

Portland Anthroposophic Times

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

www.portlandbranch.com

Volume 4.8 August 2008

A Biography of Jerry Juhr

By Diane Rumage, Vancouver, Washington

I grew up with Jerry as an older brother, and two impressions never leave me: his bursting into enthusiastic recitation of poetry, song, words, tasting the syllables and resonance at any moment, as he did throughout this interview, and my going away from any conversation with him feeling so inspired for the spirit and asking myself new questions.

Gerald Dennis Juhr incarnated as the first of five siblings on June 9, 1947 in Corvallis, OR. His father, attending college there after having served in WWII, had built a tiny, tiny house for his wife and expected offspring. A financially struggling ex-GI, prior to enlisting he had scored higher in a math entrance exam than anyone who had ever applied at Univ of OR -- he had left that school when he enlisted in the Navy. But one day Jerry's father's father phoned to Corvallis and said that he was forming a business in General Contracting, and he invited his son to join him. Dad with family moved north to Milwaukie, OR, and Dad built a second house, the family home for the next 50 years. Jerry now lives a few blocks from that house. The construction business which Jerry's grandpa, dad and 2 uncles created, Juhr and Sons, built schools, hospitals and office buildings, over a span of many years, throughout the state and especially in the Portland area. (In 1957 grandpa, Fred, was named and feted as contractor of the year in Oregon). In ensuing years Dad generously provided financial support not only to all his children's college costs but also to his grandchildren's.

Jerry's first memory was of falling and knocking over a cabinet-radio and breaking the top of it. It was a big shock. He also recalls his Dad stepping out of his red pickup and tossing a cigarette butt on the ground. Wanting to do just what Daddy did, Jerry picked up the butt and stuck the still-burning end in his mouth! He remembers the evening when the family relocated to the newly built house - stopping in at his grandpa and grandma's house when in transit.

He apologized today that he had surely sometimes been a typical snotty older brother (though I, his 2nd sister, didn't experience that side). A favorite game was setting up small wooden bowling pins (TEN PINS!, the game was) at one end of a long hallway, and the siblings taking turns rolling a ball at them. This could go on for hours. At the end of that hallway was a well-built buffet for the dining room; there the kids

practiced and practiced doing handstands against the back of the buffet, the 3 sisters having participated for years in acrobatics and dance, and from their example Jerry sought little tastes of competence and weightlessness. -upstaged by his sisters - NEVER!

First around school age his dad took him salmon fishing on the nearby Willamette, and Jerry remembers having to wipe repeatedly the algal green sludge from the upstream paper mills off the fishing line. He didn't catch anything for several years (though I remember a picture of him holding a salmon bigger than he was). They also fished for steelhead at the mouth of the Deschutes past The Dalles and for trout near Warm Springs. His grandpa and grandma took him along for fishing trips to the area that has since become the Sun River resort in Eastern OR - at that time it was an abandoned WWII army camp and airfield, all undeveloped. Sun River is also located on the banks of the Deschutes, south of Bend. Jerry remarked that most rivers flow eastward or westward from the Continental Divide but the Willamette, Deschutes and John Day rivers in Oregon flow south to north. Quite a difference to bring the warmth impulses of the south up to the north.



He enjoyed elementary and high school, both academics and athletics. (He remembers that he hugged and kissed so many of the girls in kindergarten days). His mother, Anita, made sure he attended Catholic grade school, St John the Baptist in Milwaukie. The Scholastic movement and philosophy of the Middle Ages is ensconced in the Catholic Church, and he is sure he was a former Scholastic. The Church continued Mystery teachings, and the various missionary churches were the biggest force for literacy in America, though the content was not that great. Jerry felt devotedly but only partly at home in Catholicism. At school he often alternated between being a "good boy" and a mischievous troublemaker because he liked the girls so much and just didn't like authority. Around 9 years old he became an altar boy and loved Latin. When he was in 4th grade he got the mumps with his younger brother, Tom. After 2 weeks at home he returned to school and the boy students were already into memorizing about 10 Latin sentences (he excitedly recited some for me, after all those years) which the altar boy, who serves the priest but represents the people, says during Mass. Two elements of the Liturgy he really liked: 1) The Gospel of John: "In the Beginning was the Word..." and 2) in the Offertory, the remembering of Christ as depicted by "Through Him and with Him and in Him is to You God the Father..." How can you talk about the Mystery of the Trinity? Going through? Within?

