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THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST SUMMIT

TNS

NOVEMBER
2001

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

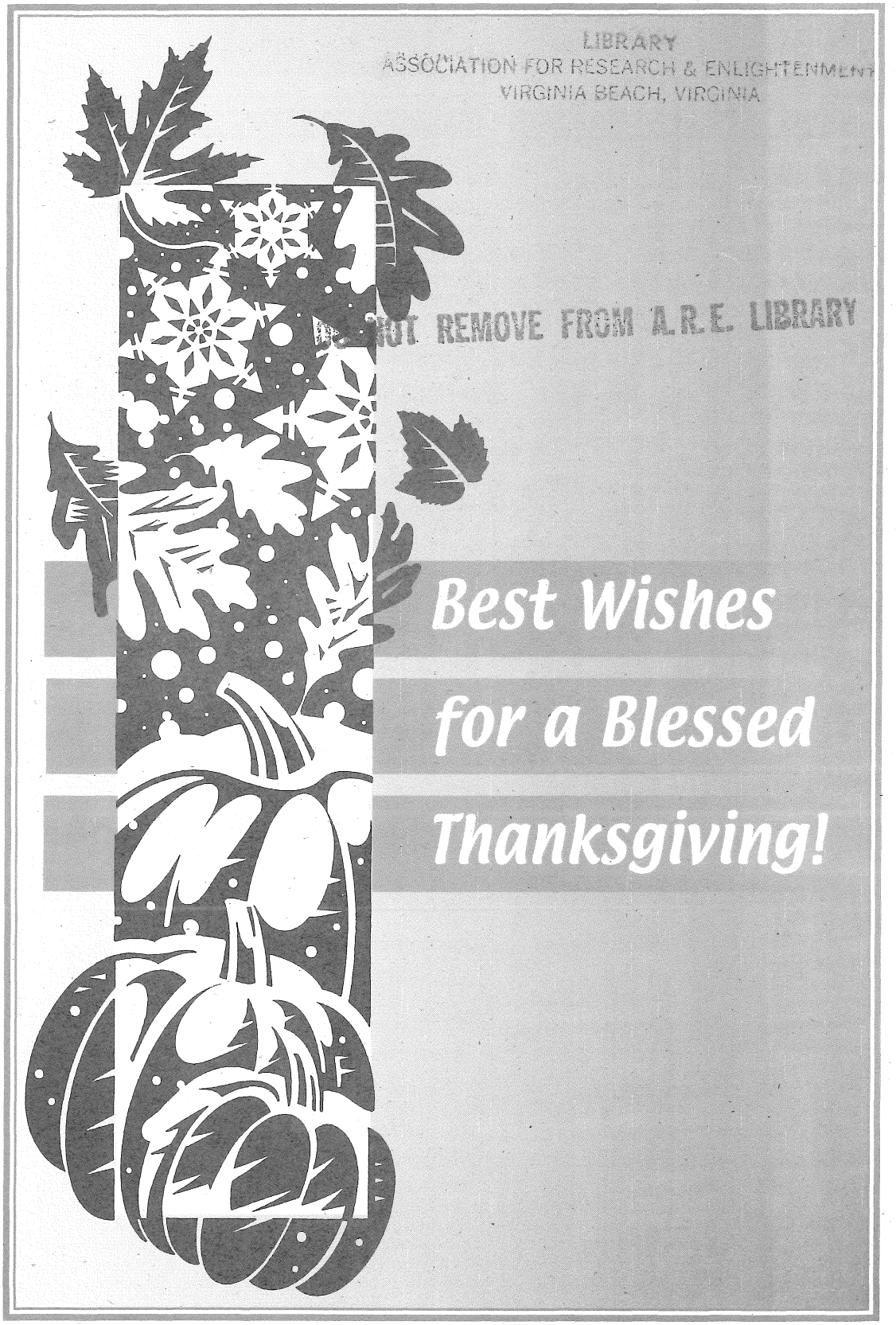
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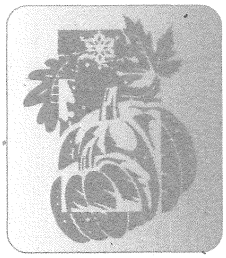
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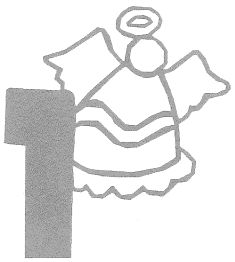
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NAME THEM ONE BY ONE!

BY THE REV. SANDRA PFORTMILLER, NST

The patio in front of our home is our favorite place for morning tea or coffee. We watch the birds and listen to their songs, enjoy the rabbits, or detect an occasional coyote or roadrunner. Across the street is a riding academy, so we enjoy the horses running, kicking and exercising their powerful bodies. The birds and rabbits have come to trust our presence (when the dogs are inside), and for a moment we glimpse their busy life. These are simple, yet profound blessings, with a lesson that reminds us to trust God and enjoy all of life.



One of my favorite hymns goes "Count your blessings, name them one by one; count your blessings see what God has done..." In this glorious world we are surrounded by blessings, all from a loving Infinite Creator. The Oneness of life is in all life, and as we come into a fuller understanding and acceptance of this beauty and abundance, then it becomes our mantra to be thankful.

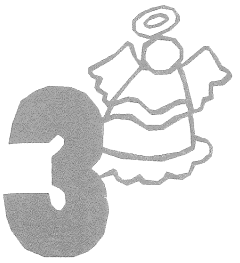
Infinite Intelligence has designed the marvelous Laws of the Universe to create a working sequence in order that our souls may continually evolve. Here we review just a few Laws that help guide us to live with gratitude as we keep the principle current in our thoughts. The Law of Mind, the Law of Love, the Law of Cause and Effect, the Law of Return are Natural Laws that show us a pathway toward spiritual maturity. How grateful we are to the Creator who gave us dependable directions so we may guide our happiness or unhappiness.

We are blessed to understand that the way we believe is what we will receive, and what we are attracting into our existence. If we realize there is a sense of lack or discomfort, this is a signal to us to examine our principles of life, for where our attention goes, there our energy flows. Spiritualism teaches that we should be thankful for the joys and the sorrows in life for each is necessary for our development.



The great spiritual Law of Return is, in order to receive you must first give. How does this apply to changes or blessings? Well, if you desire to grow spiritually, you help others to grow, you share love, you encourage and you donate time or money to a good cause. If you want love or a friend, you must first give love or be a friend. When we extend ourselves to assist others, our church or the community we are doing spiritual work. Each time we do spiritual work, we attract spiritual energy which helps us to advance in our soul growth, and it increases our vibrational force.

There is within each of us the capacity to do great things, so when we give thanks for all our abilities, it helps to activate them and bring the abilities into greater awareness. It puts into motion the Law of Cause and Effect, for as we state our intention, we generate energy or cause. Then, when we understand that with Infinite Spirit all things are possible, the supply of our desire is filled with the boundless Divine energy of the Universe. This is the nature of God—Infinite Energy, Infinite Abundance, Unlimited Supply, our Source of all life. Each time we tap into our higher, inner Power, we use the Law to create—let us be grateful. Gratitude and forgiveness release the soul to do greater things and to accept more spiritual light, love and energy.



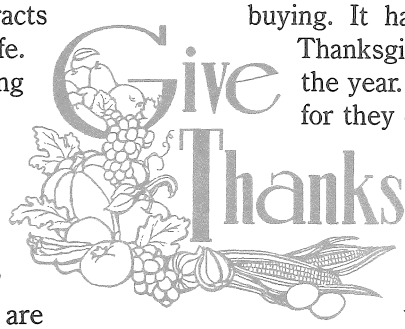
Life is a gift for us, with our free choice, to plant the seeds that will grow into our reality. Each planter chooses the type of crop they want to harvest, and the plants emerge as an exact replica of the planter's thoughts. The harvests of Spirit are peace, health, joy, patience, kindness, and love. We have heard that you judge a tree by the fruit it bears. Our thoughts are the seeds. Spiritual energy and ethers relate to the soil and elements used to materialize our thoughts according to Natural Law. The plant that emerges will be in the image and likeness of the original seed thought. Isn't it powerful to know that our subjective mind has this creative element of cause? That the fruits of our mind will be whatever we plant? Let's see, you could plant some joy and laughter, some peace and harmony, some prosperity and health, and put a border of love around the entire garden. Once a seed is planted, expect growth and change. Any weeds that come into your garden must be re-examined, blessed, forgiven and released, then new



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It's Thanksgiving Time!

Thanksgiving Day is a unique holiday for it celebrates our abundance and our blessings. It began as a harvest festival and is associated with a family festival, a time for family and friends to join together to celebrate their blessings. When we express appreciation and gratitude, we send an energy into the Ethers which attracts and magnifies wonderful potentialities of life. Praise works to increase our good according to Divine Law.



Each time we contemplate all we have to be grateful for, we clearly see that the Universe supplies our every need, blesses us at every turn, and helps us to evolve to greater spiritual beings. Why? Because the Universe needs us! We are creations of the Divine Source, here for a purpose, therefore, God, with Infinite Love, blesses us each day. But, Spirit requires our cooperation, our acceptance, our openness. Take time to open yourself to the Kingdom of God, the Light of Spirit, the inspiration found within, and abundant blessings will be received.

When we roll the credits for Thanksgiving Day through our minds, let us remember the Native Americans and send a prayer of gratitude. It was the Indians and their hospitality, plus teaching, that helped keep the first American Pilgrims alive. Bless them.

As many sit around digesting the feast of Thanksgiving Day, thoughts move toward Christmas gift giving and buying. It has been reported the three days after the Thanksgiving holiday are the biggest shopping days of the year. Spiritualists do not have to rush to the malls for they can give Spiritualism. Books for children and adults are gifts that keep giving by opening the mind and bringing new awareness. Give the gift of **Knowledge**.

The NSAC Book store has a wonderful assortment of literature to choose from and will send a book list upon request. A gift subscription to the *Lyceum Spotlight* or *The National Spiritualist* are gifts that are appreciated each month of the new year. All of these suggestions help spread the wonderful truths of our great Philosophy. When you are making out your Christmas list you might also consider an extra donation or a gift (something the church needs) to the Spiritualist Church you attend—help our Religion grow. Happy Thanksgiving to all from *TNS*. ✧

NAME THEM ONE BY ONE!

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beautiful seeds are planted. What a blessing a beautiful garden is to behold.

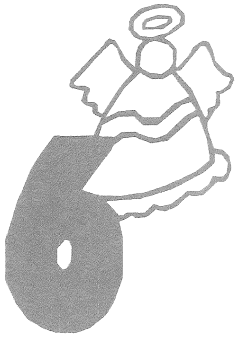
One harvest of life that I appreciate so greatly is nature. We take Nature for granted, yet where would we be without the four elements of air, water, fire and Earth. The beauty and joy of the other kingdoms is indeed a thing to be thankful for each day. The Infinite supplies our life and our Planet with all of the elements we require to survive.

Life with gratitude is a gift from the Great Creator. A communication of gratitude to the Infinite creates a powerful energy and vibration which is sent into the ethers to benefit and be returned. The Divine Source is the First Cause, the Creative Force with a loving spark which flows through vibration as creative energy. Energy is the force that is in all life, therefore, energy is Spirit, the activating, animating, motivating principle which is indestructible.

Some of us are trying to fix life, trying to change it. If Infinite Intelligence is all that is, all is as it should be, and everything has a reason to be. God is in control, so rather than focusing our energy trying to fix life, let us focus our energy on love, on the glory of Spirit, on meditation and prayer. The Law of Attraction will deliver that which we focus upon. As we place our attention on Love, we realize it is the great healer and sustainer of life.

The Kingdom of God is within, so as we still the outer noise and enter the inner silence, we touch a Loving Spirit. This is an awesome experience to feel the Divine Flow of Spirit. "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord...Enter into His gates with thanksgiving." Psalm 100:1,4.

As we enter this Holiday Season, let us make a list of our blessings and check it twice. We are each unique and special with gifts to share. Maybe we should write a thank you note to God for this wonderful Universe, for our life and the life of our loved ones, for the bounty and beauty of our planet, for our joys and sorrows, for our growth and abundance, for the Spirit World and our guides and helpers, for every moment of love. Gratitude begins within and expresses outward as we share love and light. Let us be especially grateful for our marvelous understanding gained through Spiritualism, a Philosophy of Light, Love and Continuous Life. Happy Thanksgiving.



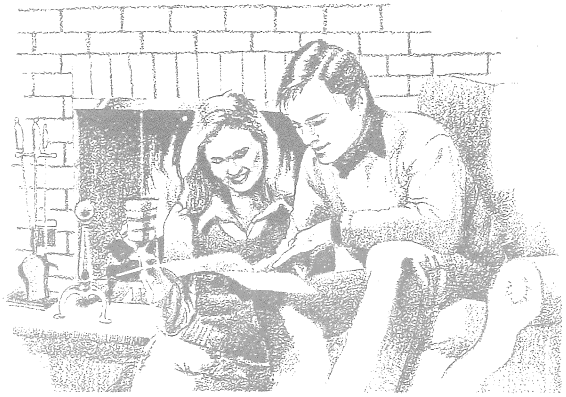
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Holiday Blues

BY THE REV. CHARLENE KLEINSCHMIDT, NST, NEW YORK

The period between Thanksgiving and Christmas finds many in less than a cheerful holiday mood. They may be going through the first year without a loved one, worried about finances or health, or feel depressed for no particular reason. How can we find a reason to rejoice when we are in a negative frame of mind?

A few suggestions may help you to remember it is fine for you to have enjoyment and happiness in your life. Sometimes it may be experienced for only a blink of an eye. Build on that! Soon you will find yourself with more moments of peace and feel like rejoicing with those around you.



If loved ones have made their transition, even though you understand you will see your deceased family again, right now you miss their physical presence. Often people feel angry with the soul for leaving them behind. Those feelings need to be expressed, but remember your loved one is living a wonderful new life and you are still connected by love. If sadness enters, pause and see your friend in the Spirit World achieving things they wanted to experience, unfettered by the physical. They are whole, complete and perfect.

Reflect on all the good times you had with this person, during this season and at other times, then relish the memories. Allow yourself to feel spirit joining with you in the re-creation of those times. Dream of the things you want to be able to share when you are together again.

Just as your loved one is experiencing new things, allow yourself to try something new you have never done before, but always wished you could. Maybe try an art class, a sport, a balloon ride, dancing lessons or learning to play a musical instrument. Make a date with yourself or a friend to go someplace. Consider these events celebrations of your new life and of your loved one's new life. Your spirit friend will be much happier in their new home if they know you have taken the steps to continue your growth and your Earthly spiritual journey. Our spirit loved ones progress in the next plane faster if we are moving forward, and if we release them to move forward. Look at each day with joyful anticipation of greater things to come.

Some ways to lift your consciousness and open yourself to life are: daydream, meditate, use your imagination to create something, listen to uplifting tapes or music, and read inspirational material. Keep busy, take a class or volunteer to help another, but whatever you do, your positive intention to grow, and the energy you put forth, will help to make quality changes.

One year I bought some construction paper and made scrapbooks, for people, of photographs I had collected, with little writings of what I remembered about my pictures. My words also expressed how glad I had been to have them in my life. Years later I discovered many who had been given these little gifts, still had the booklets, and took great delight in the memories they brought.

Holiday celebrations do not always have to be expensive. Begin some new traditions. There are many wonderful free events available that children and adults can share in. Make these adventures part of the celebrations of the Holidays. Add an ice cream or hot chocolate after the event, and a nice afternoon or evening has been spent. We are each wonderful expressions of God, with many blessings to be thankful for, so allow yourself time to look for all of your gifts. Each day, choose something to rejoice in, and see how it changes your life. This holiday, spend time rejoicing at the wonders of life, on both sides of the very thin veil. I wish you a season of light and love. ✧

The Spirit Within



BY JERRY LINDBERG, ARIZONA

• The Mountain

When I was a little boy, I would run and play without thinking who I was or what I was. I was only interested in taking things apart and putting them back together again (and some, how they seemed to work). I was also interested in "critters" and life forms. I would drag all kinds of things home—like snakes, spiders, lizards, ducks, chickens, cats and dogs.

