schott, (303) 973-9993; Vice Pres., Russ Dorren, (303) 973-4759; Treas., Don Larsen; Secy., Claudia Kunz, (303) 795-1179, 6457 S. Xenon St., Littleton, 80127; internet site: http://www.netcom.com/~myst4.

• CONNECTICUT •

CONNECTICUT STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION
Pres., Homer Wooster, 101 Leffingwell Ave., Waterbury, 06710; Secy., Verline Eldridge, 34 Starr St., Norwich, 06360.

NEW LONDON - New London Spiritualist Church
2 Moore Court, 06320; (860) 440-3150; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m., Thurs. All Message Service 7:30 p.m.; Pres., Susan Ferency, 2 Moore Ct., 06320; Secy., Lynn Gaffin, 70 Dell Ave., Apt. B5, 06320.

NEWINGTON - The Church of The Infinite Spirit
Masonic Temple, 80 Walsh Ave., 06111; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m. Sept. thru May; Summer services June & July, 2nd and 4th Sundays only; Pastor, Rev. Catherine Margiotta, 46 Webb St., Waterbury, 06704, (203) 754-3559; Pres., Mary Ann Noddin, 174 Daley St., Forestville, 06010, (860) 582-7385; Secy., Joan Wooster, 101 Leffingwell Ave., Waterbury, 06710, (203) 574-2017.

NIANTIC - Ladies Aid Society Camp at Pine Grove
June 13 - Sept. 12. Services, Sundays at 2:30, Tue., Thur., Sat. 7:30. For a program listing all Summer activities write to: Secy. Lynn Gaffin, 70 Dell Ave. #B5, New London, 06320-3346.

NORWICH - National Spiritualist Church of Norwich, Inc.
P.O. Box 939, 06360; 29 Park St. (off Main St.), (860) 886-8522.

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

STRATFORD - The Temple of Divine Truth, Inc., NSAC
Boothe Memorial Park; Serv. 6:00 p.m. on the 2nd & 4th Sat., Sept.-June.

WILLIMANTIC - First Spiritualist Church of Willimantic
268 High St., 06226; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m. Sept. thru May; service every other Sunday June, July, August; Lyceum Classes every Sun. before service from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m., children and adults, all welcome. Pastor, Joyce Orcutt, 133 Wales Rd., Andover, 06232, (860) 742-7846; Licentiate Minister, Clinton Cady; Pres. and Secy., Cynthia M. Snyder, 16 Sterling Rd., Moosup, 06354-2039, (860) 564-5976.

• DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA •

WASHINGTON - The Church of Two Worlds
3038 "Q" St., N.W., 20007; Sun. Healing 2:00 p.m., Serv. 2:30 p.m., (202) 333-5114; Pres., John Rothamel, Jr., (410) 590-9187; Secy., Rev. John Meerschaert, 1715 15th St. N.W. #202, 20009, (202) 483-6084.

• FLORIDA •

ORLANDO - Spiritualist Church of Awareness, NSAC
3210 N. Chickasaw Trail (P.O. Box 571043, 32857-1043); Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m. and Wed. 7:30 p.m.; Healing, Lecture, Messages all services; Adult Lyceum 10:00 a.m. first Sun. of each month; Co-Pastor and Pres., Rev. Jeannie Kerr Lerch, NST, 335 Piney Ridge Rd., Casselberry, 32707-3805, (407) 834-5378; Co-Pastor and Secy., Rev. E. Ann Otzelberger, NST, 4332 Woodlynne Ln., 32812, (407) 826-0807.

• ILLINOIS •

ILLINOIS STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES
Secy., Arsenia J. Williams, 10913 S. Parnell, Chicago, 60628, (773) 928-4100 Voice Mail; Home (773) 995-1911.

AURORA - Christabelle Spiritualist Church
Secy., Martha L. Witt, 1204 Game Farm Rd., Yorkville, 60560-1141, (630) 553-2517.

BURNHAM - Puritan Spiritualist Church
13906 Greenbay Ave., 60633-1614; Sun. Serv. 2:30 p.m. & Wed. 7:30 p.m.; Pastor, Anna Gross, 10930 Ave. "M", Chicago, 60617-6929; Secy., Janet Schroeder, 4310 Park Lane, Apt. 3D, Alsip, 60803-2644, (708) 389-5374.

CHERRY VALLEY - Cherry Valley Spiritualist Camp, Inc.
8002 Service Rd., 61016 Rd., 61016, (815) 332-5359; Camp Season: June thru Sept., Nov. thru May; Serv.: First Sun. of each month at 1:00 p.m.; Pres., Kenneth Boesen; Secy., Richard Taylor.

CHICAGO - The Church of The Spirit
2651 N. Central Park Ave., 60647-1101, (773) 489-5422; Chicago's Oldest Spiritualist Church; Sunday Family Worship Hour, 10:30 a.m.; Tues Dev. Class, 7:00 p.m.; All Message Serv. on the first Wed. of each month 7:00 p.m.; Pastor, Ms. 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 Sunday; Pres., Helen Lopotowski; Secy., Judith Galar, 4050 N. Oriole Ave., Norridge, 60634, (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., 61752-0174, (309) 962-9076 (leave message); Lyceum 1:00 p.m., Healing/Meditation 2:00 p.m., Devotional/messages 2:30 every Sunday; Pres., Chuck Johnson, (309) 661-1099.

• INDIANA •

INDIANA STATE ASSOCIATION OF SPIRITUAL SCIENCE, NSAC
Secy., Darlene Gettle, 1724 Marsha Dr., Indianapolis, 46214, (317) 248-9639.

GARY - First Spiritualist Church, Inc., NSAC
2430 W. 11th Ave.; Serv. Sun. 3:00 p.m., Wed. 8:00 p.m.; Pastor & Pres., Rev. Jesse James, Jr., 1301 Pennsylvania St., 46407; Secy., Verillia Shaffer, P.O. Box 4278, 46404; Unfoldment Classes Fri. 7:00 p.m.; Dinner every third Sun.

INDIANAPOLIS - First Spiritual Science Church Inc.
519 South Leeds Ave., 46203; Sun. Serv. Healing 10:30 a.m., Worship and Message 11:00 a.m.; Third Sat. each month Reading Day 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Wed. night Meditation 7:00 p.m.; 5th Sunday each month All Message Service and Covered dish dinner; Pres., Mildred Schlagel, 3232 MacArthur Lane, 46224, (317) 291-0799; Secy., Wanda Whetsel, (317) 261-0888.

INDIANAPOLIS - Progressive Spiritualist Church, NSAC
6225 N. Carrollton Ave., 46220, (317) 255-4902; Sun. Healing Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Sun. Worship Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Readings on 1st Sat. of each month from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m.; Meditation class Mon. evenings at 7:00 p.m.; Course of Miracles class Wed. evenings at 6:30 p.m.; Pres., Paul E. Keller, 9341 W. County Line Rd., Camby, 46113, (317) 831-2499; Secy., Pam Estes, 545 W. 73rd St., 46260, (317) 253-8458.

MICHIGAN CITY - Spiritual Science Church, NSAC
314 W. Coolspring Ave., 46360, (219) 874-6002; Sun. Serv. 1:45 p.m.; Correspondence to: Pastor & Pres., Rev. Ruth Novak, 7008 W. U.S. 20 W., #77, Daphne Park, 46360, (219) 872-6621; Secy., Ms. Claudia Lord, 1312 Carriage Ct., Apt. 4B, Laporte, 46350.

• IOWA •

CLINTON - First Spiritualist Church
5416 - 6th Ave. So., P.O. Box 123, 52732-0123, (319) 243-3233; Sun. Worship and Message Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Sun. Adult Lyceum 9:30 a.m.; Dev. Class every Sat. at 7:00 p.m.; Church closed during months of July and August, open first Sun. after Labor Day; Pastor & Pres., Rev. Georgia Milton Reed, (319) 243-9738; Secy., Richard Turner, 229 - 20th Pl., 52732.

CLINTON - Mississippi Valley Spiritualist Assoc. Camp
P.O. Box 75, 52733-0075; 1999 Camp Season, July 10 thru August 21; Rev. Bonnie Horstman, Secy., NST, (319) 242-8460.

CLINTON - Sunflower Spiritualist Church
10 Mt. Pleasant Park; Mail to: P.O. Box 6, 52733-0006; Sun. Serv. at 10:30 a.m.; Co-Pastors, Rev. Harvey and Rev. Bonnie Horstman, NST.

DAVENPORT - Spiritualist Harmony Church
1429 W. Seventh St., 52802-1212, (319) 324-9659; Sun. Healing Serv. 1:30 p.m.; Worship & Message Serv. 2:00 p.m.; Lyceum Classes available; (Closed during July and August.); Pastor, Rev. William E. Buchholz, 806 E. 13th St., 52803-4240, (319) 326-3201; Secy., Pat Peck.

• MAINE •

MAINE STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES
Pres., Graham Connolly, 25 Fessenden St., Portland, 04103, (207) 879-0424; Secy., Betty Simpson, R.R. #2 Box 5055, Carmel, 04419-9802, (207) 848-2273; Treas., Barbara Eckhardt, RR 1, Box 5, Belgrade, 04917, (207) 495-3810.

AUGUSTA - Augusta Spiritualist Church
Corner of Court and Perham Streets, 04330; (207) 622-4677.

