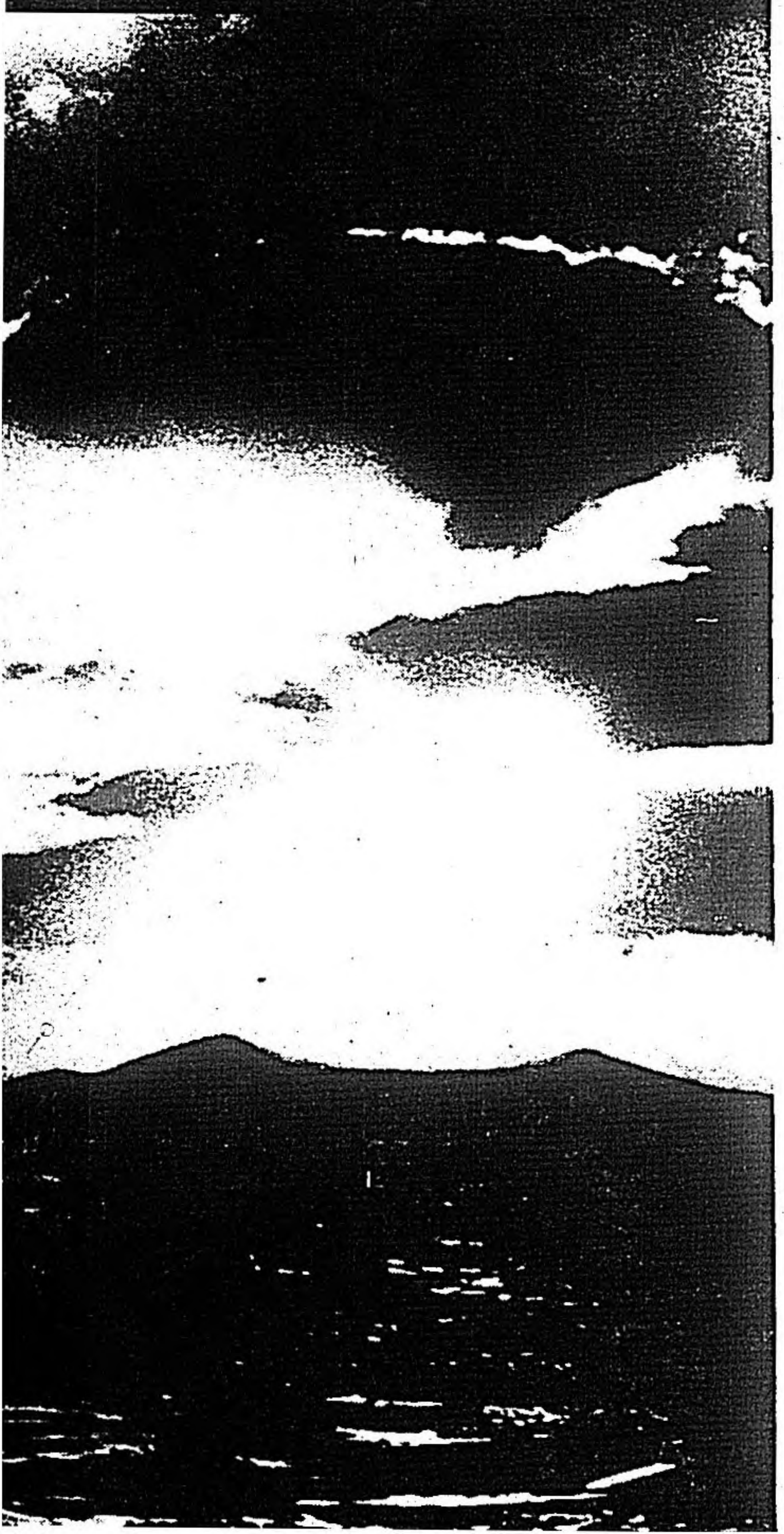
CHURCH OF ALL RELIGIONS
SCHOOL OF THE ANCIENT MYSTERIES
FRATERNITY OF ALL PHILOSOPHIES
INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIC RESEARCH

Voice of Astara

Published monthly by Astara, Inc.
Vol. 22, No. 12 SEPTEMBER 1974
Editor: Swami Parampanthi



A UNIVERSAL PRAYER

By Swami Parampanthi

O Lord! the whole creation is a songful prayer unto you and a vibrant symbol of your grace, love and creativity. From the whirling nebula in the vast reaches of space to the tiny atom on earth we witness your majestic presence informing all things and beings with life and movement. All existence is sustained and permeated by you as it moves toward an ultimate union with you.

Unity in Diversity is your name; your playground is eternity. Your immense love is your gift to mankind reconciling humanity unto you. Grant us the gift of your Light!

As I lift my eyes in prayer, my voice quivers in awe and the sound of my orison fades into silence which is the true language of prayer. I pray without knowing, like a child, from the depths of my heart—not in greed and desire—but in the earnest seeking of my soul to welcome your abiding presence into my being.

I pray without eloquence in spontaneous humility, knowing well that you alone have planted the seeds of prayer in my longing. I pray without calculation by the desperate need of the hour and by the inspiration of the moment. I pray through the laughter of my joy and the tears of my agony to ascend to your presence. Grant me the gift of your love!

Let my prayer be, O Lord, for the entire creation. Let my halting communication transform into a holy communion—so that I may perceive my presence in you and yours in mine. If I pray with desires for selfish gains, grant me, O Lord, the state of selflessness. If I pray in fear, let your grace wash away the stubborn remains of fear from the cavern of my soul. If I pray without sincerity, let your relentless truth come

Con't. on Page 11, Col. 1

PULPIT GUEST



Gina Cerminara; Ph.D., author and teacher. speaks at Astara Sunday, September 8 at the 11:00 o'clock service. Her subject is

Dr. Cerminara is the author of such classics as *Many Mansions; The World Within; Many Lives, Many Loves; Insights for the Age of Aquarius;* she is currently teaching classes in parapsychology at two colleges and is conducting seminars in General Semantics for numerous groups throughout the country.

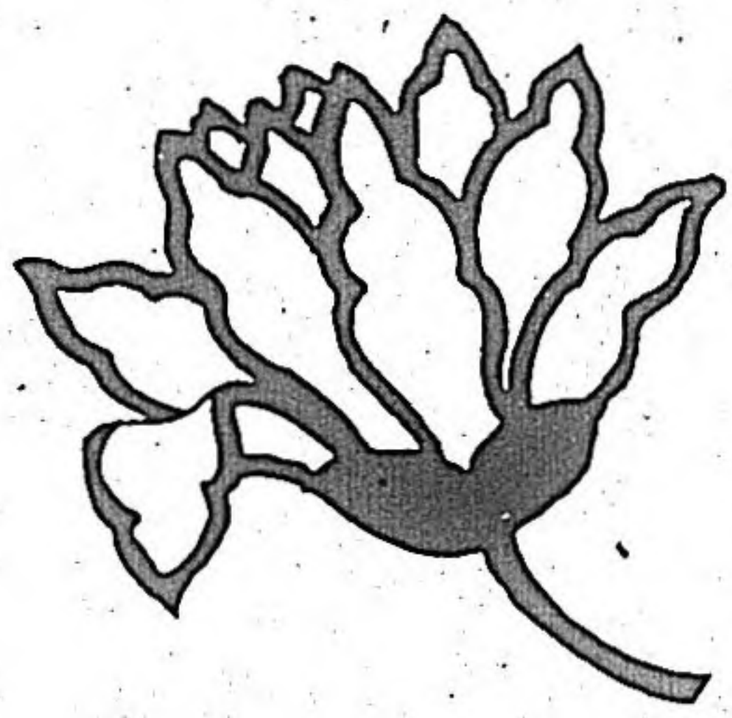
Insights for the Age of Aquarius is her latest book and is appearing on best-seller lists. An earlier book, *Many Mansions*, has had 18 American printings and has been translated into five other languages.

