

The Sophia Sun

Newsletter of the Anthroposophical Society in North Carolina

November 2008

Vol. I No. 6



This Issue:

All Souls Observance.....	3
Invisible Community Website.....	4
Martinmas.....	6
The Holy Nights.....	11
Rev. Kennedy's Talk.....	12
News from Dr. Eisen.....	15
German Visitor.....	19
Visitors From Norway.....	21
Economics Conference.....	23

Cover Artwork: Baron Arild Rosenkrantz: "Woman Clothed With the Sun"

From the Editor

As I write, it is just a few days before the 2008 Presidential election. Predictions are strong in every respect that Obama will win, but the specters of the two previous stolen elections still loom in my mind and in the media. Whether he wins or loses, however, it cannot take away from the fact that for the first time in my adult life I can say that I am proud of my country!

Why? Well, Let me tell you about the first time I visited North Carolina: It was 1970. A whole carload (9 to be exact) of my college friends squeezed into my Father's station wagon and we drove here from the Bronx because our basketball team was going to play in the NCAA basketball tournament in Raleigh. Our first shock was a gigantic billboard that read "Welcome to North Carolina. This is Klan country." I expressed my horror to my dear friend Barbara Franklin, who happened to be African American. She told me that I could expect a lot of trouble if I were to hang around with her in Raleigh. I told her I couldn't imagine that; after all, we now had Civil rights legislation. She shook her head and said that I would soon see what she was talking about. Sure enough, she proved me wrong at our very first stop -a Dunkin Donuts where the waitress ignored us and waited on other people who arrived after us. I finally spoke up. The waitress looked at me, with eyes flashing in hatred, as she shrieked at me: "N---- Lover!" I don't remember what I yelled back, but I do remember Barbara dragging me out of the place, telling me to calm down. At our next meal, we stopped at a nice looking restaurant, and again we watched as other people who came after us were waited on. After about an hour, I complained to the management. He gave me a look of indignation, heaved a sigh, and apologetically asked someone to wait on us. Lord knows what they put in our food! I was filled with despondency about the spiritual retardation that I had encountered, and was just about to swear that I would never return to the "evil" South, when a friend asked me for a ride to Chapel Hill, which I gladly obliged. The redbuds and Bradford pears were in bloom, and I felt like I was in the garden of Paradise. Suddenly a voice within told me that this was to be my home, and that enlightened people needed to come here, in order to dispel the darkness of prejudice. The rest is history. Certainly, I have met many wonderful Southerners in the interim, and I have also unfortunately been a victim of "reverse" prejudice here, but that is another story.

The important thing is: Here I am in North Carolina, 38 years later and what do I see? A black man is running for president and he is the most popular candidate in American history! Tens and even hundreds of thousands of people, mostly white, come to hear and cheer him everywhere he goes, even in Europe. 99% of the world outside our nation is eagerly praying for him to win. And in North Carolina, early polling shows Obama to be winning by a landslide. In the primary, Orange County, which is largely white, voted 79% for Obama over Clinton. It certainly appears that Martin Luther King's Dream is being fulfilled—We are about to elect one who is being judged, not by the "color of his skin, but by the content of his character". Many spiritual people feel that Obama is Abraham Lincoln reincarnate, come to heal the wounds of Black America, to complete his mission that was cut short by an assassin's bullet, to unite our country and to prepare us for the coming difficult times ahead. So, even if the "Evil powers that be" steal this election too, they cannot erase the fact that America is evolving spiritually, and will continue to do so no matter what they do. – Kathleen Wright, Editor

.....
The Sophia Sun is the newsletter of the Anthroposophical Society in North Carolina (ASNC), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. It is published 9 times a year. Members are encouraged to receive the newsletter electronically by contacting our website at www.anthroposophync.org. If this is not possible, you may receive a hard copy of the newsletter by mail by sending a check for \$30. per year for nonmembers and \$15. per year for members to ASNC, P.O. Box 16024, Chapel Hill, NC 27516. Back issues are \$5.00 per copy. This includes postage.

Submitting articles, letters and ads: Please send to kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com. All calendar items should be sent to lfolsom@nc.rr.com. Ads for our Community Classifieds are free to members. Nonmembers will need to pay \$1. per line and \$10 for a picture. It is hoped that members will give a donation to the ASNC if their advertised item is sold. If you have any questions, please contact: **Kathleen Wright, Editor at 919-309-9622 or 919-672-0149 or kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com.**



ALL SOULS OBSERVANCE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

AT THE HOME OF
KATHLEEN WRIGHT
 4615 Greenglen Dr.
 Durham, NC
 Call 309-9622 for more information

6 PM – Potluck Dinner

7PM – Memorial Service for the Dead

In the Catholic Church tradition, there are two “Days of the Dead”; November 1st is known as “All Saints Day” and November 2nd is “All Souls Day: The implication is that the first day is in memory of those already in Heaven and that the second day is for the Souls still in Purgatory. That is very similar to how we Anthroposophists view these days. Steiner encouraged memorials for the latter, All Souls, for those who are in Kama Loka. They need our support, and we need their advice and inspiration as well. Steiner told us that Souls of the Departed are in the state of Kama Loka, reviewing the life they lived and feeling how they affected others, for approximately a third of the time they spent on the earth. In other words, If a person lived for 60 years, he/she would spend 20 years in Kama Loka. With this as a guideline, we can decide whom it is most appropriate to honor at the Memorial Service.

At our Observance, verses for the Dead will be spoken, as well as the names of those in the Anthroposophical Society and our community who have died in the last few years. Members will be offered the opportunity to share the names and a little about people they knew who recently crossed the Threshold, or to share some insights into working with the Dead. We hope that you will be able to attend this important Festival. If you cannot, perhaps you would like to share these verses with your Loved Ones who have passed on:

The Good Shepherd lead thee
 Where thou art transformed
 That thou mayest breathe
 The air of eternal being.

Where thou workest as soul
 For worlds to come
 The grace of the Spirit
 Unite us with thee.

Adam Bittleston

May love of hearts reach out to love of Souls
 May warmth of love ray out to Spirit-Light
 Even so would we draw near to you
 Thinking with you Thoughts of Spirit
 Feeling in you the Love of Worlds
 Consciously at one with you
 Willing in silent being.

Rudolf Steiner

“INVISIBLE COMMUNITY” WEBSITE FOSTERS AWARENESS OF WORKING WITH THE DEAD

By Kathleen Wright

Recently I discovered an excellent website on working with the Dead and I urge all who read this to check it out at : www.theinvisiblecommunity.org.

The site begins with the words: “Humanity lives in two worlds – that of the incarnate and that of the discarnate. Wherever these two worlds meet, there exists an invisible community. Everyone belongs to such a community, but only some are aware of it. The invisible community wishes to foster this awareness.”

The Invisible Community offers articles by such researchers as Steiner, Kubler-Ross, George Ritchie, Louis La Grand and many others. It posts beautiful verses for the dead and about them, has book reviews, publishes a newsletter, sells books about the Afterlife, has links to other sites about the dead and offers methods of staying connected to the Dead.

Below is a sample of an article by Steiner they have posted, as well as a Poem.

Steiner's suggestions for developing afterlife contact

In a lecture he gave in 1918, Rudolf Steiner describes two ways that we can develop ourselves to facilitate communication with deceased friends. One is to nurture a heightened sense of community; the other is to awaken to a subtle semi-conscious mood of gratitude for everything that touches the soul.

To help us understand what he means by community and its importance for the world of the so-called dead, Steiner says: There really is a connection, though invisible, between all things a connection like that between the members of a single organism. Just as the finger, the earlobes, and indeed every part of our organism are connected with each other, there is also a connection between everything and every event in our world. He goes on to say that, in a sense, the dead already have a consciousness of this in a way that human beings on earth still need to develop. To understand and communicate with deceased friends, we must develop a sense for this special consciousness which is intrinsic to their world.

Steiner suggests a number of ways to develop this new community consciousness. One exercise is to imagine that you attune your thoughts so closely to another that whatever the other does, thinks and feels is felt as our own experience. He goes on: And we are ready to reach the discarnate individual only when we are able to think back fruitfully to what we had in common with the one to whom we were karmically connected. This can happen only when we are able to re-experience what we experienced in common with that other soul, even the slightest detail, and to think of it as one thinks when one has this feeling of community.

Concerning the second way to bring ourselves closer to the realm of the dead, Steiner says we have to become aware that in the depths of the soul there is a feeling of gratitude for all that enters our lives. Of course when something goes wrong in our lives this is not generally agreeable to us. But when we look back to difficulties in the past, we can often see how they helped our development -and we could even say they enriched our soul. According to Steiner, deep down we all carry this mood of gratitude for whatever comes towards us. If we can awaken to this mood in ourselves and find the place where it lives, then we will reach the zone where the communications of deceased friends can flow towards us. Steiner gave many lectures on afterlife contact and some of the most interesting accounts (including the lecture on community and gratitude) are collected together under the title *Staying Connected* published in 1999.

The Company

So many gathered in my room last night,
 I felt them close all round me, existences,
 Living presences, invisible essences,
 Each centered in its own peculiar secret joy,
 Each joy given being by a peculiar wisdom
 Pertaining to its nature like a dimension,
 Or like a world, enclosed within a spirit,
 But none a spirit enclosed within a world.

Not in the world, and yet they gathered in my room;
 Some stood still, inside the door, some
 Thronged the firelight and the shadows; some hung
 Like resting birds, in the curtains, perched high
 On the bookshelves, poised on the opening flowers
 Of a hyacinth, others hid in their own fiery darkness.