BANGOR - The Harrison D. Barrett Memorial Church, NSAC
114-118 Harlow St., 04401, (under Lamb's Bookstore); Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Secy., Betty Simpson, R.R. #2 Box 5055, Carmel, 04419-9802, (207) 848-2273.

HARTFORD - Pinpoint of Light Spiritualist Center
Mail address: R1, Box 91, Canton, 04221; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., followed by a potluck lunch; Classes Wed. and Fri. evenings 7:00-9:00 p.m.; Secy., Virginia Norris; Pastor, Rev. Rupert Sigurdsson, NST; For information, phone (207) 597-2600, E-Mail - rupert@megalink.net.

MADISON - Madison Spiritualist Camp
Located at Lakewood Village, Rt. 201, six miles north of Skowhegan; mid July-mid Aug. schedule to be announced. No accommodations for rooms, camping or meals. For information: Pres., Zella Longley, (207) 465-3310 or Secy., John Davidson, 74 Central Ave., Waterville, 04901-6214, (207) 877-2204; e-mail jdavidso@mint.net.

NORTHPORT - Temple Heights Spiritual Camp Assoc.
Shore Road, Northport on Penobscot Bay; Camp session is from mid-June through Labor Day. A different featured medium each week. Services at 7:30 p.m. Sun., Tues., Thur. and Friday; Message Service 7:30 p.m., Wed. and Sat; Workshops Saturday mornings. Accommodations and kitchen privileges available. For a program or information: (207) 338-3029, P.O. Box 311, Lincolnville, 04849-0031.

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 Shore Road, Saturday Cove, Northport from Nov. to April; (207) 338-3029; Pres, Jean E. Bower, 159 Northport Ave., Belfast, 04915, (207) 338-1355; Secy., Carol A. Fricke.

PORTLAND AREA - Portland Spiritualist Church
719 Main St., (Unitarian Universalist Church), Westbrook; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 6551 PTS, 04102; Sun. Serv. 6:30 p.m.; Fri. Class 7:30 p.m.; Pres., Michael Carter, (207) 797-2039; Secy., Diane Warming, (207) 761-1685.

• MASSACHUSETTS •

MEDFORD - Medford Spiritualist Church, NSAC, Chapel of Peace
Sunday Services held at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 147 High St., 02155; Services at 5:00 p.m., Healing Lecture and Messages; Summer Services run from June to end of August: Held on Tues. Evenings at 7:30 p.m.; For Info. call Acting Pastor/Treas., Sandra Millen, 103 Columbus Ave., Salem, 01970, (978) 744-0546, or Carol Wendell, (781) 396-0900.

ONSET - On-I-Set Wigwam Co-Workers Spiritualist Camp
Season opens June 7th till Labor Day; Camp phone (508) 291-0073; Sun. Serv. 2 p.m.; Wed. Open Class 6 p.m. & Service 7:30 p.m.; Mediums Day's - Message Circles - Workshops/Seminars scheduled; Pres., Mary Lou Baumhoff, (603) 898-8854, P.O. Box 2223, Salem, NH 03079-2223; Prior to season call or write Secretary: April Sheevin, 80 W. Broadway, Denny, NH 03038, (603) 434-6090 for a full program.

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 - last Sun. in June; Pres., Dorothy Thurlow, 169 Bachelor St., W. Newbury, 01985, (978) 363-2009; Secy., Nancy L. Karolides, 144 Boston St., Middleton, 01949, (978) 774-4048.

SEEKONK - First Spiritualist Church of Brockton
Masonic Temple, 75 County St., 02771 (7 min. from Providence R.I.); Healing and Church Serv. Sun. 10:30 a.m.; Unfoldment Classes Sun. morn. 9:00 a.m., Sept. through May; Secy., Linda Boullard, (401) 245-8307.

SPRINGFIELD - First Spiritualist Church, Inc.
33-37 Bliss St., 01105, (413) 732-1234; Worship Serv., 1st Sun. after Labor Day until last Sun. in June at 10:30 a.m.; Children's Lyceum; Development Classes year-round; Pastor, Rev. John F. Sullivan, 26 Witt Hill Rd., P.O. Box 392, Worthington, 01098 - (413) 238-4495, e-mail: jsulli1942@aol.com; Pres., Daniel Duffy, 39 Parlin, Apt. 106, Everett, 02149, (617) 389-0834; Secy., Joyce C. Barlow, Box 873, East Granby, CT 06026 - (860) 651-0507; e-mail: barlow1104@aol.com.

• MICHIGAN •

MICHIGAN STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOC. OF CHURCHES
Pres., Marcia Hyatt, 4161 Buckingham, Detroit, 48224-3538; Secy., Marjorie Elaine Weichner, 8022 W. Chain Lake Rd., P.O. Box 89, South Branch, 48761-0089, (517) 257-4133.

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CHARLEVOIX - The Golden Rule Spiritualist Church
(Bayshore) 07444 Old 31 N, 49720, (616) 347-3899.

CHARLEVOIX - Northern Lake Michigan Spiritualist Camp
(Bayshore) 07444 Old 31 N, 49720, (616) 347-7598.

DETROIT - First Spiritualist Temple of Detroit
4161 Buckingham, 48224-3538.

LESLIE - Flower Memorial Spiritualist Church
West Bellevue at High St.; Sun. Lyceum 11:00 a.m., Church Serv. 10:45 a.m.; Pres., Timothy Weichner; Secy., Mary Ellen Weichner, 149 Vicary Rd., 49251-9746, (517) 589-9861.

OXFORD - Spirit of Harmony Chapel, NSAC
340 North Lapeer Rd., 48371; (810) 814-9172.

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. Stanley Gutt, (248) 548-2240.

SOUTH BRANCH - Chain Lake Spiritualist Camp Association
8000 W. Chain Lake Rd., 48761-0089; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m., June 20, 1999 through Sept. 5, 1999; Annual Retreat July 11-16, 1999; Lyceum Supt., Dawn Hyatt; Pres., Donald Weichner, 8022 W. Chain Lake Rd., P.O. Box 89, 48761-0089; Secy., M. Elaine Weichner, 8022 W. Chain Lake Rd., P.O. Box 89, 48761-0089, (517) 257-4133.

• MINNESOTA •

DULUTH - First Spiritualist Church
1414 E. Ninth St.; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3652, 55803; (218) 724-6554.

MINNEAPOLIS - Second Spiritualist Church
2230 Lyndale Ave. N.; Sun. Serv. 10:15 a.m.; Secy's., Chrissy & Melanie; Pres., Beth, P.O. Box 6115, 55406, (612) 529-0781.

MINNEAPOLIS - Spirit of Life Spiritualist Church
Services at Lake Harriet Community Church Bldg. at 4401 Upton Ave. S., 55410; (612) 572-8940.

ROCHESTER - Third Spirit of Life Spiritualist Church
Services Mon., 7:00 p.m., in the Unity Church building, 911 11th Ave. NW; 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 Church
411 Main St., 55102; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Pres., Joan LeDuc, 2169 Scheffer Ave., 55116, (612) 255-4609 (church) or (612) 699-4858 (home); Secy., Maureen Florés, c/o 2169 Scheffer Ave., 55116-1255.

• MISSOURI •

ST. LOUIS - Fifth Spiritualist Church
6026 S. Kingshighway Blvd., 63109-3558; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Healing, Meditation & All Message Service, 1st Wed. of the month at 7:00 p.m.; Student Minister, Toye E. Stinson, 10210 Tanner, 63136; Secy., Rev. Brenda Wittich, 3903 Connecticut St., 63116-3905, (314) 773-0106.

• 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
953 E. Sahara Ave., Commercial Arts Bldg. #D-12, 89104; Mailing address: Box 82134, 89180-2134; Tel. or Fax (702) 257-7506; Sunday Serv. 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.; Classes, Thurs. 7:00 p.m.; Healing Serv. Wed. 7:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. Catherine Stewart, NST; Secy., Nancy Noble.

• NEW HAMPSHIRE •

SALEM - The Church of Spiritual Life, Inc.
Masonic Hall, 109 Main St., Rt. 97; Mailing address: P.O. Box 414, Nutting Lake, 01865; Year Round Services; Regular Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.; Wed. classes p.m. call; Pastor, Kenneth Wingood, L.M., (978) 454-4163; Secy., Stephanie Frobese, (978) 851-6592.

• NEW JERSEY •

MERCHANTVILLE - Stow Memorial Foundation
Herbert Schneider, 107 W. Maple Ave., 08109.

WESTVILLE - Church of Eternal Life
243 W. Olive & Folsom Sts., 08093, (609) 456-2196; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Pastor, Lillian Joyce, 405 Binker Ave., Berlin, 08009, (609) 767-1651; Pres., Joyce Smith, 209 W. Madison Ave., Magnolia, 08049, (609) 627-6977; Secy., Joan Charlesworth, P.O. Box 103, Millville, 08332, (609) 327-3358.

• NEW YORK •

ALBANY - Capital District Spiritualist Center
c/o Robinson, 106 Lorraine Ave., Schenectady, 12304.

BINGHAMTON - First National Spiritualist Church
97 Riverside Dr., 13905.

CLIFTON PARK - Spiritualist Open Center
1471 Rte. 9, Rome Plaza, 12065, (518) 383-1931; Service: First Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. Hillary Kramer, NST; Pres., Helen Scheer.

