

Portland Anthroposophic Times

Newsletter of the Portland Branch of Anthroposophical Society in Portland, Oregon

www.portlandbranch.com

Volume 3.8 August 2007

YOU MAY WELL ASK

A poetic picture inspired by the work of Rudolf Steiner in *Occult Science*.

By Stuart Demmy, California

Is it not a Mystery,
What is our Earth's real History?
You may well ask, "Whence comes our Earth,
What gives it form, Who gave it birth?"
These questions large are difficult
For any science not occult.
But Rudolf Steiner was a man
Who told us how it all began.
Already born with second sight,
He further worked with all his might
To school his gifts to higher knowing,
And keep his vision ever growing.
His life became an inner fight
As scientist, to see aright.
Then revealed through meditation,
Came secrets of our earth's creation.
Visions from the ancient yonder,
Visions bold and strange to ponder.
He then wrote books and gave some talks,
Which will knock off all of your socks.
What he told will quite amaze;
(I can only paraphrase):

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Once long ago, I can't say when,
It was before there was a Then,
Time had not come, Space wasn't there.
Don't ask me why, it isn't fair.
This nowhere place of which you'll learn,
We'll give the name of Old Saturn.
Our solar system we call "space",
We're used to it - it's our home place.
But if you saw its first inceptions,
You'd be shocked, you'd have conniptions.
So unlike our current world,
The space back then, it writhed and swirled.
Not a thing that you could sense,
Only seething emptiness.
The cosmos lay in chaos still,
Until the Thrones infused their Will.

Mighty beings, flaming towers,
Who sacrificed to higher powers,
Gave themselves in exaltation,
That they might serve a new creation.
They acted out of Courage grave,
And Saturn filled with Will so brave.
If we ask why they did this deed,
Surely we see they planted a seed
Of future life that could evolve,
This task they took with great resolve.
And why was Will the substance used,
And empty space with it infused?
We cannot know, but can opine:
Will must be substance near-Divine.
And can be used for new creation,
Of planets great, of mighty station.
Like a seed, Will lay asleep
In Saturn's core, in darkness deep.
And on the edge far from this center,
Other Spirits now did enter.
Round Saturn formed an atmosphere
Of Beings great, with mission clear.
It is unto the first of these,
We give the name, Kyriotetes.
These Wisdom Spirits did a feat:
With Saturn's Will, they blended Heat.
Through Saturn's innermost dimension,
They sent their warmth with firm intention.
Throughout the Will, Heat flowed along,
Forming a great, etheric throng
Of heat-filled forms, so fine and fair,
It seemed that they were barely there.
From just these forms in time would grow,
The human body that we know.
But forget now their future glory,
In sequence must we tell our story.
Our bodies then were not alive;
By Will alone did they survive.
They served a goal in one direction;
Back out they sent a true reflection
Of the living force of these
Which we called Kyriotetes.
It's mirroring that constitutes
One of Old Saturn's attributes.
It had this one unique effect:
It could not live, but could reflect.
Then gathered round it, in succession,
An exalted, great procession
Of Spirits proud and wise and good;
They were a divine Brotherhood.

Each Spirit group, it took its turn
To send its force into Saturn.
Old Saturn vast, it then reflected
What into it had been directed.
What I tell is no malarkey:
Each and every Hierarchy
Had a force, a specialty,
That was its gift, its cup of tea.
What was sent in, was then sent back;
I'm told it's true, it is a fact.
Sensation, feeling, light and taste,
Sounds and smells, there was no waste.
All these were put into the stew.
And so I'm sure that even you
Can see what now this process starts:
Worlds to come would have their parts.
The stuff that living beings need
To live, to feel, to sense, to breed,
Is started here and organized
For future growth to realize.
But I mentioned that reflection -
Please don't let me lose direction.
The Spirit Beings each received
Reflections that did them well feed.
What was outside came back to them
And they could know themselves therein.
And in this knowing, in this seeing,
Each moved up the Chain of Being.
Thereby the Kyriotetes
Took part in reciprocities.
And man, at first a web of heat,
Received a body more complete.
But now these great tasks are fulfilled;
Mighty process can be stilled.
How was this phase of Saturn ended?
'Twas a closing long intended.
I hope you do not call me liar,
When I tell you of Pralaya.
Just as folk like you and I
Every night need our shut-eye,
So also does the cosmos wide
Need a time in which to hide,
A time to disappear from view,
To sleep and rest, and to renew.
So all we've seen, all that I've told,
Cosmic darkness did enfold.
Old Saturn in that vastness deep:
Truth to tell, it went to sleep!
Creation disappeared from view,
What happened next?
See Chapter Two!