SAFEGUARD CHECKS

The postal department handles so much mail that some of it is bound to go astray. To safeguard checks or money orders you send to Astara we suggest that you write the words FOR DEPOSIT ONLY on the back side, the endorsement side, of your check or money order.

SEPTEMBER STUDY CIRCLE

THE SECRET OF THE GOLDEN FLOWER



Swami Parampanthi presents the Study Circle to explore the wisdom of all ages—mystical, psychic, and spiritual, in informal sessions, Friday evenings at 7:45 in the Museum Room.

The emphasis is on practical techniques for self-development and creativity through spiritual and psychic growth. Each evening's program begins with simple Yoga exercises to help the students relax, and ends with a special meditation conducted by Swami Parampanthi. It is indeed a beautiful experience for those who attend.

In four Friday evenings in September, Swami Parampanthi will teach the secrets of a rare and unusual book, *The Secret Of The Golden Flower* written by Lin Hua-yang in 1794. Lin Hua-yang was a great mystic and enlightened Master. The central theme of this esoteric book is that at birth the two spheres of the Psyche, consciousness and the unconscious become separated. The unification of the two spheres can be attained through mystical meditations and other techniques. The unconscious is inseminated by consciousness being immersed in it. In this way the Unconscious is activated and thus, together with an enriched consciousness, enters upon a supra-personal mental level in the form of a spiritual birth.

The Secret Of The Golden Flower

September 6: The Way To Heavenly Consciousness (the heart)

September 13: The Primal Spirit and the Conscious Spirit

September 20: The Circulation of the Mystic Light

September 27: A Magic Spell For the Far Journey

Plan to attend these four sessions for an expansion of consciousness and a rare insight into the Light of your own Consciousness. Free-will Offering!

MINI-MEDITATION

by Hildegarde (Heidi) Olsen

Thales was a Greek philosopher. He was born in Asia Minor some 2500 years ago. He is considered by modern scholars to be one of the Seven Wise Men of Greece, famed for his knowledge of astronomy and having established the science of abstract geometry. Thales was a salt merchant by trade, and herein lies a tale.

He transported his salt to the marketplace on the back of a donkey. The load was always heavy, so far as the donkey was concerned, and seemed to become heavier with each passing mile. One day while crossing a river the donkey slipped and fell. When he scrambled to his feet he was delighted to note his burden was lighter . . . some of the salt having been dissolved in the stream. Thereafter, as the story goes, he always managed to stumble in the river, thus assuring a less heavy load for the remainder of the journey.

Wise though the donkey appeared to be, Thales was wiser. After observing that this behavior was becoming more than coincidental, he one day loaded the donkey with sponges instead of salt. Following his pattern, the donkey fell into the stream, the sponges soaked up water, and now he found his load to be heavier than the salt!

Are We Like the Donkey?

Perhaps we sometimes are like Thales' donkey. Perhaps we think life has given us too heavy a load to carry and want to get it off our backs, so we devise many ways to "stumble in the river." We put off until tomorrow what we should do today. We try to place the burden of our short-comings and mistakes on others. "Nobody understands my problems," we may say, but make little effort to understand those of others.

We ignore moral obligations to family, associates and our fellowman, and this is the greatest neglect, for it inhibits the Self in not only its growth, but its purposeful expression in our life. The Self is the clockwork which ma es us tick as personalities. It is the mai spring which releases its *soul*ar energy to make the mechanism of self run as it should.

You know what happens to a watch when its works get wet. It starts to rust and stops keeping time. So it is with us, if we allow ourselves the indulgence of "falling into the river of life" instead of crossing it. We find that the "empty sponges" of self-indulgence become filled with murky waters of self-pity, and our burden is heavier than ever.

How the Self Helps

One's High Self is a channel th rough which the Christ Essence functions, and the more we rely upon its ever-presence, the more available it becomes. How does one "plug into" this source? Through meditation; study and application; analytical observation of self, and affirmation of Self. The divine properties of Light will always assist us in coping with our problems, overcoming our circumstances and lightening any burden.

Instant Karma

Your clothes are in the washer.
You shut the door and lock it.
As waters fall,
You now recall
There's Kleenex in a pocket! - *Heidi*



An Astarian in Need Never Walks Alone

He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds. (Ps. 147:3)

WITHIN A COUPLE OF HOURS, THE PAIN LEFT

Dear Friends at Astara:

I called you for your prayers about ten days ago. I had been having very severe stomach pains for two weeks and nothing seemed to help. I wanted to take a trip to another part of the state to attend a granddaughter's graduation and I just could not have gone while in so much pain.

Within a couple of hours of talking to you, the pain left and I felt so well that I made the trip and was away for a week and enjoyed every minute of my visit with my beloved family. I am sure that without Astara's prayer help, I just could not have gone. I had been praying very ernestly myself but there does seem to be a time when we are in pain that it is difficult to keep up our faith. Thank you and God bless you for all the wonderful good you are doing in His name.

L. H. Fargo, North Dakota

NO SIGN OF MASSIVE HEART ATTACK

Dear Robert and Earlyne:

After many months with Astara, I've experienced some wonderful things, but what has occurred this week is truly remarkable. An acquaintance of mine, who is very strong and athletic and 23 years

old, had a waterskiing accident July 7th. Although no injuries were apparent, he became very ill and weak, and kept getting weaker. By evening, a friend persuaded him to go to the hospital, where it was learned he was having a massive heart attack. The doctor said the attack would have killed him within the hour if he hadn't been brought to the hospital.

I prayed that evening to the Master Zoser to heal my friend, who was then in intensive care. By the 10th of July--three days later--the doctors were saying they couldn't figure out what had happened--his heart showed no sign of damage, as if no heart attack had even taken place! To think this happened so soon, when on Sunday we were wondering while he was on the heart monitor and in the oxygen tent, if he'd pull through. I have no doubt that Astara helped in many ways this week.

I just want to thank you for the wonderful help you've been at many times. Astara has given real direction to my life, and I could go on and on about the good things which have come my way since joining. One of the best is that after joining Astara, I decided to go back to college. I was surprised at how much better I could remember what I learned. After struggling for 2 years to get by, I was suddenly getting straight A's.

I am most grateful to Astara for helping me finish school, and study better. Many thanks to the good Master Zoser and to the Chaneys.

S. Shallman, St. Louis Park, MN.

READING THE AKASHIC RECORD

by Faith Ellen Kindell

Most people have an abstract concept about what is esoterically known as their "Akashic Record." It is natural to be curious about what one's specific past experiences have been, but the motives for curiosity are often laden with conceit.

While it is true that an individual's Akashic Record is an actual and tangible substance (be it finer than our senses can presently discern), in which has been inscribed vibrational "grooves" of all past patterns of thinking and feeling, it can be described in much simpler terms—terms with which we can deal on a practical, day to day basis.

For instance, it has been said, "You are the sum total of all your past thoughts, feelings, desires, and actions." Then you carry your Akashic Record in your unconscious mind, in your bloodstream, in your aura, (it can be said many ways, all of which are true). It could be said, "You *are* the manifestation of your Akashic Record."

What, then, of a hope of freedom from playing again and again that same old song—your Akashic Record? What of the concepts of Grace, of Faith, of "stepping off the Wheel of Birth and Death?"

To get off a merry-go-round, it is preferable to bring it to a halt, lest one get bruised. Meditation, contemplation, prayer and affirmation, as tools in the development of faith, activate an increasing awareness of one's spiritual identity, and therefore of Spiritual Grace. Might not grace be another term for Divine forgiveness?

