

The Sophia Sun

Newsletter of the Anthroposophical Society in North Carolina

October 2008

Vol. I No. 5



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Cover Artwork: Baron Arild Rosenkrantz: "Woman Clothed With the Sun"

From the Editor

It is often very difficult to not feel fear, anger and despair over world and local events this past month: the worst economic meltdown in a generation, the suicidal bailout proposal, the devastating hurricanes, the destructive cries of “Drill, Baby, drill!” that are really saying “Crucify her! Crucify her!” to the earth, the disgusting antics of the presidential campaign, the obvious propaganda of the media, the senseless brutal murder of a disabled young man in Chapel Hill, not to mention all our own personal struggles.

And here we find ourselves in October, in the midst of the season of the Dragon. Rudolf Steiner tells us that in Fall and Spring, the ahrimanic spirits rise up in full force, while in winter and Summer, the luciferic beings are at the fore. If we recall the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity (love), we see their polar opposites in the ahrimanic vices of fear, despair and hatred (which extreme anger brings). When we realize this, it becomes obvious that if we are feeling fear, anger and despair, we are falling right into Ahriman’s trap. We have let him triumph in us. How can we stop these feelings when we are bombarded by them everywhere we turn?

Some ideas that may be helpful: Keep things in perspective. Things are unfolding as they should. This does not mean that one should be complacent, but don’t let yourself feel defeated. Recite the *Michaelic Prayer* daily, visualize Light and Love all around the globe daily, remember to keep up your sense of humor—it is the best weapon against Ahriman. He cannot stand it! I often watch the Comedy Channel’s *The Daily Show* and *Colbert Report* instead of the regular news as a soul remedy. To do this to an extreme, of course, would be luciferic. The media want to keep us in a constant state of fear. Michael Moore pointed this out very aptly in his film “Bowling for Columbine”. People tend to buy more when they are scared—they “stock up” on things and they also trust the government more, falsely believing that the government is taking care of them because it is warning us of all the “enemies at the gate” we should fear. A recent book, *The Shock Doctrine* by Naomi Klein has a very similar theme, and is a “must read” for all Americans who want to know what’s really going on, why fear is the worst reaction and what we should really do. Some excellent magazines that build hope and optimism, reporting all the good that is going on in the world, as well as solutions to the problems are: *Ode*, *Yes*, *Utne*, and of course, Anthroposophy’s *New View*. I couldn’t make it through the month without them, and highly recommend you subscribe to at least one of these. As far as cultivating the last virtue, Love or Charity, the possibilities are boundless for expressing this on a local, as well as global level. Also, joining in community activities, such as you will see listed in our newsletter helps bolster one’s strength. Alone, one can do very little, but together a community can work miracles. In community, we will find the solutions to all the problems that are confronting us now. Don’t expect the government to help. It is the Dragon that needs transformation.

Wishing you the Courage, Wisdom, Love and Strength of Michael, our Time Spirit!

Kathleen Wright

The Sophia Sun is the newsletter of the Anthroposophical Society in North Carolina (ASNC), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. It is published nine times a year. Members are encouraged to receive the newsletter electronically by contacting our website at www.anthroposophync.org. If this is not possible, you may receive a hard copy of the newsletter by mail by sending a check for \$30. per year for nonmembers and \$15. per year for members to ASNC, P.O. Box 16024, Chapel Hill, NC 27516. Back issues are \$5.00 per copy. This includes postage.

Submitting articles, letters and ads: Please send to kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com. All calendar items should be sent to lfolsom@nc.rr.com. Ads for our Community Classifieds are free to members. Nonmembers will need to pay \$1. per line and \$10 for a picture. It is hoped that members will give a donation to the ASNC if their advertised item is sold. If you have any questions, please contact:

Kathleen Wright, Editor at 919-309-9622 or 919-672-0149 or kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com.

ASNC and Initiatives, Oct 1 - Nov 8, 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
For information about events, or to add events for upcoming months, please email: lfolsom@nc.rr.com , or phone Linda Folsom at (919) 493-8323, or mail to 3118 Dixon Rd, Durham, NC 27707. Events need to be sent by the 20th of the month prior to appear in the next month's newsletter.			1 Rose Cross SG-7:30p Wilmington SG-7:30p	2 Adult Eurythmy-8:30a	3 IANDS Conference	4 IANDS Conference Apocalypse Group-11a
5 Meeting of the First Class-10:45a (Review-9:30a) Fifth Gospel Study Group-3:30p <u>W/S/YValley SG-6p</u> Greensboro SG-7p	6 Staying Connected to the Dead SG-3:30p Meditations on the Tarot-7p ASNC Festivals Committee Meeting-7:15	7 Threshold Group-3:30p	8 CC Steering Committee-6:30p Rose Cross SG-7:30p Wilmington SG-7:30p	9 Adult Eurythmy-8:30a	10 EWS-Social Inclusion Lecture-7p Contemporary Issues Group-7:30p	11 Apocalypse Group-11a ASNC-Branch Meeting and Potluck-3:30p
12 Fifth Gospel Study Group-3:30p <u>Biograph Group-5p</u> <u>W/S/YValley SG-6p</u> Greensboro SG-7p	13 Staying Connected to the Dead SG-3:30p Meditations on the Tarot-7p	14 Threshold Group-3:30p	15 Rose Cross SG-7:30p Wilmington Study Group-7:30p	16 Adult Eurythmy-8:30a	17	18 Apocalypse Group-11a
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26 Fifth Gospel Study Group-3:30p <u>Biography Group-5p</u> <u>W/S/YValley SG-6p</u> Greensboro SG-7p	27 Staying Connected to the Dead SG-3:30p Meditations on the Tarot-7p	28 Threshold Group-3:30p	29 Rose Cross SG-7:30p Wilmington SG-7:30p	30 Adult Eurythmy-8:30a	31 Contemporary Issues Group-7:30p	Nov 1 Apocalypse Group-11a All Souls' Day 6p
2 First Class-10:45a (Review-9:30a) CC Lay Gathering-11a Fifth Gospel -3:30p <u>Biography Group-5p</u> <u>W/S/YValley SG-6p</u> Greensboro SG-7p	3 Staying Connected to the Dead SG-3:30p Meditations on the Tarot-7p	4 Threshold Group-3:30p	5 Rose Cross SG-7:30p Wilmington SG-7:30p	6 Adult Eurythmy-8:30a	7	8 Apocalypse Group-11a

