



The Sophia Sun

Newsletter of
The Rudolf Steiner Branch (NC) of
The Anthroposophical Society in America
Chapel Hill, NC
Serving also groups and branches of the
Southeast in Alabama, Florida, Georgia,
South Carolina and Tennessee

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2012
VOLUME V, NUMBER 5

Canticle of the Sun

(an excerpt from a song by St. Francis of Assisi in 1225)

Be praised, my Lord, through all your creatures,
Especially through my lord Brother Sun,
Who brings the day; and you give light through him.
And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendor!
Of you, Most High, he bears the likeness.



In This Issue

From the Editor.....	4
Scenes from Michaelmas 2012.....	5
Branch Meeting; All Souls Observance.....	6
Reception for Eve's New Book.....	7
Meditation for World Peace.....	7
Threshold Group Forum; Transitions.....	8
IANDS Meetings.....	9
Christian Community News.....	10
Whitted-Bowers Farm News.....	11
Anthroposophical Healing Center.....	12
WECAN Conference.....	13
Book Review: <i>Cultivating Inner Radiance</i>	14
Joan Sleight Nominated for Executive Council.....	15
School of Spiritual Psychology Workshop.....	17
Waldorf Education at NY Times Conference.....	18
Anthroposophy in the Southeast.....	19
Events in Other Parts of the Country.....	20
Directory and Study Groups.....	26

Logo above: "Woman Clothed With the Sun" by Baron Arild Rosenkrantz

Rudolf Steiner Branch Calendar for October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 EWS Steiner Study Group-9a Greensboro SG-3:30p Threshold Care Group-6:30p	2	3 Rose Cross SG-7:30p	4 Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi Ita Wegman SG-2p Soul Study Group-5p	5	6
7 CC Family and Festival Group-11:30a YBA SG-4p Clemmons SG-6p	8 EWS Steiner Study Group-9a Greensboro SG-3:30p	9 LANDS Group-7p	10 Eurythmy Classes 8:30a Rose Cross SG-7:30p	11 Ita Wegman SG-2p Asheville SG-7:30 Reading to the Dead Group-7:30p	12	13
14 Meeting of the First Class - 10a Review-11a CC Family and Festival Group-11:30a YBA SG-4p Clemmons SG-6p	15 EWS Steiner Study Group-9a Greensboro SG-3:30p	16	17 Rose Cross SG-7:30p	18 Ita Wegman SG-2p	19 Werbeck Singing 7p	20 CC-Community Envisioning-7:30p
21 CC Children's Service-9:30a CC Act of Consecration of Man-10:30a YBA SG-4p Clemmons SG-6p	22 EWS Steiner Study Group-9a Greensboro SG-3:30p	23	24 Eurythmy Classes 8:30a Rose Cross SG-7:30p	25 Ita Wegman SG-2p Asheville SG-7:30 Reading to the Dead Group-7:30p	26	27 Branch Meeting at EWS 3p
28 CC Family and Festival Group-11:30a YBA SG-4p Clemmons SG-6p	29 EWS Steiner Study Group-9a Greensboro SG-3:30p	30	31 Eurythmy Classes 8:30a Rose Cross SG-7:30p			

Rudolf Steiner Branch Calendar for November 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Articles and calendar items for the next Sophia Sun should be sent to Kathleen Wright at kathleenwright51@peoplepc.com by Nov 20, 2012.						
				1 Ita Wegman SG-2p Eve Olive Book Release Party at EWS 6:30p Soul Study Group- 5p	2 ALL SOULS DAY	3 All Souls Day Observance 3p
4 CC Family and Festival Group- 11:30a YBA SG-4p Clemmons SG-6p	5 EWS Steiner Study Group-9a Greensboro SG- 3:30p Threshold Care Group-6:30p	6	7 Eurythmy Classes 8:30a Rose Cross SG- 7:30p	8 Ita Wegman SG-2p Reading to the Dead Group-7:30p	9	10
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From the Editor:

Our community has just finished celebrating Michaelmas as I write this. About 20 people attended this lovely, simple observance with a Pot Luck, some singing, poetry and the making of felt meteors balls. There are pictures from the event on page 5. We were especially delighted to see our dear friend Tammy Hughes who has visiting us from China, where she has been living these past 9 years. She brought along her son Linden and his new wife, Christina from Moldova. Another thing that was special about this event was the mixture of ages. Usually most attendees at our events are all over 60. Today we had twenty, thirty and forty year-olds in equal numbers. This was in part due to the presence of the Foundation Studies students who had been attending a Mystery Drama workshop with Barbara Renold this morning. This gives us hope for the future! Participants were so enthusiastic about their work this morning that they decided that would like to begin a Study group about the Mystery Dramas.

More than the usual numbers of letters came to the editor this past month, mostly about the articles on the AGM Conference, Leadership Colloquium and Peter Selg conference. There is much enthusiasm about helping to heal the Society and return to Steiner's original intentions for it. We hope you are all subscribing to Thomas O'Keefe's ***Deepening Anthroposophy***. Issue Number 6 came out this past week and there were two excellent articles in it: one by Daniel Hafner about Steiner's intentions for Threefolding the Anthroposophical Society. He gives the clearest explanation about it that we have seen thus far. The other article of excellence is from Peter Selg. It is the introduction to his latest book ***The Identity of the Anthroposophical Society***.

We hope you will take time to notice how the groups and initiatives in the Southeast are growing. Please let us know if there are any groups we have overlooked. The more we communicate with one another, the more opportunities for collaboration arise and the stronger the Society becomes.

The world situation is particularly grave at this time and an election is to happen a month from now. One way to deal with all this negativity is to turn to the spiritual worlds. For this purpose there will be a Meditation for World Peace the night before the election at the Emerson Waldorf School. If you cannot make it, try to take time that evening at your home to meditate. When people meditate at the same time for the same purpose, their efforts are increased exponentially. Below is a prayer for peace that was written by **Adam Bittleston** for England during World War II. I have substituted the words "the world's" for "this island's" as he had originally written in the fourth line:



Oh Christ, Thou knowest
The souls and spirits
Whose deeds have woven
The world's destiny.

May we who today
Are bearers of this destiny
Find the strength and the light
Of thy servant Michael.

And our hearts be warmed
By thy blessing, O Christ,
That our deeds may serve
Thy work of world healing.

Scenes from the NC Michaelmas Festival:

(photos by Bruce Bornhorst)



Bruce Bornhorst, Barbara Renold



Eve Olive recites poem



Joanna Carey and Hagen Stauffer



Tammy Hughes making a felt meteor.



Margaretta and Linda



Dr. Mark making a meteor



Dr. Mark, Marie Norgren and Tammy



Making felt meteors: Martha Kelder and Peg



Barbara Renold talks with the Foundation Year students

All are welcome to attend the
RUDOLF STEINER BRANCH MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2012
3:00pm - 5:00pm
EURYTHMY ROOM AT EWS

Reports will be given about the conferences that our members attended this summer and discussions will follow.

Next Branch Meeting: Saturday, November 17, 3-5 PM in the Eurythmy Room at EWS. Topic will be Section Work - what is it and how can our Branch become involved in it?



ALL SOULS DAY OBSERVANCE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2012
3 PM AT MARIE NORDGREN'S

All are welcome and encouraged to attend the annual All Souls Observance to remember our loved ones who have crossed the Threshold. It will take place on Saturday, Nov. 3 at the home of Marie Nordgren at 3 PM The address is: 3928 Hope Valley Rd., Durham, NC 27707

The program will be a simple one: music, a short talk, and candle lighting for those who have died in recent years. If you would like to bring a picture of your loved one who has died, feel free to do so. Following the ritual, there will be a simple supper. For more information, please contact Marie at 919-544-9184 or email her at amnordgren.childrengarden@gmail.com

Reception for the Release of Eve Olive's Poetry Book At EWS November 1 - Hope You Can Be There!

The Launch Date for ***Cosmic Child: Inspired Writings from the Threshold of Birth*** is Thursday November, 1 at the Emerson Waldorf School, in the Eurythmy Room. There will be a reception at 6:30 pm, a reading at 7:00 pm followed by a book signing. All profits and royalties will be donated to the Eurythmy Program at EWS, not just on that night, but for all future sales of the book. The book includes contributions from a number of people in our community whom you will recognize.



Eve and her new book (picture courtesy of *The Emersonian*)

Cosmic Child: Inspired Writings from the Threshold of Birth is an anthology of poems and little stories all having to do with a sense of awareness before birth. The writings come from around the world and across the ages – Rumi, Wordsworth, Langston Hughes, Rudolf Steiner, Mary Oliver, Eve herself and many others, both well-known and less known. Collecting these writings has been Eve's labor of love for the past 33 years – inspired by the birth of her first Grandchild Lily in 1979. Eve will be doing lots of book signings this year to promote her book for the cause of Eurythmy. This book makes a great gift for new parents.

