

THE SCHOOL OF SPIRITUAL SCIENCE

By Henry Barnes



Henry Barnes was born in 1912 in New York City, attended Lincoln School of Teachers' College and obtained his B.S. degree from Harvard College in 1933. He went on to Waldorf teacher training in Stuttgart until 1934. From 1935 until 1939, he was a class teacher at New School, Michael Hall, England. Mr. Barnes and Christy MacKaye were married on September 5, 1939, in Dornach, Switzerland, after which he returned with her to New York City. There, he was a class teacher at Rudolf Steiner School from

1940 until 1943, when he entered the U.S. Army until after the war in 1946. Mr. Barnes returned to the Rudolf Steiner School as a class teacher and high school history teacher, which he continued until 1977. During that time, he was also a faculty chairperson. From 1974 until 1991, Mr. Barnes was the general secretary of the Anthroposophical Society in America. He is the author of *A Life for the Spirit: Rudolf Steiner in the Crosscurrents of Our Time* (1997); *Percy MacKaye: Poet of Old Worlds and New* (2000); and *Into the Heart's Land: A Century of Rudolf Steiner's Work in North America* (2005).

At the Christmas Conference of 1923, Rudolf Steiner proposed that the Anthroposophical Society take a courageous, far-reaching step. He suggested that the Society should throw off every vestige of sectarianism and establish itself as an absolutely open, public society. Any human being would be welcome to join this Society who recognized that spiritual science, grounded in anthroposophy, was a valid contribution to our time. Membership in this society would require no adherence to any philosophical, scientific, artistic, or religious principles. It would be "an association of people whose will it is to nurture the life of the soul, both in the individual and in human society, on the basis of a true knowledge of the spiritual world."

In addition, at the heart of this public society, an institution would be established that was intended to be an esoteric school, a "university" based on spiritual-scientific knowledge and research. The education offered in this school, and the research it was to develop, would be subject to the same rigorous discipline that governs every objective search for knowledge. But, as already stated, its methods are grounded in spiritual science rather than in the natural sciences as we have come to know them today.

In its structure, the School of Spiritual Science resembles the traditional universities of earlier times. The student enters a general course of study—similar to a liberal arts faculty or school in a traditional university—in which she or he seeks to attain the capacities of spiritual-scientific cognition described in the works of Rudolf Steiner. Fundamental to these capacities is a clear and active thinking capable of grasping ideas derived from supersensible observation, that is, from a

clear and accurate view into the spiritual world. Such clear thinking can lead, step by step, to cognition that is no longer dependent on the physical organism. Body-free thought can then be enhanced through consistent spiritual-scientific practice to three stages of higher cognition, described by Rudolf Steiner in *How to Know Higher Worlds: A Modern Path of Initiation*² and other writings as imagination, inspiration, and intuition. Each of these stages leads the student to a new level of experience of supersensible, or spiritual reality.

This preliminary course of study is known as the General Anthroposophical Section of the School of Spiritual Science, which Rudolf Steiner intended to consist of three esoteric classes. Unfortunately, due to Rudolf Steiner's illness and subsequent death on March 30, 1925, he was only able to inaugurate the first of these three classes. The basic nineteen lessons of the first class were held by Rudolf Steiner from February 15 to August 2, 1924, in Dornach, Switzerland. After a lecture series in England in September 1924, he had hoped to present the second part of the first class. This would have been followed by a third part, then by the institution of a second class and, eventually, a third class.

The cognitive capacities achieved through spiritual-scientific training in the three classes of the General Section would enable the student to fructify the branch of cultural and vocational practice in which she or he is engaged. Thus the artist, scientist, teacher, physician, or practitioner of any occupation could call on the capacities awakened and exercised as a student in the classes of the School and thus enliven and deepen his or her work in a given profession or vocation. The opportunity to cultivate these vocational insights and skills might then be developed in collegial work within a particular section of the School, just as the student in a traditional university, having achieved the basic skills of scholarship in a liberal arts faculty, could enter a medical, legal, pedagogical, or other graduate school for further specialized training.

In this way, Rudolf Steiner conceived of a circle of cultural, vocationally-oriented sections surrounding a human-centered, developmental, anthroposophical, and spiritual-scientific core. The method by which he called these special sections into existence was, in itself, also fundamentally human, rather than theoretical or bureaucratic. He did not proceed by deciding that a medical or an educational section was needed and then set out to search for a qualified individual to lead the endeavor. On the contrary, he first recognized that such an individual was already present and had proven herself or himself capable, creative, and reliable in a particular field. As a result of this recognition, he saw that a section, or division of the School, could be established because the qualified

person was already there. Having already worked closely with Ita Wegman, MD, in the medical field, for example, he felt he could establish the medical section under her leadership.

In this way, during the Christmas Foundation Meeting of 1923, and in the weeks and months that followed, Rudolf Steiner was able to bring the School of Spiritual Science into existence with specialized sections surrounding the central developmental core. Anthroposophy, or the methods of Spiritual Science, were to provide the creative, transformative energies that could enliven the School as a whole.

