

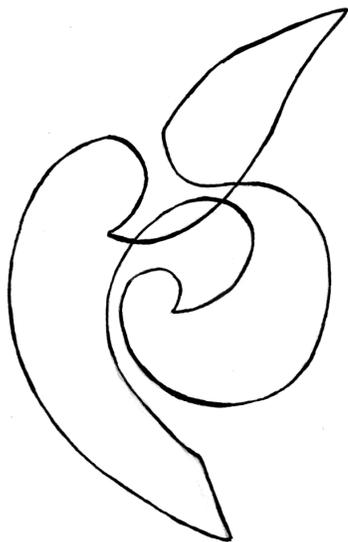
Chanticleer

NEWSLETTER OF THE BERKSHIRE-TACONIC BRANCH OF THE ANTHROPOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 6, FEBRUARY 2018

Love of truth shows itself in this, that a man knows how to find and value the good in everything.

—Goethe



“AQUARIUS”

May what is bounded yield to the boundless.
What feels the lack of bounds, may it create
Bounds for itself in its depths;
May it raise itself in the current,
As wave, flowing forth, sustaining itself,
In becoming, shaping itself to existence.
Set yourself bounds, oh boundless!

—Rudolf Steiner

REFLECTING ON EQUALITY

BY JOHN BARNES

“ALL HUMAN BEINGS ARE CREATED EQUAL.” There is perhaps no other phrase that reverberates so strongly in the American spirit. Accordingly, a black person is treated with the same respect as a white person, a homeless person with the same respect as a billionaire, an illiterate person possesses the same rights as a highly educated one—human dignity takes precedence over race, gender, national or religious affiliation and other differences.

It seems that our founding fathers, who championed this concept, were inspired to do so by the American folk spirit, a spirit that developed in a country of immigrants who left their old homes—and with them their wealth, rank and reputation—to start a new life in a new land. Interestingly, more than two hundred years later the ideal of equal rights and the dignity of every human being has grown stronger and—in keeping with the good spirit of our age—is spreading to all parts of the world.

However, this ideal does not stem from the intellect but rather from unconscious depths of the human soul. It lives in the warmth of our deepest feelings, but has no place in cold analytical thought, where it is inevitably challenged: Are all human beings really equal? Generally speaking, a man is able to lift more than a woman; Norwegians more educated than Haitians; great artists more inspiring and great inventors more productive than others. And how about people with disabilities or incurable illnesses? How about refugees from war-torn countries? And even criminals? Is there really a sense in which all these people are equal?

Although all human beings are obviously different by almost any measure, the ideal of equal human rights and human dignity is nevertheless deeply held by increasing numbers of people today. Why is this?

Certainly, this conviction could not exist without a deep-seated empathy for other human beings. But what is it that

See “Equality,” p. 6

OVERCOMING EGOISM: NOTES FROM AN EXPERIMENT IN ALTRUISM, I

THE FUNDAMENTAL SOCIAL LAW

In a community of human beings working together, the well-being of the community will be the greater, the less the individual claims for himself the proceeds of the work he has himself done; i.e., the more of these proceeds he makes over to his fellow-worker, and the more his own requirements are satisfied, not out of his own work done, but out of the work done by others.

...
Man's welfare is the greater, in proportion as egoism is the less. Which means, that for its practical translation into reality, one must have people who can find the way out of their egoism. . . . He who labors for himself cannot help but gradually fall a victim to egoism. Only one who labors solely and entirely for the rest can, little by little, grow to be a worker without egoism.

...
Wherever this law finds outward expression, wherever anyone is at work on its lines – so far as is possible for him in that position in which he is placed within the human community – there good results will be attained, though it be but in the one single instance and in ever so small a measure. And it is only a number of individual results, attained in this way, that together combine to healthy collective progress throughout the whole body of society. . . .

—R. Steiner, *Anthroposophy and the Social Question*, 1905/06 essay in GA 34 (Mercury Press, 2006)

In effect, to provide for oneself is to work for one's earnings, to work "for a living." To work for others is to work out of a sense for social needs. To the extent that the demand which the division of labour involves has been fulfilled in our time, altruism is actually present—namely: work for others. But to the extent that the demand is unfulfilled, the old egoism persists. It has its roots in this—that men are still obliged to provide for themselves. That is economic Egoism. . . . How are we to eliminate from the economic process this principle of working for a living? Those who to this day are still mere wage-earners—earners of a living for themselves—how are they to be placed in the whole economic process, no longer as such earners but as men who work because of social needs? Must this really be done? Assuredly it must.