If you are unable to attend the Book Release Party and would like a copy of Eve's book, contact her at: **919-489-2564**.

You are warmly invited to our next
Community Gathering for World Peace
A Sophia Grail Circle
For The Community of Humanity
 Monday, November 5th
 (This date is the night before the election.)
 from 7 - 9 pm
 The Emerson Waldorf School
 Eurythmy Room.
 Pianist: Kara Choi
 Sponsored by the Sophia School of Movement
Threshold Group Hosts an Open Forum

Monday, Nov 5th at 6:30pm



The Threshold Group is a local Triangle area conversation group that meets once a month at the home of Jenny Bingham. The group shares experiences and concerns about death and dying, and discusses how to meet practical needs of the community regarding last wishes, burial and cremation planning, vigils, and resources for families.

When the group meets on Monday, November 5th, we are inviting community members to visit and share their experiences and concerns about death and dying. We hope that through this sharing we can learn how to be supportive to each other as a community during difficult times.

Please join us for this Threshold Open Forum: Monday, November 5th, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, at the home of Jenny Bingham, 208 Murray St, Hillsborough, NC 27278. Either call Jenny at

919-241-4304 or email at jennybingham@yahoo.com to let us know you plan to be there.

TRANSITIONS

Our hearts go out to Dr. Robert Kwapien and his wife Joy Kwapien on the loss of Bob's daughter Lara Faye Kwapien who died in a tragic fall on September 11, 2012. Lara was just 46 years old. She lived in Opelika, Alabama where she worked as an x-ray technician. The great love of her life was nature - both plants and animals. She received a degree in Horticulture from Auburn University and she was an accomplished equestrian. Lara loved dogs and cats and rescued many of them. Lara will be remembered at our All Souls gathering on November 3.

Congratulations to Marie Nordgren on becoming a new Grandma on September 20, 2012 when her daughter Brita gave birth to daughter Solvi Marie Wolf at 2:27 a.m. at her home in Asheville, NC. Solvi weighed in at 6 lbs. 7 oz. Marie was present at this homebirth. Proud Poppa is Jake Wolf. The couple lives in Asheville, NC. All are doing well. The child's name "Solvi" means "sun's strength". Such a perfect name for a child born during the Michaelmas season. Marie sent us this little poem to share her joy.

In Heaven stands a shining star
An angel brought you from afar
Brought you down on to the earth
And led you to your house of birth.



IANDS NEWS

Tuesday, October 9th, 7-9 PM - a video of NDEr Tony Cicorias which features a talk and his "Lightning Sonata".

Tuesday November 13th from 7-9 PM, a video from the IANDS conference of August 2012.

Meetings are held at the home of Robert and Suzanne Mays, 5623 Brisbane Dr. in Chapel Hill. For more information call 919-929-1073 or email

suzannemays@yahoo.com or mays@ieee.org



Upcoming events in our next issue:

Advent Sundays will again be at the home for Roger Schultz. The first Sunday of Advent is December 3. This year the Anthroposophical Society will be announcing a theme for Advent, which will help unite all anthroposophists in Spirit and help us to fortify ourselves for the challenging days ahead.

Friday, December 21 - The End of the Mayan Calendar and the beginning of a New Cycle of Spiritual Evolution: Our branch will observe this important event at EWS. If you have any suggestions for activities or readings, please contact one of the the Festivals Committee members: Peg Carmody, Linda Folsom, Margaretta Bornhorst, Judy Frey, Marie Nordgren, and Joanna Carey.

Annual Branch Holiday Party at the Freys' will be on **December 22 from 6-9 PM**

The Christmas Holy Nights's theme for this year will be: "The Christmas Conference of 1923 and the Refounding of the Anthroposophical Society". Details will be in our next issue. Be thinking now which evening you would like to host.

A Talk by Michael Judge - our Board is in communication with Michael Judge, a popular anthroposophical speaker, specializing in scientific themes, especially on evolution. We had hoped a date would be decided upon by now, but as we went to press it had not been confirmed. It may be as early as November, in which case it will have to be announced in our list-serve. So keep posted. If you are not on our list-serve, please go to our website www.anthroposophync.org and click on "Join". Follow the steps which simply involve giving your email address and selecting a password for yourself .



NC Triangle Affiliate of the Christian Community,
October 2012, Rev. Carol Kelly

Saturday evening Oct 20th
6:30pm - Preparing the Sacred Space
7:30pm - Community Envisioning Meeting

Sunday Oct 21st
9:30am - Children's Story and Service
10:30am - The Act of Consecration of Man
12:15pm - Confirmation Class

NOTE: Coffee and bagels served after the service rather than potluck;
feel free to bring additional snacks

Dear Community,

There will be a special Community Envisioning Meeting during Rev. Carol Kelly's visit this month. Please join us in a circle of warmth and love as we gather our hearts' visions for the future of our community. We hope that you will share all of your deepest-held wishes for "what could be" for the Christian Community here in the NC Triangle area, both practical ideas and perhaps impossible dreams. Can you envision a building or a church in our future? We have a whole "holy host" of helpers - Christ and his Angels - waiting to inspire and guide us if we look to them for help. This evening will be a time for us to create real and tangible goals to work towards together as a community.

Friday 10/19/12 and Saturday 10/20/12 (as scheduled in advance):

Sacramental Consultation or other private conversations with Rev Carol Kelly at the home of Margit Gratzl. Please contact Margit as soon as possible to schedule time with Carol: 919-484-2764 or mgratzl@nc.rr.com. Margit's address is 519 Wheeling Cir., Durham, 27713.

Saturday, 10/20/12

6:30pm: Set up of room and altar. The Steering Committee usually sets up the space at 3p on Saturday afternoons, but this month the room is not available until 6:30pm. Please come early and help us.

7:30pm: Community Envisioning Meeting - everyone welcome. Help us envision our future. We sincerely want your ideas and suggestions. If you are unable to attend, please send your comments to our email address: christiancommunity.nc@earthlink.net

Sunday, 10/21/12

9:30am: Children's Story and Service

10:30am: The Act of Consecration of Man

Note: Coffee and Bagels after the service rather than potluck. Feel free to bring additional snacks.

12:15pm - 1:45pm: Confirmation Class meets with Rev Kelly

All events will be held in the Fleming Building at New Hope Camp and Conference Center,
4805 NC HWY 86, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

For more information about events please email christiancommunity.nc@earthlink.net

News From Whitted Bowers Farm

What a difference a couple of weeks make. We welcome the first night we can open the windows and let the cool air in and hear the chorus of crickets. And, for the first time since we have farmed this land, our pond is full in September, thanks to the blessing of abundant rain, immediately following the annual Fall ritual of planting strawberries for next season. Everything is green, ready to give the last burst of color and life before the cold. We await Camus' "second spring, where every leaf is a flower."



Our market season began this year in March and the five months of main season harvest through July went faster than ever. We had a once-in-a-generation strawberry season picking berries for twelve weeks instead of the more typical six. And, with the arrival of some of the perennial fruit we planted over recent years, we welcomed raspberries, blackberries and blueberries to our table. As we write this, young kaki persimmon trees stand in our fields with

their fruit hanging off of small limbs, bright yellow and orange in a kind of first dance with those autumn colors. We also harvested our first muscadine grapes and next year should have an abundance of these sweeter than sweet native fruit. We return to markets shortly with more classic fall fare, greens, sweet potatoes, acorn and butternut squash and jicama, horseradish, oyster and shiitake mushrooms to keep it interesting. We hope to harvest through the holidays and be present at the Carrboro market on Wednesdays and Saturdays.



We continue to do everything we can to talk about biodynamics to the uninitiated. For the fifth year in a row, we were on the Piedmont Farm Tour in April welcoming approximately 500 people to the farm. We spoke at the Rice Institute in Durham (on the same evening as Venus' transit of the sun!) in June and hosted a workshop on native plantings for pollinators and other beneficial insects. The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation has asked us to be a southeast demonstration site for

the integration of native plantings for pollinators in a working farm. Work on the plot adjacent to the new peach and apple orchard has begun. We will be speaking at a conference at Duke Divinity School on September 22 on Food, Faith and Farming. And, lastly, Cheri is planning on attending the 2012 Biodynamic Conference "Sacred Agriculture" November 14 - 18 in Madison, Wisconsin. We are especially grateful to be able to attend this year, as it has been difficult for us to leave the farm in recent years.

Our lives are full and we are blessed. We are looking forward to the turning in of winter when we can brew more tea and perhaps read some books. And then, the wheel will turn again.

With thanks and gratitude,

Rob, Cheri and Téa

CONSTRUCTION BEGUN ON NEW ANTHROPOSOPHICAL HEALING CENTER NEAR EMERSON WALDORF SCHOOL

by Kathleen Wright

For at least 20 years, members of our Rudolf Steiner Branch community have been talking about starting an intentional community with a healing center here. There have been three separate efforts over the years to discuss this. One even involved fundraising. Little fruit came out of these efforts, but now, conversations have begun with someone who has a very similar vision that he has already begun - Dr. Dani Mouawad.