EAST AURORA - First Spiritualist Temple
29 Temple Pl., 14052, (716) 652-5018; Sun. (except Dinner Day) 10:30 a.m. Healing Service; 3:00 p.m. Lecture and Message Service; 4:30 p.m. Social Hour; Dinner Day 3rd Sun. of month; 2:15 p.m. Healing Service; 3:00 p.m. Lecture and Message Service; 4:30 p.m. Dinner followed by All Message Service; Secy., Tracey Spencer, P.O. Box 314, Delevan, 14042, (716) 492-2069.

LILY DALE - Lily Dale Assembly
5 Melrose Park, 14752.

LILY DALE - Lily Dale Spiritualist Church
Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Healing & Message Serv. each Wed. 7:30 p.m.; Pres., Bruce Kaus, (716) 595-3051; Secy., Sueanna Vollmar; Lyceum Director, Karen Payne.

LONG ISLAND - A Sanctuary of Infinite Spirit, Inc., NSAC
Healing & Worship Service, Sun. 11:00 a.m. at the Smithtown Masonic Temple, 34 River Road, Smithtown, NY; Pastor, Rev. Virginia Berg, (516) 588-3150; Asst. Pastor, Rev. Nancy Lloyd, (516) 736-1058; Mailing address: 1280 Claas Ave., Holbrook, 11741-3902.

LONG ISLAND - New Horizon Spiritualist Church, Inc.
261 Elmont Rd., Elmont, 11003, (516) 354-1395; Services every other Sunday at 2:00 p.m.; Development Classes, Wed 8:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. Milagros G. Rivera; Pres., Dorothy Chusid.

LONG ISLAND - Temple of Metaphysical Science, NSAC
15 Oak St., Patchogue, 11772; Sun. Serv.: Healing 10:30 a.m., Worship 11:00 a.m.; (516) 366-2422; Pastors, Rev. Catherine Snell, NST, and Rev. Janet Travis, NST; Please address all correspondence to church Secy. at P.O. Box 1150, West Babylon, 11704.

ROCHESTER - Plymouth Spiritualist Church
175 Carter St., 14621, (716) 544-0427; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m., Sun. Message Serv. 2nd, 1:00 p.m.; Pres., Douglas Higgins, (716) 335-5109; Pastor, Cheryl Miner, (315) 524-0082.

• OHIO •

OHIO STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 5, Ashley, 43003.

ASHLEY - Ashley Spiritualist Camp
P.O. Box 24, 43003.

ASHTABULA - First Spiritualist Church
4230 Main Ave.; Sun Serv., 2:00 p.m., Healing & Clairvoyance; TELEPHONE FOR WEATHER CANCELLATIONS (440) 293-7056; Pres., Charles J. Benes, 8513 Creek Rd., Williamsfield, 44093, Secy.-Treas., Dorothy A. Benes; Services are held starting with the 2nd Sunday in September and continue through the last Sunday in May. The Church Book Shop is open every Sunday. Church is not in session during June, July, and August.

COLUMBUS - First Spiritualist Church of Linden
1751 Aberdeen Ave., 43211; Pastor, Rev. Neil C. Griffen; Secy., Carl Duffey, (614) 263-1631; Services, Sun. Morn. - Lyceum 9:30 a.m., Lecture Serv. 10:30 a.m.

COLUMBUS - Spiritualist Church of Spirit Revelation
1081 E. Weber Rd., 43211.

DAYTON - The Church of Two Worlds, NSAC
2272 Newgate Ave., 45420, (513) 256-2129.

MARION - Memorial Spiritualist Church
667 Henry St., 43302-6137; (614) 387-8887.

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• 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, 1306 S.W. 38; Secy., Juanita R. Oyer, 6216 S.E. 10th St., 73110, (405) 732-7975.

• PENNSYLVANIA •

ALLENTOWN - Getter Memorial, NSAC
1123 Oak St., 18102; (610) 434-3454.

McKEESPORT - First Spiritualist Church
809 Locust St., 15132; Sun. Serv. 2:00 p.m., Healing, Lecture and Messages; Pres., Ella Bryner, 501 Pirl St., Apt. 4-M, 15132; Secy., Carol Perella, P.O. Box 1981, Pittsburgh, 15230.

PHILADELPHIA - Second Spiritualist Church
423 S. Broad St., 19147, (215) 735-9630.

• TEXAS •

TEXAS SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION
Executive Offices: 5213 Chestnut Lane, Bellaire, 77401.

AUSTIN - First Spiritualist Church
4200 Ave. "D", 78751, (512) 458-3987; Devotional, healing & message service every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.; Pres., Tom Denney; Corr. Secy., Beth P. Fitzherbert.

CAMERON - First Spiritualist Church
802 S. College Ave., P.O. Box 1152; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Lunch 12:00; Second Service 1:00 p.m.; Third Sun. of each month; Pastors, Mrs. Frances Brown, Licentiate & Medium, 2723 S. Congress, Apt. #2311, Austin 78704, (512) 447-2188, and Rev. Evelyn Muse, NST, 1104 Susan Dr., Edinburg, 78539, (512) 383-2510; Secy.-Treas., Connie Cannon, (817) 697-2296.

DALLAS - Second Spiritualist Church of Dallas
1221 Willow Creek Dr., Lancaster, 75211, (972) 218-7220.

GALVESTON - Science Of Serenity Church, NSAC
2323 Avenue "N", 77551; Pastor, Martha L. Garrett; Secy., Douglas Smith.

HOUSTON - First Church Of Divine Science
2115 Turner St., 77009.

HOUSTON - Church Of Divine Spirit
8010 Wier, #1, 77093-6138.

SAN ANTONIO - Louise Scholtz Memorial Chapel, NSAC
1627 Pan Am Express Way No.; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Pastor, Garrett H. Scholtz; Secy., Ruby Thornton Robertson, 5754 FM775, LaVernia, 78121, (210) 217-4901; Treas., Elizabeth Dolyak, 19211 Sandyglen, 78240, (210) 641-6589.

TAYLOR - First Church of Psychic Science, NSAC
1300 W. 4th & Ferguson, P.O. Box 1113, 76574; (512) 251-5425.

• VIRGINIA •

FALLS CHURCH - Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, NSAC
222 No. Washington St., 22046 (at the Women's Club), (703) 242-8823; Healing Service each Sunday 10-10:30 a.m. followed by Worship Service at 10:30 a.m., September through June; Co-Pastors, Rev. Patricia Stranahan, NST, and Rev. Barbara Starr, NST; Pres., Wayne Knoll; Secy., Rita O'Connor, 8334 Idylwood Rd., Vienna, 22182, (703) 204-2821.

NORFOLK - The Memorial Spiritualist Church, NSAC
307 W. 37th St., 23508, (757) 622-5070; Service held on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Wed. at 7:30 p.m.; Healing available at 7:00 p.m. Sun. and Wed.; Pres., Carol A. Brown; Secy., Rev. Lelia E. Cutler; Lyceum Director, Beth Yates.

• WASHINGTON •

MILTON - Camp Edgewood, NSAC Assoc.
1228 - 26th Ave. Ct., 98354; all mail to P.O. Box 1587, (253) 927-2050; Pres., Greggory M. Stewart, (253) 927-8445, Fax (253) 927-3252; Secy., Colleen M. Mohler, 1210 - 26th Ave. Ct., Milton, 98354, (253) 927-2365.

MILTON - Church of Spiritual Truth, NSAC
1228 - 26th Ave. Ct., 98354; Sun. Serv., 11:00 a.m.; Lyceum, Sat. 11:00 a.m.; Pastor, Rev. Lillian Johanson; Asst. Teacher, Sabrina Chapman; Pres., David Chapman; Secy, Denice Chapman, Box 132, 98354.

MILTON - Church of Spiritual Unity, NSAC
Camp Edgewood - Church Serv. Sundays, 2:30 p.m.; Pres., Colleen Mohler, 1210 - 26th Ave. Ct., 98354 - (206) 927-2365; Secy., Jill Mohler, (206) 833-7572.

• WEST VIRGINIA •

WHEELING - First Spiritualist Association
(Way Memorial Temple) Broadway & Maryland Sts., (304) 233-5065.

• WISCONSIN •

WEST ALLIS - First Psychic Science Church
6228 W. Washington St., 53214; Sun. Healing & Worship Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Pastor, Rev. Pamla Ashlay, (414) 545-7650; Secy., Adrienne La Rosa, 111 W. Howard Ave., Milwaukee, 53207, (414) 483-9318.

WONEWOC - West Wisconsin Spiritualist Camp Association
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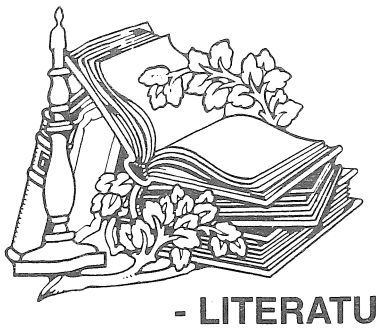
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DAYDREAMS

(Continued from page 7.)

fleeting – sometimes prolonged. Other times we go consciously to them – to arouse us, mentally and emotionally – to soothe our anxieties – to lull us to sleep. And like music, daydreams help us keep our "mental balance."

Daydreaming and fantasizing, often described as **"reflecting"** or **"woolgathering,"** operate in parallel with our ordinary everyday thoughts and actions. Yet, for many people they are "in the background" and one is barely conscious of them all. But if we pay attention, we can see that they occur at some level **all the time.** The world of fantasy is our world of art, our private theater with endless opportunities to escape from the banality of the everyday in the the exotic land of imagination and creativity.