—Rudolf Steiner, *World Economy*, Lecture III, July 26, 1922, in GA 340 (Rudolf Steiner Press, 1972)

A LOCAL EXPERIMENT arising from the social insight of Rudolf Steiner started to take shape in the latter part of 2010. At the time, an assortment of individuals (who tended to refer to themselves as “Think OutWord” whenever they were active together as a group) were conducting a weekly study group and organizing twice-yearly conferences related to the social thought arising from Rudolf Steiner’s spiritual science. Dozens of people took part in the preliminary work of this particular experiment (consisting mainly of study and various biographical trust-building exercises); a self-selected group of about a dozen individuals hammered out the details in late 2011 and early 2012; on St. John’s Day 2012, nine “households” pledged to tithe, that is, give, ten percent of their monthly earnings to the group as a whole, for six months, to be placed in a commonly held bank account; and on January 1, 2013, a group of eight households (two married couples and six individuals) committed to *full income sharing* along the lines of the so-called “Fundamental Social Law.”

*

Rudolf Steiner articulated what he called the “chief law” (*Hauptgesetz*) of social life in a two-part essay he wrote and published in 1905/06, called “Geisteswissenschaft und soziale Frage”—Spiritual Science and the Social Question (contained in vol. 34 of the complete works of Steiner). This essay is both an early articulation of the immanent *practicality* of a spiritual approach to life—a thoroughly consistent trait of Rudolf Steiner’s work from beginning to end—and his

first application of spiritual scientific principles and insight to the question of overall societal health. A close study of the small pamphlet containing this essay in English as well as the report of a lecture that Steiner gave in Berlin at about the same time the essay was being written (presenting much of the same content in a slightly different form*) was the initial impetus for this group to *take up this idea, act upon it, and experience it for themselves*, the explicitly stated purpose of Rudolf Steiner’s original public presentation of the Law.

At the time of these original presentations on spiritual science and the social question, however, the response was decidedly lukewarm. In fact, there seems to have been no real response at all.† The article’s publication met with an icy silence from the educated, more or less upper class (i.e. bourgeois) ranks of German Theosophists who would have read it in the journal *Luzifer-Gnosis*. Neither was it noticed by “men of affairs” or, presumably, the workers and students of the Workingmen’s School where Steiner had served as a lecturer since just before the turn of the century and who had only recently witnessed his departure.

Besides presenting the Fundamental Social Law, the essay

* “Theosophy and the Social Question” in R. Steiner, *Social and Political Science*, ed. S.E. Usher (Rudolf Steiner Press, 2003).

† Elucidating the key idea of the article again in 1922, Rudolf Steiner said that the essay had at the time not been understood; and it “would only have had significance if it had been taken up by men of affairs and if they had acted accordingly. But it was left altogether unnoticed; consequently I did not complete or publish any more of it.” Rudolf Steiner, *World Economy*, Lecture III, p. 38

is a straightforward exposition and defense of Theosophy that, among other things, turns a common socialist critique of the upper classes on its ear while demonstrating that only a viewpoint that takes into consideration the very depths upon which our social reality is founded (i.e. the reality of spirit) can ever hope to make any headway toward a truly just, equitable, and humane social existence. In other words, without spiritual insight, there can be no cohesive, fundamental, all-encompassing improvement in the world of human relations, human society; but, with it, much could be accomplished. As there was no interest in the article, Steiner did not push the issue. Eleven years later, as the horrific World War lumbered toward its conclusion, he would finally be asked to say more on the social question, which he did, in a far more comprehensive—and urgent, which was befitting the moment—manner.

The story of the movement for social threefolding can be read about elsewhere. The simple (in a way) but also radical and peaceful approach to social change made available through the open dissemination of this “chief law of social life” struck me from the beginning as extremely important. Steiner himself calls



it “the key” to solving the problems of society. He meant the social problems of that time, yes, but the validity of the law itself has not changed; nor has, fundamentally, the dominant materialistic paradigm that consciousness of (and conscious work with) the Fundamental Social Law is meant to counter—in short, egoism and greed. These are still a problem, I’d say.