As I grew older, my thoughts turned to girls, cars, hiking, camping and eating (not necessarily in that order)—so who cared about Spirit or my inner self in those days? As time passed, I joined the Navy for four years and traveled to many foreign countries. I started noticing how other people lived and how they believed. Thoughts started to form about God and life.

I was raised in Santa Fe through my high school years. Several times I hiked up to the top of the Sangre DeChristo mountains just north of Santa Fe, NM. I would sit for hours under a big tree overlooking the valley and mountains. I was amazed at all I could see and hear. There were birds, animals and all the quiet sounds of nature and the roaring thunder from a distant storm.

One special weekend, I climbed to the top of the mountain and sat under my favorite tree. The tree was very small, since it was just at the timberline. As I looked out, I could see for miles and miles. I saw the sky, the sun, the land with trees, rivers, animals and all that Infinite Intelligence had created. I began to realize how great God was; and, I wondered *how did I come "to be"* and *"what am I."* I needed a way to explain this to myself. I started developing some thoughts.

Have you ever wondered about *"what you are", "where you came from", "what makes you who you are", "why you are so different from others and yet so much the same"?* I started to become aware that there is something more than only my physical self.

As I grew older, I attended several different churches, looking for something, and listened to what they had to say, but they just didn't seem to fit quite right for me. None of them explained how I felt about myself and God. There was more. Then in 1995, I was led to the Spiritualist Church by listening to my inner voice.

• Different people—Same light spirit within

We are all God's children. We exist on this Earth Plane in different physical bodes; but, the living spirit inside each of us is the same. Genesis 1:27 *"In the image of God He created them."*

Consider: Infinite Intelligence made many different kinds of people; different races, sexes, sizes, shapes; and living in many locations around the Earth. Now a question for you to think about! How can all this be—if we are all made in God's image?

Even though our physical bodies are different, the spirit within each of us is the same. Our spirit is pure energy, light energy, the purest form of all energy. Only our outer shell (our body—the vehicle we travel in on Earth) is different from person to person. The spirit within us is identical, yet we each have our own unique memories and experiences. Our spirit is a spark of Infinite Intelligence—light energy; therefore, *we are all made in God's image.*

• Spirit—Soul Sequence

Consider this:

God's spirit is within each of us.
Our essence or Soul is our Spirit within.
Our Spirit makes us what we are.
God is light and love.
Spirit is light energy.
Energy can not be destroyed.
Energy is continuous.
Energy is Light.
Light is life.
Life is continuous.

• Electromagnetic Energy

If you think about "Electromagnetic Energy," the solar system, the universe, the Earth, and my world on Earth are all made up of cyclic energy. Electromagnetic energy oscillates. Electricity and light are oscillating and vibrating forms of energy. Sounds are air motion that oscillate at frequencies that our ears can hear.

Why is toning so comforting and healing? Toning is vibrations that resonates with our inner frequencies and develop oscillations throughout our beings which in turn stimulate

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growth and repair functions that heal our soul and body.

• Thought, Memory is life

Thought is life's experiences transformed into electrical signals. Stored electrical signals are our memories. Memory is our life's record. But there is more! We have the power to reason. A power given us by God to rise us above the animals and plants.



• The Rainbow is an Electromagnetic Spectrum

You look out and see a rainbow. A rainbow is an electromagnetic spectrum of visible color frequencies. You see all the colors going from the infrareds, reds, yellows, greens, blues and into the invisible ultra violets. "Vibration," as we often refer to in mediumship, refers to electromagnetic energy that is vibrating within us. The vibrations of our soul.

Light that we see is a form of electromagnetic energy, but in the "visible region" that the eye can see. The rainbow is a band of colors, each with its own vibration, which produces one unique color. There are over 2.6 million colors within the visible spectrum alone. All the colors combined together produce pure white light, God's light.

The visible spectrum is a very small portion of the complete electromagnetic spectrum. Now shrink all the rainbow down into one hair line of white light; and, imagine the white light as string tied in the center of a long rope that goes as far left and as far right as you can imagine. There really isn't a beginning or an end because frequency vibration comes from and goes to plus and minus infinity. God doesn't limit energy. Mathematical equations support an infinite number frequencies. Even though our minds have a hard time comprehending infinite vibrations, that doesn't mean that they don't exist.

• Third Eye

Radar, as you all know, can see through solid objects and materials, like radar domes. How is this possible if you can not see through them? Yet the solid material appears invisible at Radar frequencies. At higher vibrations, the energy waves actually pass through the molecules of the solid object and it will appear transparent. It's like a pane of glass, you can touch it with your hand, you can't walk through it, but you can see through it and it is a solid object. It's the same thing, only at a different frequency.

Imagine that your head/skull can appear invisible to some range of frequencies. Then at higher frequencies, the third eye would be able to see as clearly as you see others in a room.

Also, consider that spirit "talks to us" in frequencies other than "the audio range" or "the sound" vibrations that we are familiar with. When we learn to tune in to these frequencies, we can receive thought messages, visions, feelings and healing. Think about it! This is how spirit communicates with us while we are here on the Earth plane. Isn't it wonderful?

• Awaken

Awaken the spirit within! The spirit within each of us has all of God's given powers. We are usually not aware of our gifts and only need to be awakened to them. A few people are aware and use their gifts such as mediumship, trance, or healing. The rest of us have to learn how to awaken the gifts. Don't just think you have these gifts, know that you do. Go forth and develop your wonderful talents; read, take classes, meditate, listen, ask for what you want and you shall receive it.

• The Story of the Missing Key

Spirit inspired me to relate this story. When I first started to become aware of Spiritualism, I was skeptical. Then I started to think back on my life and saw where spirit and my spirit guides have helped me many, many times.

I was working late at my RV Repair business and, at the end of the day, I walked around the yard to see that all the vehicles were locked. I passed an El Camino with the door unlocked; so I locked it up and put the single silver key in my hand with several other keys.

After making my rounds, I noticed that the El Camino key was missing. I checked my hands, pockets and all around me and couldn't find the key. I must have dropped the key. I thought 'O Well, this should be easy'. I back tracked my steps through the yard four times, looking for the key. I knew that I must have dropped it somewhere along my path. I couldn't find it. I went through the path again and again, no key. I then went through the path backwards, still no key.

Well! A short time before, I was introduced to my spirit guides. So I thought, "Ask my spirit guides to help me find the key." I did. I said a prayer of thanks to them and asked them to

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lead me to the key. One last time I walked the same path again. I took about three steps, with the evening sun behind me, and there right in front of me where I had looked before, I saw the key reflecting the sun and shining with a blazing white light. "There is the key," I thought. I said, "Thank you, dear God, and thank you spirit guides." My heart was pounding, for I was touched at that moment. Spirit does answer when we just ask. Learn to trust your spirit guides and feelings; for they will comfort you and guide you throughout your life.

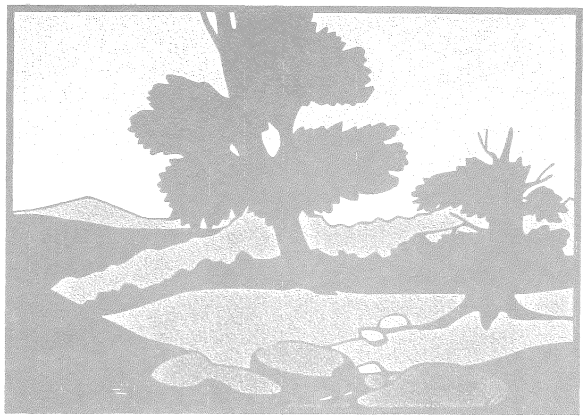
• Time is Relative

Have you ever wondered how ascended masters, spirit guides, and crossed over souls can be everywhere all at the same time?

Time is relative as Einstein pointed out. We use only our five senses and understand four dimensions (length, width, height, and time). Yet, mathematics describes "n" dimensions without any boundaries. This leads one to consider that things can coexist in more than one place at the same time. Departed spirits coexist here with us, right in this room and yet we can't see them or hear them; unless, we have developed our abilities. Spirits exist in a plane of higher frequency.

All souls vibrate at a unique frequency. You each have your own vibrations now and will continue to forever. When you pass over, your vibrations just shift to a higher frequency and you no longer need a physical body to exist.

Imagine time as a plane, like a sheet of paper. We all exist in one plane of time. Look at the paper. You only see one sheet of paper. Yet, if you look closer, there are several sheets of paper there together. Separate the papers and you can see them clearly. Each represent a different plane of time, co-existing together even though you can't see them all at the same time.



• Spirit's Strength

God's spirit within is our constant source of strength. Being a courageous person means to have the faith we need to face the unknown with confidence. We have courage that is a strength of spirit, the strength we draw from God's spirit within us. Have faith in God and faith in your God given abilities.

There is a purpose for each one to fulfill, so give 100 percent—spirit, mind and body. Have the strength to accept that you may not succeed at your first attempt, but don't view this as a failure. It simply is an opportunity to find a better way of learning something about yourself, how to solve the problem, and about how much God does strengthen you.

• Summary

Just Remember: We all have a Soul and Spirit Life Force within each of us. We know that we are made in the Creator's Image and have all the powers of the Creator within ourselves. We have the power to do all things. We only need to awaken these powers. Our soul may be as small or as large as our imagination can conceive. Our soul resides within the vast spaces between the molecules of our body. Maybe it resides in the brain! Or the heart! Or in every cell! What do you think?

Keep an open mind! And you will become more and more aware of your surroundings and "the spirit within you" as you develop and grow spiritually. Meditate! Watch all around you! Listen! Look and see! Trust your feelings! You will know all this to be true. Infinite Intelligence is within us all the time.

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FAVORITE SAYINGS TO LIVE BY



"Nothing that was worthy
in the past departs;
no truth or goodness realized
by man ever dies, or can die."
– Thomas Carlyle

"With silence only as their
benediction, God's angels come.
Where, in the shadow of a great
affliction, the soul sits dumb."
– James Greenleaf Whittier

PERENNIALS

BY VINCENT GUGLIELMO, NEW YORK



We were returning home from our veterinarian's office with Beau, the latest member of our canine family, and we decided to stop at a local nursery to buy some flowers to plant in our garden. We were at first uncertain about doing this, since we had the dog with us, but we decided it might do him some good. We thought that the aromatic feast the flowers offered might serve as a distraction from his recent, traumatic experience at the veterinarian's office. Beau perked up as we wandered around the nursery, and this gave us the opportunity to select some annuals and perennials.

As we were perusing the flowers, I was thinking about some of the ways that Spirit speaks to us about the continuity of life. The annuals have no past or future. They live in the full bloom of the present moment, and although their physical life ends, their spirit is timeless. The perennials that come back each summer are another expression of Spirit. I believe that the return of their physical form is Spirit's way of showing us that there is no death. Is it any surprise that the other side of the veil is called **The Summerland**?

I recently received a telephone call from a high school friend I hadn't spoken to in over two decades. She was hosting a reunion of sorts at her mother's home, the "party house" of our youth. Her mother, now widowed, recently sold her house and decided with her daughter to throw a final bash before the move. I had always shunned class reunions because I never wanted to confront my own physical mortality, but I am happy that I attended. Several of us were excavated, some from our busy lives and great distances.

Although physically changed over the years, we maintained our connection and it was a wonderful feeling. Photo albums of the past and present were passed around, and we spent the evening reminiscing and catching up with one another. We laughed about the time we put up a sign on a local highway that read "Last Exit Before Customs," and of the Halloween night that we watched the first television broadcast of the movie "Psycho." After the film was over, we reenacted the shower scene, using all the ketchup in the house, took polaroid's, and cleaned up the mess before the parents returned home. We remembered the absurdity of having a Driver's Education teacher with a glass eye, and our nervous French teacher who often bit her lower lip in class, causing her to have lipstick on her teeth while teaching us pronunciation skills. These things were funny to us as teenagers, and we laughed about them now. They were moments in time, like the flowering of the annuals, but their spirit of humor remains perennial.

The reunion ended, we exchanged e-mail addresses, and went our separate ways. The following day, I was looking at the planted flowers we had purchased from the nursery, while the dogs sniffed around, I was reviewing the events from the night before. I began to think about my French teacher and how she taught us several popular expressions, some of which I find spiritual and life affirming. There is "la joie de vivre," the joy of living. I think that it is important to live in the joy of the present moment, like the annuals. Another phrase, "Plus ca change, plus la meme chose," loosely translated means that the more things change, the more they remain the same. Many think that this is a cynical expression, but I choose to believe that this phrase means that the essence of life is eternal in spite of changing appearances. Our souls are the expression of Spirit on the material plane. The forms are impermanent, but the spirit is perennial.

"C'est la vie!"

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SPIRIT IN MY LIFE

***Spirit In My Life** is a monthly column for each of us to share something that has affected our lives where our spirit friends are involved. We all have a story, let us hear yours.*

Transfiguration

By Floss

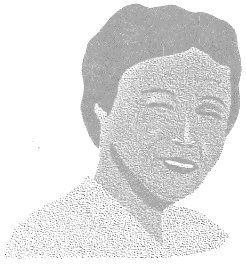
Greetings All,

My Wheeling adventure began on Friday night when I met the others attending the Awakening Weekend. Pastor Ray had each of us introduce ourselves and tell how we began our journey to Spiritualism. I attended all the events and learned a lot about mediumship, what it is, and what it isn't.

The high point for me was the experimental transfiguration. The windows in the Lyceum room at Way Memorial were covered, then we began around 9 p.m. To be successful, you need as much darkness as possible in the room. Everyone was wearing dull colored clothing. No bright colors allowed. Nothing that may reflect light.

We all sat in chairs facing Pastor Ray who was dressed completely in black. His keys, that usually dangle from a belt loop were removed, along with his belt buckle. We were instructed not to act as if we were at a church service. We were to chat, be social, and sing if we were so inclined. The lights were turned off and the only light in the room was a small red one directed at Pastor Ray's face.

We followed instructions and chatted, laughed, and began to sing. There were some there who thought that our numbers were too small to provide the necessary energy in the room. But as soon as the singing began I could feel the energy level rising. We continued our noisy conversation and singing as Pastor Ray went into a trance.



He appeared very relaxed in the beginning, then the magic began. From my left, I could see about three or four spirits. I couldn't count them because they were moving very quickly and they seemed to move in unison as though they were glued together. The spirits immediately approached Pastor Ray. It was then that his face began to take on an unfamiliar expression. I sat amazed as face after face kept appearing. Maureen Jones asked if anyone in the room recognized a face. The answer was no. We were all so fascinated with what was happening, we forgot to keep making noise to maintain the energy level.

As I sat glued to the entranced face, I began to recognize my mother. Near the end of her life (June 20th of this year) she had been experiencing mini-strokes which left her face distorted temporarily. I continued watching as the medium assumed her familiar hair line, squinted eyes, and that droop in her mouth. I heard myself say, "Thank you, Mother." I then checked with my cousin, the only person there who knew my mother, if she too recognized her. Her answer was yes.

This followed by the appearance of Falcon Rising's father-in-law. I was told that this demonstration could go on for hours, but ours was over in about 45 minutes. It is suspected that headlights from a truck coming through a window ended the session prematurely. But it was certainly enough for me. How blessed was I? Next year's Awareness Weekend may be held at Lily Dale, NY, and if I were you, I'd be there.

Love, light and blessings,
Floss

Physical Phenomena Is Alive And Well...

By The Rev. Judy Merrill, DSNU, Canada

One of the most interesting manifestations of physical phenomena can be the apports of articles. It can also be one of the most frustrating experiences.



