



The Sophia Sun

*Newsletter of the Anthroposophical Society
in North Carolina*

June 2009

Vol. II No. 5

The Virtue For June (GEMINI)

PERSEVERANCE BECOMES FAITHFULNESS

(Opposites: Unfaithfulness, Lethargy)

Reveal yourself, life of sun
Stir up what tends to rest,
Embrace what desires to strive
Towards a mighty prevailing life,
Towards a blessed knowing of worlds,
Towards a fruitful maturing of growth.
Oh life of sun, endure!

Rudolf Steiner



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(Logo: "The Woman Clothed With the Sun" by Baron Arild Rosenkrantz (1870-1964))

The Sophia Sun

Newsletter of the Anthroposophical Society in North Carolina
P.O. Box 16024
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
www.anthroposophyNC.org

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Website Manager.....Mike Senkpiel

The Sophia Sun is the newsletter of the Anthroposophical Society in North Carolina (ASNC), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. It is published 9 times a year (no issues in Jan., July and Aug.). 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 for free if you are a dues-paying member of ASNC, or if you are not a member, you may send a check for \$45. per year to **ASNC, P.O. Box 16024, Chapel Hill, NC 27516**. Back issues are \$5.00 per copy. This includes postage.

Note: On line, the newsletter is in color; mailed copies are in black and white, except for the cover; this is due to the high cost of color printing.

Submitting articles, letters and ads: Please send UNFORMATTED text in Microsoft Word to kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com. All calendar items should be sent to: lfolsom@nc.rr.com. If you have any questions, please contact: **Kathleen Wright, at 919-309-9622 or 919-672-0149 or kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com**

From the Editor:

Here we are again approaching St. Johnstide. St. John's is a very special Festival for us Anthroposophists in particular. Rudolf Steiner foretold that St. John would reincarnate at the end of the century and be a very important leader for us in these troubling times (see quote on p. 15). When we think about the current world situation with its threat of nuclear war, the global climate change, our toxic environment, the economic crises, world poverty and starvation, human rights abuses, the threats to freedom, the horrible cultural situation of the world to name a few of our problems, it is quite obvious that we need a leader who will once again cry "Prepare!" We live in very different times now from when St. John lived 2000 years ago, however. Humanity is now in the Age of the Consciousness Soul (which corresponds to the human age of 35-42), so we are not the "children" we were when the Being that was called John the Baptist lived. We cannot expect him (or her as the case may be this time around) to "save" us. He/she can show the way once again, but the real work is up to us. We must be people of initiative.

St. John's other famous word was "Repent", which for us nowadays might be interpreted as "get your Karma in order." It is time to forgive, forget and move on, pay back, or do whatever else one needs to do. Ahriman is working hard and fast to destroy us, so we must work doubly hard on our spiritual development to outpace him.

Our Community St. John's Festival will be a nonsectarian family fun day with a giant bonfire to remind us of the fiery nature of St. John (As Elijah in a previous incarnation, he went to heaven in a fiery chariot, as Scripture tells us.). We will also be celebrating beside a lake to remind us of the River Jordan where he baptized, and we will be launching lit boats to remind us how John, like Christ was a "fisher of men" leading them to Enlightenment. We hope that you will be able to attend this community festival with us and that your Summer will be one of rest and rejuvenation. Be sure to read about all the upcoming events this summer and the Fall. *The Sophia Sun* will be on vacation until September 1. Meanwhile, please keep posted to the list-serve. If you are not on it, please join it. If you do not have computer access, then please keep close contact with someone who does.

Blessings on your Summer!

ASNC and Initiatives, June 1 – July 4, 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>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.</p> <p>Next calendar will be in September, 2009. Items for that calendar should be sent by Thursday, Aug 20, 2009</p>						
	<p>1</p> <p>ASNC Festivals Committee-7:15p</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Rose Cross SG-1:00p</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Asheville Steiner Study Group-7p</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Meeting of the First Class-10:45a (Review-9:30a) and Potluck Asheville Soul-weaving Study Group-2p Fifth Gospel Study Group-3:30p W/S/YValley SG-6p Greensboro SG-7p</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Near-Death Experience Study Group-7p</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Rose Cross SG-1:00p</p>	<p>11</p> <p>ASNC Fall Conference Preparation Group-7:30</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Fifth Gospel Study Group-3:30p W/S/YValley SG-6p Greensboro SG-7p</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>ASNC Board Meeting-7:15p</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Rose Cross SG-1:00p</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Asheville Steiner Study Group-7p</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Asheville Handwork Group-2p Fifth Gospel Study Group-3:30p W/S/YValley SG-6p Greensboro SG-7p</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Rose Cross SG-1:00p</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Biodynamic Study Group Hands-On Gathering-10a St John's Festival and Potluck at Infinity Farm-6p</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Fifth Gospel Study Group-3:30p W/S/YValley SG-6p Greensboro SG-7p</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>July 1</p> <p>Rose Cross SG-1:00p</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>

Please Note

The next Sophia Sun calendar will be in the September 2009 issue.

Events that come up during the summer may be publicized by sending out an email to the ASNC list serve: asnc-list@rtpnet.org.

Please go to the ASNC website to learn how to join the list serve so that you will receive up-dates and events:

<http://anthroposophync.org/mailman/listinfo/asnc-list>

We hope to have an on-line ASNC events calendar up by this fall - please stayed tuned for progress.

TCG

Calendar Details: June 1 – July 4, 2009

ASNC

June 1, 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.

June 7, 9:30a – **The School for Spiritual Science, Meeting of First Class**. Review of last lesson at 9:30a, 10:30 AM Class Lesson. There will be a potluck following this First Class meeting at the home of Robert and Suzanne Mays, 5622 Brisbane Dr, Chapel Hill, 919-929-1073 or mays@ieee.org.

June 11, 7:30p – A group preparing for the **Fall ASNC Conference**, which will feature Stephen Usher as the main speaker. Anyone interested in working on the Fall Conference is welcome and invited to attend. At the home of Peg Carmody, 711 W. Knox Street, Durham, NC 27701, 768-7470 or mcarmody@nc.rr.com

June 16, 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 / mcarmody@nc.rr.com; or Kathleen Wright, (919)309-9622/ kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com To contact the ASNC: PO BOX 16024, Chapel Hill, NC 27516.

June 27, 2009, 6p – **St John's Festival and Potluck** – at Infinity Farm. Potluck meal, bonfire, singing. A festival for the whole family. Please see flyer in this newsletter for more details.

