

VOLUNTEERING IN PAKISTAN

By Maika Munske, Järna, Sweden



One scene that will stay with me perhaps the clearest and the longest is the unfolding of the bedtime routine, namely the goodnight circle. We begin by crowding around the long dinner table, in the half darkness listening to a flute introduction of the song we are about to sing. Before the notes would have a chance to bow themselves politely from the spotlight, each of us launches into his or her own interpretation of the

melody we have just heard; the low voices, and the high ghostly wail, the faltering few and the drones all coming together to form a jaw-clenching serenade ushering us to bed. Invariably, we will have to pause from our singing, as we are frantically waved into silence to accommodate the cries from the neighboring mosque, calling all to evening prayer. This is how we begin and end each day, around this table and neither restlessness nor a perfectionist ear could convince me that it should be any other way.

A Camphill in Pakistan is no more or less vibrant than one would imagine. To understand the beauty of this, one has to first recognize the true passive splendor of the surrounding countryside. Fields of rice and wheat are hemmed in by low brick walls, and the flat expanse is dotted with windowless, cement shells of houses that forewarn us of impending development. A glance at the Roshni Village reveals green lawns and rows of planted vegetables, a chicken coop and a beautiful, new brick building towering at the center of the property, as well as at the center of living at Roshni. The Community House plays host to ten of the special needs "students" who live at Roshni throughout the year, and the founding family of Roshni, as well as a number of volunteers both from Europe and Pakistan. There are

also roughly 25 other students who come during the week to participate in workshops. These workshops, which include textiles, wood and even a bakery, are the staples to keep everyone busy, and are designed to nurture creativity and skilled handwork in the students.

In the textile workshop, women clad in varying shades of *shalwar kameez* (the traditional tunic and trousers worn by both men and women) all cluster around a wooden table to embark on a day's worth of steady engagement; these are the dependable tasks of stringing beads and embroidery, or stuffing sewn projects, slowly guiding an animal or doll into its rightful form with tufts of wool meticulously and rhythmically placed. Such constancy

and repetition is well exercised here at Roshni, to which the students and volunteers are both grateful in turn. Kausar, a woman of 33 is the unspoken center of the women's sewing circle; perched on a chair at the head of the table, needle and sequins in hand, she keeps a deceptively hooded gaze on her work, but if I look a little bit closer, I can see that she is monitoring every bit of the surrounding action. Chatter and small jokes are made, and every so often one of the men from the woodwork shop wanders over to pester the women or talk to Monsoor. Monsoor is the only man who works in the textile workshops; his designated work is at the loom and each morning one can observe him making his rounds, carefully dusting off the different rigs before beginning weaving.



Morning activities give way to a simple lunch, usually consisting of *dal* (spiced lentils) and *alu* (potatoes); the ubiquitous organic Roshni bread, baked on the premises, is of course at the table for each meal, and is also sold in various stores in and around Lahore. In the afternoon, most of the students go home, save for the few who live at Roshni. We generally spend slow afternoons in the shade, preparing vegetables for the evening meal or gardening, waiting for the heat to subside so that we can take our daily walk down to the local park.

At times, I imagine myself standing in front of a world map, and putting my forefinger on the dot indicating our location in Southeast Asia. Is it true that this place, this land that holds so much turbulence and mystery can also be the same place of peace that we are living? In seeming contradiction to what is widely known about this country, we have found no more struggles than those of daily obligation to existence, no more conflict other than the ever-present mealtime discussions over who will get the last *roti* (flatbread).

What exactly had I expected before coming to live at Roshni? Should I have rather experienced a world fraught with the newspaper's clowning for chaos? One month spent at a Camphill in Pakistan has dispelled any

would-be uncertainty about how this world can live. It seems as though one month is really no time at all when reflecting on everything that happens here during a single day. When visiting the city of Lahore for a few hours, I can hardly hold onto each perception due to the sheer amount of things to see. One month flies by without a second glance, in a whirl of colors and sounds, and the ever-present smell of cooking food and chai. Taking tea here is something as inescapable as riding in a rickshaw or eating lentils, not to imply that these are things to avoid. Quite the opposite in fact; anywhere in the city will surely host hoards of chai stands and street vendors hawking neat stacks of raw sugarcane and heaps of *samosas*, vying for one's attention and business. It is impossible to not enjoy having senses in this city, and despite the constant dust and smog, it exhibits an unfamiliar beauty to convert even the coldest of travelers.

