

# Portland Anthroposophic Times

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

[www.portlandbranch.com](http://www.portlandbranch.com)

Volume 1.10 October 2005

## ANTHROPOSOPHICAL CONFERENCE 8-11-05



Thoughts from the Being Awake conference by Diane Rowley. Diane is full-time College Chairperson for the Portland Waldorf School where she works in servant leadership with the faculty, administration, and board. She was introduced to Anthroposophy through Waldorf education in 1985 when she enrolled her oldest daughter in the kindergarten after moving to Portland from Montana.

As I look back on the conference, there are several things that stand out for me. The opening lecture, given by Virginia Sease, laid the groundwork for a strong thread that ran throughout the whole conference. This was the need to be awake to the development of the new capacity for heart thinking, or thinking with the heart. A prerequisite to this is to develop logical, consequential thinking, which leads to a logical conscience. A strong conscience is the bridge from the logical head thinking to heart thinking, and also helps bring discernment, and is a safeguard against misperceptions. Then Marijo Rogers picked up the theme of Being Awake by reminding us of a quote from Thoreau: "Only that day dawns to which we are awake" and then one from Rudolf Steiner: "The age of Michael has dawned. Hearts are beginning to have thoughts." Thoreau invites us to be awake to each day and Steiner calls us to wake up and be conscious to an entire age, through heart thinking. One of the challenges to heart thinking is the need for soul development in a time when the soul of the human being is often under siege. But Michael is the protector of the human soul and stands ready to help us.

Marijo went on to talk about the role of technology and shared the possibility that technology is not a product but a cosmic force that no one can stop. We need to be cognizant of what it wants:

- 1) to be ubiquitous – present everywhere in daily life
- 2) to be invisible
- 3) what it really wants is human attention..... but if we are awake, ultimately it can lead to freedom.

Each day, the speakers deepened and broadened the wakefulness we are being called upon to have in relationship to self, others, the world and the spiritual world. There were several references of how to utilize the rhythm of sleeping and waking, for working with the spiritual world, which can be enhanced by working with the Foundation Stone Meditation. Before sleeping - we can practice Spirit Recollection, reviewing our day. During the day – practice Spirit Mindfulness (a suggestion was given to rename it Spirit Heartfulness, as we are striving toward heart thinking), and in

the morning upon waking – practice Spirit Vision, recalling what we learned in the night.

On Saturday, Cornelius Pietzner ended his presentation with the reminder that "An unusual alchemy takes place when we bring the force of our will into thinking....this is the pathway to Freedom. When we bring our thinking, in loving devotion into our actions, we develop Love. Freedom and Love are the sculptors of the thinking heart, not only able to perceive, but also able to respond."

The highlight of the conference for me, was an unexpected moment at the very end. During the plenum, two young people from the Youth Section spoke of their commitment to the work of changing the world through Anthroposophy. During previous days, I had been in a discussion group on Community Building, with them and had been impressed with their enthusiasm and freshness. But I was deeply moved by a poem performed by Jeremiah Turner, a Waldorf School graduate, after he had spoken about what was living among the youth in these times: concern about globalization, social competency, environment, etc. He said that there was a strong connection to poetry, the power of the word. And then he shared his poem, which had elements of music, rap, meditation and anthroposophical insight. But what moved me the most about the youth, was their strong sense of hope and the apparent courage to meet what is living today with action, yet a deep respect for and desire to learn from what was living in the older people at the conference.

Throughout the conference, I was amazed by the warmth and interest of fellow participants. Rarely did I sit next to a stranger, without receiving an introduction and finding a strong connection to who they were as a human being. Awakening to the other seemed very alive and genuine, and I know the awakening has just begun.

## AWAKEN TO THE MICHAEL AGE



This article was summarized by James Lee from a talk given by Virginia Sease at the Being Awake conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan this past August. Virginia is a member of the Executive Council of the Anthroposophical Society in Dornach, Switzerland, where she is also Director and Coordinator of Anthroposophical Studies.

We may consider ourselves to be in the core of Michael's time as the ruling Archangel on earth. Michael's reign began in 1879. Gabriel was the ruling Archangel until 1879, promoting the influence of culture, family, and heredity. The influence of a departing Archangel lasts approximately one-hundred years as an echo; the influences of the Gabriel Age

could be felt until about 1979. The Archangel Oriphiel will follow Michael in 2300 or 2400. The core of the pure Michael Age can be expected to last until about 2200, and then Oriphiel's influence will begin to be felt by humanity in advance of his time in power. Our current human incarnation in the Michael Age will most likely be our last. Rudolf Steiner tells us that the constraints of technology will be so difficult that anthroposophists will choose to return at the beginning of the Oriphiel Age to help human beings overcome immense hardening forces, and to awaken them to their spiritual nature. We must make progress now to prepare for the Oriphiel Age.

In relation to thinking with the heart – the new capability of heart thinking – Rudolf Steiner wrote in the Society Newsletter about the threefold task of Michael. This task includes the freeing of thoughts from the region of the head and senses (body free thinking), opening a free pathway for these thoughts to be influenced by the heart, and freeing

enthusiasm so the human being may have a direct and conscious experience with these thoughts.