At Christmas time we were having guests for dinner, both Christmas day and the day following. To accommodate our dinners, we would be using some of the same dishes. One item in particular was a favorite cream pitcher, as it was a better size than others I have in the house. You don't want to bring a large plastic milk container to the table; or try to use a pitcher that would accommodate only one or two cups at a time!

On Christmas evening, we filled the dishwasher to have

(Continued on next page.)

SPIRIT IN MY LIFE

(Continued from previous page.)

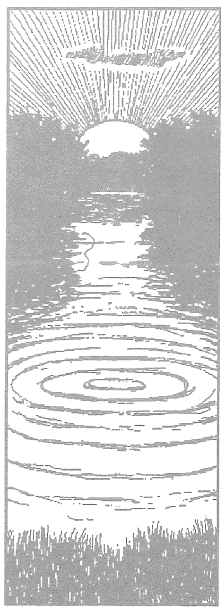
everything ready. I remember exactly where in the dishwasher my pitcher was loaded for cleaning. Up at the back on the left, over the spikes for holding the dishes in place. On Boxing Day (the day after Christmas), my husband asked me where I had put the pitcher. Knowing exactly where I had put it, I went directly to that spot. The rest of the dishwasher had been cleared out, ready for the next load. No pitcher was there! We both had a good look through the dishwasher and cupboards in case it had been put away. Of course, another pitcher had to be used.

After dinner, while loading the dishwasher again, sitting bold as life, there was the pitcher, exactly in the spot we had remembered it to have been!

To accommodate Spiritualists' skepticism with regard to other human agency, etc. I must assure the reader that our household contains only my husband and myself. No one even helped with dishes, because I reassured them that with the dishwasher, it would not be a lot of work to do alone. ✧

Holographic Psychology

By Merry Browne



As explained by Dr. Mergrit Shear in "The Cosmic Light" publication, *Holographic Psychology*, there are three levels of evolutional comprehension:

#1 Individuals who have no idea they have anything to do with causing their life experiences—blaming others for it. Evolving to #2 level they begin to realize they are more than physical body with five senses, and that as mind, they can choose what to think and feel, thus control their experiences. When #3 level is reached the individual realizes s/he is still in the physical body, but as mind, not separate from Universal Mind-Creator.

At this level it is realized people are at different levels of evolution and are no longer blamed for what they are and do. ✧

CALENDAR CORNER

What happened in NOVEMBER throughout the years?

NOVEMBER 6 and 11

Two American dates to remember. **Election day** on the 6th is a time to let your vote be counted; **Veteran's Day** on the 11th is a time to honor those who have served their country.

NOVEMBER 14, 1849

Corinthian Hall in Rochester, NY, was the site of the **First Public Demonstration** of spirit communication by the Fox sisters, Margaretta and Leah. What courage it must have taken for these young girls to demonstrate before a large crowd of doubters. What trust they had in their spirit communicators that they would deliver raps and evidential information, not just once, but for three tests and three public meetings.

NOVEMBER 25, 1861

The **Rev. Ellen Whitwell** was born on this date. She was a wonderful worker for Spiritualism being a physical and mental medium (clairvoyant and clairaudient), a trance medium, a minister, a teacher, a lecturer and an able, willing worker at the camps and conventions. Her husband, Joseph P. Whitwell, was the third President of the NSA.



NOVEMBER 21

The Birthday of the **Rev. Barbara Thurman, NST,** president of the National Spiritualist Association of Churches. We wish you a happy day and a spiritual year.

NOVEMBER 22

Thanksgiving Day, a time to be grateful for the harvest of your life, and celebrate a family festival. On this day, a nice thing to do is to get together with family or friends to share good food and each other's company. The family is the root of civilized society, so let us be thankful for our families, our church family, our life in this great Country and for all of our blessings.

NOVEMBER

John Glenn, the first U.S. astronaut to orbit Earth, returned to space on October 29 through November 7, 1998, with other astronauts aboard the shuttle Discovery.

✧ ✧ ✧

SPIRITUAL HEALING REQUEST

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

Healing Prayers are requested for:

_____

requested by:

_____

because of the following conditions:

_____

_____

_____

Please send a "One A Day" packet to:

_____

_____

_____

_____

I will pray with NSAC Prayer Groups:

DAY_____ NIGHT_____

If you should wish to make a **Love Donation** to help offset the NSAC Healing Center expenses, please send to:

NSAC HEALING CENTER
c/o Rev. Gene Pfortmiller, NST
3521 W. Topeka Drive
Glendale, AZ 85308-2325

To request information on "How to Form a Spiritual Healing Prayer Group,"

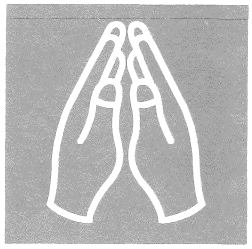
CHECK HERE ☐

The first week of each month the names received are compiled and sent to the NSAC Office for inclusion in the NSAC monthly mailing to all churches. Also many healers around the country receive the list. Because of the length of the lists an individual's name will usually be kept on the healing prayer list for one month unless we hear from you that more healing is required. We also request prayer groups to keep in touch with the National Healing Center throughout the year.

Prayer Healing is a wonderful way to practice Absent Healing, to help others, to share a prayer, and is something EVERYONE can participate in.

– Prayer for Spiritual Healing –

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



Basic Healing Understanding

Postulates and Laws Governing Healing

Notes from *Healers & the Healing Process*
BY HARRY EDWARDS

Every change in the universe is the result of Law-governed forces. Nothing takes place by chance or without reason. The human body is subject to definite Laws which control health from birth to the transition called "death."

Harry Edwards has described four postulates concerning healing in his book, *A Guide to the Understanding and Practice of Spiritual Healing.* A postulate is defined in the *American Heritage Dictionary, New College Edition, as:*

Something assumed as a premise or axiom; something assumed without proof as being self-evident or generally accepted, especially when used as a basic for an argument; a requirement, prerequisite.

• Healing Postulates

Spiritual healing is the result of Law-governed healing forces that induce change. For any state of change to be purposefully effected, intelligent direction is needed to administer the Law-governed forces to the subject.

The effective administering of a healing force requires intelligent direction. Through spiritual healing, "incurable" recipients are cured. The term "incurable" signifies that medicine can do no more, that Earthly wisdom is exhausted, and the patient is condemned to suffer without hope of recovery. Thus, when a spiritual healing succeeds with an "incurable" it demonstrates that a wiser intelligence than that of a human is responsible for the Law-governed ordered change. If this intelligence is not earthly, then it must be of the spirit.

The intelligent direction of a healing force originates from the Spirit Realm. A diversity of human ills, from mental sickness to cancer, from nervous breakdowns to cataract, from "blue babies" to arthritis, are

(Continued on next page.)

successfully treated by spiritual healing. This denotes that the directing intelligence is able to diagnose the cause of the affliction and to determine the correct character and strength of the healing force needed to remedy each given condition.

In a successful healing, the directing intelligence is able to ascertain the cause of disease and knows how to administer the remedial force to induce a state of beneficial change within the patient.

• Natural Laws Governing Spirit Healing

There are physical laws which control the material world. As there must be order in spirit life, there are spirit Laws. The administering of a spirit healing force must conform to its Laws, just as physical laws govern physical forces. **The physical and spirit Laws combined come with the definition of the total Law. No healing is possible outside the confines of the total Law.**

Harmony between spirit, healer, and recipient is essential. Harmony must exist between the transmission of a force and its conscious, or unconscious reception. Furthermore, the receiver must be in attunement with the transmitter. **Intelligently directed healing forces emanate from a non-physical realm, but through healership such non-physical forces are transformed into physical effects.**

In Contact Healing, the healer is the attuned receiver through whom the spirit healing forces are received for transmission to the patient. One function of the healer is to be the means where necessary, for non-physical energy to be made physical.

The recipient's spirit-self can act as a receiver and transformer of healing force, in Contact Healing as well as in Absent Healing. When Absent Healing is effective, attunement is established between the healing intelligence and the patient. The healer's function is to be the communicative link between the absent recipient and the healing source.

Every person has a spirit-self which can be in attunement with spirit intelligence. Therefore, everyone is able to receive spirit direction and healing forces.

In Absent Healing, the recipient's spirit-self acts as the transformer, and



receiver of healing forces. The spirit-self of the recipient is receptive to corrective thoughts and directives from healing intelligences to overcome primary causes of disease.

• Healing Forces

The spirit healing forces, producing a planned chemical change, must, before the act of transformation, be synonymous with the energy-formations comprising physical matter. These healing forces are able to create chemical changes through the application of one given form of energy to another.

Beneficial chemical changes are also induced through the bodily intelligence. The healing forces possess individual, particularized characteristics to effect beneficial change through introducing new factors that alter or disperse the harmful conditions. In the cases of direct dispersal or induced chemical change, the effects are directed to the disharmony alone, and there is no interference with the healthy tissue or structure. This implies that the spirit intelligence performs an exact process, influencing only diseased cells or structures, without disturbing the healthy ones.

• Attunement

The establishing of a state of harmony is called "attunement." It is of primary importance to train as a healer to attune to spirit and so become a more useful instrument of the spirit healing operators. The healing power comes **through** the healer and it is not **of** the healer.

When a healer is in an attuned condition for healing, the person is in a state of harmony with the healing guide, who is able to receive thought impression from the healer and to give thought impressions to the healer's consciousness. This can be likened to a very slight degree of trance. It is through attunement that the healer becomes "conditioned" to be a channel through whom the healing energies flow. ✧

Compiled by Barbara Thurman.



Positive Statements To Help Create a Positive Day.

Affirmations . . . NOVEMBER 2001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 I affirm one Mind, and I am of this Mind.	**2** We are each unique with an internal connection to Spirit.	**3** Meditation should unleash creative abilities.
4 There is spiritual light within everyone.	**5** Praying with others increases the power of the prayer.	**6** Visualizations of nature's beauty brings peace to the soul.	**7** Butterflies are a symbol of regeneration and God's beauty.	**8** Celebrate kindness, enjoy beauty, smile a lot and be happy.	**9** "Our heads are round so that our thoughts can change direction." – Francis Picabia	**10** Today I commit to being self-accepting and self-loving.
11 My thoughts have power and are creative.	**12** God's will for us is absolute good.	**13** There is a transformation that happens when love is extended.	**14** "Engrave this within your heart: every day is the best of the year." – Emerson	**15** As our spirit friends enter our energy field, our vibration is lifted.	**16** The Law of Attraction draws others to me who are of like mind.	**17** I make prayer and meditation a part of my daily schedule.
18 I let go to open a space for all the good God has for me.	**19** "Love points the way and Law makes the way possible." – *Science of Mind*	**20** "A faithful friend is the medicine of life." – Ecclesiastes 6:16	**21** My joy is within me and bubbles to the surface as smiles and laughter.	**22** "One single grateful thought raised to heaven is the most perfect prayer." – Lessing	**23** Giving and receiving are two equal parts in the Law of Abundance.	**24** All the love and power of the Universe is available to me.
25 "What a wonderful life I've had! I only wish I realized it sooner." – Colette	**26** I focus on the positive forces in life—joy, love, peace, fellowship and health.	**27** "Love is not consolation, it is light." – Simone Weil	**28** I realize old thought patterns that no longer work for my life.	**29** I invite my loving spirit friends into my life and feel their energy.	**30** "Honor lies in honest toil." – Grover Cleveland	



Give Thanks...Every Day!



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

SOUTH PARIS

NYE, Rev. Gloria J., NST, Certified Medium, 400 Mt. Mica Rd., 04281 - (207) 744-0046.

• MARYLAND •

TAKOMA PARK

MEERSCHAERT, Rev. John, Certified Medium and Comm. Healer, private consultations by appointment, 8716 Bradford Rd., Apt. 5, 20901 - (301) 585-0261, e-mail: seesspirit@aol.com.

• MASSACHUSETTS •

LOWELL

WINGOOD, Rev. Kenneth, 300 Douglas Rd., 01852 - (978) 454-4163.

WORTHINGTON

SULLIVAN, Rev. John F., Pastor of First Spiritualist Church of Springfield, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, classes, counseling, private consultations, public lectures, 26 Witt Hill Rd., P.O. Box 392, 01098 - (413) 238-4495; e-mail: jsulli1942@aol.com.

• 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.

• NEBRASKA •

BELLEVUE

CLARK, Rev. Wm. L., NST, Comm. Healer, Teacher; Private classes and consultations by appointment; P.O. Box 183, 68005-0183 - (402) 292-3197.

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 •

MINDEN

POTTER, Rev. Louis, Ordained Minister, Certified Medium; Pastor, Spiritualist Chapel of the Pines, Auburn, CA; P.O. Box 1657, 89423 - (775) 782-3108.

• NEW HAMPSHIRE •

SALEM

BAUMHOFF, Mary Lou, Certified Medium, P.O. Box 2223, 03079-1152 - (603) 898-8854, Fax (603) 893-3603.

WINDHAM

SNELL, Rev. Catherine, NST, Certified Medium, by appt. only, 23 Pleasant St., 03087 - (603) 880-3599; csnell@hoflink.com.

TRAVIS, Rev. Janet, NST, 23 Pleasant St., 03087 - (603) 880-3599, jtravis@hoflink.com.

• NEW YORK •

BELLMORE

RIVERA, Rev. Milagros G., Medium and Spiritual Counselor, Healer; Readings and Classes, 1830 #21 Bellmore Ave., 11710-5567 - (516) 781-9773.

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, 14052-9656 - (716) 652-4972.

KLEINSCHMIDT, Albert C., Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 1071 Wish Circle, 14052-9656 - (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 - (631) 736-1058.

HOLBROOK

BERG, Rev. Virginia, Pastor, A Sanctuary of Infinite Spirit, NSAC, 1280 Claas Ave., 11741-3902 - (631) 588-3150.

LILY DALE

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

• NORTH CAROLINA •

HENDERSONVILLE

GRIFFITH, Rev. Gail, NST, 200 Crestview Dr., 28791 - (828) 891-1312, gailgriffith@juno.com.

• RHODE ISLAND •

State Wide

KENT, Lynn, Licentiate Minister, Certified Medium, table-tipping physical phenomena workshops, private consultations and home gatherings, public lectures/seminars, website: www.spiritmedium.com, email: lynnkent@spiritmedium.com - (401) 245-8307.

KENT, Brian, Licentiate Minister, Commissioned Spiritualist Healer, specializing in Spiritual healings, website; www.spiritualist.net, email: briankent@spiritmedium.com; 28 Third Street, Warren, 02885 - (401) 245-8307.

• OHIO •

FAIRBORN

MOSCHKE, Rev. Raymond J., Comm. Healer, 1468 Ironwood Dr., 45324 - (937) 878-1165.

• PENNSYLVANIA •

ALLENTOWN

ZERNICEK, Rev. Ludwig, NST, Pastor of Getter Memorial Church; mail: 323 N. 8 St., Apt. #3, 18102, email: rev_lance@entermail.net; (610) 770-7560.

• TEXAS •

AUSTIN

BROWN, Mrs. Frances Cervin, Licentiate Minister and Certified Medium, 2723 S. Congress, Apt. 2309, 78704 - (512) 447-2188.

HAMNER, Rev. Dr. Jean, NST, Certified Medium, Commissioned Healer, Angels of Light Pastor, P.O. Box 4001, TX 78765-4001 - (512) 836-8829. Private consultations by appointment, public lectures, classes and workshops.

BELLAIRE

JESSUP, Rev. Jovita V., NST, Comm. Healer, Certified Medium, 5213 Chestnut Lane, 77401 - (713) 664-0737.

EDINBURG

MUSE, Rev. Evelyn, 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., NST, 7310 Midfield St., 23505-4126 - (757) 480-3799.