For more information, contact Hellmut Hannesen at roshni@gmx.net or online at www.roshni.org.pk Donations to the Roshni Association can be made through The Rudolf Steiner Foundation-
www.rsfsocialfinance.org.

Maika Munske recently graduated from the Portland Waldorf School.

THE CONTINENT COMES TO PORTLAND!

By Lauren Johnson on behalf of the PWS summer conference host committee.

What brings you to Waldorf education? What life path might you be on that brings you together with others around a school? What forces are working in the world today that affects a school and the wider community? During the solstice week in June, if you are a parent of a Waldorf student, a teacher, an alumnus/a, a donor, a staff member, a Board member, or other interested supporter, you may be asked to ponder those questions on a deeper level than ever before. Worry not! You won't be left to ponder alone, because a whole host of divine (and mortal) beings involved in the Waldorf movement from all over Canada, Mexico and the United States will be on hand to share and guide your experience.

They are coming from around the continent to Portland Waldorf School June 23-27 for the annual Association of Waldorf Schools of North America summer conference. This is the first time this gathering has been held in the Pacific Northwest and we at PWS are busy putting the

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PORTLAND BRANCH OF THE ANTHROPOSOPIHICAL SOCIETY, PLEASE CALL DIANE RUMAGE AT (360) 241-7854.

THE PORTLAND BRANCH THANKS THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS IN 2009!

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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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final preparations in place. The conference historically has been directed primarily at teachers and people working actively in Waldorf schools. However, the theme this year lends itself to the broader community, and we encourage anyone interested in Waldorf education and anthroposophy to partake of the offerings. With the theme "Weaving the Educational Task with the Social Mission of Waldorf Schools," keynote speaker Virginia Sease will address over the course of the five days the "deeper aspects of destiny and karma in working with the community of children, teachers, parents, and friends as we develop Waldorf schools as new centers for social renewal, as places of personal growth and transformation, and as places for community and cultural change" (from the conference brochure). Virginia has a long career as a teacher and adult educator and is currently the director for the Anthroposophical Studies Program in English at the Goetheanum in Switzerland. She is an excellent speaker, an erudite scholar and brings calm, intelligent warmth into every setting.

A very exciting addition to this year's conference is a eurythmy presentation of the complete Foundation Stone meditation each day at the opening of the conference. Eurythmists from Portland and around the country have been working hard to develop this special offering. See below for a summary of the schedule.

A host of artistic workshops and focus groups are offered for conference participants, and some lively evening activities are planned. To participate fully, you must register in advance at www.whywaldorfworks.org - go to the AWSNA button on top and then use that menu to go to AWSNA events. The full cost is \$290 (if you want to just come for the morning lectures, refer to the ala carte menu below). There may be a limited number of work-study options available (contact Diane Rowley at PWS with your interest).

In addition, we are excited about the conference vendors and sponsors who are sharing information about their services to the Waldorf movement. In addition to extra offerings at the PWS Spring Creek Store, we will have a practice room for Choro instruments, a large selection of publications from AWSNA Books and other publishers; local craftspeople, Uriel Pharmacy products, and many Waldorf suppliers will be on hand. The vendor area will be located on the first floor of the main building. No need to register for the conference if you just want to browse and shop with our regional and national vendors.

Finally, even if you don't attend any of the conference, we warmly invite you to join the whole community on Wed., June 24 for a Square Dance called by Carolyn Oakley and Friends starting at 7:30 p.m. And on Thursday, June 25, we have a traditional salmon bake and St. Johns bonfire celebration beginning at 6:00 p.m. To eat dinner, you must RSVP in advance to Kelly Chappie kelly.chappie@portlandwaldorfschool.org no later than June 14th. The full dinner costs \$30. Bonfire is free!

All events take place at Portland Waldorf School: 2300 SE Harrison Street in Milwaukie. 503-654-2200. www.portlandwaldorfschool.org.

"A la Carte" Conference Options:

If you are not able to attend the complete conference, you are warmly invited to join the lectures (including the Foundation Stone eurythmy presentation) for a \$15 fee per day. If you would like to stay past the lecture and have a snack (not including lunch) and participate in a follow up roundtable discussion on the theme of the talks, the cost is \$25 per day. Unfortunately, because of the demand for artistic workshops and the advanced planning required, we cannot allow drop-ins to those offerings - they are reserved for full conference attendees.