Sometimes they are realistic – other times they are wildly escapist or fantastic and bear no relationship to our lives. Yet daydreams are filled with life's situations, longings, conflicts and hopes.

In James Thurber's classic story, *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty,* the bland existence of mild-mannered Walter Mitty is spiced with gratifying fantasies. In his fantasy, Mitty, as he drives past a hospital, rushes to an operating room where two renowned specialists are pleading for his help. The patient saved, the bumbling real-life Walter Mitty again and again relieves the tedium of his existence by imagining himself as a triumphant Walter Mitty – now the world's greatest marksman – now a heroic pilot. The story became a classic because most people can identify with Walter Mitty's fantasizing.

Not all daydreaming is as escapist or dramatic as Walter Mitty's. Much of it involves the homelier details of our lives – perhaps imagining an alternative approach to a task we are performing, or replaying in our minds, personal encounters that we particularly enjoyed or wish we had done differently.

Are the hours we spend in fantasy merely a way of escaping rather than facing reality? At times, they are. We should be aware of the pitfalls, otherwise we could become so totally absorbed by private fictions that we miss the change of the traffic lights. Until someone beeps!

In any case, the psychic energy of our minds and the imaginative activities produced are truly miraculous. We can be, as the great physicist Albert Einstein claimed to be, eternally grateful for them.

But, most important, the psychic energy of the mind which produces day-dreaming has particular value to Spiritualists. For **it is the exact condition used by Spiritualists for spirit attunement in spiritual healing.**

If we wonder why this is so, we can only remind ourselves that we have been designed exceedingly well. Why should we not be given a natural, easy, enjoyable condition to attune with the Spirit World? And day-dreaming is a NATURAL ability – so is spirit attunement – as natural as breathing – wondrous gifts from Infinite Intelligence!



MONTHLY

FAVORITE SAYINGS TO LIVE BY

"The Divine impregnates the human and lets it alone to discover itself..."
– Ernest Holmes



"The true scientist never loses the faculty of amazement."
– Hans Selye

"The greatest leaders in the world are those who are servants of the people they lead."
– Keshavan Nair

"It is not enough to be busy; so are the ants. The question is: What are we busy about?"
– Henry David Thoreau



"An easy task becomes difficult when you do it with reluctance."
– Terence (A Roman)

"When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us."
– Helen Keller



"We worry as though we had a thousand years to live!"
– Nico

"Right decisions are a result of long experience, and long experience is a result of long inexperience."
– Ben Holden

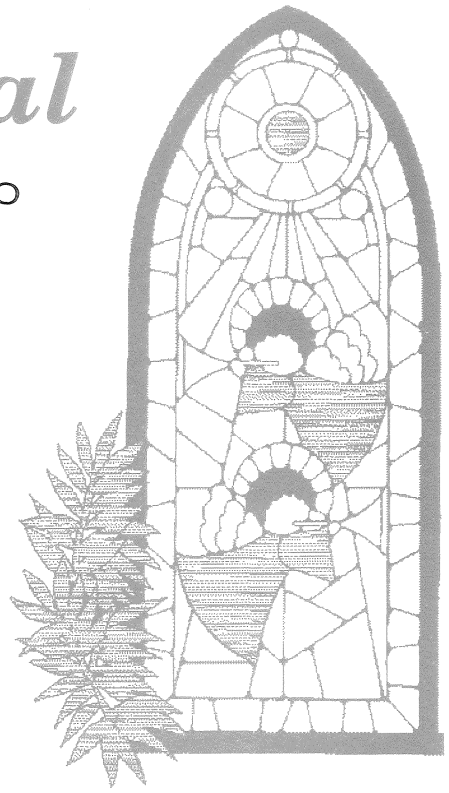
"The motto should not be: Forgive one another; rather, understand one another."
– Emma Goldman



"Chance is the pseudonym God uses when He does not want to sign His name.
– Anatole France

Renewal

BY TOM BUTLER, NEW MEXICO



During this Holiday Season it seems natural to consider renewal as it pertains to the New Year. I have spoken with a few people about renewal and each one has given me an excellent definition of what renewal means to them. They have said that renewal means to begin again, to be refreshed and spiritually energized. It is clear that we all have an idea of what renewal means and how it relates to this time of year, so preparing this talk should have been easy. Right?

It is my custom to first write an outline and then develop my theme from what I have written. After more than three days of writing, I found that I was still on page one, struggling to find a way to describe what I intend. I have found that defining renewal is very different from having an intuitive understanding of what we intend by renewal. So what is the problem? Why is it so hard to talk about the sense of renewal I feel at this time of year?

I have come to understand that this year-end sense of renewal is a special case. It is not simple replenishment or restoration, but a primal instinct to pause and regenerate which we share with the other creatures of this planet. This instinct is not satisfied in the way our people have come to celebrate the New Year or the birth of Jesus. These celebrations do have their roots in this primal urge for renewal, however, economic influences have overshadowed this early meaning.

Have you heard the story about *The Road To Abilene?* It is the title of a training video. The story has such a powerful message that it has become a catch phrase as part of the corporate culture in the company I worked for. The story is about a family who had agreed to drive the twenty or so miles from their farm into town for dinner. Of course, the town in the story is Abilene. As it turned out, no one really wanted to go into town, yet each person played the part of being interested because they thought the others did want to go. The evening was miserable for all as each one acted out his or her frustration in doing something they did not want to do. Of course they eventually discovered the truth and everyone was embarrassed for their failure to express their true opinion.

The moral of this story is that group think is dangerous. It is possible for the group or community to collectively talk themselves into believing something which they should know is not true. As an individual, if you are not careful you will do something because you think it is what is expected of you, rather than what is right for you. In many respects, our society is on the road to Abilene during the holidays. Perhaps you can see this for yourself in your Christmas card list. How many people do you send cards to because you believe it would be a social blunder if you did not? Look at the many presents that are given out of duty, rather than love.

I had confirmation of this the other day when Yasir Arafat was shown on CNN with a Christmas tree in his home. Did you know that Christmas has become a Moslem celebration as well.

Now, we all know the pro and con arguments about the factual nature of the *Bible*, so it will do no good to tread that path here. Nor is it my intention to complain about how Christmas has been commercialized. What I wish to point out is that there is a sense of renewal intended by these holidays that has been lost somewhere along the road to Abilene. I believe this season is really about our relationship with nature. After all, do we not adorn Mother Nature's finest trees with gifts and light?

This is supported by Jesus' lesson that life is a renewal of our relationship with Infinite Intelligence. Jesus' mission to Humankind was to show that we can achieve spiritual maturity by believing in and following Natural Law, the way he showed us in his works and in his lessons. He taught that it is not possible for us to be condemned to eternal damnation by our acts, but that opportunity springs eternal from the love of the Creator, Infinite Intelligence.

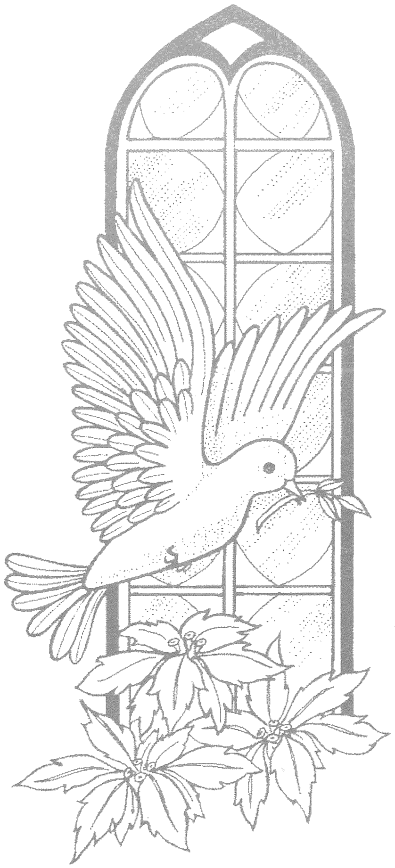
The true message given to Humankind by this man Jesus is that we should celebrate life by honoring the Principles of Natural Law. This Law is embodied in Nature, of which we are an integral part. Nature renews itself as we pass through the Winter Solstice, which occurs every year around the twenty-first of December. So you can see, our ancestors had great wisdom in selecting this time as the designated birth date for the man who showed us a path of spiritual maturity.

(Continued on next page.)

RENEWAL *(Continued from previous page.)*

I should point out that the extreme of death and rebirth we see each year is not necessarily dictated by Natural Law. Yes, there are Principles of Natural Law which call for cycles in nature. Activity appears to be always followed by a period of rest. Growth for instance, is accomplished through a halting cycle of creation and maturation leading to some form of retreat or rest, which is then followed by a resurgence of growth. But the drastic die-off in nature we witness in the winter may be a temporary extreme that results from the extraordinary tilt of Earth's axis. It appears that the more natural configuration for Earth is an upright axis which would result in very mild seasonal changes across the planet.

Nevertheless, it seems that every living thing on this planet experiences a period of growth, rest and resurgence in growth. This cycle of life is repeated daily as Earth spins under the sun and it occurs yearly as Earth changes its orbital position around the sun. It may also occur in lifetimes as individuals and species evolve to some, as yet undefined, maturity.