And so, in peaceful defiance of the materialistic illusion of “working for oneself,” a small group came together to erase the false connection between “work” and “income,” in peace and brotherhood, for a full five years. Achieving the shared mutual trust and confidence necessary to undertake this experiment took nearly two years in itself. Then, after that somewhat arduous process was completed—a process that necessarily began with a much larger circle of potential collaborators than eventually soldiered into this unknown territory—the resulting lived experience was an astonishingly smooth ride—drowsily placid, in fact—almost boring in its utter lack of drama or discord.

I’d dare to call that a sign of health...

—J. S. Legg

FEBRUARY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Branch Initiative Meeting

Fridays, February 2 & 16, 3pm All are invited who wish to take an active part in the life of our Branch of the Anthroposophical Society, or just learn more about it. We begin each meeting with a verse before engaging in brief study of a letter from *The Life, Nature, and Cultivation of Anthroposophy*. Contact the editor or anyone listed as a participant in the group on the mailer page of this newsletter. At Windy Hill.

Curative Education Study Group

Friday, February 2, at 7:00 pm

We will continue studying *The Modern Art of Education* by Rudolf Steiner, lecture eight. This group is usually held on the first Friday of each month at the home of Christiana Williams of 83-7 May Hill Rd near Harlemlville. Everyone interested in Curative Education or Waldorf Education is invited to participate. For directions or information call 518 672-4332.

Autism: Meet Me Who I Am

Three Presentations and Discussions

with Dr. Lakshmi Prasanna and Michael Kokinos

Friday and Saturday, February 2–3, 2018

At the Great Barrington Rudolf Steiner School, 35 West Plain Rd.

Friday evening, February 2, 7 pm

Medical diagnostic pictures of autism I. Therapy based on spiritual science—Dr. Lakshmi Prasanna

Saturday, February 3, 10 am

The perceptual vortex of autism - words and pictures from the threshold—Michael Kokinos

Saturday, February 3, 2 pm

Medical diagnostic pictures of autism II; Body therapies for autism: anthroposophical sensory integration—Dr. Lakshmi Prasanna & Michael Kokinos

\$25 fee for single lectures; \$70 (payable Friday evening) to attend all three. Contact: johnscott@steinerbooks.org or 413.528.8233 ext. 4, with questions or to pre-register.

Dr. Lakshmi Prasanna is a pediatrician with a specialty in neonatology and a special interest in autism. Co-founder and president of the Anthroposophical Medical Society in India, she has worked extensively in India and Australia as a lecturer and health educator, particularly within school communities.

Michael Kokinos is a physiotherapist with a clinical practice in Australia, Blue Sky Therapies, specializing in craniosacral work. He has worked extensively on innovative health care projects with government and Aboriginal leaders in the remote North of Australia, and visits India regularly, mainly to support families of autistic children and conduct joint workshops with Dr. Lakshmi Prasanna for therapists, special educators and parents.

2018 Winter Course: Plants and the Living Earth

February 11–16, 2018 at The Nature Institute

An intensive, week-long course for farmers, gardeners, apprentices, and educators, led by Craig Holdrege, Henrike Holdrege, and Bruno Follador. Study will include: the four elements; plant growth, development, and metamorphosis; soil, compost, and phenomenological chemistry. Registration is now open. You will find further information on our website: <natureinstitute.org>.

Branch Study Group

Friday, February 9, 7:30 pm

Everyone is welcome! We will work on lectures 15 and 16 of *Life Between Death and Rebirth* (GA 140; Munich, March 10, 1913). Members will share some thoughts on Karl König's approach to the Soul Calendar for the week of the meeting (9, 18, 35, 44). At Camphill Ghent, in the MAGNOLIA HOUSE (second building on the service road). Call 392-1014 if you have comments or questions about the meeting.

The Refugee's Tale (*Based on Goethe's tale of the Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily*)

Friday, February 9, 7:30 pm

A magical tale of community transformation and redemption, told among wandering exiles to raise their spirits. Two accomplished storytellers bring to life Goethe's enigmatic cast of characters in a free rendering of this classic. Performed by Actor-Storytellers, Glen Williamson and Laurie Portocarrero in Fountain Hall, Camphill Village, Copake. Suggested contribution \$10-\$30.