Michael wants to live in the souls and hearts of human beings in which thoughts are so formed. We need to develop a logical thought process to safeguard from succumbing to sensationalism and fantasies of an occult nature. Rudolf Steiner wrote that logical thinking in the head leads to logical conscience in the heart. We must develop this bridge between the head and heart through a three step process that will lead to conscience.

1. Become a thought detective: **Understand.**
2. Understand the thought through logic: **Comprehend.**
3. Know it deeply with the heart: **Experience.**

We need to do something with heart thinking through sacrifice to the spiritual world. This sacrifice can be made by not trying to harvest as many thoughts as possible, but instead by working through our thoughts with our hearts and offering the resulting substance back to the Hierarchies. Through this we are making a connection of the thought with the word. Thought permeates the word and thereby touches our etheric nature in the supersensible realm. We will thereby develop the capacity to comprehend from etheric body to etheric body. Rudolf Steiner gave a verse on this idea which is called the America Verse.

May our feeling penetrate  
 Into the center of our heart,  
 And seek, in love, to unite itself  
 With the human beings seeking the same goal;  
 With the spirit beings, who, bearing grace,  
 Strengthening us from realms of light  
 And illuminating our love,  
 Are gazing down upon  
 Our earnest, heartfelt striving.

**THE CHALLENGES OF THINKING WITH THE HEART**



By MariJo Rogers, Sacramento, California. MariJo is the National General Secretary of the Anthroposophical Society in North America, a former Waldorf High School teacher, and She currently manages a world wide program of training and awareness for a high technology firm out of its Social Responsibility group. This article contains the basis of MariJo's talk at the Being Awake Conference in August.

The following is a talk given by MariJo Rogers at the Being Awake Summer Conference of the Anthroposophical Society 8/11/05.

It is a privilege to speak with you in beautiful Ann Arbor. There are nearly 700 of us in Rackham Auditorium tonight, and it's worth recalling that there are many others who are with us in spirit. It might be worthwhile to take a moment to recall two or three people whom you know would like to have attended as well. May our heart's warmth and light imbue us all as we spend these coming days together.

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

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

Editor:.....James Lee  
 Calendar: .....Jannebeth Röell and Diane Rumage  
 Publication: .....Chrystal Godleske  
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The deadline for submissions to the *Portland Anthroposophic Times* is the first day of each month for the following month's edition. For example, an article or calendar submission for the November newsletter must be received by Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>.

The theme of our conference this weekend is: “Being Awake: How do I awaken to the Spirit in myself and to the Spirit in the world?” One well-known American writer who understood the importance of being awake was Henry David Thoreau, nineteenth century naturalist and philosopher (1817-1862) who wrote in his book *Walden*, published in 1854, “Only that day dawns to which we are awake.”

Seventy years later, in 1924, Rudolf Steiner writes, “The Age of Michael has dawned. Hearts are beginning to have thoughts.” (*Leading Thoughts*, p. 53)

We are inspired by Thoreau to be awake to each day. That is challenge enough. And now we are inspired by Rudolf Steiner to wake up and be conscious to an entire age.

“Hearts are beginning to have thoughts.” Our hearts are being called to wake up! To become conscious. And at this time, that means to start thinking.

In this context of the theme of waking up to what is dawning in ourselves and in the world, we’re speaking tonight on the challenges of thinking with the heart. This phrase was used as a technical term by Rudolf Steiner, particularly in his lectures in *Macrocosm & Microcosm* given in Vienna in 1910. I’d like to turn first to the world about us and consider what our souls meet on a daily basis.

Think over to the country of Afghanistan then back to March 2001. At that time the press began to report that Taliban militia were demolishing statues across the country to prevent the worship of what they considered to be false idols. What seemed particularly to draw world-wide shock and extensive media coverage was Mullah Omar’s decree to destroy the 2,000-year-old Bamiyan buddhas, statues that were considered by some to be part of our world cultural heritage, one of them the world’s tallest Buddha statue, 165 feet high, carved into the side of a mountain.

With the media’s coverage of that destruction came other stories of Taliban activities in Afghanistan, including a pervasive oppression, even brutality, against women. During this time, I heard a brief radio interview on National Public Radio with two Afghani women – a very rare thing, a very dangerous thing for those women to do – and what one of them said from behind her burqa was so striking that I jotted it down on a nearby envelope. As she spoke, a translator said these words: “We are alive, but our souls are captured. They have been taken from us.”

This is one of the challenges to heart thinking, for heart thinking cannot develop without soul development. Their souls, our souls, souls everywhere, are under siege. The World Soul herself is under siege. The Being of Sophia is under attack.

Now, I would like to share with you a few thoughts from a talk I attended several weeks ago in California. The speaker, Kevin Kelly (b. 1952), is in his mid-fifties, very warm and

calm, balding with a trimmed beard, a photojournalist, publisher of the *Whole Earth Review*, a number of *Whole Earth* catalogs, and founder of *Wired* magazine. He says he doesn’t care much for high tech products, isn’t a gadget collector, and he and his wife raised their children without television. However, he has long been interested in how technology is changing human beings, and how it affects our thinking and our feeling about things.