Christian Community

Monthly Lay Gatherings – for the NC Affiliate of the Christian Community will be held in June, July and August at dates to be announced. For more details, or you may call Linda Folsom at 493-8323 or email lfolsom@nc.rr.com.

Other Activities of Interest

June 9, 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@ieee.org.

Study Groups:

Study Group meetings often vary in the summer – please check the group contact to make sure a group is meeting as scheduled.

Asheville Study Groups:

Steiner Study Group - Thursday's, June 4th and 18th, 7-9pm. We are reading *Theosophy*. Contact Marie Davis at 828-273-5647

Soul-Weaving Study Group for parents - location to be announced. Sunday, June 7th, 2-4 pm.

Asheville Handwork Group – Sunday, June 21, 2-4pm - location to be announced.

Biodynamic Study Group – The Biodynamic Study Group generally meets twice a month. At the beginning of the month they meet together from 7:30 - 9 pm to read, and on the last Saturday of the month the group meets for work mornings. For more information and meeting times and locations contact Tatjana Zybin, (919) 643-2663, or tzybin@att.net

The Elective Affinity Study Group – will not meet for the summer. We will resume meeting on August 30 at 5 pm. Please contact Roger Schultz for more information: (919) 475-7180, or email rms333@nc.rr.com

Child's Needs Study Group - Please call Lauren Mills Nyland for further information – 968-7721, or mills.lauren@gmail.com

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

Rose Cross Study Group – Wednesdays, 1:00p, at the home of Judy Granberry, 95133 Vance Knoll, Chapel Hill, NC 27517, phone 967-4671. Newcomers are welcome! The group will continue to meet over the summer. 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.

Fifth Gospel Study Group – 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. The Sunday Group is reading *The Fifth Gospel*, by Rudolf Steiner. We hope that everyone will feel welcome to join us.

Winston-Salem/Yadkin Valley Study Group – The Winston-Salem/Yadkin Valley Study Group meets from 6-8 every Sunday at the home of Sarah Putnam, 118 Fox Run Drive, Mocksville, NC 27028. Call 336-940-6004 for information and directions

**NEW STUDY GROUPS FORMING FOR THE SUMMER:
WORKING TOGETHER ON RUDOLF STEINER'S MYSTERY DRAMA
THE PORTAL OF INITIATION
A 4-WEEKLONG STUDY IN PREPARATION FOR THE AUGUST CONFERENCE**

Some members of our community will be attending the performances of *The Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily* and *The Portal of Initiation* from August 12-16 in Spring Valley NY. This conference will include lectures and conversations in addition to the performances. The Conference is sponsored by Barbara Renold, the Threefold Mystery Drama Group, the Threefold Educational Foundation and the Eastern Regional Council of the Anthroposophical Society.

Our local Study will be held on **Sunday evenings from 6-8 PM** at the home of **Margaretta and Bruce Bornhorst, 5800 Prioress Dr.**, Durham, NC 27712 . Please call **824-7337** (Margaretta) or **225-0825** (Bruce) if you are interested in attending.

You are welcome to join the Study group even if you are not planning to attend the Conference in August. We will read and study *The Portal of Initiation* and attempt in our brief time together to attain a deeper soul-spiritual understanding of the play.

Why should one consider joining such a group in mid-summer? The writing and staging of this unique drama was extremely important to Rudolf Steiner and his life, and formed a centered focus for him – as well as a culmination of three rhythmic cycles of 7 years. It was 21 years from the time he first read Goethe's *Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily* until he completed *The Portal of Initiation*. He created access to Spirit Knowledge through the arts.

In 1923 in Norway, Steiner spoke of the development of this art form with the following words:

"...I myself tried to give what cannot be expressed in ideas about the nature of man...Art must be added to what is abstractly known if true knowledge of the world is to be attained. Further, when such perception is attained and presses toward creative form, this experience penetrates so deeply into the human soul that this union of art with science produces a religious experience."

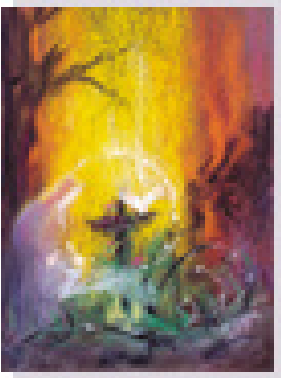
SUMMER RESEARCH GROUP

A Study group is forming which will explore issues raised in Sergei Prokofieff's book *Valentin Tomberg and Anthroposophy: A Problematic Relationship* (Temple Lodge Press 2005). The first meeting will be held **Monday June 8 at 7:30 PM** the home of **Roger Schultz, 5624 Earl Rd**, Durham, NC 27713. Please call Roger at **475-7180** if you need directions or have any questions. The meeting place for further gatherings will be determined by the participants at this first meeting.

Are you planning to attend the Mystery Drama Conference in Spring Valley August 12-16? If so, please contact Margaretta Bornhorst so that we can coordinate travel arrangements. Her phone number is 824-7337.

If you need a copy of the conference brochure and registration materials, see last month's *Sophia Sun*, which is on our website, www.anthroposophyNC.org, or if you do not have a computer, you may obtain a hard copy of the brochure from Kathleen Wright by calling her at 309-9622 or 672-0149

ALL INVITED TO ST. JOHN'S FESTIVAL AT INFINITY FARM IN CEDAR GROVE



The Anthroposophical Society in North Carolina would like to invite you and your family to our annual St. John's Festival on Saturday, June 27, at Infinity Farm, the home of Joy and Robert Kwapien. The event will begin at 6 PM and end around 9 PM, rain or shine.

Please bring a Pot Luck dish to share, a chair or blanket to sit on, musical instruments if you have any, some natural insect repellent and the whole family. Following the meal, there will be boat making for the children, singing, dancing, a parade to the bonfire, storytelling, and the launching of the boats on the lake.

Directions to Infinity Farm: Go North on 86 (which is Churton St. in Hillsborough). After you pass Hwy 70, you will continue north for a little over 10 miles until you come to a flashing yellow light. At this light, turn Left onto McDade Store Rd. Follow it for a couple of miles until you see Infinity Farm on your left. The sign for Infinity farm is not very big, so please be alert for it.

Please call Peg Carmody at 919-768-7470 or e-mail her at mcarmody@nc.rr.com if you need further information. Hope to see you there!

