

Portland Anthroposophic Times

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

www.portlandbranch.com

Volume 4.9 September 2008

WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL UPDATE

The members of the Western Regional Council join together in thanking Beth Wieting for her 14 years of exceptional service to the Western Region. Although she is now retired from the Western Regional Council, she is still actively interested in serving Anthroposophy. She is full of plans and projects for the future. We wish her well in her future initiatives.

Daniel Bittleston, Linda Connell, Michael Pinchera and Joan Treadaway, members of the Western Regional Council

Presentations on the School of Spiritual Science

With Dr. Ernst Katz

Saturday, October 11th: Open to members and friends of the Anthroposophical Society.

Sunday, October 12th: Open to members of the School of Spiritual Science.

See page 4 in this newsletter for details.

Contact Jannebeth Röell to RSVP by phone at (503) 249-3807 or e-mail at jannebeth@mindspring.com.

Presentations by Steve Usher

See pages 2 and 3 in this newsletter for details.

Friday, October 25 7:30 pm

Anthroposophical publisher Stephen Usher shares his private conversations with Saul Bellow on spirituality.

Saturday, October 26 7:30 pm

Anthroposophist Rudolf Steiner & the Three-Folding of Society. This lecture is for members and friends of the society, as a knowledge of Anthroposophy is necessary, and reading Steiner's *Occult Science* is helpful.

Sunday, October 25, 4pm

For Members: **The Christmas Foundation Conference and the Foundation Stone.**

This lecture is for members with pink cards. (If you've lost your card, send for it; you don't want to miss this!)

PORTLAND BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING and Election of Board Members

WHEN: Monday Evening September 29th, 6:30 PM

DIRECTIONS: 4307 NE Brazee, Portland, OR 97213, Just 3 blocks north of Sandy Blvd in the beautiful Hollywood District. (503) 282-6258

INITIATIVES: Please come and share your work out of anthroposophy: whether inner work or an outer endeavor, or both!

VOTE: At this meeting we will vote for Portland Branch board members who will serve during the coming 12 months. Currently running for the board are: Tom Klein, Ruth Klein, Marsha Johnson, and Walter Rice. Could another member perhaps be → YOU?

EAT: We will enjoy a nice supper of Dragon Breath Chili (Veggie & Meat) and cornbread. Please bring your favorite toppings to share.

We are looking for new members to help us carry the work of the branch, to arrange public and member events, and to help us organize the branch library.

BRANCH BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE 2008-2009

Please join us! All are welcome! The branch meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at Tom & Ruth Klein's home located at 3609 SE Center Street, Portland, OR 97202; (503) 777-3176. The one exception this year is the general meeting that will be held on Monday, September 29th.

Meeting Schedule

September 29th (Monday) Annual Meeting and Voting
October 22nd, 7:00 PM

November 19th 7:00 PM (change due to Thanksgiving)

December: (Skip due to the Holy Nights' Readings)

January 28th 7:00 PM

February 25th, 7:00 PM

March 25th, 7:00 PM

April 29th, 7:00 PM

May 27th, 7:00 PM

June 24th, 7:00 PM

July – (SKIP due to vacations)

August 26th, 7:00 PM

Stephen Usher is Coming to town! October 24, 25, 26, 2008

I have been hoping for the return of Stephen Usher ever since I hosted his last lecture series at my home some years ago. I found Stephen to be lively, deeply thoughtful, inspiring, and somewhat provocative. So when I heard the Portland Branch would bring him here again this October with three new lectures, I enthusiastically agreed to help. (See the program in this issue and in the Calendar of Events). I especially like Stephen's preferred format, which includes questions, discussion and refreshments following the lectures.



Stephen has a Ph.D. in economics, and was staff economist at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York City in the late 1970's. Never fear, this does not make him a dull man!

Stephen was Director of the Anthroposophical Press from 1980-1988, and it was during this time that he got to know Saul Bellow, who was writing the forward to Rudolf Steiner's book, *Boundaries of Natural Science*. This relationship is the basis for Stephen's first lecture on Friday evening. According to one website, by his death Bellow (1915-2005) was regarded by some as the greatest living novelist in English, and he was the first novelist to win the [National Book Award](#) three times. In 1976 he won the Pulitzer Prize for his novel *Humbolt's Gift*, which according to Stephen is "...about a guy coming to terms with Rudolf Steiner"; and according to Malcom Bradbury, is a "...commentary on the increasing commodification of culture." That same year Bellow won the Nobel Prize for Literature.