An Interview with Roswitha Spence

By Cheri Munske, Portland, Oregon

Cheri Munske has been a puppeteer since 1989 and founded the Wool Horse Puppet Theater in 1992. She has performed time-honored tales of hope, love and redemption from many traditions around the world at hospitals and other therapeutic settings, libraries, schools, and festivals. In 2003 Cheri participated in the final group to take Roswitha Spence's "World of Puppetry" Course at Emerson College. Roswitha is now retired from this world of puppetry, but has many insightful thoughts on the subject. The following is the first in a series of interviews with her, which was conducted in Sussex England in the Spring of 2007.

Cheri Munske (CM): How did you become interested in puppetry?

Roswitha Spence (RS): I was bullied into it by Francis Edmunds (founder of Emerson College) and John Davy! My skills and background are in professional theater, designing and costuming, especially Shakespeare plays, as well as working in a variety of arts and crafts. I also had a Waldorf education. After some years working on several plays with Francis, he told me that I should do puppetry. I said, "no", and we went back and forth for ages. John Davy also tried persuading me, but my answer remained "no". Eventually, however, it became a matter of "if you can't beat 'em...try it out"!

If you are interested to learn more about the Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society, please call Diane Rumage at (360) 241-7854.

The Portland Branch Thanks the following Members and Friends for their Generous Donations in 2007!

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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 wider anthroposophical community. Printed copies of the newsletter are available at the Steiner Storehouse, Portland Waldorf School, Cedarwood Waldorf School, Waldorf School of Bend 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. The deadline for submissions to the *Portland Anthroposophic Times* is the first day of each month for publication in that month's edition. Submit calendar items to branchcalendar@mindspring.com no later than the first of each month for publication in the next edition.

Editor:.....James Lee
 Calendar:Jannebeth Röell and Diane Rumage
 Editorial Support:.....Jannebeth Röell and Diane Rumage
 Proofreading:..... Diane Rumage
 Communications:Diane Rumage and Jannebeth Röell
 Logistics Tish Johnson and Donna Kellum
 Website:James Lee
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During our Shakespeare productions Francis Edmunds trained me to look at the constitution of the soul in costuming a character: how the character manifests in the sense of the astral in colour, the etheric in the texture of fabric and the body in style, form and shape. When the whole ego of the character is sheathed in this way, the actor has a greater possibility of reaching across the footlights to create a deeper inner experience for the audience. Francis also taught me to penetrate my professional experiences in costuming at the London Opera house and the Royal Shakespeare Theater, (Stratford-on-Avon) with an anthroposophical understanding, to make the whole play more accessible to the audience on every level.

So how to translate this into the tiny world of puppets was my question. In the beginning I tried puppetry "according to the book", and this resulted in a kind of "sclerosis": the wooden limbs and hinges giving wooden movements. In addition I found this method too complicated for students to learn in one term. I therefore invented a puppet I could manage to teach. I researched, along with two friends, a process of modeling heads, and found each head I created turned into a "gargoyle monster", I would squish it out and the same little demon came to mock me again. I then found the only way to redeem this "monster" was to not squish it out but make the face younger, taking it right to the innocence of a baby, before allowing it to grow again, and made many discoveries along the way. Thus the study of the human head and the face from babyhood to old age became an ever more exciting adventure of awe-filled wonder.

This research inevitably led to a study of the whole human form, in structure and movement, in character and soul quality. So that for me, the art of puppetry became ever more a question of who or what is the human being, and who is wanting to manifest in a puppet, through the hands of each individual student.

I was then faced with a need to create a puppet, as well as a manipulative tool or manner of handling, which would not only be relatively simple to construct, but also easy to control

the puppet with. The crafting process also needed to be manageable in the given course time, while leaving the possibility for the artistic experience to have all the time it needs.

The ideal situation would be a course for making puppets and a separate course for playing, story creating and performing, so that all the skills involved in theater production could also be realized in miniature in the puppet theater.