From the Board:

I would like to thank Kathleen Wright for the "From the Editor" column of last month (May 2009). Hearing the story of Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer is the first time I consciously realized that differences may be beneficial. A common human response to differences is to feel threatened by them and thus ridicule, alienation and hostility are inflicted on those who are different. While this may be an effective response in the short term to something that is threatening, my own experience is that difference is not as harmful as these responses are nearly all of the time they are employed and that other responses are far more effective to differences that are harmful.

When I reflect on my personal experiences with someone of a different faith, a different socio-economic class, a different gender, a different political view than myself, most of those experiences have enriched my life if I have taken the time to understand what it is that the other is saying- even (or especially) if what they are saying is diametrically opposed to what I am saying, have experienced and think I know. I don't always agree with the other person's conclusions, but in taking the time to understand how the other formed their conclusions, my conclusion is not dictated by my unbridled desire to be right (encouraged by Lucifer) or my limited, sense-bound, hardened thought (encouraged by Ahriman). We can say to each other "I never thought of it like that" and form a new conclusion from a new perspective. I believe this is the process Steiner lectures about in "Specters of the Old Testament in the Nationalism of the Present",

Chapter 5 in The Challenge of the Times. I urge you to read the whole lecture, and offer these quotes as food for thought until you can:

“What I mean to say is that the reason we have such an outcry about the need for socializing is that the innermost nature of man, precisely in our age, is most violently opposed to this socializing. For this reason it is necessary that we should obtain a view of everything in the cosmos, in the universe, that sustains a certain relationship to man, in order that we may become aware of the relationship existing between the antisocial impulses streaming today out of the depths of human souls and the clamor for social harmonizing, working like a reaction to what streams forth from the inner nature of the human soul. It is simply necessary that we should come to see clearly that man represents in his life a state of balance between conflicting powers. Every conception characterized by the idea of a mere duality- a good and an evil principle- will always fail to illuminate life. Life can be illuminated only when we represent it from the point of view of a trinity, in which one element represents a state of balance and the two others represent the opposite poles, between which the state of balance tends to move continually like a pendulum.” (p.154)

“The cultivation of social life, which in earlier times had its source only in the bonds of blood, does not depend so much upon any sort of socialistic programs, but on man becoming a spiritual-social being. He will become such a being by awakening in himself, in the manner I have described, the deeper forces that can bring to birth within him the capacity for conceiving pictorially the other human being.” (p.176)

“Human beings have hitherto been separated. They ought to become socialized in brotherhood. In order that the manifoldness shall not be lost, the innermost element in man, thought, must be able to take form individually in every single person. With Jehovah the whole folk stood in a relationship. With Christ each individual person must stand in relationship. But the fact that brotherhood will thus awaken requires that there shall be a compensation in an entirely different field, that is, through freedom of thought.” (p.178)

I am not advocating, and I do not believe Kathleen or Steiner is advocating, that we blindly allow each other to think or act as s/he will, and ignore the feelings or needs of another. Just the opposite- we need to take an active interest in each other's thoughts and actions. We also have the responsibility to do so with humility, care, and respect.
Warmly,

Peg Carmody

Fall Conference Planning Committee

Concerned about the economic situation of the times? We have invited Stephen Usher to come October 9-11 to share his perspectives on this subject and the Threefold Social Order Steiner developed as a way to structure the economic, political and cultural areas of society. We need help with publicity, finding a location, registration, hosting Stephen, etc.

If you are interested in working with others to make Stephen's visit a success, please come to our first planning committee meeting on Thursday, June 11. We will meet at 7:30 at Peg's house, 711B W Knox St., Durham, 27701. If you want to help, but cannot attend the meeting, please **call Peg at 919-768-7470 before June 11.**

WALDORF CHINA APPEAL LETTER

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

One year ago, teachers, children and parents at the young Waldorf school in Chengdu China experienced the earthquake that caused so much devastation and loss of life in Szechuan Province. The earthquake rendered several of the school's small buildings uninhabitable, and as the teachers reached out to participate in disaster relief in the surrounding area, many of you reached out to them by sending donations. Today the Chengdu Waldorf School is much more fully integrated into their community through their teachers' work with children and families in the disaster zone, and into the world community through the moral and financial support they received from caring individuals around the world.

Many of you offered donations to help them rebuild the kindergarten, and over the course of the months that followed the May earthquake, checks poured into the WECAN Office. In the end, we collected \$18,000 to help fund beautiful new kindergarten rooms, which were completed in the fall.

Waldorf early childhood education is growing very fast now in China, and nearly 100 students are enrolled in the three-year part-time kindergarten training at the Chengdu school. The students -mostly parents and kindergarten teachers- come from many provinces across China. Most are working to transform existing Montessori or other privately owned kindergartens into Waldorf kindergartens. The Chengdu Kindergarten Training is the basis for the development of the work in China, and I am turning to you to ask once again for your help so that it can continue. Support is needed for airfares for visiting faculty - Renate Long-Breipohl from Australia, whom some of you met at our International conference last summer in Wilton, her colleague Thanh Cherry, and others will teach the final block of the part-time course this summer when the first group of students will graduate. Applications are already pouring in for a second round of training.

Now mentors and advisors are needed to visit the students who will graduate from the program this summer. With only one real Waldorf kindergarten in the country, there are not enough mentors to offer the practical support so needed by these newly trained students. Li Zhang from Chengdu, Thanh Cherry, and Marjorie Theyer from New Zealand have visited some of the students, but much more help is needed.

I am very happy to say that Connie White, a retired kindergarten teacher from the London Ontario Waldorf School, has agreed to go to China and volunteer for three months in the fall to offer support to these newly trained Waldorf kindergarten teachers. We are also looking for additional mentors with experience in Waldorf kindergarten teaching and mentoring who could spend one to three months helping to establish the work in one or two kindergartens.

\$5,000 is needed to fund the airfares of the trainers and mentors in the coming months. Would you or the families in your school be willing to help? It would be wonderful if the outpouring of support for the Chengdu Waldorf School last year could grow into an ongoing partnership between North America and China. Perhaps parents in your school might consider a donation as part of an end-of-the-year gift in your name.

If you would like to offer support, please send a check to WECAN, 285 Hungry Hollow Road, Spring Valley, NY, 10977, marked "China". We will send these funds to the International Association for Steiner/Waldorf Education (IASWECE) and 100% of the gifts will go to support the travel or mentors and visiting faculty.