Intimations of the 3-in-1 Holy TRINITY, of the soul and interrelating. He took Latin in high school and loved the structure and grammar of the language.

At 8 years he wore his first pair of glasses for nearsightedness. He feels it indicates being not completely attuned with the world, difficulty and reluctance to focus. He noticed the nine year change while looking back at photos from before and after. Before: smiling, vigorous and beaming; after: contemplative and seemingly unsure and burdened. Carefree spontaneity, with glad participation in endless games of Tag or Hide-and-Seek with his sibs, no longer was the norm. Math and imaginative stories were his favorite subjects. He read and read, too much. Anything that was an understanding, whether scientific, geographic, historic, etc, --it gave a feeling of mastery (not just having knowledge) of the world, of being allowed into the mysteries of the world.

He felt especially close to two lay teachers (the rare non-nuns at school) in his 3rd and 5th grades because they conveyed knowledge without the religious overtones. He was well behaved in 5th grade - but when his 6th grade nun marched him to his 5th grade teacher and they together commiserated in his presence about his "top academics but now girl crazy-- such a nice boy but what happened to him now!" that soured him greatly.

Public high school was liberating. Glad study in Math and Literature continued, with 3 years of Latin and German. In 8th grade the Milwaukie High School dean had visited to assess tests the future Milwaukie High students had taken. The purpose of the tests was to see what they should aim for in public school. The dean told Jerry to aim for college and to study German for a future career in science. Jerry never applied the German language to science, but the language aspect, so it turned out, stood him in good stead for life and studies at the Goetheanum. A teacher "obsessed" with literature inspired him as a senior to start reading lots of poetry and classic novels. He wrestled and played football in high school. He loved the competition, the team camaraderie, the physical contact and aggressiveness as a defensive end and offensive guard. He was the Valedictorian for his class of 450.

At Pomona College his freshman year he took the required class in Western Civ and while researching in the library he came upon a picture of Botticelli's "Primavera." It was a fascinating revelation--the color, form, the beauty of the presentation - not black and white abstractions --"I thought I knew so much-- I had been so much in my head, but my eyes were opened." For another class, German Lit, he bought a book of poems by Novalis containing the poem "Wenige wissen..." "Few know the mystery of love..."

He didn't have any personal dreams or ambitions of what to be (his Catholic education had taught him to be a good boy, fit in, adapt and be secure). We all have that struggle of how much to assert independence and how much to give in. But he had a sense that there was a great world of knowledge out there and he had only made small forays into it. He felt college would help him know more and become more himself. A crisis developed over his question of "what good is it doing me to learn all this academic knowledge when it doesn't contribute to my feeling of being a person?" He pondered Botticelli's individual creative impulse working from the feeling realm to create such a work of art and compared it to the universality of thinking. Ah, growing up! He left school and returned home, determined to "figure out what life was about." In the local paper one day he read a letter to the editor saying that "Rudolf Steiner said 50 years ago that drug use would become widespread and it was not a true path to mysticism." Feeling that this Steiner must have been quite some guy, Jerry went to the public library and checked out a few books by Steiner, *Philosophy of Freedom* being one. Another was *Cosmic Memory* - Steiner's remark about the present-day shift from physical/genital procreativity to creativity in the Word, the Logos, resonated deeply.

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

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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, Shining Star 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.

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He decided not to return immediately to Pomona. At age 19, with the Vietnam War raging, he chose to enlist rather than be drafted, planning to attend the Army's Russian Language School. After 3 days of basic training, he knew he'd made a terrible mistake, eventually actively choosing to "fail to adapt to military life" and gaining discharge. While attending the language school, though, he found a copy of Theosophy in a bookstore and was greatly attracted to the lucidity of the thinking in it and the view of reality--such a contrast to the academic world of opinion and personal flavoring of concepts.

Age 20, back in Milwaukie, he wrote to Paul Allen, an Anthroposophical publisher. Paul forwarded the letter to Friedrich Hiebel at the Goetheanum, who wrote back to Jerry, saying he might do better to contact Francis Edmunds at Emerson College. Hiebel also suggested he visit Catherine Mayne, an older anthroposophist in Vancouver, BC, which he did - a great visit, with a REAL Anthroposophist! He briefly became a book salesman to earn a bit of money.