In this way it was intended that the School of Spiritual Science should be the sustaining heart of the community of individuals who would come together in the General Anthroposophical Society to create a home for Anthroposophia, the spiritual being whose help is so urgently needed today.

How can one become a member of the School and how does the School fulfill its function within the General Anthroposophical Society at the present time?

If, after a period of time as a member of the Anthroposophical Society—usually two years or more—the individual comes to

feel that she or he wishes not only to receive the insights of Spiritual Science, but also to represent anthroposophy in some way, this signals a new relationship of the individual to anthroposophy and to the Anthroposophical Society. One has been a “quiet,” receiving member, who is now ready and willing to become “active” on behalf of the anthroposophical movement and the Society. The readiness to *represent* anthroposophy—in no matter how modest or quiet a way—is the indication that the moment has come for the individual to consider becoming an active member—a student—in the School, joining the work of the first class.

The individual at such a point should ask herself or himself several questions. Do I have a clear understanding of how Rudolf Steiner characterizes the Society and the School? (His essays and letters to the members following the Christmas meeting of 1923 are a primary help in gaining this clarity.³) Do I have enough experience in meditation to be confident that I can sustain a meditative relationship with the esoteric material of the class? Am I able and willing to work with my sisters and brothers, as members of the School, independent of personal sympathies and antipathies? Am I, in other words, ready to put my own karmic house in order and strive for objectivity and a genuine openness toward those with whom I am joining? These self-directed questions are summed up in this basic question: Am I ready, able, and willing to represent anthroposophy in an undogmatic, unsectarian, honest, and unambiguous way? And, beyond this, am I prepared to share through my own work and experience in the task of *research*, even though I may be far from having achieved supersensible perception?

If one answers these questions with an honestly positive confidence that one is ready to become an active member, the next step is to seek out a representative of the School and discuss the matter openly. If you do not know an authorized representative of the School, the Society’s national office staff can give you the name of a qualified individual. If you find yourself confirmed in your sense that joining the School is the right step for you at this time and the representative of the School with whom you have spoken also supports and confirms your intention, the next step is simple. You write a letter, addressed to the Chairman of the Executive Council at the Goetheanum in Dornach, stating how long you have been a member of the Society, your immediate life situation, and your reasons for wishing to enter the School. You then give this letter to the authorized representative with whom you have spoken, and she or he will forward your letter to Dornach with an endorsement based on the personal relationship that has been achieved between you. The final decision rests with the Executive Council. Assuming your application is accepted, a membership card in the School and the first class is then issued by the Goetheanum.

As a member of the School, you are then eligible to join a Section in whose work you are actively involved. The different Sections have somewhat different procedures for

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PORTLAND BRANCH OF THE ANTHROPOSOPIHICAL SOCIETY, PLEASE CALL DIANE RUMAGE AT (503) 240-0908.

THE PORTLAND BRANCH THANKS THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS IN 2006!

Tige Grinnell Janet Terwilliger Marsha Johnson
James Lee

The *Portland Anthroposophic Times* is published twelve times a year by the Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America to serve members and friends in the community.

Printed copies of the newsletter are available at the Steiner Storehouse, Portland Waldorf School, Cedarwood Waldorf School, and Swallowtail School. The newsletter and calendar are also posted on the Portland Branch website at www.portlandbranch.com.

Questions, suggestions and submissions may be sent by e-mail to anthroposophy@earthlink.net. Items selected for publication in the Portland Anthroposophic Times may be edited for style, content and length.

Editor:.....James Lee
Calendar:Jannebeth Röell and Diane Rumage
Editorial Support:.....Jannebeth Röell and Diane Rumage
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Communications:Diane Rumage and Jannebeth Röell
Website:James Lee
Hardcopy Reproduction:.....John Miles

Submit newsletter articles to anthroposophy@earthlink.net. The deadline for submissions to the *Portland Anthroposophic Times* is the first day of each month for the following month’s edition. Articles or calendar submissions for the April 2006 newsletter must be received by March 1st.

Submit calendar items to branchcalendar@mindspring.com no later than the first of each month for publication in the next edition.

joining, and again the Society's office can help identify a Section representative whom you can consult. The sections represented in North America have recently come together as a working group, known as the Collegium.

It should be noted here that, in the seventy-five years of the School's existence, one circumstance has changed radically. The esoteric lessons as Rudolf Steiner gave them in 1924 are now available in print. They were first published in German, and later in English translation. Under these conditions, one may well wonder why one should join the School if the class lessons are otherwise available. This is a question each of us must ultimately answer for ourselves. Certain thoughts, however, may be shared.