Where had they come from?
 Out of my joy, out of my sorrow,
 Living entities sprung into life from the dust
 Of my existence, taking wing, making song?
 Or were they there already before I came
 Alone into my room, waiting
 Until my joy should open eyes to see them,
 Until my sorrow should reach down
 Into the depths of being, and there find them,
 Find such a company of living multitude?

by: Kathleen Raine

Other websites that deal with the dead that you will find very helpful are:
www.thresholdcarecircle.org; www.hospiceoftheheart.org and www.liferites.org

MARTINMAS: A FESTIVAL OF CHARITY

St. Martin of Tours is one of the heroes Waldorf students around the world celebrate with lantern walks on November 11, the Feast Day of St. Martin.

Children are told the story of the legend that has made him most famous: that when 18 year-old Martin was a pagan Roman soldier serving at Amiens in France, he went out riding one cold day and beheld a barely-clad beggar shivering at the gates. Martin immediately, tore off his own cloak and sliced it in two with his sword and gave one half to the beggar. That night Martin dreamed that he saw Jesus speaking to a throng of Angels saying: "Here is Martin, the Roman soldier who is not baptized, he has clad me!" The Merovingian kings of France claimed to have possession of Martin's cloak in their collection of reliquaries.



Martin was born in 317 in Savaria, Hungary to a Roman tribune who named him after Mars, the god of war. Already at the age of 10, Martin became curious about Christianity and in defiance of his parents, went to Church at the age of 10 and asked to become a catechumen. At the age of 15, he was forced to join the Roman cavalry.

After the incident with the cloak and the subsequent dream, Martin became baptized at the age of 18 and two years later, just before the Battle of Worms in 336, Martin went to his commanding officer and declared, "I am a soldier of Christ. I cannot fight." He was charged with cowardice and jailed. (Amazing that they didn't kill him!) He offered to stand unarmed with the other soldiers to prove that he was not a coward, and they were about to take him up on his offer, when the invaders miraculously decided not to fight! Martin was freed and left the army life and became a devout Christian and eventually joined the Benedictine monks. In 371 he was appointed Bishop of Tours. Legend has it that because Martin was such a humble man, he at first refused the offer, even hid himself, but a flock of geese turned him in by honking at his hiding place. Because of this it has become tradition to eat goose on Martinmas.

Martin was a kind Bishop and pleaded before the Emperor Magnus Maximus for mercy for the Priscillian heretics; unfortunately, while the emperor told Martin he would be merciful, he beheaded them after Martin left. St. Martin died on November 8, 397 in Candes, France and was buried on November 11, which is the date chosen for his Feast. The historian Sulpicius Severus, who knew Martin personally, wrote a life story about Martin and it includes many miracles.

Today, the Catholic Church regards Martin as the Patron saint of the poor, alcoholics, riders, horses and geese, wine growers, soldiers, tailors and many countries claim him as their Patron. Martin Luther was named after him. In Germany an organization called the Order of St. Martin does charitable deeds such as building hospitals, homes for the handicapped and monasteries.

ASNC and Initiatives, Nov 1 - Dec 6, 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>For information about events, or to add events for upcoming months, please email: folsom@nc.rr.com, or phone Linda Folsom at (919) 493-8323, or mail to 3118 Dixon Rd, Durham, NC 27707. Events need to be sent by the 20th of the month prior to appear in the next month's newsletter.</p>						<p>1 Apocalypse Group-11a 6 p – All Souls Observance</p>
<p>2 Meeting of the First Class-10:45a (Review-9:30a) Fifth Gospel Study Group-3:30p W/S/YValley SG-6p Greensboro SG-7p</p>	<p>3 Staying Connected to the Dead SG-3:30p Meditations on the Tarot-7p ASNC Festivals Committee Meeting-7:15</p>	<p>4 Threshold Group-3:30p</p>	<p>5 Rose Cross SG-7:30p Wilmington SG-7:30p</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Contemporary Issues Group-7:30p</p>	<p>8 Apocalypse Group-11a</p>
<p>9 CC Lay Gathering-11a 5th Gospel SG 3:30 Intentional Affiliations Study Group-5p Elective Affinity SG-5p W/S/YValley SG-6p Greensboro SG-7p</p>	<p>10 Staying Connected to the Dead SG-3:30p Meditations on the Tarot-7p</p>	<p>11 MARTINMAS Threshold Group-3:30p Near-Death Experience Study Group-7p</p>	<p>12 CC Steering Committee-6:30p Rose Cross SG-7:30p Wilmington Study Group-7:30p</p>	<p>13 Adult Eurythmy-8:30a</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 ASNC-Branch Meeting and Potluck-3p</p>
<p>16 CC Lay Gathering-11a 5th Gospel SG 3:30 Intentional Affiliation Study Group-5p W/S/YValley SG-6p Greensboro SG-7p</p>	<p>17 Staying Connected to the Dead SG-3:30p Meditations on the Tarot-7p ASNC Board Meeting-7p</p>	<p>18 Threshold Group-3:30p</p>	<p>19 Rose Cross SG-7:30p Wilmington SG-7:30p</p>	<p>20 Adult Eurythmy-8:30a</p>	<p>21 CC Advent Study-7:30p</p>	<p>22 Biodynamic Study Group Hands-On Gathering-9a CC-Public Talk-7:30p</p>
<p>23 CC Act of Consecration of Man-10:30a Fifth Gospel Study Group-3:30p Elective Affinity SG-5p W/S/YValley SG-6p Greensboro SG-7p</p>	<p>24 Staying Connected to the Dead SG-3:30p Meditations on the Tarot-7p</p>	<p>25 Threshold Group-3:30p</p>	<p>26 Rose Cross SG-7:30p Wilmington SG-7:30p</p>	<p>27 THANKS-GIVING DAY</p>	<p>28 Contemporary Issues Group-7:30p</p>	<p>29 Apocalypse Group-11a</p>
<p>30 CC Lay Gathering-First Sunday of Advent-11a Fifth Gospel Study Group-3:30p Intentional Affiliations Study Group-5p Elective Affinity SG-5p W/S/YValley SG-6p Greensboro SG-7p</p>	<p>Dec 1 Staying Connected to the Dead SG-3:30p Meditations on the Tarot-7p</p>	<p>2 Threshold Group-3:30p</p>	<p>3 Rose Cross SG-7:30p Wilmington SG-7:30p</p>	<p>4 Adult Eurythmy-8:30a</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 EWS Holiday Faire-10a Apocalypse Group-11a</p>

Calendar Details: Nov 1 - Dec 6, 2008

ASNC

Nov. 1 6p- **All Souls' Observance**, at the home of Kathleen Wright 919-309-9622
 Nov 2, 9:30a – **The School for Spiritual Science, Meeting of First Class**. Review of last lesson at 9:30a, 10:30 AM Class Lesson.
 Nov.3 6p – **Potluck and Social** at the Mays's for Annalise and Wilhem Schultze. See details on p. 21.
 Nov 3, 7:15p – **ASNC Festivals Committee** meets at the home of Linda Folsom, 493-8323. Please join us if you are interested in continuing to bring the Festivals to our community.

Nov 15, 3p – **ASNC Branch Meeting and Potluck** – Branch meeting from 3p – 5p, potluck at 5:30p. At the home of Kathleen Wright, 4615 Greenglen Dr, Durham, NC 27705. Phone: 309-9622 or 672-0149 for more information. Please bring a dish to share.

Nov 17, 7:15pm - **ASNC Board Meeting** – Meeting at the home of Peg Carmody. Contact one of the Board members for more details: Peg Carmody, (919) [768-7470](tel:768-7470) / mcarmody@nc.rr.com; Nancy Willson, (919) 493-1091/ bieman@mindspring.com; and Kathleen Wright, 309-9622/kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com. To contact the ASNC: PS BOX 16024, Chapel Hill, NC 27516.

Christian Community

Sundays, 11a - Christian Community **Lay Gatherings** –Margit Gratzl hosts weekly lay gatherings in her home on most Sundays. The gatherings include reading and discussion of the Gospels and prayer. Everyone is welcome. Margit's address is 519 Wheeling Circle, Durham, 27713. Please call Margit in advance if you plan to attend, or if you have questions - (919) 484-2764.

Nov 12, 6:30p – Christian Community **Steering Committee Meeting** – at the home of Margit Gratzl, 519 Wheeling Circle, Durham, 27713. Please call Margit if you have questions - (919) 484-2764.

Nov 21 – 23 – **Christian Community Priest visit**. Patrick Kennedy will be here from Washington DC/Baltimore congregation for the weekend. Individual sacramental consultations, an Advent Study, a public talk on the theme of the Dead Sea Scrolls, and the Act of Consecration of Man are planned. Please mark your calendars and check the full page schedule in this newsletter for more details. For information, you may call Margit Gratzl at 484-2764 or Linda Folsom at 493-8323.

EWS

Dec. 6 - **Holiday Faire**-see article in this newsletter

Other Activities of Interest

Thursdays, 8:30a - **Eurythmy for Adults** on Thursday mornings 8:30 -10:30, in the Eurythmy room at Emerson Waldorf School. Classes go from Sept 18- Dec11, except that there will be no classes on Nov 6, and 27 (10 classes total). Classes will be led by Eve Olive. Please call 489-2564 for more information.

Nov 11, 7p - **NDE Study Group** - a once-a-month study group, on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, for near-death experiences (NDEs). the Raleigh/Durham Friends of IANDS group, part of the International Association for Near-Death Studies. This is part of our research work in the fields of consciousness studies, neuroscience and NDEs. We welcome all people who are interested in NDEs, especially those who have had an NDE are invited to share their experience with the others. At the home of Robert and Suzanne Mays, 5622 Brisbane Dr, a few miles north of Chapel Hill, just north of I-40, off Mount Sinai Road. For more information, please call us at 919-929-1073 or mays@ieee.org. The next meeting will be Nov11th.