First Class: Sunday, Feb. 11, 3:15 for 3:30pm

Cultural Hall, Camphill Ghent. Contact Anna Rée at 518-721-8508.

Staying Connected Study Group

Tuesday, February 13, 7:30pm

The Staying Connected Study Group will spend a third session on Rudolf Steiner's lecture "The Moment of Death and the Period Thereafter," Leipzig, February 22, 1916 (Lecture 7 of the collection *Life Beyond Death*). We meet at the home of Margaret Rosenthaler and Gloria Kemp, 518-672-4253 or 672-4844.

First Class: Thursday, February 15, 3:45 for 4pm

Conversation re: Lesson 16—in the residence of Anna and Brian Rée, Camphill Ghent. Contact Anna at 518-721-8508.

Stories/Conversations from the Heart

Friday, February 16, 6:30pm

Join us as we gather around the warm stove at the Windy Hill Studio Barn for some social time and to hear stories from the life of *Christiane Marks*, and her meeting with anthroposophy.

Poem, Tale or Fairy Tale? A Beginning exploration of Goethe and Novalis

Saturday, February 17, at 10:00 in the morning!

Continuation of a gathering of those interested in exploring the offerings of Goethe and Novalis. To be held at home of Christiana Williams, 83-7 May Hill Road; 518-672-4332.

First Class: Sat., Feb. 17, 7pm; Sun., Feb. 18, 9am

At Windy Hill. Call Hanna, 325-3648, or John, 325-1113.

The Concerts at Camphill Ghent

Saturday, February 17, 3pm

The Winter/Spring season will open with violinist Eugene Drucker (Founder of the well-known Emerson Quartet), cellist Roberta Cooper, bassist Peter Weitzner and pianist Gili Melamed-Lev. The program will include pieces by Mozart (piano trio in C Major), Sheila Silver (Chant), Piazzolla (Oblivion and La Muerte del Angel) and the famous Dumky trio by Antonin

Dvořák. We hope you will join us. Tickets: Adults -\$25, Seniors - \$20, Students - free (new) For reservations and more information, please call 518.392.2760 or <concerts@camphillghent.org>.

Nature Spirits Study Group

Wednesday, February 21, 7:00pm

We will continue with lecture five of *Nature Spirits: Selected Lectures* by Rudolf Steiner at the home of Christiana Williams 83-7 May Hill Rd. near Harlemlville. For information and directions call 518 672 4332.

Free Columbia Shoemaking Classes (in Philmont)

Wed. to Sat. Intensive, Feb. 21-24, 9am-5pm

Limited openings in local handmade 'stitch down' shoe construction. Each student makes a pair of shoes for themselves, starting by measuring their own feet and concluding by lacing up their shoes. *Considering the expenses for this course, we need, on average, \$400 per participant to cover costs for future classes. A contribution somewhere between \$0-800 per person is suggested for the entire course.* To register contact Nathaniel Williams: 518-653-6160 or nafanyel79@gmail.com.

"Inner Work Path": New Community

Fri. to Sun., February 23-25

Rudolf Steiner declared that from the twentieth century onward all human beings would be able to develop a new kind of capacity: a capacity to have knowledge of the outcome of the paths that lay before them—a capacity that would enable us to foresee the inner results of the various choices that lay before us, before walking down one or another path.

However, this capacity of foreseeing would need to be preceded by an essential step in human development—a step that constitutes the next stage of evolution for the human being. This step would be the awakening of the higher self, which he also described as the recognition of the "second self." In the twenty-first century, we are beginning to see this new stage of development emerging on a wider scale. Many individuals are waking up to the higher 'I,' to the second self. At the same time materialism is intensifying to a damaging degree. Between where we are now and where we need to arrive to to build a new community led by the spirit, lay perilous grounds. It is not that we progress by drawing the battle lines against technology and its internet of things, but rather by being a fighter for the spirit. In this workshop we will explore this path of development, and the possibility of individuals coming together in freedom to build new community forms that create, support and ennoble humanity. Cost: \$150. In Copake, NY. To register and for more info contact: <innerworkpathusa@gmail.com> or 908-227-0004.

"Inner Work Path": The Farmer as the Ego of the Land Monday, February 26

This workshop is open to all, but farmers, gardeners, foresters, estate caretakers, and other land-care workers who want to deepen their work are especially encouraged to attend. To register and for more info contact: <innerworkpathusa@gmail.com> or 908-227-0004.