When self-forgiveness, and Self-forgiveness, take place in your consciousness through your constructive introspection, contemplation, meditation and prayer, we might say that the old Akashic Record slows down and new "grooves" are made in it by right thinking, right feeling, and right action.

It behooves us then, to undertake a path to slow down that pattern set in motion in ignorance and unknowing, so that a new pattern can be set in motion and a new Akashic Record formed. Karma is not avoided; we remain within the Law of Cause and Effect. But recognizing Divine Cause, we begin to feel a better effect.

Jesus admonished men to seek first the Kingdom, and all "these things shall be added to you." Seeking the Kingdom, our Akashic Records can be shown to our understanding, for just that purpose —*our understanding*. It is Wisdom that we not be shown for any other reason. We are beginning to *read* our Akashic Record when we begin to "Know thyself."

PEOPLE AT ASTARA



Judy James.

Judy is assistant supervisor in Astara's Registry Department. It is she who makes the first of many steps in sending your Lessons by posting your Degree tuitions. She also sees to it that your ledger sheet is kept up to date, and that

your membership records are current.

She was born and raised in Canton, Ohio. After completing high school she went to Washington, D.C. where she worked for the State Department until the birth of her first child. She came to California six years ago, the last five-and-a-half of which have been with Astara.

She knows the Registry from top to bottom, and has offered many valuable suggestions to add to its efficiency. Everyone loves Judy for her easy-going manner and ever-ready assistance when any problem with a Lesson request occurs.

In addition to her hobbies of reading and swimming, she gives a great deal of time to The Parents' Association For Children's Centers, of which she is co-chair(wo)man this year for the annual conference being held this November in California.

Judy's other talents include being our official cake slicer when a birthday occurs at Astara. What with youngsters Kirsten, David, Paul, Melissa and Rebecca (ages five to nine), she's had lots of practice! . . . *Heidi Olsen*

HUGE INVENTORY

Publishing and distributing lessons seems a simple activity. But like some medicines, the side effects are startling!

For example, we have just been surprised to learn that we have over 400 different items of printed material on hand—not including Degree Lessons, books or office supplies. This inventory of materials includes many forms such as Healing Petitions, lesson catalogs and other items of interest to members.

Add to this the essential lessons, books and office supplies and you have an inventory that is complicated to keep, a responsibility to maintain and expensive to build. But it's necessary and we're happy to do it.

ASTARA'S YOUNGEST MEMBER



. . . is David Merrick Antrim. He was born July 16. Proud parents Rita and Dale Antrim entered his membership July 26. Rita was Dr. Robert's personal secretary until she left the staff a few months ago to impatiently await the birth of her first child. Never has one had so many unofficial God Parents as "our" baby!

David is of course fantastic, precocious, erudite and remarkable in all ways. Any new parent would tell you this. Even so, he can't write as yet, so Rita filled in his application for him. RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND: Metaphysical. OCCUPATION: Day sleeper and night crier. The space after NAME OF SPOUSE is blank.

Full steam ahead, David—and to all born in these challenging and extraordinary times.

• • • • •

NEW EQUIPMENT

"3 adding machines in 1" could be the name of the above office equipment being tested by Pam Sargent and Rodolfo Silva.

It will add 3 different and mixed columns of figures simultaneously, and give you three different totals whenever you want them. The usual cost for this equipment is $975.00, but Astara's purchasing it for $450.50 to help speed processing with lesson, book and recording orders.

WHAT ASTARIANS DO

There is more to making a photograph than pointing the camera and taking a picture. It is a creative process. Astarian Richard Albertine can attest to this.

He was awarded second prize of $3000 in the Time-Life Bicentennial Photography Contest, and his winning photographs were published this spring in Time-Life's Photography annual, as well as receiving national exposure through magazines, displays and exhibits connected with the contest.

Richard was born and raised in the east–Norwich, CT, to be exact. He received his bachelor of fine arts degree from the Rochester Institute of Technology where he majored in photography. He studied at M.I.T. following his tour of duty with the U.S. Air Force. While at M.I.T. he taught at the New England School of Art in Boston. Before pulling up stakes last May to move his family to Idaho, he was teaching an advanced photography course at Connecticut College.

At the ripe old age of 29, he has exhibited his work in numerous museums and galleries, and his photographs and articles on photography have been published in books and magazines nationwide.

He feels by using the camera as a means of personal expression one can take a photograph through their head, their heart, or through the eyes of one's sex, since the approach of a man and woman to any given subject tends to differ. "Although other things sometimes creep in, hopefully I photograph through my heart. When I feel love for my subject matter, it will show in the final photograph."

The theme of the contest which brought him into public view was *A Declaration of Interdependence*–one to which he responded immediately. Entries were to reflect the broad motif of the dependence of people upon one another--the growing need for real relationships within families and between races and countries, and the awareness of mutual dependence on the environment for survival.

Richard considers himself also to be a journalist through his photography. He's neither a flag-waver nor an extremist. He's both a dreamer and a realist. He sees things through his heart, photographs them that way, and tells it like it is.

–Heidi Olsen

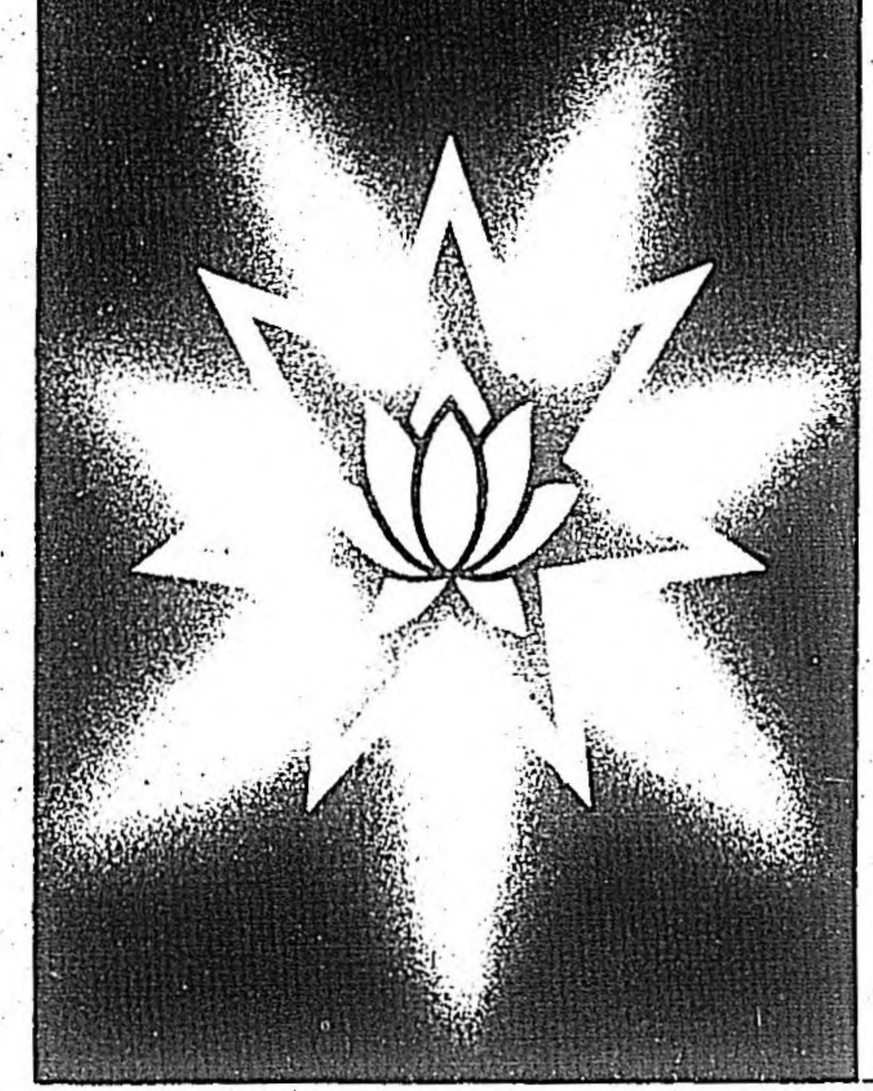
AN ASTARIAN WRITES

Dear Astara,

Thank you, dear Astara for all the great love, kindness and care you give me. When I read some of the things that my brothers write about how their minds, their lives, and their souls changed from untruth to truth from darkness to light from ignorance to knowledge from pain, sufferings, diseases, and death to peace, happiness, and eternity, from unreality to reality. Astara you have shown us the way home. I'm up lifted of appreciation for your wonderful inspiring wisdom, not only in the lessons but in the Voice of Astara, which comes only from the kindness of you. I truly do appreciate the Voice, because of the light it brings and because it keeps me in touch with you. Even though we are miles apart when I receive the free Voice it brings me to you and reminds me of the great brotherhood. Astara you have touch the deepest of my heart.