For those who have not yet met Dani, he and his wife Rula are both pediatricians, who currently practice at Haven Medical Center (owned by Dr. Sonja Rappaport). They have four children aged 5, 7, 9 and 11, all of whom attend the Emerson Waldorf School.

Dani and Rula are both students in the Foundations Study program at EWS. Dani is currently studying to become an anthroposophical doctor. He explained that it requires five summer class sessions and a mentorship program to become certified as an anthroposophical doctor. He has completed the first two years and will continue on with his studies until he is certified. Dani is also interested in other forms of alternative medicine. He has recently completed a Fellowship in Dr. Andrew Weil's Integrative Medicine program. Dani believes that inner healing is the most important component of healing the body and hopes to make this the main focus of his healing center and eco-village intentional community.

Dani recently met with the Rudolf Steiner Branch's Board to discuss his vision for the healing center, which he considers phase one of a larger enterprise, of which he would like as much community input as possible. The current building site is a 1.55 acre property adjacent to the Emerson Waldorf School. On it will be built a large healing center as well as a residence for Dani and his family. Construction on it began in the middle of September. The healing center will have medical offices and educational classrooms. There will be Art therapies, Eurythmy, Yoga and other healing classes. For phase two, new land will need to be purchased and here is where our community comes in: Dani says that "the vision is still unfolding" and he welcomes input about what our vision is as to what kind of intentional community we would like to have here. He welcomes those who would like to work with him. Funds will of course be needed as well as workers.

If you are interested in working with Dani Mouawad to help birth this wonderful vision for the future, you may contact him at; danimouawad@gmail.com or call him at 919-525-5625



Emerson Waldorf School's Farm Produce is available for purchase at the school

Tuesdays from 7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and 2:45 - 3:45 p.m.



(pictures are from *The Emersonian*)

Emerson Waldorf School To Host WECAN Southeast Regional Conference with Susan Weber



The next Waldorf Early Childhood Association for North America (WECAN) Regional Gathering will take place on Saturday, October 27 at the Emerson Waldorf School in Chapel Hill, NC. Susan Weber will be the presenter on the theme of “The First Seven Years: Turning Points in the Child’s Biography.” Waldorf education brings us insights into the seven-year rhythms of human development, and as early childhood teachers, we are especially invited to deepen our understanding of the first of these rhythms. For many of us, it is the second half of this

rhythm that is most familiar. However, the child we meet at ages four, five, and six brings a critical phase of her biography with her. This presentation will offer a deeper look at the whole first seven years with a focus on the nodal points of development, to discover rich and helpful insights about the children before us, and how we may meet their needs. Register by October 12 for a \$10 discount off the regular registration fee of \$55. For information, please contact Karen Smith - 404-417-9522 karen@kevinandkaren.com and Annie Sommerville-Hall - 404-627-1093 - somhall@earthlink.net

(reprinted from the website www.waldorfearlychildhood.org)

Emerson Waldorf School Has Designed A New Logo:



After 26 years, EWS has replaced its old logo with a new design, which you see above. The Sept. 19 Emersonian wrote this about it:

Indeed, our logo was very carefully and thoughtfully designed, worked, and reworked – a beautiful fusion of Kathleen Stone-Michael’s original design, The Splinter Group’s talent, Marketing’s input, and College’s wisdom and commitment to pedagogy. There is definitely meaning behind it – this is Waldorf, after all.

The spiral is central to our icon and is the universal symbol for the spiritual journey. It represents spiritual growth, or depending on how one is encountered by the spiral, it can represent one’s need to grow spiritually. The spiral is also the universal symbol of the life force, both cosmic and microcosmic. Spiral forms are seen in nature from the great galaxies of outer space, to the whirlwind and whirlpools, to coiled serpents and conical seashells, to the tips of the fingers – our finger prints.

The EWS spiral has 5 segments, each representing a part of our school: Nursery, Kindergarten, Lower Grades, Middle School, High School. And the spiral is held by the slightly asymmetrical structure that represents our physical school; i.e., the students are held by the school and are then released into the wider world upon graduating High School.

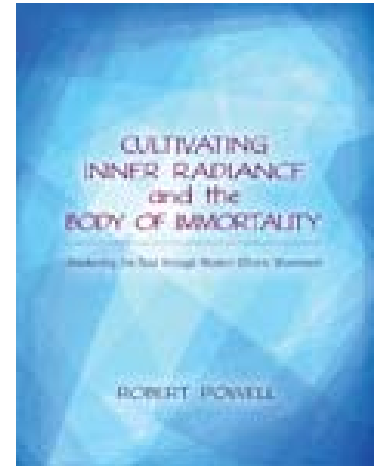
Finding a font that did the icon justice proved impossible, so The Splinter Group hand-built our very own Waldorf font, a perfect complement to the icon. Voila our new logo!

BOOK REVIEW:

***Cultivating Inner Radiance and the Body of Immortality* by Robert Powell**

Review by Kelly Calegar

The new and inspiring book ***Cultivating Inner Radiance*** by Robert Powell was written as a means of effectively strengthening the individual soul to meet the challenges we are facing on earth at this time. The book carries the message that there is protection offered to those who actively undertake to unite with Christ. When the practices given in this book are undertaken actively (meaning through eurythmic movement) and daily, then a resonance with Christ can be developed toward the ideal that Christ is held in a living way in consciousness every hour of the day. This is the potential result of the practice of cultivating inner radiance and the body of immortality on an individual level whereby each person holds the ideal of becoming a “church” into which Christ is invited to be present.



When this practice is done together in a group, in the spirit of the words “Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in your midst”, the “church” is expanded from each individual to include all of the individuals present as well as the space between each person. In this way the group becomes a community for Christ in the etheric realm. This is enhanced all the more by an elevated consciousness of each person in the group, (which can be as small as two). When the consciousness of the individuals expands to include the sacred space in between them, together they become the “church” into which they are inviting the Etheric Christ. They create a vessel together into which the Etheric Christ is able to weave. This experience is intensified by the harmonious synchronization of each individual’s gestures with the gestures of the others, so that the group becomes a living organism weaving an etheric “church” of the Etheric Christ.

In this “community church” every thought is important; every thought influences the “church”. It is also important to pay attention not just to our own gestures, but to synchronizing our gestures together as a group, whereby something happens in the group: the group becomes an organism in the etheric – which is a very powerful and beautiful experience. It is a new level of communion that takes place.

A friend, who wishes to remain anonymous, has offered this testimonial from her experience of working with the practice of Cultivating Inner Radiance:

“I am writing this in order to share a beautiful experience which I was gifted on Palm Sunday night, 2012. During a state of waking sleep I beheld a light-filled image of Christ. He was far off. He looked much like he is described in the Book of the Apocalypse, in that he was a source of radiance, and without connection to anything physical. As I beheld the image, I realized this is how he appears in the etheric realm. An aura of light, as well as rays were around him. His hands were radiant and powerful. What I then realized is that the life force which was around him was not so much emanating away from him, but rather had the effect of drawing human beings towards him. It seemed the purpose of my seeing him was to become aware that he is drawing us towards him. I could see that souls were indeed being drawn not so much away from the earth, but towards him, so they could be with him in his etheric presence. The souls who seek him and love him are able to be in much finer forms, which are his substance. I felt so permeated with light and life and seemed to know in this moment, a completely different kind of existence. My soul felt so completely joyous and deeply grateful that I could perceive such glory, not for myself, but for all souls. For this reason I am sharing this

profound experience as it seems that something most wonderful is occurring for all souls who seek him. I have no doubt that the inner radiance practice helps to grow the wings to support us as he draws us upward into the finer sheaths of his glorious being."

Robert has said that his hope was that people, through the practice of cultivating inner radiance, would come to these kinds of experiences of the Etheric Christ. Several people have told me that they are experiencing new strength and balance from the practice of inner radiance through taking it up on a daily basis. In this light, Marie Nordgren will be hosting me to teach classes at her house on the 3rd Monday of each month from 7 – 8:30 pm. I will be demonstrating the movements given in the book to help people to get started with these healing, strengthening practices. Please call or email Marie or me for more information: Marie 919-544-9184 amnordgren.childrengarden@gmail.com; or Kelly 919-361-0691 kcalegar@earthlink.net

Another activity for strength of Soul and strength of Community is the Sophia Grail Circle. You are warmly invited to our next Community Gathering for World Peace – a Sophia Grail Circle for the Community of Humanity on Monday, November 5th from 7 – 9 pm. (This date is the night before the election.) It will take place at the Emerson Waldorf School's Eurythmy Room.