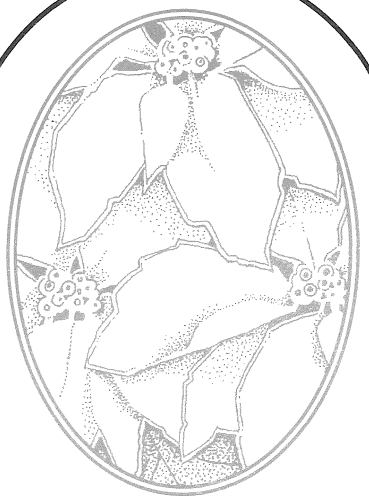
Protected from the wilderness within our grand civilization, we have been taught to believe that we are masters of this world. We may be inconvenienced but we are otherwise apart from the primitive forces of nature. Yet, we are hosted on Earth by natural creatures. We are Self, clothed in these wonderful physical bodies so that we may experience this plane of existence. In every sense, we are visitors here to explore the wilds of the Physical Plane.

Perhaps group think does not explain all of our behavior during this time of year. Many of us become rather emotional around Christmas and New Years in ways that cannot be accounted for by the stress of conforming to custom. For instance, a sense of expectation begins to pull at the back of my mind as the New Year begins. In my youth, this expectation was accompanied by an increased sensitivity that made me emotional about everything. Today, this sensitivity has matured into a warm glow of understanding as I sense the impending renewal in nature.

Those who follow the lessons of Wicca say that Nature should be honored. This is one of the hidden lessons of the Bible, and I believe, the reason the birth of Jesus is celebrated during the Winter Solstice. We are visitors here, and it is proper for us to understand the cycles of our adopted home so that we can help our bodies flow with these cycles. In many respects, we must also participate in this renewal by acknowledging and accepting the death of the old so that we may accept the renewal of life in the spring.

By thus entering into this flow, by meditating on the urges our body expresses during this time of year, and by recognizing the symbolic relationship we have with nature, we honor our adopted home and its operation. In this way, I believe, we may join the renewal that is occurring around us.

FEATURE



The Bishop's day was full to the brim with good thoughts, good words and good actions. Still, the day was not complete, if cold or wet weather prevented him from spending an hour or two in the garden before going to bed . . . He was then alone with himself, collected, peaceful, adoring, comparing the serenity of his heart with that of the other, affected in the darkness by the visible constellations, and the invisible splendor of God.

. . . He dreamed of the grandeur and presence of God . . . Without seeking to comprehend the incomprehensible, he gazed at it. He did not study God; he was dazzled by Him.

(Taken from William Walton's 1903 translation of Victor Hugo's LES MISERABLES, p. 12 of Volume I, Part I.)

A Lesson About Life . . . From The Internet

• Strawberry Moments

A woman was walking in the forest when she realized there was a family of tigers tracking her. She knew she was going to be their next meal so she started to run very fast. After two years of working out with her personal trainer, she could outrace even the most physically fit tiger.



And outrun the tigers she did. But she had been running with her personal trainer in the city streets and not in the forest. She wasn't used to navigating her way through dense trees, and she ran right up to the edge of a cliff. Ever resourceful, she scampered down the side and hung on to a clump of vines.

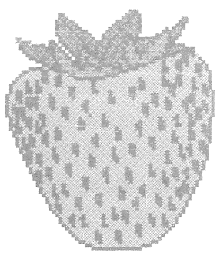
Meanwhile, the tigers gathered above her breathing heavily and licking their lips. Then she heard a roaring below her, and she saw another family of tigers making their way up the cliff. Apparently, this second family wanted to have her for dinner as well. Just then she heard a faint rustle and saw a small field mouse chomping through the vines to which she clung. "It's curtains for me," she said to herself. All this work at being successful and look where it's gotten me."

At that very moment she noticed a ripe strawberry hanging from the vine.

With the tigers above her and the tigers below her, her life flashed before her eyes. All the years she had spent running from her past toward an imagined, better future believing true success and satisfaction was right around the corner. All those ripe-strawberry moments she had passed up, waiting for riper strawberries, for better moments, for her life truly to begin. Surrounded by tigers, she realized there was only one thing to do: eat the ripe, red, delicious strawberry.

The woman did not survive. She didn't live happily ever after. But she did learn how to find joy and meaning in the most difficult situation.

There are always tigers above us and tigers below us, yet we refuse to eat the ripe, juicy, delicious, red strawberries that hang just inches away. Most of us ignore the strawberries because we believe there's something better up ahead.



We spend our lives waiting for life to begin. And we die, still waiting!

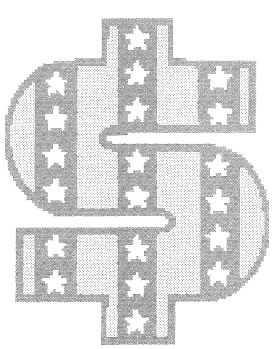
Live your life full of meaning. Soak up those little moments of joy. Learn to recognize the strawberries and enjoy their taste. They'll make your life richer, more meaningful – and add layers upon layers of experiences that might otherwise slip by. The strawberries are there.

Focus on the "Now!"

– Author Unknown

1099 for 1999

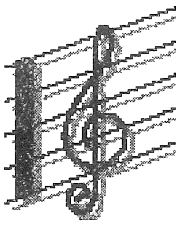
Just a reminder that the 1099 tax form for workers and speakers that have received $600.00 or more in payment during the year, needs to be given to the individual before January 31, 1999. A copy of the basic informational form along with a companion form, a 1096,



must be filed with the Federal Government by February 28, 1999. If you have not paid any one individual at least $600.00 in the past year you do not have to complete this form. Consult an accountant if you have any questions.

What happened in DECEMBER throughout the years?

DECEMBER, 1770



Ludwig von Beethoven's birth date. He is considered one of the greatest orchestral composers. This is even more remarkable when we know that after the age of 30, he was totally deaf, yet he continued to produce scores and conduct orchestras.

DECEMBER, 1847

The ***Univercoelum/Spiritual Philosopher*** was first published by Andrew Jackson Davis in New York City. A. J. Davis wanted his issues to establish a universal system of truth and to express his concepts in order to try to reform and reorganize the thinking of the time.

DECEMBER 11, 1847

On this date the **Fox Family** moved into the rented cottage in Hydesville, NY until their own home could be completed. About two months later the rappings and noises in the house began and continued daily, but especially in the evenings. On the night of March 31, 1848, Margaretta and Cathie received recognizable communication from the spirit of Charles Rosna, proof positive that life is continuous.

DECEMBER 11, 1814

Joseph Rhodes Buchanan was born on this date and was known for his work with psychometry, a term he coined for the "soul of things" or the energy that remains on an object. Also on the eleventh in 1901, the **Morris Pratt Institute** was incorporated in Whitewater, Wisconsin.

DECEMBER 14

The Hebrew Festival of Lights begins, **Hanukkah.** This is a time when the Jewish people commemorate the victory over the Syrians and the rededication of the Temple at Jerusalem.

DECEMBER 21

Winter Solstice, the first day of winter and the shortest day of the year. Take some time today to reflect on the year ending and the millennium ending and to set some spiritual goals for the future.

DECEMBER 24

Good wishes go to the holiday birthday girl and NSAC Board member **Marrice Coverson.**

DECEMBER 25

A day to honor the birth of **Jesus of Nazareth** and his demonstration of spiritual gifts and truths. This great teacher lived his message of Natural Law, of Trust in God, of Love and Peace on Earth. Merry **Christmas** to one and all.



DECEMBER 31

World Healing Meditation and **New Years Eve.** May the new year be one of peace, love and harmony.

PERSONALITIES *(Continued from page 6.)*

stoop steps of their San Francisco home. His father, who was away on a trip, wrote him to ask why his son had put a potato in the ground. His son never again doubted the closeness of the spirit-entities nor their power.

His father took him to the California State Spiritualists' Association Convention in the nineteen-twenties. Here he saw a medium who was entranced by a Fire Worshipper of Ancient Persia, who spoke through her in that language. She gathered handfuls of Flames from a punch-bowl-sized container of inflammable substance, burning brightly, and covered her face, her hair and her neck, smearing the flames all over her head. Two thousand people witnessed this amazing phenomenon and saw the medium emerge from this entrancement without a burn or sear of any nature, yet, she had literally bathed her head in fire.

This writer recently learned from an aunt in New York City that in 1910, she and two friends visited John Slater and were astounded when he detailed an account of a train wreck, one in which they had just survived. The three ladies had journeyed from Bradford, Pennsylvania to Buffalo, N.Y., to see this great demonstrator of Spiritualist phenomena.

John Slater gave his last earthly services for Spiritualism at the C.S.S.A. Convention at Los Angeles, California in June, 1932. Upon his return to his San Francisco home, this famous medium traveled to the spirit side of life to continue along his pathway of progression.

Let us remember his indomitable will to "carry-on" and labor ceaselessly for Spiritualism, undaunted by the bigotry and the ridicule of ignorance. Let us ever be grateful to him for his unflinching loyalty to this Truth.

John Slater has left a worthy pattern for us to follow in the dissemination of "Spiritualism, the Light of the World."

Taken from *TNS*, April 1977.

Achieving Your Potential



BY THE REV.
CHARLENE KLEINSCHMIDT,
NST, NEW YORK

There's a great day coming and now is the time to prepare to share it. Each of us has the potential to be more than we are and do more than we have done in the past. It may be we will select a new avenue of expression or continue to "grow where we are planted." Aren't these some of our favorite platitudes? Why do we hear the same old things over and over? Because they are the truth even when they don't seem to apply to our present condition.