SPRINGFIELD

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

VIENNA

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

• WASHINGTON •

BREMERTON

HICKS, Anne, Licentiate Minister of Church of Spiritual Unity, P.O. Box 4126 S. Colby, 98384 - (360) 876-9701.

SHAW, Maureen, Licentiate Minister of Church of Spiritual Unity, P.O. Box 4126 S. Colby, 98384 - (360) 876-9701.

SEATTLE

JOHANSON, Rev. Lillian, 4524 - 2nd Ave. N.E., 98105 - (206) 633-3438.

PEMBERTON, Rev. LaVerne, Ordained Minister of Church of Spiritual Unity, 3827 S. Mead, 98118 - (206) 722-2348.

• WEST VIRGINIA •

GREAT CACAPON

STARR, Rev. Barbara, NST, Comm. Healer, 4245 Woodmont Rd., 25422 - (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
Renate I. Baker, Secy., (480) 802-2768; Mailing address: 9142 E. Emerald Dr., Sun Lakes, 85248-0817; Sun. Serv. 2:00 p.m.; Development Classes Thurs. 7:00 p.m.; e-mail: revbaker@ix.netcom.com.

PHOENIX - Church of the Living Spirit, NSAC
Meeting place: LaQuinta Inn, 2510 W. Greenway Rd., 85023; Mailing address: 3521 W. Topeka, Glendale, 85308-2325; Co-Pastors, Rev. Gene & Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller, NST, (623) 581-5544; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Tuesday Classes 7:30 p.m., call about location.

PHOENIX - Harmony Chapel, NSAC
1522 W. Encanto Blvd., 85007-1203.

• CALIFORNIA •

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

AUBURN - Spiritualist Chapel of the Pines
457 Grass Valley Hwy. #7; Mailing address: 461 Grass Valley Hwy., #19, 95603; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Fri. All Message Serv. 7:00 p.m., except last Fri. of month; Pastor, Rev. Louis Potter; Pres., Pauline Conrad; Secy., JoAnna Gallo, (530) 823-1816; .

LINDEN - The Spiritual Science of Life Church, NSAC
"The Friendly Church," 5409 N. Staple Way, 95236; email: tssole@hotmail.com; Sun. Serv. 6:30 p.m., 2nd & 4th Sunday; Pastor Rev. Louise Peruch, NST; 5409 N. Staple Way, 95236, (209) 887-2043.

MONROVIA - The Spiritualist Church of Revelation
200 W. Colorado Blvd., 91016; Sun. Services 10:30 a.m.; Pastor, Martin Pina; Pres., Mary Munerlyn; Secy., Rev. Toni Ervin; Church phone (626) 256-3403; E-Mail: Greenry@earthlink.net.

REDWOOD CITY - Redwood Church of Spiritual Science, NSAC
149 Clinton St., 94062-1515.

SACRAMENTO - Central Spiritualist Church, NSAC
2500 Marconi Ave., Suite 209, 95821-4855. Mailing Address: 4800 Auburn Folsom Rd., #63, Loomis, 95650-9328; Sun. Serv. 10:00 am.; Classes - 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; e-mail: rdawson@jps.net.

SAN BERNARDINO - Temple of Spiritual Truth, NSAC
732 N. Sierra Way, 92402. Sun. Serv. & Healing 11:00 a.m.; Secy., Richard Patteson, 10939 Hole Ave., Riverside, 92505.

SAN FRANCISCO - The First Spiritual Temple, NSAC
672 South Van Ness Ave., 94110-1306 (between 17th & 18th); Sun. Serv., 2:00 p.m.; No weekday evening classes at this time; all correspondence to: Rev. Donald McFarland, Secy., 405 Sixth Ave. #3, 94118-3027.

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.; Wed. Healing 7:30 p.m., Serv. 8:00 p.m., (415) 885-9976; Pastor, Rev. Donald Haddick, NST; Pres., Sonny B. Gee; Secy., Engeltie Lauderback.

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: sfspiritualist@yahoo.com; All mail to Secy., Rev. B. Thurman, 200 Marina Vista, Larkspur, 94939-2144.

SAN LEANDRO - Spiritualist Church of Two Worlds
1550 San Leandro Blvd., (Deaf Comm. Center) 94577; Sun. Serv. Healing 10:30 a.m., Reg. Serv. 10:45 to 12:00; Co-Pastors, Rev.'s Betty and Don Nauratil, (925) 283-1449; Pres., 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, e-mail: guide01@gte.net; Sun. Healing Serv. 10:30 a.m., Devotional Serv. 11:00 a.m., Wed. Message Serv. 6:30 p.m., Unfoldment Classes Sunday, Monday 1:30 p.m., Thursday 7:30 p.m.; Call for information on the Rev. Foard Memorial Library.

• COLORADO •

LITTLETON - Chapel of Spiritual Awareness
Forte Music Academy of Music, The Market Place at Ken Caryl, 10143 W. Chatfield Ave., Suite 15, (303) 797-7227; Sun. Healing & Meditation Serv. 9:30 to 10:15; Worship Serv. 10:30 to 11:30; Spirit Greetings 11:30 to 12:00; Beginning Spiritual Awareness and Advanced Unfoldment Classes are offered; Licentiate Minister, Dorothy M. Haskins; Pastor, Patricia J. Haskins-Schott, (303) 973-9993; **All mail** to: 6457 S. Xenon St., 80127; Internet site: Go to www.spiritual-awareness.org.

• CONNECTICUT •

CONNECTICUT STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION
Pres., Lynn Gaffin, 70 Dell Ave., B5, New London, 06320-3346; 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., Rev. Lynn Gaffin, 70 Dell Ave., #B5, 06320; Secy., Constance A. White, 51 Riverview Ave., 06320; email: cwa@pocketmail.com.

NEWINGTON - The Church of The Infinite Spirit
Masonic Temple, 80 Walsh Ave., 06111; Sun. Serv. 10:30 – 12:00 on Sept. 9 & 23, Oct. 14 & 28, Nov. 11 & 25, Dec. 2, 16 & 30; Year 2002, Jan. 13 & 27, Feb. 10 & 24, Mar. 10, 24 & 31, Apr. 14 & 28, May 12 & 26, June 9 & 23; Closed July & August; Pastor, Allen Noddin, 174 Daley St., Forestville, 06010, (860) 582-7385; Licentiate Minister, Joyce Barlow, 183 Loomis Drive, Unit 101, West Hartford, 06107, (860) 561-1489; 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 10 - Sept. 9. 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; E-Mail: slynnh@aol.com.

NORWICH - National Spiritualist Church of Norwich, Inc.
29 Park St. (off Main St.), 06360, (860) 886-8522; Secy., Sandra Morse.

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.

WILLIMANTIC - The First Spiritualist Church of Willimantic
268 High St., 06226, (860) 423-5774; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m. Sept. thru May; service twice a month June, July, August. For more information, please call the church; Healing Service Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Sept. thru May; in Summer a Healing Service is held on the Thursday after there has been a Sunday Service; Pastor, Joyce Orcutt, 133 Wales Rd., Andover, 06232, (860) 742-7846; Licentiate Minister, Clinton Cady, P.O. Box 67, 06226; Secy., Cynthia M. Snyder, 145-N Cemetery Rd., Plainfield, 06374, (860) 564-5976.

• DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA •

WASHINGTON - The Church of Two Worlds
3038 "Q" St., N.W., 20007-3080, Phone (202) 333-5114; Web: TwoWorlds.Org; email: Info@TwoWorlds.Org; Sun., Healing 2:00 p.m., Serv. 2:30 p.m.; 3rd Wed.: Healing 7;30 p.m., Message Serv. 8:00 p.m.; Fri.: Unfoldment Class 7:30 p.m.; Pres., John E. Rothamel, Jr., LM, NST; Secy., Robyn A. K. Rothamel (410) 590-9187.

• FLORIDA •

ORLANDO - Spiritualist Church of Awareness, NSAC
3210 N. Chickasaw Trail (P.O. Box 571043, 32857-1043), (407) 678-3688 Please leave message; Sun. Adult Lyceum 10:00 a.m., Sun. Serv. 10:30; Wed. Serv. 7:30 p.m.; Healing, Lecture, Messages at all services; Co-Pastor and Pres., Rev. Jean Kerr Lerch, NST, 335 Piney Ridge Rd., Casselberry, 32707-3805, (407) 834-5378; Co-Pastor and Treas., Rev. E. Ann Otzelberger, NST, (407) 826-0807; Secy., Stacy K. Davis, 10509 Jepson St., 32825-6606, (407) 658-7624.

• ILLINOIS •

ILLINOIS STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES
Secy., Rik Kristinat, 920 N. Franklin St., Ste. 205, Chicago, 60610.

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

BURNHAM - Puritan Spiritualist Church, NSAC
13906 Greenbay Ave., 60633-1614; Sun. Serv. 2:30 p.m.; Pastor, Anna Gross, 10930 Ave. "M", Chicago, 60617-6929; Secy., Rozanne Langreder, 3344 E. 186th St., Lansing, 60438, (708) 418-5157.

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., Arsenia Williams; 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 - Healing 10:00 a.m., Worship Serv., 10:30 a.m.; Worship/Message Serv., Wed. 7:00 p.m., Development Class 8:00 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; Pastor & Pres., Rev. Florence Heyward; Secy., Judith Galar, 4050 N. Oriole Ave., Norridge, 60706-1117, (708) 452-8754.

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

LE ROY - J. T. & E. J. Crumbaugh Spiritualist Church
102 S. Pearl St., 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) 888-9393.

• INDIANA •

INDIANA STATE ASSOCIATION OF SPIRITUAL SCIENCE, NSAC
Secy., Hertha Comstock, 1221 E. California Rd. #217, Fort Wayne, 46825-6106, (260) 373-2843; Pres., Rev. Jessie James, (219) 885-0091.

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 Sat. 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Lyceum Sun. 3:00 p.m.; Jacqueline Crooms, 853 Grant St., 46403.

INDIANAPOLIS - New Dawn Spirit of Light Church, Inc., NSAC
3637 W. 10th St., 46222-3376; Sun. Serv: 11:00 a.m. Healing - 11:30 a.m. Worship and Message Serv. - Kids Time 11:00-11:30 a.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m. Development class; Every 5th Sunday All Message Service, covered dish dinner; Secy., Marilyn Smith, (317) 291-9550; Pres. & Lic. Minister, Mildred Schlagel, (317) 291-0799.

MICHIGAN CITY - Spiritual Science Church, NSAC, Inc.
314 W. Coolspring Ave., 46360, (219) 874-6002; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Pastor & Pres., Rev. Ruth Novak, (219) 872-6621; Asst. Pastor, R. Bianchi, L.M., (219) 426-5797; All corresp. to: R. Bianchi, 609 Center St., Valparaiso, 46385.

• IOWA •

CLINTON - First Spiritualist Church
5416 - 6th Ave. So., P.O. Box 123, 52732-0123, (319) 243-3233.

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 10:00 a.m.; Co-Pastors, Rev. Harvey and Rev. Bonnie Horstman, NST; Secy., Rev. Bonnie Horstman.

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, 41 S. Chestnut St., Apt. B, Augusta, 04330, (207) 626-9931.

AUGUSTA - Augusta Spiritualist Church
P.O. Box 2492, 04338; Pastor, Earl L. Wallace; Secy., Patricia A. Wallace, 124 Spring St., Gardiner, 04345, (207) 582-6745; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Thurs. Awareness Class 7:00 p.m.

BANGOR - The Harrison D. Barrett Memorial Church, NSAC
114-118 Harlow St., (under Lamb's Bookstore); Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Secy., Betty Simpson, R.R. #2 Box 5055, Carmel, 04419-9802, (207) 848-2273, e-mail address is simponb@hermon.net. Please visit our web site at www.nsac.org, and go to churches and camps, choose state, ME, and click on Bangor. Church services may be canceled for the summer months or, inclement weather. Please call the secy. for more information.

HARTFORD - Pinpoint of Light Spiritualist Camp
Mail address: R1, Box 91, Canton, 04221; Open July and August - Service, Seminars and Classes; Secy. Virginia Norris, LM, CH; Pastor, Rev. Rupert Sigurdsson, NST. For information, Phone and Fax (207) 597-2600; E-Mail: rupert@megalink.net.

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. 7:00-9:00 p.m.; Secy., Virginia Norris, LM, CH; 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, ME. We meet July 10th through August 11. Schedule to be announced. For information, contact President John Davidson, 74 Central Ave., Waterville, 04901, phone (207) 877-2204; e-mail jdavidson@panax.com. There are no accommodations for the general public for rooms, camping, or meals. There are plenty of locations in the surrounding area.

NORTHPORT - Temple Heights Spiritual Camp Assoc.
Shore Road, Northport on Penobscot Bay; Camp session is from mid-June through the Sunday after Labor Day. A different featured medium each week. Church services at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tues., Thurs. and Fri.; Sun. Pot Luck 5:00 p.m.; class Mon. at 7:30 p.m.; Message Circles Wed and Sat. at 7:30 p.m.; Workshops/seminars Saturday. Accommodations with kitchen privileges available; for a program or information, call (207) 338-3029 (Apr.-Oct.) then (207) 338-4690, or P.O. Box 311, Lincolnville, 04849-0031; Pres., Pam Strickland, P.O. Box 93, Owl's Head, 04854, (207) 594-9038, e-mail: pstone48@aol.com; Secy., Patricia Wallace, 124 Spring St., Gardiner, 04345, e-mail: PMICH619@aol.com.

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.

• MASSACHUSETTS •

MEDFORD - Medford Spiritualist Church, NSAC, Chapel of Peace
Sunday Services held at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 147 High St.; 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.

ONSET - On-I-Set Wigwam Co-Workers Spiritualist Camp
Season opens June 4th 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; Secy., Rev. Susan Ferency, 2 Moore Ct., New London, CT 06320, (860) 439-1395. Prior to season call or write 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 - June; Pres., Bradley Gosselin, 147 Sylvan St., Danvers, 01923; Secy., Nancy L. Karolides, 144 Boston St., Middleton, 01949, (978) 774-4048.

REHOBOTH - First Spiritualist Church of Brockton, Inc., NSAC
Services held at Agawam Grange Hall, Junction of Routes 44 & 118, (12 min. from Providence, RI); All mail: Linda Kent, Secy., P.O. Box 206, Swansea, 02777-0206; Healing—Devotional Service—Spirit Messages; Services Sun. 10:30 a.m.; Unfoldment Classes Sept. through May; Mediums', Special Classes, and Seminars. Please consult the Web at www.fscbrockton.homestead.com; e-mail: lynnkent@spiritmedium.com, or Toll Free: 877-568-7315.

SPRINGFIELD - The First Spiritualist Church of Springfield, Inc.
33-37 Bliss St., 01105, (413) 732-1234; Worship Serv., 2nd Sun. after Labor Day until last Sun. in June at 10:30 a.m.; Development classes Wed. at 7:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. John F. Sullivan, P.O. Box 392, Worthington, 01098 - (413) 238-4495, e-mail: jsulli1942@aol.com; Pres., Tom Ruelke; e-mail: bigrock@adam.cheshire.net; Church website can be found at www.masslive.com at the community link.

• 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.

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES, *(Continued from previous page.)*

CHARLEVOIX - The Golden Rule Spiritualist Church
07444 Old US 31 North, 49720-9422, (231) 347-9601 or (231) 347-7916; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m., mid-April thru June, and Sept. thru Nov. (No "church" services in July and Aug. because "camp" services are held at the same location.) Services may start sooner in the year or run later in the yera depending upon the weather. Located halfway between Petoskey and Charlevoix. Turn on Murray Rd. and then immediately turn right on Old 31, drive .8 (tenths) of a mile, on your left; Pastor, Rev. Cosie Allen, NST.

CHARLEVOIX - Northern Lake Michigan Spiritualist Camp
(Bayshore) 07444 US Old 31 N, 49720-9422, (616) 347-3899.