Calendar Details: Sept 1 - Nov. 8, 2008

ASNC

Oct 6, 7:15p – **ASNC Festivals Committee** meets at the home of Linda Folsom, 493-8323. Please join us if you are interested in continuing to bring the Festivals to our community.

Oct 10 and Nov 2, 9:30a – **The School for Spiritual Science, Meeting of First Class.** Review of last lesson at 9:30a, 10:30 AM Class Lesson.

Oct 11, 3:30p – **ASNC Branch Meeting and Potluck** – Branch meeting from 3:30p – 5:30p, potluck at 5:30p. At the home of Linda Folsom, 3118 Dixon Rd, Durham, NC 27707; 919-493-8323; lfolsom@nc.rr.com. Please bring a dish to share.

Oct 20, 7:15pm - **ASNC Board Meeting** – Meeting at the home of Peg Carmody. Contact one of the Board members for more details: Peg Carmody, (919) [768-7470](tel:768-7470) / mcarmody@nc.rr.com; Nancy Willson, (919 493-1091/ bieman@mindspring.com); and Kathleen Wright, 309-9622/kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com. To contact the ASNC: PS BOX 16024, Chapel Hill, NC 27516.

Nov 1, 6 PM – **All Souls' Day Observance** at the home of Kathleen Wright, 4615 Greenglen Dr., Durham. Please bring a Pot Luck Dish and some memories of your departed Loved Ones. Call 309-9622 or email: kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com

Christian Community

Oct 8, 6:30p – Christian Community **Steering Committee Meeting** – at the home of Linda Folsom, 3118 Dixon Rd., Durham. Please call Linda if you have questions - (919) 493-8323.

Sundays, 11a - Christian Community **Lay Gatherings** –Margit Gratzl hosts weekly lay gatherings in her home on Sundays. The gatherings include reading and discussion of the Gospels and prayer. Everyone is welcome. Margit's address is 519 Wheeling Circle, Durham, 27713. Please call Margit if you have questions - (919) 484-2764. Note: Margit will be away for the month of October, so the lay gatherings will not take place then. They will resume on November 2.

Nov 21 – 23 – **Christian Community Priest visit.** Patrick Kennedy will be here from Washington DC/Baltimore congregation for the weekend. Individual sacramental consultations, community gatherings and the Act of Consecration of Man are planned. Please mark your calendars and watch for future announcements with more details. For information, you may call Margit Gratzl at 484-2764 or Linda Folsom at 493-8323.

EWS

Oct 10, 7p - **Social Inclusion and the New Rites of Passage: Addressing Isolation, Teasing & Bullying.** Wrap up your fall break with a lecture par excellence on social inclusion by Waldorf teacher, counselor and child development expert, Kim John Payne. This lecture - brought to you by the PO - will kick off a three-year process in which Kim will be guiding us to develop our own school-wide social inclusion policy and program. Held in the Brown Wing of the High School.

Thursdays, 8:30a - **Eurythmy for Adults** on Thursday mornings 8:30 -10:30, in the Eurythmy Room at Emerson Waldorf School. Classes go from Sept 18- Dec11, except that there will be no classes on Oct 9, Nov 6, and 27 (10 classes total). Classes will be led by Eve Olive. Please call 489-2564 for more information.

Other Activities of Interest:

Nov 11, 7p - **NDE Study Group** - a once-a-month study group, on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, for near-death experiences (NDEs). the Raleigh/Durham Friends of IANDS group, part of the International Association for Near-Death Studies. This is part of our research work in the fields of consciousness studies, neuroscience and NDEs. We welcome all people who are interested in NDEs, especially those who have had an NDE are invited to share their experience with the others. At the home of Robert and Suzanne Mays, 5622 Brisbane Dr, a few miles north of Chapel Hill, just north of I-40, off Mount Sinai Road. See this Google map for directions. For more information, please call us at 919-929-1073 or mays@ieeee.org. Because of the IANDS Conference, there will be no meeting in Oct. The next meeting will be Nov11th.

Oct 3, 4 – **2008 IANDS Conference**, "Near-Death Experiences: What Do They Mean?" At the Millennium Hotel in Durham. Maggie Callanan will be speaking. She originated the term "nearing-death awareness" in her book *Final Gifts* and will present new research from her new book, *Final Journeys: A Practical Guide for Bringing Care and Comfort at the End of Life*, which will be available for sale and signing. Attendance at individual lectures or sessions is possible: Maggie Callanan will be speaking on Friday afternoon from 3:15 to 5:30 pm on "Final Journeys" and on Saturday morning from 10:30 to 11:30 am on "Final Gifts". Call Rhonda Bailey at (919) 383-7940 to confirm these times and the cost for the individual lectures. <http://www.mindbodysymposium.com/>

Please note: Calendar events need to be sent in by the 20th of the month prior, i.e. Oct 20th for Nov 1, each month. Please send calendar items to Linda Folsom at lfolsom@nc.rr.com or call 493-8323. Send articles and flyers directly to Kathleen Wright at kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com by the same date.