Summary Schedule for "a la carte" conference attendance:

Tuesday, June 23 - 7:00 p.m. Welcome, opening lecture and Foundation Stone performance (\$15 at the door)

Wed., Thurs, Fri. June 24, 25, 26 - Beginning at 8:30 a.m.: Announcements by the very humorous Ronald Koetch, introductions and vignette, Foundation Stone in eurythmy and Virginia's lecture (lecture begins at about 9:15 a.m. and lasts to 10:30, but we ask that people come at 8:30 to minimize disruptions during the morning). Thank you for respecting this schedule. Snack break, then singing and roundtable discussion from 11:00 - 12:30. For those leaving at 10:30: \$15. For those staying for snack and further discussion: \$25.

Saturday, June 27 - 8:30 a.m. - Foundation Stone and closing lecture (lecture ends at 10 a.m.). \$15.

For more information about Dr. Virginia Sease, please see the side bar on page 7 in this newsletter.

PORTLAND BRANCH MEMBERS MEETING SCHEDULE

By Chrystal Godleske, Portland, Oregon

Dear Friends,

The Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society is pleased to announce plans for quarterly Member's Meetings beginning July 12th in Bothmer Hall. The meetings will follow the School for Spiritual Science meeting with a potluck brunch at 11:15 and then move into our topic at 11:45 to end at 1:30. The topic for July will be 'Bees' and in October 'Mental Illness and Health'. Your participation is warmly welcomed!

Our intention is to begin each meeting with a practical exercise or artistic activity to illuminate the topic, welcome a speaker from our community who has experience or a particular interest in the topic to offer a starting point for discussion and then to follow with an open conversation about our own experiences, questions and interests. Childcare will be provided on a donation basis. Members will pay \$5 and friends \$8 for the events to cover expenses.

Please contact Chrystal Godleske with feedback (socialsculptor@gmail.com/503 816 2440) or for more information.

PORTLAND BRANCH ELECTIONS

The Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society will be holding elections for its Board Membership at its August 12th meeting (meetings are now the 2nd Wednesday of each month). The current board would like to invite all area study groups and each Anthroposophical initiative to nominate a member of your group who might like to serve on the Board.

We are developing our mission and plans to carry forward into the new year and beyond and we enthusiastically welcome participation and input from all of the members of our community. We are specifically seeking to build a board which will reflect the abundant energy and diversity of our local area's anthroposophical interests and work. Current board members will be contacting study groups and initiatives directly to invite this participation. Membership in the Anthroposophical Society is a requirement for Board Membership. Chrystal Godleske (socialsculptor@gmail.com 503 816 2440) and Marsha Johnson (oregon7@aol.com 503 309 4223) may be contacted for more information or to make a nomination.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Apartment for rent above Bothmer Hall on SE Division St. between 58th and 60th near a bus stop. Prefer a quiet tenant respectful of the activities taking place in the hall.

High ceilings, all appliances, washer/dryer, living room, kitchen, one small and one larger bedroom, large closets. \$500 a month, one month security deposit, water and garbage included.

For more information call John Takacs, office: 503-234-1531.

STEINER STOREHOUSE ALERT

Steiner Storehouse is being kept functional on a temporary basis while the search for an able manager continues. Leads towards an enthusiastic, energetic individual with a working understanding of Waldorf and Anthroposophy and the capability to move the store forward with product acquisition, store and web sales management is necessary to avert the store being closed. Please direct your information to: John Takacs at johntakacsdo@hotmail.com or phone the office at 503-234-1531. Thank you.

UPDATE ON SHINING STAR WALDORF SCHOOL

Our six year old AWSNA initiative school has decided to return to our original roots and provide a niche for Home Schooling Families in the metro area for Fall 2009, offering a two-day (Monday and Tuesday) program, 9 am to 3 pm, for children ages six to twelve. Parents are encouraged to explore community-organized education on other week days in the new class space (yet to be determined). Once a month, a half-day Saturday workshop will be offered to parents on the Arts of Waldorf. One day option is still offered (Mondays) and a Family Playgroup is planned at the site. The Kindergarten and Preschool program are strong and nearly fully enrolled for Fall 2009. Please visit our website at www.shiningstarschool.com for more information about upcoming home-school workshops and events. Thank you!