SOUTH AFRICAN WOMAN NOMINATED FOR VORSTAND POSITION: ELECTION TO BE HELD AT AGM 2013

(Excerpted From and article in *Anthroposophy Worldwide* 2012-07 by Virginia Sease)



At the 2013 AGM the Executive Council at the Goetheanum will recommend **Joan Sleight (see picture on left)** as a new member. Of her Virginia Sease writes:

"Joan Sleight grew up in a Camphill community in South Africa with English as her first language. The mother of four studied Waldorf Education in Germany and has taught in schools as well as in teacher training....."

Some time ago the Executive Council members decided to seek for a person to join us in our work for the General Anthroposophical Society who, like Virginia Sease, comes originally from an English speaking country, has English as her or his mother-tongue and with a corresponding education. Of course, in addition to a strong background in and dedication to Anthroposophy, an important requirement is that this person also be fluent in spoken and written German. Age also plays a role in such a search.

We are delighted to announce to the membership worldwide that we have found a person who we feel meets all of these requirements and has many other significant attributes as well. After a time of comprehensive consideration Joan Sleight of Cape Town, South Africa, has agreed to join us in our work in the Executive Council and in the Collegium of the School of Spiritual Science. She has met not only with the members of the Executive Council but also with the Section Leaders. The positive affirmation of her in both these circles was unanimous. In November the General Secretaries will have an opportunity to meet her. During the Annual General Meeting in the spring of 2013, the Executive Council at the Goetheanum wants to ask the members to confirm Joan Sleight as a new member of the Executive Council.

(continued on next page)

Joan Sleigh was born in 1962 to parents living and working in Camphill Hermanus, South Africa. She describes her childhood as happy also because she had four siblings. Those who are familiar with Camphill Hermanus will appreciate that brothers and sisters are important as it lies in a rather isolated protected surrounding in a bay area east of Cape Town. When her parents pioneered a new Camphill, Alpha, the family moved. Her father, Julian Sleigh, a priest of the Christian Community, also built a chapel on the site and her mother, Renate Sleigh, a nurse, took care of medical situations and carried the cultural life such as festivals. When Joan was three years old her family spent one year at Camphill Botton Village (UK). During this time she met her maternal grandfather, Karl König, although she was so young that she has little recollection of the meeting.

Joan Sleigh had the advantage of a Waldorf School but she also then attended an Afrikaans farm school close to Camphill Alpha. This led to a proficiency in Afrikaans.

Her life in South Africa experienced a pause between 1982 and 1995 as she married and moved to Bochum (DE). During these years she was a devoted mother to her four children. Also along the way she attended Waldorf Teacher Training in Witten-Annen. Afterwards she taught English and handwork at the Widar Schule Wattenscheid for three years.

When she then returned with her four children to Cape Town in 1995 she was asked to become a class teacher at Michael Oak Waldorf School. As of this time she has completed two full cycles and one half cycle as a Class teacher. In December 2012 her current class will complete the 7th grade which marks the end of the class teacher time in South Africa.

In 2007 she also began lecturing at the Centre for Creative Education, the Waldorf Teacher Training program in Cape Town, which she still does at this time. At present she is completing her Master's degree with a focus on leadership connected with adult education. Joan Sleigh recently began to represent South Africa in the Hague Circle, an international group which works in conjunction with the Pedagogical Section of the School of Spiritual Science. In addition, she has strong personal connections with Europe as three of her adult children and two grandchildren live in Germany. At the moment only one daughter resides in Cape Town.".

The human heart can go to the lengths of God.
 Dark and cold we may be, but this
 Is no winter now. The frozen misery
 Of centuries breaks, cracks, begins to move;
 The thunder is the thunder of the floes,
 The thaw, the flood, the upstart Spring.
 Thank God our time is now when wrong
 Comes up to face us everywhere,
 Never to leave us till we take
 The longest stride of soul [we humans] ever
 took.

Affairs are now soul size.

The enterprise

Is exploration into God.

Where are you making for? It takes

So many thousand years to wake,

But will you wake for pity's sake?

**From Christopher Fry's "A Sleep Of Prisoners"
 Epilogue**



The School of Spiritual Psychology
Presents

**A New Heaven and A New Earth:
Preparing for Winter Solstice 2012**
with Robert Sardello and Cheryl Sanders-Sardello
December 6-10
The School of Spiritual Psychology Center
Benson, North Carolina



The School of Spiritual Psychology celebrates entering its 21st year just as the event of the age – **December 21, 2012**, announces a new cycle of Earth. This new cycle is being called “**The End of the Mayan Calendar**”. The long build-up of reactions are, predictably, those of a final catastrophe of epic proportions OR the beginning of the new age of paradise OR both.

Those who have engaged with the work of the School over these twenty years – not continuously, of course, but enough to have a sense of the depth of the work – are urgently invited to this session of the School of Spiritual Psychology’s Earthosophy program. This session will be a time for what has been working in soul for some twenty years to enter fulcrum and climax -- consciously uniting our soul with World Soul and the start of the united heart-presence of the healing of Earth.

We invite you to gather at the School of Spiritual Psychology to celebrate the arrival of this moment with a balanced view between the distracting polarities of panic and ecstasy, centering the imagination of this moment as a call to the heart, and a call to erotic, passionate love of Earth!

What we will do –

a) transition from the well-known work of developing inner ‘practices’, to now seeing and feeling such practices as ‘ritual’. We are now at a moment of realizing that, imaginally, though quite actually experienced, body is soul is spirit is earth. We stand with the vision, though not exactly the method of Jose Arguelles, in his saying, “I am one with the Earth; The Earth and myself are one mind.”

b) Spiritual Psychology has been guided by its unique development of the capacities of the heart. The realm of heart-feeling, together with entering into the Silence, has resulted in inner connection with the dimensions of Sophia, Soul of the World. We now can begin the exploration of the presence of Christ –as-love, developing the new human capacities of contemplative action that are now on the horizon, the near horizon. These capacities present themselves as the increasing prevalence of synchronicities that unite ‘inner and outer’, and a new kind of ‘telepathic’ communion of the heart.

a) Explore a central imagination of the Book of Revelation, the Apocalypse, with a concentration on: “And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered..... And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.”..... Our particular interest is in --- how, Sophia, about to give birth to the new human spirit, is protected from the presence of evil by Michael and the Earth.

Program Facilitators

Robert Sardello, Ph.D. is co-founder and co-director of The School of Spiritual Psychology, which began in 1992. He has written *Facing the World with Soul, Love and the Soul, Love and*

the World, Freeing the Soul from Fear, The Power of Soul: Living the Twelve Virtues, Silence, Steps on the Stone Path: Working with Crystals and Minerals as Spiritual Practice, and Acts of the Heart.

Cheryl Sanders-Sardello, Ph.D., is co-founder and co-director of The School of Spiritual Psychology, in Benson, NC. Prior to the founding of The School in 1992, she worked as a teacher of mentally handicapped children, and as an addictions counselor. She is currently writing a book on the healing of the twelve senses in the young and the development of the spiritual senses as we age, with an additional focus on the spiritual psychology of what it means to be in connection with the "so called dead". She creates healing mandalas in the context of the classes within The School, and is involved in the teaching of all classes in Spiritual Psychology.

Special Tuition Price

There is a Special reduced tuition \$500 for this event. A \$200.00 deposit is required. The remaining tuition of \$300 is due at the time of the course.

Tuition and Board

Tuition does not include room and board fees, which are paid separately. Room and board is \$395.00, for a double room. If there are any single rooms available, the room and board, with single room, is \$495.00. The very comfortable Center for Spiritual Psychology is located on fourteen acres with a pond and a swimming pool, two labyrinths, a healing circle, a large garden, two dogs and a cat, highly skilled in contemplative practices.

WALDORF EDUCATION TAKES PART IN *NY TIMES* CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION : "SCHOOLS OF TOMORROW"

On September 13, Lucy Wurtz, from the Waldorf School of the Peninsula, Douglas Gerwin, Co-Director of the Research Institute for Waldorf Education, and Patrice Maynard of AWSNA, attended a *New York Times* sponsored conference on education.

Lucy Wurtz was invited to participate in a panel discussion with Ted Brodheim who invented "e-pals." The conference, "Schools of Tomorrow," was designed to be an open offering and brainstorming with those interested in education and featured many noteworthy educational leaders and commenters: Linda Darling Hammond of Stamford, Sharon Robinson of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, Monty Neill of Fair Test, Herbert Ginsburg of Teachers College, Columbia University, and Dennis Wolcott, chancellor of New York City's Department of Education, to name a few. Moderators were all journalists from the *New York Times* and included Gerald Maarzorati, David Brooks, Bill Keller, and Nick Kristof, to name a few.

In the midst of a mood of technology as a powerful answer to our educational questions, Lucy Wurtz, in her panel entitled, "Head to Head," represented the very different approach Waldorf Education offers to the world. Poised, calm, and prepared, she made a clear picture of what students of today are up against and how important the Waldorf approach is for helping the young unfold at their best before becoming dependent on computers to work for them. She drew applause more than once from the audience of teachers, school principles, educational technology experts, Google inventors, and educational consultants. She represented Waldorf Education in a comprehensive way. After the event ended, many approached her to thank her for her courage in taking a stand on behalf of children, bringing in the arts and practical skills, and citing statistics about our children's habits of hours in front of screens.