My research led me to create a puppet that was basically head, hands and feet, connected by leather straps and covered by a loose costume, plus a simple cross out of wood dowling with a rocker for walking the feet. So “Max” was born. I had no idea how the students (at Emerson College) would respond to offering them a course, let alone did I know how to run such a course! But I risked taking my hardly finished “Max” to introduce to the Foundation Year students, telling the group that if anyone would be interested in helping me find out what this world of puppetry is all about, they would be welcome to join me. To my utter amazement I had more people sign up than I had room for. And thus began a new career of magic. Once again Francis Edmunds and John Davy were proved right! My thanks to their patience and faith in me.

CM: What is it about puppetry in particular that has drawn you into working with this medium for these past 20 years?

RS: Puppets have a quality of simplicity, humour and understanding that cannot be found in other aspects of theater. And because they are not burdened by karma and complicated life hang-ups, their message is absolutely pure. Puppets reach to the very heart, without judgment, irony, sarcasm or the human temperament and how it is used by any particular person. A puppet is able to reach something in the soul of the onlooker that is so unthreatening it enables a child, a troubled person or a skeptic to be absolutely won over. I have seen many variations of this when performing with “Max” and have seen how not only children, but adults, even “stiff-upper-lip” types, weep and then become embarrassed, not understanding why. What is going on here, where and how are they being touched?

Life is so controlled by the media, the need to earn a living, the need to keep pace, that we build a shell as protection around ourselves and lose sight of our inner star. When suddenly something comes along and pierces this shell, it creates unexpected feelings, even turmoil for some people. In a certain sense, we could also ask the question “why art?” or “why play?”. It is that playful quality, the “true play” of taking time out of the everyday, the play of the most important kind, that draws one in to the wondrous magic world of the puppet.

CM: Would you describe your process of puppet making and the research which lies behind it?

RS: In researching the modeling of the head, it was important to not only create a “thing” of a head, but to try to reach the personality of the puppet. I used plasticine (for warmth, as opposed to wet clay), and while modeling, I pondered a lot, remembering different events, going further and further back in my own biography. I even asked myself why I was not able to remember the day I was born, the time before I was born, what it was like to die, my previous life, etc. Because I am convinced of the phenomenon of reincarnation, I did not understand why I could not remember events I must have participated in. These ponderings were somehow modeled into a plasticine sphere as an Imagination.



I found this sphere was like a representation, an image of a kind of cosmos out of which we are all born. So in order to help it reach towards earth I

pulled the lower side of this sphere down, creating an egg shape that could very easily be a head shape with its point as a chin. Next I looked for a face, and found the various dents made in the modeling process quickly gave an impression of someone looking out. But however hard I tried, the face always reappeared and had a mocking quality. The only way I could think of getting through to the more human was to search for the innocence and so I made it younger and younger until it became the head and face of a baby. Having found my way to the baby face, I saw there how changed the proportions were within this face, the beautiful curve above the brow and back-head, the tiny snub nose, rounded cheeks and soft contours of the mouth and chin, so transformed from the caricature I had before. Then I began to coax the plasticine into features of an older person. As I continued working to allow the features to age, I experienced how the youthful forces in the young are burgeoning from within, and as we grow older, the outer forces and struggles of life press into our face and body, and create – or make visible – the aging process.

Rudolf Steiner speaks of the human form in relationship to the world around us, and I have been very struck by the concept that our skull, which holds the brain and our capacity to think, is like the mighty dome of the heavens, with the stars shining for our enlightened thinking. The feeling realm is represented in the middle of the face, with the nose, the breathing in and out and the exchange we experience there with the airy body of the earth. And the chin, like the “limb” of our head as an expression of our will. Between the chin and nose is our mouth, and here we can see not only how we penetrate the earth, eat of the earth’s substance, but also how it allows us to



speaking on the breath, bridging the world of willing and feeling. Between the breathing / feeling and thinking brow lie the eyes, which not only look out into the world but also look inward to our more soul-spiritual being. When we then look at the ears we can see this three-fold featuring again: the lobe like a chin, the upper rounded sweep like the dome of the head and in between those intricate forms that shape sounds for our listening.

I once met a very wise puppeteer whose puppets never had any eyes, just hollows in the shape corresponding to the character. When I questioned her about this, she said it is impossible to make the glance of a person physical, the eyes are the windows of the soul which allow the expression of the person to shine through. I tried it out for myself, and found these puppets were able not only to focus on what they seemed to be looking at, but also gave the impression as though they were either crying or laughing, depending on the moment. In my studies I came across a paragraph by Rudolf Steiner where he speaks about the evolutionary process of the forming of the eyes, and describes how it was the “wounding of the light” that gave us sight and that the watering of our eyes is still a memory of this. So now I had to find the courage to “wound” my puppet head and to my astonishment it was like waking him up and immediately he “spoke” his name to me. Thus “Max” was born.