ENCOURAGING NEWS FOR MEMBERS

From Sherry Wildfeuer and Rudiger Janisch, Camphill Villages, Pennsylvania

There are strong forces at work in our civilization that would draw us into passivity, dullness or other ways of being less than our true selves. Anthroposophy offers us a way to wake up to our potential and to develop the capacities to become truly human. The Anthroposophical Society has the task of furthering the life of the soul – both in the individual and in human society – on the basis of a true knowledge of the Spiritual World. It is not a mere organization to join but an *activity*.

This activity can be exercised by individuals in any circumstances and by groups in anthroposophical institutions such as Waldorf Schools and Camphill communities. In such settings those who are members of the Anthroposophical Society are actually expressing the very ideals that led them to join the Society. They may even feel sad that their anthroposophical commitments at work prevent them from participating in events of the Society! It can also happen that under the pressure of work the cultivation of the life of the soul amongst teachers and co-workers is neglected and there is need for that impulse of the Anthroposophical Society to come more to the fore. And very frequently one finds people doing the work of the Society but holding back from joining it because of an inner resistance to becoming a member of any group professing to specific spiritual beliefs. [This is a healthy feeling that Rudolf Steiner acknowledged by saying of the newly founded Society: “It cannot be a matter of setting up principles to which one is then expected to declare one’s adherence.”] The number of people who are inspired by or benefit from Anthroposophy far exceeds the number of members of the Anthroposophical Society.

From May 29th to 31st, Rudiger Janisch and I participated in some encouraging meetings in Spring Valley, and we’d like to share our experience with our friends in the Branch. After meeting on Friday with the Collegium of the School of Spiritual Science (where I represent the Agriculture Section and Rudiger represents the General Anthroposophical Section), we came together in a combined meeting of the Council of the Anthroposophical Society, the Collegium, and the Council of Anthroposophical Organizations. (This includes the Assoc. of Waldorf Schools of North America, the Camphill Assoc., the Biodynamic Assoc, RSF, the Eurythmy Association and others.) The purpose of the meeting was 1) to consider the needs of the world

at this time and how we are meeting these needs and 2) to see how the Council, Collegium and CAO can collaborate more fruitfully to achieve our common aims.

The 30 people present made a commitment to try to strengthen the life of Anthroposophy on this continent. By meeting face to face we were able to clear up some misunderstandings, develop a feeling for each other as individuals, and respect the need for the different tasks of each group. We acknowledged the detrimental effect of negative thoughts and speaking among colleagues and committed to working through problems and concerns directly with one another to create a socially hygienic atmosphere amongst the three groups. We did eurythmy with Mark Levene and Dorothea Mier, rice drawing with Michael Howard, and speech with Helen Lubin and we celebrated Whitsun together, all of which contributed to a sense of the presence of the creative spirit in and among us.

We explored how, even under the very challenging financial circumstances that the Anthroposophical Society finds itself in, it can most effectively fulfill its aim of cultivating an understanding and experience of the whole human being as a wellspring for health. From the beginning to the end of our meetings we lived with the imagination of the first Goetheanum as a living archetype that we are striving to bring into our spiritual and social endeavors, guided by Rudolf Steiner as were the many workers who originally carved and painted the building in Dornach. Led by Rudiger, we turned to the Foundation Stone Meditation, and later Torin Finser asked if we might call on one another to turn to it at particular moments in time as a common effort for the Good. We spoke about how the various Sections of the School for Spiritual Science can be seen as working into the Anthroposophical Society and into life, and how the central task of the Society can, with a slight shift of consciousness, be seen as an aspect of the General Anthroposophical Section of the School. And through the presence of Philip Thatcher, the General Secretary of the Anthroposophical Society in Canada who is part of the Collegium, we could look forward to expanding our awareness to include our friends across the border to the north. The Collegium will meet in Montreal in one year, together with the Canadian Council. We asked the small group of representatives from the three groups that planned these meetings to continue to foster the work that we began and prepare a next meeting of the large group, probably in two years.

INTERLINKING ANTHROPOSOPHY

By James Lee, General Council Member at Large

Every day thousands of feet pass the small storefront on West 15th Street, carrying intent, determination and habit through the daily grind. Often, people gaze up at the curiously long name on the wooden sign above the door, and some notice the activities board of Anthroposophy NYC and the Rudolf Steiner Bookstore and stop to read about programs. Sometimes, there is an interest to enter and find out about anthroposophy and the Anthroposophical Society. This can be a life-altering event.