Please note: Calendar events for the special December/January edition of The Candle need to be sent to Linda Folsom by Nov 1, 2008. Please send calendar items to Linda Folsom at lfolsom@nc.rr.com or call 493-8323. Send articles and flyers directly to Mike Senkpiel at msenkpiel@nc.rr.com by the same date.

Study Groups:

The Apocalypse Study Group – Saturdays, 11a – 12:30a. at the home of Martha and Dirk Kelder, 120 Kenan Street, Chapel Hill. Phone: 942-4795. The group has just begun a new book – *The Book of Revelation and the Work of the Priest*. Please park as far down the driveway as you can go - no parking is allowed on the street. We hope that everyone will feel welcome to join us and continue in this study. This group was founded by Natalie Slapo, and we know that she will be there with us in spirit.

Biodynamic Study Group – The Biodynamic Study Group meets once-a-month on the last Saturday of the month for work mornings. Usually the work mornings will be at our homes, but sometimes they can be a community outreach. It's important to get as many folks educated re: biodynamics and preps sprayed around as possible. For more information and meeting locations contact Sandy Demeree, 341-8934

The Elective Affinity Study Group – Sundays at 5pm, check with Roger for location. The Elective Affinity study group is dedicated to developing "the capacity for conceiving pictorially the other human being." We plan to do this by reading various lectures, sharing biographical details that emphasize how others have shaped us, and sharing meals together. Currently we are reading *The Challenge of the Times*. We meet at 5 PM on Sundays at the home of one of the members, which changes weekly. The host provides the meal as a gift to the group. Dinner is at 6:30. Please contact Roger Schultz for more information: (919) 475-7180, or email rms333@nc.rr.com

Child's Needs Study Group - monthly, on a selected Saturday morning, from 10a – 12n. Location varies between Chapel Hill and Durham. Currently reading: *The First Seven Years: the Physiology of Childhood by E. Schoorel*. Please call Lauren Mills Nyland with any questions – 968-7721, or mills.lauren@gmail.com.

Contemporary Issues Group – A new group that is still exploring how they want to proceed. They are beginning with the book, *The Fall of the Spirits of Darkness*, by Rudolf Steiner, which includes chapters about the descent of Ahriman and the dark angels into our world. What does this mean practically, looking at contemporary issues? So far discussions have included the presidential campaign, the current economic situation, conspiracy theories, and social questions. The group hopes to eventually get to a point of activism, and come up with practical ideas about what can be done as individuals and together. The format is not so much reading as having open discussion, with members of group presenting relevant topics such as Threefolding. The group is currently meeting about every three weeks on a Friday, with the location changing. The next meeting is Friday, Nov 7th at the home of Jon Lyerly at 108 Holt St in Hillsborough. For more information, please contact Jon at 357-1453. Directions: When going north on 86 towards Hillsborough's downtown, turn left on King St. Go approx. 1/2 mile, through the light, and turn left on Holt Street. Jon is the 3rd house on the right (park along the street, half off in the grass).

Greensboro Study Group - Sunday nights, 7 pm. Contact Sandy LaGrega (336) 292-7947 and Judy Boyd (336) 454-2451.

Rose Cross Study Group – Wednesdays, 7:30p, at the home of Judy Granberry, 95133 Vance Knoll, Chapel Hill, NC 27517, phone 967-4671. Reading *The Incarnation of Ahriman*. Newcomers are welcome! Please call Judy with any questions.

Staying Connected to the Dead - study group meets on most Mondays from 3:30-5:30pm at the home of Sandy LaGrega or Jo Leeds in Greensboro. Please call Sandy at (363) 292-7947 or Jo at (336) 299-4361 for latest information about meeting place.

Fifth Gospel Study Group – Sundays at 3pm, at the home of Martha and Dirk Kelder, 120 Kenan Street, Chapel Hill. Phone: 942-4795. Please park as far down the driveway as you can go - no parking is allowed on the street. The Sunday Group is reading *The Fifth Gospel*, by Rudolf Steiner. We hope that everyone will feel welcome to join us.

Threshold Group – Tuesdays, 3:30pm – contact Suzanne Mays, (919) 929-1073 or suzannemays@gmail.com. Reading *Renewal of the Social Order*, by Rudolf Steiner. We read to the so-called dead.

Wilmington Study Group – each Wednesday, 7:30pm. Contact Anna Bowman, (910) 792-0959, for more information.

Winston-Salem/Yadkin Valley Study Group – An anthroposophical study group for people in Winston-Salem and surrounding areas. Located in Davie County, at the home of Sarah Putnam, the study group brings together people from a wide area ranging from Winston-Salem to Statesville. The group meets Sunday evenings from 6-8 p.m. Call Sarah Putnam at 336-940-6004 for information and directions.

BIOGRAPHY STUDY GROUP GETS A NEW NAME

The Biography Study group, started by Roger Schultz, has decided to name itself “The Elective Affinity Group”. The term refers to the Michaelic impulse to unite with people we choose based on spiritual affinities, rather than on blood or nationalist ideals, as the ancient Gabrielic impulse called for. Goethe’s third novel was entitled *Elective Affinities*.

The Elective Affinity Group alternates the location of their meetings among the various members of the group. Members include: Roger Schultz, Will Hicks, Margaretta and Bruce Bornhorst, Tatiana Zybin, Linda Folsom and Kathleen Wright. Newcomers and guests are always welcome.

Upcoming hosts are:

November 9 – Tatiana Zybin

November 16 – Roger Schultz

Please call Roger Schultz at 475-7180 for further updates on locations.

FOR SALE: Large executive desk with walnut veneer (66” X 36”), two central drawers; Also, 6’ high X 4’ wide wardrobe/storage white cabinet. Make offer. Call Margaretta or Bruce Bornhorst 237-1021



The Holy Nights 2008 - 2009

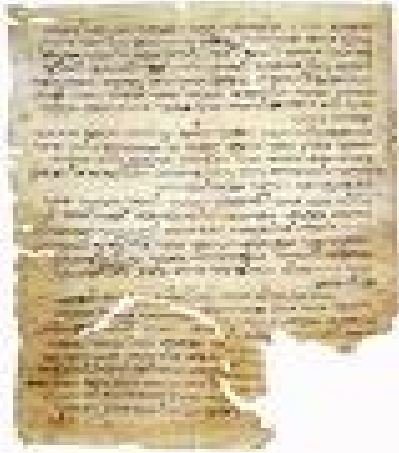
The Holy Nights - the nights between Christmas Eve and Epiphany - are a special time of year when the heavens open up to us, when temptations approach, and each night is a tiny window on the year to come. We are capable of heightened spiritual development and closeness to the hierarchies during this period. Gathering together, sharing, and opening our hearts to the angelic realms can bring blessings to all of us.

The Festivals Committee received an enthusiastic response to the exploration of the theme, The Gospel of Matthew during The Holy Nights last year. This year we will be reading **The Gospel of Mark**, by Rudolf Steiner. This book has 10 chapters, and is available on the Rudolf Steiner Archive: <http://www.rsarchive.org>. The Festivals Committee asks you to start thinking about hosting a group in your home one of the evenings between 12/25 and 1/5. The idea is that each evening we would explore another chapter in a book, so that by the end of The Holy Nights we will have completed the book together. The intent is not necessarily to read or study a lecture each evening, although that of course can be done. We hope that members of the community will use a chapter, or some part of a chapter, to stimulate a conversation or a meditation, a poem or a picture. And of course you always have the freedom to come up with a theme of your own. Some of the events in the past have been appropriate for children and families, so you can be creative in your offerings.

If you are able to host a night, we will be most happy to add your name to the Holy Nights calendar. Feel free to contact the Festivals Committee (Peg Carmody/768-7470; Linda Folsom/493-8323; Judy Frey/928-8749) for questions and/or suggestions. We hope to have the calendar full in time to publish a completed schedule via the list serve in early December. **Please contact Linda Folsom at 493-8323 or lfolsom@nc.rr.com if you would like to host one of the nights.** Updates will also be distributed via ASNC list-serve email.

Holy Night Dates for 2008 – 2009

1	Wed, Dec 24 Christmas Eve	Singing to the Cows -	Joy and Bob Kwapien	8	Wed, Dec 31	Mark Gospel Chapter 7	OPEN
2	Thurs, Dec 25 Christmas	Mark Gospel Chapter 1	OPEN	9	Thursday, Jan 1 New Year's Day	Making of 3 Kings Prep	Joy and Bob Kwapien
3	Fri, Dec 26	Mark Gospel Chapter 2	OPEN	10	Fri, Jan 2	Mark Gospel Chapter 8	OPEN
4	Sat, Dec 27	Mark Gospel Chapter 3	OPEN	11	Sat, Jan 3	Mark Gospel Chapter 9	OPEN
5	Sun, Dec 28	Mark Gospel Chapter 4	OPEN	12	Sun, Jan 4	Annual Holiday Party	OPEN
6	Mon, Dec 29	Mark Gospel Chapter 5	OPEN	13	Mon, Jan 5	Mark Gospel Chapter 10	OPEN
7	Tuesday, Dec 30	Mark Gospel Chapter 6	OPEN		Tues, Jan 6 Epiphany	Spraying of 3 Kings Prep	Joy and Bob Kwapien



The Priest, The King & The Holy Meal: Esoteric Aspects of the Dead Sea Scrolls And their Preparation for the Coming of Christ:

A Free Talk on the Dead Sea Scrolls

Patrick Kennedy, priest for the Christian Community, will be coming back to Chapel Hill November 21-23 for his second visit to our community. We're excited to announce that he will

be giving a talk in the Eurythmy Room at EWS focusing on the esoteric aspects of The Dead Sea Scrolls, which are currently on exhibit at the NC Museum of Natural Science in Raleigh through Dec 28th, 2008.