When looking back on this process in order to find a way of teaching puppetry to students, I discovered it had been a seven-stage development: the sphere, the egg, the caricature, the baby, the older personality, the sight and finally the name. And when sharing the journey with students their response was such that it seemed a kind of magic had been discovered and as a result it became my method for every puppet head modeling ever since.

Rudolf Steiner tells us that our head is a metamorphosis of the sum of all of our previous incarnations. It is the oldest part of us, whereas the limbs are our future and reach out into the world, shaping that future. So for me, the body of the puppet had to be very flexible and allow for a maximum amount of movement. As a result, only hands and feet of the marionettes were shaped in such a way to give focus, and the legs, arms and trunk just connected with a leather strap, (including a lead counter-weight at the hips to steady movement) and covered with a soft fabric costume to give the appearance of a filled-out body.

However, this is only the result of my own research. I am convinced that each puppeteer and artist should feel free to find their individual method and direction of work. So this is offered more as a starter to launch you on your way. It is important to emphasize that ceaseless experimentation be taken up when creating puppets, and in the process welcome all mistakes and blind alleys thrown in your way, as these will teach far more than any advice ever could. Allow your fantasy full reign and venture into areas of so-called “impossibility”. Allow your hands to be your teacher and enjoy the ride!

Branch Council Notes

New Branch Council Meeting Date

The Branch Council has moved its board meetings to the last Wednesday of each month. We continue to meet at the house of Tom Klein and Ruth Klein at 3609 SE Center Street. Please feel free to attend any of these meetings, which start at 7:30 PM sharp. Call (503) 777-3176 for information.

July Meeting Notes

☆ At our most recent meeting, we planned the Annual Meeting (September 16th, Sunday, 4-6:30 PM) to be held at the home of James Lee and Jannebeth Röell located at 3135 NE 17th Ave. Call (503) 249-3807 for information.

☆ The Branch Council voted to place \$1,000 into a Certificate of Deposit earmarked for future purposes (perhaps a home for the Branch).

☆ We are finalizing the plans for the Portland Branch Fall Conference, The Seeds of Anthroposophy, to be held October 26-27, 2007. The Branch Council invites everyone to study *Art As A Spiritual Activity* by Michael Howard, to prepare for the conference. Michael Howard is the keynote speaker.

Elections Notice

Per the by-laws, the Portland Branch will be electing seven or more members to serve on the Council for one-year terms. The elections will take place at the Annual Meeting in September (tentative date Saturday Sept 15, 4-6:30 pm). Anyone who has an interest in a position on the Council should contact Cheri Munske, Secretary, to submit their name and a short-bio or statement of interest. We would really like to have these returned in time to send on September 1st with the notice of the Annual Meeting. Anyone may nominate another member for a position but PLEASE discuss this with

the nominee first. Cheri can be reached by email at woolhorse@mindspring.com or in writing at Cheri Munske, Elections, 7652 SE Lincoln Street, Portland, OR 97215.

Branch Directory Updates Requested

The Council would like to print an addendum to the Branch Directory. If you have moved or changed your e-mail address, mailing address or phone, please let Marsha Johnson know so she can update the files. Also, let her know if you are NOT on the Branch roster and would like to be. Marsha Johnson, oregon7@aol.com or 503 309 4223 (Cell, leave details). A draft of a descriptive Branch Informational brochure with membership information will be reviewed at the August meeting.

Advertising Opportunity

Portland Branch Newsletter Ads offer a tremendous value to a very special group of people, and the ads help support publication of the newsletter. Happily, there are some open spots, to be reserved by anyone who has a business or enterprise that serves the anthroposophical community. The time to re-new or join in is now, in August, as ads contracts run from September to September. For only \$120 per year you can have a business card sized ad space, to be displayed on our beautiful and Highly Frequented Web Page AND a Color Ad in our e-mailed monthly newsletter which is distributed to hundreds of people. A printed black & white version will be printed in paper copies. For \$240 per year, a DOUBLE sized ad is available! Marvelous! Please consider your needs and contact Marsha Johnson at Oregon7@aol.com (Marsha is happy to help you create a special ad, too! For Free!) or call 503 309 4223.