On behalf of the teachers and students in China and our colleagues who are working with them, many thanks!

Susan Howard, May 2009

Heard Through the Grapevine...

Things our Community Members Will Be Doing This Summer:

Shannon O'Connor will be spending part of the summer in Waldorf Teacher training. She will also have a brief trip to Panama and will end the summer by attending the Mystery Drama Conference in Spring Valley from August 12-16.

Also looking forward to the mystery dramas are **Margaretta and Bruce Bornhorst**, who will be hosting a Mystery Drama Study group during the month prior to the conference. They will also be spending a week with their daughters at Martha's Vineyard. While there, Bruce hopes to catch a "striped bass".

Marie Nordgren will be leading a Summer Camp for tots for two weeks. She will also be attending the Robert Powell Conference. She reports that her Home Nursery is already full for the Fall!

Ron Evans will be all alone during July while his wife Amelie goes to Europe. He says he hopes to spend the time flying model airplanes and reading *The Philosophy of Freedom*.

Will Hicks will be canoeing down the Neuse River with his son when he is not tending to his farm.

Eve Olive will be celebrating her 75th birthday and her family will be throwing a big bash for the occasion. We wish her many more!

Linda Folsom will be visiting family in Erie, PA. Her brother has been putting in new wood floors for her at her rental property. Linda also hopes to attend the Mystery Drama Conference.

Peg Carmody reports that her Summer is already over. She took 10 weeks' vacation in May to hang out with old college buddies and family in Albany, NY. She is praying a stipend will come through to help her fund her PhD at UNC this Fall.

Renate Wend says that she is on "macrocosmic sabbatical".

After a trip to the beach with her husband, **Kathleen Wright** will babysit her Grandchildren in NY while her son (John MacNeal) goes to Sunbridge College for Waldorf Teacher Training in preparation for teaching the seventh grade at the Saratoga Springs Waldorf School in the Fall. She also hopes to visit her niece in Florida. Unfortunately, she also needs to pay a visit to the hospital for surgery. Hopefully, all will be benign. She hopes to do a lot of gardening, reading and writing this summer as well.

Roger Schultz will be starting a new Study Group during the month of June. Then in July he will go camping in upstate NY and Vermont, then head West where he will visit an old friend in Ann Arbor and then go to a Family Reunion in Minnesota.

We are delighted to report that **Nancy Willson** will be moving back here in the middle of this month (June) after being away for nearly two years. Nancy has had two back surgeries this past year and will need a lot of help when she gets here, as she can do only very light lifting and virtually no bending. She is also no longer able to drive.

**Part 2 & 3 of “A Logos Filled Christianity”:
A talk by Patrick Kennedy on his May visit to our community
(summarized below by Linda Finigan)**

“The Death and Resurrection of the Word in Human Beings:
Easter & Pentecost -
What knowing Christ means - for us and for Him”

The Christian Community exists because of a need in the world. There are two major streams in how the Bible is viewed today: the divinely inspired perfect world of God, espoused by many fundamental churches, vs. the academic view of the Bible as an amalgamation of stories, politics, errors, and agendas.

This is a new dimension in the planet’s story: for the first time, there is a portion of humanity that doesn’t believe in spiritual reality, only the material world. In the past, people might question which gods were true, which gods you sacrificed to, but the existence of the divine was not questioned.

This was the situation in Palestine at the time of Jesus when the Christ entered the earthly realm to bring healing life forces to overcome the forces of death. At the last supper, His divine self expanded to unite with the substances of bread and wine, an event inscribed into the earth (as is everything we do). Through the holy meal, Christ created a vessel through which His life forces can work. In the breaking of the bread, the Eucharist, we align with his “seal,” the seal imprinted in the earth.

The early gospel was Christ’s presence in the community through the telling of his story, the reenactment of the holy meal. In the fourth century AD, the church hierarchy argued over the “articles of faith,” choosing four books Matthew, Mark, Luke and John as The Canon. Thus began the intellectualization of Christianity, though the presence of Christ was still present in the Eucharist.

The next major transition in how the Bible was viewed took place at the time of Luther, when he took the revolutionary step of translating the sacred (Latin) into the secular (German), transferring the Word from the liturgy to the people. For Luther, the new authority was not the Pope, but the Holy Book, the Word entering the vernacular.

After Luther’s time, came the debate over what really happens at the Eucharist, with some questioning the “smoke and mirrors,” the pagan magic of the Catholic Church. As an interesting aside, the origin of the phrase “hocus pocus” as something deceptive or a hoax was a cynical toying with the Latin for “This is my body.” (Hoc est enim corpus meum)


In the 1700’s, theologians undertook the historical quest for Jesus, questioning the miracles, arriving at a view of Jesus as a good man with an admirable moral philosophy, a trend that continued into the 19th century with *The Life of Jesus, Critically Examined*, an 1835 book applying the scientific method to the Bible. In this view, the Resurrection was a “happy ending” created by Jesus’ followers who were devastated by his arrest and murder. Today, we have the academic writings of UNC’s own Bart Ehrman, examining the contradictions of the Bible to arrive at the conclusion none of its contents can be trusted.

What would the experience of this human doubt be to the Christ? Patrick drew the analogy of being a guest at a dinner party where no one is interested in who you are, what you have to say, of not being acknowledged in any way by others, the invisible guest. Rudolf Steiner suggested that the 19th century souls with consciousness of only material existence created a dark sphere where the seeds of materialism extinguished Christ’s consciousness. He experienced a second crucifixion.

From this event in the spiritual world, the seeds of The Christian Community were created, for if there is a crucifixion, a resurrection must follow, the resurrection of the Word. The Christian community is not based on doctrine. Christ is experienced as the creative force within human beings. What is creative activity? Sacrifice, freedom, offering. How were the disciples able to recognize the Christ force at Pentecost? His nature was within them. Pentecost, Whitsun, is the moment when the disciples understood. They got it. The love of the universe entered their hearts. They had been blinded by their prior preconception, but at Whitsun, in fire, Golgotha radiated its true name. The disciples (meaning followers) became the Apostles (meaning The Sent).

To know Christ is to experience Christ in us. The founders of The Christian Community witnessed the rising sun and on that basis, they founded a movement based on the creative power of love in the world.

The Christian Community affiliate of NC invites you to a lay celebration of Pentecost Sunday, May 31 at 10:30 AM at the home of Linda Folsom, 3118 Dixon Rd. Durham.