<http://www.naturalsciences.org/scrolls/about.shtml> Patrick encourages community members to attend the exhibit before his talk if possible to enrich their understanding of the Scrolls.

There are a few changes in our usual schedule: There will be an Advent study on Friday evening, and the only potluck will be at the brunch after services Sunday. Please try to come to any or all of the events and meet Patrick. You do not have to be a member of the Christian Community to attend.

WEEKEND SCHEDULE Friday 11/21/08 – Sun 11/23/08:

Friday afternoon 11/21 and Saturday 11/22:

Sacramental Consultation At the home of Margit Gratzl, 519 Wheeling Circle in Durham. Call 484-2764 to schedule. Please call as far in advance as possible.

Friday evening, 11/21, 7:30p:

Conversation led by Patrick on "Advent: Perceiving Christ's Return in a time of Fundamentalism and Skepticism"

At the home of Linda Folsom, 3118 Dixon Rd, Durham, 27707. Phone 493-8323, or email lfolsom@nc.rr.com for details. Everyone welcome.

Saturday, 11/22, at 7:30p:

Talk: "The Priest, The King & The Holy Meal: Esoteric Aspects of the Dead Sea Scrolls And their Preparation for the Coming of Christ" (details above)

Sunday, 11/23 9:30 a in the Eurythmy Room

Children's Service, for children ages 7 – 14 (please take younger children to childcare during this short service. Bring a few books and toys to help occupy them.) Please do not bring children under 3 years old.

10:30am: Act of Consecration of Man - for adults and children over age 9 1/2. Please try to arrive early and enter the room reverently.

12:15 pm: Community Potluck - Everyone is welcome! Please bring a dish to share. Beverages will be provided. We hope you can stay after the service to talk Patrick and meet other members of the community.

For more information, contact Margit Gratzl, 919-484-

2764/mgratzl@nc.rr.com, or Linda Folsom 919-493-8323/lfolsom@nc.rr.com

From the Board...

A concrete way to improve ASNC and EWS communication has been taken by the appointing of an official liaison between EWS and the ASNC Board. Fourth Grade teacher and Foundation Studies student Benjamin Trueblood accepted these responsibilities and attended our October board meeting. Benjamin shared plans for Martinmas (Nov.11), Advent Garden (Nov. 28), the Holiday Faire (Dec. 5) and Santa Lucia (Dec.13) as well as the challenging process EWS is undergoing to become an accredited member of the Southern Association of Independent Schools. After achieving this goal, EWS will pursue accreditation in the Association of American Waldorf Schools. Enrollment is about 270 students. The high school is operating under some budget constraints that have led to it operating with about half the faculty they anticipated having. The College of Teachers is focusing its efforts this year on EWS's spiritual connection to anthroposophy.

Ben also shared with us the hope of the faculty to work with ASNC on festival celebrations and on initiatives with the parents and the larger community to increase understanding of anthroposophy. The board members share these hopes. If you would like to be involved in these activities, you may contact Peg Carmody, 919-768-7470 or mcarmody@nc.rr.com, or Linda Folsom at 919-489-8373 to work on the festivals and Peg Carmody, mcarmody@nc.rr.com or 919-768-7470 or; Kathleen Wright, kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com or 919-309-9622; or Margaretta Bornhorst at healingrhythms@gmail.com to help with workshops, lectures, etc. ASNC is hoping to host two workshops in 2009 to increase community understanding of anthroposophy- a painting workshop in the Spring and an economic workshop (on the topic of the Threefold Social Order) in the Fall.

We will also join with EWS for the first time in years to present "The Shepherd's Play" in December. This is one of three medieval plays often performed at Christmas time by Waldorf teachers around the world as a gift to their students. Our community began performances of the Shepherd's Play as a community offering in 1987 under the direction of Bruce Bornhorst.

This year, members of the larger community are again invited to take a role. Because there will not be another *Sophia Sun* before the play, please become part of our list-serve (directions are on our website www.anthroposophync.org) for updates on how you can participate in this endeavor or contact Peg Carmody, 919-768-7470 or mcarmody@nc.rr.com.

Also, at our October board meeting, we discussed the celebration of All Soul's Day on Nov. 1, setting up an Art's Council to support initiatives of anthroposophical art in NC under the auspices of the ASNC board (see article in newsletter) and the Christian Community Priest's visit in November. We are in awe of what Bruce Kirchoff has put together in an extraordinary book connected to Emerson's last work, *The Natural History of the Intellect*. He has made a time-limited preview of his project available on the web at <http://home.mebtail.net/~kirchoff> Don't miss it- the original photographs by Bruce and quotes by Emerson are truly beautiful.

Warmly,
Peg Carmody

Report on the October Branch Meeting

There were just a few of us at the last branch meeting on Oct. 11 at Linda Folsom's, as a number of our "regulars" were out of town.

We were delighted that Anna Bowman made the journey from Wilmington to be with us. She has been faithfully reading the *Candle* and *Sophia Sun* and shared with us the happenings of the small group in Wilmington that gathers for festivals and occasional study groups.

Mark Eisen reported on the two meetings he has had about a Community Supported Medical Practice. He is still researching how to apply it with his practice in Chapel Hill. We also discussed relationships between EWS, ASNC and his practice. Many in our community have verbalized a desire to improve these relationships. (See this month's "From the Board..." article to learn about an important step forward in communication between ASNC and EWS).

Our next branch meeting will be on Saturday, November 15 at 3:00 pm at the home of Kathleen Wright, 4615 Greenglen Dr., Durham, NC 27705. Phone: 309-9622 or 672-0149 for more information. We will meet from 3:00-5:00 and follow with a potluck dinner in the new meeting room at Kathleen's. You do not have to be a formal member of any Anthroposophical Society Branch to attend these meetings.

Emerson Waldorf School Holiday Faire

Sat. Dec. 6.

10 am - 4 pm



Featuring crafts, puppet shows, games, food, music, and fun for children of all ages, the Holiday Faire is the perfect celebration of winter, and an excellent opportunity to both make and purchase lovely handmade crafts and gifts for loved ones. Admission is free. Activity cards will be sold for those interested in taking part in the food and craft offerings.

News from the Dr. Eisen's Medical Practice November 2008

I have had two meetings with community members interested in helping to transition my medical practice to a Community Supported Anthroposophical Medical Practice (CSAM). We discussed the problems of current medical billing and its inherent ethical and moral difficulties. We asked how we could envision a more egalitarian way to help our patients. We began to consider what should be part of a new type of medical practice.

Some felt this process must first be carefully developed and tested in the community. We will of course come back to this most important aspect, and we are happy to work on this problem over time.

My more than twenty-year wish is to develop a practice where payments are not for a single person or family's benefit. I would like to see the medical practice thrive because those who see its place in our culture (for holistic-anthroposophical medicine) and resolve to see it is done. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have contributions offered by family A used to care for everyone else and that all "others" would be contributing for the care of family A? The soul begs for simplicity in the management of health care.

This is a purer version of the now corrupted concept of medical insurance when it was first developed—to spread the risk of cost between a large group of subscribers. We know all too well how conventional medical insurance has devolved to become no better than Wall Street greed, banker greed, market greed and corporate greed. There is a local conventional practitioner who is pioneering low cost fee for service and also "subscription" medicine (monthly retainer for simplicity). He lauds his practice's financial success—and indeed he sells his program to others. (To be sure, he sees fewer patients, charges less for services, and claims to bring joy back into medical practice, which I believe).

Omigosh! My version of this sounds like the greatly reviled Republican chant of impending Democratic socialism! Luckily my concept asks more—it asks us in our greater web of relations that we give a gift to support the care of the other. The concept is large and subject to all the corruptions in our modern culture. Yet it seems to me to be the only way we can make a step to a better world. We simply have to start somewhere!

A few nights ago a woman with an autoimmune disease who had dual US-Belgian citizenship was on NPR. She and her husband had spent a fortune trying to keep up with medical bills (they had insurance!). They were heading to ruination and they decided to make a trip to Belgium to see what could be offered. *Every* receptionist and medical practitioner they encountered told them that "we all pay for one another, so that everyone can be taken care of and get what they need." You see—it works! Wouldn't it be wonderful to live in a country that values its citizenry in this way? How has our country gotten so off track?

In the Netherlands and Germany, a group of financiers have tried to set up insurance policies for those who want anthroposophical medicine. The policies were based on the same thinking that I described above and like the healthcare providers' attitude in Belgium. Unfortunately, they found that very needy persons made such high demands that the trial efforts had to be abandoned. If one had millions of subscribers, it might work.

Any small endeavor such as we envision is subject to needy patients or abusers of the services. One can't just exclude such persons as insurers routinely do. This problem must be addressed by those responsible for the clinic or the endeavor will not succeed. This begs for

consciousness from each participant as to how they utilize services. In one such practice in the US, there is a group that acts as liaison between such patients and the needs of the practice. This is a delicate issue, but one that must be met with good thoughts and good heart.

Having outlined some of the problems, almost all patients are wonderful, striving and developing, kindhearted and lovable people. The health problems that come to me as an Anthroposophical physician validate the reality of the human being as a being of soul and spirit inhabiting a physical-life body. It is a blessing to do medicine enhanced by a soul-spiritual knowledge of the human being.