Rudolf Steiner made it clear that the inner reality of an esoteric text lives in its oral transmission, far less in a printed text. There is also the aspect of commitment by individuals who freely decide to join a community of responsible representatives on behalf of anthroposophy and of Anthroposophia. Furthermore, with this commitment, the individual also forms a destiny relationship with Rudolf Steiner. Even just the outer form of meeting with others at an appointed time, within a rhythmic sequence, and in a mood of sincere respect and earnestness constitutes a spiritual reality. Nevertheless, the publication of class lessons almost certainly requires an even greater activity on our part as members to transmute the objective weakening of esoteric discipline that may result from their being printed.

NOTES:

1. Paragraph 1, Statutes of the General Anthroposophical Society
2. *How to Know Higher Worlds: A Modern Path of Initiation* (Hudson, NY: Anthroposophic Press, 1994).
3. *The Foundation Stone: The Life, Nature, and Cultivation of Anthroposophy* (London: Rudolf Steiner Press, 1996); *The Constitution of the School of Spiritual Science*, (London: Anthroposophical Society in Great Britain, 1980).

Should you have any questions about the School for Spiritual Science, please contact Jannebeth Röell at 503-249-3807 or by e-mail at jannebeth@mindspring.com.

COME TO THE NEXT PORTLAND BRANCH MEMBERS MEETING

Sunday, March 19, 2006
3:00 – 5:00 PM
Bothmer Hall

FEBRUARY BRANCH MEETING: ENDINGS, NEW BEGINNINGS, GREAT FUN AND FOOD!



By Valerie Hope

It was an evening for celebrating brotherhood and branch life in Portland. It was an evening of endings and beginnings. We sang and spoke and played and enjoyed great food together, elected a Council to serve the Branch until our first annual meeting in September, and said goodbye to the Carrying Group,

As I arrived at the Cedarwood School Eurythmy room, tables were being covered with bright cloths and gourmet foods of every description. Roasted rosemary potatoes, pea and mushroom salad, homemade quiches, gingered carrots and greens, a tabouleh salad featuring biodynamic celery, French lentils, rich chocolate desserts, several cakes, teas, and biodynamic coffee with or without thick cream, stand out in my memory.

My attention was quickly drawn away from this elegant abundance to our first activity - making sweet music together. We were ably led in a Jazz Improv piece by Marion von Namen, who, amid much hilarity got three very jazzy parts going and then encouraged individuals to jump into the middle with improvised contributions. It now felt to me that we had come together as a group.

With the strains of music and laughter still hanging in the air, Diane Ramage led us in speaking the American Verse. She illuminated the speech elements contained in the verse before we spoke it. We concentrated on the lyrical aspects of verse that are spoken with the front of the mouth: m-b-p-v-f. Diane ended with an encouraging verse which she had written for this juncture in branch life, which we also spoke together. Branch members who were not able to attend might like to speak it aloud to themselves.

We, the Portland Anthroposophical Branch,
express heartfelt gratitude
to all the beings
who have carried our branch thus far.

We, the Portland Anthroposophical Branch,
request loving guidance
for all of us entrusted
with carrying our branch in the present.

We, the Portland Anthroposophical Branch,
intend to face
with courageous wisdom, love and strength
our tasks that come towards us from the future

We then held the election for the officers who will serve the branch in our next phase of development and meet the requirements of our C corporation and nonprofit status. Diane Rumage read a Goethe piece contributed by Ruth Klein which expressed Ruth's feeling about the "Pilgrim" nature of serving the branch. The numbers were close - a second vote was required to break a tie. Our new officers are Wayne Gossett, Marsha Johnson, Tom Klein, Ruth Klein, Lucia Mello, John Miles, and Walter Rice. Lucia expressed her desire to do a good job, as soon as she finds out what it is!

Laughter rang out again as two teams competed (and I do mean competed) against each other in a game of "Rudolf Steiner Trivia" cleverly devised by Marsha Johnson, with some really tough and interesting questions contributed by Beth Wieting. Tom Klein read the questions, and a Spiritual Balance-ometer registered which team was winning. The game ended in a tie, with the Spiritual Balance-ometer pointing straight up.

At the end of a scrumptious dinner, during which compliments and recipes were exchanged, those assembled expressed gratitude for the work of the Carrying Group over the last year and a half since formation of the branch was approved by the Society. Those who had served on the group for all or part of this time included Patricia Dair, Valerie Hope, Tom Klein, James Lee, Don Marquis, and Diane Rumage. It was agreed that the new and old groups will meet to facilitate a smooth transition.



In closing we toned together, again under the expert direction of Marion (I really shouldn't have been in the soprano group!).

Empty dishes and remnants of food were swept away, chairs and tables returned to their places, and the Eurythmy room returned to its former state...or was it?

A NEW MUSIC THERAPIST IN TOWN

By Marion van Namen, Portland, Oregon



My life started out with birth below sea level. Little did I know that growing up in Holland would be the perfect preparation to live in rainy climates such as Portland. Fifteen years of piano lessons gave me the love for music. My parents didn't want me to pursue a career in music so I went for the big bucks (which I never made) and got a master's degree in business.