Yours forever,
Mark Wickham
Schenectady, NY

astarian healing petition



1. Fill in the Petition.
2. Concentrate a moment upon the Astarian Symbol.
3. Hold it between your hands with a prayer . . . then send it to us.
4. Each day sit in meditation for a few moments, visualizing yourself in an aura of White Light.

Please direct your prayers and spiritual healing energies to:

Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____

for the following difficulty:

_____

_____

_____

_____

NOTE: When requesting healing for someone else, write your own name and address on the back of this Petition. This is *IMPORTANT*.

Astara 261 South Mariposa Avenue Los Angeles, California 90004

THE ASTARIAN AFFIRMATION

I am surrounded by the Pure White Light of the Christ . . .
Nothing but good can come to me . . .
Nothing but good shall go from me . . .
I give thanks!

Would you like to be here— at Astara today?

Would you like to share in the exciting activities—the services and classes, the healing, filling Lesson requests and answering correspondence to the far corners of the world?

Would you like to be here and join the workers who help spread the Light of Astara in so many ways? Printing Lessons, filling orders for recordings and books? Preparing and mailing the Voice? Sending literature to prospective Astarians?

And there are so many other things to be done—cleaning offices, gardening, typing and all kinds of record keeping.

If you would like to be here and share in these activities, YOU CAN—through your donation. Each dollar contributed enables Astara to perform more services, reach more individuals ready for the Light. When this offering envelope brings your donation to Astara, you ARE here, and helping.

"He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do."
Jesus in John 14:12

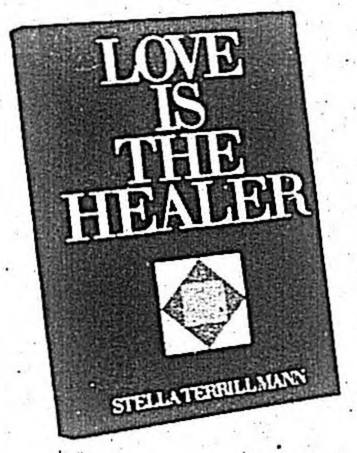
ASTARA's Book List

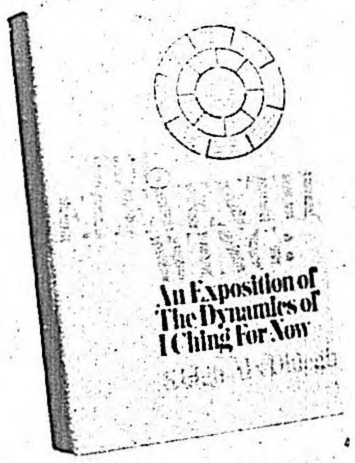
September-October 1974

Compiled by Irma Mills

( ) LOVE IS THE HEALER.....(c)..$5.65

Stella Terrill Mann, author of several books, including "Change Your Life Through Prayer," has drawn from her more than 30 years of counseling for "stories from life" to illustrate that love is a word too often used and a principle too seldom applied in our lives. Mrs. Mann says, "It is not a question of whether love will ever be used as a universal way of life, but only of how soon enough people will get together and build a better world through love put to work." "Love Is A Healer" is a practical, inspiring book, a way toward knowing the joys of Self-fulfillment.





( ) THE ELEVENTH WING...$8.50

by Khigh Alx Dhiegh. (c)

An Exposition of The Dynamics of I Ching For Now. Presents updated principles of the I Ching beyond the classical Ten Wings (Commentaries) used for centuries to interpret this ancient text. Correlates the philosophical and psychological aspects with modern scientific research and explanations of phenomena in the world today. A consultation of the I Ching is an approach to attaining an altered state of consciousness, of changing from time-space boundaries to non-ordinary reality. "The Eleventh Wing" adds an important dimension to a deeper comprehension of "changes" in our lives.



( ) BIBLE & THE TAROT (C)..$5.65

by Corinne Heline. In three parts: Basic Principles; Hebrew Alphabet (a series of Cosmic Glyphs); a comparative study of the Bible and Tarot.

( ) Paperback edition.....$4.25

Astara 261 South Mariposa Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90004

Each price on this order form reflects the 5% discount allowed on each title. All sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.

Please allow at least three weeks for delivery in the United States.

* * * * * * * * * *

___Number of books ordered. Amount $_____

California residents add 6% tax.... _____

Total amount of this order.....$_____

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SEND TO:

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Name (please print)

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Name and number of street

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City State Zip

Cut along dotted line

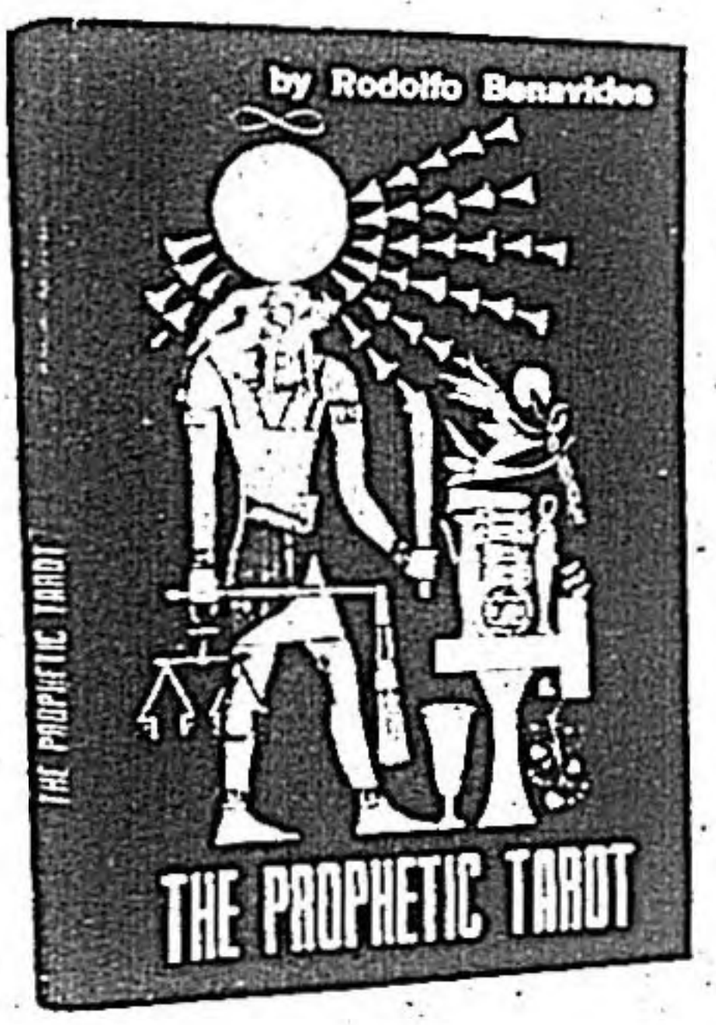
Four titles by Eva Bell Werber (paper)

( ) IN HIS PRESENCE.....$1.70

( ) JOURNEY WITH THE MASTER.....1.70

( ) QUIET TALKS WITH THE MASTER.....1.70

( ) VOICE OF THE MASTER.....1.70



( ) THE PROPHETIC TAROT.....(p)...$4.75
by Rodolfo Benavides.