When Alexander the Great was crossing into Asia, he was confronted with a knot of twine—the Gordian Knot. Legend was that he who could unravel the knot would rule Asia—indeed, nobody had yet done so! Alexander's response was to take his sword and with one mighty stroke destroy the knot by cleaving it in half. One could say that the endless path of intellect (figuring out the knot) can obstruct progress. Sometimes a great act of will brings us to a new course in life (consider overcoming illnesses, travails of life, biographic crises, etc.).

At times like this we need to work through the great knots of human relations and deeds and seek for action that is moral, ethical, kind, helpful, and for the good of others. Sometimes we must take hold of our strong will to do something in a new way and bring it to bear. I believe this is possible if we have the will to do good in the world, moral and ethical standing, and trustworthy advisors.

If you have interest in working with our working group, please contact me at my office (919-967-9452) or fax me (932-5200). I expect our next meeting to be on Thursday, November 6, 2008 in the evening.

It is my intention to begin our subscription practice efforts before the end of the year. You will receive information. I am sure it will not be a perfect plan to begin with, but we will work to make it equitable, helpful, and clear!

I hope this discussion and others I will share will make members of our community enthusiastic and bring them forward to help in this process. Remember that we are not working solely from self-interest (though it is always present).

Thank you for your attention, your thoughts and your good will.
Mark J. Eisen, MD

NEWS FROM THE JUBILEE STORE

November 2008

We have some announcements about the Dr. Hauschka product line and sales items.

I am most unhappy to have to tell you that Dr. Hauschka Products is raising their retail prices by almost 15% starting January 1, 2009. It is most unfortunate that in this time of stress and financial problems that they choose to do so.

We have been committed to giving our customers the best prices for Dr. Hauschka Products that we have found anywhere. We are certainly feeling the effect of the economic downturn at the Jubilee Store. We will do our best to offer you the best prices but it must be told that we cannot offer Walmart prices. To help with the holidays we would like to offer the following as a ways to thank you for your patronage:

- You can join the Dr. Hauschka club for free! You will get best possible pricing (usually 10-15% off) on pre-paid orders (generally whenever we make an order you will be contacted by email with special prices).
- There are some near or just out of date products that we are offering at 25-30% off. The products should have a long usable life, as those who use Hauschka products know. If you buy a combination of sale products amounting to \$100 or more, we will add 10% additional discount for those items. This is great for the holidays.

A great way that you can help us is to let as many friends as possible know about the Jubilee Store. We are considered to have the best general esoteric, self-development, child developmental and other books in the Triangle and Piedmont. Our cosmetic and home

medical products are of the highest quality. Yet we are not well known because we have the store in my office and hence, little foot traffic. Please tell your friends about us and encourage them to visit. Our phone number is (919) 967-9452, or they can email us at ofcmeister@aol.com. This would be of great help to the Jubilee Store.

We look forward to meeting your Holiday needs. If you need special book orders or books for study groups let us know and if possible we will include them in our regular orders for the store.

Best wishes for a blessed Winter and Holiday Season from the Jubilee Store!

Kenyetta and Dr. Mark

**The Jubilee Store is located in the Holistic Medical Practice of Mark Eisen, MD
900 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Suite A
Chapel Hill, NC, 27514
919-967-9452**

Cori Roth, our new Hauschka certified Esthetician offered the first in a series of free mini-facial workshops at the medical office on Thursday, October 30. These are meant to educate our clients,

friends and hopefully new friends about the wonderful ways women and teens can develop a plan for the very best natural face and skin care. Participants will use Dr. Hauschka skin care products (supplied for you) to learn daily care techniques. This is a great mother-daughter opportunity. Y'know what? Men can do this too!

Please call the office (919-967-9452) to reserve a place. If you get the answering machine, leave lots of ways to get back to you (cell phone #s appreciated for simplicity). You can get on the waiting list if this workshop is filled.

I can say, having several years ago experienced one of the esthetician done facial care complete facials, that it is a wonder to experience! Consider this for a loved friend or daughter or mother, wife or husband as a holiday gift. Cori has several different levels of treatments and her fees are very reasonable.

Come and join Cori for this delightful and relaxing and refreshing class!



“Autumn Arrival Special”

Enjoy a 20% discount off your first facial treatment. These treatments impart a relaxing, nurturing, rhythmical touch with emphasis on lymph stimulation.

Treatment options available for specific skin conditions.

To make an appointment or for more information please call Cori Roth at 919.933.4748 or email Divinerose55@gmail.com

Divine Rose, Cori Roth, NC Licensed/Certified Dr. Hauschka Esthetician

Located at the office of Mark J. Eisen, MD and the Jubilee Store
900 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Suite A
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

BRUCE KIRCHOFF WORKING ON EMERSON MEDITATION BOOK

Bruce Kirchoff, who has been a member of our community since the 1980's, has recently announced that he has been working on a book for the past few years, which will be called *Emerson's Science of the Spirit*. It is based on Emerson's last great work, *The Natural History of the Intellect*, which is a collection of lectures Emerson gave at Harvard University. The lectures were not published during his lifetime, yet one of his biographers said that Emerson considered it his greatest work.

Included in the book are magnificent photographs of nature, which Bruce took himself. These are breathtakingly beautiful and each one contains a verse from Emerson's book on it. Bruce recommends that: "Each page (image plus quote) can be taken as a meditation. You might like to read through the pages once to get an idea of where they are going, then go back to the beginning and go through more slowly. The more time you spend, the more you will get out of it....The book will contain a commentary on the text, and the full text of the *Natural History of the Intellect*." Bruce hopes to have the book completed by Christmas.

Bruce shared a sample from the book with our list-serve, and it was very favorably received by all. Be sure to purchase a copy when it comes out!

German Anthroposophist Visits

The Elective Affinity Study Group was delighted to have anthroposophist, Elisabeth Worpel-Neh of Borchon, Germany join the group on Sunday, October 26 at the home of Linda Folsom. Elisabeth had been visiting with her sister who lives in Durham. She contacted our community by email a few months ago to ask if she could visit with a Study group here. Unfortunately, her schedule was so full that she only had time to visit one group. Elisabeth told the group that she has been an anthroposophist since the age of 20. She has two grown daughters, one of whom is an anthroposophical doctor in Switzerland. She also has three grandsons.

When asked about what groups she belongs to in Germany, Elisabeth replied that she participates in the weekly Branch meetings. These begin with Eurythmy and the reading of a scene from the Mystery Dramas. This is followed by discussions on a chosen topic. She also participated in a Biography workshop for many years.

All at the Study Group were impressed with Elisabeth's English, as well as her great sense of humor. When we apologized for starting our meeting a half hour late, Elisabeth replied that in Germany meetings always begin five minutes *before* they are supposed to! We had such a great time with Elisabeth that we hope she will visit again soon and spend more time with us!



*Back Row: Tatiana Zybin, Linda Folsom, Elisabeth Worpel- Neh
Front Row: Kathleen Wright, Margaretta Bornhorst;(photo taken by Bruce Bornhorst)*

NY Waldorf Teacher Crosses the Threshold



Anthroposophist William Ward, passed away on Sunday, October 5, at 9:55 am after a long bout with cancer. He was sixty-one years old. His thirty- year career at Hawthorne Valley brought untold love, warmth and creativity to the children and community. **William Ward**, a native of Michigan, majored in English literature as an undergraduate at Columbia University before studying elementary education at the Waldorf Institute of Adelphi University, where he received a master's degree. William was a Waldorf class teacher for twenty-five years at Hawthorne Valley School in Harlemville, New York, from 1976 until 2005. He had taken three full classes from grades 1 to 8 and was in the fourth grade with his fourth class when he retired to deal with the diagnosis of a brain tumor. A lover of the theater, William wrote numerous class plays and festival presentations and collaborated in all-school musical productions. William recently wrote a book about his experience with cancer entitled *Traveling Light: Walking the Cancer Path*. It is available from Steiner Books.

HOW YOU CAN HELP THE WALDORF SCHOOL AT NO COST TO YOU!

What is Scrip? Stores sell EWS gift cards at a discount to promote business. You buy a gift card from EWS for a store you're going to spend money at anyway. You make money for your child's school without spending extra money on something you don't need.

Ordering Scrip is easier than ever!

- Order online at shopwithscrip.com (EWS code is 5LCAC2187165)
- Email: furze12@hotmail.com or Call: 533-5030
- Order form: online at emersonwaldorf.org or request via email above & leave in scrip box in the office

Next Scrip order will be placed this Saturday, November 1st! You have two opportunities to get your order in on the 1st & the 15th of each month. We'll email you when your order is ready, usually within 5 business days or less. Just remember that I need your payment first to place the order (pay online with PrestoPay or leave a check in the scrip box in the office).

Buy now! No waiting! Check out our new inventory of Scrip cards for immediate purchase whenever you see the "Scrip table" at pickup or drop-off. In addition to most grocery stores and gas stations we also have Amazon, Borders, Barnes & Noble, Chipotle, CVS, Home Depot, REI, Gap, LL Bean, Jo-Ann Fabrics, Michaels and many more! Support our local businesses by purchasing Scrip from Jubilee, Office Supplies & More, Great Harvest Bread, Acme, Twig & Sofia's. **The holiday season is right around the corner!!!** Use Scrip cards for all of your holiday shopping and giftgiving. More info can be found at emersonwaldorf.org or feel free to contact me. Volunteers are needed to support this great fundraiser! Thank you! - Tara Furze

FORMER COMMUNITY MEMBERS VISIT FROM NORWAY

We are delighted with the news that our old friends, Wilhelm and Annalise Schultze will be visiting North Carolina for two weeks. On Monday evening, November 3, Suzanne and Robert Mays will be hosting a Potluck dinner for them. All are invited to welcome them back. The Dinner will begin at 6 PM.