**ALL SOULS' DAY OBSERVANCE
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 1
AT THE HOME OF KATHLEEN WRIGHT**

Because All Souls' Day occurs on a Sunday this year and our community already has about five events happening on Nov. 2, it was decided to observe All Souls on Saturday, Nov. 1. If we remember that the spiritual day really begins at 6 PM on the previous evening, we are actually observing it at the correct time. We will have the observance at the home of Kathleen Wright. We will begin with a Potluck Meal at 6:00. Activities will begin at 7 PM. All are welcome. Each person may share a memory of one person who has crossed the Threshold, and light a candle for those family and friends who have died in recent years. Kathleen lives at 4615 Greenglen Dr., Durham, NC 27705. For directions please call 309-9622, 672-0149 or email her at kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com

**EWS SPONSORS TALK BY KIM JOHN PAYNE ON
"SOCIAL INCLUSION AND THE NEW RITES OF PASSAGE:
ADDRESSING ISOLATION, TEASING AND BULLYING"**

**Friday, October 10 at 7 PM
At the Emerson Waldorf School
Brown Room in the High School
Suggested Donation: \$10.
Go to www.emersonwaldorf.com for more info**

Study Groups:

The Apocalypse Study Group – Saturdays, 11a – 12:30a. Please note new day and time – at the home of Martha and Dirk Kelder, 120 Kenan Street, Chapel Hill. Phone: 942-4795. The group has just begun a new book – *The Book of Revelation and the Work of the Priest*. Please park as far down the driveway as you can go - no parking is allowed on the street. We hope that everyone will feel welcome to join us and continue in this study. This group was founded by Natalie Slapo, and we know that she will be there with us in spirit.

Biodynamic Study Group – The Biodynamic Study Group is meeting once-a-month on the last Saturday of the month for work mornings. Usually the work mornings will be at our homes, but sometimes they can be a community outreach. It's important to get as many folks educated re: biodynamics and preps sprayed around as possible. For more information and meeting locations contact Sandy Demeree, 341-8934

Biography Study Group – 5pm Sundays, at the home of Roger Schultz, 5624 Earl Rd, Durham, NC 27712, phone (919) 475-7180, or email rms333@nc.rr.com. Please contact Roger for more information.

Child's Needs Study Group - monthly, on a selected Saturday morning, from 10a – 12n. Location varies between Chapel Hill and Durham. Currently reading: *"The First Seven Years: the Physiology of Childhood by E. Schoore"*. Please call Lauren Mills Nyland with any questions – 968-7721, or mills.lauren@gmail.com.

Contemporary Issues Group – A new group that is still exploring how they want to proceed. They are beginning with the book, *The Fall of the Spirits of Darkness*, by Rudolf Steiner, which includes chapters about the descent of Ahriman and the dark angels into our world. What does this mean practically, looking at contemporary issues? So far, discussions have included the presidential campaign, the current economic situation, conspiracy theories, and social questions. The group hopes to eventually get to a point of activism, and come up with practical ideas about what can be done as individuals and together. The format is not so much reading as having open discussion, with members of the group presenting relevant topics such as Three-folding. The group is currently meeting every three weeks on a Friday, with the location changing. The next meeting is Friday, Oct 10th at the home of Jon Lyerly in Hillsborough. For more information, please contact Marlene Joyce – 336-437-1483

The Early Childhood Study Group will meet the 3rd Mondays in Miss Kathleen's Room in the nursery building. Next meeting is October 20, 7:00-9:00pm. Topic: The book, *Why Children Don't Listen*, which is more about how we can speak, so what we say is worth listening to. The book covers child development and developmentally appropriate communications, speech and hearing patterns, and conflict resolution tips. The book blends suggestions from Steiner relating to the 12 Senses and the 6 Basic Meditation exercises with current research and communication topics. Contact: Lauren Nyland at 968-7721 or mills.lauren@gmail.com

Fifth Gospel Study Group (temporary name for group – permanent name under contemplation) – Sundays at 3pm, at the home of Martha and Dirk Kelder, 120 Kenan Street, Chapel Hill. Phone: 942-4795. Please park as far down the driveway as you can go - no parking is allowed on the street. This group was formed within the past few weeks and will take place in the same time slot as the Apocalypse Group, which has moved to Saturdays at 11a. The Sunday Group will begin by reading *The Fifth Gospel*, by Rudolf Steiner. We hope that everyone will feel welcome to join us.

Greensboro Study Group - Sunday nights, 7 pm. Contact Sandy LaGrega (336) 292-7947 and Judy Boyd (336) 454-2451.

Meditations on the Tarot - Monday nights, from 7 - 9 beginning early October, Kelly Calegar will be hosting a dialogue group in her home around the first six letters from the book *Meditations on the Tarot*. Kelly writes about it: "This book offers a direct connection to the *Tree of Life*, when entered into in the right way. It is an amazing - and I mean *amazing* - work of wisdom which can only have come from and through very high initiates who have given this to us as an act of love for humanity and the Earth. This in *no way* replaces what Dr. Steiner brought, for so also is Dr. Steiner a very high initiate who presented *hundreds* of amazing and invaluable works of wisdom for our time out of a deep love for humanity and the Earth. This is simply a progression from the Tree of Knowledge to the Tree of Life. *Both* are necessary, and the book *Meditations on the Tarot* is a work that takes one more deeply into the moral sphere than anything yet published *for our time*. (bold, but true)' **Please call Kelly if you are interested at: 361-0691**

Rose Cross Study Group – Wednesdays, 7:30p, at the home of Judy Granberry, 95133 Vance Knoll, Chapel Hill, NC 27517, phone 967-4671. Reading *The Incarnation of Ahriman*. Newcomers are welcome! Please call Judy with any questions.