Let's explore some of the more common sayings and see how that fits with our potential to express more fully on this plane of existence. Where shall we begin? How about "Every day is a new beginning." We say it, we preach it, we teach it, yet do we believe it? How many times have you heard yourself say, "It's going to be a bad day? It's Monday, what can you expect?" How much time do we spend wasting in "should have, could have or would have?" Do we truly think we can change what has happened in the past? Would it be fun to be a revisionist and have the perfect world as we see it? I'm willing to wager we could find something wrong with it! We each know we can't change what has been, we don't know what will be, so let us take advantage of this moment and make the most of it. Don't let me fool you, I speak from experience. "Experience is the best teacher," right? Well, we've all experienced new beginnings and remember the thrill and excitement of something that came true that you had hoped and dreamed for, over what seemed most of your life at that moment.

Start hoping, start dreaming now for the future you want to be yours. When we get to that day, we'll share laughs about the "good old days" and, like the stories of struggle from the Depression, we'll be amazed at our fortitude and laugh at the ways we found to get around, get over and get on with our lives. It may seem impossible now, but I tell you we can do it. Every day is a blank slate and you can dread it, get through it or enjoy it. The last choice will make it a lot easier for you to gain and learn from the experience.

"Life is like a river, it flows and ebbs." How many times have you wondered how long is it going to ebb before I see it flow again? Instead of worrying about things getting better, start preparing as though they already were better and going to be even in the days ahead. "When you get to the end of your rope tie a knot and hang on." There is nothing that can destroy us unless we let it. Financial hardships, health problems, fractured relationships, lost positions or any other of the problems common to a material world will not wreck us if we remember to hold on tight to the truth we believe in. But, when we allow our frailties and problems to pull us into a morass of negativity, we will once again learn the old familiar lesson that like attracts like.

Remember, "SOMEWHERE THE SUN IS SHINING," "COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS," and "ISN'T IT WONDERFUL WHAT SPIRIT CAN DO?" Sorry, I couldn't resist! How many times a week do you sing these familiar words or similar ones. Don't you feel great for a few moments?

What am I trying to tell you? If you're feeling like you can't find the way out of a paper bag, say every memory gem, worn out platitude and principle you can think of; sing every song that ever gave you upliftment. Read, write, meditate and/or pray, but most of all prepare for your greater good.

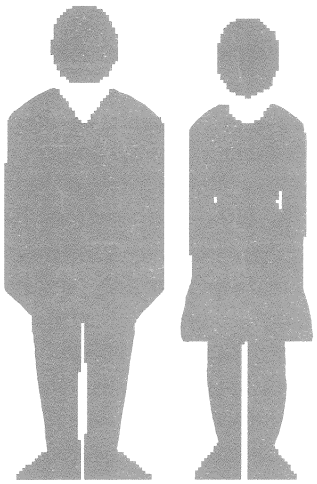
When times are at their darkest and the wolf is at the door, (hey I told you I was into platitudes) lift up your head and shout I know the truth and I am free! Spirit now, spirit forever I will survive physically, financially and spiritually.

Let me share a little story with you. I sat down to write a very basic, hopefully inspiring article, and this is what came out of the computer. You see I was having "one of those days!" I decided to share it with you since while it may have been meant for me, I believe in sharing what I learn.

150 YEARS OF MODERN SPIRITUALISM

BY JUDY MERRILL, DSNU, CANADA

1998 celebrated the anniversary of 150 years of Modern Spiritualism. Our interested magazines and literature has had to be very forthright in reminding everyone of this event; the total lack of enthusiasm for a celebration of 150 years has been rampant!



With a call to public relations work in the last little while, I have been aware of reaching out to others to see where their interests lie. I have been involved in organizing a celebration for the 150 year anniversary, but saw little interest or enthusiasm for the effort!

Because of this celebration I was sponsored to two of the events which took place in the U.S.; one near the home of our beginnings and the other located in Lily Dale. Both were attended by those interested and enthusiastic Spiritualists who saw a need to grow and progress, but they were also looking for ideas to take home to their own congregations.

With the total North American population (even if we just included local, surrounding territories) there was a definite lack of attendance! Why were the majority of Spiritualists so lethargic with regard to this celebration? What is Spiritualism doing wrong that we cannot even bring our own to conferences and celebrations?

I can only say, those that did join in found some answers, some new questions, some direction and some ideas to return to their home area. It would be hoped that this will be used over a period of time to produce growth and progress with as many groups as possible.

Those that organized and babysat their endeavor are to be highly commended for their ideas of interaction which allowed for complete exchanges of information. On a one-on-one basis over the conference time, there were many new friendships made and many acquaintances renewed. Would that we could continue the good work started!

What was of interest was the respect and airing the predictions of Emma Hardinge Britten received at these conferences. She foresaw so many things for Spiritualism; couldn't we take just a few of these good ideas and try to grow and progress through our association with Spiritualism.

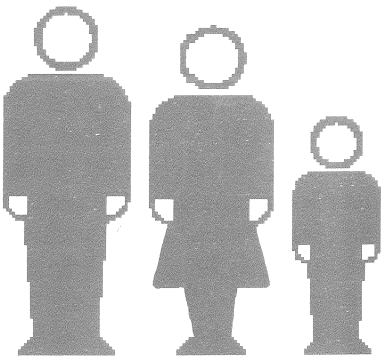
If we really want to know about Spiritualism and stand up in the public eye as educated workers for God and spirit, we must educate ourselves and elevate our intellectual and moral knowledge, for ourselves as well as to pass along to those we teach and encourage to growth.

One of the ideas to come out of these conferences is the important need for education, of both the young and the old. Our youth are our future, we need to get back to basics and enter into Lyceums for education. Our leaders, workers, mediums, must be qualified in what IS Spiritualism and what IS NOT Spiritualism so that qualified workers can be found to teach from our platforms at every service.

Let's look to those organizations that can educate and train our workers so that we can enter into the next 150 years as the intellectual Religion, Science and Philosophy that Spiritualism was intended by its free-thinking, forward looking founders and pioneers.

NEWARK CONFERENCE

Spiritualism has many workers who stand with Martin Luther King in his most known quote "I HAVE A DREAM." Thank God for the Rev. Cosie Allen and her merry band of workers who put their dreams for Spiritualism into practice and produced a wonderful celebration of continuity through the Newark celebration of 150 years of Spiritualism on March 28-29, 1998. These tireless workers manned telephones, mail boxes, and computers to correspond and bring together a large group of Spiritualists who wanted to see the growth continue.



The atmosphere most notable was a seeking after answers which could be taken into the many areas repre-

(Continued on next page.)

sented. Ideas of growth, continuity and sincere spirituality for Spiritualism. When the Canadian organization first approached the Rev. Allen we were informed that this was to be a totally non-sectarian conference. This took a lot of thought, but on reflection it was recognized as the best policy in keeping ideas open and valid for everyone. Anyone trying to put too sectarian an approach on their presentation soon realized the tone of the gathering.

I believe we were the only Canadians represented at the conference, but the ideas presented have no boundaries and we took home not only many new friendships, but some wonderful ideas for growth and spirituality.

The word mystical comes to mind when I think of the tone of this whole gathering and as I have worked long and hard to de-mystify my understanding of spirit, I find it hard to find another word for the "warm fuzzies" evident throughout the proceedings. There was an open, welcoming atmosphere to everyone involved, whether they spoke publicly or met with others on a one-to-one basis.

One of the attendees from Lily Dale started the ball rolling with a circulation around to each table collecting signatures of those in attendance on his conference calendar; soon everyone caught on and took home signatures and warmth from those in attendance. What an ice breaker!

I must apologize for the length of time it has taken to respond to this wonderful exercise in bringing interested Spiritualists together. I had personally felt this 150 year anniversary would get more attention, both media and individual than was found with those we contacted. We tried a conference in Canada which did not draw more than a whisper!

Is this attitude of lethargy perhaps our problem in growth? While the conference was wonderful for the people who attended, how does the number relate to the numbers that could have attended and enjoyed fellowship with fellow Spiritualists? Times change and I am sure the costs of travel and accommodation have taken a rather steep upward turn, but so also has our economic values. How many times do we hear about the money spent on frivolous entertainments? How little sent to our churches and organizations?

One of the things to come strongly from these conferences on our anniversary celebrations, has been to focus on the need to be Spiritualism, in all its finery, and stop trying to be what others expect of us in our Philosophy, Religion and Science. We need to pick up the torch of the calibre of our pioneers and move forward in Spiritualism so that when we celebrate 200 years of Spiritualism it will surely be Spiritualism we will be celebrating.

Many got off on this tangent that it will have a new name, etc. Don't buy that package; Spiritualism is Spiritualism and we have a message that few really appreciate; we are spirit now! What a glorious hope and future! Be Spiritualism now and always, it will lead you to the light.

A very strong congratulations and blessings to those who organized and worked diligently to bring about this wonderful gathering.

STANDARDS INTO THE FUTURE OF SPIRITUALISM

Going into the next 150 years of Modern Spiritualism we need to look at upgrading our standards. Overnight wonders have been the order of the day!

The message from our spirit friends is that we are spirit now – that is the truth we are to be passing along to everyone. To do this in an intelligent manner, we must look to cleaning up our own act first.