The *New York Times* is to be commended for its active interest in creating such an open forum for educational debate and for the artistic and socially supportive design of the entire day's event. - Patrice Maynard and Frances Kane, AWSNA -

reprinted from the AWSNA website www.whywaldorfworks.org

News from Anthroposophical Groups in the Southeast:

Florida Foundation Studies Program Begins With Talk By Douglas Gerwin in Palm Harbor

Waldorf teacher Karen Maestrales sent us an announcement that a Foundation Studies Course has begun at the Suncoast Waldorf School in Palm Harbor, FL (near Tampa). The program kicked off on September 21st with a talk open to the public by Douglas Gerwin on "Turning Education on its Head: What Modern Brain Research Says About How Children and Young Adults Learn". Dr. Gerwin is the Director of the Center for Anthroposophy.

Foundation Studies in Anthroposophy and the Arts participants will have monthly classes at the Suncoast Waldorf School. It is a two-year program that offers a certificate to its graduates. Teachers for the course in Florida include: Eugene Schwartz, Joseph Savage, Arthur Auer and of course, Douglas Gerwin. During the first year students will study Steiner's *Theosophy, How to Know Higher Worlds* and they will do a study of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Each session they will have a lecture on Friday evening, followed by Saturday artistic work including Eurythmy, painting and and music.

Barbara Bedingfield is the local coordinator and Barbara Richardson of the Center for Anthroposophy in New Hampshire is the Coordinator for the national program.

If you are interested in signing up for the Florida Foundation Studies Course (there's still time to enroll!), call Barbara Bedingfield at 727-766-8311. For questions about starting a Foundations Studies Program in your area, call Barbara Richardson at 207-865-6482

Christian Community in Atlanta to Welcome Rev. Jonah Evans for Advent

The Christian Community Movement for Religious Renewal in Atlanta will be hosting Rev. Jonah Evans, December 5-9, 2012. Rev. Evans will be leading us in celebrating the Advent season, by offering religious education for children, talks and discussions for adults, and Sacraments. He is visiting from Spring Valley, NY, where he currently lives and serves as priest. If you would like to receive more information about the schedule of events for this festival, our initiative, or information about future activities, please contact christiancommunity.atlanta@gmail.com or katjenks@negia.net. - *submitted by Katherine Jenkins*

PERSEPHONE HEALING ARTS CENTER OF JACKSONVILLE, FL HOSTS DR. HAUSCHKA EVENING THURSDAY, October 11, 2012 6-8 pm

Join us for a fun evening of exploring Dr. Hauschka's wonderful product line, including cosmetics. Persephone Healing Arts Center; 485 Sixth Ave N, Jacksonville Beach, Florida. RSVP: [\(904\) 246-3583](tel:9042463583). Dr.Pautz.com.

Editor's Not: If you know of any Anthroposophic news in the Southeast, please let the editor know at: kathleenwright51@gmail.com or call: 919-309-9622

News From Anthroposophical Groups in Other Parts of the Country:

(We cannot possibly publish all the Anthroposophical events happening around the country. For a more complete list of activities of the Anthroposophical Society, go to the website www.anthroposophy.org. We print here just ones which we feel are particularly newsworthy or important for our members to know about, or when we get requests from the event holders to print their event.)

Anthroposophic Nurse Massage Training in Ghent, NY

Rhythmical Einreibung, also known as Rhythmical Embrocation, is a nursing massage that gently enlivens, warms and nurtures the whole human being through conscious application of qualities of touch and therapeutic oils. It will be given in two parts at Camphill Ghent in Chatham, NY.

Part I takes place October 4-8th 2012 (Part II will be given in 2013) at Camphill Ghent, Chatham, NY. Instructors are: Anke Smeele-Dekker, R.N., BSN and Elizabeth Sustick, RN. Cost: \$595. For more information, contact: Brigette Fitzgerald at 985-801-9245 or email: bridgettefitzgerald@yahoo.com

Editor's Note: *The following workshop is one we wish all of us could attend. We greatly admire the work of Truus Geraets, especially in these magnificent Social Forums she has been holding for over a decade. They are absolutely awesome. Rudolf Steiner would be so proud of her work - uniting Anthroposophists and persons doing Michaelic work in so many social and community endeavors. Next year she will lead a World Social Forum at the Goetheanum.*

Social Initiative Forum

*- with Endorsement from the Social Science Section -
Spiritual Striving and Social Action in the World
in the face of so much hurt*

October 19-22, 2012

Westside Waldorf School

17310 Sunset Blvd.

Pacific Palisades, 90272, CA

Program Masters of Ceremony: Seth Jordan and Matt Sawaya

Friday October 19

4:00 Registration and tea; the time to sign up for your Action Group on Sunday.

5:00 Meeting each other over dinner (Westside School plaza)

7:00 Truus Geraets and others: Honoring Tim Smith and Phons van Vlijmen

Truus: The impulse behind this Forum and other World Social Forums still to come

- 7:30 Orland Bishop: Presentation on “Initiation in the Modern World”
 8:45 Rachel Schmid: “Eurythmy in Word and Movement” – with emphasis on Chopin
 9:45 Closing and Outlook on next day.

Saturday October 20:

- 8:30 Ceremonial start of the Day
Giving Voice to our Concerns for the World while Wishing to Serve Humanity and the Earth
 9:30 Robin Theiss: “An Exploration into the Destiny of the Waldorf School Movement”
 10:30 Coffee break
 11:00 Short presentations of Social Projects round the world:
 Orland Bishop: The Revitalization of Brightmoor
 Leila Connors and Mathew Schmid: Urban Roots
 Carrie Schuchart: The Ipswich House of Peace
 Dottie Zold: Elderberries Café in Hollywood
 Beatrice Birch: Zacharias Center in Copake Falls, New York
 Karen Gierlach: The Peace Projects in Israel
 Truus Geraets: Impressions with videos of other fabulous projects including Partnership Foundation by Ferd van Koolwijk, providing street children in India a new future; amazing work in the Favelas (slums) of Sao Paulo with Ute Craemer; the Abalimi Family Farming Initiative with Rob Small in Cape Town
 12:30-2:00 Lunch break (Westside School plaza).
 2:00-3:30 Select the Workshop activity as per your registration:
 1. Clay modeling as a transformative action for those challenged with addictions with Bea Birch
 2. Understanding violence and trauma in poor communities with Fabian Montes
 3. The Anthroposophical Prison Outreach with Kathy Serafin
 4. Eurythmy for Newcomers with Rachel Schmid
 5. Polynesian Arts & Crafts with Tiesha Hutchins
 6. New Impulses for the Occupy Wallstreet people coming from Rudolf Steiner’s view on the Threefolding of Society with Seth Jordan
 7. Non-Violent Communication with Carol Wolfley
 8. Community Development with Matt Sawaya
 3:30 Tea Break
 4:00 Deep Conversation and Listening with Orland Bishop
 World Café Sharing “Seeds for Activism” in groups of 5 and then in plenum
 6:15 Plans for tomorrow
 6:30 Dinner (Westside School plaza)
 8:00 - 10:00 Night Café with the Westside Jazz orchestra and other musical offerings.

Sunday October 21 , Action Day in the Community

Forum participants will participate for a full day in small groups in local service projects. For this Action Day, **the Forum will not take place at the Westside Waldorf School** but at a variety of locations with various service projects in the mall, on beaches, and other local sites (all details to be announced later this summer). You will be able to sign up for the project of your choice at registration time. Volunteers will be needed to take people to the projects of their choice.

8:30 Full Forum Gathering for Action Day at the Los Liones Park

The Sunday Action Day will be a full day of Service whereby Forum participants can engage in meaningful interactive work assignments in neighborhood locations. Lunch: Box lunches will be handed out in the morning.

3:00 Full Forum re-grouping at Elderberries Café, 7564 W. Sunset, Hollywood
Exchange of experiences of the day and evaluation of happenings, led by Seth and Matt.

5:00 Conversation on “Hip Hop, Healing and Change” led by Matt Sawaya.

6:15 Look ahead at program for Monday.

6:30 Dinner : at our Sunday location

Monday October 22 (Columbus Day): at the Westside Waldorf School location.

8:30 Discussion led by Seth Jordan and Matt Sawaya: Is there a way to continue the work started on Sunday? Do we feel better equipped from our experiences since Friday to voice our best intentions for the world? How can we translate these into the formation of an Ongoing Social Service Action Program?

11:00 Leslie Loy: “Young people’s quest to serve the world” and video of “Youth Initiative Program for Social Entrepreneurship in Sweden”
Short reports of other ongoing Action Programs, locally, and further afield.