Staying Connected to the Dead - study group meets on most Mondays from 3:30-5:30pm at the home of Sandy LaGrega or Jo Leeds in Greensboro. Please call Sandy at (363) 292-7947 or Jo at (336) 299-4361 for latest information about meeting place.

Threshold Group – Tuesdays, 3:30pm – contact Suzanne Mays, (919) 929-1073 or suzannemays@gmail.com. Reading *Renewal of the Social Order*, by Rudolf Steiner. We read to the so-called dead.

Wilmington Study Group – each Wednesday, 7:30pm. Contact Anna Bowman, (910) 792-0959, for more information.

Winston-Salem/Yadkin Valley Study Group – An anthroposophical study group for people in Winston-Salem and surrounding areas. Located in Davie County, at the home of Sarah Putnam, the study group brings together people from a wide area ranging from Winston-Salem to Statesville. The group meets Sunday evenings from 6-8 p.m. Call Sarah Putnam at 336-940-6004 for information and directions.

If you have a Study Group that is not mentioned above, please send us information about it to lfolsom@nc.rr.com

CANDLE MAGAZINE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER

We are happy to announce that Mike Senkpiel will produce an issue of *The Candle* in December. Submissions of articles, ads, announcements, poems etc. must be sent to him by November 1. His email address is: msenkpiel@nc.rr.com

Mike is asking that all Study Groups send him a copy of their group and a short report of what's been happening in your group. If you are unable to take a picture, please contact Mike and he will stop by and take a picture with his camera.

In Loving Memory of Henry Barnes
(1912-2008)

*May love of hearts reach out to love of souls
May warmth of love ray out to Spirit-Light
Even so would we draw near to you
Thinking with you Thoughts of Spirit
Feeling in you the Love of Worlds
Consciously at one with you
Willing in silent being*

-Rudolf Steiner



One of Anthroposophy's greatest leaders of the past century, Henry Barnes, crossed the Threshold on September 18, 2008 at 10:51 PM in NY. He was 96 years old.

Henry was born in New York City in 1912. He attended Lincoln School of Teacher's College and received a B.S. degree from Harvard College in 1933. Following the suicide of his best friend, Peter Stockton (brother of anthroposophical artist Anne Stockton), Henry began to contemplate life's mysteries and the purpose of his life. The mother of his dead friend told him of a book she had read while pregnant with Peter called *Knowledge of the Higher Worlds*. Following her advice, Henry attended an anthroposophical conference in Spring Valley, NY in 1933.

He was 21 years old. There, he learned about Waldorf Education and decided to enroll in the Teacher Training program in Stuttgart, Germany. While in Europe, he met the love of his life, Christy MacKaye, whom he married on September 5, 1939 in Dornach, Switzerland. From 1935-39 Henry was a class teacher in Michael Hall, England. Because of the War, Henry, Christy and several members of their respective families sailed to New York in June of 1940. Henry taught at the Steiner School in Manhattan for three years, but then entered the US Army, where he served until 1946. He then resumed teaching at the Steiner School, first as a Class teacher and then as a high school History teacher. He taught there until 1977, and served as the Faculty Chairperson for many years. Mr. Barnes was also the General Secretary of the Anthroposophical Society in America from 1974-1991.

Mr. Barnes has authored several books: *A Life for the Spirit: Rudolf Steiner in the Crosscurrents of Our Time* (1997); *Percy MacKaye: Poet of Old Worlds and New* (2000) and his crowning achievement for which all Anthroposophists in America are indebted: *Into the Heart's Land: A Century of Rudolf Steiner's Work in North America* (2005). Henry collaborated with anthroposophical groups all over the country to create this masterpiece, which took four years to complete. It is a fascinating history of the anthroposophical work in America and a must-read for all members. Henry also was the host of a video by Karl Levvin about Rudolf Steiner and his work entitled *Dr. Rudolf Steiner and the Science of Spiritual Realities*.

Henry Barnes was a legend in his time and will be sorely missed. May his guidance from the Other Side inspire and lead us on to service to Humanity in these troubling times!

We dedicate these two Poems by Arvia MacKaye Ege (1903-1989) to Henry Barnes. Arvia was the daughter of playwright Percy MacKaye and the sister-in-law of Henry Barnes, and a student of Rudolf Steiner in Dornach. She was a poet, biodynamic farmer and founder of Adonis Press and the Rudolf Steiner Educational and Farming Association in Ghent, NY.

Are You the Dead?

Are You the Dead?
Who hover like soft sunlight
Round my bed,

Who warm the gloom
And flood with tender quietude
This chill, dark room,

And did you start
This silent flow of peace
Within my heart?

Oh, is it you
Whom I so dearly love
And dearly knew.

Are you the dead?
Oh no, love does not die,
We live!?! They said.

From the *Secret Iron of the Heart*:

Tis oft I feel your hand, or catch your smile,
As though you were beside me all the while,
Or suddenly look straight into your eyes
So eagerly aglow with loving speech,
Till by thus gladly gazing in each
We can converse in quiet spirit-wise,
Aware, in inward verity of heart,
That those who meet in love, death cannot part.

BIOGRAPHY STUDY GROUP BEGINS IN NORTH DURHAM

Book: *The Challenge of the Times* by Rudolf Steiner

Meets on Sundays 5-7:30 PM, includes dinner at the home of the Host.

Host: alternating between Roger Schultz, Margaretta and Bruce Bornhorst and Kathleen Wright, Tatiana Zybin and Will Hicks. New Members and visitors welcome.