Respectfully Betty Baldwin, Marsha Johnson, Tom Klein, Ruth Klein, John Miles, Cheri Munske, and Walter Rice.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION COULD LIMIT OUR ACCESS TO COMPOUNDED MEDICATIONS

Bob Kellum, Portland, OR

In the wake of a conversation we had recently on a legislative bill currently being sponsored by Senators Kennedy, Roberts and Burr, James Lee has asked me to write a brief note, which he felt would be of interest to our community. The bill in question would place control of compounding pharmacies in the hands of the FDA, which wants to severely restrict their activities. Compounding pharmacies, such as Uriel, make the individualized remedies that are so much a part of anthroposophical medicine's unique, personal approach. This legislation would greatly curtail our access to these medicines. A coalition of nine pharmacy organizations, representing more than 60,000 pharmacists, has expressed a number of concerns that this legislation, if passed, would:

⇒ Insert the FDA into the physician-patient relationship by giving the Agency the authority to determine broadly when compounded medications are needed.

⇒ Create new requirements for physicians to document when compounded medications are needed, duplicating the underlying purpose of a prescription.

⇒ Prohibit well-established compounding practices authorized by stringent state pharmacy laws and regulations. For example, this bill would restrict the ability of prescribers to prescribe and administer compounded medications for office use, a critical function explicitly allowed by many State Boards of Pharmacy that enables prescribers to prescribe and administer certain compounded medicines that patients cannot administer themselves, such as injectables.

⇒ Broadly eliminate the availability of many critical, commonly compounded sterile preparations, particularly those commonly prescribed by physicians in hospitals.

⇒ Call for FDA to establish federal requirements for sterile compounding that duplicate and supersede those already established by the U.S. Pharmacopeia, while also requiring these medications to carry a label reading: "This drug was not prepared using FDA's manufacturing standards for sterile drugs"

⇒ Severely restrict interstate distribution of compounded medications, and thus endanger many patients served by pharmacies practicing near state borders, "snowbird" patients whose hometown pharmacies continue to serve them during winter months, and patients living in rural communities who may be hundreds of miles away from the nearest compounding pharmacy.

⇒ Dilute the FDA's resources, which are already severely strained in addressing the overwhelming backlog of manufactured drugs pending approval, and in the strict oversight of the source ingredients that both pharmacies and manufacturers use.

⇒ Give wider authority over compounded medications to a federal agency, the FDA, thereby removing the current authority of State Boards of Pharmacy. Just as State Boards of Medicine regulate medical practice, State Boards of Pharmacy regulate pharmacy, and pharmacists feel that their regulatory authority should be preserved as a more efficient and practical body. The FDA, for example, while expressing strong interest in taking over the regulation of compounding pharmacy practice, has yet to revise poorly written compliance policy guides, despite three and four year-old requests of more than one hundred Members of Congress to do so.

⇒ Create regulations that do little to improve patient safety while significantly impeding the ability of community pharmacies to continue to provide these services for their patients and prescriber community.

If you would like to help defeat this bill, you can go to the P2C2 (Patients & Professionals for Customized Care) homepage at: www.SAVEMYMEDICINE.org. They make it very easy to write our representatives with a click of your mouse, as well as providing other information and actions you can consider taking.

Portland Anthroposophical Society Calendar - August 2007

Ongoing Events and Study Groups

Anthroposophical Medicine Study Group

Once a month Monday 7-8:30 PM at the clinic. Please contact John Takacs at docstakacs@comcast.net or Kevin Kane at drkev@involved.com.

Biodynamic Agriculture Reading Group

The biodynamic reading group is reading Steiner's Agriculture Book. Our group meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays at the Parker's, 5720 SE Harney Dr in Portland. We begin with a potluck at 5:30 and start reading at 6. Please contact Sharon Parker at (503) 777-9086 or sharon.parker@providence.org.

Eurythmy

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

Karmic Relationships

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

Mystery Dramas, with Warm-Up Speech-Formation Exercises

Two Wednesdays a month, 7:30 - 9:00 PM in NE Portland. Currently working with Rudolf Steiner's *Portal of Initiation* and the *Genesis* lectures. No acting experience necessary, just a love of the Word. Call Diane Rumage at 360 241-7854 for information.

Occult Physiology

A weekly study group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00 PM. A series of eight lectures given in Prague between 20 and 28 March, 1911. We are in the middle of our second pass through this book. Please join us. In *An Occult Physiology*, Rudolf Steiner represents the human organism as much more than conventional medical science would even consider. He describes it in form and function, and in its very evolution, as the expression of activities of soul and spirit, both human and super-human. Contact Diane Rumage at 360 241-7854 for information.