While being trained to become a Waldorf teacher in Fair Oaks, California in the nineties, I was reminded of my love for music. I grew up in a musical family in Holland, had 15 years of piano lessons from my grandmother and played lullabies with my father at the piano at bedtime. Pursuing a career in music was my dream but my parents encouraged me to keep music at a hobby level. Just as Steiner describes in one of his karma lectures – my desire to have a musical career was repressed, but gained elastic force... In college I considered changing majors from business to music, but thought it was "too late". In my thirties, while on my way to becoming a Waldorf teacher, it was René Querido who gave me the idea to become a music therapist. Now there was no holding back.

I went back to Holland, where I had grown up, and attended an anthroposophic music therapy training for four years. After having met anthroposophy in Seattle 10 years ago, it was great to meet the anthroposophical community in Holland. How did I manage to never hear about anything Waldorf, growing up in this tiny country with about 100 Waldorf Schools?

I had to meet anthroposophy in the Pacific Northwest. I was working at Microsoft and becoming disillusioned with maximizing profit. At first I was completely fascinated with that corporation, which generated more *profit* with 20,000 employees, than Tanzania's gross national product – with 30 *million* people.... I had just been a volunteer business consultant in Dar es Salaam for a year. Coming from the luxurious west, Tanzania had woken me up to questions such as "what is freedom, what is wealth, well-being, happiness, what does it mean to be human?" It was a black Tanzanian that first mentioned theosophy to me.

Searching for more than "maximizing profit" brought me to a friend who told me about her Waldorf education in Cape Town, South Africa. She mentioned Steiner and all of a sudden I remembered my sister living in Geneva, Switzerland, around the corner from a strange looking *pink* school building – a Steiner school. Within a week I was a handwork helper at

the Seattle Waldorf School, while still maximizing profit in my flex hours at Microsoft. Within a year I moved to Fair Oaks to attend Steiner College. That's where René Querido suggested music therapy.

After graduation in Holland from the music therapy training I ended up in Arizona where I was running a private practice in music therapy at home, and teaching music at the local charter Waldorf School in Prescott. Enter: the school's budget crisis – goodbye teaching salary. The signs were clear to me. I had to put more energy into music therapy and let go of a full time music teaching career.

It just so happened that I had attended the AGM in Portland and had fallen in love with the city of bridges and her abundance of new life. Just a few weeks before I found out that I lost my teaching salary, then I discovered that there would be plenty of interest in a music therapist in Portland, with numerous Waldorf schools and an anthroposophic clinic. It took me only two months to load up my instruments and head north and set up shop. Here I am teaching African drumming to 6th graders *and* their parents (separately) at Cedarwood School and conducting a community choir at Portland Waldorf School. I am also a singing baby sitter and I have my first cello student. And sure enough – two weeks ago I had my first client. I'm taking any opportunity to meet this community and share my love for music with you. Once we meet and you get a glimpse of the gifts music can bring, we can work at deeper levels. In a music therapy session the cosmic and creative forces of music can really come through.

I enjoy working with elementary school children with emotional or learning difficulties and adults going through challenging life changes or having psychological challenges. I have an office in Milwaukie – near the Portland Waldorf School and at home in southeast Portland. I would also be happy to load up my instruments and come your way to work with groups, to explore an anthroposophic theme such as the temperaments through music, or to simply let you engage with your colleagues in a different manner. Thank you Pacific Northwest for giving me all these opportunities! I am looking forward to playing with each and every one of you. Until then I send you musical greetings. I can be contacted by e-mail at marion_van_namen@hotmail.com or phone at 503-956-4046.

CEDARWOOD COLLEGE FOUNDATION CEREMONY

By Sacha Etzel for the Cedarwood College, Portland, Oregon

On January 26, 2006 Cedarwood had our founding College Ceremony. Over the last 8 years Cedarwood has had many inspiring teachers working out of Anthroposophy. From the depths of individuals striving to work out of Anthroposophy faculty questioned the forming of a college for many years. After several individual studies and faculty studies last August the faculty decided to form a college preparatory group who would study together and ponder these questions.

Devoting ourselves to six months of meeting together as a group and studying we saw that there were enough individuals committed to Anthroposophy to form a College. Taking into account the traditions that have taken place in forming a college and evoking the will of the group and the spirit of Cedarwood we formed our ceremony. We invited three guests to come and speak on the three Commitments to the College. Jannebeth Röell spoke on the first commitment to Anthroposophy. Denis Fitts spoke on the second commitment to the school. And John Takacs spoke on the third commitment of doing the work. All three resounded out of the spiritual world guiding us with wisdom. In addition we invited guests to witness this process in hopes to make it transparent and to be supported through Anthroposophy. We welcomed guests from the Society, from our Council, our parent association; from our sister school Portland Waldorf School, our training center, from Sacramento Waldorf School, from Eugene Waldorf School and our faculty.

Although there were many others we would have liked to invite the hope was to still keep the intimacy along side the transparency. The faculty that was called to serve the college stepped forward and shared what this commitment means to them.