The talk I attended he titled, “What Technology Wants.” “My quest,” he says, “is to hear what technology wants to say to us.”

Technology, he explained, should not be seen as a computer or a cell phone or an iPod. It works through these products, but in actuality, “Technology is a cosmic force,” he said, adding that it is a force that he believes cannot be stopped. Among the many goals toward which this force seems to be driving are these two. The first is invisibility. From the giant ENIAC computer that took up an entire room to today’s light laptop carried across this campus by many students, Kelly notes increasing miniaturization. Chips developed into microchips and today in labs around the world there are biochips. A second desire of technology is ubiquity. Note the proliferation of cell phones, and you might know that there are chips in our car engines, in our phones, in driver’s licenses, on cases of shampoo, even implanted in 10,000 pets in the United States. One might say that technology has intentions.

Kelly then pointed out that overall one sees that technology creates differences, which open possibilities, which bring opportunities. In the end we have innumerable choices. Ultimately, technology can lead to freedom, he said.

One last remark from that talk that I’d like to share: Kelly says that technology generally tends to drive down the cost of things – the ENIAC, affordable only by a government, becomes the computer affordable by many families. Not only low cost, but no cost. As an example, some of us were given our cell phones for free if we bought the right calling plan. One day, Kelly postulates, the cost of all technology may be free, as items that can be copied can be made more and more cheaply and eventually given away.

When things are free, what price will we have to pay for that?” he asks, because everything comes with a price. “The only factor becoming scarce in a world of abundance is human attention,” he answers. Human attention will be the currency of the future.

What does technology want? Our human attention.

So as we sail our soul through life, as we navigate our ship through rough waters and dark seas, we can ask ourselves the question, “Where *will* I place the light of my attention?”

## Central to the task

Having considered a few challenges, we can turn to thinking of the heart. Let me begin with an image central to this waking up, this development of consciousness, called heart thinking.

Two thousand years ago, at the Mystery of Golgotha, after Christ died on the cross, Joseph of Arimathea, a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin, the ruling council, and a disciple of Christ, asked Pilate for the body. When he and Nicodemus took the body down from the cross, legend tells us that before wrapping the body in fine linen and laying it in his own tomb, Joseph caught the blood that flowed from its wounds. We could imagine that to catch it he used a sacred vessel. Through the wisdom of the ages, the heart has been called an ancient, sacred vessel.

We could thus imagine that Joseph caught in his sacred cup the Ego forces of the Christ that were in that blood. Our task in this Age of Michael is to wake up to the existence of these forces brought by the Christ and to use them as they were meant to be used – for the ascent of humanity. They are forces of resurrection, and we are called to catch them in our hearts and use them at this time for the resurrection of thinking – which means developing the ability of thinking with the heart.

## What is heart thinking?

Heart thinking is a seeing into the spiritual world that is precise, warm and moral.

As explained by Rudolf Steiner, it is a thinking that has been conscientiously trained in logic. It has turned from the material world as its object of interest to the spiritual world and has developed in such a way that it becomes a seeing into the spiritual world. And because it has undergone the right preparatory training, this seeing immediately knows whether what it sees is true or false.

It is a type of thinking that is very different from ordinary thinking. In ordinary thinking our mind moves from one concept to another, deliberates, and after reflection, obtains knowledge. In heart thinking, reflection isn't used because we have a direct, moral experience that we understand immediately and can articulate to others by bringing it back into logical thinking.

This compellingly beautiful phrase, “thinking of the heart,” as Rudolf Steiner uses it, is not referring to a kind or sympathetic way of thinking as might first come to mind. It is, rather, an exacting process that takes work to unfold.

“We earn the right to think with the heart,” according to Rudolf Steiner.

## Preparing for heart thinking

If we want to develop heart thinking, some key ways to prepare include the following.

1. It is essential to develop logical thinking. It is not possible to do the heart thinking of the future without it, for this reason: Logical thinking, if well-developed, creates a kind of conscience in us that gives us a sense of responsibility toward truth. The conscience born of logical thinking becomes the ability to immediately discriminate between true and false as we see into the spiritual world. (See *Macrocosm and Microcosm*, lecture 9.)

In *Occult Science: An Outline* Rudolf Steiner elucidates that in order rightly to develop this new organ in the neighborhood of the heart, we must today learn to approach it through the head; otherwise, although we may have visions of the spiritual world, we will be unprepared to comprehend rightly in the moment what we are seeing. “To do heart thinking, preparatory training in logical thinking is essential, otherwise our feelings would quite certainly lead us into error,” he explains.