"According to Bellow biographer James Atlas, the wiseguy Chicago writer regularly attended Windy City sessions of the Anthroposophical Society, kept a photo of Steiner on his desk, practiced Steiner's meditation exercises, bought his books by the bagful, and pursued the Steiner scholar Owen Barfield for further illumination." I'm sure he was also happy to have found a resource in Stephen. I found all this information on the internet, because frankly, I didn't know much about Saul Bellow. After reading all of the glowing reports about him as a literary figure, I'm looking forward to what Stephen has to add about Bellow and his relationship to Anthroposophy.

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

The Portland Branch Thanks the following Members and Friends for their Generous Donations in 2008!

Julie Foster	Peter Bennett	Lisa Masterson
Joan Takacs	Ann Creadick	Nina & Scott Churchill
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Nancy Pierce	Angela Sparks	Patricia Dair
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Lynn Madsen	Linda Connell	Robin O'Brien
Marion van Namen	Charles Forster	Chiaki Uchiyama
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Chrystal Godleske	Tom Klein	Ruth Klein
Jan Barnett	Betty Baldwin	Diane Rowley
Kathryn Foubister	Joanna Alemann	Ron Ennis
Leslie Cox	Janet Terwilliger	Patricia Dair
Sacha Etzel		

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.

Editor: James Lee
 Calendar: Jannebeth Röell and Diane Rumage
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**Please submit your Donations to the Portland Branch
c/o Ruth Klein at 3609 SE Center, Portland, OR 97202**

Some Bellow Quotes (also thanks to the internet): "It (Anthroposophy) puts back into life a kind of magic we've been persuaded to drop. ... When Steiner tells me I have a soul and a spirit, I say, yes, I always knew that." "[There is] an immense, painful longing for a broader, more flexible, fuller, more coherent, more comprehensive account of what we human beings are, who we are and what this life is for." "I feel that art has something to do with the achievement of stillness in the midst of chaos. A stillness which characterizes prayer, too, and the eye of the storm. I think that art has something to do with an arrest of attention in the midst of distraction." "A great deal of intelligence can be invested in ignorance when the need for illusion is deep."

Stephen tells me that his second lecture, on Saturday evening, is best attended by students of Anthroposophy and members of the Society. A reading of *Occult Science*, he says, can be helpful. Trying to follow without adequate background in Anthroposophy might approximate an experience I would likely have if I attended a lecture on Quantum Physics. The title of this lecture is, **Anthroposophist Rudolf Steiner & the Three-Folding of Society: its historical roots, its potential ramifications and the forces of opposition.** Among the reasons Stephen is well versed on this topic: he introduced and compiled material for the 2003 publication of *Rudolf Steiner's Social & Political Science*. From the Chicago Branch flier for this lecture: "Rudolf Steiner's repeated attempt to inaugurate a renewal of the social organism in middle Europe some 90 years ago went unheeded. Could the ensuing history of the 20th century have been much different if those ideas had then begun to be implemented? Fast forward to 2007...Three-Folding ideas have planted some roots worldwide. What and where has this been done, and how can these efforts help to transform decaying forms in the political, economic and cultural spheres? *What is the human spirit being called upon to do?*" Stephen will explore Steiner's idea, its history and its opponents. While Steiner first proposed three-folding in response to a question about how to bring some sanity into the madness of the first world war, Stephen will explain how it provides an occult background for current events.

Stephen's third lecture, *The Christmas Foundation Conference and the Foundation Stone*, is for members with pink cards. (If you've lost your card, send for it now; you don't want to miss this!) Stephen has had the great good fortune to discuss the Christmas Conference with a Eurythmist who was there. He will explore the important distinction between the Christmas Foundation

Verse and the Foundation Stone itself. **Potluck follows – bring your favorite dish and continue the conversations!**

Stephen Usher Lecture Series

October 24th, 25th, 26th

Questions, discussion and refreshments will follow the lectures. \$10 General Admission, \$5 Students