The New York branch of the Anthroposophical Society came into being through the determination and persistence of members after the Anthroposophical Society's headquarters were moved from NYC to Chicago in the early 1980s. Actors were strongly represented in this group which, after moving among several spaces in the city, purchased half the shares of a townhouse (with anthroposophist owners retaining the other half) on West 15th Street. Years later, in 2001, members purchased the remaining 50% of shares after the death of owner Lydia Wieder. Originally, the ground floor had housed a carpentry shop, and the current main corridor had been an entrance for horse-drawn carriages. The 21st anniversary of the setting of a foundation stone under the auditorium floor, after a redesign by Jorge Sanz Cordona, was grandly celebrated and remembered earlier this year and attended by many of those present during the earliest years. After the purchase of remaining shares, the upper floors of the building were completely renovated, so that two floor-through apartments and two offices could be rented out to help pay the mortgage. On the 41st day after the signing of their substantial mortgage with Rudolf Steiner Foundation (RSF), the World Trade Center attacks plunged the city into chaos. In the following period of havoc, confusion and pain, some businesses and residents fled and apartment and business rents in lower Manhattan fell precipitously, leaving the rental spaces vacant for nearly a year. This, coupled with other factors, plunged the branch reserves and general finances into a deep crisis.

New York is not for the faint hearted. Members of the branch stepped courageously forward, working tirelessly to eliminate all inessential expenses. In the ensuing years, the Chelsea neighborhood has become increasingly fashionable and the rental market swelled with the economic bubble. Intermittent rentals of the

auditorium space to mostly spiritually-based groups and activities (including a Chekov acting school and early-childhood initiatives) contribute to the economic viability of the branch. Also today, despite a generally sagging rental market, the original plank floor/marble fireplace-preserving renovation of the 138 W 15th St. townhouse is paying off, placing the Anthroposophy NYC finances on firm footing. There, anthroposophy is alive and well in New York City and present whenever someone off the street comes to meet it there. The branch programs host national and international speakers, the School of Spiritual Science, and a wide range of workshops, courses, concerts, art exhibits and study groups.

I know this story because I was one of four members of the General Council that met at the branch in conjunction with a special gathering of Anthroposophical Society members in nearby Spring Valley. We wanted to meet with branch members, learn about their activity and experience, and share with them information about the Anthroposophical Society's evolving strategic planning development program. We had a lively conversation and, typical of cosmopolitan New York City, the dialog could have continued well into the night if the visitors hadn't had early morning commitments in the suburbs. Branch members, branch council members, representatives of the St. Mark's Group (100th anniversary to be celebrated the week of March 5th & 6th, 2010, culminating with the Steiner Books Seminar the following weekend) and Barfield Group members were also present.

Many subjects lived in the members that evening. They wanted to know what's new in the Society, what are the impulses carried by youth and how can they experience a stronger relationship with the national society, how the Society can help facilitate circulation and interchange among groups and branches, and how the Society can reach beyond its own boundaries to enrich the larger community and, in turn, be reinforced by it. Many other thoughts were brought into the room that may be carried forward by branch members. With 46,000 members in the world, the Anthroposophical Society has a responsibility to reach out to the 1.8 million directly associated with its work, and the 8 million who are indirectly linked to anthroposophy.

The General Council is working with four strategic areas of thought that are related to the well being of the Anthroposophical Society in America. We think these issues will have diminished meaning if they are not also

carried and worked on by members and friends of anthroposophy. The strategic issues are broad by design and cover wide areas of interest.

- 1) How do we become more effective in our organizational relationships so as to better connect with members and friends of the Anthroposophical Society?
- 2) How do we increase our social relevance and impact?
- 3) How do we increase the number of members and friends who support the Anthroposophical Society?
- 4) How do we broaden the financial basis of the Anthroposophical Society so it is less dependent on dues to fund its programs?

The General Council wants to develop tactics that will have an immediate effect on the well being of the Anthroposophical Society while keeping costs within financial means. We recognize that members, branches and groups are already working in these arenas and we want to take advantage of their work and knowledge to gain clarity from their understanding, experience and will. Each of the members of the General Council have committed to visiting at least two branches between now and the AGM in October. We are attempting to do this in such a way that travel costs are kept low and so at least two members of the council will be present at each meeting. We urge members, groups and branches that have an interest to host a meeting with members of the General Council to contact me by e-mail at anthroposophy@earthlink.net and start the conversation.