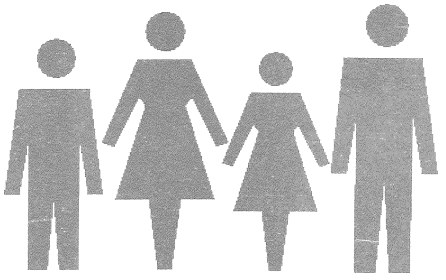
The message is simple, not complicated by some human convoluted thinking that is designed to confuse, not enlighten. Andrew Jackson Davis taught that we are spirit which is proven in Nature and that the message is as simple as Nature. God is spirit and that same spirit is seen in all life, from the tiniest flower to the most complex machinery of the human body, mind and spirit.

Cleaning up our own act requires us to look into educating those workers who are educating us and the general public, at large. Have they studied, or are they willing to accept any idea that enters their head as Spiritualism?

Our philosophy is based on the message from Andrew Jackson Davis, who communed in spirit with ancient and modern philosophers to understand the nature of man and all life.

We have detractors of education who suggest that the expense involved outweighs the time needed to produce good, educated workers for Spiritualism. How come these same people can afford to enter workshops, seminars that promise shortcuts for a price, but cannot afford the good education offered by National Associations?

A lady was overheard to say that she had now completed all her time and could be called a Reverend, according to her source of study. We might well ask a Reverend in what? Completed her time, what about completing some experience in actual demonstration? That was not a criteria to receive this Reverend. Reverends are looked up to as the source of knowledge and they will be asked the hard tough questions by both our followers and our detractors. Where will they find their answers?



Many have thought that Spiritualism should go the way of the New Age. Why? There is a New Age movement and if that is what you choose to be, then be the best darn new ager the world has ever seen, but let's not confuse this with Spiritualism. After short

(Continued on next page.)

Texas Transition



Rudolph Lutonsky experienced 91 years of life and Texas was the place he called home. He was a farmer in his younger years and a lifetime resident of the Taylor, Texas area. Mr. Lutonsky left the physical expression on July 27, 1998 at the Taylor Care Center.

Rudolph was a veteran serving in the Army Air Corp, and was a member of the SPJST Lodge. He was preceded in death by his parents, four sisters and five brothers. The funeral services were held on August 1, 1998 with the Rev. P. John Caporusso officiating.

In the early part of this century, around 1914, people in the Taylor area became interested in Spiritualism and that included the Lutonsky family. The meetings were mainly held in the spring and fall of the year to avoid the poor weather and the meetings were held in homes. Rudolph and his brothers would ride their bicycles to the meetings and later on attended by means of automobiles.

The family supported the beginning of the American Spiritualist Center but at first the services were only once a month, for the minister, the Rev. Cervin, had to come to Taylor from Dallas, Texas. Later the church was re-named First Church of Psychic Science, and Rudolph Lutonsky was an active member. He will be warmly remembered and welcomed when he communicates with us from the Spirit World of Life.

Golden Opportunity

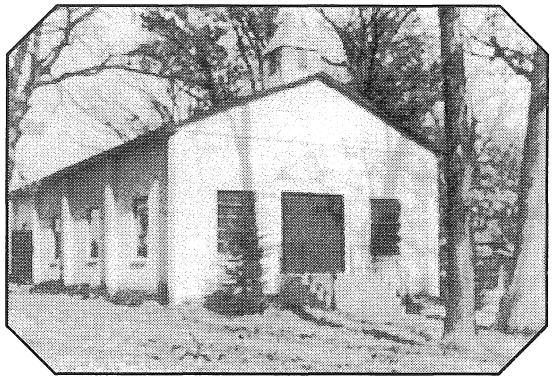
Cherry Valley Spiritualist Camp has a need for a year 'round live-in caretaker "Spiritualist couple."

Duties will include general maintenance and care of the camp buildings and property. Exact details of these duties will be provided at a later date by the camp board.

This will be a fantastic opportunity for a couple to be a part of Spiritualism's growth in the Rockford, Illinois area. In place of remuneration, living quarters and utilities will be furnished along with local telephone service. You will also be hosting guests who are serving the camp.

If you are interested, contact

Camp President, Arsenia Williams
at **773-995-1911**, or *voice mail* **773-928-4100**,
or *fax* **773-264-6348**, or *write*
10913 South Parnell, Chicago, IL 60628.



Cherry Valley Spiritualist Camp
Cherry Valley, Illinois

150 YEARS OF MODERN SPIRITUALISM...

(Continued from previous page.)

seminars in any confusing philosophy believed to be New Age thinking, we are getting people seeking accreditation with Spiritualism. They are not one and the same thing, nor are they interchangeable. Spiritualism is the Philosophy, Science, Religion of life brought to us, in our mere 150 year history through enlightened spirit guides and friends who have walked this way before.

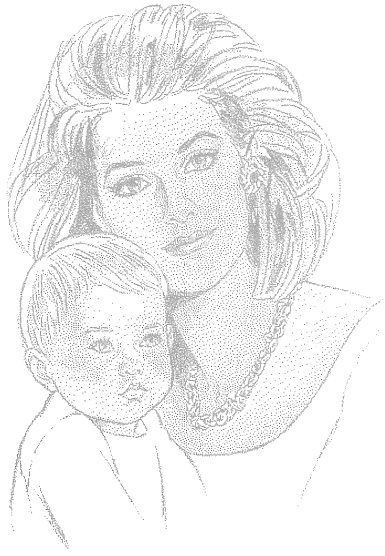
The Psychics out there, leading people into fortune telling, have taken the short course in Spiritualist studies and believe they have the whole message. We have only just scratched the surface as a movement, how can anyone have all the answers? We are NOT new age, we are NOT Psychics, we are Spiritualists! Let's look deeper into this beautiful philosophy of life to find those spiritual answers we seek; let us keep our movement clear and free from added nonsense; let's keep up the energy of accrediting only those educated followers who have something to share. Let's respect and cherish those mediums who seek to bring enlightenment to our movement and followers, through the knowledge of education. Let's look to the past to find our errors and correct them, as we move forward into today's technology and expertise that has been gained through the hard work of our pioneers of the past. Most of all, let's educate our workers so that we can enter into all society with a message that is presented in an intelligent, intellectual manner to an educated public.

The question still remains in many minds – Where is Spiritualism going in the next 150 years – in the next millennia? Let's take it there with education and intelligence; with workers who know the value of study and work; with organizations that have done their homework over the past 150 years. Let's show respect to the old girl – Spiritualism – by opening our minds to what it is and what it is Not.

Healing Mediumship

Infants communicate with bereaved parents.

BY BILL RIORDAN, UTAH



"Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them." –Romans 12:6. Here the healing gift of mediumship will be shown healing parents and their loved infants.

Recently a mother called for a sitting, her 18-month-old toddler made a transition. She was referred by a traditional counselor as she had a difficult time dealing with the transition of her child. As a medium, this seemed difficult at first thought. I was caught by the limitations of Natural Law in physical form, failing to apply the well known Law that life is eternal, thus possibly giving us prior growth on another plane of existence.

The sitting lasted two and one half hours. The baby described how he died, a heart stoppage. Included was his exact position in the crib when discovered by the mother. The baby also said he had a slightly warmer than normal temperature the night before he died of 1.5 degrees, but this did not contribute to its death. The information was confirmed by the mother during and after the sitting.

The child spirit went on to say how the mother loved him more than anyone in her present plane of existence and described in detail the mother's problems earlier in life and how he was sent to let her know she can love now in previously uncharted depths of love awareness. Certain occasions they had experienced together were relayed.

I saw a young child in the mother's arms during the sitting and she confirmed it. She could feel him and kept perfectly still, enjoying the bond which lasted about fifteen minutes. It was stressed to the mother by the infant, to please no longer to see him as an infant but as an advanced loving spirit guide who would be with her the rest of her life. He would help her develop this new found love to make her life happier and the world a better place for us all. She has felt significantly better since the Universe brought her to this occasion for a healing. This is certainly another reward for the gift of mediumship.

Shortly thereafter, I was invited to speak before a group called "Compassionate Friends." They are a group assisting one another when a loved one is called back Home. I felt a massive responsibility when over 40 people attended. Each person gave their story and I felt very heavy hearted, but with a very powerful desire to have this meeting make a difference for all present, on both planes of existence. I was allowed by the power of all the love present in the room, to give 20 people attending healing messages from their person on the other side. It was a very rewarding emotional and spiritual experience.

In one case a mother thought she was responsible for her baby's death. She raised her hand, and after recognizing her, she cried out from a front row, "I killed my baby." "No you did not," came from my vocal cords in a very resonating fashion. Wow, did her infant step in and take control! I was able to describe the time of death, the mother's bed and surrounding room and the fact the baby was in the bed with her, and her alone. She woke up and found her baby dead with her arm around him at 3:30 a.m. In addition I told her the baby returned home to the Spirit Land as a result of a brain problem. The audience was gasping as I was telling her these things and she was crying out, "It's true, Thank-you God," . . . "It's true, Thank-you God!" – I found out later she thought she had smothered the baby. She brought the baby to bed with her, not wishing to be alone, as she had earlier argued with her husband.