Presents a different viewpoint on the origin of the Tarot, and suggests that it was a sacred book of the ancient Egyptians. The prophecies are related to numbers, the Great Pyramid and the Book of Revelations.

( ) TAROT CARDS.....$5.70
Grand Etteilla, Egyptian Tarot Deck; in color, with instructions.

( ) CLAIRVOYANCE - C. W. Leadbeater(c).$2.40

( ) INVISIBLE HELPERS - Leadbeater (c)..2.85

( ) TELEPATHY - Alice Bailey.....(p)..1.70

( ) ETHICAL ESP - Ann Ree Colton...(c)..8.50

( ) WATCH YOUR DREAMS - Colton.....(c)..9.50

( ) A TREASURY OF KAHLIL GIBRAN....(p)..4.70

( ) SECOND TREASURY OF GIBRAN.....(p)..4.70

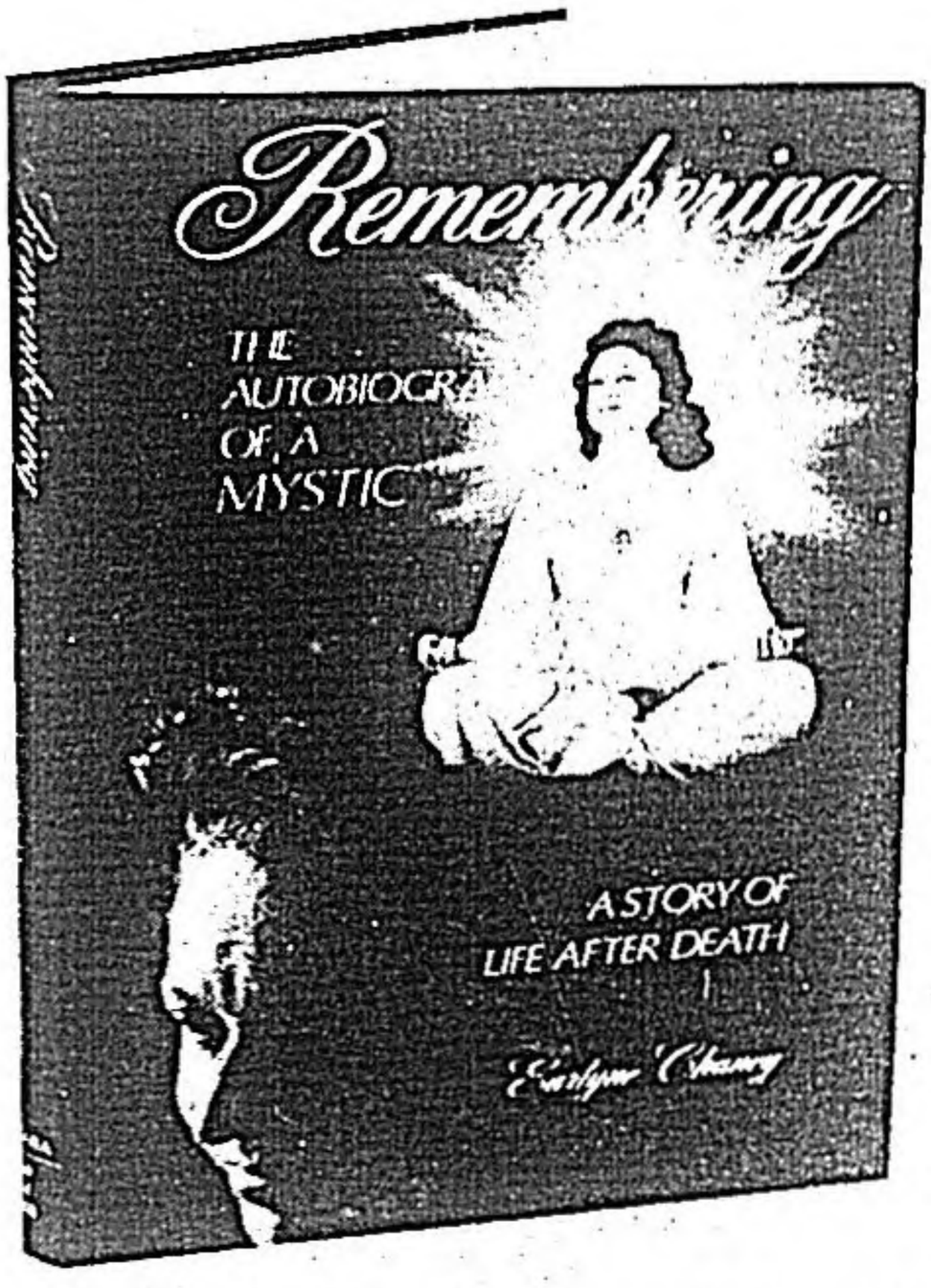
( ) FLOWERING TREE - Gladys Jones (c)..5.65
Mystical interpretation of reincarnation.

( ) VEGETARIAN COOKERY.....(p)..$4.75
By Pietro Rotondi, D.C.

Excellent recipes, information on vitamins; classifications of foods; substitutions; and inspirational ideas -- make up this "new age" cook book.

Indexed for easy reference.

TOTALLY REVISED...
NEW HARD COVER EDITION.....$8.50 ( )



Remembering

The Autobiography Of a Mystic by Earlyne Chaney

Do you believe in Guardian Angels? In Life After Death? Do you believe you have lived before?

This is a true, wonderful story of a girl's search for a love from the past...of a Great Being who guided her life from a humble beginning to eminence as a teacher whose mystical writings are sought by other seekers the world over.

From its first chapter, *"Once Upon a Lifetime,"* to the ending, *"Beat the Drum Slowly,"* your own laughter and tears will mingle as you read of Earlyne's struggles to acquire philosophical maturity...to comprehend her visions and dreams...to overcome the conflict between fame and philosophy.

How this remarkable book, *"Remembering,"* parallels your own life, your own hopes and trials, your own seeking, only you can measure the understanding and inner strength you receive from it. This story could be your story. It could change your life.

Dr. Marcus Bach, author of "The Power Of Perception," comments in his foreword to REMEMBERING, "It is the kind of book that everyone would like to write, for every life is a story...it follows a line of expanding consciousness which spins a unique scenaric plot."

CREATION NEVER ENDS

As a mystical scientist you know that creation did not end with the formation of cosmic energies into the millions of planetary systems. You know that you are a creator in the truest sense, re-forming personal galaxies day by day.

The cosmic substance with which you constantly create pervades every area of your life, waiting for you to mold it into meaningful patterns of attainment. You are the personal representative of the Great Creator. Your life is the universe over which you are the director.

The materials which you are molding into a personal universe come to you through everyday experience one by one. But in much greater quantity, and much more rapidly, they come to you through such sources as Astara's Degree Lessons. Use the Continuation Form on the reverse side of this page for additional Astarian lessons.

Degree Lessons Continuation Request

Postal delivery requires three to four weeks in the U.S.
For your convenience and saving, you may wish to send advance tuition for more than one month's Lessons. Check your preference in the squares below.

Astara 261 South Mariposa Avenue • Los Angeles, Calif. 90004

I have checked below the tuition payment I prefer. Please send the Degree Lessons to me accordingly.