12:00 Grand Finale contributions: Poetry and music from participants.

1:00 Lunch at Westside School plaza , for those who requested it on the registration day.

Forum participants are welcome to continue conversations after lunch in the converse around as long as may be wished.

Call or email Truus Geraets for more information: Tel. 949. 646. 6392

E-mail: artofliving1@yahoo.com

During the days of the Forum: 626. 429. 3447

Presenters and Workshop Leaders for the Social Initiative Forum:

Beatrice Birch, born in Concord Massachusetts, lived in England for 25 years where she taught in the Bristol Waldorf School, which worked positively with the threefold social impulse. She then engaged in a three year Hauschka Artistic Therapy and has been practicing in medical/therapeutic centers and privately for 30 years. She works at the present time in two prisons where she facilitates the Alternatives to Violence Project and also offers therapeutic painting in a minimum security facility. She is currently launching an initiative, the Zacharias Center, for individuals, striving to recover from psychiatric or addiction challenges, who choose not to be medicated. She currently lives in Copake Falls, NY.

Orland Bishop, originally from British Guyana, is founder and director of Shade Tree Multicultural Foundation, a mentoring organization for youth. Orland’s work in healing and human development is framed by natural and spiritual sciences from many cultural streams, primarily those of West and South Africa. Part of his work is based in Los Angeles, in South Central, where he helped broker a truce between two rival gangs. He also helps the community to deal with all suffering because of the many young people who loose there lives already in their most promising years. Orland is also a much sought-after international speaker.

Ute Craemer. Ute’s bio needed to be included in this listing as she –together with Truus – has carried the impulse towards World Social Forums since 1999.

Ute was born in Germany but lived, as a result of her father’s international work in refugee camps, in Austria, England, Egypt, Pakistan, Serbo-Croatia and so got her education in both English and French schools. After doing the Waldorf Teacher Training she worked as a class teacher in Paris, then as a class teacher in Sao Paulo. Her social work with the favela (slum) children of Monte Azul started first from home with students of her class of the Rudolf Steiner School in Sao Paulo. By introducing cultural and artistic activities also to the parents of the favela children, people found meaning in their otherwise desolate lives. People started to recognize their own self-worth and dignity. As a result the crime rate in the favela

became negligible. In 1979 the Associacao Comunitaria Monte Azul was created with a staff and co-workers, willing to work in the fields of pedagogy, culture, health and professional training. Her work has been widely recognized and also found support for the local authorities. Their website: www.psfmonteazul.org.br/fale_conosco.php

Truus Geraets, originally from the Netherlands, Eurythmist and Therapeutic Eurythmist, co-founder of the first Waldorf school in a slum in Johannesburg, worked in the US with inner-city youth, was a prison counselor, authored several books. She is part of the core-group to establish World Social Initiative Forums on different continents.

Karen Gierlach attended Waldorf schools in Germany and England and is now a Waldorf teacher in San Francisco and co-ordinator of reGeneration, an organization to support the growth and development of peace initiatives in Israel and Palestine, including the Arab Waldorf School and an Arab-Jewish kindergarten in northern Israel as well as working with interested educators in Palestine.

My name is **Tiesha Hutchins Utai**, I am married to a wonderful man from Samoa named Faamoana Anthony Utai. We have 3 sons Nicholas 20, Nekoia 18, and Massai 9, as well as my 15 year old niece Imani. I grew up in Carson, California with my parents 2 sisters and 1 brother. I graduated from Narbonne High School in 1990 and began my college career at Long Beach City College. I decided then that I wanted to become a teacher or in some way work with kids. I began taking child development classes and became a preschool teacher and later an RSP teacher in the Westminster and Buena Park School Districts. For 16 years I worked with below basic and far below basic students to help get them back on track. This style of teaching left me very empty and I knew there was more. In 2007 I left my job at Beatty Elementary and began running the after school program for the Waldorf School of Orange County. I am currently taking the Teacher Training Course so that I can continue my dream of becoming a teacher. For the last 14 years I have worked with Tupua Productions and various other Polynesian dance companies and have learned to make leis and other traditional crafts. I look forward to sharing this amazing rich culture with you.

Seth Jordan graduated from Connecticut College in 2003 with a major in philosophy. After studying for a year at the Christian Community Seminary in Chicago, and then studying and meeting with civil society activist Nicanor Perlas in the summers of 2006 and 2007, he co-founded Think OutWord (www.thinkoutword.org), a peer-led training in societal holism. Since then, he has taught courses and workshops in the United States, Europe and Asia. He currently lives part-time in Great Barrington, MA (traveling the rest of the time) and works on various projects especially connected to youth work and social finance.

Leslie Loy has worked in the non-profit sector for over ten years, focusing on integrating youth and social technologies to impact social renewal. Her work with youth began in her teens when she became a youth advocate and representative on numerous community-wide groups and facilitated a peer-led, self-organized regional publication. She has been active in giving voice to youth social activists and provided diverse forums for them to engage in, both on and off-line. She was a founder and later Director of WeStrive.org, an alternative social networking platform, in which capacity she was the Community Facilitator for the Anthroposophical Youth Section in North America. She has lived and worked in a Camphill community supporting young adults with special needs and abilities.

Leslie has applied systemic principles in the classroom with young adults, and has co-developed a sustainable agriculture curriculum for high school students, taught courses related to homelessness and housing and has facilitated workshops about community development around the world. She is currently engaged in prototyping an independent project-based track at Rudolf Steiner College and is part of a group exploring the possibilities of alternative young adult education.

A graduate of Reed College, and a certified Waldorf educator, Leslie is passionate about infusing life-long learning into her work. She is especially interested in invigorating local communities and transforming the global community through collective, shared intelligence

Fabian Montes was born in El Paso, Texas and currently lives in Los Angeles. After coming up from a very difficult childhood, he became a leader for other youngsters. At age 25 he began to redirect his life,

went to College to study Philosophy and Liberal Arts. He worked for 9 years with Homeboy Industries as job developer, then as a supervisor and later as a Sr. Pre-release Case Manager.

Being a gang peace expert, he is sometimes called to testify at the Los Angeles Criminal Court. He also works as a mentor for the Mosaic and Shade Tree Multicultural Foundation. He provides services in three different facilities for undocumented youth who are in federal custody.

Fabian created an Art Class for the youth at Camp Gonzales and for the part-time workers of Homeboy Industries. In another class he teaches Healing Circle, using spiritual practices from indigenous cultures.

In 2006 and 2007 he went with co-worker/ activist Pascual Torres and author/ poet Luis J. Rodriguez to Guatemala to introduce the message of Homeboys Industries. Other work abroad has been in Ireland, Mexico and El Salvador. He has had numerous interviews for radio and newspapers and has often been asked to lecture in universities and prison camps. Above all he is a Poet.

Matt Sawaya is an accomplished recording and performing artist and educator with a focus on healing and social justice. He is an innovative Hip Hop artist, a staff member of Street Poets Inc. in Los Angeles, works closely with Orland Bishop of the Shade Tree Foundation, helps to design and co-host dialogues and social processes for community building, peace keeping and cooperative economics. He is collaborating with Hip Hop artists internationally, advancing a variety of projects focused on Hip Hop culture, its international impact and its role in helping to create desired change in a time of global transition.

Rachel A. Schmid graduated from the first Waldorf School in Stuttgart, Germany. Before becoming the Eurythmy teacher at the Westside Waldorf School, she collected a profound teaching experience during the 7 years at the Christian Morgensternschule in Wuppertal, Germany. She has also been a successful performer of Eurythmy at the Goetheanum stage and did various independent stage productions. At the end of each school year at Westside she hosted great Eurythmy stage performances in which all the students participated.

As to the Eurythmy workshop, she wants people to know that “You will be learning what you have always known”. She incorporates dynamic modern teaching methods, sensitive philosophic depth and inspirational artistic fire in her seminars. People will find out that her teaching of Eurythmy imparts spiritual ease and understanding, creative enthusiasm and sure accomplishment

Kathy Serafin has been the Administrator of the Anthroposophical Prison Outreach Program for over ten years. Prior to her current position she was responsible for a Film Media Production Company for ten years. She is a Board member of the Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America and member of the Science Section.

Carrie Schuchardt founded in 1990, together with her husband John, the Ipswich House of Peace to make an active statement to “wage” peace instead of war. Over all these years they have taken in victims of war and have created a physical and spiritual haven for them. In addition they took in people with disabilities who in turn help those traumatized by circumstances beyond their control.