He applied and went to Emerson in 1968. On one hand, he was in heaven, yet it was the transitional 7th year at Emerson, and the rebellion sweeping through the world also swept through Emerson. Edmunds was enthusiastic in his presentations with etherized concepts, but a portion of the students (and not because they were ungrateful or ornery) wanted more social interaction from ego to ego, and started their own study group on the *Leading Thoughts*. Edmunds was generously approving. Jerry met Speech Formation there: the very first time he heard one of his teachers, Mechthild Harkness, recite an epic piece (Tennyson's *Death of Arthur*) he felt enthralled. She gave several introductory lessons to some of the students, and she arranged for this group to study in Dornach with her own beloved former teacher, Erna Grund. Jerry wrote to me to come join him in Dornach. I traveled to The Netherlands to join him and his fellow student Janneke, a frank and intelligent individual with a streak of mischief who had worked for 3 years in an Anthroposophical curative home. They married in Amsterdam that September 1969, and I headed to Dornach with them.

Two elements: 1) In the *Speech and Drama Course* Steiner mentions how vital the Greek gymnastic exercises are for the speech work, and Jerry feels all his high school sports activity prepared him for that; 2) The appreciation for beauty, which could be sensed and expressed through the word. He was most impressed by Erna's ability not just to portray epic, lyric and dramatic verse, but more: the whole range of human experience, and not via concepts but through actual individualized speaking. To speak: a chance to live, play, create, express yourself. Temperament is important. Some teachers had acquired well the techniques, but others could express from out of their self. He attended the School for



Speech and Drama, for four years. Then, scant months before his graduation in 1973 he toured as speech artist with a small group of eurythmists who had recently graduated in Dornach, Jeanne Moore (later Schwarzkopf) among them. They performed in Berkeley, San Francisco, Colorado Springs, Taos, LA and Oahu, hoping to make contacts and scout out the people and places associated with publicly active Anthroposophy. His mom and dad traveled from Portland to Oahu, where they heard him recite for the first time. During many, many years, they supported and encouraged him - as they did all their progeny - but they never really delved with any feeling understanding into Anthroposophy. Returning to Dornach and planning to graduate on schedule in a few months, he found that he was viewed by the Dornach teachers and ex-teachers not as a venturing pioneer but as somewhat of a turncoat who had abandoned "true art" and the "true impulse" preserved in Dornach. By contrast, Hans Pusch, himself a former student of Marie Steiner and colleague of Erna, who had lived and worked in the USA for many years, wrote to and visited Jerry at about that time, inviting him to teach in Spring Valley. But at that time there were very few Waldorf Schools in America, and few had eurythmists, much less even now do they consider granting a full-time position to speech artists. And Jerry and Janneke already had their family to support. While in Dornach Niels and Fiona were born, in

fact her first born son was born 4 days after my first born son in the same hospital. Jerry chose to get a higher academic degree that could lead to professional activity.

He attended grad school at Michigan State University and attained his PhD in Psychology. There he met Don Melcer, active as professor and licensed marriage counselor in Lansing. Don knew Ernst Katz in Ann Arbor. Jerry considers it an overwhelming gift of Destiny, that during the course of his grad-student years he was able to perform and even conduct a few classes and workshops in Ann Arbor (located 70 miles from Lansing and MSU) where there were a goodly number of knowledgeable and dedicated Anthroposophists. Over the span of several years he had opportunity to perform during festivals, recite for eurythmists, organize a speech chorus, and teach Speech classes. He collaborated on a workshop with Michael Howard. The Katzes were very enthusiastic and supportive. Among those active around him were Miha Pocagnik, Steve and Beth Usher, Art Zajonc, Mark Eisen, Nancy Spates, Peter and Mary Smith, Allen Cottrell.

He was invited to join a family counseling clinic with founding partners Don Melcer and David Rolfe. He gladly accepted the invite. In German, counseling therapy is known as "die Sprechkur", the speaking cure. Person speaking to person, person listening to person, communicating, relating, individuality to individuality, joining of biographies. It was

important not to see problems but instead the creative expressive individuality making his way with destiny, to speak to the self that transcends the problems. He had a professional practice for 2 years before he was diagnosed with von Recklinghausen's disease, a condition where numerous tumors crowd the nerve-system of the body. It is congenital, so he feels it was a pre-natal impulse that he take on the disease and his affected body and soul. At 18, the first moon node, he had first experienced horrendous back pain, which never left him throughout the years. In 1982, when Jerry was 35, it was diagnosed as resulting from von Recklinghausen's, and during his second moon node in 1983-84 he collapsed due to the tumors and could no longer walk. He was given a few months to live. He had exploratory back surgery for tumors wrapped around his spine, and then another surgery to remove a tumor at the base of his brain.