We are quite honored to share this with you and again thank all of you for your wisdom and thank all of you that have come before us to lay the foundation for Anthroposophy in Oregon.

GENERAL COUNCIL UPDATE



By MariJo Rogers, Sacramento, California. MariJo is the National General Secretary of the Anthroposophical Society in North America, a former Waldorf High School teacher. She currently manages a world wide program of training and awareness for a high technology firm out of its Social Responsibility Group.

Each year, the Society's General Council meets face-to-face three times as an entire group (meeting many other times by phone). We treasure these face-to-face meetings, even though they are work marathons. They are especially important now that three new members whom we warmly welcome have joined the council: Gordon Edwards, James Lee, and Doug Miller.

This January 2006 we met together for a long weekend from Thursday to Sunday in Sacramento, California, at Rudolf Steiner College. The weather was cold and rainy, not California's best. But we stayed in the college's warm and beautiful dorms and met in the Commons Room, a high-ceiling, octagonal space with couches, chairs and a fireplace, located off the library. Also attending the meeting this year were Jean Yeager, administrative director, Marian Leon, director of membership services, John Haenselman, treasurer,

and Mark Finser, who attends one council meeting each year on behalf of the Rudolf Steiner Foundation.

The full agenda included an evening review of the Society's past year, an evening study of the Christmas Conference lectures, and a morning attendance of a School for Spiritual Science Class lesson. Business items included work on the council's mission, vision, and values; reports from the office directors and treasurer; discussions on reports, studies, and recommendations made this year to the council; consideration of the Goetheanum Fund plan; hearing from Mark Finser on the Foundation's recent work and plans; interviewing two candidates for an office position, and discussing various other reports on upcoming conferences, committees, and meetings.

Many Society branches take time each year to review their past year's activities, and the council tried something similar with its own activities. We hope sharing highlights of this overview might interest you.

- Number one at the top of our list was the Society's *Being Awake* summer conference. Of all of the year's activities in the U.S., this one enabled participation by the most members and drew rave reviews. The pairing of lecturers from Dornach and the U.S. was often mentioned by members as a distinguishing feature, but appreciative remarks ranged from the grand eurythmy performance to the *New World Symphony* and two-day workshops to sufficient free time to spend with one another, the vendor fair, and the inclusion of a humor evening.
- Members reported that a successful Portland Annual General Meeting was prepared and carried with lots of thought and attention to details. Mentioned often were Dennis Klocek's talk and workshop, the vendor fair, the Mystery Drama scene, an engaged members' circle discussion at the business meeting, and the much-appreciated Northwest "mood" of the entire event.
- The appearance after a long hiatus of the *Journal of Anthroposophy* met with applause from a number of patient members. A classic, it was titled "Meeting Rudolf Steiner," and contained articles on the individuality and influence of Rudolf Steiner that appeared in previous editions of the *Journal*.
- With Jean Yeager announcing his departure, both Marian Leon and Winnie Han took on new tasks and stepped up to new, expanded roles: Marian as director of Administration and Membership Services and Winnie as director of Financial Services.
- Doug Miller as the national newsletter editor reported that Ernst Katz's article on "The Mission of Rudolf Steiner," printed in the U.S. Society newsletter this year and developed from Ernst's talk at the 2004 Annual General Meeting, received world-wide attention and recognition, with requests from Anthroposophical Societies in other countries for permission to reprint it or translate and print it, including the Netherlands, New Zealand and Austria.

- Members were asked for suggestions for new members of the General Council. Three of the people suggested were interviewed and invited to join: Doug Miller, from Flushing, Michigan, James Lee from Portland, Oregon, and Gordon Edwards from Chicago, Illinois.
- The Council launched a Four Points plan structured on members' feedback in surveys to focus attention on sound governance and finance, inner work, member services, and collaboration.
 - In the Governance and Finance realm, Philip Mees, Manuel Mattke, and Martina Mann completed a financial review of the budget and made recommendations, and Lynn Kern completed an administrative review of the offices.
 - Out of Membership Enrichment, Margaret Shipman is leading an effort to develop a Traveling Speakers program. Marian Leon is leading a team to complete a handbook for members. At the request of the Rudolf Steiner Foundation Siegfried Finser reviewed reports and studies done for the Society since 1994 and presented an overview of conclusions and recommendations.
 - In the Collaboration arena, conferences on the Foundation Stone meditation have been planned in conjunction with the eurythmists' work on the Foundation Stone. This effort is receiving financial support from the Council of Anthroposophical Organizations. As well, a survey was distributed to gather information on current collaborative efforts by members.
 - In the area of Inner Work Doug Miller has planned a tour in the Midwest to talk with members about the First Class.
- Two dinners were held for members who donate to the Society to thank them for their support and describe the work their help makes possible.
- Steiner House in Ann Arbor underwent a beautification.
- Jean Yeager's long and on-going efforts to assist the legal work addressing the PLANS lawsuit filed in 1998 against the California Waldorf methods schools were rewarded in September when the court determined that PLANS had failed to prove that anthroposophy is a religion for establishment clause purposes in federal court.