Robin Theiss is the lead humanities teacher at the Waldorf School of Orange County High School. She was born and raised in Southern California. She received her BA in Philosophy and Religious studies from the University of California, Riverside. After graduation, she was chosen as a student intern at Pendle Hill, a Quaker community in Pennsylvania. Here she studied Quaker Life, the philosophy and active practice of non-violence and passive resistance, communication skills and practical arts such as weaving, pottery, baking, and sewing. After her time at Pendle Hill, she was selected as a scholarship recipient to Claremont Graduate School to study in the Masters of Arts program in the School of Theology. Before entering the PhD program, she was presented with an opportunity to buy a local coffee house, Natale Coffee. Wanting a break from academia, she purchased the coffee house and owned and operated it for 12 years, expanding to another location in Costa Mesa. Natale became a community center, offering poetry evenings, political lectures, educational forums and book discussions. She and her husband married during this time and had 2 children. Her children reaching school age coincided with her wish to return to academics; she found Waldorf education for both her children and herself. She enrolled in the Bay Area Center for Waldorf Teacher Training in 2001 and completed both the grades and high school teaching in 2004. Upon graduation, she was hired

as the founding teacher of the Santa Cruz Waldorf School. She worked in that pioneering endeavor for 5 years, until she joined the Waldorf School of Orange County in 2009. She enjoys working with adolescents to help unveil their given capacities through rigorous study, deep contemplation, and a love of life and its myriad possibilities.

Carol Wolfley, host of the Sequoia Anthroposophical group in Berkeley, California. She gives workshops in Non-Violent Communication.

Dottie Zold, originally from Philadelphia, cares deeply about people rejected by society. The foundation for her life is Rudolf Steiner's Spiritual Science. She opened the Elderberries Café in Hollywood in 2010, nourishing people not only with vegan meals, but also giving them spiritual sustenance. She supports homeless youth by giving them work in the Café, making it possible for them to find their way again in mainstream society. Elderberries hosts a stand-up comedian once a week as well as a Jazz Poet's night. She hopes that Elderberries may be a training spot for the kids from local homeless shelters so that they may develop a talent and then be able to apply for jobs that ask for experience. Elderberries was not built for to be one only, but to go across the country.

Announcement from the Berkshire-Taconic Branch:
A call to artists, teachers, students and everyone interested in
Anthroposophy and Rudolf Steiner's work:

Come meet Vera Koeppel who is visiting Columbia County on her tour of the USA. She will be discussing the possibility of bringing an impressive exhibit of Rudolf Steiner's work to travel around our country in 2014. Call **Nathaniel at 518-672-4090** if you have any questions.

The meeting will be- **Tuesday , October 2nd, at 7 pm at 11 Maple Avenue in Philmont, NY.**

Along with this announcement came a magnificent 68-page booklet about Steiner's 150th birthday. If you would like a copy via email, please let me know and I will email it to you. It is 11MB so make sure your mailbox can handle something this large.
kathleenwright51@gmail.com

The 21st Bi-Annual Heartbeet Conference:
Encountering Thresholds: The Courage to Be Vulnerable
Sat, Oct 6 -7 th 2012
Hardwick, VT

You are warmly invited to attend an Anthroposophical conference on the weekend of October 6-7, 2012 (Columbus Day weekend) at Heartbeet Lifesharing in Hardwick, Vermont. We will explore the theme of biography, with specific attention to the many thresholds we meet daily and over the course of our lives.

On Saturday evening Laurie Portocarrero will perform her one-woman show, **THE POWER OF IMAGINATION: The Life and Poetry of Christy McKaye Barnes.**

As usual there will be lots of delicious food and fun!

For a full conference program and registration information, please contact Annie Volmer at annie@heartbeet.org or call 802-472-3285.

Directory of Anthroposophical Initiatives in North Carolina

Branches

The Rudolf Steiner Branch (NC) of the Anthroposophical Society in America
 Serving Chapel Hill, Durham, Hillsborough, Pittsboro, Cedar Grove, Mebane and Raleigh
 P.O. 16024
 Chapel Hill, NC 27516
www.anthroposophync.org

RSBNC Board:

President; Peg Carmody 919-537-8142; mcarmody@nc.rr.com
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 Allen Barenholtz
 Margaretta Bornhorst
 Edward Schuldt
 Will Hicks
 Suzanne Mays

Newsletter: *The Sophia Sun* sophiasun@peoplepc.com

First Class of the School for Spiritual Science
 Class holders: Eve Olive, Suzanne Mays, Judy Frey

Other Groups in NC:

Asheville: Marie Davis - marieoliviadavis@gmail.com or Ricey Clapp at: 828-505-1018;
 email: ricey.clapp@gmail.com Website: www.azaleamountain.org

Clemmons (near Winston-Salem) - Sarah Putnam- 336-972-8243;
sputnam01@att.net

Greensboro: Sandy LaGrega – 336-292-7947; sunsan52@aol.com

Education

Emerson Waldorf School (N-K-12)

www.emersonwaldorf.org
 6211 New Jericho Rd.
 Chapel Hill, NC 27516
 Main Office: 919-967-1858

Foundation Year Studies at the Emerson Waldorf School

(sponsored by the Center for Anthroposophy in NH)
 Contact: Claire Viadro 919-967-8215; Viadro@mindspring.com

**Home Nursery School Association
(serving Durham, Chapel Hill and Hillsborough)**

(There are currently 6 home nursery programs that are Waldorf-inspired)
Contact: Marie Nordgren 919-544-8748; amnordgren@aol.com

School of Spiritual Psychology

Benson, NC
www.spiritualschool.org
Robert Sardello and Cheryl Sanders-Sardello, Directors

Azalea Mountain School (K-5, a Waldorf-inspired school)

587 Haywood Rd.
Asheville, NC 28806
(828) – 575-2557

Contact: Kate Reese or Maria Allen 828-505-1350; www.azaleamountain.org;

Biodynamic Farms

Whitted-Bowers Farm - Demeter certified – specializing in fruits and vegetables; 8707 Art Rd., Cedar Grove, NC 27231; 919-732-5132; email: whittedbowersfarm@mac.com website: www.whittedbowersfarm.com Rob and Cheri Bowers, owners

Infinity Farm – uses biodynamic methods; organic goat milk, grass fed meats; organic eggs; vegetables. Jon Lyerly, director 919-357-7453; jelyerly2@gmail.com; 1600 McDade Store Rd., Cedar Grove, NC

The Arts

Eurythmy - Eve Olive - 919-489-2564; eveolive@frontier.com

Werbeck Singing - Joanna Carey – 919-885-7569

Lyre Music- Joanna Carey – 919-885-7569
Suzanne Mays – 919-929-1073

The Sophia School of Movement, Sophia Grail Circles

Kelly Calegar - www.sophiaschoolofmovement.org; 919-824-9948
Marlene Joyce – mjoyce126@bellsouth.net

Christian Community

A Christian Community priest visits our Congregation bi-monthly. Currently, Rev. Carol Kelly is the priest we share with the Washington D.C. parish. **Contact:** Linda Folsom, Steering Committee member, 493-8323. lfolsom@nc.rr.com; Website: www.christiancommunitync.org

Anthroposophical Lending Library

The Phoenix Library, Chapel Hill, NC 27517
Contact: Judy Frey 919-928-8749; damaris12@nc.rr.com

NC Anthroposophical Study Groups and Working Groups:

Rudolf Steiner Branch:

Child's Needs Study Group – One Saturday a month 10 am-12 pm.; reading *Loving the Stranger: Studies in Adolescence, Empathy and the Human Heart*, compiled by Michael Luxford. Please call Lauren Mills Nyland for further information –919-968-7721, or mills.lauren@gmail.com

Christian Community Family and Festival Group Sundays at 11:30 a.m. at the home of Patrick Dyess, 131 Windsor Cir., Chapel Hill. Parents read *The Christian Year* by Evelyn Francis Capel. Bring along lunch. Contact Patrick Dyess at **919-602-2126** or email dyess@yahoo.com or call **Rebecca Foster at 919-619-9269**.

Emerson Waldorf School Steiner Study Group for Parents Mondays 9:00 AM at the home of Ingeborg Boesch; reading *Beetroots to Buddhism* by Rudolf Steiner. For more information, email marylou909@bellsouth.net

Eurythmy Classes for Adults taught by Eve Olive – Wednesday mornings 8:30 -10:00 am in the Eurythmy Room at the Emerson Waldorf School; dates: Septemebur 12, 19, 26; October 10, 24, 31; November 7, 14, 28; December 5, 12; Cost: \$10 per class. For more information, please contact: Eve Olive at 919-489-2564.

IANDS (International Association for Near Death Studies) Group meets once a month on Tuesdays at the home of Robert nad Suzanne Mays, 5622 Brisbane Dr., Chapel Hill, NC; research and discussion in the fields of consciousness, neuroscience and near-death experiences; call **919-929-1073** for more information. Meetings on **October 9** and **November 13**. See Details in this issue.

Ita Wegman Study Group – Thursdays at 2 PM alternates between participants homes; book: Peter Selg's *I Am for Going Ahead: Ita Wegman's Work for the Social Ideals of Anthroposophy*. Call Linda Folsom at 919-493-8323 or Kathleen Wright at 919-309-9622 or Margareta Bornhorst at 919-824-7337 for more information.