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., Dennis Goddard; Secy., Coleen Goddard, 6818 Kingdon, Halt, 48842-2108, (517) 694-8107.

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. Marguerite Gutt, NST, (248) 548-2240.

SOUTH BRANCH - Chain Lake Spiritualist Camp Association
8000 W. Chain Lake Rd., 48761-0089; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m., June 4, 2002 through Sept. 1, 2002; Annual Retreat July 7-12, 2002; Lyceum Dir., 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 •

MINNEAPOLIS - Second Spiritualist Church
2230 Lyndale Ave. N.; Sun. Serv. 10:30 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 Comm. Church at 4401 Upton Ave. S., 55410.

ROCHESTER - Third Spirit of Life Spiritualist Church
Services Mon., 7:00 p.m., 21st Century Building, 2130 S. Broadway, Ste. 170; 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/Pastor, Toye E. Stinson, 566 Old Highway 100, Villa Ridge, 63089, (636) 451-2838; Secy., Lisbeth Tintera, 6025 S. Kings Highway Blvd., 63109-3558, Home Phone (314) 845-3492.

• 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.; Healing & Meditation Serv. Wed. 7:00 p.m.; Classes available; Pastor, Rev. Catherine Stewart, NST; Secy., Marcia Forkas.

• NEW HAMPSHIRE •

SALEM - The Church of Spiritual Life, Inc.
Masonic Hall, 109 Main St., Rt. 97; Mailing address: P.O. Box 414, 03079; Year Round Services; Regular Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.; Wed. classes p.m.; Call Pastor, Rev. Kenneth Wingood, (978) 454-4163; Secy., Mary Lou Baumhoff, (603) 898-8854; http://www.homestead.com/NHSpiritualist.

• NEW JERSEY •

MERCHANTVILLE - Stow Memorial Foundation
Robert Egby, P.O. Box 339, Westville, 08093.

WESTVILLE - Church of Eternal Life
243 W. Olive & Folsom Sts., 08093; Sun. Healing Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Worship & Message Service 11:30 a.m.; Telephone for weather cancellations (856) 456-2196; Pastor, Lillian Joyce, 405 Binker Ave., Berlin, 08009, (856) 767-1651; pastorlil-1@juno.com; Pres., Joyce Smith, 209 W. Madison Ave., Magnolia, 08049, (856) 627-6977; Secy., Kathleen Pollack, 1762 Crown Pt. Rd. #537-A, Thorofare, 08086, (856) 848-7053.

• NEW YORK •

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

CLIFTON PARK - Spiritualist Open Center
Pastor, Rev. Hillary Kramer, NST, 15 Huntwood Dr., 12065, (518) 371-8975.

EAST AURORA - First Spiritualist Temple
29 Temple Pl., 14052, (716) 652-5018; Sun. Healing Service 10:30 a.m.; Lecture and Message Service 11:00 a.m.; Social Hour 12:15 p.m.; Dinner Day 3rd Sun. of month followed by Circles or All Message Service; Secy., Donna Azzarelli, (716) 691-3406.

LILY DALE - Lily Dale Assembly
5 Melrose Park, 14752, (716) 595-8721, Fax (716) 595-2442; Office Hours, Sept.-June, M-F, 10 a.m.-2 p.m; June-Aug, M-F, 9 a.m.-4p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon, closed Sunday; Camp Season: Last Friday in June to day before Labor Day; contact Lillian F. Farnham, Secretary.

LILY DALE - Lily Dale Spiritualist Church
Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Healing & Message Serv. each Wed. 7:30 p.m.; Pres., Betty C. Schultz, (716) 595-3304; Secy., Sueanna Vollmar.

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, (631) 588-3150; Asst. Pastor, Rev. Nancy Lloyd, (631) 736-1058; Mailing address: 1280 Claas Ave., Holbrook, 11741-3902.

LONG ISLAND - New Horizon Spiritualist Church, Inc.
261 Elmont Rd., Elmont, 11003.

LONG ISLAND - Temple of Metaphysical Science, NSAC
15 Oak St., Patchogue, 11772; Sun. Serv.: Healing and Worship 11:00 a.m.; Pastor, Rev. Catherine Snell, NST; Asst. Pastor, Rev. Janet Travis, NST; Mailing address, Mr. Edward Freidlein, Corresponding Secy., P.O. Box 1150, West Babylon, 11704, e-mail: TMS@hoflink.com; http://www.TMS-Li.org.

ROCHESTER - Plymouth Spiritualist Church
Meets at Days Inn, 384 East Ave., Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Pres., Joanne Antinore; Pastor, Robin Higgins, (716) 227-6291; Mailing address: 201 Springfield Ave., 14609.

• OHIO •

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

ASHLEY - Ashley Spiritualist Camp Association
Wooley Park Drive, P.O. Box 277, 43003; Secy., Nikki DeWitt, (740) 747-3825, e-mail: www.members.Tripod.com/AshleyCamp.

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, Natalie Smith Blakeslee; website: NATALIE@LOVEANDLIGHT.COM ; Secy., Steven 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 - Spiritual Life Center, NSAC
611 Watervliet Ave., 45420, (937) 878-1165.

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

• 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.

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES, *(Continued from previous page.)*

• PENNSYLVANIA •

ALLENTOWN - Getter Memorial Church, NSAC
1123 Oak, 18102; e-mail: getter@entermail.net; Lyceum 9:30 a.m. with Sun. Service to follow at 10:00 a.m. including healing and message work; Pastor, Rev. Ludwig Zernicek, NST; e-mail: rev_lance@entermail.net, phone (610) 770-7560; Pres., Sharon George-Politz, (610) 434-3454; Secy., Susan Zernicek, e-mail: getter_sec@entermail.net. or phone (610) 770-7560.

McKEESPORT - First Spiritualist Church
809 Locust St., 15132, (412) 672-1272; Sun. Serv. 1:00 p.m., Healing, Lecture and Messages; Pres., Carol Perella, P.O. Box 1981, Pittsburgh, 15230-1981, (412) 461-7002; Vice Pres., Jim Rocky, (412) 381-7584, Ella Bryner, (412) 673-7880, Secy. Colleen Bambling, 125 Tuscola St., Pittsburgh, 15211, (412) 431-1838.

PHILADELPHIA - Second Spiritualist Church
423 S. Broad St., 19147, (215) 735-9630; Lyceum Sun. 4:30 p.m.; Healing and Worship Service 5:30 p.m.; Wed. all message, 7:45 p.m.; Pastor, John E. Faison, Sr.; Co-Pastor, Betty Hutt; Secy., Gladys M. Faison, 2118 N. Natrona St., 19121, (215) 232-9219.

• TEXAS •

AUSTIN - Angels of Light Spiritualist Church
9704 1/2 Chukar Circle, chapel walkway to the right. Devotional, healing & message service followed by adult lyceum 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2PM; Rev. Dr. Jean Hamner, Pastor, P.O. Box 4001, Austin, TX 78765-4001; (512) 836-8829.

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, 76520; 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., Verna Hentz, 406 E. 7th St., (254) 697-3912.

DALLAS - Second Spiritualist Church, NSAC
13610 Midway Rd., Suite 212; Devotional, Healing and Message Serv., 2nd and fourth Sundays each month at 2:00 p.m.; Class/Circle following service at 4:00 p.m.; Pres., Ann Council, (972) 218-7220; Secy./Student Pastor, Robert Croteau, (972) 675-9080; Mail: 1318 Guildford St., Garland, 75040; e-mail: SSC@SSCNSAC.ORG; http://SSCNSAC.org.

HOUSTON - First Church Of Divine Science, NSAC
2115 Turner Dr., 77093; Mailing Addr.: P.O. Box 11088, 77293-1088; Pres., Rev. Jovita Garcia-Jessup; Rev. Marie W. Smith; Secy., Norma L. Freshour, 2280 Des Jardines, 77023-5118; Sun. Serv. 2:30 p.m.; Wed. open healing and meditation 7:30 p.m.; Messages from Spirit 8:00 p.m.; Fri. Spiritual Development 7:30 p.m., (713) 695-2550; e-mail: ITZNOWOO@aol.com.

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., Mardi Gallaway, 1615 Pan Am Express Way, Apt. #3, 78208-1143, (210) 226-9545; 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 Woman's Club), (703) 241-2377; Healing Service each Sunday 10:00 a.m., followed by Worship Service at 10:30 a.m., September through June; Pastor, Rev. B. Anne Gehman; Pres., Wayne Knoll; Secy., Rita O'Connor, 8334 Idylwood Rd., Vienna, 22182, (703) 204-2821; e-mail: finder@cais.com.

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, NST; Lyceum Director, Beth Yates.

• WASHINGTON •

DES MOINES - Church of Divine Grace, NSAC (www.DivineGrace.org)
Services held on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. at Des Moines Masonic Temple, 2208 S. 223rd St.; All Correspondence to: 22246 24th Ave. S., #M97, 98198, (206) 824-7454; e-mail: Info@divinegrace.org.; Pres., Bernie Allers; Secy., Lezlie Deuchress.

MILTON - Camp Edgewood, NSAC Assoc.
1228 - 26th Ave. Ct., 98354; Tel. (253) 927-2050, Fax (253) 927-7531; Pres., Anne Larson, (253) 474-8052; Secy., Karen Wennerlind.

MILTON - Church of Spiritual Truth, NSAC
Camp Edgewood - Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Pastor, Rev. Lillian Johanson; Pres., David Chapman, Sr.; Secy, Denice Chapman, P.O. Box 646, Milton, 98354.

MILTON - Church of Spiritual Unity, NSAC
Camp Edgewood - Church Serv. Sundays, 2:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. LaVerne Pemberton, (206) 722-2348; Pres., Colleen Mohler, 1210 - 26th Ave. Ct., 98354, (253) 927-2365; Secy., Judi Johnson, (253) 927-7445.

• WEST VIRGINIA •

WHEELING - First Spiritualist Association of Wheeling WV.
(Way Memorial Temple) N. Broadway & Maryland Sts., (304) 233-5065; Sun. Lyceum at 9:30 a.m.; Healing and Worship Serv. 10:45 a.m.; Wed. Healing 6:30 p.m., Message Serv. 7:00 p.m.; Lyceum Conductor Beverly Goff, Asst. Conductor Melvina Taylor; Pastor, Raymond Jones, 104 N. Broadway St., 26003, (304) 232-5795; e-mail: rayjones@prodigy.net; Web-site: www.waymemorial.org/; Open Circle Tues.. 7:30; Pastor, Ray Jones; Temple open Sept. thru June.

• WISCONSIN •

WEST ALLIS - First Spiritualist Church of West Allis
6228 W. Washington St., 53214; Sun. Healing & Worship Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Pastor, Rev. Pamla Ashlay, (414) 545-7650; Pres., Manila Kochanski, W1371 Hwy. O, Oconomowoc, 53066, (920) 474-7332.

WONEWOC - West Wisconsin Spiritualist Camp Association
304 Hill St., 53968, (608) 464-7770; Open July and Aug., Weekends in September; Pres., Roland K. Berger, (608) 274-8845.

• CANADA •

BRITTEN MEMORIAL CHURCH OF CANADA
657 Lansdome Ave., Toronto, Ontario, M6H 3Y2.

CHURCH OF SPIRITUAL WISDOM
674 Kennedy Rd., Scarsborough, Ontario M1K 2B5; Sun. Serv. 1:15 p.m. Spiritual Healing, 2:00 p.m. Lecture & Message Serv., Thurs. 7:30 p.m. Delphi Center for Development, Enlightenment, Spiritual Healing; Contact Rev. Judy Merrill (416) 264-6758; e-mail: jmmevolve@yahoo.com.

THE CHURCH OF UNIVERSAL LOVE
118 Finch Ave. West, Willowdale, On., M2M 2H9 - (416) 730-8988; DIVINE SERVICE Sun. 10:30 a.m., Tues. Open Development Circle 7:00 p.m., Wed. Healing & Messages 8:00 p.m., Fri. Open Meditation Circle 7:30 p.m.; Pastor, Marilyn Gaitskell.

THE FIRST SPIRITUAL CHURCH OF MONTREAL
2186 St. Catherine St. West, Montreal, Quebec, H3H 1M7; English Serv. - Sun. 2:00 p.m. & Wed. 7:30 p.m.; French Serv. - Sun. 4:30 pm., 2nd & 4th Wed. 7:30 p.m; Rev. Mary Amato, Minister, (514) 365-0661.

THE FIRST SPIRITUALIST CHURCH OF GALT
72 Grand Avenue North, Cambridge, Ontario, N1S 2K9, (519) 622-7177; Pastor, Rev. Ed Kenning; Asst. Pastor, Rev. Karen Charles; Sun. Serv.: Healing 2:30 p.m., Devotional 3:00 p.m.; Summer (June, July, August): Healing 6:30 p.m., Devotional 7:00 p.m.; Meditation, healing and message circle, Wed. 7:00 p.m.; Development & Healing Classes available.

SPIRITUAL SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP
Office: 1974 de Maisonneuve W., Montreal, QC H3H 1K5, (514) 937-8359, Fax (514) 937-5380; Location: Days Inn, 1005 Guy St., Montreal; Sun. Serv. 7:30 p.m.; Mid-Week Serv. Thurs. 7:30 p.m.; Classes, Workshops, Teas, Meditation, Conferences, Discussion Groups, Spiritual Healing, Message Circles, Visiting Mediums; Pres./Pastor, Rev. Dr. Marilyn Rossner.

SPRINGDALE CHURCH, TORONTO
30 Merritt Rd., Toronto, Ontario M4B 3K5; Sun. Serv. 3:00 p.m. Spiritual Healing & Messages, 7:00 p.m. Address and Spirit Messages; Tues., 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Healing & Messages; Thurs. 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Healing, Messages and Open Development Circle; Development Classes; Pastor, Rev. Doreen Bauld, (416) 759-3958.

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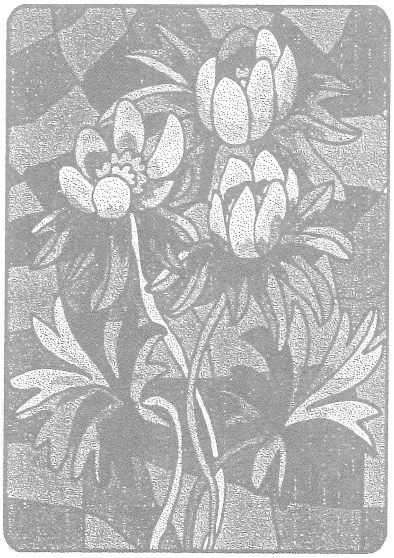
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THE GRAND JOURNEY

BY ELIZABETH HARRIS, DSNU, CANADA

The face of the whole world has changed
Since first I heard the footsteps of my soul.
O obvious death, where I, who thought to sink,
Was caught up into love, and taught the whole
Of a new rhythm.
– Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806-1861)

Mortal life is that brief interlude sandwiched precariously between birth and death. We come from the unknown, and we pass into it again, as do all our fellow travelers. No one is immune from the process. We will live and we will die. This mysterious, endless and eternal process is called The Grand Journey of Life.



The Grand Journey is a puzzling phenomenon to fathom. For example, our own free will has no effect in determining either our birth or our death. Moreover, when we ponder the events of our mortal life's journey, we will undoubtedly conclude that we are not the architect of them either. As the philosopher, Raynor Johnson suggests, *the mortal life is similar to standing at the door of life and being given parts by the Great Producer, who says to us, "See what you can make of this."* ***Our free will is not to alter the part, but to play it well.*** The writer, George Bernard Shaw describes this as:

Though the Life Force supplies us with its own purpose, it has no other brains to work with than those it has painfully and imperfectly evolved in our heads.

Perhaps the Great Director gives us each a page at a time, in one Act at a time. We all know the mysteries of life, but none of us can read the Great Producer's mind.