Members share that accomplishments in their study groups and branches, in the Collegium, with the Regional Councils, and in the anthroposophical work of individual members have been rewarding and meaningful this last year. With the enormous and ever-present challenges we face in our Society and in our world.

Have you seen ***THE REAL DIRT ON FARMER JOHN?***
 If not, look for it. This is a must see film and can be ordered from www.angelicorganics.com. It has recently shown at Cinema 21 and Hollywood Cinema in Portland.

Portland Anthroposophical Society Calendar - April 2006

Ongoing Study Groups

African Drumming classes for Adults

Every Wednesday evening from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Cedarwood School (3030 SW 2nd Ave. Portland) - Ms. Sacha's room downstairs, \$12 per class, or \$60 for 6 classes. Bring your own drum - few drums available. Marion Van Namen (503) 956-4046.

Anthroposophia Study Group

Call for meeting times to Valerie Hope 503/775-0778.

Anthroposophical Psychology Study group

Open to new members with a counseling or psychology degree. Meets once a month on the evening of the 4th Tuesday, at Bothmer Hall. For information contact Amy Thomas at gnomehaven@msn.com.

Biodynamic Agriculture

First and third Sundays: Reading "Introduction to Culture and Horticulture" with potluck. Meetings will be held at People's Food Coop, 3029 SE 21st Ave. Contact Sharon Parker at sharon.parker@providence.org or 503-777-9086 for more information and reading material.

Eurythmy

Training offered by Portland Eurythmy on weekends and evenings. Please contact Natasha Moss at 503/233-0663.

Seasons and Festivals through Painting

John and Valerie Miles will host one hour of study followed by one hour painting from the study at 12160 SE Mt Scott Blvd. from 7.00-9.00 pm on Mondays beginning March 27th. Please call 503 774-4946 if you would like to join us. Maximum number of participants is 10.

Karmic Relationships – currently full

Working through Rudolf Steiner's Karmic Relationships Cycle of lectures. Call James Lee for information 503/249-3804.

Life Beyond Death – currently full

Reading the collection of Steiner's lectures. Cheri Munske 503/772-2632.

Mystery Dramas

Wednesdays 7:00-9:00 p.m. Call Diane Rumage at (503) 240-0908

Portland Waldorf School Community Choir

Every Thursday morning from 8:45 - 10:00 AM (2300 SE Harrison Street, Milwaukie). Warm ups with Diane Rowley. Singing songs: through the seasons, around the world, through the ages with Marion Van Namen. (503) 956-4046.

Waldorf Education and Teacher Training

Lectures and courses conducted throughout the year by the Michael Institute. Contact John Miles at 503/774-4946.

johncmiles@usa.net

Theosophy

Thursdays, weekly 7.30PM-9.00PM. Call Beth Wieting for information 503-774-8764

Theosophy of the Rosicrucians

A weekly study group Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00 PM. A series of lectures given by Rudolf Steiner in Munich 22 May to 6 June, 1907. Contact Diane Rumage at (503) 240-0908.

Work on the Six Basic Exercises

Weekly Saturdays 9:00-10:00 AM
2/25-3/11-3/18- 3/25 at 3135 NE 17TH Avenue, contact Jannebeth Röell at 503-249-3807. March 4 the meeting will take place at Cheri Munske's home.

Upcoming Events

JANUARY 25-MARCH 29

Ten Painting Classes for Adults

Wednesday Mornings 9AM-10AM, 3135 NE 17th Ave, Portland OR 97212. Contact: Jannebeth Röell 503-249-3807 or Jannebeth@mindspring.com

Thursdays MARCH 2-23

The Waldorf Curriculum

Presented by Virginia Berg and John Miles. 3/2: "An Overview of the Waldorf Curriculum"; 3/9: "Before the Nine Year Change" Grades 1, 2 & 3; 3/16: "The Golden Age of Childhood" Grades 3, 4, 5, & 6; 3/23: "The Middle School Years" Grades 6, 7 & 8. Contact John Miles at 503/774-4946. johncmiles@usa.net.

MARCH 15-MAY 17

Art For Adults

Workshops with Valerie Miles, Art Therapist, Wednesday from 10.00 AM to 12 noon at her studio, 12160 SE Mt Scott Blvd, Portland OR 97266 Call 503 774-4946 to reserve a place.

Friday MARCH 16

All-School Community Open House

A Celebration of Curriculum: 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Join us the PWS community for a special look at the curriculum: excerpts from plays, musical performances, projects and student work on display. For information call Maya Muir at Portland Waldorf School 503.654.2200 x207

Sunday, MARCH 19

Portland Branch Members Meeting

Bothmer Hall 3:00 PM until 5:00 PM

Monthly meeting of the Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society.