Wilhelm and Annalise were very active members in our community during the 1980's. They moved to Norway about twenty years ago.

.....

NO SOPHIA SUN NEXT MONTH -

THE CANDLE WILL BE PUBLISHED INSTEAD

We are delighted to announce that next month Mike Senkpiel will be publishing an issue of *The Candle*, our Community's magazine, which used to be a monthly publication, but due to high cost and Mike's call to do other things, we have been printing a newsletter format publication instead. Mike offered at our last AGM to do a once-a year publication for our community. Mike is a very talented graphic designer, so we are eagerly awaiting the coming issue. Extra copies of it will be printed and given to the Waldorf School, as a public relations effort. Publication of the *Sophia Sun* will resume in February. It is possible a short newsletter will go out in January if there are a number of activities happening.

Please contact Mike within the next week if you have an article to share. His email address is: msenkpiel@nc.rr.com.

CHECK OUT THE NEW ANTHROPOSOPHICAL SOCIETY WEBSITE!

The Anthroposophical Society has been in the processing of giving its website a makeover. Although it is not complete, it does have several useful sites, such as a Directory of Initiatives and Groups. The address is the same: www.Anthroposophy.org



*HAPPY
THANKSGIVING
TO ALL IN OUR
COMMUNITY!*

New View

Published at Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter

A subscription to *New View* magazine entitles you to four issues per year, delivered free to your address anywhere in the world.

Annual subscription rate: £18 in the UK, £25 in the rest of



Europe,

£25 in North America and the Rest of the World. (This is \$45. in American dollars.)

Two-year subscription rate: U.S.A. and Canada - this rate has now been further reduced to **£40**).

Contact details for the editor of New View:

Tom Raines

New View Publications Limited

39b Tanza Road

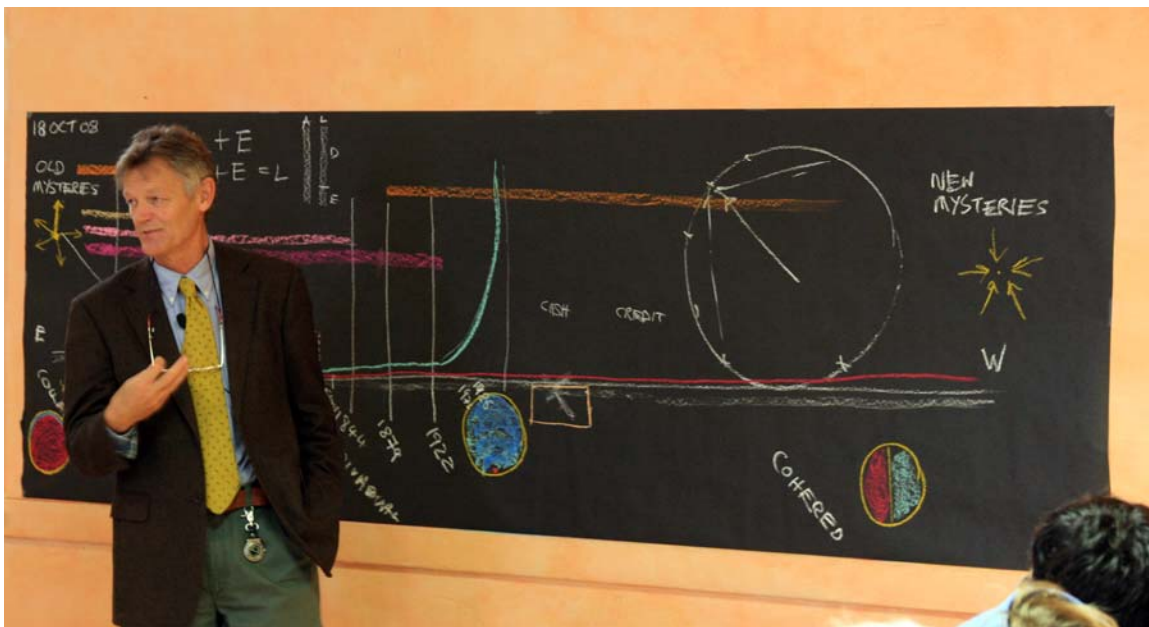
London

NW3 2UA

Tel: ++44 (0) 20 7317 8302

Website: www.newview.org.uk

Inner and Outer Aspects of Associative Economics: A Report on this Wisconsin Conference



Christopher Houghton Budd lectures at the Economics Conference in Wisconsin.

Thanks to all who expressed interest and support to record Dr. Christopher Houghton Budd at the workshop entitled *Inner and Outer Aspects of Associative Economics*. It took place mid-October in Viroqua, WI. A generous offer of working capital made it possible for my son James to attend the workshop and professionally record the event. I was not able to go, so I am grateful for the opportunity to listen to a recording of the event. This article includes some broadstrokes of these information packed workshops.

This is a pivotal time in humanities' development, especially here in the West, specifically here in the geographical region of the U.S. Christopher shared his experience of the palpable shift in traveling to the U.S. from Britain. He said he immediately notices the bigness of everything; more spaciousness, the roads are wider, the cars are larger, the geography, especially West of the Rockies offers broad breathtaking vistas. One's stature takes on a larger character here. The San Andreas Fault in CA shifts consciousness further and out of Hollywood stream images that influence the whole of the world.

Here in the West, we have incarnated most deeply into matter and with that, there is a danger of over-identifying with economics to the exclusion or diminishment of other human values. Here in the U.S. there is also the ripe possibility of giving form to a new way of working economically that fosters the ideals of brotherhood and sisterhood in a spirit of cosmopolitanism. Many of us feel the tension now between the ideals we long for and the reality of our economic situations in the broader context of the U.S. war economy of the past 8 years.

At the gathering in Viroqua, two workshops were offered back-to-back in one weekend. The first workshop was entitled *Rudolf Steiner's Unfinished Deed*. Rudolf Steiner's deed of the Christmas Conference was an open initiation on behalf of all of humanity. Christopher portrayed the initiation each of us may individually choose to undergo in relation to destiny work, community and economic life. The second

workshop, entitled *Money and the New Mysteries*, focused on the current economic paradigm, the central banking system, and Rudolf Steiner's economic lectures. Christopher, who has a Doctorate in World Banking, said Rudolf Steiner's clarity of insights into the economic problems that faced humanity at the end of WWI should have received a Nobel peace prize in the realm of economics – if there were such a thing. The problems from the early part of the last century have only escalated. Rudolf Steiner's insights have been recognized by small handfuls of people who are now beginning to demonstrate new ways of working and being with initiative, money, and community life. Dr. Houghton Budd has been convening annual economic conferences at the Goetheanum for the last six years to forward Rudolf Steiner's contribution to economic life. He also holds the initiative of an economic section of the school for spiritual science.

Another of Dr. Houghton Budd's tasks is to introduce Rudolf Steiner's ideas into the mainstream professional life of economists and bankers today in a language that they can understand. We cannot over-estimate the importance of this work during this critical turning point in human development.

Both workshops were back dropped by the Michaelic timeline from the last Michael regency in Ancient Greece to the dawn of the new Michael Age in 1879. Two pivotal events occurred in each Michael Age. The first was the burning of the Temple of Diana on the day that Alexander the Great was born. This signaled the close of the old mysteries and the receding of the old clairvoyance. Aristotle and Alexander both underwent an initiation at Samothrace. Aristotle heralded a new individualized thinking, which Alexander carried out to the known world on his campaigns.

The second event was the burning of the first Goetheanum and the events that followed. While Rudolf Steiner and Ita Wegman watched the burning, Ita Wegman asked Rudolf Steiner if the mysteries could be refounded. This inaugurated the advent of another change in human development as radical as that of Aristotle in regards to the old mysteries. Rudolf Steiner, initiate, joined an earthly institution, chose the colleagues he wanted to work with, and funded the work through memberships. He then mapped out the school of Spiritual Science and its three classes. Humanities' inner life was now an open mystery, accessible to any and all who seek it. The new mysteries have arrived in the daylight of human consciousness.

Both workshops also were portrayed against a world map from Ephesus to California – *what is fired from the East takes its form in the West*. He challenged the West to create forms to meet the current breakdowns. Can we live up to our challenge? All of us are called to bring more consciousness to our economic deliberations.

Christopher addressed the current economic breakdown and characterized it as a result of a change in consciousness. An economist colleague of his stated that *we may well be in the midst of an economic sea change with no going back*. Christopher consistently compared economic life as the “cover” or “shell” of our inner life – like the shell of a nut to the meat of the nut –or- as the human body reflects the spirit of the individual. Our economic life can reveal our karmic relationships if we learn how to read behind the numbers of the economic ledgers and balance sheets. Outer economics is shifting because our consciousness is shifting. Another of Christopher's tasks is to help us be awake and ready to meet the challenges that we face in the upcoming months and years.

Rudolf Steiner's Unfinished Deed went into specific details regarding the new mystery initiation in light of the Christmas Conference. Christopher gave a picture of individual initiation in the context of the first, second, and third classes of the School for Spiritual Science, which he sourced from Jurgen Smit. In an ideal world, we would all carry an initiative commensurate with our skills, choose our colleagues, and receive funding from the rest of humanity. In this world the individual destiny would be

celebrated and acknowledged through recognition, support to refine skills, and funding. Manipulated market economics would not be a place for our capital.