- ☐ I enclose $4. Send next two Lessons.
- ☐ I enclose $7.80 for four Lessons. Send 2 each month. (saves 20¢)
- ☐ I enclose $11.40 for six Lessons. Send 2 each month. (saves 60¢)
- ☐ I enclose $14.80 for eight Lessons. Send 2 each month. (saves $1.20)
- ☐ I enclose $18 for ten Lessons. Send 2 each month. (saves $2.00)
- ☐ I enclose $25 for fourteen Lessons. Send 2 each month. (saves $3.00)
- ☐ I enclose $38 for twenty-two Lessons. Send 2 each month. (saves $6.00)

When requesting more than two Degree Lessons, they are mailed to you two at a time on the first of each month.

Lessons are usually sent via Third Class mail requiring up to four weeks for delivery in the continental United States unless you request First Class mail.

☐ Please send the Lessons I have requested via First Class mail. I enclose an extra 50¢ for each two Lessons (50¢ for 2; $1 for 4; $1.50 for 6, etc.)

Name (please print)_____

Street & No._____

City_____

State_____ Zip_____

☐ Check here if new address since your last order.

Degree Lessons Continuation Request

- Detach the above at perforation and insert in this envelope with your contribution.

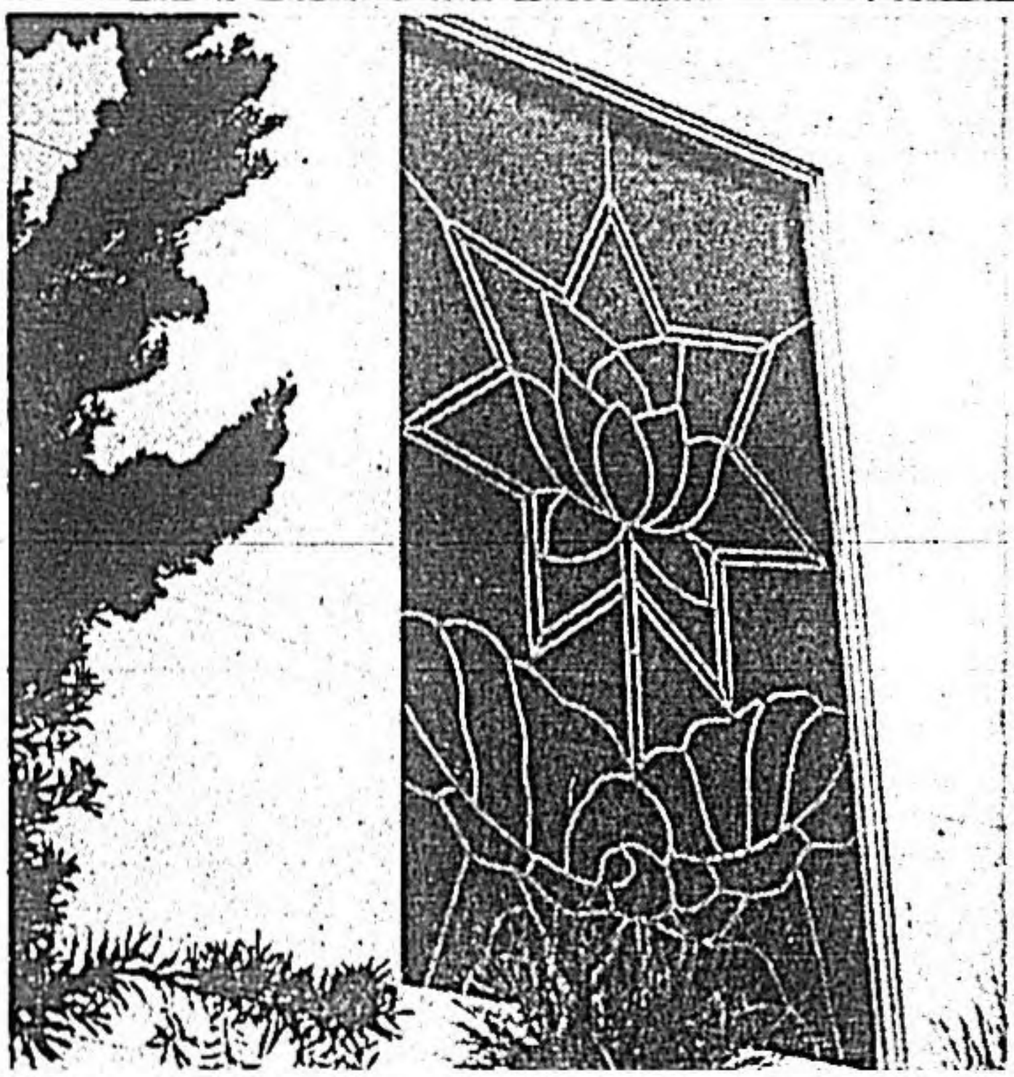


From_____

_____

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Stamp



Astara

261 South Mariposa Avenue

Los Angeles, California 90004

REQUEST FOR COSMIC HELP



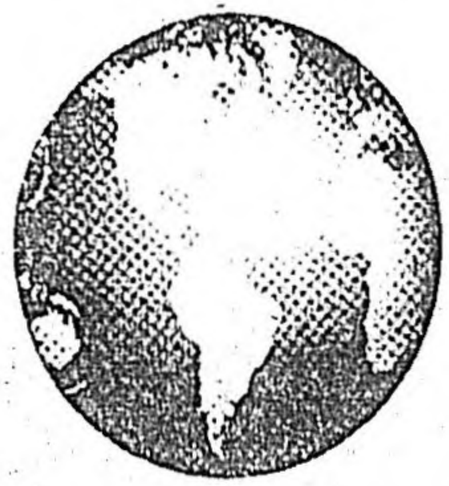
CIRCLE OF THE SECRET SEVEN

On this petition write clearly and briefly the nature of your need, then sign below.
Meditate with it a few moments before sending it to Astara.

Name _____ Address _____

All communications on this sheet are held in the strictest confidence.

Astara 261 South Mariposa Avenue Los Angeles, California 90004



Give us, O God, the vision which can see Thy love in the world in spite of human failure.
Give us the faith to trust Thy goodness in spite of our ignorance and weakness.
Give us the knowledge that we may continue to pray with understanding hearts, and show us what each one of us can do to set forward the coming of the day of universal peace. Amen.

Astronaut Frank Borman's Prayer for Mankind, Beamed 230,000 Miles from Moon to Earth, December 25, 1968

A VISIT WITH ROBERT



September, 1974

Dear Fellow Astarian,

Have you ever noticed how sometimes events occur quickly and sometimes they seem to take forever? I was just thinking about this and making a comparison in my mind between two very unlikely things to compare. The development of a book and the development of a person.

Earlyne's autobiography, Remembering, will have been sent to several thousand persons by the time you read this. We encountered a number of problems, none of them insurmountable, but somehow it just seemed as though we would never get the book published. As you may know, we twice had to set back the projected publication date.

On the other hand, it seems like no time at all since our daughter Sita was born. Yet she will be entering college this month. The comparison is that it seems to have taken as long to get the book published, actually only a few months, as for Sita to develop through 18 years of life and enter college.

(OVER)

What this impresses again and most emphatically in my mind is that time is all in the way you look at it and is really judged by the relationship between patience and impatience. I've been impatient about the book. Therefore, it seemed to develop much more slowly than was actually the case. I've been patient about Sita. She could have remained a child twice as long and it would have been fine with me. Therefore, she seemed to grow to womanhood just that much more rapidly.

I don't mean to offer unasked for advice but I do suggest the next time things seem to go at a snail's pace, it may be wise to ask yourself: Is that really the case or does my impatience make it seem so?

During the last few weeks I've been teaching a course on mysticism and healing at the College of Oriental Studies, a graduate school not far from Astara. I plan to put much of the material in a book which probably will be published about a year from next October. In fact, I've already begun writing the book but for some reason it seems to go very slowly. I just can't understand why.