2. Another helpful preparation for heart thinking is to train ourselves so that lies cause us to feel pain in our soul and truth causes us to feel joy. Or as he says in his lectures to the workers (*Learning to See into the Spiritual World*), “Truth and the striving for truth, must taste good to you; and lies, once you are conscious of them, must taste bitter and poisonous.” For we cannot take both truth and lies into our soul in the same way in our daily consciousness and see truly in the spiritual world.
3. We can re-read *The Philosophy of Spiritual Activity*. Steiner called this book “gymnastics for the soul and spirit” (*Esoteric Development*, p. 141) and went on to say that while the contents are, of course, important, even more importantly “a reader must become accustomed to using his etheric body if he would think the thoughts in this book at all. Hence, this book is a means of education – a very important means – and must be taken up as such” (*Learning to See into the Spiritual World*, p. 10-11).

Loosening the etheric is necessary because in our time the etheric body is too deeply driven into the physical. The etheric heart also has the capacity to loosen from the physical heart. It must do so, to be able to carry the living thoughts of the spiritual world.

4. We can work with the Foundation Stone meditation. In it are resurrection forces that enable us to practice spirit-beholding. Practicing spirit-beholding is developing heart thinking. “And you will truly think.”

## Heart thinking awakens in the Age of Michael

“The Age of Michael has dawned. Hearts are beginning to have thoughts.” Rudolf Steiner continues further on, “Thoughts which at the present time strive to grasp the spiritual must originate in hearts that beat for Michael as the fiery Prince of Thought in the Universe” (*Leading Thoughts*, p. 53).

In a world where souls are imprisoned and human attention is stolen, we are called to open our hearts to a relationship with the being of Michael, countenance of Christ and protector of the World Soul. It is possible for us to turn our attention toward the spiritual and develop heart thinking at all because Michael is ready to help us. If we choose to work toward this conscious experience of the spiritual called heart thinking, Michael will come to meet us, to help us. “For it is his intention that thinking shall flow in future through the hearts of human beings” (*Leading Thoughts*, p. 97).

Why does he have this intention? Michael serves the Christ Light. His whole being is an activity of attention to the Christ. For the past 2,000 years, the resurrection forces caught by Joseph of Arimathea have been spreading from heart to heart, but like an underground river, this movement has been hard to trace. Today, this Christ Impulse wants to be consciously known. It wants to be seen where it dwells – in human hearts.

We can say that the day dawns because we begin to see the sun’s light and then eventually to feel its warmth on our face. The sun of the dawning Michael Age will not be seen in the sky. It is an inner sun. It dwells in our hearts. This is where Michael has turned his attention. This is where we are called to turn our attention. It is where we may find the Grail of our heart filled with the forces of the Christed ego.

To think with the heart is to be a conscious carrier of the Grail. This is being awake as a truly human being.

## BEING AWAKE CONFERENCE REFLECTIONS



By Diane Ramage. Diane is a long-time anthroposophist with many years of training in speech and eurythmy. She currently works in the community through her business called Starstream Astrology-Astrosophy.

I go to the "Being Awake" conference with anticipation, expectations, wishes: to meet the Executive Council from Dornach, hear them speak, reconnect with old friends, converse with new ones, see what will develop out of it. I enter the hall and see almost 650 anthroposophists and a wave breaks over me as I realize I can't possibly speak with all these folks in a few days. So before I go to sleep, I speak to those I don't get to, telling them time and karma may not allow personal interaction, but I am with them in spirit. And I appreciate all those who couldn't attend the conference but who I know are working with Anthroposophy in their lives. I

appreciate all those in the spiritual world who are watching and working with us.

Elisabeth Lebret, an anthroposophist and musician dies in Canada on Henry Barnes' 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday during the conference. I've never met her, yet I've gratefully played her music with my lyre to handicapped children and Waldorf students. She has chosen a special moment to pass into the spiritual world, when this constellation of anthroposophists is gathered in North America to speak and sing to the stars.

Bodo von Plato (Plah-toe not Play-toe) inspires me with his alert questioning. What do we choose to notice? To remember? What do we fill our consciousness with? How do we know the concepts we keep as ours are true? From our conversation group on being human: there is the constant question in the dialogue between developing ourselves and what the world needs. We, individually, feel inadequate. That awakens us to others, and to the spiritual beings.

How refreshing to be able to turn to anyone sitting next to you and start speaking about the spiritual world. I left with more questions, beginnings of conversations and karmic meetings, joy, responsibility. Tired, but awake.

## SOCIAL CHANGE: ONE-ON-ONE



By Richard Knutson, Vancouver, Washington.

Being Awake! served to reinforce my long standing conviction that meaningful social change will only come about on a one-by-one basis. There is no system or -ism that can do what being awake can do for the individual and, as a consequence, the society he lives in. The success of any system or -ism is contingent upon the self-improvement of the individuals comprising the system. It follows that the planet is under the same constraint. Humanity as a whole improves as each individual on the planet strives to be awake. It's good to see we are getting down to basics. And, it was good to see old friends and fellow travelers.

## STAR LIGHT

By Diane Ramage, Portland, Oregon

The virtue of the month that Rudolf Steiner gives for Sept 21 - Oct 21 when the sun is in the sign of Libra, the scales, is: "Contentment becomes Equanimity."

The sound for the air sign of Libra is CH as in loch--one can picture a light breeze wafting over a lake towards one, or TS as in its--we bend down to lift a heavy object and discover it is light as a feather.