Sacrament and Destiny

A Summer Retreat at the Seminary
June 18-21, 2009

Arrival day June 17th
Cost \$250

Fee includes room, breakfast and supper

Contributors
Richard Dancey, Gisela Wielki and others

For more details and registration please contact Gisela Wielki
info@seminary-chicago.org
Phone 773-472-7041

**REGIONAL COUNCIL SPONSORS COMMUNICATIONS SUMMIT
WITH JOHN BECK AND NORTHEASTERN EDITORS
May 23, 2009**

Minutes of the Meeting

Attendees: John Beck, Ed Scherer, Ann Finucane, Ruth Bruns, Kathleen Wright, Rick Ruffin, Bill Day, Ray Manacas, Jordan Walker, Michael Ronall, Gino Ver Ecke, Julie Beekman, Joyce Kelly

Opening Verse: The American Verse

Welcome and Introductions: led by Ed Scherer

Presentation by John Beck: John began the Summit with a review of a conversation he had with Marion Leon, Administrator of the Anthroposophical Society in America regarding their goals for improving communications in the Society. They spoke of their goals, which include first of all the need for building community and how our resources can do this more effectively. To make news more timely, there is now a monthly E-News. If anyone has not been getting it they should email John with their address. Some members have requested that the quarterly newsletter be sent electronically as well as by regular mail, so that they can pass it on to others.

A second goal they discussed was “communicating Anthroposophy” and not being like universities where there is virtually no connections with the various departments. The Society needs to communicate better with the various daughter movements. The Society must also be a “higher community” reaching out to the world at large, because the New Age movement “has its limits and doesn’t connect very well to Western civilization”. John joked that he is a good person for the task because his roots are with “Christian Scientists and Doctors”.

A third goal was “Best Practices” for communications. The website is being updated; it needs to become more “alive”, i.e. changing, something you want to check back with each week; there needs to be color and pdfs. that can be printed out. He cited a website of Wilbur Hus that has videos and audios available and that people can join for \$10. as month. He talked about Network M and its combination posting and “meet-ups” – communications face-to-face are best. How can we do this too? How can we get support of communications technologies.

The fourth goal concerned “Communicating the Social Investment Value of Anthroposophy”. John related this idea to his experience as General Manager of the NY Open Center, where he developed a plan for the center. He also spoke of how the time is ripe for the unfolding of Anthroposophy’s ideal in the world. He likened our situation to that of Europe, which fell to Communism, but was liberated 72 years later. In comparison, 2007 marked 72 years since the infamous 1935, when the Society was in near ruin. (He cited 2007 as a time of renewed enthusiasm in the Society following the world-wide lull after the ahrimanic year of 1998 (666 x 3) and the subsequent event of September 11, 2001 and its worldwide aftermath).

John then opened the floor for questions. Ed asked if there would be any changes in the upcoming issues of the newsletter. John is still thinking of a new name for it and mentioned a few suggestions. He said that he wanted to “build it with the etheric and sculpt it with the astral”. He said that the second issue would not be too different from the first. He would like to put more general things up front and specific initiatives and group reports further back. Ruth Bruns asked how we can afford to use color, as money is so tight right now. John assured her that it is factored into the budget and that there is the hope and intention of getting more subscribers, advertisers and gifts to offset the costs. He said that the magazine motif with its glossy pages and color was deliberately chosen so that it could eventually become a public magazine. He

cited the example of the Dutch Anthroposophical Society, which makes money for its society by publishing a public magazine. He also cited the success of *Lilipoh* in going national. They print 30,000 copies.

Michael Ronall asked if the Society is on U-Tube yet. The response was that there is very little, but one can find Eugene Schwartz lectures there. One member told about a very amusing Dutch Gong show-type TV show he found on U-Tube that asked the participants questions about Anthroposophy.

John told of his hopes for a newsletter page on the website. He hopes that it will gain and regain memberships, and that it will offer subscriptions, advertising and request grants.

Kathleen Wright asked if the newsletter would be an appropriate forum for helping to heal various rifts in the Society such as the Prokofieff/Powell-Tomberg conflict, or if this was felt to be “airing out our dirty laundry” and therefore not appropriate. If so, what vehicle in the Society can one use to promote healing? Many offered advice and solutions. There seemed to be consensus that the newsletter would not be a good idea for this purpose, that working with individuals on “conflict transformation” would be preferable. One woman told of a lecture she had heard by Gene Schwartz about Theory U, in which it was stated that sometimes “making peace” is not the answer, that karmic conflicts need to unfold. Most seem to feel that this conflict is not a very big one in their communities, and that the Society is not in danger of splitting as it did in 1935. When Kathleen remarked that she sees faults on both sides of the conflict, she was reminded that the German and Russian folk soul can be interpreted as being blunt and harsh to our friendly American ears; also that there is a great difference between personality and Individuality.

Ed Scherer asked the group if they felt we should have regular meetings bringing the editors together with John, or should we instead simply try to form a communications link between the editors? Most seem to agree that they are too busy to meet more regularly, but that a link, such as a list-serve would be great.

John requested that we send him the names of more writers and suggestions of topics. It was also suggested that John let people know if a particular article is desired. Another request was that there be more biographies, especially highlighting people’s views. Other questions that came up: how do we work with other media? How can we arrange face-to-face meetings in addition to Cyberspace? One noted that there has been blogging about the AGM Planning. John mentioned that the next issue will have an article about the Connection of Celebrating Michaelmas between various groups around the country. One noted that many people prefer to be *asked* to write something rather than submit something directly.

Other suggestions included: writing an article about what it means to be a member, or just a short blurb about it, or one about ways one can help without becoming a member. One urged that we not appear “pushy”, as it can alienate some. One suggested having a regular cartoon called “Mighty Mensch”. They recommended Ronald Koch as a good humorist one could tap. One noted that articles need to communicate what “lives” and that reports can be so “dead”. How can we create chronicles so that people know what went on that are not boring? One suggestion was to focus on a question or a new idea that came about at an event.

Another participant asked for suggestions on ways to promote events; he asked “what is the culture of events; how do we change the culture?” Another recommended putting back issues of the newsletter on sale or post the table of contents on the website with a short paragraph on each article, but that one had to pay to read further.