We recognize with all that has been said in this article that the institution of the Anthroposophical Society is derived from the will, initiative and inner work of each individual member and the socially active groups of members carrying anthroposophy in their social interactions. A meeting of delegates and interested members will take place between 5:30 and 6:15 PM on Saturday, October 3rd at the AGM conference to stimulate activity and collaboration among members, groups and branches and to strengthen and further this work. I will host this meeting with those who are interested to participate with the Anthroposophical Society in developing and carrying activities that serve the Anthroposophical Society within the strategic areas of thought already described. If interested, bring this idea to your group or branch and see what will that exists among members to do something in concert with others within the identified strategic arenas of thought. I look forward to seeing you there. If you are an independent member with an interest in this activity, stop by and participate. You will be welcomed.



Dr. Virginia Sease was born in Pennsylvania. Through her high school German teacher, she discovered Anthroposophy. Parallel to a B.A. degree in German literature at Douglas College of Rutgers University she studied singing in New York City. After a Fulbright Scholarship study at the University of Tübingen and the Waldorf Teachers Seminar in Stuttgart, Germany, she was a Class Teacher at Highland Hall Waldorf School then in North Hollywood. In 1968 she received a Ph.D. degree in German literature from the University of Southern California. From 1967 to 1974 she was Assistant Professor of German Literature at Occidental College and worked simultaneously to help to establish the Waldorf Institute of Southern California. She took a Class through eighth grade at Highland Hall in Northridge from 1974 to 1983. During this time she served on the Western Regional Council and from 1981-1984 on the National Council of the Anthroposophical Society in America. In 1984 Virginia Sease became a member of the Executive Council (Vorstand) of the General Anthroposophical Society at the Goetheanum and moved to Dornach, Switzerland. From 1991 to 2001 she also was the leader of the Section for the Arts of Eurythmy, Speech and Music. In addition to her Vorstand work she is responsible for the Anthroposophical Studies Program in English at the Goetheanum since October 2001.

Portland Anthroposophical Society Calendar - June 2009

Ongoing Events and Study Groups

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.

Eurythmy

Eurythmy with Laura Radefeld every Thursday morning that school is in session at the PWS Orchard Room @ 8:30 AM. Donations accepted to cover cost of piano accompanist. For more info call 503-654-4362 or contact by e-mail at laura.radefeld@gmail.com.

Karma Exercises and Study

The study group has just completed its multi-year work with the entire *Karmic Relationships* lecture cycle, and is now starting to work with Rudolf Steiner's karma exercises on the first and third Thursday of each month. Call James Lee for information 503 249-3804 or e-mail him at anthroposophy@earthlink.net.

Meditation and Practical Spiritual Science

The second and fourth Thursday 6:30 PM at 9510 SW View Point Terrace, Portland OR 97219. If available, eurythmy or house shoes would be appreciated! Contact Siegwad Elsas or Yumiko Abe. For questions or directions call (503) 244-2277. If possible, please RSVP Siegwad Elsas by email at elsas@ohsu.edu.

Mystery Dramas, with Speech-Formation Exercises

On the second and fourth Wednesdays each month, 7:30 - 9:00 PM, in SW Portland. Currently working with Rudolf Steiner's *Portal of Initiation* and the *Genesis* lectures. No acting experience necessary, just a love of the Word. Contact Diane Ramage by e-mail at dramage@earthlink.net or by phone 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

First and third Tuesdays from 7:30 - 9:00 PM at 3046 NE 33rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97212. Contact Donna Patterson and Bob Kellum at 503-331-7393.

Portland Waldorf School Community Choir

Every Monday morning from 8:45 - 10:00 AM 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. For more information contact Marion Van Namen at (503) 956-4046.

Portland Youth Discussion Group

Come join the Portland Youth Discussion Group as we pick-up *Becoming the Archangel Michael's Companion* in order to understand what our task, as the youth of the world, is in the 21st Century. There is something new and exciting in the air among the young people as a new generation prepares to take on the responsibility of this world and so we gather to hold that space, to marvel and to share what others are doing in the world and to work more deeply with one another. We welcome new people who are open to exploring Spiritual Science and conducting their own research and those who are interested in learning more about the youth in Portland, the North American and International Youth Section and more! There is so much going on. For more information about when and where we meet, please contact Leslie Loy at (503) 819-3399 or leslielal@yahoo.com.