Money and the New Mysteries helps to view the current economic events from a perspective of associative economics, which can bring order, direction, and insight to the human spirit in the midst of chaos.

If all goes as planned, the workshop recordings will be available before Christmas so they can help to inform our visioning for the year ahead. In light of current world events, I invite you to join me in linking your destiny with this important work. We are all stakeholders at this turning point in time. Proceeds from the recordings will help cover expenses so more recordings can be made; Christopher will gain economic support for his work; listeners will be more educated to sort out their economic karmic circumstances: and hopefully more events like the one in Viroqua can be held here in the U.S

If you would like to be contacted when the recordings are available, please email me at rosepassafero@gmail.com or call me at 864-465-3420. We estimate the cost for @ 12 CD's and color photos of the drawings of the entire weekend to be around \$90. . Thanks for interest, support, and participation in being the change we want to see!

In Appreciation for your Interest and Support,
Rose Passafero

Rudolf Steiner Archive Calendar of Events Announcement

The Rudolf Steiner Archive now includes a Calendar of Events, *Anthroposophy ... Day By Day*, as a free service for the worldwide Anthroposophical community. To submit new events, go to the Anthroposophy ... *Day By Day* calendar of events at <http://calendar.rsarchive.org/> and click on <Submit Your Event> at the top-right of that page. Enter your details, including the full address and, if applicable, your internet URL. Your previous event submissions have been preserved here. The Rudolf Steiner Archive attracts tens of thousands of visitors every day. The Archive provides thousands of books, articles, lectures by Rudolf Steiner, as well as other materials, all free of charge. In addition, tens of thousands of visitors use the resources we provide through our other sites:

- The e.Lib at <http://www.elib.com/>,
- our Fine Art Presentations at <http://fineart.elib.com/>,
- our KnowNews service at <http://www.knownews.net/>,
- our Goethean Science sites at <http://www.goetheanscience.org/>,
- our Anthroposophical Links Engine at <http://www.rsarchive.org/Links/>

We are working to increase the positive visibility of Anthroposophy on the Internet, and the Calendar of Events has always attracted a very significant number of visitors. In addition to those who access the Calendar through our websites, information included here is also picked up by the major search engines, like Google and Yahoo!, along with several hundred others, and through RSS feeds.

Thank you for using *Anthroposophy ... Day By Day* to publicize your events.



NEWS FROM THE RUDOLF STEINER FOUNDATION

“The era of Wall Street domination is over.” So begins a GreenMoney Journal article that RSF Social Finance President & CEO Don Shaffer wrote in early July, at a time when only the first of the economic dominoes had fallen. (To revisit the actual chain of events, check out this comprehensive and interactive timeline from MSNBC: [The Economy in Turmoil](#).) But rather than dwell on problems or place blame, Don’s article is filled with hope for a future in which we re-imagine money to serve our highest aspirations.

“If today’s capital markets can be described as complex, opaque, and anonymous - based on short-term outcomes, we are beginning to see more and more financial transactions that are direct, transparent, and personal - based on long-term relationships.”

In addition to delving into the unique role of RSF as a trusted financial partner that is helping shift the field of social finance, Don writes about three women who inspire him, each powerful change agents in this emerging financial system. He also highlights several social entrepreneurs who are part of this change, and invites everyone to engage with RSF in an ongoing inquiry into the nature of money and the ways in which it can genuinely transform each of us, and the world we live in.

[Download the article here](#), or [visit the GreenMoney Journal website](#).

As a mission-based, nonprofit financial institution, RSF has always operated with deep attention to the social benefits that our activities can catalyze in the world around us. We seek to create financial transactions that are direct, transparent, and personal, based on long-term relationships.

Not only does this strategy further our mission, it serves our investors well during rocky economic times. As Don pointed out in a recent letter to clients, “RSF has made over \$150 million in loans since 1984, creating enormous positive impact, and not lost a penny of your investment in us. Our default rate is extremely low (less than 1%). Our leverage ratio is 2:1, versus 10:1 for most commercial banks, and over 25:1 for the (former) investment banks. We have more than adequate liquidity and reserve funds.”

“RSF is unique, in what we do and how we do it. I hope you will consider adding to your investment account this year, knowing that we see more and more inspiring people every week who believe we represent the best possible financial partner for them - our only constraint is the amount of funds we have to lend.”

With its entirely new look and a fresh editorial approach, we hope you will find the latest issue - and future issues - of the RSF Quarterly even more inspiring and engaging than ever! Highlights include a guest column from Michael Shuman, economist, attorney, and author of *The Small-Mart Revolution: How Local Businesses Are Beating the Global Competition*; a feature on RSF borrower [Small Potatoes Urban Delivery](#) (SPUD!), North America’s leading organic food delivery service; and a conversation between Anna & Frances Moore Lappé about their Small Planet Fund.

[Download the RSF Quarterly in pdf form](#) or [contact Mark Herrera](#) if you would prefer that we mail you a print copy. If you have any comments, suggestions, or questions regarding our print newsletter, [contact Bette McDonnell](#).

For more information about the Rudolf Steiner Foundation and its magazine go to: www.rsfsocialfinance.org

For those of you who may be traveling up North,
this looks really great:

HELLENIC FESTIVAL:

Strength for the Future from Ancient Greece

NOVEMBER 14 – 16, 2008 at Camphill Village Kimberton Hills

The wisdom of the sun-filled culture of Ancient Greece can still shed light on humanity's continuing journey of separation from the divine world.. The gifts and responsibilities of independence from the Gods and inner freedom have gradually been given into our hands. They shone through the Romantics and the Transcendentalists and can inspire us now as we strive to express what is truly human.

Join us in a Festival of the Arts to explore and celebrate the heritage of Hellenic Culture.

Keynote lectures on the theme by Christina Root and John Alexandra

Two full-length dramatic presentations:

'Aeschylus Unbound' - The birth of drama out of the Mysteries, performed by Laurie Portocarrero and Glen Williamson.

'The Apology' - Socrates was condemned for encouraging free, independent thinking, performed by Emmy award –winning actor Yannis Simonides.

'The Return of Persephone'- poem by Peter Bruckner recited by the author, with piano sonata composed by Fabian Lochner, played by Bonnie Somerfield

Artistic Activities – Eurythmy, singing, and drawing

Panel presentations on aspects of Hellenic Culture

Festival fee of \$90. includes admission to all events in Rose Hall.

Admission to the evening events for those not attending the Conference: \$20 at the door
\$50 for 4 meals with the flavor of Greece in the Café

-----Send
Registrations to: Zoe Workman (610 415 9006), 261 Kimbel Dr. Phoenixville PA 19460
Inquiries: Sherry Wildfeuer 610 935 0302 or Gillian Schoemaker 610 469 0864

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Choose one: Drawing Singing Eurythmy

_____ Festival Fee \$90

\$ _____

Meals @ \$12.50 each: Fri Supper Sat Lunch Sat Supper Sun Lunch

\$ _____

Total enclosed, checks to SE PA Branch of Anthroposophical Society

\$ _____

Call Zoe Workman for information about local accommodations

MINUTES FROM THE AGM
 OCTOBER, 2008, Pasadena, CA
 Recorded by Kristin Puckett,
 Editor of the Social Science Section News

Torin Finser, part 1 – speaking for Internat'l role:

Meetings/Interaction. Distance between Dornach and US (there's a psychic distance). There are two meetings a year, I have been to two so far, still a beginner. Gen Council: there is a rhythm there. Between Gen'l Secys there are fewer e-mails. Torin sees himself as taking thoughts back and forth, US-Dornach.

General feel and research. At Goetheanum, a vibrancy, intensity, commitment, original work (emphasized) occurring. They ARE doing research – examples, in the sciences, with other “outside” groups (ELIANT work mentioned). Medical work on cloning.

Attacks on Waldorf and Anthroposophy: in US there is less attacking. In Europe there are debates on how to respond to attacks. Recent book re: Anthroposophy. Described an ad (TV?) showing a picture of RS which is then ripped in two. Eerie. Counter-groups hold “seminars” which then become clearly work of critics trying to separate Anthroposophy and RS

Publications: Held up copy of Anthroposophy WorldWide and urged people to subscribe. At Dornach some concern about the number of different publications and how different each one looks. Should there be a standard(ized) look to all of them – typeface, style, graphics..?

Membership. Worldwide, steady or declining. Goetheanum does not consider “lapsed members” in their numbers. Here, to consider how to work with this. The good part of not counting “lapsed” is that you have “real” members.

Content of meetings. An English group does study on culture of the heart and now, added artistic work. Has become more than just reports from countries.

Youth Section. Contemporary subjects such as alternative energy and “shadow side”

Work in the World. The great work in the world. There is a lot. Note Anth Worldwide. Only 472 people receive Anth WW – yet there are 48,000 (est) total globally (members, people working in anth initiatives). *Das Goetheanum* comes out weekly – we here would be surprised – they've had front cover articles with Obama, the Russian invasion of Georgia. There is some controversy on issues. It is German only – perhaps each US Branch should get a copy anyway for those who could read it and share. We (US) talking about translating them, it would be a service.

White Horse Conference in August 2009. Mentioned. Philip Thatcher has worked for 3 years for this. It is an example of connecting with Vorstand members, several of whom will be there.

US Newsletters to Dornach. Where they exist, should go to Goetheanum, also items re: conferences, etc.

Talk to Torin. Open to best ways to report to US membership.

MariJo Rogers – “domestic”

Speedy report, want Marion and Jerry [new treasurer] to have time.