When asked about who was helping with the newsletter, John named his advisors: Marion Leon, Lori Barian, James Lee, Ronald Koch, Walter Alexander, Stephen Klocek (Network M), Fred Dennehy, Judith Soleil, and Gene Golloughly. The question of postage costs came up – how can we save money?

One suggested the newsletter have a theme, perhaps how the human being is understood. Another stated that “we should be the Beacon of social networking”.

A suggestion was made that we should all be on Facebook and keep our information updated, as this would help with membership updates. One suggested that it would be nice if we all wrote how we came to Anthroposophy on our Facebook pages. Marian Leon is looking for software to help update the membership lists'

Websites we may find useful are: webscribe.org and NING.com. John said that he welcomes articles that are profiles of branches, initiatives, and people. Humor is always welcome, as is creative poetry and prose (but please don't be too long – the newsletter should not exceed 48 pages and of course it needs to have a wide variety of genres and material.) One recommended Alexander Dreyer as another good anthroposophical humorist. A suggestion was made to post articles on the website that didn't get printed in the newsletter. Another recommendation was that groups around the country write about how they are working with the Theme of the Year.

Closing Verse: The Calendar of the Soul Verse for the seventh week after Easter

Respectfully Submitted by:

Kathleen Wright, ERC Member

ERC WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

The Eastern Regional Council gained a new member this past month – Judith Brockway-Aventuro of Chestnut Ridge, NY. Judith is a registered nurse and was a co-worker at the Fellowship Community for over 30 years. She is a Class Holder for the School of Spiritual Science, as well as a member of the Planning Committee for the 2009 AGM. The Council now has six members. It is hoped that the Council will now work in twos by dividing up the East into three sections, instead of the entire Council attending all of its functions everywhere. This will be more cost effective and practical.

“So we see in Novalis [an incarnation of John the Baptist] a radiant and splendid forerunner of that Michael stream which is now to lead you all, my dear friends, while you live; and then, after you have gone through the gate of death, you will find in the spiritual supersensible worlds all those others – among them also the being of whom I have been speaking to you today [John the Baptist] – all those with whom you are to prepare the work that shall be accomplished at the end of this century, and shall lead mankind past the great crisis in which all are involved.”

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Rudolf Steiner, Michaelmas 1924 The Last Address

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Anthroposophical Society in North Carolina Membership Request Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Check here if you would like to be included in the ASNC Membership Directory
Check below how you would like to receive our newsletter:

- Online
- US Post

Dues – Teacher/Student/Senior \$30.00.....	\$ _____
Individual \$50.00.....	\$ _____
Family \$90.00.....	\$ _____
General Fund Donation.....	\$ _____
Library Donation.....	\$ _____
Festival Events Donation.....	\$ _____
Scholarship Donation (Assistance to qualified Members).....	\$ _____
Heart Fund Donation (For Members in times of need).....	\$ _____
Newsletter Donation.....	\$ _____
Branch Home Donation.....	\$ _____
Total Enclosed:	\$ _____

Please make your tax deductible check payable to:
ASNC, P.O. Box 16024, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Your dues to the ASNC serve many functions:

- ❖ They fund the Newsletter which helps us stay in touch with each other, keeps abreast of activities in our community and informs us about the interests and concerns of the national and international Anthroposophical Society.
- ❖ Through our Heart Fund, they enable us to send messages of comfort or flowers and to offer assistance to members in times of sorrow or need.
- ❖ They provide scholarship money for members who need help attending conferences and workshops that benefit the whole community.
- ❖ They support the work of the School of Spiritual Science.
- ❖ They allow the local branch to offer festivals, artistic events, workshops, and conferences.
- ❖ They provide funds for outreach to new members and groups.

The ASNC is a branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America. Please consider supporting Anthroposophy on a national level at **Anthroposophical Society in America** 1923 Geddes Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 Tel: (734) 662-9355, Fax: (734) 662-1727
Email: information@anthroposophy.org Website: www.Anthroposophy.org

THE SCHOOL OF SPIRITUAL SCIENCE

By Henry Barnes

At Christmas, 1923, Rudolf Steiner proposed that the Anthroposophical Society should take a courageous, far-reaching step. He suggested that the Society, as it had existed since 1912-1913, when it emerged as an independent association from the Theosophical Society, of which it had formerly been part – should throw off every vestige of sectarianism and come to know itself as an absolutely open, public society. Every human being was welcome into this Society if she or he recognized that spiritual science, grounded in anthroposophy, was a valid contribution to our time. Membership in this Society required no adherence to any philosophical, scientific, artistic, or religious principles. It was to be “an association of people whose will it is to nurture the life of the soul, both in the individual and in human society, on the basis of a true knowledge of the spiritual world”¹.

Yet, at the heart of such a public society, an institution was to be placed which was intended to be an esoteric school, or university, based on spiritual-scientific knowledge and research. The education offered in this school, and the research it was, and is, to develop are subject to the same rigorous disciplines which govern every objective search for knowledge. But, as already stated, its methods are grounded in spiritual science rather than in the natural sciences as we have come to know them today.

In its structure, the School for Spiritual Science resembles the structure of the traditional universities that have come down to us from earlier times. The student enters a general section – similar to the philosophical faculty in a traditional school – in which she or he seeks to attain the capacities of spiritual-scientific cognition described in the works of Rudolf Steiner. Fundamental in these capacities is a clarity and activity of thought capable of grasping ideas derived from supersensible observation. Such clear thinking can lead, step by step, to cognition that is no longer dependent on the physical organism. Body-free thought can then be enhanced through consistent spiritual-scientific practice to three stages of higher cognition, described by Rudolf Steiner in such basic works as *How to Know Higher Worlds: A Modern Path of Initiation*², as imagination, inspiration and intuition. Each of these stages leads the student to a new level of experience of supersensible or spiritual reality.

This central core is known in the School for Spiritual Science as the General Anthroposophical Section, which was intended by Rudolf Steiner to consist of three esoteric Classes. Unfortunately, due to Rudolf Steiner’s illness and subsequent death March 30, 1925, he was only able to inaugurate the first of these three Classes. The nineteen lessons of the First Class were held by Rudolf Steiner from February 15 to August 2, 1924, in Dornach. Upon his return from England in September, he had hoped to present the second part of the First Class, which would have been followed by a third part, all of which would have then been followed by the institution of a Second Class and, eventually, by a Third Class.