Psychosophy Study Group

Working with the Steiner text, *Psychology of Body, Soul and Spirit*, we meet the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 7:30 - 9:00, beginning March 10, in NE Portland. Call Cheri Munske for more info: 503-484-4133.

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.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, JUNE 14

First Class of the School of Spiritual Science

Bothmer Hall, Blue card required – Discussion on Lesson 18 at 8:30 AM, class at 9:30 AM sharp. Lesson 19. Please contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3807 or Diane Ramage at (360) 241-7854.

JUNE 12-14

Discovering our Future

Youth will come together to bring Rudolf Steiner's ideas on Karma to life. An in depth look will be taken at a lecture from "Anthroposophy in everyday life: Facing Karma". Denver Waldorf School, Colorado. For more information, please contact Bridget Blanning: 303-902-1326 or bmbllanning@hotmail.com

Monday, JUNE 15

Micha-el Institute: Building the Imagination through Puppetry and Story-telling

Early Childhood Intensive Conference, see brochure for details, held at the Micha-el School, 5239 SE Woodstock Blvd, Portland OR 97206. Contact 503 774-4946 or email johncmiles@usa.net.

JUNE 23-27

Weaving the Educational Task with the Social Mission of Waldorf Education

This is the first time that the annual AWSNA conference will be held in the Pacific Northwest at the Portland Waldorf School. This year's conference will feature a series of keynote lectures by Virginia Sease, a member of the Anthroposophical Society's Executive Council. She is a captivating speaker and erudite scholar and will address the conference's theme, "Weaving the Educational Task with the Social Mission of Waldorf Education". Visit the website at www.whywaldorfworks.org – go to News and Events and the Events Calendar buttons for registration information and costs. For those who would like to attend only the keynote lectures, there will be a door charge; admission may be dependent on space availability. For information call 503-654-2200 extension 210 or contact Connie Starzynski, cstarzynski@awsna.org, 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie, OR.

Tuesday, JUNE 23

Foundation Stone Verse in Eurythmy Virginia Sease, Opening Lecture AWSNA Conference

Eurythmy and Opening lecture -- \$15, 7:00PM at PWS, 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie OR.

JUNE 24, 25, 26

Virginia Sease, Morning lectures AWSNA Conference

The morning session of the AWSNA conference with a lecture by Virginia Sease. This includes singing, opening

thoughts, Virginia's lecture, snack and roundtable discussion on the lecture. Lunch is not included. – 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM – lecture, snack and discussion - \$25 (lecture only \$15) at PWS , 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie OR.

Saturday, JUNE 27

Foundation Stone Verse in Eurythmy Virginia Sease, Closing Lecture AWSNA Conference

(8:30 AM - 12:30 PM). Eurythmy and closing lecture -- \$15 at PWS, 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie, OR.

Sunday JUNE 28

Fifth Gospel with Virginia Sease

Virginia Sease is a longtime friend of anthroposophy and a member of the General Anthroposophical Society's Executive Council in Dornach, Switzerland. She would like to meet with members and friends of the Portland Branch and speak about the *Fifth Gospel* by Rudolf Steiner from 4:30-5:30 PM, followed by a potluck dinner from 6:00 PM-7:00 PM at Bothmer Hall, 5919 SE Division Street. Please contact Chrystal Godleske by e-mail at socialsculptor@gmail.com or by phone at (503) 816-2440.

Sunday JUNE 28

School of Spiritual Science with Virginia Sease

Virginia Sease will meet with the members of the School of Spiritual Science from 7:30-8:30 PM at Bothmer Hall, 5919 SE Division Street. Please contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3807 or Diane Ramage at (360) 241-7854 for information. Blue cards required.

Sunday, JULY 5

Micha-el Institute – Summer Conferences

Waldorf teacher training for Grade School Intensive, see brochure for details, held at the Micha-el School, 5239 SE Woodstock Blvd, Portland OR 97206. Contact 503 774-4946 or email johncmiles@usa.net.

JULY 6- 10

Seeking Isis-Sophia

This five-day workshop with Robert Powell opens a path to Isis-Sophia through Cosmic Dances of the Planets and the Zodiac. The forms and gestures of the dances create harmonious "moving mandalas" which align our movements with the creative forces streaming from the stars. Participation in these movements attunes us to healing etheric currents, which strengthen and harmonize the life body and provide renewing forces for the Earth. In Eugene. For more information by e-mail renee@rhythmofpeace.org or call 541-343-0536.