Readings for the Dead Group – second and fourth Thursdays of the month, 7:30-9:00 pm. We are reading *Life Between Death and Rebirth* by Rudolf Steiner. We meet at the home of Joanna Carey at: 605 Jones Ferry Rd. Apt. UU5 in Carrboro. Any questions can be directed to Joanna Carey: 919-885-7569. Please RSVP if you will be attending.

Rose Cross Study Group – Wednesdays, 7:30 pm, at the home of Judy Frey, Currently reading *The Secret Stream: Christian Rosenkreutz and Rosicrucianism*. Newcomers are welcome! Please give call Judy at 919-928-8749 before attending the first time.

Soul Study Group– first Thursday of the month 5-7 PM with optional Pot Luck dinner afterward at the home of Joanna Carey; readings, artistic activities and open dialogue in order to come to a deeper understanding of the mysteries of the soul; reading *The Human Soul* by Karl König. Call Joanna at 919-885-7569 for more information.

Threshold Care Group– a conversation group that meets **one Monday each month from 7-9 pm** to share experiences and concerns, ask questions and become active in our community in

our relationship to death and dying; meets at the home of Jenny Bingham, 208 Murray St., Hillsborough; contact Jenny at jennybingham@yahoo.com for exact time or call 214-4304.

Werbeck Singing Group: one Friday each month at 7:15 PM at Joanna' Carey's. First choral practice this year: September 21. All levels welcome. Call 919-885-7569 for more information.

Yeshayahu Ben-Aharon Study group meets **Sundays 4-5:30 PM** at the home of Jim and Gena Biggins, 1 Syston Ct., in Chapel Hill, NC; The group will be working on ***America's Global Responsibility***; while some reading will be done each time, the main focus is on the exercises given by Dr. Ben-Aharon at the June Conference he gave in Chapel Hill, followed by discussion. Please call Jim Biggins if you wish to attend at: 919-425-5535.

Elsewhere in North Carolina:

Asheville Study Group – every other Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the home of **Ricey Clapp or Marie Davis** (alternating with Marie Davis and occasionally others, so please call first to know for sure); reading ***The Mission of the Folk Souls***; **Contact Ricey Clapp at 828-505-1018 or email her at ricey.clapp@gmail.com; Contact Marie Davis at marieoliviadavis@gmail.com** meeting on **October 11th, Oct, 25th; November to be announced.**

Clemmons Study Group – every Sunday from 6-8 pm. This Study Group meets September through May, currently finishing up ***Esoteric Science***; will begin ***Macrocosm and Microcosm*** soon at the home of Sarah Putnam, 7719 Whitehorse Dr., Clemmons, NC. Call 336-972-8243 for information. (Note: The closest large city to Clemmons is Winston-Salem)

Greensboro Study Group – Mondays 3:30-5:30 pm. Currently reading ***The Reappearance of Christ in the Etheric*** by Rudolf Steiner. Contact Sandra LaGrega at (336) 908-4664 or Judy Boyd (336) 454-2451. Please call before attending as the location alternates between Judy and Sandra. All welcome!

Anthroposophical Groups in other Southeastern states:

Alabama:

Auburn, AL Study Group – contact Helene Burkart at hburkart@att.net or Bob and Betty Hare at 336-253-6431 or bobandbettyhare@gmail.com; A Christian Community is forming in this area as well.

Birmingham - there is Waldorf School: The Alabama Waldorf School at 1220 50th St. S., Birmingham, AL 35222; phone : 205-592-0542 but as far as we know there are no anthroposophical study groups in Birmingham; please let us know if one starts.

Florida:

Michael Group of Miami (currently has five study groups and a Waldorf School with grades K-6); contact Yvonne Cumming at yvonnecumming@gmail.com or call 786-277-5630

Clearwater, Florida (close to Tampa Bay) - **Steiner Circumstudies**; group leader is Dr. Steven Salamone; contact Barbara Bedingfield at: bedingfield2000@yahoo.com or call 727-581-6195.

Boca Raton Group ; contact Karen Maestrales at kmaestrales@aol.com or 561-733-0522: Nearby is the Sea Star Initiative, a Waldorf-inspired school (grade N-K-5) see their website at: www.seastarinitiative.org

Jacksonville Beach - Persephone Healing Arts Center, a holistic and anthroposophical medical center; Director: Dr. Howard Pautz. Contact: HowardPautz@gmail.com; clinic phone: 904-246-3583; website: www.Dr.Pautz.com; hosts talks about Steiner, Eurythmy classes and Dr. Hauschka facials.

Palm Harbor - Suncoast Waldorf School (K-8) has Foundation Studies in Anthroposophy; contact Barbara Bedingfield at 727-766-8311 or email her at bedingfield200@yahoo.com; website: www.suncoastwaldorf.org

Sarasota, FL has a "Waldorf Sarasota School" with grades K-4; no study groups as of this writing. Likewise Jacksonville, FL has a Pre-K and K Waldorf initiative but no anthroposophical study groups.

Georgia Anthroposophical Study groups and Initiatives:

Anthroposophy Atlanta – meets Wednesday evenings at the Academe of the Oaks (a Waldorf High School); contact Eva Handschin at 678-576-3241 or email her at: evah@academeatlanta.org

The Epiphany Group of Comer and Marietta, GA; contact **Katherine Jenkins** at 706-540-5871 or email at katjenks@negia.net

GEMS Group (a long distance online group) that meets on **Sat. mornings** led by Margaret Shipman) , **Forsyth, GA**; contact Marian Shearer at 478-492-3877 or email: octavia1810@hotmail.com; To find out more about GEMS contact Margaret Shipman at her email address: shipman2005@sbcglobal.net

Lavonia: Northeast Georgia Study group – contact Betty Jones at cprepsb@windstream.net

South Carolina Anthroposophical Study groups:

Charleston vicinity: meets **Tuesday mornings at 11:30 a.m.**; contact **Gabrielle Heatherdale** at 843-688-4816 or email heatherdale@gmail.com or **Peggy Pearl** at 843-554-7166 or email at peggy.pearl@yahoo.com; new book to be decided in September.

Tennessee Anthroposophical Study Groups and Initiatives:

The Michael Study Group of Nashville, TN ; contact Barbara Bittles at lbittles@comcast.net

The Rudolf Steiner Group of Nashville, TN - meets every other Tuesday evening at the Unitarian Church on Woodmont Blvd. in Nashville; currently reading *The Riddles of the Soul*; Contact person: Cathy Green; for more information email: cgreen@grasslandaquatics.com

Waldorf School Parent Study at the Linden Waldorf School, Nashville - more information about this next month.

Foundation Studies Group at the Linden Waldorf School (grades K-8), 3201 Hillsboro Pike, Nashville, TN 37215; contact: 615-354-0270

Red Boiling Springs – Biodynamic Study group with Jeff Poppen at Long Hungry Creek Farm, which is a biodynamic farm; check website: www.barefootfarmer.com or contact Jeff at: Jeff@barefootfarmer.com or call 615-699-4676 or 615-698-2493

Southeastern Regional Group of Chattanooga. led by Maria St. Goar; contact: mstgoar@yahoo.com or call 423-266-6204

Class lessons of the School of Spiritual Science are held monthly in Chattanooga; persons from Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia and western North Carolina attend there; Edward St. Goar is the Class Holder; contact Edward at: estgoar@bellsouth.net or estgoar@yahoo.com

Editor's Note; Please keep the information about your Study Group Current. Email Kathleen Wright at kathleenwright51@gmail.com to update your information. If you have a Study group that is not listed above or if you know of any more, please let me know. We are happy to list any Anthroposophical groups and initiatives in the Southeast.



Anthroposophy, which means “the wisdom of the Human Being”, 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 is 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



The Rudolf Steiner Branch (NC)

Of the Anthroposophical Society in America

P.O. Box 16024

Chapel Hill, NC 27516

www.anthroposophyNC.org

The Sophia Sun

Editor.....Kathleen Wright

Calendar.....Linda Folsom

Web Manager.....Robert Mays

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Submitting articles, letters, announcements and ads:

Please send UNFORMATTED text as a Microsoft Word document to kathleenwright51@gmail.com. Articles should not exceed 3 pages in length, and preferably should be 1-2 pages long.

Ads for goods and services: Dues-paying members of the Rudolf Steiner Branch are entitled to one free ad per year (quarter of a page). Please contact the editor for rates if you are not a member and wish to place an ad. If you have any questions, please contact: **Kathleen Wright, at 919-309-9622 or 919-672-0149 or email: kathleenwright51@gmail.com**

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If you are interested in membership in the Anthroposophical Society in America, membership information is available on the website www.anthroposophy.org

You may also write to the Society at:

Anthroposophical Society in America
1923 Geddes Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1797
or call: 734-662-9355



The Goetheanum in Dornach, Switzerland,
headquarters of the General Anthroposophical Society