The cognitive capacities to be achieved by the student through spiritual-scientific training in the three core Classes were capacities that he or she could apply to the fructification of the branch of cultural and vocational practice in which she or he was engaged. Thus the artist, scientist, teacher, physician, etc. who wished to work in a chosen field out of the spiritual scientific insight could call on the capacities awakened and exercised as a pupil in the Classes of the School and thus enliven and deepen his or her work in a given professional discipline. And the opportunity to cultivate these vocational insights and skills might be developed in collegial work within a particular Section of the School, just as the student in a traditional university, having achieved the basic skills of scholarship in a central philosophical faculty, could enter a medical, legal, pedagogical graduate school for further specialized training.

In this way, Rudolf Steiner conceived of a circle of cultural, vocationally-oriented “schools” or “sections” surrounding a centrally human developmental, anthroposophical, or spiritual-scientific core. The method by means of which he called these special Sections into existence was, in itself, also fundamentally human, rather than theoretical or bureaucratic in any way. He did not proceed by deciding that a medical or an educational section was needed and then set out to search for a qualified individual to lead the endeavor. On the contrary, he first recognized that such an individual was already there and had proven themselves capable, creative and reliable in a particular field. As a result of this recognition,

he saw that a section, or division of the School, could be established because the qualified person was already there. Having worked closely with Ita Wegman in the medical field, for example, he could establish a Medical Section under her leadership because she was there. In this way, during the Christmas Foundation Meeting, and in the weeks and months that followed, Rudolf Steiner was able to bring the School for Spiritual Science into existence with the specialized Sections surrounding the central developmental core. Anthroposophy, or the methods of spiritual science, was to provide the creative, transformative energies that could enliven the School as a whole.

In this way it was intended that the School for Spiritual Science should be the sustaining heart of the community of individuals who came together in the General Anthroposophical Society to create a home for Anthroposophia, the being whose help is so urgently needed today.

How can one become a member of the School and how does the School fulfill its function within the General Anthroposophical Society at the present time?

An individual who “considers as justified the existence of an institution such as the Goetheanum in Dornach, in its capacity as a School for Spiritual Science”³ may become a member of the Anthroposophical Society. In doing so, one undertakes no obligation other than those one has already accepted as a member of the Anthroposophical Society. In doing so, one undertakes no obligation to help the individual in every way it can find access to the sources of spiritual-scientific insight.

If, after a period of time – usually two years or more – the individual member comes to feel that he or she wishes not only to receive the insights of spiritual science, but is ready and wants to represent anthroposophy in some way, this signals a new relationship to anthroposophy and to the Anthroposophical Society. One has been a “quiet,” receiving member, who is now ready and willing to become “active” on behalf of the anthroposophical movement. One is now ready to share responsibility for the movement that – through Rudolf Steiner’s deed at Christmas 1923 – united itself with the Anthroposophical Society. The readiness to *represent* anthroposophy – in no matter how modest or quiet a way – is the indication that the moment has come to consider becoming an active member – a pupil – in the School, which also means joining the work of the First Class.

The individual who finds him or herself at such a point should ask several questions. Have I a clear understanding of how Rudolf Steiner characterized the Society and the School? His essays and letter to the members following the Christmas meeting are a primary help in gaining this clarity. A second question should also be asked. Have I enough experience in meditation to be confident that I can sustain a meditative relationship with the esoteric material of the Class? Am I able, and willing to work with my sisters and brothers, as members of the School, independent of personal sympathies and antipathies? Am I, in other words, ready to put my own “karmic” house in order and strive for objectivity and a genuine openness toward those with whom I am now asking to join? These self-directed questions are summed up in the basic question: Am I ready, able and willing to represent anthroposophy in an undogmatic, unsectarian, but honest and unambiguous way? And, beyond this, am I prepared to share, through my own work and experience, in the task of *research*, even though I may be far from having achieved supersensible perception? If one answers these questions with an honestly positive confidence that one is ready to become an “active member”, the next step is to seek out a Class Holder and discuss the matter openly with him or her. If you do not know an authorized representative of the School, the Society’s office staff can give you the name of such an individual whom you might contact. If you find yourself confirmed in your sense that joining the School is the right step for you at this time, the further procedure is uncomplicated. You write a letter, addressed to the Executive Council (Vorstand) at the Goetheanum in Dornach, stating how long you have been a member of the Society, your immediate life situation, and your reason() for wishing to enter the School. You give this letter to the authorized representative with whom you spoke, and she or he forwards your letter to Dornach with an endorsement based

on the personal contact that has been achieved. The final decision rests with the Vorstand and the membership card in the School and the class is issued by the Goetheanum. As a member of the School, you are then eligible to join a Section in whose work you are actively involved. The different Sections have somewhat differing procedures for joining them and, again, the Society's office in Ann Arbor can help identify a Section representative whom you can consult. The Sections represented in North America have recently come together as a working group, known as the Collegium, listed below. The current Section leaders at the Goetheanum are also listed. In the seventy-five years of the School's existence, one circumstance has changed radically.

The esoteric lessons as Rudolf Steiner gave them in 1924 are now available in print. They were first published in German and also now in English translation. Under these conditions one may well ask: why should I join the School if the Class tests are otherwise available? This is a question each of us must ultimately answer for oneself. Certain thoughts, however, may be shared.

Rudolf Steiner made it clear that the inner reality of an esoteric test lies in its oral transmission, far less in the printed text. There is also the aspect of commitment by individuals who freely decide to join a community of responsible representatives on behalf of anthroposophy and of Anthroposophia. And, with this commitment, also the destiny relation with Rudolf Steiner. Even just the outer form of meeting with others at an appointed time, within a rhythmic sequence, and in a mood of sincere respect and earnestness is also a reality. Nevertheless, the fact of publication almost certainly requires even greater activity on our part as members to transmute the objective weakening of esoteric discipline.

NOTES:

1. Paragraph 1, Statutes of the General Anthroposophical Society
2. *How to Know Higher Worlds: A Modern Path of Initiation* (Hudson, NY: Anthroposophic Press, 1994).
3. From Paragraph 4, Statutes of the General Anthroposophical Society
4. *The Foundation Stone/The Life, Nature and Cultivation of Anthroposophy* (London: Rudolf Steiner Press, 1996); *The Constitution of the School of Spiritual Science*, (London: Anthroposophical Society in Great Britain, 1980).

The above article was reprinted from the *Handbook for Groups and Branches*. If you have been a member of the General Anthroposophical Society for at least two years and would like to become a member of the School of Spiritual Science or have some questions about it, please contact either Eve Olive at 489-2564 or Suzanne Mays at 929-1073. The First Class of the School meets monthly except for the summer months.