Friday, October 24 7:30 pm

Anthroposophical publisher Stephen Usher shares his private conversations with Saul Bellow on spirituality. The two men discussed Steiner's spiritual scientific discoveries, including those described in *Work of the Angel in Man's Astral Body*. Stephen will also explore Bellow's references to Rudolf Steiner and his work in Bellow's 1976 Pulitzer Prize winning novel *Humboldt's Gift*, which according to Usher is about a guy coming to terms with Rudolf Steiner. Bellow also won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1976. By his death Bellow was regarded by some as the greatest living novelist in English. Bellow quote: "[There is] an immense, painful longing for a broader, more flexible, fuller, more coherent, more comprehensive account of what we human beings are, who we are and what this life is for." Location: Cedarwood Waldorf School, 3030 SW 2nd Ave.

Saturday, October 25 7:30 pm

Anthroposophist Rudolf Steiner & the Three-Folding of Society. This lecture is for members and friends of the society, as a knowledge of Anthroposophy is necessary, and reading Steiner's *Occult Science* is helpful. Stephen will explore the idea, its history, and its opponents.. While Steiner first proposed 3-folding as a way to bring sanity into the madness of WWI, Stephen will explain how it provides an occult background for current events. Location: The Hope's home, 2606 SE 58th Ave (block south of Division)

Sunday, October 26, 4:00 pm

For Members: The Christmas Foundation Conference and the Foundation Stone. This lecture is for members with pink cards. (If you've lost your card, send for it; you don't want to miss this!) Stephen has had the great good fortune to discuss the Christmas Conference with a Eurythmist who was there. He will explore the important distinction between the Christmas Foundation Verse and the Foundation Stone itself. Potluck follows—bring your favorite dish and continue the conversation. Location: The Hope's home, 2606 SE 58th Ave.

Sponsored by the Portland Branch

Presentations on the School of Spiritual Science

The School of Spiritual Science and the Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America are honored to announce the visit of Dr. Ernst Katz on Saturday, October 11th and Sunday, October 12th to present topics related to the School of Spiritual Science, whose worldwide activities are centered at the Goetheanum in Dornach, Switzerland. All activities will take place at Bothmer Hall located at 5915 SE Division Street, Portland, OR 97206, where free parking is available.



For 33 years Ernst Katz was active at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor as a professor of Physics, 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 since its founding he was president of the Rudolf Steiner Institute of the Great Lakes area. Together with his late wife Katherine he fostered the growth of anthroposophy in Ann Arbor and in America as well as other countries, for almost sixty years.

His publications include: *Meditation, an Introduction* (1975), *About your Relation to Rudolf Steiner* (1985), *Thoughts about the Foundation Stone* (1999), and *The Mission of Rudolf Steiner* (2005).

Program

Saturday evening, October 11th at 7:30 PM – Presentation by Ernst Katz – [Open to members and friends of the Anthroposophical Society](#). Dr. Katz will speak about the School of Spiritual Science, its esoteric meaning, and its central position within the Anthroposophical Society. This is an event not to miss. The talk will be followed by an informal opportunity to ask questions and for conversation over light refreshments and will conclude by 9:30 PM.

Sunday morning, October 12th at 10:00 AM sharp – An overview of the 19 class lessons by Ernst Katz – [Open to members of the School of Spiritual Science upon presentation of their blue cards](#). Please arrive by 9:45 AM to find seating and relax. The doors will close promptly at 10:00 AM.

Sunday lunch – A potluck lunch will be provided by local members of the School of Spiritual Science to be shared by all participants.

Sunday afternoon, October 12th at 1:30 PM sharp – Conversation on the esoteric nature of the School of Spiritual Science with an introduction by Ernst Katz – [Open to members of the School of Spiritual Science upon presentation of their blue cards](#).

Please help us defray costs. The suggested donation for Saturday's presentation is \$10. The suggested donation for Sunday's activities is \$20. The suggested donation for both the Saturday and Sunday events is \$25.

Registration

Please RSVP to Jannebeth Röell at jannebeth@mindspring.com or (503) 249-3807 no later than October 4th. Send your check made out to the Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society – you may also include your questions for Dr. Katz – to Jannebeth Röell at 3135 NE 17th Avenue, Portland, OR 97212. You may also pay at the door up to 15 minutes in advance of the start of activities.