Libra is the sense of taste. It is Realism. With our taste we can sense if something is too sweet, too salty, too sour, too bland; with our aesthetic sense we can tell if something has gone

overboard in one direction or another, if it lacks reality. And by reality we must consider the spirit in matter. Consider a sculpture by an ancient Greek, and compare it with a modern one, let's say of a socialist worker. One breathes life, the other sits too heavy, seems dead, devoid of spirit. Content comes from the Latin meaning: to hold in, to contain. If our life has content, if it contains the spirit, we are content. When we are discontented we seek our reality elsewhere, through escapism into Lucifer's realm, or through gathering not the breath of spirit but through amassing "real" things, material things that we must have to feel and show that we are someone, that we have arrived. But once we have arrived, we wish for more, for something different. We attain composure, equanimity, when we realize that the spirit is in us, all around us, has created us, has created matter, is wafting through us every moment of our lives, that we live in the present between our wishes for the future and our attainments or experiences of the past. The spiritual world is working hard night and day in life and death to make sure we experience what we need to for our proper evolution. It is our task to be aware that though to normal thinking we should like to be elsewhere, that our destiny may seem heavy and dark, it is woven out of light. Michael waits for us to recognize where and how we stand between Sophia (Virgo) and the dragon (Scorpio). Libras have difficulty making decisions. They want to choose, to decide for the best,

go for what is right. They'll go along with the crowd just not to make waves, hoping for harmony. Can't we all just get along? We could do this, we could do that. They constantly weigh something in the scales: the weighing of the supposition of thoughts, the threshold from inner man to outer man. We step past the equinox and darkness seems to overcome the light more and more each day until the winter solstice. Michael holds the scales between the Virgin and the Dragon.

Contentment becomes equanimity, composure. Composition--how are things positioned, related to one another? Libra is ruled by Venus and there are many singer/composers who are Libras: John Lennon, Ray Charles, Paul Simon, Guiseppe Verdi to name a few.

Full moon occurs 10/17/05 at 5:13 AM PDT as it sets and enters the constellation of Aries, with Mars at the other end of Aries in the W. Saturn is in the E in the middle of the constellation of Cancer. There is a partial eclipse at 5:04 AM PDT.

Heliocentric similars include the deaths of Anton Bruckner, Scarlatti, Francis Bacon, Amos Comenius. The birth of Shakespeare, Emerson, Bruckner and Tycho Brahe.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

### THE E-LIB([WWW.ELIB.COM](http://www.elib.com)) AND RUDOLF STEINER ARCHIVE ([HTTP://WWW.RSARCHIVE.ORG](http://www.rsarchive.org))

The information on e-lib websites is provided free of charge, including the Rudolf Steiner Archive at <http://www.rsarchive.org>, the Fine Arts Presentations at <http://fineart.elib.com/>, KnowNews information service at <http://www.knownews.net/>, features at <http://www.elib.com/>, and two Goethe-related websites at <http://www.goetheanism.org> and <http://www.goetheanscience.org>.

### MICHAELMAS CELEBRATION – SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>

As the wheel of the seasons turn, we find ourselves in rhythmical festival time again. Please join us in celebrating Michaelmas on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. The Parker's are hosting a biodynamic stirring/sprinkling and potluck from 4:00 - 7:30 PM. The address is 5720 SE Harney Drive. Parking is available on 57<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup>. Call 503-777-9086 if you have questions. This is a community-wide celebration; all are welcome. Thank you, Sharon, Dave, Dana, and Frank Parker.

### BRANCH RESOLVES TO HOLD DEEPER MEANING OF MICHAELMAS FESTIVAL

At our June branch meeting, those present resolved to read over the summer and help to carry as a whole community the deep significance of the Michaelmas season. An e-mail to this effect was sent out to members. In support of this impulse, Steiner Storehouse has ordered from England some vibrant artwork (cards and a poster) by various artists depicting the Archangel Michael, and his battle with the dragon. We also have fierce, Camphill-carved dragons. Warmest greetings for this autumn time...Valerie at Steiner Storehouse

# Portland Anthroposophical Society Calendar - October 2005

## Study Groups

### **Anthroposophia Studies for Branch Life**

Working with the spiritual realm helping our community life. Call for meeting times to Valerie Hope 503/775-0778.

### **Biodynamic Agriculture**

First and third Sundays: Reading "Introduction to Culture and Horticulture" with potluck. Starts Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30, 5720 SE Harney Dr. Subsequent meetings (beginning October 2<sup>nd</sup>) will be held at People's Food Coop, 3029 SE 21<sup>st</sup> Ave. Please contact Stephanie Buddenbaum 503-233-8849 ([artwool@yahoo.com](mailto:artwool@yahoo.com)) or Sharon Parker 503-777-9086 ([sharon.parker@providence.org](mailto:sharon.parker@providence.org)) for more information and reading material.

### **Eurythmy**

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

### **Karmic Relationships – currently full**

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

### **Life Beyond Death – currently full**

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

### **Mystery Dramas**

Most Wednesdays at 7 PM. Please call James Lee at 503/249-3804.