Activity/Purpose: to awaken within ourselves "the deeper forces that can bring to birth within (us) the capacity for conceiving pictorially the other Human Being. Otherwise, we shall always remain antisocial beings, capable of approaching others, only according to our sympathies and antipathies, incapable of approaching them according to the picture that may stream forth from each person if we only develop the picture-forming forces in **(continued on next page)**

our intercourse with them.” (Steiner). The conversations in the group will focus on one member each week telling of a person in his/her life who strongly influenced their life, practicing this advice from Steiner while doing so: “ Look back into your life and pay less attention to what interests you in your own respectable person and much more to those figures that have come into contact with you, educating you, befriending you, assisting you, perhaps also injuring you—often injuring you in a helpful way....Let us immerse ourselves with real love in what has come into our Life. We shall often discover that what evoked an antipathy in us at a certain period is not longer so disagreeable to us when a sufficient length of time has passed, because we begin to see an inner connection. The fact that we had to be affected in an unpleasant way at a certain time by one person or another might have been useful to us. We often gain more from the harm that a person does to us than from the furtherance afforded us by another...”

Contact : Roger Schultz 475-7180

Next Meeting: Sunday, October 5 at the home of Kathleen Wright. Call 309-9622 .

The group has chosen the following verses, which set the theme of their work:

Opening Verse

In future times the Human Being must live,
Each *for* the Other,
Not each *through* the other.
The world's goal will be reached
If each one rests within himself,
Yet gives to every other
What springs from non-compelling sources.

(from the notes of Rudolf Steiner, meant to be spoken by Theodosius in the Temple Scene from The Portal of Initiation)

Closing Verse:

May the events that seek me
Come unto me:
May I receive them
With a quiet mind
Through the Father's ground of peace
On which we walk.

May the people who seek me
Come unto me:
May I receive them
With an understanding heart
Through the Christ's stream of love
In which we live.

May the Spirits which seek me
Come unto me:
May I receive them
With a clear soul
Through the healing Spirit's Light
By which we see.

Adam Bittleston

**Sleepers Awake:
A Michaelmas Song
By A.C. Harwood**

Wind in the trees blows loud for summer's last song;
Threshing the boughs, pelting the leaves along.

Sleepers awake!
Hark to the word of the wind.

(Refrain):

Breaking old summer's dull drowsy spell,
Show us the way,
Go with thy spear before,
Forge us the future,
Thou Michael!

Frost on the ground at misty dawning shines bright
Cracking the clods, lining the twigs with white.

Sleepers, awake!
Hark to the word of the frost.

(Refrain)

Myriad stars shine in the frosty clear skies.
Outshining all, the meteor earthward flies.

Sleepers, awake!
Hark to the word of the stars,
(Refrain)

With hearts aglow, men mark the changing fresh world
When from the stars Michael's spear is hurled.

Sleepers awake!
Hark to the word of the world.
(Refrain)

(Artwork: "Michael" by David Newbatt)

MICHAELMAS 2008: A POTPOURRI OF COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS



A gathering of 16 members of the Anthroposophical Society and the Emerson Waldorf School gathered for a Potluck Dinner and an evening of community artistic presentations on Friday evening, September 26. Following the delicious dinner, Peg Carmody, our Board President welcomed the guests and introduced the evening's festivities.

Suzanne Mays opened the activities with a lyre piece "The Ground Beneath Our Feet", which was written by the man who constructed her lyre. (see photo at left)

Dr. Mark Eisen then recited *The Calendar of the Soul* verse for Michaelmas in English and German.

Eve Olive presented a beautiful computer-generated image of Michael, which an artist had created following his near-death experience, during which he had a vision of the Archangel. (see photo on right)

He attempted to create the image of what he saw. Usually, Michael is depicted in red, orange and yellow; yet in this painting, he is seen in beautiful blues and greens, which are the counterimages of red and orange. In the etheric world, such would be the case - colors are the opposite of what we see here on earth.

Eve also read to us the beautiful poem by A.C. Harwood "Sleepers Awake", which she has been performing with her Eurythmy Class. It was noted that A.C. Harwood was a close friend of C.S. Lewis, Tolkien and Owen Barfield. The poem is printed on the preceding page.



Next, Robert Mays led us in song with "The Grail Song" and "Michael, Radiant and Bright".



Linda Folsom gave a brief talk about Goethe's *Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily*, while referring to the beautiful color prints, which she inherited from Natalie Slapo. Linda very kindly made copies of an article written by Tom Raines about the fairy tale for the participants.

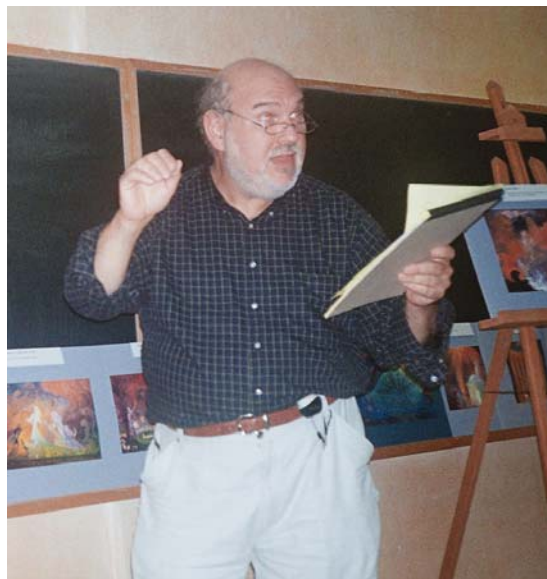
She ended her talk with the comment that "if Faust was Goethe's *Gospel*, then The Green Snake is his *Apocalypse*".