Portland Anthroposophical Society Calendar - September 2008

Ongoing Events and Study Groups

African Drumming

Every Thursday evening from 8-9 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 Pedagogical Section Starting

Many of you know that about 2 years ago I was hoping to get educators in Waldorf Education together who are interested in forming a Pedagogical Section here in Portland. The aim is to meet once a month at Cedarwood School or another central location on Sundays to discuss questions that the pedagogical section is holding worldwide. The intent is to begin in October or November. If this is something you are interested in please e-mail me as soon as possible. Sacha Etzel at TheEtzel6@wmconnect.com or by phone at 503-329-4982.

Portland Waldorf School Community Choir

Every Monday 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

Upcoming Events

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.

SEPTEMBER 15-DECEMBER 8

Music Theory Classes

Ten Monday evenings of music theory by Marion van Namen (no class 10/13, 10/20, 11/24) from 7-9 pm at Bothmer Hall, 5919 SE Division. We'll start with the basics, and let ourselves be guided by the book "Music Theory for Dummies". It's a thorough book and comes with audio CD and additional exercises will be provided. \$150 for 10 classes, \$20 per class. Contact Marion van Namen: 503-956-4046 marion@octavemusictherapy.com

Monday SEPTEMBER 22

Introduction to Anthroposophical Medicine

Lynn Madsen PhD MD is a board certified family doctor who practices anthroposophical medicine. 7:30-9 PM, 2320 SW Benz Farm Ct, Portland OR 97225. No Fee. RSVP to Lynn Madsen at 971-404-6862 to make sure we have enough chairs for the evening.

OCTOBER 2-3

How Can Money Heal Social Problems

Explore the nature of money at a talk Oct 2, 7PM and workshop Oct 3, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM by Siegfried Finser, founder of the Rudolf Steiner Foundation. Come to one or both events at the Oregon Museum of Contemporary Craft, 724 NW Davis Street Portland, OR 97209. Register: Contact Lauren Johnson 503-654-2200 ext 210 or mail at lauren.johnson@portlandwaldorfschool.org

Saturday, OCTOBER 11

Presentation on the School of Spiritual Science by Dr Ernst Katz

This presentation is open to members and friends of the Anthroposophical Society. Dr Katz will speak about the School of Spiritual Science, its esoteric meaning and its central position within the Anthroposophical Society. The talk will be followed by an informal opportunity to ask questions and for conversation over light refreshments and will conclude by 9:30PM Please RSVP to Jannebeth Röell by phone at 503-249-3807 or by e-mail at jannebeth@mindspring.com. To defray help defray the cost of this presentation the suggested donation is \$10.00.

Sunday, OCTOBER 12

First Class of the School of Spiritual Science, Presentation by Dr Ernst Katz

10 AM, Overview of the 19 lessons in a free rendering, followed by a light potluck lunch 1:30 PM Conversation on the esoteric nature of the school of spiritual science. Blue card required. Please RSVP to Jannebeth Röell 503-249-3807 or jannebeth@mindspring.com. To defray the cost the suggested donation is \$20.00 (or for events on both October 11th and 12th the suggested donation is \$25.00). More details can be found on page 4 and below.

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All events will take place in Bothmer Hall, 5915 SE Division Street. Portland, OR 97206. Please preregister for this unique event and RSVP to Jannebeth Röell at 3135 NE 17th Avenue, Portland OR 97212. Registration at Bothmer Hall is possible up to 15 minutes before the event starts.

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**Anthroposophical publisher Stephen Usher shares his private conversations with Saul Bellow on spirituality.**

The two men discussed Steiner's spiritual scientific discoveries, including those described in **Work of the Angel in Man's Astral Body**. Stephen will also explore Bellow's references to Rudolf Steiner and his work in Bellow's 1976 Pulitzer Prize winning novel **Humboldt's Gift**, which according to Usher is about a guy coming to terms with Rudolf Steiner. Bellow also won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1976. By his death Bellow was regarded by some as the greatest living novelist in English. Bellow quote: "[There is] an immense, painful longing for a broader, more flexible, fuller, more coherent, more comprehensive account of what we human beings are, who we are and what this life is for." 7:30 PM, Cedarwood Waldorfschool, 3030 SW 2nd Street. Admission \$10.00.

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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 Ramage 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 would like to be part of this team, send us an e-mail at anthroposophy@earthlink.net.

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