He meditated. He refused to give in. He survived, confined to a wheelchair. After some years he was able to work part time as vocational counselor for Michigan Rehabilitation Services



from 1987-1991. The children went to college and he and Janneke divorced in 1989, though they lived together out of necessity for a few years afterwards.

He returned to Milwaukie in 1992. During several years he was active at Portland Waldorf School helping with speech work and school plays. Shannon Fobey was very appreciative of the help he gave her class. He rehearsed and performed with eurythmists Don Marquiss, Natasha Moss, Francine Adams, Lesley Cox and James Knight. At her request he accompanied Natasha to Spring Valley for a week, when she was presenting her work for approval to open her Eurythmy School in Milwaukie. He taught Speech for a term with John Miles, when the latter was just beginning his adult education classes. He worked at a local retirement center reciting poems and doing biographical work with elderly residents. He lectured on the destiny gestures of the Zodiac, and has meditated extensively on the Zodiac in relation to man.

There are certain ideas, impulses that have guided him and he has been aware of them, yet he has not been able to incarnate them in a public way. Among them: mankind is crossing the

threshold -- the process of being in touch with one's higher self and the resistance from the physical world. When he engaged with the physical world, his seeming identity was destroyed. In meditation one thinks things away until they come to nothingness. He doesn't even have to think--there is nothing. His senses of hearing, sight and balance have been greatly impaired by the disease, and he had to give up driving his customized van some years ago. His teeth are falling out. The tumors are threatening.

Evolving as Logos beings, bearers and speakers of the Word, as in Rudolf Steiner's verse: "I think speech, I speak, I have spoken..." continuing with: "...I seek for my origin in the spirit, I feel myself in me, I am on the path to the spirit to my self." Steiner's words: All evolution is initiation in the Logos: the Word of Words is "I AM" - all evolution in our time is Becoming in this Logos, the Becoming of the individualized Logos, the individualized I-AM. What else and Who else is this CHRISTED EGO? What else is at the heart of esoteric Christianity, but that each of us is alive in the stream of the Christ-Logos. Jesus the Christ spoke: "Heaven and Earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Who among us does not strive to create and manifest his/her own VOICE = REAL IDENTITY!

He was born in the sign of Gemini, with the gesture of "The Ability for the Deed". It is the ego's lot to forget and recapture through thought-filled memory our past (bound together with the already-created world, THE MACROCOSM). But to fill those memories again with feeling and will, that is a deed, a deed in the stream of evolution, - that takes an ability for the deed, that is an act of the MICROCOSMIC Logos-bearer.

He mentioned that once, several years ago, he read an interview of several survivors of the terrible, terrible troubles in Africa, with the reporter telling of an old African man, a victim-refugee who had lived through the killing, raping and great destruction, who spoke and listened to fellow traumatized refugees for a while during the interview but then, when a cloud of brooding, silent resignation engulfed the group, smiled and slowly, tentatively at first, started to dance. The physical falls away. The heart dances, the person lives.

At conclusion of our interview Jerry shared with me a quote he had come upon during the week since I had requested a biographical interview with him. The writer of the quote is the American Transcendentalist Henry David Thoreau: "If I seem to boast more than is becoming, my excuse is that I brag for humanity rather than myself."

Jerry commented: "Yeah, humanity is crossing the threshold, it's the time of transition from the macrocosmic Logos to the microcosmic Logos--and human existence is surely social and we're all in this together--but there are times when only you can do what you really want to do."

Portland Anthroposophical Society Calendar - August 2008

Ongoing Events and Study Groups

African Drumming

Every Thursday evening from 7-8 pm in the high school building of Portland Waldorf School (2300 SE Harrison Street, Milwaukie). \$40 for 5 lessons, \$10 drop-in. Drums provided. No experience necessary. Marion Van Namen (503) 956-4046.

Anthroposophical Medicine Study Group

Once a month Monday (after the second Sunday) at the Takacs Clinic 7-8:30 PM. John Takacs at johntakacsdo@hotmail.com or Kevin Kane at drkev@involved.com.