Margaretta Bornhorst offered to make copies of the prints for those interested, so please contact her if you so desire.

Mark Eisen then gave a lecture that incorporated many Michaelmas themes: the Calendar of the Soul verse, nature changes with the rising sulfur forces, the actions of the elemental beings, plus he spoke of Goethe's poem "Über Allen Gipfeln ist Ruh" and did some speech exercises with it.

This was followed by another song led by Robert Mays: "In Autumn St. Michael".

Renate Wend then honored us with a serious, but humorously-expressed talk about the dangers of the electro-magnetic forces, which are ahrimanic forces in the earth in contrast to the light forces of Michael. Renate has devoted most of her life for the last 30 years to raising public consciousness about these dangers. She urges all to check out the EMR Policy Institute on the web and to read Robert O'Becker's *Cross Currents*.



Joanne Dahill presented a pastel drawing she had made and told of her personal connection with Michaelmas.

The evening closed with a couple of Michaelmas rounds.

(Editor's Apology: I had hoped to have a picture of every presenter, but virtually all of the pictures, including the ones above, which were the best of the lot, though still below my standards, came out with very poor quality as far as lighting and detail. Those who were present recall that I could not find my camera, so I used my husband's, which is very primitive.)

From the Board...

As I write this, our country is facing a serious threat to our economy and lifestyle. There may be some resolution by the time you read this, and there may not. Theories about the origin and intention of this crisis abound. We must be awake to responses that further the ideals we believe in and not give in to responses that feed the forces of Ahriman and Lucifer. We may have a limited impact in the country as a whole, and yet the sum total of the impact we have on those around us can be powerful enough to guide us and others through this difficult time. This is not a casual or flippant call to love but a sincere reminder that for good to triumph, we must be the good, the kind, the Christ-like – or as Gandhi put it, we “must be the change” we envision in the world.

I hope you were able to join us at our Michaelmas celebration and that you found inspiration to carry on your growth and development as a loving human being.

Our next branch meeting will be at Linda Folsom’s on Sat., Oct. 11 at 3:00 pm and I am sure that the conversation will be influenced by the financial crisis and the election. Hope to see you there!

By the way, our membership now stands at 64. We hope to have a membership directory available soon.

Have you joined the list-serve to receive pertinent emails between newsletters? Just go to our website www.anthroposophync.org and click on the “Join” tab. Look for the phrase [ASNC List-serve](#). Click once on this phrase. You will be connected to an information page about the list-serve. It has instructions about using and subscribing to the list-serve. Follow the directions to subscribe by entering your e-mail address in the text box. All other information is optional. Scroll down, click on “subscribe” and you are on! I believe you get a confirmation e-mail. You can e-mail me, mcarmody@nc.rr.com and I will check with you to see if you get the next list-serve message sent.

Warmly,

Peg Carmody,

President, ASNC Board

HELP WANTED

**Office Assistant Needed 10-15 hours per week with
some flexibility**

**For Dr. Mark Eisen’s Family Medical Practice
The candidate must be an energetic, well-organized
person with great people skills and excellent facility
with computer and Internet.**

Please fax resume to: (919) 932-5200. Thank you!

The Chapel Hill Affiliate of the Christian Community Welcomes Reverend Patrick Kennedy

By Linda Folsom



Community members gathered for several events over the weekend of Sept 19 – 21 surrounding the first visit of our new priest, Rev. Patrick Kennedy. We are especially happy to let everyone know that Patrick is now assigned as our permanent priest, and will be visiting from the Greater Washington DC/Baltimore congregation every other month.

While here in September, he met with the Steering Committee and learned more about the history of the Chapel Hill affiliate, including information and sharing about the important role our group played in the founding of the Seminary for North America in Chicago. In 1999, the local group was deeply involved in a letter-writing campaign, which we have come to understand was pivotal in convincing the Lenkers (the administrative group of priests for the Christian Community based in

Stuttgart, Germany) that a North American English-speaking seminary would be vital for the future growth of the priesthood. Over the weekend, Patrick also met with individuals for Sacramental Consultations, participated in a potluck and community discussion, gave a public talk on Saturday evening, and celebrated the Act of Consecration of Man on Sunday morning. Kathleen Wright has written a report about his Saturday evening talk, following this article.

Some things Patrick gave us to think about:

- Everyone in our area who wishes to do so is encouraged to now think of Patrick as “our priest”, and feel free to contact him for any reason.
Rev. Patrick Kennedy
Parish House of the Christian Community
4221 Metzertott Road
College Park, MD 20740
(310) 625-4804
The Washington DC/Baltimore Area community has its own website at www.ccgwb.org
- The Chapel Hill Christian Community affiliate cannot exist without the real and sometimes difficult supportive work of a local group of volunteers. Although the Steering Committee is willing and able to oversee this work, others from the community are needed to step forward to help with occasional, but recurrent tasks, such as transportation of the altar, set-up and clean-up of potlucks and gatherings. This is an act of service and a personal commitment to the greater whole.
- We now have more time during priest visit weekends, probably on Friday evenings, for study groups or other activities. Some suggestions from the group were: 1) an ongoing, informal discussion group centered on the theme

“Christian Community 101”, where we learn about this Movement for Religious Renewal, the various aspects of the Act of Consecration of Man. This would give members of the group a chance to share their feelings and freely bring up questions; 2) Field trips, such as to the exhibit of the Dead Sea Scrolls in Raleigh; 3) Group viewing of films with important themes; 4) Youth activities.

What are your suggestions?