Portland Youth Discussion Group

The Portland Youth Discussion Group, a group of people youthful in mind, body and spirit, gathers to discuss questions of how Anthroposophy compares and relates to other ideas in the realms of philosophy, spirituality, religion, economics, social activism, individual and social development, and relationships. We welcome new people who are open to exploring Spiritual Science and conducting their own research to join us. We meet on the first and third Mondays of the month to share a meal, an artistic, musical or physical activity, and a discussion. We rotate conversation facilitators at each meeting and our readings change, based on the interest of the facilitator. For more information, please contact Leslie Loy at (503) 819-3399 or leslielal@yahoo.com.

Portland Waldorf School Community Choir

Every Friday morning from 8:45 - 10:00 am (at the Portland Waldorf School, 2300 SE Harrison Street, Milwaukie) in the music room of the high school building, whenever school is in session. Anyone in- and outside the PWS community who enjoys singing songs through the seasons, across the centuries and around the world is very welcome, including drop ins. This event is free and a community builder. More information: Marion Van Namen (503)956-4046.

Resumes Friday September 7th

Subsidiary Exercises

The group that is working with the six basic subsidiary exercises will continue to meet at Twila Rothrock's home, 2525 NE 13th Ave, Portland, OR 97212, For information call Twila at (503) 281-9349 or write her by e-mail at Twila@spiritone.com. Meeting dates are on Saturdays 9-10 AM: August 11, exercise 3; September 8 exercise 4; October 13, exercise 5; November 10, exercise 6 (all together).

Upcoming Events

AUGUST 20- AUGUST 28

Micha-el Institute -Summer Courses

8/20 - 23 Home Schooling Workshop at Shining Star School; 8/24 - 28 Foundation Conference at Portland Waldorf School, 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie. Contact 503 774-4946 or email johncmiles@usa.net

AUGUST 16-26

Spacial Dynamics Course

Mechanicville NY, contact johntakacsdo@hotmail.com

AUGUST 20-23

Third Annual Shining Star Waldorf Home Schooling Conference

This will be a four day intensive course for parents, teachers, therapists, or others who work with children in an educative or therapeutic setting. Will include lectures by Marsha Johnson and John Miles, with insights from anthroposophy, 9 AM-3 PM, bring your own lunch, snack is provided. Childcare is available for a fee, and home school kits can be purchased. Conference is located at 4317 NE Emerson Street, Portland, OR 97218. Register by contacting John Miles at 503-774- 4946

Wednesday, AUGUST 29

Portland Branch Council Meeting

7.30 PM at the home of Tom Klein and Ruth Klein, 3609 SE Center, Portland OR 97202, phone: 503-777-3176. All Branch members are welcome to attend.

Thursday, AUGUST 30

Christopher Star Open House

A new program is opening at Shining Star for children with special needs. 7:00 PM-9:00 PM at 602 NE Prescott, Portland Contact Betty Baldwin, special needs program director (503/753 4459) for more information. Please come by during open house hours to find out about the program, meet Betty Baldwin and to see our facilities.

AUGUST 24-26

Healing Our Earth and Healing Ourselves

The Biodynamic Farming and Gardening Association National Conference at Rudolf Steiner College, 9200 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks, CA. For information and registration, contact the Biodynamic Farming and Gardening Association at 1-888-516-7797, biodynamic@aol.com, or www.biodynamics.com.

Submit your calendar item to
branchcalendar@earthlink.net

SEPTEMBER 6-27**Micha-el Institute –Introductory Course ‘Rudolf Steiner’s Indications on Child Development’**

9/6 Human Biography; 9/13 The Three Ages of Childhood; 9/20 The Waldorf Curriculum and the consciousness of children; 9/27 Working with Temperaments; held in the Music Room at Portland Waldorf School, 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie. Contact John Miles at 503 774-4946 or e-mail him at johncmiles@usa.net

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 8**Christopher Star Open House**

A new program is opening at Shining Star for children with special needs. 10:00AM-1:00PM at 602 NE Prescott, Portland
See Thursday, August 30th for additional information.

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 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.

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 16**Annual Meeting of the Portland Branch**

4 PM-6.30 PM at James Lee and Jannebeth Röell’s home, 3135 NE 17th Ave, Portland OR 97212; Telephone: 503-249-3807. See the Council article for additional information.

Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 26**Portland Branch Council Meeting**

7.30 PM at the home of Tom Klein and Ruth Klein, 3609 SE Center, Portland OR 97202, phone: 503-777-3176. All Branch members are welcome to attend.

OCTOBER 4 – NOVEMBER 1**Micha-el Institute – Introductory Course in Anthroposophy’**

10/4 The Worlds of Soul & Spirit; 10/11 The Evolution of the Earth; 10/18 Reincarnation and Karma; 11/1 The Task of Humanity; held in the Music Room at Portland Waldorf School, 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie. Contact 503 774-4946 or email johncmiles@usa.net.

OCTOBER 5 -7, 2007**U.S. Society 2007 AGM Explores Novalis, Reincarnation, Karma**

Spirit Vision for the 21st Century: Novalis and Karmic Biography will be the theme for this fall’s AGM conference, scheduled for October 5—6, 2007. The conference will be hosted by the Novalis Branch in Austin, TX. The 2007 AGM conference will explore the twin ideas of reincarnation and karma through lectures and discussion groups. Speakers will be Joan Almon and MariJo Rogers, General Secretaries of the U.S. Society, Philip Martyn, General Secretary of Great Britain, and Don Melcer, Coordinator of the Foundation Studies Program in Austin. Scenes from Rudolf Steiner’s second Mystery Drama, *The Soul’s Probation*, will be performed by members of the Novalis Branch to bring to life reincarnation and karma as factors in daily life, and Saturday evening will feature a performance by the Austin Eurythmy Ensemble. The Society’s Annual General Meeting follows the conference on Sunday, October 7, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Central Time Zone. Brochures will be sent to all members and initiatives in the spring. If you have questions concerning this conference, please contact Marian León in the Society offices at 734-662-9355, ext 22; email: marian@anthroposophy.org.

Sunday, OCTOBER 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.

OCTOBER 26-27**Seeds of Anthroposophy**

Fall Conference in Portland with keynote speaker Michael Howard. See the attached flyer for additional information on this conference.

Wednesday, OCTOBER 31**Portland Branch Council meeting**

7.30 PM at the home of Tom Klein and Ruth Klein, 3609 SE Center, Portland OR 97202, phone: 503-777-3176. All Branch members are welcome to attend.

NOVEMBER 2-4**Entering the Stream: the Light of Anthroposophy in Adult Education**

The insights of Rudolf Steiner play a significant role in endeavors in many fields of cultural renewal throughout the world today. Biodynamic Agriculture, Anthroposophical Medicine, Spacial Dynamics, Waldorf Education, Camphill Communities and others all share a profound new view of the human being and are making contributions to their disciplines. Educators working in the training of adults in all these fields will be joining to share the unique aspects of their work and to explore some basic questions. What are we learning about human development through our training courses? What is unique about and what are we learning from an anthroposophical approach to adult education and training? What could be gained by sharing our research on best practices in adult education? This weekend conference/colloquium held in Spring Valley, NY November 2, 3 and 4, 2007 will provide an opportunity for adult educators to deepen their understanding of their own and to others approach to working with adults. Sponsored by the Anthroposophical Society, the Council for Anthroposophical Organizations and the Assn. of Waldorf Schools of N. America

Sunday, NOVEMBER 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.

NOVEMBER 15-18**Metamorphosis in Embryology** *Chestnut Ridge, New York*

The Natural Science/Mathematics & Astronomy Section is pleased to announce two conferences at *Sunbridge College*. The dialogue between Form and Motion has been a deep study of the Section in an effort to “read” and understand the processes of, and conditions for, metamorphosis in the physical manifestation of the living world. The task has been to develop within ourselves, “fluidic and metamorphic thinking” that can follow these processes. Inner capacity building is the overall theme of our work.

Metamorphosis in Embryology *November 15 - 18, 2007*: Johannes Kühl will be taking part in our work and will be reporting on Section work in Europe and on the newly renovated Glashaus - with slides! The main presenters will also include Dr. Bertram von Zubern, Michael Howard, and Rudiger Janisch. There will also be reports from members on their research work and a business meeting. The conference will begin with registration before supper on Thursday, November 15 and end after lunch on Sunday, November 18.