JULY 9-12

The Threefold Nervous System

Annual anthroposophical medical conference at Stonehill College (home of RS Institute) 320 Washington St. Easton, MA 02357 (22 miles south of Boston) Contact Lynn Bufano,

Rudolf Steiner Institute, 410-358-0050 or reg@steinerinstitute.org.

Friday, JULY 10

The Apocalypse Code – Unveiling the Present Time: 2009 – 2012

A public presentation by Robert Powell, eurythmist and author of the *Sophia Teachings*. Robert's presentation, will be held Friday evening, July 10, from 7:30 - 9:30 pm at the Eugene Mennonite Church, 3590 West 18th in Eugene. A fee of \$15 will be collected at the door. For more information, call 541-343-0536 or email renee@rhythmofpeace.org.

JULY 10-12

Sophia and the Rose of the World

This week-end workshop with Robert Powell is dedicated to uniting with Sophia (Divine Wisdom) in relation to the apocalyptic struggle of our time, embracing the 3 ½ years leading up to the end of the Mayan calendar in 2012. For more information, call 541-343-0536 or email renee@rhythmofpeace.org.

Sunday, JULY 12

First Class of the School of Spiritual Science

Bothmer Hall, Blue card required – Discussion on Lesson 19 at 8:30 AM, class at 9:30 AM sharp. Recapitulation Lesson 1. Please contact Jannebeth Röell (503) 249-3807 or Diane Rumage at (360) 241-7854.

Sunday, JULY 12

Quarterly Portland Branch Meeting

The Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society is pleased to announce plans for quarterly meetings beginning July 12th in Bothmer Hall. The meetings will start at 11:15 AM with a potluck brunch and then move into our topic at 11:45 AM and ending at 1:30 PM. The topic for July will be 'Bees'. Our intention is to begin each meeting with a practical exercise or artistic activity to illuminate the topic, welcome a speaker from our community who has experience or a particular interest in the topic to offer a starting point for discussion and then to follow with an open conversation about our own experiences, questions and interests. Childcare will be provided on a donation basis. Members will pay \$5 and friends \$8 for the events to cover expenses. Please contact Chrystal Godleske with feedback or for more information contact Chrystal at socialsculptor@gmail.com or by phone at 503 816 2440).

JULY 12-27

The Western Approach to Understanding Karma and Reincarnation

A two week workshop at Rudolf Steiner Institute, Stone Hill College, MA with Nick Thomas. Contact: reg@steinerinstitute.org.

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Wednesday, JULY 15 and 22

Finding Freedom: Biology and Biography

Llynn Jericho, a counselor working out of Anthroposophic principals and the creator of <http://www.theinnerchristmasmovie.com/> will give a two part lecture called Finding Freedom: Solving the Mysteries of your Etheric Body. The lectures will be accompanied by a participatory Eurythmy experience. 7:00 PM at Bothmer Hall. Contact Chrystal Godleske by e-mail at socialsculptor@gmail.com.

AUGUST 1-8

Encircling Light-Expectant Silence

The Anthroposophical Society in Canada hosts this conference on the North in White Horse, Yukon. Full details about all aspects of the Conference are available on the conference website, www.encirclinglight.ca.

AUGUST 12-16

Experiencing the 19 Lessons in London

At the Rudolf Steiner house in London UK free renderings will be held of all the class lessons. This conference is for members of the School of Spiritual Science only and will require the blue card to attend. For detailed information or assistance with accommodation contact Doris Csida at 020-7723-4400 or office@anth.org.uk or contact Philip Martyn at philipmartyn@btinternet.com.

AUGUST 17-21

The Waldorf Way


4th Annual home-school workshop at Shining Star School in Portland, Oregon. Monday-Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM, Friday 9 am -12 noon. \$300 fee. Please contact 503 753 4459 for more information, all welcome. Child care on site, if needed. To receive an application and more information, please email Oregon7@aol.com or call 503 753 4459.

Friday, AUGUST 21

Micha-el Institute – Summer Conferences

Foundation Conference, see brochure for details, held at the Micha-el School, 5239 SE Woodstock Blvd, Portland OR 97206. Contact 503 774-4946 or email johncmiles@usa.net.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS JUNE 30TH FOR THE JULY EDITION. SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES AND CALENDAR ITEMS BY THAT DATE. THANKS... ED



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