- Since our community has been without an assigned priest for many years, there has not been much opportunity for religious instruction or even an explanation of basic elements of the sacraments and services. At the Sunday Act of Consecration of Man, Patrick advised us how to properly make the “Sign of the Cross”. The priest, as a representative of the Angel of the community, makes a large cross and circle, while the congregation, as individuals, makes three small crosses - one each over forehead, chin and heart.
- **Patrick will be visiting again Nov 21-23rd.** Please note this date – it is a week later than originally planned. **Dates presently planned for 2009: 1/16 – 1/18, 3/13 – 3/15, and 5/1 – 5/3.** The Steering Committee will be sending out reminders and announcements via our CC Newsletter and the ASNC list-serve. We hope to soon have our own group mail list and website – stay tuned! To add your name to our mailing list, please send to: lfolsom@nc.rr.com. In the meantime, for more information, you can contact any member of the Steering Committee: Margaretta Bornhorst, Carol Brick, Linda Finigan, Linda Folsom, Margit Gratzl, Mindy Kash, and Lisa Stauffer.

Rev. Kennedy Delivers Lecture : “Participating in Redemption- The Sacramental Impulse and The Michaelic Call to Spiritual Maturity”

By Kathleen Wright

On September 20, twenty-one people filled the Eurythmy Room at EWS for Rev. Patrick Kennedy’s first lecture for our community. Rev. Kennedy began his talk with words of gratitude to Margit Gratzl and the Congregation for their hospitality and preparatory work for his visit here. He said that he hoped there would be “interpollination” between the Washington Christian Community, where he is permanently stationed. and the community here in Chapel Hill.

Rev. Kennedy then began his lecture by stating that according to the standards of most Christian Churches, the title of his lecture is heretical. His assumption is that we are co-Redemptors with Christ and that our relationship with God *evolves*. This is why we need spiritual renewal. Most religious movements of today have not kept up with the times. Many preach that only Christ can save, and that our relationship with God is unchanging—it is a Parent-child relationship.

Instead, Rev. Kennedy proposed that humanity is evolving by approximately one year of physical age to every 100 years of actual time. In other words, in the year 900, humanity was at the age of 9, the “Crossing of the Rubicon Year”; In 1400 around the time of Luther, humanity entered adolescence, evidenced by Luther’s “rebellion against the parent (i.e. the Catholic Church)”; however, Luther was still immature. He believed

that you cannot help yourself or participate in the Redemption with Christ; only God can. In the 1700's, we entered the Age of Enlightenment, with the questioning and intellectuality of a late adolescent. Now we are approaching adulthood and need to realize our responsibility for the earth and respond to the destiny we have been called to do. Ultimately, he said we all have the Destiny of Christ. The earth is suffering because of the actions of humanity. Our spiritual life has consequences for the earth.

Kennedy then pointed out that the earth is unique in all of Creation because only here does death occur. The Spirit must therefore permeate the earth with the transformative power of Love—to bring about the New Heaven and New Earth. The debate between the Creationists and evolutionists is misplaced. The Bible says that God worked of seven days, then rested—“did he rest on a couch?” Kennedy asks. The Creationists must realize that Angels go through changes and Christ went through changes, especially at Golgotha. Christ was introduced to the Mysteries of the earth, which was real knowledge for the spiritual worlds.

And interesting analogy Patrick gave to the idea that we evolve spiritually was to compare the role of child to parent with an incident: If a child breaks a neighbor's window, the parent assumes responsibility and pays for it (this of course, corresponds to the old Christian view that Jesus does it all for us as far as Redemption goes.); If an adolescent breaks the neighbor's window, the parent tells the adolescent he must come up with a plan to make up for the damage. If an adult breaks his neighbor's window, he immediately pays for the damage himself. Kennedy asks: Why would God want us to remain children? He *wants* us to be independent, mature adults. He used the story of “The Prodigal Son” to show how this idea is present in the Gospels.

In that story, as in life, the young adult must go into the world and endure all manner of hardships and mistakes, that make one strong and wise. Through these struggles, one forges a “new self” and thus becomes a mature adult.

This new self becomes born also through the power of Love, even to the point of the saying in the John Gospel “No one has greater Love than He who lay down his life for his friends.” Christ also tells us that he can be born in our hearts, and this happens, says Kennedy during the Act of Consecration of Man. It is the Mission of the Eucharist to awaken the power in Human Souls to become vehicles of Christ's Love.

Some final thoughts that were especially appropriate for these times: Rev. Kennedy spoke of the great fear we are all feeling right now. It is because the media have given us a vision of the entire world. Without electronics, only the Archai would have such vast knowledge. In ancient times, people were only aware of their immediate surroundings, which is all a human being can handle and really do something about. By being bombarded with painful images from all over the globe, we naturally feel overwhelmed—we are not capable of Archai-consciousness! Rev. Kennedy said that we need to ask ourselves: “How can I feel faith and trust”? We need also to take time each day to “block’ out all these images, which of course implies daily meditative work.

Rev. Kennedy recommended that we read a book called *Surprised by Hope* by N.T. Wright. It is about how we can transform the world.

Thank you, Rev. Kennedy, for this powerful and inspiring lecture!

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Note: Due to the high cost of printing in color, hard copies of this newsletter are printed in black and white, with the exception of the cover. If you wish to view the newsletter in color, please go to our website: www.AnthroposophyNC.org and click on the cover image of our latest issue.

**Branch Meeting Notes From August 31, 2008,
3:30PM At The Home Of Mark Eisen
Submitted by Suzanne Mays**

Twenty-two members of the Branch attended the meeting. Board President Peg Carmody moderated.

The Virtue Of The Month (“Courtesy – Tact Of The Heart”) and the Calendar of the Soul #21 were recited and a brief conversation centered on these two leading thoughts followed. Rain showers were predicted for the afternoon. Thunder rumbled while the Mood Of The Day for Sunday (“Right Resolve – Judgment”) was being read. Messages from distant friends Elaine Upton, Tammy Hughes, Eileen Bristol, and from local friends who could not attend, Eve Olive and Herbert Slapo, were conveyed to everyone present.