### **Religious Instruction for Children**

A new study group that is preparing to support religious instruction as indicated by Rudolf Steiner for children. Contact Lucia Mello with questions or for more information 503/892-5296.

### **Special Needs/Camphill**

Fridays, 7 – 8:30 PM Reading from Rudolf Steiner's Education for Special Needs, formerly titled Curative Education. Call Craig Thom 503/256-1622 for location and directions.

### **Waldorf Education and Teacher Training**

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

## Upcoming Events

### **Now Through November**

#### **Art Show by Students of Portland Waldorf High School**

There is a Portland Waldorf High School student art show at the Milo Cafe on 1325 NE Broadway, Portland running through November.

### **Wednesdays SEPTEMBER 14 - NOVEMBER 2**

#### **Eight Painting Classes**

Place: 3135 NE 17<sup>th</sup> avenue, Time: 9AM-10AM

Please call Jannebeth Röell to reserve a place: 502-249-3807

### **Sunday SEPTEMBER 18**

#### **"St. George and the Dragon"**

A Live Theater Production followed by potluck supper at Wilshire Park, NE 33rd & Skidmore, 2PM. Players of all sorts desired to

come forward and participate in producing/acting in this wonderful story. Contact Marsha Johnson at [Oregon7@aol.com](mailto:Oregon7@aol.com) or call her at 503-753-4459

### **Sunday SEPTEMBER 18**

#### **Portland Branch Members Meeting**

Bothmer Hall, 3:00-5:00 PM, SE 59<sup>th</sup> & SE Division St

Meeting of the Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society. Reading from 3-4 PM; Business Meeting 4-5 PM.

### **Sunday SEPTEMBER 18**

#### **Introduction to the Social Inclusion Approach**

Portland Waldorf School, 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie OR

Lecture by Kim Payne, about breaking the pattern of teasing and bullying., Music room, at 7PM

### **Tuesday SEPTEMBER 20**

#### **Eurythmy Performance of Antonin Dvorak's New World Symphony** – Performance starts at 8:00 PM

Newmark Theater, 1111 SW Broadway Portland, OR 97205

Tickets may be purchased in advance. Contact Don Marquiss for more information 503/233-0663

### **Thursday SEPTEMBER 22**

#### **Discover Waldorf Breakfast**

Portland Waldorf School, Handwork room, at 9AM

2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie OR 97222-7527. Info: 503-654-2200

### **Thursday SEPTEMBER 29**

#### **Michaelmas Celebration and Biodynamic Stirring**

Pot luck and BD stirring from 4:00-7:30 PM. BD stirrings are from 4:00 – 5:00 PM. Bring food to share and grill. Call the Parkers at 503-777-9086 for directions.

### **Friday SEPTEMBER 30**

#### **Eurythmy Troupe Benefit Dinner**

Portland Waldorf School, 5.30 PM at 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie OR 97222-7527. Call for info: 503-654-2200

### **Saturday OCT 1 – Please send in copy for the November newsletter by this date to [branchcalendar@mindspring.com](mailto:branchcalendar@mindspring.com)**

### **Thursdays OCTOBER 6- 27**

#### **Anthroposophy -The Philosophy Behind Waldorf Education**

10/ 6 on the Worlds of Soul and Spirit; 10/13 on the Evolution of the Earth; 10/ 20 on Reincarnation and Karma; 10/27 on the Task of Humanity. To learn more contact John Miles at 503/774-4946.

### **Thursday OCTOBER 7**

#### **Television or Storytelling? Nourishing Your Child's Imagination**

A parenting talk by Lucia Mello, Waldorf Early Childhood teacher, at the Montavill Community Center, 8219 SE Glisan, 7-8 PM. Free

### **Sunday OCTOBER 9**

#### **First Class of the School of Spiritual Science**

Bothmer Hall – Discussion at 8:30 AM, class at 9:30 AM sharp Lesson Two, for First Class members. Please contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3804.

**Friday OCTOBER 14****Open House for Grades K\_ - 8**

Portland Waldorf School, 7-9 PM at 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie OR 97222-7527. Call Maya Muir, 503.654.2200 x 207

**Fr-Su OCTOBER 21 – 23****Responsibility and Freedom in the New Mysteries Conference**

Portland, OR

Responsibility and Freedom in the New Mysteries Conference and the Annual General Meeting of the Anthroposophical Society will take place in Portland, Oregon this year. There will be many conversations and workshops to attend, and much for our branch to do to support and enjoy this important gathering. For more information see the flier attached to this newsletter, or contact Valerie Hope at 503 775-0778.

**OCTOBER 21 – 29****Fiddler on the Roof**

The Portland Waldorf High School presents Fiddler on the Roof at 7 p.m., October 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29 at the Milwaukie Community Club, 10666 SE 42nd Ave (42 and Harrison) Milwaukie. Tickets will be available in advance from the Spring Creek Store at the School and at the door. The entire high school participates in putting on the musical whether acting, playing in the orchestra or preparing the set, costumes and lighting.