Until next month, best wishes--

Sincerely,

Robert

Con't. from Page 1

upon me and make me innocent and sincere.

O Lord, teach me how to serve, the unconditional acts of forgiveness, the hallowing of life and nature, the passion that is holy and the vision that is all-encompassing.

If I cry in pain, let it be in sympathy for suffering humanity. If I am lonely, let it be profound solitude in preparation for my union with you and your creation. If I am assailed by doubt, let it be the stepping stone of renewed actions for inner fulfillment. If I fail, as I must a hundred times, let my failure be the foundation of new resolution for persistent endeavor. O Lord, grant me an immensely affirmative life which is positive, creative and noble--so that I may be unafraid in the face of misfortune and eventually victorious in all failures with your grace.

I desire, O Lord, not the riches of the world, but your benediction to light my way. I do not want from your grace the fulfillment of my goals but the courage to journey toward them in honor. Grant me the resolution to summon my will to submit to your call. When your voice whispers into my ears, let me hear it like the roar of thunder; when your summons calls me into action, allow me to respond with all my heart and soul in unconditional devotion. May I never lose the most precious privilege of talking to you in sunshine and rain, in love and joy, in fear and anger.

May I pursue in my life all that is good, beautiful and noble and move away from the phantoms of hate, violence and fear. May I always bow my head in reverence before you in full gratitude and may my faltering steps be made firm as I walk in faith, love and joy in your light and presence.

This is my humble prayer for myself, for my friends and for all mankind.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE



Alfred A. Montapert, Author
The Supreme Philosophy of Man

We have been told that the realm of knowledge is so vast that to touch more than the fringe of it during a lifetime of study is quite impossible. In one sense, that is true. In another sense, it is quite untrue.

If, by knowledge, one means all that pertains to life, the universe and to the earth on which we live, then, of course, a life-time is not long enough to investigate such unthinkable realms. If, by knowledge, one means essential information concerning such facts as have to do with fulfilling the prime objective of the Creator, then a life-time--be it short or long--is plenty long enough to acquire such essential knowledge.

Christianity opens to us a whole realm of essential knowledge, and it is a means of acquiring essential knowledge. Why do I use that word essential? Because after all, much that we call knowledge is not, in the last analysis essential knowledge. Essential knowledge then, is the knowledge that gives point and meaning to life itself. Essential knowledge is "indispensible truth that I must know."

The Bible is God's revelation to man. It meets all the tests, provides all the needed truth and points to the highest life known. This revelation is at once the vindication of a God who is infinite in wisdom and mercy, and who has made full provision for man whose limited

knowledge demands such a revelation.

The Bible deals with eternal values and is a source of help with the mundane things we have to deal with every day. We need the Bible to guide us in our everyday living. The Bible is the Word of God and is the best guide to life. It gives us confidence, hope, peace of mind, inspiration in our everyday living. That is one of the many reasons I say, "to know God is to be adjusted to daily living." To know is—to experience God—to fellowship with God—to enjoy God—to appreciate God. No man will live the way he is designed to live without having God in his heart, and nothing will satisfy man that is lasting and permanent except having God in his heart.

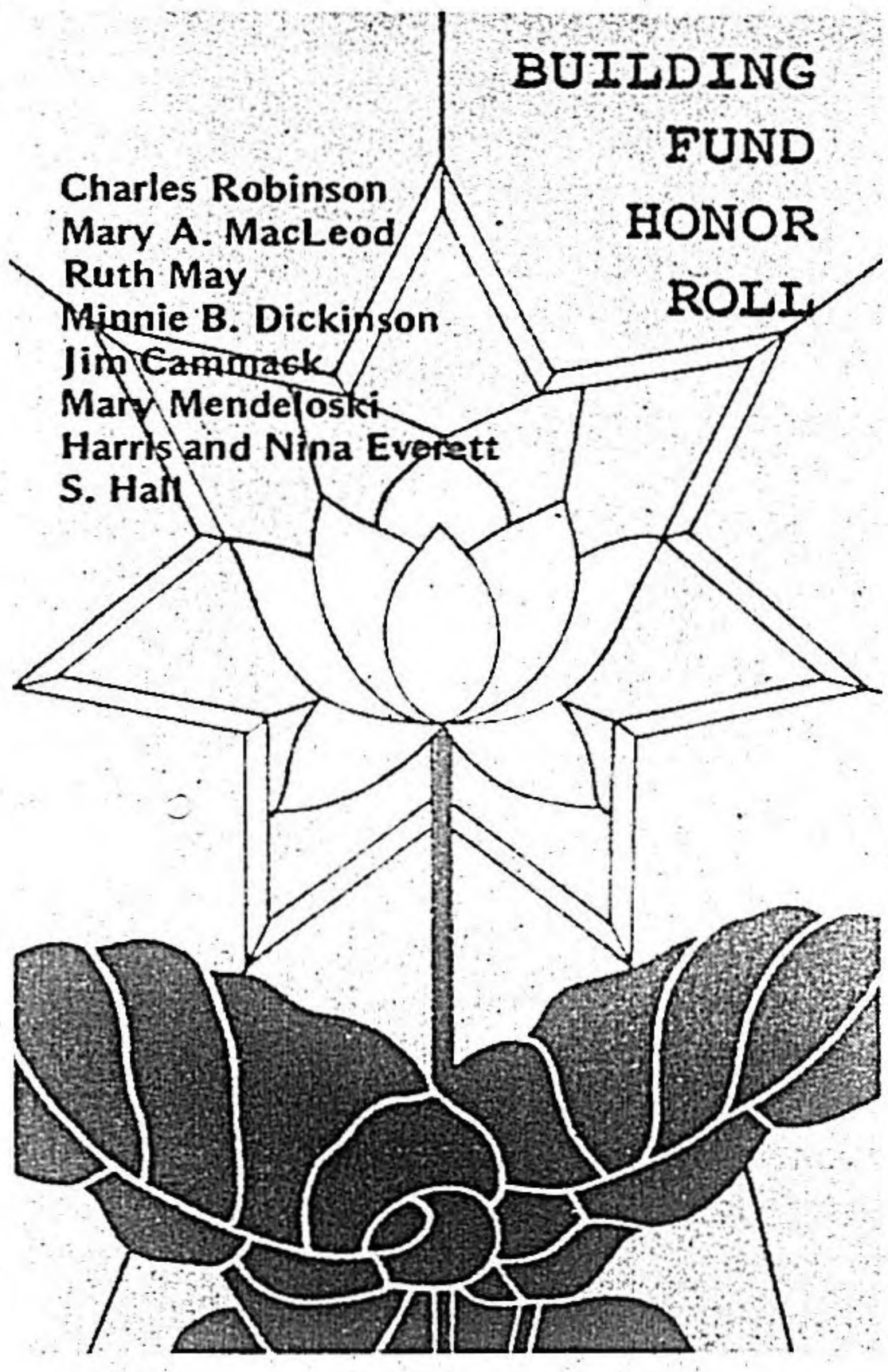
But how to "know God?" . . . The only way to "know God" is to experience Him, to fellowship, to appreciate, to enjoy Him. Physical birth is for a physical world, but there is a realm above the physical. To enter that realm "ye must be born again from above . . . by the Spirit." Such a birth is essential knowledge.

God in you is the hope of Glory. To live gloriously, is to live normally. To live normally is to function in the purpose for which we were created, namely: Fellowship with God. This is made possible only by His "indwelling presence."

MEMBERSHIP MAILING

If you receive a mailing from Astara suggesting that you send for information regarding membership, please ignore it or pass it on to someone who may be interested.

We frequently receive from publishers lists of persons who may be interested in Astara. As some of these lists contain hundreds and even thousands of names it is impractical to check them against the list of Astarian members. All we can do is mail them. Please excuse us if you receive one.