LOOKING AHEAD

ANTHROPOSOPHY AND THE WORLD OF THE STARS: INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP WITH ALAN THEWLESS Part One, The Zodiac

Thursday & Friday, March 1–2

Contact *Tim Pabolac* for time and location details: <tim@triform.org>. In part one we will cultivate a familiarity with the starry heavens and explore in particular those constellations that form the zodiac. Considering the spatial interconnectedness of the constellations and the interconnectedness of their background stories and themes we will build an imaginative relationship to the mythologies of the stars. In this way we will form a bridge between the wonders of astronomy and the unfolding of consciousness in the human being as it is embodied in cosmology. Much of the content will relate to themes introduced by Willi Sucher in his book *Isis Sophia Vol. I*, but it is not a prerequisite to read or have read this volume. Only an enthusiasm for discovery is required! The workshop will include the following:

- The First Four 'Light Constellations:' Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer
- Astronomical Basics:
- The Celestial Sphere, Equator and Pole
- The Tropical and Sidereal Zodiacs
- The Precession of the Equinoxes
- The Inner Nature of the First Four Constellations and their relationship to the evolution of consciousness.
- Star Wisdom in the Ancient Mythologies
- Evening Star observation, conditions permitting

Steinerbooks Spiritual Research Seminar 2018

The Next Step: Biodynamics as a Science of Initiation; The Evolution of Form

with *Enzo Nastati* and *Frank Chester*

Friday–Sunday, March 16–18*

Presented in collaboration with the Biodynamic Association and The Institute for Mindful Agriculture: at the Hawthorne Valley School Community Hall, Harlemville.

*Enzo Nastati*** is the principle director of The Eureka Institute in Italy. He has been a biodynamic farmer for over forty years, and understands, from a deep and dedicated study of Rudolf Steiner's work, that the biodynamic agricultural method was always intended to be developed and fortified to meet changing demands over time. Mr. Nastati's work has been recognized around the world where he lectures, consults, and conducts continuing research. Thirty-two years ago, spurred by his observations of extreme decrease in plant vitality immediately following the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in April 1986, he began researching and developing preparations and application techniques to further meet the demands of our time. His work addresses the difficulties presented by electromagnetic fields, radioactive pollution, industrial pollution, water quality deterioration, GMOs, and other harmful effects of modern technology.

Frank Chester is an artist, sculptor, and geometrician, who lives in San Francisco. He taught art for more than thirty years in high schools and colleges. Since encountering the work of Rudolf Steiner, Frank has been exploring the relation between form and spirit. In 2000, Frank discovered a new geometric form never seen

before. Putting this form through the alchemical transformative process of Earth, Water, Air, and Fire, many previously unknown geometric structures have emerged. This geometric form demonstrates a remarkable correlation to the form and functioning of the human heart. On the basis of experimentation with various related geometric forms and the movement of water in a vortex, Frank is uncovering indications concerning the relationship between etheric formative forces and the geometry, structure, and physiology of the human heart.

Go to <steinerbooks.org> or write <johnscott@steinerbooks.org> for the full schedule. Cost: full conference: \$200; single lectures: \$25. Onsite registration begins at 6:15 pm Friday. Register online here: <<https://steinerbooks.regfox.com/2018-spiritual-research-seminar>>. The following lectures will be open to those not registered for the full conference:

Friday, March 16, 7 pm The task of biodynamics in the evolution of the Earth (*Enzo Nastati*)

Saturday, March 17, 7 pm Evolution and form (*Frank Chester*)

Sunday, March 18, 2 pm Form and evolution: The science of the future (*Frank Chester*)

Sunday, March 18, 3:30 pm Biodynamics as the science of initiation (*Enzo Nastati*)

Notes: *On Monday Morning, March 19, participants are invited to join Enzo Nastati and Steffen Schneider for a walking tour of Hawthorne Valley Farm and a discussion afterward. (Time TBD.)

**Enzo Nastati will deliver his presentations in Italian; these will be simultaneously translated by a professional translator experienced in working in this manner with Mr. Nastati.