**Wednesday NOVEMBER 2****Day of the Dead**

Our annual Day of the Dead celebration will be held at Bothmer Hall. Please join us for an evening of eurythmy, music, conversation. The hall will open at 7:00 PM, and all are invited to bring mementos, candles, flowers to decorate the table. Celebration is 7:30 - 9:00 PM. Contact Cheri Munske at 503 772-2632 for more information

**Thursdays NOVEMBER 3 – DECEMBER 8****Festivals**

11/ 3 on Cosmic and Earth Festivals in the Year; 11/10 on Autumn - Michaelmas, Harvest , Hallowe'en and Martinmas; 11/17 on Winter - Advent, Hanukkah, Christmas, 12 Holy Nights, & Epiphany; 12/8 on Spring & Summer - Imbolc, Easter, Mayday, Whitsun & Mid-Summer. For reading list & to learn more: contact John Miles at 503/774-4946.

**Fr - Su NOVEMBER 11 - 13****Fall Conference and National Future of Prep Makers Group**

Lost Valley Conference Center outside of Eugene, OR

Oregon will host the annual meeting of the National Biodynamic Prep Makers Group – so we decided to combine that meeting with our usual fall conference. This will be an opportunity to meet representatives of prep making groups from across the country, to compare notes and exchange ideas. Contact Kathryn Casternovia at [elementaldesigns@charter.net](mailto:elementaldesigns@charter.net)

**Sunday NOVEMBER 13****First Class of the School of Spiritual Science**

Bothmer Hall – Discussion at 8:30 AM, class at 9:30 AM sharp Lesson 3 for First Class members. Please contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3804.

**Saturday NOVEMBER 19****Annual Winter Faire**

Cedarwood School: 3030 SW 2nd Ave. Portland, Oregon 97201. Tel: (503) 245-1477.

**Sundays NOVEMBER 27, DECEMBER 4, 11, 18****Advent Readings**

Advent is the period beginning on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. Join us to read about events that took place in the spiritual world long before the birth of Jesus Christ on earth. The significance of these events or deeds is that they were a prerequisite for our unique human faculties of walking, speaking, and thinking. The Pre-Earthly Deeds of Christ and The Four Sacrifices of Christ by Rudolf Steiner are the short lectures that will be considered during the Advent meetings. Copies of the lectures will be available. Each Sunday we will consider one of the Deeds and Sacrifices. Please contact James Lee 503/249-3804 for more information. Look at future calendars for additional details.

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

Bothmer Hall – Discussion at 8:30 AM, class at 9:30 AM sharp Lesson 4 for First Class members. Please contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3807.

**Friday, JANUARY 6****Olaf Asteson**

Portland Waldorf School, 7:00 PM, 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie OR. A performance by the students of the Michael Institute and others. Contact John Miles at 503/774-4946.

**Wednesdays and Thursdays JANUARY 18-26****Community-building suggestions from Rudolf Steiner**

1/18 “The Social Evolution of the World”; 1/19 “The Threefold Social Order for Today and its future development”; 1/25 “The Waldorf School as an expression of the Threefold Social Order”; 1/26 “The task for Humanity at the Present Time”. For reading list & to learn more: contact John Miles at 503/774-4946.

**Friday and Saturday FEBRUARY 17 and 18, 2006****Lecture and Workshop with Georg Kühlewind (Tentative)**

Georg Kühlewind is a Hungarian philosopher, writer, lecturer, and meditation teacher who works out of the tradition of Rudolf Steiner. Placing aside an early interest in music and psychology, he pursued a successful, professional career as a physical chemist, while continuously deepening his spiritual practice and insights. A prolific author, Georg Kühlewind now travels the world lecturing and holding workshops and seminars in meditation, psychology, epistemology, child development, anthroposophy, and esoteric Christianity. He is the author of *Star Children*; *Stages of Consciousness*; *Becoming Aware of the Logos*; *The Logos Structure of the Soul*; and *From Normal to Healthy*. Please contact Tom Klein at [tgklein@aol.com](mailto:tgklein@aol.com) if you wish to participate in or help carry this event.

**FEBRUARY 2006 (Tentative)****Lecture and Workshop with Christopher Budd**

Dr. Christopher Budd has advanced the conceptual framework of Dr. Steiner's Threefold Social Order with his writings and his policy setting education in the international banking community. You may familiarize yourself with his work by viewing this information at <http://www.ae-institute.com/>: a sample program and schedule can be found on the website. We are looking for someone interested in carrying the organization of this event for Portland. If this is you, please send us an e-mail at [anthroposophy@earthlink.net](mailto:anthroposophy@earthlink.net) and let us know.



# ***FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY IN THE NEW MYSTERIES: THE NEED FOR SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT***

A conference sponsored by

**THE ANTHROPOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN AMERICA**

**Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, Saturday October 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005  
in Portland, Oregon**

This conference addresses questions that concern all of us. The questions include: How do we know what is real and what is illusion? How do we know what is fruitful and what is harmful? How do we know what is true and what is a lie? These are questions we experience every day of our lives in regard to the world around us and in regard to our own inner life and activity.