PHOTOGRAPHIC LIGHT

by Richard Albertine

My Path began with a search for photographic light which was required in order to start the process of experiencing the medium of photography. Photography, as you are undoubtedly aware, is totally dependent upon the reaction of light and certain light sensitive materials, such as silver. Silver in its pure state is white, and upon exposure to varying intensities of light produces magnificent shades of grey referred to as tones. The last tone in the scale is black, and is paradoxically the absence of light. Without light . . . no picture; without picture . . . no clarity; without clarity . . . no *knowledge*.

One might be led to believe that black is to be avoided, photographically speaking. But blackness is the protector of

pure silver, and further, how would we know white without black? The unborn babe is protected by the dark, and in death the body is returned to darkness. Hence all the tones in the spectrum are dependent upon one or the other. If one applies this idea to the relationship of Father God the Light to the rich darkness of Mother Earth, then the children of the two must be shades of grey.

But what of color? The three primary photographic colors are blue being the highest in the realm of the visible, green being the middle wavelength, and red at the lowest end of the spectrum. When mixed together in their purest forms and with equal intensity the three colors create white. Any combination of two produces a complementary color. Blue + green = cyan; red + green = yellow, and red + blue = magenta. The three complementaries when united in their purest forms and with equal intensity yield black.

If one agrees that man is the only creature on earth to fully perceive and realize these beautiful colors, then it can only be that they come from within. It is my own conviction that the primary colors are physically located in certain regions or centers of the human body. The head corresponds to blue or the highest, the heart to green or the middle area, and the stomach and lowest region to red. If a person has these three primary areas in perfect balance and harmony, he will emit a white glow about himself as did Jesus.

There are rare occasions when photographing during which I sense much of what I have just written. They are short-lived, but I relish each of these moments. Photography is truly a "spirit catcher" because the camera is the only device I know that can *stop time*. Photography is certainly a beautiful medium, but I must caution the reader. If the motive is not good then a reversal is the result . . . horror and ugliness. I know, having experienced both.

THE PERENNIAL THEME OF REINCARNATION

"According to his deeds the embodied one successively assumes forms in various conditions."

–Svetasvatara Upanishad

"As a man, casting off worn-out garments, taketh new ones, so the dweller in the body, casting off worn-out bodies, entereth into others that are new."

–The Bhagavad Gita

"From one Soul of the Universe are all souls derived . . . Of these souls there are many changes, some into a more fortunate estate, and some quite contrary; the soul passeth from form to form; and the mansions of her pilgrimage are manifold. Thou puttest off bodies as rainment; and as venture dost thou fold them up. Thou art from old, O Soul of man, thou are everlasting . . ."

–The Books Of Hermes

"For in consequence of the soul forming the same opinions with the body, and being delighted with the same objects, it appears to me that it is compelled to possess similar manners, and to be similarly nourished, and to become so affected, that it can never pass into Hades in a pure condition; but always departs full of corporeal nature; and thus swiftly falls again into another body, and becoming as it were sown, is engendered."

–Plato in Phaedo

"If I depart, I cast no look behind still wed to life, I still am free from care. Since life and death in cycles come and go, of little moment are the days to spare. Thus strong in faith I wait, and long to be One with the pulsings of Eternity."

–Po Chii-I

STUDIES IN KARMA

By Gregg M. Rolla

Karmic Health Problems

It should be remembered that physical karma has its roots *within* the psyche of man and that, as an effect, it manifests itself most predominantly in the body. Throughout the Cayce files runs the concept that the curing of physical ills lies, more correctly, *within* a person. What might need the most attention is not so much the illness of the physical body, but the illness existing within the psyche which is causing the physical reactions. Diseases of various sorts are also dealt with in this manner.

There is a case of a young man afflicated with multiple sclerosis. The reading states: "As we find, conditions here are very serious, but do not lose hope, for help is nigh, if you will accept it."

The reading goes on to ask the question: "What does the entity want to be healed *for*? That it may gratify its own physical appetites? That it may add to its own selfishness? Then, if so, it had better remain as it is! If there is a change in mind and purpose, and if the entity expresses the change in speech and action . . . we will see improvement."

What do you want to be healed *for*? Such moral and ethical questions run throughout more of the twenty-five thousand physical readings given by Cayce. It is a question, I believe, that Astarians should also ask themselves when requesting their own healing or that of others.

Dr. Cerminara: "(Cayce) could not refrain from pointing out that disease had a morally corrective purpose, and that the moral fault that was its source must be corrected. The person who suffers from disease should make every effort to correct it with all the means at his command, but . . . he should take the cue that life presents him to amend the inner weaknesses of the soul."

In authentic schools of Initiation, such as Astara, we find that a "change of heart" or a correction of conscience is a primary point in discipleship. Astarians have been taught that a concentration on the transmutation of consciousness towards divine comprehension corrects many faults within the physical vehicle. The use of affirmation, meditation and prayer, the study of Scripture, the rendering of services to others, are the methods which are also recommended by the Cayce readings. We also know that the application of these in everyday life strengthens the soul which, in turn, strengthens the mind *and* the body.

Thus, a goodly portion of karmic health problems lies in the area of man's psyche. Recognizing this, one may note that it is a more deep individualistic work towards proper living. One must strive for a positive affirmation and identification with spirit. Else, as St. Paul puts it, such practices will be as tinkling brass. Without a true and lasting charity within our hearts, they are essentially worthless.

NO WILL

The Executive Letter, a non-profit organization newsletter we receive, recently stated that 75% of the people in America die without leaving a will.

This means that their families do not know what to do about their estate, or perhaps a state government will appropriate it entirely—and certainly what the individual wanted done probably will never be done.

Make a will—and know that what you want done with your estate will be done. If you would like further information, ask us about it.

LAGUNA HILLS LECTURE

Astarians and their friends living in the vicinity of Laguna Hills Leisure World are invited to hear Dr. Robert speak Wednesday evening, October 2, at 7:30 on the subject *New Frontiers in Psychic and Spiritual Experience.*

The lecture is sponsored by the Parapsychology Club of Leisure World. Non-residents of Leisure World will be admitted by informing the guard at Gate 3 on Moulton Parkway that they wish to attend the Parapsychology Club meeting in Auditorium III.

We very much appreciate the courtesy and consideration of the Leisure World Parapsychology Club in extending this invitation and sincerely hope many Astarians will take advantage of it.

IN MEMORIAM

To the following persons who made memorial gifts to Astara, and to those whose memories they honor, we express our appreciation and love.

Eleanor Riccardi in memory of her husband, Louis M. Riccardi.

Ruth O. Holliday in memory of her mother, Annie A. Kerchill.

Janet Dean in memory of her father, John H. Emberger.

Harry A. Miller in memory of his wife, Alma R. Miller.

Annette B. Heinitsh and Sadee McAvoy in memory of Earlyne's mother, Mae Jones.

Laura Johnson in memory of Mae Jones and Robert's mother, Maree Chaney.



Festive FUN NIGHT with Astara's Young Adults Club focuses on filharmonic frivolity.

SPEAKERS AT ASTARA FOR SEPTEMBER '74

SEPTEMBER PULPIT SCHEDULE

Sept. 1: THE HUMAN SIDE vs. THE DIVINE SIDE
Robert Chaney speaking

Sept. 8: INSIGHTS FOR THE AGE OF AQUARIUS
Gina Cerminara speaking
Robert Chaney, Healing Service

Sept. 15: STRANGER IN OUR MIDST
Rodolfo Silva speaking

Sept. 22: HOW WILL MYSTICISM HELP ME?
Robert Chaney speaking

Sept. 29: THE COSMOS AND THE INDIVIDUAL
Swami Parampanthi speaking
Rodolfo Silva, Healing Service

Oct. 6: COURAGE OF YOUR CONVICTIONS
Rodolfo Silva speaking

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