Tuesday MARCH 21

Eugene Schwartz - Childhood Regained: How Waldorf Curriculum Meets the Challenge

Cedarwood School 3030 SW 2nd Ave. 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Master Teacher and famed Author of The Millennial Child will speak in Portland. The Lecture takes place from 7:00-8:30pm followed by questions and answers from 8:30-9:00pm. Call (503) 245-1477 for information. Open to the public.

Thursday MARCH 23

Eugene Schwartz - Transforming Education in the 21st Century

Cedarwood School 3030 SW 2nd Ave. 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Master Teacher and famed Author of The Millennial Child will speak in Portland. The Lecture takes place from 7:00-8:30pm followed by questions and answers from 8:30-9:00pm. Call (503) 245-1477 for information. Open to the public

Beginning Monday MARCH 27

Examples of Music Therapy for Children

7:00 pm Bothmer Hall, 5909 SE Division Street, Portland.

Every last Monday of the month come join us for a hands-on experience of children who benefited from anthroposophic music therapy. You will have an opportunity to play the instruments they played, and do their exercises. For more information, contact Marion Van Namen, music therapist and Waldorf teacher (503)956-4046.

Wednesday MARCH 29

How to Create a Healthy Environment for Your Child's Development

Parenting Talk at Woodstock Community Center, 5905 SE 43rd St. from 7:00 - 8:00PM. A free public talk by Waldorf Early Childhood teacher Cyndia Ashkar. For information call Maya Muir at Portland Waldorf School 503.654.2200 x207

Thursdays MARCH 30-MAY 11**Experiencing Art in the Waldorf School**

3/30 "Form Drawing"; 4/6: "Block Crayon Drawing"; 5/4: "Wet-on-Wet Painting"; 5/11: "Freehand Geometry". Contact John Miles at 503/774-4946. johncmiles@usa.net

Saturday APRIL 1**Open House Shining Star School**

4635 NE 9th Street, 10 AM-12 PM. The new 4-day grades class will have space for 30 children to join together Mon-Thursdays, 9 am to 2 pm, and will offer the rich stories and arts of Waldorf, foreign language, handwork, and biodynamic gardening. Please apply early as space is limited. Phone 503 753 4459 or visit our website at <http://www.shiningstarschool.com/>

Saturday APRIL 1**Eurythmy Extravaganza**

Portland Eurythmy invites you to our end of term presentation. Included this term are presentations by the PWS High School Troupe, Teacher Training Students as well as our Eurythmy Training Students. 7:00PM at Portland Waldorf School Gym. Natasha Moss 503-233 0663 nmoss@easystreet.com.

Friday-Sunday, MARCH 31-APRIL 2**Retreat for Carrying Anthroposophical Groups and Branches**

Connections: Awakening to Community a retreat for people committed to carrying anthroposophical work in groups and branches at the beautiful Walker Creek Ranch in Petaluma, California. The cost is \$60 for the conference and \$184 to \$276 for lodging at the ranch, with a \$50 optional fee for roundtrip airport limo service. If you are interested in attending, please call Beth Wieting 503/774-8764.

Sunday APRIL 9**First Class of the School of Spiritual Science**

Bothmer Hall, Blue card required – Discussion at 8:30 AM, class at 9:30 AM sharp. Please contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3807.

APRIL 9-16**Holy Week Readings**

Join us for a reading of the "Events of Holy Week", chapter ten of Emil Bock's "The Three Years" in the week leading up to Easter Sunday April 16, 2006. We will gather at 7:00 pm, sing Easter music, read from the above mentioned book and gather for bread and juice at the following homes:

Palm Sunday 4/9 Lucia Mello 5534 SW Pendleton St 503-892-5296
 Monday 4/10 John and Joan Takacs, 3628 Tenino St 503-234-1531
 Tuesday 4/11 Jannebeth Röell, 3135 NE 17th Ave, 503-249 3807
 Wednesday 4/12 Patricia Dair, 223 SE 62nd Ave, 503-236- 2205
 Thursday 4/13 Pam Guettler, 19265 SE Heuke Road 503-658-8197
 Good Friday 4/14 M. Van Namen, 2931 SE Woodward St.#5 503-956-4046
 Saturday 4/15 Valerie Hope, 2606 SE 58th Ave, 503-775-0778
 Easter Sunday 4/16 S. Elsas, 9510 SW View Point Ter 503- 244-2277

APRIL 17 21**Painting Workshop**

Valerie Miles from 10.30am to 12.30pm at The Studio, 12160 SE Mt Scott Blvd for students grade 6 and older. Call 503 774-4946 to reserve a place.

Sunday APRIL 23**Life at the Gate of Death**

7.30 PM-9.00 PM An Easter festival for members and friends, with contributions from Virginia Sease and Paul Mackay, at the Rudolf Steiner Centre, 3473 Delbrook Avenue, North Vancouver BC

Monday APRIL 24**Building Heart Thinking**

8.00 PM-9.15 PM, Meeting of the Vancouver BC Members Group, members and friends of the Anthroposophical Society are welcome. Virginia Sease and Paul Mackay will join with the group in ongoing work. Rudolf Steiner Centre, 3473 Delbrook Avenue, North Vancouver BC. Please contact Philip Thatcher (604-985-3569) or Monique Walsh (604-926-5579).