NOVEMBER 20-23, 2008**The Embryo in Motion**

This conference will take place *November 20 – 23, 2008* at a location to be determined. The principal presenter will be Dr. Jaap van der Wal, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Anatomy and Embryology at the Universities of Utrecht and Maastricht (The Netherlands). The conference will begin on Thursday evening, the 20th of November, and go through Sunday the 23rd, wrapping up in the evening, giving us three full days of work. The location is not yet set.



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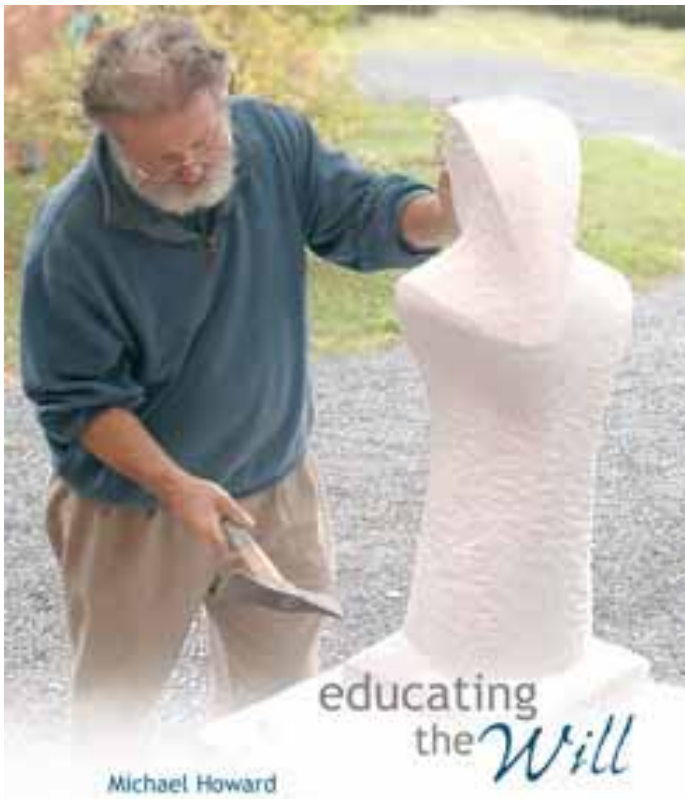
Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society

Seeds of Anthroposophy

Fall Conference – October 26, 27 & 28, 2007

In the last century and a half the world has seen immense changes and the consciousness of human beings has changed even more drastically. Rudolf Steiner tells us that during ancient times mankind lived in close contact with the gods and the spiritual world, but by the 1840s human understanding of the spiritual world had shrunk to virtually no understanding and human beings became enmeshed in materialism. At this time a new impulse from the spiritual worlds allowed human beings in physical life to become gradually re-acquainted with the worlds of spirit. This manifested itself in popular spiritualism and séances and the esoteric learning of Theosophy. Theosophy concerned itself a great deal with ancient wisdom which still existed on earth in a weak hardened form in the East, but to progress on this path of wisdom much of the individuality of western mankind had to be put aside.

One hundred years ago, in 1907, this changed at a meeting between Rudolf Steiner, the secretary of the German Section of the Theosophical Society and Annie Besant, the president of the Theosophical Society. They agreed that the Theosophical Society would work with the ancient esoteric wisdom of the eastern stream and Rudolf Steiner would develop esoteric wisdom of the western stream which would come to human beings through the striving of individuality. These two paths emerged for the first time at the World Congress of the Theosophical Society in Munich.



On Friday and Saturday October 26th and 27th the Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society will hold a two day workshop to investigate the “Seeds of Anthroposophy” that were planted at the Munich Congress of 1907. We hope to hold a preview or overview evening on Thursday, October 24th where Michael Howard, John Miles and Beth Wieting will be giving introductions to the workshop. Michael will be lecturing and conducting artistic workshops over the two days. John and Beth will be giving talks on how these seeds have grown through meditation, social interaction and the emergence of a new education. We will conclude the workshop with a Eurythmy Performance on Saturday evening. Please book these dates so you can join us.

Michael Howard writes: “We will mark this centenary by reexamining Rudolf Steiner’s intentions for incorporating the visual and performing arts as an integral aspect of anthroposophical life and striving. Entering into the nature and significance of artistic forms of metamorphosis will lead us to consider why and how the cultivation of spiritual science must be complemented by the cultivation of spiritual art. In the light of the New Mysteries the visual and performing arts serve to develop the capacities needed for the High Social Art.”

For additional information, contact John Miles at 503 774-4946 or e-mail him at johncmiles@usa.net.