Karma and our Task with Others

Friday–Sunday, March 16–18

Through an active inner life, changes take place that evolve our inner capacities and transform our way of seeing, experiencing and acting in the world around us. Understanding our individual relationship to the inner work will enable us to find and deepen our vocation and understand its effects on our karmic past and future becoming. In Copake NY, Cost: \$300.

The Easter Mysteries Renewed in Ghent, NY,

Friday–Sunday, March 30 –April 1

Through the inner work path we become aware of the living spiritual year and its reflection in the stages of inner development. The Easter picture is full of insights and guidance to the students of the path both for living rightly and for dying well. As it is the pinnacle of the spiritual year the Easter mysteries speak of deep soul and spiritual transformation. Each year at Easter we explore a different aspect of the easter mysteries. This year's workshop will explore the different pathways to understanding death, dying and surrender of body, soul and spirit. Note: This will be the last Easter workshop for sometime, as the next sequence of workshops in NY will take place around the Christmas Mysteries in late 2018, in lieu of spring 2019 workshops. Cost: \$300.

Working Holistically with Gender and Sexuality: The Understanding of Being More Than Male and Female, Gender and Sexuality, Columbia County, NY, June 15-17, 2018

This course provides the anthroposophical understanding of being more than male and female and how to express the evolving

and developing pictures of gender and sexuality to students in primary and secondary school. It will also include the common struggles that are experienced during childhood, adolescence and into adulthood. Supporting this aspect of the health and wellbeing of the individual child's relationship to gender and sexuality results in greater resilience and confidence in their growing relationship to the wider community. For teachers, parents, health practitioners and other community members interested in this topic; <www.developingtheself.org> Cost: \$300

Let the Phenomena Speak! Deepening our Relation to Life on Earth: Summer Course at The Nature Institute
with Craig Holdrege and Henrike Holdrege
June 24–28, 2018

The ecological footprint of humanity on our planet grows each day. It is an expression of what we physically take from the earth for our own needs and desires. There is little doubt that we are taking more than we can expect from the earth, and we are certainly taking more than we are giving.

Giving begins in our thoughts, attitudes, and values. Do we consciously give thought to our relation to the planet, do we try to let nature give voice to herself in our perceptions and ideas? Or do we, as children of our times and in a sleepwalking manner, treat the planet as a resource for us to exploit? Our "ecological thoughtprint" may not be quantifiable, but it is extremely important that we learn to tread softly and carefully in our inner relation to nature. We want to turn toward phenomena of the natural world with a questioning attitude of mind: Who are you? What do you have to tell us about yourself? And we ask ourselves: What do we need to do to make ourselves more malleable and open to the many voices of nature? This course is a contribution to sustainability education. It will be of interest to students of nature, educators, and any other individuals who want to explore a scientific approach that emphasizes dialogue with, and not control over, the natural world.

A NEW YEAR-LONG PROGRAM: ENCOUNTERING NATURE AND THE NATURE OF THINGS

2 two-week residential intensives at The Nature Institute (July 9–21, 2018 and July 8–20, 2019)

Guided study and practice during the year in between

This foundational program is for people who are deeply interested in nature and serious about developing an understanding and practice of the science of phenomena, an approach that

is contextual, qualitative, and holistic — which we often call "Goethean science." The program offers the challenge and the opportunity to move beyond the static, object-like abstractions of contemporary thought toward a fluid, transformative way of perceiving and thinking. When we begin to apprehend the dynamic and relational nature of the world, we embark on a scientific pathway to its living qualities. Core Faculty: Craig Holdrege, Henrike Holdrege, Jon McAlice, John Gouldthorpe. Registration is now open; *please apply by March 15*. You will find further information on our website: <natureinstitute.org>.

THE CONCERTS AT CAMPHILL GHENT

Saturday, March 17, 3pm

Joana Genova, - Violin, Ariel Rudiakov - Viola, Nathaniel Parke - Cello, Gili Sharett - Bassoon, Gili Melamed-Lev - Piano
Mozart - String quartet (arr. with Bassoon) Brahms - Piano quartet in G minor Op. 25,

Dorothy Haller - Winter Song, Bon Voyage

Frank Martin Trio sur des melodies populaires Irlandaise (Gigue)

Saturday, May 5, 3pm

Gifted students from The Bard Conservatory of Music with cellist Robert Martin and Pianist Gili Melamed-Lev; Mozart Wind Quintet, Schubert Double cello Quintet.