Sunday MAY 14**First Class of the School of Spiritual Science**

Bothmer Hall, Blue card required – Discussion at 8:30 AM, class at 9:30 AM sharp. Please contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3807.

Sunday JUNE 11**First Class of the School of Spiritual Science**

Bothmer Hall, Blue card required – Discussion at 8:30 AM, class at 9:30 AM sharp. Please contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3807.

JUNE 12-15**Waldorf Home Schooling Workshop**

Micha-el Institute Summer Conference at Shining Star. Please contact John Miles at 503/774-4946. johncmiles@usa.net

JUNE 18-29**The Healing Arts of Puppetry and Story-telling**

Micha-el Institute Summer Early Childhood Intensive Conference at PWS Speakers and leaders include Suzanne Down, John Miles, Cheri Munske, Sonia Boucher and Andrea Eichinger Wiese. Please contact John Miles at 503/774-4946. johncmiles@usa.net

JUNE 20-25**Beyond Polarities - An International Youth Conference**

Summerfield Waldorf School and Farm, 655 Willowside Road Santa Rosa, California, 95401 Join us in Northern California at Summerfield Waldorf School and Farm from June 20th to 25th for lectures, workshops, artistic activities and discussions. This international youth conference will host Denis Klocek as the keynote speaker. Camping facilities, food and transportation organization will be provided. www.beyondpolarities.org.

Sunday JULY 9**First Class of the School of Spiritual Science**

Bothmer Hall, Blue card required – Discussion at 8:30 AM, class at 9:30 AM sharp. Please contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3807.

JULY 9-14 and JULY 16-21**The Class Teacher Deepening Conferences**

Micha-el Institute Summer Conference: 7/9-14 Grades 1, 2, 3 & 4 at PWS. 7/16-21 Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8 at PWS Contact John Miles at 503/774-4946. johncmiles@usa.net

Wednesday JULY 19 – Sunday JULY 23,**The Mystery of Movement: Treating Human Illness as Movement Disorder**

Reed College Campus, Portland, Oregon,
 Contact drkev@involved.com; 503-234-1531; 503-936-8445

Sunday to Tuesday August 13-15, 2006**Finding the Healing Forces in Plants: Awakening Inner Capacities**

Portland, Oregon

We cordially invite all those interested in Nature and healing who would like to deepen their observational skills, and discover through art and conversation the hidden qualities in plants. We will learn to observe the invisible. This conference is of special interest to teachers, parents, therapists, doctors and those working on the land. Internationally known lecturer and teacher Jannebeth Röell will lead the sessions offered by the Natural Science/ Mathematic-Astronomic sections of the School of Spiritual Science. No prior training is needed to attend. Please address inquiries to Patricia Dair at patriciadair@comcast.net 503/236-2205

Thursday to Sunday AUGUST 17-20**School of Spiritual Science: Conference on the Flower**

This conference by the **Natural Science/Astronomic and Mathematic Section** of the General Anthroposophical Society is offered to First Class members. For more information, please contact Patricia Dair 503/236-2205.

**DETAILED INFORMATION, ADDITIONAL LISTINGS AND FLIERS
 CAN BE FOUND ON THE INTERNET CALENDAR AT
WWW.PORTLANDBRANCH.COM**

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION INFORMATION AND DEADLINES

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES should be submitted to anthroposophy@earthlink.net not later than the first day of each month. Please include a short biography of two to three lines and a shoulder to head picture of the author with each submittal.

EDITORIAL REVIEW – Newsletter articles received at the last minute may have to be published in a later newsletter edition due to revision work when this is necessary.

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS should be submitted by e-mail to the newsletter at branchcalendar@mindspring.com not later than the first day of each month. Late entries cannot be assured a place in the forthcoming newsletter. If the submission is more than a short blurb about the event, then early submission is requested.

WEBSITE items submitted for the calendar or publication in the newsletter as an article will be published on the Portland Branch website at www.portlandbranch.com.

NEWSLETTER TEAM MEMBERS

The Portland Branch Newsletter production and editorial team includes Jannebeth Röell, Diane Rumage and James Lee. John Miles copies the newsletter. We are currently interested to find one or two additional people to help us with production and mailing. If you are interested, drop us a line at anthroposophy@earthlink.net. We will respond!

RECEIVE THE PORTLAND BRANCH NEWSLETTER

Many people have requested to receive the Portland Branch Newsletter by e-mail so they can print and read it at home. This reduces the budget for producing the newsletter considerably. The newsletter is also available at the Steiner Storehouse, the Portland Waldorf School, the Cedarwood School, and Swallowtail School. If you received the newsletter by e-mail and would like to receive a hard copy, let us know at anthroposophy@earthlink.net.