Curative Education

Second and fourth Friday 7:30 PM – 9PM study of Rudolf Steiner's *Education for Special Needs*. Call Betty Baldwin for information 503-747-6367.

Deepening Our Experience with Six Basic Exercises

Saturday 9:00-10:00 AM once a month. Beginning and advanced students welcome. 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

Karmic Relationships

Working through Rudolf Steiner's Karmic Relationships Cycle of lectures. Call James Lee for information 503 249-3804 or e-mail him at anthroposophy@earthlink.net.

Mystery Dramas, with Speech-Formation Exercises

Two Wednesdays a month, 7:30 - 9:00 PM in 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 Ramage at 360 241-7854 for information.

Mystery Knowledge and Mystery Centers

Meeting once a month on the fourth Thursday at 7 PM at Bothmer Hall. Contact Joan Takacs by e-mail at joantakacs@yahoo.com.

Occult Science

Meeting weekly on Tuesdays from 7:30 - 9:00 pm at 3046 NE 33rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97212. Contact Diane Ramage 360 241-7854 for information.

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.

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. For more information, please contact Leslie Loy at (503) 819-3399 or leslielal@yahoo.com.

Spinning and Spiritual Science

Gathering on the first Saturday of each month, 3 PM to 5PM, to study *Art as Spiritual Activity*, lectures by Rudolf Steiner 1888-1923. We work with the fiber arts and spinning wheels. Call Marsha Johnson 503- 309- 4223 to sign up.

Waldorf Education and Teacher Training

Lectures and courses conducted throughout the year by the Micha-el Institute. Contact John Miles at 503/774-4946. johncmiles@usa.net

Submit your group or calendar event announcement by the end of each month for publication in the next month's newsletter.

Submit calendar information to branchcalendar@mindspring.com

Upcoming Events

AUGUST 12-16

Mystery Drama Conference

The Threefold Mystery Drama Group in Spring Valley, NY, under the direction of Barbara Renold, is planning a conference on the theme of the connection between Goethe's fairy tale, *The Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily*, and Rudolf Steiner's first mystery drama, "The Portal of Initiation". Contact Barbara Renold at barbararenold@yahoo.com or by telephone at 845-356-0674.

AUGUST 15-17

Myth of Me

Finding the root of personality, a workshop with Dennis Klocek, Waldorf School, Carbondale, CO. For info: <http://www.corosinstitute.org>.

AUGUST 18 - 21

Micha-el Institute – Home Schooling Workshop “The Power of Imagination”

See brochure for details, at Shining Star School, 4317 NE Emerson, Portland OR 97218. Contact 503 774-4946 or email johncmiles@usa.net.

AUGUST 22- 26

Micha-el Institute – Foundation Conference

See brochure for details, at Shining Star School, 4317 NE Emerson, Portland OR 97218. Contact 503 774-4946 or email johncmiles@usa.net.

Wednesday AUGUST 27

Portland Branch Council Meeting

7 PM – 8PM study of the theme of the year followed by a business meeting at the home of Ruth and Tom Klein, 3609 SE Center, Portland OR 97202, phone: 503-777-3176. All Branch members are welcome to attend.

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 14

First Class of the School of Spiritual Science

Bothmer Hall, Blue card required – Discussion on Lesson 10 at 8:30 AM, class at 9:30 AM sharp. Lesson 11. Please contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3807 or Diane Ramage at (360) 241-7854.

OCTOBER 2-3

Money Can Heal

Talk and workshop with Siegfried Finser, founder of the Rudolf Steiner Foundation. Contact Lauren Johnson at lauren.johnson@portlandwaldorfschool.org Details TBA.

The School for Spiritual Science and the Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society are honored to announce the visit of Dr. Ernst Katz, October 12th and 13th at Bothmer Hall to present on topics related to the School for Spiritual Science.

Ernst Katz, Ph.D. worked at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor as a professor of Physics for 33 years, followed by 28 years as an emeritus professor. In 1935 he joined the Anthroposophical Society in the Netherlands, led by Dr. Zeylmans van Emmichoven. Since 1970 he has been a Class Holder in America. For many years he was president of the Rudolf Steiner Institute of the Great Lakes area. He and his late wife, Katherine, fostered the growth of anthroposophy in Ann Arbor and in America for almost sixty years. His publications include: *Meditation, an Introduction* (1975), *About your Relationship to Rudolf Steiner* (1985), *Thoughts about the Foundation Stone* (1999), and *The Mission of Rudolf Steiner* (2005).