As I talk with members, it is heartening, the time people spend locally. NONE OF IT IS LOST. RS said a person's relationship to Anthroposophia can be read in the lightest handshake. It is in the way we meet people. MJ calls members on Fridays and Saturdays [or Sat & Sun? – not sure]

Greetings from Rachel Schwartz and Heartbeet, just had their fall conference, at their Spring one there were 70 attending.

Greetings from James Ulness, MN, who will be speaking to the Scandanavian Festival on Scandanavian mythology.

Greetings from Monasches in Boulder, Sound Circle Eurythmy will be starting, in 2009, a 4-year eurythmy training.

Marian Leon

About 3,700 members.

Described life in the Ann Arbor office, with names and descriptions of people and tasks.

Cynthia Chelius: May answer phone, manages RS house. Works with print materials.

Winnie Han: 10 years there, financial transactions. Developing processes.

Linda Leonard: answers phone mostly and helps Winnie. Data entry.

Deb McFarland: part time. Filing and credit card.

Kathy Sterson: Prison outreach program.

Fred Janney, recently retired, has spoken of the LAUGHTER in the RS House. We work as a team. New Treasurer, local – Ypsilanti – so have a closer relationship.

The Library – Bonnie Hedges comes every other week, has vast knowledge.

Ernst Katz, almost 95, comes in every day.

Beth Wieting, the *Group and Branch Handbook*, on CD and available for anyone. It should evolve, we'll continue to update. A living document.

General Council met *in Ghent, NY*, at library last year, and then met with local branch.

Marian's connection with Goetheanum re: membership and the "lapsed" issue

\$ should never stop someone from joining. We will always arrange if one calls office.

Membership outreach brochure.

CAO. those active in the movement, not Soc members. Working with the Council of Anthroposophical Organizations to make our connections more visible. CAO sending Cynthia to "Nourishing Traditions" conference.

Website – in first phase of redoing it. Artistic, to reflect our values. To be welcoming. A public face and hope for a members' section. For July 2009.

Had anonymous donation of \$20,000 for RSHouse maintenance. Windows! Big help. Bricks and mortar will need repair. A Plan.

Jerry Kruse, CPA, new Treasurer. (This was an EXCELLENT report, with good thinking.)

Joined in May. Challenging. I see a Financial Statement as a picture. The balance sheet is a position statement – you look at the beginning of the year and the end of the year and see what has changed, happened, a statement of activity.

Budget report, as we used to see, showed activity – but only in Ann Arbor – there is a lack of information beyond Ann Arbor, so, trying with regions and sections to repair this lack of information. Met with Society's auditor on changes. Agreed heartily. The audit report is not yet complete – office will send anyone a copy online if requested.

We see, now, a DEFICIT. Have had deficit over the past few years, have tried to offset with bequests, gifts, to almost break even in cash flow. But – now we have a Finance Committee and bequests will not be in a reserve account, not for operating expenses.

Financial picture as we look ahead: 3500-3700 members (both numbers have been used), BUT **2800** support through paid memberships.

I am opposed to cutting costs – it just makes us smaller, then smaller. Our money is secure, several accounts, all under FDIC amount. We don't invest, normally. Our risk is minimized.

Society website – Jim Stewart has kept up RS Archive. Should it be linked with Soc website?

Raise dues? That's not popular. **Dues are a contribution to the work of Anthroposophy.** Yet we have even heard – as when someone complained about a late newsletter – “I don't get much for my money.” THAT is not what it is !!!

This report was well presented and well-received. His interest, enthusiasm, and the fact he takes a stand and explains why – all to the good, I thought. A sense of optimism.

Judith Soleil on Library I seem not to have notes on this and don't know why. Spoke about the building, the new cataloging systems, etc. Grant from Albany state library assn.

Torin Finser, part 2

My conversations with members, and a survey I did all on my own [unclear to whom, how many sent, just how this was done. I found myself, later, completely unclear about it]. When I have met with Branches, there have been 15-35 together in meetings. Survey – had 130 responses.

Why joined Soc? People wait and have respect for the School and answers, most common on down: to join the School; be with others; support the Goetheanum; go to member-only events

An aside – Virginia Sease wonders about no longer having sponsor to join

What do you appreciate about Soc? Study groups; conferences and workshops; First Class; events/visitors/performances

What would you change? Newsletter – more, and more frequent and better quality; work in the world; 3rd world issues; finances; more information to members. And why all those appeal letters the minute one joins?

Organization of the Society. Working on it.

Are we modeling 3-fold? How can we espouse the ideals if we don't model them?

Work with “outside” organizations.

Special subject / interest groups. Seems to want to have them.

Society and Christian Community: why is there a gulf? A priest commented that they are all members of the School, why is there not a working together. Torin is going to CC Synod next year.

Visibility? Priorities? Direction – these questions now into the circle.

Corneius Pietzner estimates 48,000 people worldwide related to anthroposophy. In the movement, the work, 1.8 million. So – where are they? Why not in Society. Conversations, meetings, etc., related with the 1.8 million. What needs to happen?

PLENUM about 15 minutes all told for this portion

Alice Stamm. A question re: RS Library. Is out system, with its new cataloging, etc. are we going to have everything open to the gov't? Public libraries wash away daily borrowing records. Will we do this? Response from Judith – seemed to think we could move to that.

Beth Wieting. I have ideas of projects, initiatives with public, etc. if anyone wants to take them up, more than I can consider doing.

Carol Wolfley. Small group yesterday we had discussion about social change, someone spoke about astrological signs of times; someone about teaching tennis and introducing MANY people to anthroposophy, etc. Free cultural sphere. And our ideals in the economic.

Patrick Wakeford-Evans. To offer: we may consider our relationships. Do we have enough encounters with individuals? Personal example: In our community [Sacramento, RS College] are many young people working and meeting at the same time as Society meetings. So I have found myself working with one young person on *Road to Self-Knowledge* – and he is teaching me, not the other way around.

Dottie Zold (?) 1 - Financial report was lively, let's grow membership. 2 – how about will exercise – put a dollar in a jar at the same time every day. For Society. 3 – Scholarship ideas? Spend money to get money. 4 – I am hearing the colleges (RS College, Sunbridge, I guess she means) are not doing well. Can we make our work visible to youth, high schools? Colletes? Or... reach out so they don't have to find us?

Philip Mees comment treasurer. Doesn't treat \$ as duty, as we in Soc seem to do. Products and \$\$... [?] Non-profit world? Why do we have a deficit. It's not because we spend too much. Problem is in convincing people we bring something into the world that has value. ... if not, we lose our reason for being

Charlene , LA A request. Could we present to presidential candidates a plan of 3-folding? The time arises seldom – and it has now – there might be listening.

Bruce Laurelin Astrological happenings soon. ** Also, it is 83 years after an event that we come to understand it. It is now 83 years since RS died.

List of participants will be sent out to those participating.

Linda Connell ended – saying one of the Rosicrucian rules was to choose a worthy successor.

** Regarding the celestial situations which may be very significant for the upcoming presidential election, Bruce Laurelin tells us: *Saturn opposes Uranus--surprise actions, Change in tradition, government, generation gap emphasized. I just checked--this occurs 2:34 EST Nov, 4th.--but will be felt 5-7 days before and after. (It will also occur Feb. 5th and Sept. 16th 2009-- but the first is worst, so unexpected.)*

When Uranus turns direct Nov. 27th-- all planets will be direct until Saturn turns retrograde JAN. 1st! That is the best prospect in 9 years--for progress.

There will be 2 weeks in Dec. 2009, 3 in Dec. 2010, and 4 in mostly Jan. 2012. But there have been none the last 9 years. [i.e., no times in recent years when all planets are "direct", no retrograde].

Roberta van Schilfgaarde had this helpful comment re: upcoming heavenly configurations:

IT'S MORE ASTROLOGY THAN ASTROSOPHY. THE STARS DON'T COMPEL, AND AS ALWAYS, EVERYTHING DEPENDS ON HOW WE RESPOND TO THEIR INFLUENCES. SATURN CARRIES THE FATHER FORCES--THE PAST--AND URANUS IS CONNECTED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SPIRIT SELF, THUS ALSO WITH LUCIFER, WHO CAN HELP US EITHER POSITIVELY, OR IN THE DIRECTION OF EGOTISM.

“Clouds will gather and human beings will have to find a total sense of freedom out of the abyss. The human being will have to find all his/her strength out of nothingness. Outer need will be transformed into an inner need of the soul, and out of this profound anguish, inner perception will be born.”

Rudolf Steiner, November 17, 1917

The Anthroposophical Society in North Carolina
 PO Box 16024
 Chapel Hill, NC 27516-0913
www.AnthroposophyNC.org



What is Anthroposophy?

Anthroposophy is a human oriented spiritual philosophy that reflects and speaks to the basic deep spiritual questions of humanity, to our basic artistic needs, to the need to relate to the world out of a scientific attitude of mind, and to the need to develop a relation to the world in complete freedom and based on completely individual judgments and decisions.

Anthroposophy can also be called Spiritual Science. As such, it is an effort to develop not only natural scientific, but also a spiritual scientific research on the basis of the idealistic tradition, in the spirit of the historical strivings, that have led to the development of modern science.

Anthroposophy also is an impulse to nurture the life of the soul in the individual and in human society, meaning among other things, to nurture the respect for and interest in other people on a purely human basis, independently of their origin and views.

Various “daughter movements” of Anthroposophy are biodynamic farming, Waldorf schools (see European Council for Steiner Waldorf Schools and the Association of Waldorf Schools in North America for the largest Waldorf schools associations), Anthroposophical Curative Education (see European Council for

Curative Education and the Camphill Association of North America) and Anthroposophical Medicine.

Excerpted from www.waldorfanswers.com