HEAVEN AND EARTH WORKSHOP

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH & 8TH

Are farms the places where heaven meets earth? In this workshop, Professor Dan McKanan of Harvard Divinity School, Steffen Schneider Director of Farm Operations at Hawthorne Valley and Claus Sproll Program Director, AdminInstitute will follow diverse spiritual communities as they go back to the land by creating church and school gardens, establishing ecovillages, celebrating the sacraments with the four elements, practicing carbon farming, and participating in the global food sovereignty movement. Dan will trace the spiritual history of organic agriculture, identifying the spiritual teachings of Rudolf Steiner as one seed of the movement and highlighting the ways practitioners of many spiritual paths have collaborated since the very beginning. Hands-on sessions with farmers and gardeners will introduce participants to farming practices that reach everyone who eats can and should be part of a farm community. This workshop will show you how. Cost: \$125 (\$100 when registering 2 or more from the same organization). To register & pay online visit <<http://admininstitute.net/workshops/heaven-earth/>>.

"Equality," continued from p. 1

this empathy senses? It senses that within the physical person, and distinct from all the person's habits and intellectual and emotional makeup, there is a purely spiritual, deeply human being. This being, glimpsed only in special moments, stands above the person's earthly baggage. It is experienced reverently as something sacred with unlimited future potential, as having at every moment the freedom to choose its next step as it journeys through life.

Rudolf Steiner describes how this entity has its real home

in the spiritual world, from whence it receives its karmic guidance during its earthly lives. Anyone who has experienced this innermost core of the human being feels strongly that it must be held sacred, no matter what its earthly circumstances may be—even if it has become entangled in crime and guilt. The fact that people all over the world are beginning to have this experience is clear evidence that—often despite their materialistic thought habits—they are becoming more attuned to the reality of the spirit.

February 2018

(Please see the Events Section for details)

SU	M	Tu	W	TH	F	SA
				1	2 BRANCH INITIATIVE MEETING "Meet Me Who I Am" Curative Ed.	3 "Meet Me Who I Am"
4	5	6	7	8	9 BRANCH STUDY Refugee's Tale	10
11 First Class NI: Winter Course begins	12	13 Staying Connected	14	15 First Class	16 BRANCH INITIATIVE MEETING "From the heart"	17 Poem, Tale, Fairy Tale First Class Concerts at Camphill Ghent
18 First Class	19	20	21 Nature Spirits Shoemaking	22	23 Inner work	24
25	26 Inner work	27	28			



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The suggested annual contribution in support of the activities of the Branch, including Chanticleer, is \$50.

Checks may be written payable to **THE BERKSHIRE-TACONIC BRANCH** and mailed to the same at:

1030 Rte. 21 Ghent, NY 12075.

<berkshiretaconicbranch@gmail.com>

CHANTICLEER is the newsletter of the BERKSHIRE-TACONIC BRANCH OF THE ANTHROPOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, and aims to be a listening ear and a public voice for the Anthroposophical striving in our region, through the publication of articles, announcements, and a calendar of events.

ANTHROPOSOPHY was once described by its founder, Rudolf Steiner, as follows:

It is a path of knowledge, to guide the Spiritual in the human being to the Spiritual in the universe.

It arises in human beings as a need of the heart, of the life of feeling; and it can be justified only inasmuch as it can satisfy this inner need.

We WELCOME original articles, poetry, reports, commentary, and images that have a relationship to the Anthroposophical work in our region.

Deadline for submissions, including Calendar items, is the 15th of the month prior to the next month of publication.

SUBMISSIONS (including CALENDAR ITEMS) and SUBSCRIPTION REQUESTS should be sent via email to:

<berkshiretaconicbranch [at] gmail [dot] com>.

No email? Call the editor.

Items selected for publication may be edited for style, content, and/or length.

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Treasurer: Caroline Gordon **Shipping & Handling:** Katy Lince

Other Initiative Group participants:

Diane Barnes, John Barnes, Leland Lehrman, Robert Oelhaf, Jordan Walker

BRANCH INITIATIVE MEETINGS ARE LISTED IN THE CALENDAR: ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE LIFE OF OUR BRANCH OR IN FINDING OUT MORE IS WARMLY INVITED TO ATTEND!!



Chanticleer
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