The play is full of laughter and tears. But nothing is more painful to us, the players, than the passing away of things we valued, and the people we loved. Will we meet them in later Acts? Perhaps we are afraid to think about it? For, as someone said,

Men fear death as children fear the dark. And as that natural fear in children is increased with tales, so is the other.

It is natural, and a very human desire, to search for answers to, "Is there life after Death?" And, this overwhelming urge is found in every race, in every age in the extremity of human need, and against a background of insecurity. Many people have faith and hope that this is so. Others hold convictions, such as professor C. D. Broad, who says:

It seems to me that unless men survive the death of their bodies, the life of the individual and of the human race is "a tale told by an idiot."

Knowledgeable people know that life's journey does not end with physical death – for death is simply an extension of the life we already know. **The Grand Journey stretches to infinity.** It is eternal.

The evidence for survival of physical "death" is a strong one. Most religions incorporate it into their teachings. Yet, surprisingly, many people hold vague views on the life that will confront them. But, if they stopped to realize that in a few years they, themselves, would journey permanently to another country, they might want to learn about it.

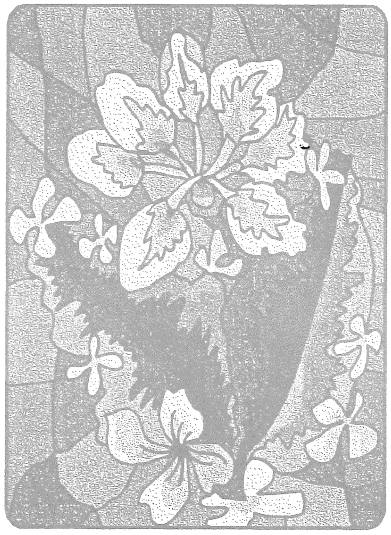
There are numerous books written on this topic, but Geraldine Cummin's, *The Road to Immortality, Beyond Human Personality* and *Travelers in Eternity* written by automatic writing is as trust-worthy as any. In them, the great scientist, F. W. H. Myers, says: *Death seems terrible to the average man because of its apparent loneliness. If he but knew it, his fears are vain; his dread of being reft from the pattern – that is to say, from those he loves – has no foundation. For, wherever he may journey after death, always will he be caught up again into the design of which he is a part, always will he find again, certain human souls who were knit into his earth life, who were deeply loved by him in those bygone days.*

(Continued on next page.)

Myers goes on to describe our future home. He uses the terms "planes" for want of a better word to describe the different levels of consciousness – the ascending "levels" where we will enjoy widening and increasing consciousness. He describes seven planes as:

1. **The Plane of Matter**, this is experience of the physical form, whether on Earth or on other celestial bodies with comparable conditions.
2. **An Intermediate State**, sometimes called Hades.
3. **The Astral Plane**, the Summerland or "Heaven."
4. **The Plane of Colour**
5. **The Plane of Flame**
6. **The Plane of White Light**
7. **The Final State**, Communion with the Supreme.

When physical death occurs, the soul goes to the sleepy, detached state (Stage Two). An average time spent in this state may be two or three days. It's the time for the **severing of the cord, and loosening and casting off the physical husk.** Dreamy restful periods alternate with sleep. Fragments of Earth life float before the mind. Myers says of this state: *Pray do not conjure up unpleasant associations of Hades. I was very weary at the time of my passing. For me, Hades was a place of rest, a place of half-truths and drowsy peace.*



From the dream-like experience of the Second Plane, the average person awakens in Stage Three, in surroundings that give him friendly welcome, in a country not unlike his own, but more beautiful than any he has ever seen. Here, he finds himself with loved ones who have passed before. Here, people gravitate together into communities of "like" interests and spiritual development. In this way the tensions and disagreements of Earth life are absent. In such idyllic surroundings there is great incentive to **spiritually develop.**

It has been asked, *Have dwellers on the astral plane access to the Earth they left? Can they see and be aware of its geography, and the lives and doings of the people there?* The answer is that while such awareness is possible, it is **not the normal state.** However, there are some who acquire the ability of contacting Earth conditions by reducing their normal astral rhythm to the lower rhythm of Earth.

There are no hard and fast rules on the astral level, for those who pass through it differ widely in interests, character, and development. Some souls linger in the state until their friends on Earth join them. Others pass on to the fourth plane.

Too, the astral body may be weak and ill-formed, so that it has to be tended before it can lead a normal life. Or, it may be developed, but marred by many defects such as faults of disposition, fear, anger, greed, selfishness, cruelty, jealously and hatred, which in Earth life, battered and warped it. These are considered **diseases of the astral body**, and healing and help are crucial. There are some souls who devote themselves to this work. Cure is important and often possible. If it is not remedied, these persons inevitably find themselves in lower levels where their offensive state is more tolerable to others.

On this **third plane**, when spiritual progression is sought, there begins a slow process of recalling events of the past Earth life. It is a far more complete and heart-searching remembering than normal memory, for it includes an awareness of **the feelings** of all who were affected by one's thoughts, words, and deeds. It is a **purging and cleaning** kind of suffering, which **awakens insights, understanding and humility.**

As one communicator said: *Yes, I did that. I am like that, more's the pity. I am not the fine fellow I tried to think myself. But now I will eradicate that fault, strengthen the weakness, clear out the anger.*

Except for a few rare beings, most souls spend a considerable time on the astral level. However, sooner or later the third level dweller is no longer content with its Summerland, but **desires progress.**

The transition from the third to fourth plane resembles the development from the second to the third plane—**a releasing of the finer body within.** This is different in many respects from the former form. Myers, describes it as *a compound of lights and colours unimaginable. This coloured compound may be grotesque, bizarre in form, may be lovely beyond words, may possess strange absurdities of outline, or may transcend the loftiest dream of earthly beauty.*

The fourth plane is where the beauty of form reaches its zenith. Here the finest dreams of artists, sculptors and visionaries are realized. It is said to have wondrous colours, sounds, and scents not known to earth. Compared to this level, the scenery of Earth is only a very poor and imperfect copy.

In this fourth level, **the power and sensitivity of mind are vastly increased.** Joy and sorrow are intensified, and the delight for living is far beyond the puny conceptions of Earth. Myers claims that the fourth plane is the **highest which the incarnate human soul has been able to penetrate.** (Although souls normally only have awareness of other souls on the same level of development, yet, it is possible for advanced ones, at times, to reduce their *rhythm* and descending, make contact with others who are on lower levels.)

(Continued on next page.)

Don't Cry Over Me *by Linda Ruckert*

Don't cry over me
When the last breath has gone out of my body.
My spirit is a part that doesn't die, it's then set free.
It goes to a place where there's no suffering or pain
And by God's will and grace, it is whole again.

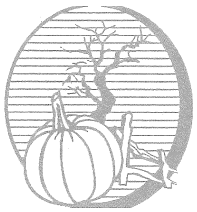
Don't cry over me
For there's no such thing as death you see
Only that of the human body,
A transition from one life form into another,
Continued memories and love we've shared
with each other.

Don't cry over me
I will be walking right beside you each and every day
Touching, caressing, nurturing and loving you
in a special way.

You will never be alone, you see,
I will always be nearby watching over thee.

Don't cry over me
Because I have gone home before thee
For, in the future again, together we'll be
Instead shed tears of joy, I've crossed the finish line,
But it was a pleasure being with you,
for my allotted time.

Don't cry over me
I have completed my portion of God's plan
I now know that I have always been in His tender
hands.
I will be waiting for you to join me in heavenly bliss
Lighting the way for the next person
who is on God's list.



Thanksgiving *by Merry Browne*

Thanksgiving day is a day
Set aside to show the way
to be grateful for our nest
of family and how we're blessed.
Tis the lesson for the prime
way we should be all the time.

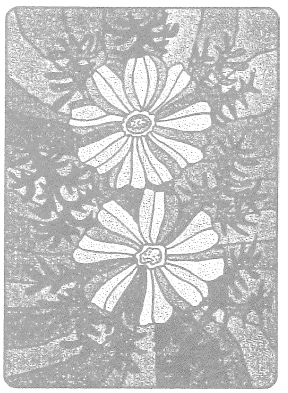
THE GRAND JOURNEY *(Continued from previous page.)*

And, so, the **Grand Journey** of Life continues onward and upward. It is eternal. It will never end. The pattern is set. We will slough off the old, and continue to renew life over and over again.

But, Earth Life is the beginning of it all, it seems. We have been born into it, to be fashioned by it on all levels—physically, emotionally and intellectually. We were not consulted, and we will be bundled out of it, likewise, without choice. **And the Play moves on.** As the poet, Edward Fitzgerald (1809-1883) says:

The moving Finger writes, and, having writ,
Moves on: nor all your Piety nor Wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half a Line,
Nor your Tears wash out a word of it.

The experiences we have had, and the lessons we have learned, we will carry with us to the next stage, to be perfected, then on and on with improvements, insights and spiritual growth each step of the way to better realms everlastingly.



Without doubt, the **Grand Journey of Life** is a moving, thrilling, delightful spectacle. It is to be lived fearlessly, yet, throughout, we can be strangely guided. It is more wonderful than all our dreams. Obviously, it is the design of a mighty unfathomable **Great Producer.**

To find God in the Beyond is good
but to find it on Earth is a far greater achievement.

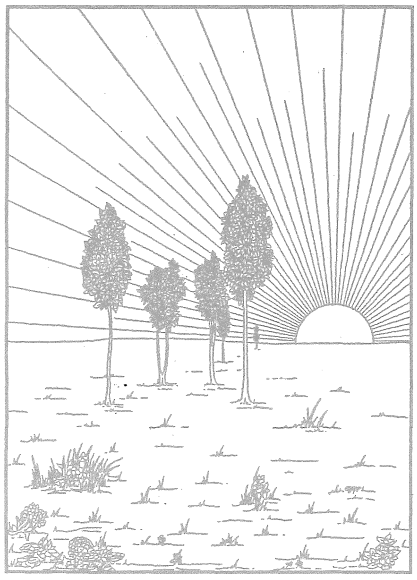
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BOOKMARK

Evidence *from* Beyond

REVIEWED BY LISA BUTLER

In October of 1970, Ruth Mattson Taylor was on a plane flying to the bedside of her father, the Reverend A. D. Mattson. During that flight, Ruth saw the dense fog that blanketed the plane's path part and a spectacular display of color and light appeared. Ruth knew that she had been given a sign that her father was on the brink of death. No other passenger saw this radiant scene.



A. D. died five days later. His death was the beginning of an amazing journey of spiritual discovery for Ruth. Rev. Mattson's deep and practical faith had led him to an interest in the paranormal, and he had promised Ruth that if it were possible he would communicate with her from the Beyond. His messages started coming through the renowned British medium Margaret Flavell in 1971. His earliest communications were related in the book *Witness From Beyond*. In the book *Evidence from Beyond*, we are taken even further into the unknown with more after-death communications from the Theologian A. D. Mattson.

Following is an excerpt from the book *Evidence from Beyond: An Insider's Guide to the Wonders of Heaven – and Life in the New Millennium,* after-death communications received from theologian A. D. Mattson through clairvoyant Margaret Flavell, edited by Ruth Mattson Taylor. Copyright ©1999 by Ruth Mattson Taylor. ISBN: 0-9636620-5-8. Published by Brett Books, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Excerpt from

The Doorkeeper

(Page 104)

Heaven's net is indeed vast.
Though its meshes are wide, it misses nothing;
LAO Tzu

ONE BEAUTIFUL SUNDAY morning in the early 1960's, A. D. and my brother, AI, and I attended services at New York City's Riverside Church. The Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., was the guest preacher, and his powerful sermon on "Saint Paul's Letter to the United States of America" moved us profoundly. Inspired and excited, the three of us had a lively discussion about the service and Dr. King's message on our way back to my home in Westchester, where A. D. and AI were visiting us that weekend. I was deeply engrossed in our discussion as I drove north on the Henry Hudson Parkway. I was so caught up in it that as I turned into the Saw Mill River Parkway, I was completely unaware that fast traffic from the Bronx was merging in on my left.

Suddenly, I felt the steering wheel of my car being yanked by invisible hands. The car swerved sharply to the right—and in that split second, we avoided a shattering collision with a speeding car entering from that other highway. Had my steering wheel not been wrenched from my grip, we all could have been killed or very seriously injured.

A. D. has now identified my invisible protector as my "doorkeeper," and here he tells us about these invisible guardian/companions. The doorkeeper is not an angel, but a human soul who accompanies an incarnating soul as far as the astral realm. He remains with the incarnating soul as a protector of the physical body throughout the entire incarnation of the soul. This is an important area of service in the realm beyond.

In addition to being our protector, the doorkeeper guards our privacy by "closing the blinds" on us when that is our desire. Even our loved ones who have died cannot intrude at such

(Continued on next page.)

times. They can see what we are doing only when we are open to them and don't mind their observing us in that situation.

Our doorkeeper can guide us through thought, but he can never countermand our free will. We make his job difficult to impossible if we take drugs or have outbursts of violent rage. Both can tear the protective etheric web between our physical and spiritual bodies. Whatever the cause, such a renting of the web puts us in grave danger, and A. D. describes the perils we face and tells us how to avoid them as well as how to recover from them.

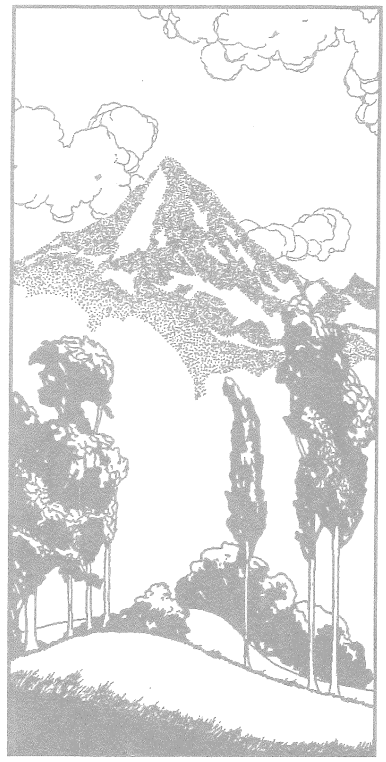
EVERY SOUL BORN is accompanied by a companion spirit that is dedicated to being that soul's helper from the astral realm throughout its incarnation. This companion is called a doorkeeper. The incarnating soul, in turn, may have been a doorkeeper for others at some time.

The doorkeeper descends with the in-coming soul only as far as the astral plane, and then remains very close to that soul for its entire lifetime. The primary function of the doorkeeper is to protect the physical body by preventing any astral entities from entering it when the soul vacates its body during sleep and ascends to the astral plane.

There are also instances when a doorkeeper has intervened, preventing physical disaster on the earth plane. People may wonder why physical disaster is not *always* prevented by a doorkeeper. I don't have an answer that would apply to all circumstances. I do know that people are always surrounded by God's love, but they need to exercise their free will and ask for protection. As the Bible says, "Ask and it shall be given." After they have asked, they then must be "open" to enable the heavenly helpers to assist them.

For instance, having sensed the potential for an accident on your usual route, your doorkeeper might try to influence you to think of taking an alternate route. If you are not open to this mental suggestion and don't follow it, then you could be involved in an accident. When you ask for protection and are spiritually open, the help is right there for you. If you haven't asked for protection, or if you are closed or "blocked," then the helpers either aren't aware of your need or they can't break through to you.

There are times, however, when averting physical tragedy may not be the ultimate goal for the incarnation of an individual. The soul comes into incarnation to grow. Though it has free will, it enters life with a matrix of situations that are to be experienced. The doorkeeper may try to protect an individual from anything outside of that matrix, but he can't interfere with situations that may be preordained. For instance, someone may suffer during an incarnation and accept that suffering in such a way that she or he demonstrates to others a great strength and faith in spite of the adversity, but the example can inspire others and promote their spiritual growth. Actor Christopher Reeve, for example, is a person who, though paralyzed by a serious accident, is inspiring millions of people by the way he is coping with his disabilities.