Taking as our starting point the work of Rudolf Steiner we will bring practical suggestions and positive images for us to work with in our own lives. One of the first exercises Rudolf Steiner gave in his book *How to Know Higher Worlds* was, "Learn to distinguish between the essential and the non-essential." This exercise is the foundation for our capacity to discriminate.

**Dennis Klocek** *Transforming Fantasy into Imagination* will explore the pitfalls of visionary consciousness and show how we can find balance with meditative and practical exercises. (Friday evening and Saturday morning)

**MariJo Rogers** *Parzival's Path is Our Path in the New Mysteries* explores the story of Parzival and his role as a forerunner of the inner struggles of our time. She will bring images from this story as models for dealing with failure by faithfulness to the spiritual needs of the times. (Saturday afternoon)

**Joan Almon** *Helping the Child Discriminate Between What is True and What is Not* takes our questions directly to the problems of childhood with this workshop and talk for parents and teachers. (Saturday morning)

**Joan Treadaway** *What Do the New Mysteries Mean for the Education of the Child?* is another workshop and talk addressing problems of childhood. (Saturday afternoon)

Saturday participants can choose between workshops on childhood and conversation groups on the subject of discernment, both personal and social. Participants may bring other topics for the conversation groups.

We will have the opportunity to experience Werbeck singing with **Diane Rowley** on Saturday. Late Saturday afternoon, a group of local members directed by **Diane Rumage** will enact for us Scene 10 from Rudolf Steiner's mystery drama *The Portal of Initiation*, which portrays Johannes struggling with spiritual discernment. A special highlight of the weekend will be an original piece, *Poetry in Buchenwald*, which is adapted from the work of Jacques Lusseyran and performed Saturday night by a group organized by **Natasha Moss**. **Jeffrey Levy** will tell the story, which includes music, eurythmy, marionettes and poetry. There will also be individual works by other eurythmists from the Northwest.

The conference will be followed on Sunday, October 23, 2005, by the **Annual General Meeting of the Anthroposophical Society in America** for members. It will run from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The agenda for that meeting is being mailed to members. There is no fee to attend.

The events on Friday and Saturday night (Dennis Klocek's lecture and *Poetry in Buchenwald*) will be held at **Pacific Crest Community School**, 116 NE 29<sup>th</sup> Ave. Portland, OR, (503) 234-2826. Pacific Crest Community School is a private alternative school serving grades 6-12. All other events will be at the **Portland Waldorf School**, 2300 SE Harrison St., Milwaukie, OR, (503) 654-2200. Both schools are graciously supporting the event with the use of their beautiful spaces.

**Conference fee** is \$95, which includes a reception on Friday evening, Saturday lunch and dinner, and the Saturday evening performance. Sunday box lunches are available for travelers for \$8 ea. (specify regular or vegetarian). Please register with a check to Anthroposophical Society or by credit card (Visa or Master Charge) at Anthroposophical Society in America, 1923 Geddes Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104, (734) 662-9355, fax (734) 662-1727. Please include your email address. There is no fee to attend the Annual General Meeting.

For additional information visit the Portland Branch website at [www.portlandbranch.com](http://www.portlandbranch.com) or the Anthroposophical Society in America website at [www.anthroposophy.org](http://www.anthroposophy.org).



**Dennis Klocek** is a true alchemist and researcher. He teaches the Consciousness Studies Program at Rudolf Steiner College in Fair Oaks, CA. Dennis trained as a painter and holds an M.F.A. degree from Temple University. His most recent book is *The Seer's Handbook*. His weather research is featured in the Utne publication *Urban Almanac*. His weather website is at [www.docweather.com](http://www.docweather.com).

**MariJo Rogers** is one of the two General Secretaries of the Anthroposophical Society in America. A former Waldorf High School teacher, she currently manages a world wide program of training and awareness for a high technology firm out of its Social Responsibility group.

**Joan Almon** is the other General Secretary of the Anthroposophical Society. She spent years teaching and working with young children. She is a cofounder of The Alliance for Childhood, which works to oppose the pressures that deprive children of a healthy childhood. Its latest publication is *Tech Tonic: Towards a New Literacy of Technology*.

**Joan Treadaway** is the Chair of the Western Regional Council of the Anthroposophical Society. She brings the fruits of many years of working therapeutically with children.

**Diane Rowley** is full-time College Chairperson for the Portland Waldorf School. She was introduced to Anthroposophy through Waldorf education in 1985 when she enrolled her oldest daughter in the kindergarten in Portland.

**Diane Rumage** is a long-time anthroposophist with many years of training in speech and eurythmy. She currently works in the community through Starstream Astrology-Astrosophy.

**Natasha Moss** is the founder and director of Portland Eurythmy, an Intensive Eurythmy Program for adults. She performs with other artists locally and nationally.

**Jeffrey Levy** teaches drama and humanities at the Portland Waldorf High School and serves on the board of the Classic Greek Theatre of Oregon. He taught and managed three theaters at California State University, was the Executive Director of the Teenage Drama Workshop, and has worked as a writer, director and actor for many years.

And many more active members of the community are working hard to make this conference a success.