A long list of important events for September and October were read and there was a catch up on the various study groups that were reconvening after a summer break. A Contemporary Studies Group that Jon Lyerly and Marlene Joyce leads meets on Fridays and is working with a set of lectures by Rudolf Steiner on *Fall of the Spirits of Darkness*. A new biography study group initiated by Roger Schultz is going to start in northern Durham. Its focus will be on the people one has met and how they formed one into who one is now, rather than on “me, myself, I.”

Mark Eisen spoke about the critical issues with medical insurance and fee schedules that threaten the continued viability of his own medical practice. He is currently trying to formulate a new way for families and individuals to pay for health services through his practice. This might include a monthly fee based on family or individual income. He wants to keep his practice to himself and to his patients without any interference from insurance agencies. In his opinion, he is good with the *practice* of medicine, but he needs help with the *business* of medicine. An advisory board of supporters will be setup. Mark would like everyone in the anthroposophical community to be involved and use anthroposophical medicine before going to quick fix modalities such as acupuncture or massage. Anthroposophical medicine saves money. It is the most practical medicine. It brings the spiritual world into activity.

Allan Barenholtz offered that the Temple/Wilton, N.H. farm is an example of covering the economics of an initiative. The budget is thought out and then presented to the community to cover it.

Margaret Heath gave a short report on Bunny Hill. A non-profit corporation and a board of directors is being set up. Michael and Kerry Wiesner are the main people behind this initiative, which is based on Camphill principles. They are interested in buying land adjacent to Infinity Farm, if the family who owns the land decides to definitely sell it. The Wiesners’ young son has a seizure disorder and they are now planning for his care when he becomes an adolescent and adult. Bunny Hill may have a workshop attached to it, a bakery, 3 or 4 houses with 10 people to a house. The initiative will be working out of Anthroposophy. Kerry is good at marketing and networking, and has worked with the McMullens in their anthroposophical medical practice in Ann Arbor, MI.

Both Kerry and Michael have been involved with Waldorf Education as well. Questions came up during the Branch meeting about how coworkers will be trained; will there be ongoing professional development of workers, and how can this initiative be more accurately defined and portrayed to the public if it is not a Camphill program? There isn’t anything for the local branch to do at this point of time.

Marie Nordgren gave a report about the Triangle Home Nursery Association. Most of the nursery programs are filled up and have waiting lists. Teachers meet weekly at Joya Matza's house. Newsletter articles in WECAN (Waldorf Early Childhood Association in N.A.) There are six nurseries with between 10-15 families per nursery. They have a website: www.trianglehomenursery.com. The programs are spirit, play and nature based. Play and movement are primary. There has been a baby boom for the past 4-5 years.

Last June's branch meeting was briefly reviewed and summed up with the statement that there is a need for social consciousness of the world and locally.

Suzanne Mays reminded everyone that the Branch needs its own building, its own home.

A question was asked of how many people are on the Branch's list-serve. Everyone was advised to think of other people to add to it. Also, a directory needs to be organized, so that more people will come to Branch meetings. Linda Folsom and Kathleen Wright are working on a Branch calendar and will take up this question about the list-serve.

Joy Kwapien announced that Infinity Farm is transitioning into a 100-acre community-owned land.

Renate Wend presented a gift to Roger Schultz. It was meant to be given to him after the fire that destroyed his house and the Branch's library some years ago. The gift was a large rose quartz stone that had special significance to Renate. The stone had been given to her by a woman named "Aunt Bea" in Milwaukee, WS., who had introduced Renate to Anthroposophy some 50 years ago.

The next Branch meeting is October 11, 2008 at 3:30 PM at Linda Folsom's house. There will be a potluck afterwards.

**DON'T FORGET—NEXT BRANCH MEETING AND POTLUCK
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2008
3:30-6 PM AT LINDA FOLSOM'S
3118 DIXON RD, DURHAM
CALL 493-8323 OR Email: lfolsom@nc.rr.com**

WELCOME VISITORS FROM GERMANY!

We have received a letter from an Anthroposophist woman from Borchon, Germany named Elisabeth Worpel-Neh, who will be visiting Durham with her husband during the month of October. They would like to visit some Study Groups while they are here and participate in any Festivals or Socials that we might have. Please give them a hearty welcome.

The Anthroposophical Society in North Carolina
 PO Box 16024
 Chapel Hill, NC 27516-0913
www.AnthroposophyNC.org



What is Anthroposophy?

Anthroposophy is a human oriented spiritual philosophy that reflects and speaks to the basic deep spiritual questions of humanity, to our basic artistic needs, to the need to relate to the world out of a scientific attitude of mind, and to the need to develop a relation to the world in complete freedom and based on completely individual judgments and decisions.

Anthroposophy can also be called Spiritual Science. As such, it is an effort to develop not only natural scientific, but also a spiritual scientific research on the basis of the idealistic tradition, in the spirit of the historical strivings, that have led to the development of modern science.

Anthroposophy also is an impulse to nurture the life of the soul in the individual and in human society, meaning among other things, to nurture the respect for and interest in other people on a purely human basis, independently of their origin and views.

Various “daughter movements” of Anthroposophy are biodynamic farming, Waldorf schools (see European Council for Steiner Waldorf Schools and the Association of Waldorf Schools in North America for the largest Waldorf schools associations), Anthroposophical Curative Education (see European Council for Curative Education and the Camphill Association of North America) and Anthroposophical Medicine.

Excerpted from www.waldorfanswers.com