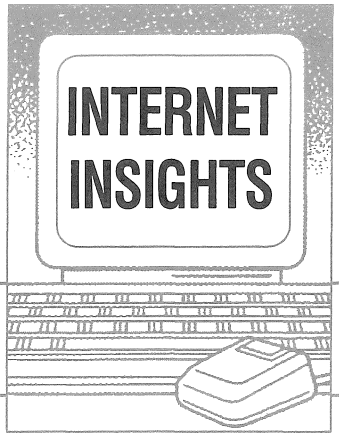
Another duty of the doorkeeper is to protect the privacy of the incarnate soul. Even loved ones who have died cannot intrude on a person on earth unless the person reaches out for that connection. All people on earth are surrounded by a privacy that cannot be violated. We in the astral world are not allowed to see what is going on in a person's life unless that person calls on us to do so. I am not allowed to trespass in homes or intrude on people any more than I could do that when I was on earth. The privacy of people is respected.

When an accident causes sudden death, predeceased family and friends may not be aware that the person has died, so they won't be on hand for his or her arrival on the astral plane. The doorkeeper and other helpers assist the release from the physical body at the scene of death. They withdraw the astral body and accompany it to a center for healing and rehabilitation on the astral plane. This cushions the shock of sudden death. The doorkeeper then finds the newcomer's family and friends so that a reunion can take place.

The doorkeeper can guide through thought, but can never countermand the free will of the incarnate soul. When you sleep at night and are out on the astral plane, you meet your doorkeeper as an equal. When you die and again return to the astral planes to live, your doorkeeper may remain with you to help you adjust to living once again in the higher planes of existence. My companion and helper was a great blessing in helping me to adjust, and he is still with me. Your doorkeeper is dedicated to you until you don't need him anymore.

"Evidence from Beyond" can be found in bookstores or by calling 1-800-431-1579. You can also order on-line at http://www.brettbooks.com/evidencefrombeyond.

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Thank You For The Thorns

– Author Unknown

Sandra felt as low as the heels of her Birkenstocks as she pushed against a November gust and the florist shop door. Her life had been easy, like a spring breeze. Then in the fourth month of her second pregnancy, a minor automobile accident stole her ease. During this Thanksgiving week she would have delivered a son. She grieved over her loss. As if that weren't enough, her husband's company threatened a transfer. Then her sister, whose holiday visit she coveted, called saying she could not come. What's worse, Sandra's friend infuriated her by suggesting her grief was a God-given path to maturity that would allow her to empathize with others who suffer. Had she lost a child? No—she has no idea what I'm feeling, thought Sandra with a shudder. Thanksgiving? Thankful for what? she wondered. For a careless driver whose truck was hardly scratched when he rear-ended her? For an air bag that saved her life but took that of her child?

"Good afternoon, can I help you?" The flower shop clerk's approach startled her. "Sorry," said Jenny, "I just didn't want you to think I was ignoring you."

"I...I need an arrangement," stammered Sandra.

"For Thanksgiving?"

Sandra nodded.

"Do you want beautiful but ordinary, or would you like to challenge the day with a customer favorite I call the Thanksgiving Special?" Jenny saw Sandra's curiosity and continued. "I'm convinced that flowers tell stories, that each arrangement insinuates a particular feeling. Are you looking for something that conveys gratitude this Thanksgiving?"

"Not exactly!" Sandra blurted. "Sorry, but in the last five months, everything that could go wrong has."

Sandra regretted her outburst but was surprised when Jenny said, "I have the perfect arrangement for you." The door's small bell suddenly rang.

"Barbara! Hi, let me get your order," Jenny said. She politely excused herself from Sandra and walked toward a small workroom. She quickly reappeared carrying a massive arrangement of greenery, bows, and long-stemmed thorny roses. Only, the ends of the rose stems were neatly snipped, no flowers.

"Want this in a box?" Jenny asked.

Sandra watched for Barbara's response. Was this a joke? Who would want rose stems and no flowers! She waited for laughter, for someone to notice the absence of flowers atop the thorny stems, but neither woman did.

"Yes, please. It's exquisite," Barbara replied with an appreciative smile.

"You'd think after three years of getting the special, I'd not be so moved by its significance, but I can feel it right here, all over again." She gently tapped her chest. "My family will love this one. Thanks."

Sandra stared. Why so normal a conversation about so strange an arrangement? she wondered.

"Uh," said Sandra, pointing. "That lady just left with, ah...uh..."

"Yes?"

"Well, you gave her no flowers!"

"Right, I cut off the flowers."

"Cut them off?"

"Off. Yep. That's the Special. I call it the Thanksgiving Thorns Bouquet."

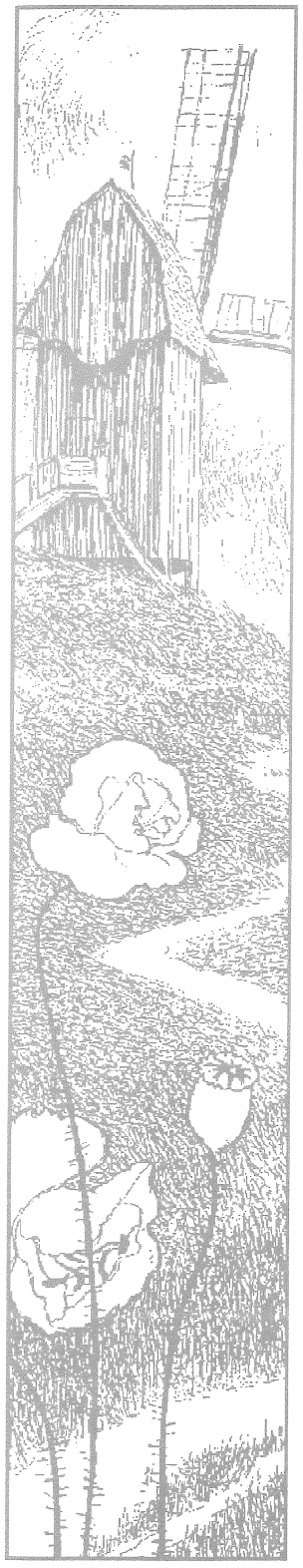
"I just cannot believe people would pay for that!" In spite of herself, she chuckled.

"Do you really want to know why?"

"I couldn't leave this shop without knowing. I'd think of nothing else!"

(Continued on next page.)

"That might be good," mused Jenny. "Well," she continued, "Barbara came into the shop three years ago feeling very much like you feel today. She thought she had very little to be thankful for. She had lost her father to cancer, the family business was failing, her son was into drugs, and she faced major surgery."



"Ooooh!" murmured Sandra.

"That same year, I had lost my husband," Jenny went on. "I assumed complete responsibility for the shop and for the first time, spent the holidays alone. I had no children, no husband, no family nearby, and too great a debt to allow any travel."

"What did you do?"

"I learned to be thankful for thorns."

Sandra's eyebrows lifted. "Thorns?"

"I've always thanked God for good things in life, and I never thought to ask God why good things happened to me, but, when bad stuff hit, did I ever ask! It took time to learn that dark times are important. I always enjoyed the 'flowers' of life, but it took thorns to show me the beauty of God's comfort. You know, the *Bible* says that God comforts us when we're afflicted, and from His consolation we learn to comfort others."

Sandra sucked in her breath as she thought about the very thing her friend had tried to tell her. "I guess the truth is, I don't want comfort. I've lost a baby and I'm angry with God." She started to ask Jenny to "go on" when the door's bell diverted their attention.

"Hey, Phil!" shouted Jenny as a balding, rotund man entered the shop. She softly touched Sandra's arm and moved to welcome him. He tucked her under his side for a warm hug.

"I'm here for twelve thorny long-stemmed stems!" Phil laughed, heartily.

"I figured as much," said Jenny, "and I've got them ready." She lifted a tissue-wrapped arrangement from the refrigerated cabinet.

"Beautiful," exclaimed Phil. "My wife will love them!"

Sandra could not resist asking. "These are for your wife? Do you mind me asking, why thorns?"

"In fact, I'm glad you asked," Phil replied. "Four years ago my wife and I nearly divorced. After forty years, we were in a real mess, but with the Lord's guidance, we slogged through, problem by rotten problem. He rescued our marriage—our love, really. Last year at Thanksgiving I stopped in here for flowers. I must have mentioned surviving a tough process because Jenny told me that for a long time she kept a vase of rose stems—stems!—as a reminder of what she learned from "thorny" times. That was good enough for me. I took home stems. My wife and I decided to label each one for a specific thorny situation and give thanks for what the problem taught us."

Phil paid Jenny, thanked her again and as he left, said to Sandra, "I highly recommend the Special!"

"I don't know if I can be thankful yet for the thorns in my life," Sandra said to Jenny. "It is still...too fresh."

"Well," Jenny replied carefully, "my experience says that thorns make roses more precious. We treasure God's providential care more during trouble than at any other time. Remember, it was a crown of thorns that Jesus wore so we might know His love. Do not resent the thorns."

Tears rolled down Sandra's cheeks. For the first time since the accident she loosened her grip on resentment. "I'll take those twelve long-stemmed thorns, please," she managed to choke out.

"I hoped you would," Jenny said. "I'll have them ready in a minute. Then, every time you see them, remember to appreciate both good and hard times. We grow through both."

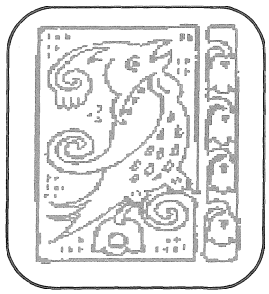
"Thank you. What do I owe you?"

"Nothing. Nothing but a promise to allow God to heal your heart. The first year's arrangement is always on me." Jenny smiled and handed a card to Sandra. "I'll attach a card like this to your arrangement, but maybe you'd like to read it first."

It said: "My God, I have never thanked Thee for my thorns! I have thanked Thee a thousand times for my roses, but never once for my thorns. Teach me the glory of the cross I bear, teach me the value of my thorns. Show me that I have climbed to Thee by the path of pain. Show me that my tears have made my rainbow. –George Matheson"

Worrying does not empty tomorrow of its troubles.
It empties today of its strength...

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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* ***June Johnson*** *of the First Temple of Spiritualism, San Francisco, California.*

Survival of Consciousness

The study of life after death serves to confirm our inner hope that conscious knowing and being continues after the death of the physical body. It also teaches us that the one basic, all-important task in the next state of awareness is the establishment of brotherhood and fellowship through service to others.

I am impressed by the investigation of survival of bodily death summarized by Raymond Moody in his book *Life After Life*, for in addition to providing evidence for life after death, it provides us with a range of impressions of our next body from the point of view of persons who, after death or near death, have been revived and have returned to the physical body. The various reports agree that the new body cannot grip physical objects. Physical ears cannot hear them, physical eyes cannot see them, and physical objects move through the "spiritual body" with ease. Many of Moody's informants remembered that leaving the physical body was accompanied by the experience of "floating," "weightlessness" or "drifting," and that "movement from one place to another can be extremely rapid, almost instantaneous." All those interviewed agreed the spiritual body has a form or shape—although Moody's material suggests a range of perceptions: "I still felt an entire body form, legs, arms, everything—even while I was weightless." My being "felt as if it had a density to it, almost, but not a physical density—...like...waves or something...almost as if it were charged...It was small, and it felt as if it were sort of circular, with no rigid outlines to it..." One man reported he felt as though he'd become a point of consciousness with no body at all.

Raymond Moody found that his informants no longer doubted survival of bodily death, and felt the experience **made life more precious**. "There's so much that I've got to find out," said one. Trying to do things that have meaning and paying more attention to the joys of the present were also reported.

The conviction that there is life after death encourages us to make better use of our talents and opportunities. By helping us to better prepare mentally and emotionally for life after death, Spiritualist teachings help us learn what is most important in this life.

We are fortunate that we have access to a range of information concerning life after death. From 1600-1050 BCE, during the Shang Dynasty in China, rulership was grounded in religion and ritual. The priest chosen as ruler was considered best fitted to rule because he was considered to be the one who could best communicate with those ancestors who were believed to be able to best communicate with their god, Di. The practice of human sacrifice was widespread. The principles underlying sacrifice to the royal ancestors and to various nature gods, in China and elsewhere, are said to be reciprocity and feeding: one makes offering to those from whom one wants help, and one feeds rich foods to the god or ancestor to keep them strong.

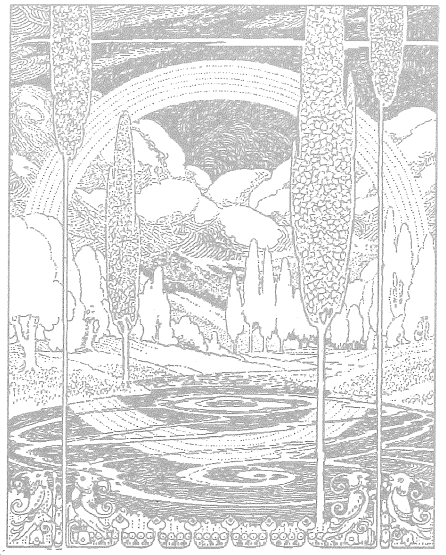
Almost all religions have a belief in a life after death, although doctrines and practices vary. In the Brahman religion, where the personality of the individual is not believed to survive, there is still a concept that the way a person lives their present life will affect later incarnations. Christianity uses the resurrection of Jesus as proof of survival after bodily death. Ancient Egyptians believed that man possessed a body, a "double" and a soul. In addition to revering other gods, the early Romans held ancestral festivals and household rituals. Sir Oliver Lodge, investigating life after death from a scientific view, determined that all matter has an "etheric double."

Humans have come to learn about life after death in a gradual way from many sources. Although communication between the two different states of existence is difficult for both parties and is still considered to be a pioneering effort, Spiritualism accepts the communication between those in the physical body with those in higher awareness as the best source of information concerning life after death. Clairvoyants such as Andrew Jackson Davis, and other mediums, have helped us develop this information. The point of contact between the medium and the spirit is the subconscious mind. The information perceived must be translated into conscious thought and human language in order to report it to others. Spiritualists realize there is in this translation the possibility of "coloring" the communication, creating a distortion in the material received. Therefore, intelligent thought and one's own intuitive good sense must be applied in evaluation of any message.

(Continued on next page.)

Spiritualism teaches that our communicators are human beings who, although no longer in the physical body, maintain the same characteristics of memory, reasoning, thinking ability and emotion that we have. The quality of the spirit message is of greater importance than the exact identity of the speaker, and information which coincides with other independently given accounts is considered the most reliable.

The two fundamental concepts of life after death that the philosophy of Spiritualism teaches are: that spirits are real people, and that these real people live in a real world, a world which is as real to them in that energy range as our physical world is real to us. The major difference between these life forms and stages of development is that at death, one departs from one state of consciousness and arrives at another state which has a higher rate of frequency. Life after death is this change from one form of expression to another.



The world of spirit can best be described as a state of being rather than as located in any particular place. A person newly arrived will reportedly find the new environment challenging, but with no great shocks, as the world of expanded consciousness is similar in many respects to the physical environment just left.

The new body we possess after death has been called the etheric or spiritual body. The etheric body is composed of finer, more subtle substances, which appear solid in the higher range of vibration of the next environment. According to some investigators, the etheric body from the etheric point of view is as warm and living and vital as our bodies are to us, and not at all vaporous nor hazy (as perceived by several of Raymond Moody's informants who remained, presumably, nearer to physical perceptions). These bodies are also perceived as more mobile and more durable than our physical bodies are to us.

Bodies, sleep, food, shelter, landscape and communication all have their equivalent, but not identical, form in the higher rate of vibration. Our individuality is retained after death and the exact environment in the next realm is said to greatly depend on our state of thought, intentions, and feelings.