**NEXT ASNC BRANCH MEETING:
SATURDAY AUGUST 29, 2009 AT 3 PM
PLACE TO BE ANNOUNCED
PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW AS THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER WON'T BE OUT UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1.
KEEP POSTED FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS ON THE LIST-SERVE. IF
YOU DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS, PLEASE CONTACT
PEG CARMODY (768-7470) OR KATHLEEN WRIGHT (672-0149)**

Anthroposophical Conferences Around the Country This Summer:

(note: these are conferences that have not yet been advertised in previous issues)

August 8-11, Spring Valley, NY - “Inner Transformation and Social Renewal: A Conference with an Art and Science Exhibit”, presenters include: Gary Lamb, Henrike Holdrege, Michael Howard, Gerald Karnow, M.D., Mac Mead, Ulrich Roesch, Michael Steinrueck, Laura Summer and Nathaniel Williams. For information and registration, go to www.threefold.org/events or call 845-352-5020 ext. 18.

August 1-8, Yukon Territory/ Canada – “Encircling Light, Expectant Silence”, an international conference on the North. Speakers include: Philip Thatcher, Sergei Prokofieff, Frode Barkved, Meta Williams, Lisa Del Alba, Mary Lee Plumb-Mentjes, Monique Walsh, Hannes Weigert and Seija Zimmermann. For more information, call 1-604-740-0676 or visit the website at: www.encirclinglight.ca

August 24-28th – Woodstock, NY - “An Esoteric Quest for Inner America: Exploring the History and Renewal of the American Soul”. This conference is a joint effort between Anthroposophists and non-Anthroposophists. Guest speakers include: Christopher Bamford, John Patrick Deveny, Richard Geldard, Robert Thurman, Judy Gorman, Mitch Horowitz, William Hunt, Freida Jacques, Jay Kinney, Barabara Novak, Larry Mamiya, Nancy Jewel poer, Chanda Rule, Louis Sahagun, Gioia Timpanelli, Arthur Versluis and Sally Roesch Wagner. For more information go to the website: www.esotericquest.org/america

LOOKING TOWARD FALL:

October 2-4 2009 Spring Valley, NY “Creating Living Connections: Christian Rosenkreutz and the Social Impulse” plus the Annual General Meeting of the Anthroposophical Society in America. Presenters include: Virginia Sease, Torin Finser, Gerald Karnow, Herbert Hagens, Judith Brockway, and Walking the Dog. For more information, check the website at: www.threefold.org. More details in our next issue.

Oct. 18-23 – Sonoma, CA – “The Economics of Peace: Transforming Money, Rebuilding Community, Redefining Wealth” a fantastic conference that is cosponsored by many socially responsible groups including Rudolf Steiner Foundation Finance, Praxis Peace Institute, the E.F. Schumacher Society, YES! Magazine, and others. Speakers include: Dennis Kucinich, Lynn Woolsey, David Korten, Vandana Shiva, Riane Eisler, Jacob Needleman and many others. To learn more about this very important conference, go to www.praxispeace.org or call 707-939-2973

Knights Templars Conference and St. John's Festival

'Business is a matter of human service'

--Milton S. Hershey

Celebrating 100 years of Threefolding!

The 'Hershey Idea' & Templar Social Impulse

27th - 28th June

Stonehaven Farm, Hershey, USA

Bonfire on the Meadow (all ages)!

(Dusk, 27th June)

The Lost Temple & Its Restoration
Knights of the Temple –
Defenders of the Rose Cross
Community Vignettes, A Bard's Tale
Quest for the Foundation Stone!



Registration required for some events.
Please visit our website and see our
brochure: www.corpsdemichael.org
Susquehanna Corps de Michael--
Anthroposophical Society in Hershey
717-964-3376

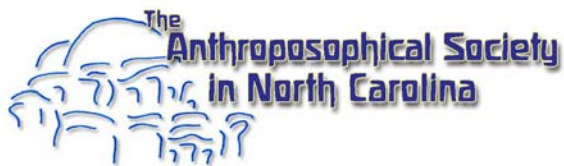
HAVE YOU REMEMBERED TO SEND IN YOUR ASNC DUES?

As of May 30, 44 have done so. Last year our membership stood at 64. If you receive *The Sophia Sun* by mail, this will be your last issue due to the high cost of printing and postage, unless your dues are received before September 1, the date of our next issue.

If you are experiencing financial hardship, simply send whatever you can. An application for membership is found in this issue on page 16.

ONCE IN A MILLENNIUM SOON TO HAPPEN!

On July 8 of this year at 5 minutes and 6 seconds after 4 AM the time and date will be: 04:05:06:07-08-09 ! This will not happen again until the year 3009!



P.O. Box 16024
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

What is Anthroposophy?



Anthroposophy, which means “the wisdom of man”, is a spiritual philosophy and path to self-knowledge, which “leads the spiritual in the human being to the spiritual in the universe”, according to its teacher, Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925). Rudolf Steiner was a brilliant “Renaissance man” from Austria who was a philosopher, scientist, artist, playwright, architect, social activist, teacher and meditator, who had a direct perception of the spiritual worlds. Anthroposophy, which is also known as Spiritual Science, teaches, among other things, the laws of reincarnation and Karma. It has a Christ-centered view of world evolution. Steiner founded the School of Spiritual Science, as well as the General Anthroposophical Society, which he described as “a union of people who desire to further the life of the soul – both in the individual and in human society – on the basis of true knowledge of the spiritual world”. In addition to giving over 6,000 lectures most of which have been made into books, he helped to found many initiatives that are still thriving today including: the Waldorf School movement, anthroposophical medicine, biodynamic farming, and Eurythmy. Based on his indications, hundreds of initiatives have developed such as: the Curative education movement, the Camp Hill Villages for the handicapped, Weleda remedies, Dr. Hauschka cosmetics, WALA, True Botanica, Astrosophy, Rhythmical Massage, the Alliance for Childhood, The Christian Community, Anthroposophic Prison Outreach, Lazure painting, Demeter, advancements in architecture, science, social and economic reform (The Threefold Social Order, community banks), mathematics and painting. In addition, there are many publishing houses and libraries dedicated to his works throughout the world. For more information, check the national website at www.anthroposophy.org or our local website at www.anthroposophyNC.org