Saturday evening, October 12th at 7:30 PM – Talk by Ernst Katz – Open to members and friends of the Anthroposophical Society. Dr. Katz will speak about the School for Spiritual Science and anthroposophy. This is an event not to miss. The talk will be followed by an informal opportunity to ask questions. Refreshments will follow the talk and will conclude by 9:30 PM. Suggested donation \$15.

Sunday morning, October 13th at 10:00 PM sharp – An overview of the 19 class lessons by Ernst Katz Open to members of the School for Spiritual Science with blue cards. Please arrive by 9:45 AM to find seating, as the doors will close promptly at 10:00 AM. Suggested donation \$15.

Both events will take place in Bothmer Hall, 5915 SE Division Street. Portland, OR 97206. Please preregister for this unique event and RSVP with a check made out to the Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society and send the check along with your questions for Dr. Katz to Jannebeth Röell at 3135 NE 17th Avenue Portland OR 97212.

OCTOBER 17-19**Christian Rosenkretz –Living a Spiritual Life in the Modern World and the Anthroposophical Society Annual General Meeting**

Who is Christian Rosenkretz and how does he work in the world? In this conference we will explore the life and mission of Christian Rosenkretz, with particular focus on the power of Anthroposophy, today's Rosicrucian path, to bring about transformation in modern life. More at www.portlandbranch.com. The conference is sponsored by The Anthroposophical Society in America in cooperation with the Los Angeles Branch, 110 Martin Alley, Old Town Pasadena, CA 91105-1900. The annual general meeting of the Anthroposophical Society takes place on the Sunday following the conference.

Friday, OCTOBER 24**An Anthroposophical Publisher's Private Conversations with Saul Bellow on Spirituality**

A lecture given by Stephen Usher. This lecture tells the story of how Saul Bellow came to write the foreword to Rudolf Steiner's *Boundaries Of Natural Science*. In the process of obtaining the foreword publisher Stephen Usher came to know Bellow and had a number of interesting talks with him about Steiner's spiritual scientific discoveries including those described in *Work of the Angel in Man's Astral Body*. The talk will explore the conversations and Bellow's attitude to Steiner and Anthroposophy. It will also discuss what Bellow had to say about Steiner in *HUMBOLDT'S GIFT*, a book for which Bellow received the Pulitzer prize. 8PM Location TBA, admission \$15.00.

Saturday, OCTOBER 25**Anthroposophist Rudolf Steiner & the Three-Folding of Society**

A lecture by Stephen Usher. The lecture will explore the history of the threefold idea, the idea, and its opponents. Going back to 1917 Stephen Usher will point to the moment when Steiner first postulated the idea in a conversation with Otto Lerchenfeld in response to Lerchenfeld's heartfelt question about how to bring some sanity into the madness of the First World War. The basic threefold idea will then be outlined along with Steiner's idea of the Fundamental Social Law and the Law of True Price. From there the lecture will look at the opponents of the Threefold idea both historical and current. 8PM Location TBA, admission \$15.00

Sunday, OCTOBER 26**The Christmas Foundation Conference and the Foundation Stone**

In this presentation Stephen Usher explores the central event of the Christmas Foundation Conference of the Anthroposophical Society (Dec. 1923-Jan 1924) with particular emphasis on the events of December 25, 1923. In particular the talk will explore the distinction between the Christmas Foundation Verse and the Foundation Stone itself. Members with Pink cards only, 4 PM Location TBA, admission \$15.00.

NOVEMBER 20-23**The Art of Research: Cultivating Feeling as an Organ of Perception for Scientists**

The 2008 Natural Science/Mathematics & Astronomy Section annual conference will take place in Portland, Oregon. Michael Howard and Siegwart Elsas will be keynote speakers. Details TBA

Portland Newsletter Team News

The Portland Newsletter is currently produced by Jannebeth Röell, Diane Rumage and James Lee.

The newsletter team seeks other interested and willing individuals to participate in this important community building activity.

*Articles
News from the Community
Calendar Entries
Newsletter Production
Distribution
Marketing*

If you have a skill or interest that fits into the above list of needs, and you wish to be part of this team, contact us by e-mail at anthroposophy@earthlink.net.

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