Three basic occupations in the next world are: unlearning past misinformation; learning more about the Laws pertaining to different phases of nature; and passing our knowledge on to others to help them live fuller, more responsible lives. These seem to correspond with Andrew Jackson Davis' three degrees of development in the next state. A. J. Davis' three distinct societies also suggest there may be multiple levels of progress to work through. According to Davis, those in the next state associate with one another through mutual affinity and "awareness of each other's inherent purity and state of affections." My personal conviction is that each range of awareness makes its own essential contribution to the whole. Perceptions of hierarchy may be due more to "coloration" from our environment as from reality.

According to the informant Steven in S. E. White's *Our Unseen Guest*, both the physical and the spiritual worlds are part of one reality, which is consciousness. Further commentary on this subject, by Betty in White's book *The Unobstructed Universe*, tells us this one consciousness operates in a trilogy of receptivity, conductivity and frequency, which are the essences of what we call time, space and motion, and "every law in the universe...extends through the *entirety* of the universe." ✧

Humor to put you in Good Spirits . . .

• Church Bloopers: The flowers on the altar will be given to those who are sick after the service; Join choir this week. Come to church on Thursday at 7 p.m. and sin; Our monthly class will be held on Tuesday at 7 p.m. It will be gin with a social.



• It is a good thing that history repeats itself, because most people don't listen the first time around.

• Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.

• Familes are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts.

• Before you go to bed, give your troubles to Spirit. God will be up all night anyway.

Texas Spiritualists Gather

Spiritualists from all over Central Texas gathered at the ranch of the Reverend Jean I. Hamner, NST, on June 23, 2001 for a memorial picnic and seance. The event celebrated the life of the Rev. Joseph Merrill. Following a



Joe Merrill Memorial Picnic at Rev. Jean Hamner's ranch near McMahan, Texas.

traditional hot dog roast and potluck picnic, the group enjoyed a Seance under the Stars. "We are very excited about bringing new people into Spiritualism through events outside the church worship services," said Jean Hamner.



SEANCE UNDER THE STARS

More outdoor events, classes and circles for Texas Spiritualists are planned through September at this rural retreat and encampment. ✧

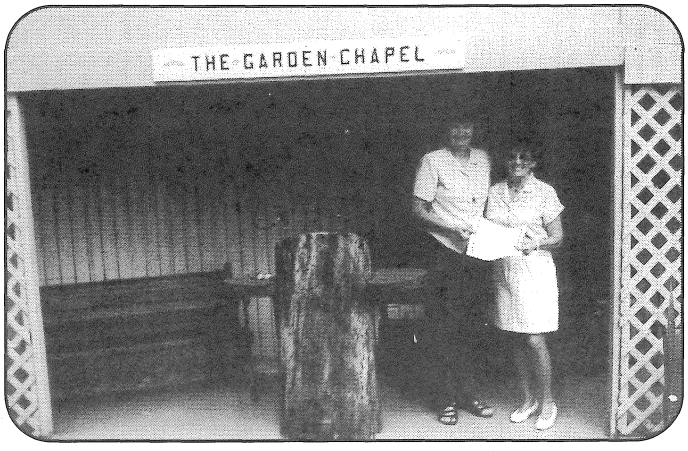
Fellowship at Lily Dale

The Lily Dale Spiritualist Church welcomed five new members on June 3, 2001. Betty Schultz, President of the church Board of Directors, assisted by Vice-President, Michael Pillsbury, conducted the service. The Rev. Larry Clark, NST, gave an inspirational lecture. Following the service, friends and family joined our new members, Bill and Karen Wythe, Tina Lynch, Raymond Taft and Adrienne Taft, for a well timed indoor picnic (as liquid sunshine covered the grounds outside) in the Andrew J. Davis Memorial Lyceum Building. ✧



(L-R): Bill Wythe, Karen Wythe, Tina Lynch, Raymond and Adrienne Taft.

Celebration In Maine



At the Sunday Service on July 22nd at The Pinpoint of Light Spiritualist Center and Camp, Camp Road, Hartford, Maine, our secretary/treasurer, Virginia A. Norris, CH, a Spiritualist for many years, received her Licentiate Ministers Certificate, presented in our Garden Chapel during the service by the Rev. Gloria Nye, NST. A celebration was held in her honor with a potluck lunch and a beautiful cake, and twenty-five were in attendance. ✧

MSSAC Convention

The Michigan State Spiritualist Association of Churches, held its 109th Annual Convention, May 17-21, 2001, in West Branch, Michigan. The Reverend Sandra Pfortmiller, NST, of Glendale, AZ, Editor of *The National Spiritualist-Summit*, served as the guest worker this year.

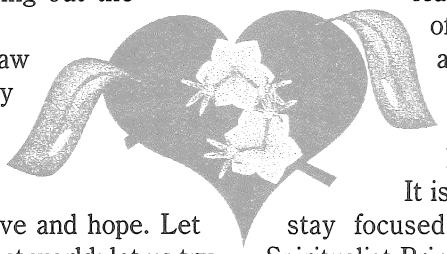
Business sessions were held on Thursday and Friday morning, with workshops in the afternoon. Thursday

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Surviving The Storm

BY THE REV. SANDRA PFORTMILLER, NST

Words are inferior and inadequate to describe our emotions, shock and sadness at the recent tragic events that happened in our Country. The terrorist attacks have changed our world as we know it, but we can send loving energy out to help formulate the new order of life. America is a large complex culture with many freedoms not experienced in other countries, with proud, bold and strong people. It is our thought that this terrible tragedy will bring out the best in people.



As Spiritualists, we affirm Love, Law and Light/Energy. We know there is only love or fear and that which is sent out into the ethers will return. Therefore, it is important that we check how we react, and send out forgiveness, compassion, love and hope. Let us try to search for meaning in God's perfect world; let us try to send loving prayers asking for the highest and best for all. We each strive for understanding for our future, the future of America, and the future of the world, but please approach your inner doubts and questions with trust that Infinite Intelligence is in control, that life has a purpose.

During this time of unrest there are many ways to help. The blood banks will need replenishing; the Charities such as the Red Cross or United Way could use donations; children who have seen the graphic pictures on television will need extra love and attention; then we need to pray, pray, pray; to send love and more love.

Pray for courage and strength for those who have been injured or who have lost a loved one. Pray for progression for those who have made the transition to the Summer Land. Pray for Infinite Intelligence to guide our government leaders and all leaders in their decisions. Pray often, alone and in groups, for the Earth and all its inhabitants to be comforted. Light a candle to symbolize the light of God, with a prayer that truth and love may shine in the hearts of all men and women.

It is a time of change and growth. It is a time to stay focused on the Golden Rule and practice our Spiritualist Principles. Light illuminates the darkness, so as we send love and light, we will help design our future. Trust in the love and power of God is important as we develop a true sense of meaning in our future. Spiritualists believe in Andrew Jackson Davis' Magic Staff, which is good advice to follow at all times: Under all circumstances keep an even mind! Communicate within and request help and comfort from the Higher Energies, then share peace and comfort with others. God Bless All Humanity! ✧

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

(Continued from previous page.)

afternoon, President of the MSSAC, Marcia Hyatt, presented a workshop entitled "Marketing Your Church." This workshop was adapted from the workshop presented at the NSAC Convention last year, by Mr. Egby. Participants reported that they found the workshop very informative and felt that it assisted many Church Auxiliaries in developing ideas on how to "Market their Churches." The Golden Rule Spiritualist Church had already started instituting this program and reported seeing an increase in interest in the Religion of Spiritualism. Their efforts included a website and brochures/business cards placed in the surrounding area. Many ideas were exchanged, and the State Association's Public Relations Committee and Marketing Committee can now work more effectively with promoting Spiritualism.

Friday afternoon, the Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller, NST, presented her workshop on Spirit Messages and Spirit Guides. She shared stories with those in attendance about her own experiences and those of others. Explaining that it's always important that we set a time to sit and to keep it, that we need to slow down, sit, relax and mediate, for without these, spirit can not communicate with us. Among those in attendance was a newspaper reporter from the local paper; his reporting on the workshop was very informative to the general public and very positive.

After business sessions in the morning and afternoon, a banquet was held Saturday evening. Again, this year, the Lyceum Department paid for the entertainment, which was provided by the Reverend Maureen "Moose" Darga. Maureen Darga is ordained through one of the independent Spiritualist organizations in the state.

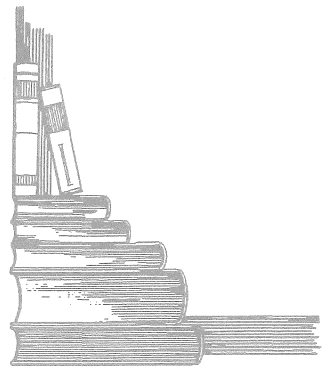
Spiritualist of the year was presented to Mrs. Elda Goddard, of the Flower Memorial Spiritualist Church of Leslie, MI. The Memorial Plaque was presented to the First Spiritual Temple of Royal Oak, MI, in memory of Betty Witkowski.

Sunday morning Lyceum service was conducted by the Lyceumists, under the direction of Lyceum Superintendent, Dawn Hyatt. The Lyceumists ranged in age from five to nineteen, and did a fine job of demonstrating their knowledge in the Religion of Spiritualism.

2001-2002 Officers of the Michigan State Spiritualist Association of Churches are: President, Marcia Hyatt; Vice President, Donald Weichner; Secretary, M. Elaine Weichner; Treasurer, Rev. Marguerite Gutt, NST; Trustees, Michael Dumbrigue, Grace Butterfield, Dianne Smith, Dennis Goddard, and George Wrona. ✧



PASTORAL SKILLS AT LILY DALE



BY RAY JONES, WEST VIRGINIA

There is an old saying that goes something like this; "If you want something in this World, you have to work for it." No truer word was ever spoken as the ten students, including yours truly, assembled together on the evening of the sixteenth of June, in the Morris Pratt Institute building at Lily Dale Assembly Camp, Cassadaga, New York State. Ahead of us lay some thirteen days of study and approximately thirty hours of homework. Not for the faint hearted. The Instructor, the Reverend Sharon Snowman, NST, is also the secretary of the National Spiritualist Association of Churches. She outlined what was to be expected of us, as we introduced ourselves to our fellow students. John Otey of Virginia, Pat Peck from Illinois, Brad and Betty Gosselin from Danvers, Massachusetts, Hugo Ruiz from New York, Genevieve Mancini from New York, Pat Duffield from New York, George Brenner from California, Peter Berg from New York, and myself from West Virginia.

The Reverend Sharon Snowman made it quite clear from the start, that the two weeks were to be that of teamwork, and teamwork it was. I can honestly say that I have never witnessed ten people work in complete harmony towards a common goal. Each one reflected their own individual personalities, yet blended in a true professional manner, working both with and for each other as we waded through theories and practices of such ceremonies as; Consecrations, Fellowships, Dedications, and many more services required by those seeking eventual Ordination. On a more personal note, I was most touched when they carried out a Memorial Service for my son David, who, one year ago to the day, was killed in an automobile accident. That to me was true Spiritualists working together with feelings. Later in the week, we all were to partake in a funeral service for "Snowball," the Reverend Sharon Snowman's beloved cat. A most moving service, and a few tears were shed, as "Snowball's" remains were laid to mother earth.

As the two weeks went by, we studied comprehensively; Funerals, marriages, counselling, drug abuse, alcoholism, counselling the bereaved, preaching sermons, and child abuse. Spiritual Healing brought the question of what is permissible for the laying on of hands. Apparently, some states permit the healer only to touch certain areas of the recipients body, whilst others set other limitations. In fact, we discussed just about every possible subject under the sun, or so it seemed.

Practical work embraced a high percentage of the course. After all, there is no point in knowing the theories if you cannot put them into practice. "Critique" was the essence of every practical session. As time went by, it was obvious that Ms. Snowman was well versed in her work as a teacher of Pastoral Skills and fluently answered every question we posed.

The Rev. Don Ray, a local Chaplain, presented an interesting series of talks on pastoral care in the hospitals and funeral homes. He dealt with such subjects as "Rights of the Dying" and how important it was to deal with this role in the right and proper manner. He told us what should be done, and also what should not be done, which he stressed was equally important.

How do you deal with the alcoholic, their family? Can you work with the youth who is dependent on drugs? The suicide call? A battered wife, can you help her? You are at the bedside of a dying person, what do you do? Can you help in the choosing of the casket for the deceased? Does the couple getting married need advice or pre-marital counselling? Expecting and dealing with the unexpected is what pastoral care is all about. Suddenly you realize that being a member of your local Spiritualist church has a lot more meaning. It means that you care about others. The course pointed that out in no uncertain terms.

How many of us, as we enter a church, notice the color of the walls, the potential capacity, the height of the ceilings? Not many. We visited three different church meetings on the site, and had to appraise everything from platform adornments, to the contents of the lecture, three whole pages of observations for each service. When I say that the Morris Pratt Institute's "Pastoral Skills" course is comprehensive, I mean just that.

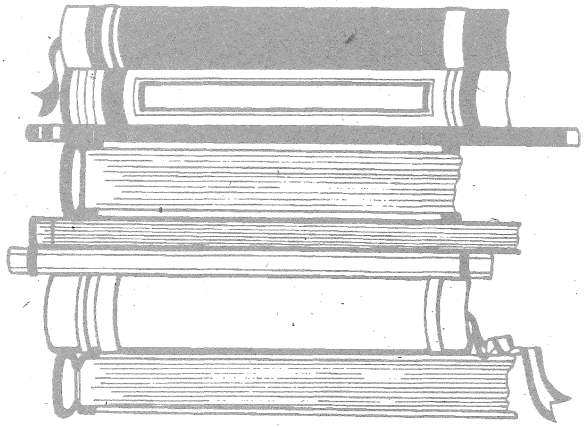
Sessions were held on not only creating a Spiritualist service, but designing its flyers and other publicity materials. Work on seminar layout, public speaking, library layout, advertising work, lecture planning and presentation,

(Continued on next page.)

selecting music, having the abilities to know when you can or cannot be of help.

The list of work covered was incredible in its content, but with Sharon Snowman's help, we systematically covered the course, tired but content, at the end of each day, and ready to plow a further three hours into the homework she had set. So enthusiastic were the students, that we purchased a computer printer between us. This was used extensively to print our presentations via a laptop computer brought by John Otey, and by way of thanks, the printer was presented for use by future pupils of the "Pastoral Skills" course at Lily Dale. Now that's Spiritualism.

Spiritualism is not just giving messages from the platform. Spiritualism is caring for people spiritually, mentally and physically, and the course opens up a new horizon on our future survival as a religion. The National Association of Spiritualist Churches in the United States have recognized this, and are heading in the right direction by placing the emphasis on pastoral care, and awakening us to see our place in the community. Courses like this provide us with a deeper understanding of what our communities yearn for.



Those of you in the United States and Canada might be interested to know that these "Pastoral Skill" courses are run several times each year throughout the States, and are an essential requirement for consideration in Licentiate and Ordained Ministry. Give them a call at (414) 774-2994, or e-mail at mpratt@execpc.com, to find out where the nearest course is to you. You don't have to be heading towards the ministry to take the "Pastoral Skills" program. It is available to anyone. One thing for sure, you won't be disappointed.

Will it help to improve our abilities as we return to our respective churches? Yes. Undoubtably, this has to be at the forefront of our spiritual education. It's fine being able to preach from the platform, but we must be able to put it into action. Ms. Snowman succeeded in guiding us into being able to understand that "Knowledge has no value, except in its application." The ten exhausted students are now beavering away at putting what they learned into operation for all their communities. Don't be apprehensive about taking this course, just be prepared to work at it, knowing that it is all part of the Spiritualists aim to aid humanity, and indeed, you will be all the richer for having participated in it. ✧

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Declaration of Principles

National Spiritualist Association of Churches

1. We believe in Infinite Intelligence.

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

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

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

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

6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: "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 are Divine attributes proven through Mediumship.



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