Yes, it was very rewarding to be an ambassador to the Spirit World, assisted by spirit friends and those in bodily form, to bring about the start of a healing. Is that not what it is all about? We ALL have so many opportunities to be a loving instrument of Infinite Intelligence, some seemingly small, some with more obvious impact, yet all equally

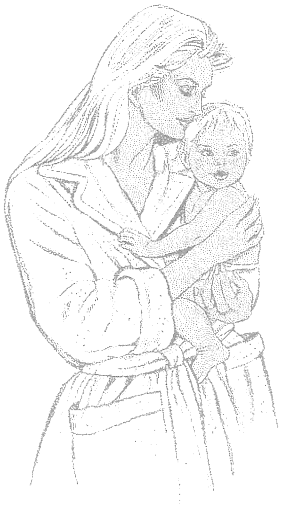
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important. An essence of Spiritualism we all can achieve, as written by Paul in Galatians 6:2, "Bear one another's burdens and you shall fulfill the Law of Christ."

The following is an article, taken from a Salt Lake City, Utah paper, written by Ethel Bradford.

Friends of Bill Find Solace From His Service

No matter where we go, we can see, read or hear stories of psychics and their unusual talents. Now, I'm no expert, but I've noticed that any psychic worth consulting, works quietly and unless you're in the know, one could be living right next door and you wouldn't even know it.



So, Bill, this friend of mine, has a job and home just like everyone else. Mows his lawn with the same mixture of patience and impatience as we do, and yet . . . he has the gift of being able to communicate with those who have died. Just like that.

With no advertising, the world has found the pathway to his door. In addition to people in our area, a world-wide known TV personality has quietly come for his help, and he has, just as quietly, been flown to Washington D.C. for consultation. You see, fame and money matter little at the nitty-gritty level of life, where emotional or mental pain can rip us all apart.

Bill was recently invited to host a weekly radio show that would cover nine eastern states, but declined with thanks. Oh, the money would have been good, far more than his present job pays, but to my friend, the talent he has is not meant to be sensationalized, and such a show would almost surely bring that to him.

Going on, we know that all death can leave pain over unhappy relationships or events and so . . . when death comes abruptly by way of suicide, accident or if communication lines have been completely broken down, the guilt and depression that follow can be extreme and devastating. This is where Bill has helped so many.

To begin with, he says he knew as a child that he had this ability, and was surprised to find out that others did not do the same. And when he did learn his ability was unique, it took years of maturing wisdom, to harness and wisely use the unusual talent.

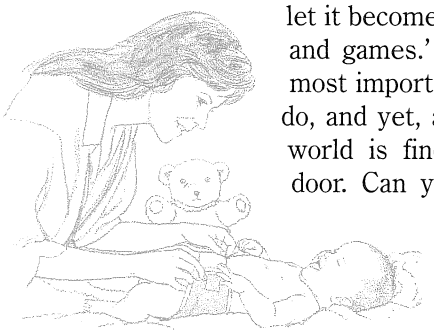
While shunning outright publicity, Bill is in no way shy about what he does. Jackie Sharp, facilitator of Healing the Heart Grief Recovery Groups, says, "When Bill is scheduled to speak, the attendance triples. He has assisted young mothers whose babies have died of SIDS to know it was not their fault.

"And with each communication," and Jackie's voice choked as she continued, "some personal event, that only those concerned could possibly know about, is revealed and thus creates a "reality check" for everyone.

"A mother, grieving over the disappearance of a son, was comforted when Bill could tell her that a hiking accident caused his death, and for the first time in years, she is at peace. Only those who have been buried in pain over the loss of a child can know the happiness this brings."

Bill has also worked with police groups and requests that as few people as possible be there, because his work is not for exhibition purposes, and an atmosphere of calmness and quietness is essential.

Such talent is a gift, and one so gifted learns to be silent about the work and careful to never let it become anyone's idea of 'fun and games.' Bill considers it the most important thing he will ever do, and yet, as quiet as he is, the world is finding the way to his door. Can you imagine? All this and more, right here in this peaceful, green valley.



The Pearl of Great Price

by Merry Browne

Of all Life's treasures I covet the one that is most worthwhile,
Leave the rest and think nothing of it but a worthless trinket pile.
To walk with the warm hearted and bask in a sunny smile.

MONTHLY

Questions & Answers

Q **I recently received some communication that included the following question/statement. "Why aren't Spiritualists more spiritual? I am becoming discouraged."**

A As editor, I must thank several of *TNS* writers for keeping Spiritualist's honest, that we do have to continuously work in our churches, our organization and our lives to be spiritual. We are like a small community and as we get to know each other it can be a mixed blessing. It is nice to think people care and are interested in what we are doing for this creates comfort and security. But it can also create discomfort if nosiness, attempts to control, or judgmental attitudes result.

If we think of our groups as a church family, then we might consider sibling rivalry, a form of jealousy and competition. So to answer the question, "Why aren't Spiritualists more spiritual?" it is because we are human and in the process of remembering that all life is an expression of God. One thing that we have learned is that people genuinely want to help each other, want to belong, want to grow Spiritually. Sometimes they are not sure how to accomplish these goals.

What does it mean to grow Spiritually? Some feel that becoming a mental, physical or healing medium is how one grows. Although these are special by-products, to grow Spiritually is to become more loving, and to become more aware of the God energy in all life. When we recognize that the Universal Energy is everywhere, in everyone and remember that God is Love, then we desire to assist others, because we love them. Mediums and healers and individuals that are filled with the love energy are doing the work of Infinite Intelligence.

Let each of us continually strive to grow in love and to do God's work, then will we be Spiritual and be practicing Spiritualism.

– SP

Humor to put you in Good Spirits . . .



A friend of ours got a television set for Christmas but had to return it. The salesman asked what was wrong with it and she replied, "There is snow on it."

The salesman said, "In Phoenix?"

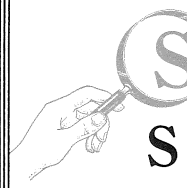
"Some people change their ways when they see the light; others when they feel the heat."

– Caroline Schoeder
Milwaukee *Journal*

An acquaintance of mine hadn't spoken to his parents in a long time and decided to surprise them with a telephone call. When his dad answered the phone, my friend said, "Hi! would you prefer a million dollars or a call from your oldest son?"

Following a very short pause, his father replied, "I hope you're not my son."

– *Reader's Digest*



Searching for a

SPIRITUALIST

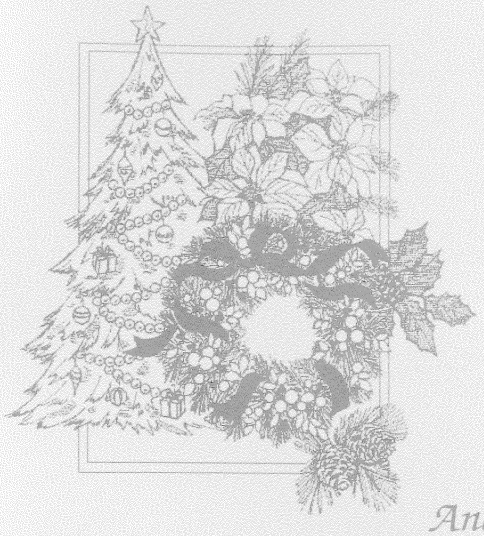
to spend a

Summer at Camp.

The Mississippi Valley Spiritualist Association Camp in Clinton, Iowa, is looking for someone to cook and do light housekeeping for room and board. The dates are July 10, 1999 thru August 20, 1999 or any part of that time.

If interested, please send resume to the:

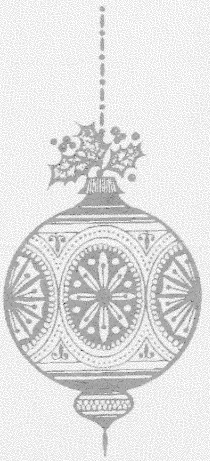
Board of Directors, MVSA
P.O. Box 75
Clinton, Iowa 52733-0075



Christmas

– Author Unknown

I have a list of folks I know, all written in a book.
And every year at Christmas time, I go and take a look.
And that is when I realize that these names are a part,
Not of the book they're written in, but of my very heart.
For each name stands for someone who has crossed my path sometime,
And in that meeting they've become the rhythm in each rhyme.
And while it sounds fantastic for me to make this claim,
I really feel that I'm composed of each remembered name.
And while you may not be aware of any special link,
Just meeting you has changed my life, and a lot more than you think.
For once I've met somebody, the years cannot erase
The memory of a pleasant word or of a friendly face.
So never think my Christmas cards are just a mere routine
of names in a Christmas list, forgotten in between.
For when I send a Christmas card that is addressed to you,
It's because you are in the list of folks I am indebted to.
For I am the total of the many folks I have met
And you happen to be one of those I prefer not to forget.
And whether I have known you for many years or few,
In some way you have been a part in shaping things I do.
And every year when Christmas comes, I realize a new,
The best gift life can offer is meeting folks like you.
And may the spirit of Christmas that forever endured,
Leave the richest blessings in the years of you and yours!



– Happy Holidays from all of us at TNS –
Sandy, Bernard, Sharon, Nancy and Betty

Declaration of Principles

National Spiritualist Association of Churches

1. We believe in Infinite Intelligence.
2. We believe that the phenomena of Nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.
3. We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith, constitute true religion.
4. We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death.
5. We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact, scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism.
6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you do ye also unto them."
7. We affirm the moral responsibility of individuals and that we make our own happiness or unhappiness as we obey or disobey Nature's physical and spiritual laws.
8. We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul here or hereafter.
9. We affirm that the precepts of Prophecy and Healing contained in all sacred texts are Divine attributes proven through Mediumship.



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