A Call For Submissions

DR STEINER: …The best reports will be those that come out of the individuality of the different correspondents. …Things go through one's mind; so one day they sit down and simply write down what has gone through their mind….We need to hear how each individual feels in his [or her] heart of hearts, for we want to deal with human beings and not with schedules. Let everything remain a motley mixture; this will bring us the individuality of the writer in question and that is what interests us. We hope in this way to obtain the material we need, human material with which to fill our Supplements [newsletter] so that they in turn give a human impression with their all too human weaknesses.

Just write down … what is in your heart of hearts. For us here the most interesting thing will always be the people themselves. We want to cultivate a human relationship with human beings and out of these human relationships we want to create something that will shine out even after it has gone through the process of being dipped in dreadful printer's ink. This is what I am talking about. It will be best of all if everyone can present himself in a human way to other human beings…

from The Christmas Conference for the Foundation of the General Anthroposophical Society 1923/1924
Proceedings of the Continuation of the Foundation Meeting, 30 December, 1923, 10 a.m.
Dear Readers,

Along with the email containing the electronic version of last month’s newsletter, I sent a single ‘survey’ question: How often do you actually open and read these newsletters? Out of the 214 recipients, 63, or almost 30%, responded. All those that responded, not surprisingly, said that they always or fairly regularly use or read the newsletter. Thank you for all those who took the time to answer! I should point out though, especially since everyone who responded was too polite to do so, that it is none of my business what anyone actually does or does not do with the newsletter, or the emails that contain them. I asked, not to be nosy, but as part of an ongoing inquiry of my own into both the purpose and the being of this newsletter.

Although I have not lately been involved in the monthly physical exercise of folding, sealing, stamping, address labeling, and mailing of the printed newsletters, I have done it enough to have a certain relationship with the newsletter in that form, and to ask, what are the differences between receiving — and sending — something in one form rather than the other. The number of email recipients of the newsletter has gradually surpassed that of mail subscribers in the last few years, but when I push the send button that more or less instantaneously delivers as many pieces of mail as there are addresses in the bcc field, where do they really go?

I am not so very interested in the mystical or even the technological directions the answer to that question could take, but rather simply the human direction. In other words, the aspect of the ‘results’ of my ‘survey’ that I cited above, the numbers, are far less valuable to me than the actual responses I received. Now that was exciting, if a bit overwhelming. I tried to respond, if briefly, to all those who replied to my question, many of whom I have seldom or never met before in person nor corresponded with individually. That in itself was gratifying, as were the many expressions of appreciation and encouragement that I received.

I am also grateful that my prompting resulted in some questioning and criticism of my editorial policy. I will briefly address these below.

One person wrote that “… the editorial policy seems quite unclear. Sometimes we see long articles on some anthroposophical topic, a long appeal letter from an organization not in our area. It seems like ‘what comes in gets passed along’ without an overall plan to create a publication with a particular mission. My preference would be to keep it simple – local events, short news from local organizations.”

A second reader expressed disappointment at both the regular lack of content (i.e. substantive articles) and my own editorializing which he perceives as confusing fact with (my own) opinion.

All these observations have some validity. When I began editing Chanticleer, I sought, with some enthusiasm, to make it a concern of our community. This was clearly, as I have pointed out repeatedly, a very big part of the original intention of this newsletter — to awaken an interest in the individuals in our midst, to share our own strivings along this spiritual path. Towards this, I tried at first to include an interview of a local member of the community with each new issue. I was unable to continue this, however, and though I was given to understand that people appreciated these interviews, it was never really taken up by anyone else.

Our ‘community,’ though, is both local and anthroposophical. The explanation for Chanticleer that is always found on the very last page remains, for me, valid:

“Chanticleer … 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.”

What is, or may be, of interest to an anthroposophical community in a particular region will include, at times, the entire world. What are people doing with anthroposophy, out of anthroposophy? is a question I sometimes have occasion to answer in some small way by publishing articles of interest.

At other times, and I accept full responsibility for it when it happens, nothing comes, or the right things do not come, local or otherwise. As Albert Steffen said immediately following, and in response to, the quote on the title page of this month’s newsletter: “As regards categories, an editor or a writer has only one, or rather two: the first is what he can use and the second is what he cannot use.” Certainly, there is discrimination involved in the assembling of these newsletters. Although, for example, The Inner Fire report contained in this issue (and the previous Inner Fire Update referred to above as an appeal letter) took place in Vermont, I believe that both the individuals involved (some local or previously so), and even more importantly, the intention behind this particular initiative, strongly warrant its inclusion here.

As to the lack of content other than events in some issues, there may be a solution in a change of form that is currently under consideration which would reduce what is now the monthly newsletter to a simple, condensed calendar of events. Chanticleer could then become a somewhat more substantive quarterly publication associated with each of the four major festivals of the year. Themes for these newsletters could be announced well in advance, and material gathered. Nothing along these lines has yet been decided, but, as always, feel free to share thoughts if you have them.

As to my sometime editorializing in these pages, I will remain true to my own self, with our community in mind to the best of my ability, and continue, as much as I am able, and always intending the good, “to brag as lustily as chanticleer in the morning, standing on his roost, if only to wake my neighbors up.” ~John Scott Legg
**Inner Fire – Celebratory Opening**

At Mid-Winter the Earth is pregnant with future-bearing forces. The seeds and bulbs of next year’s growth are resting in the warmth of the Earth and the buds on the trees have already taken shape. If we could see spiritually they would be filling the Earth’s depths with a delicate shimmering light – much like the Aurora Borealis of the Northern skies – and the buds, too, are shining out. When we put lights on our Christmas trees we make visible this spiritual reality of the light shining into the darkness.

On Saturday, December 7th, a new light began to shine as the celebratory launch of Inner Fire took place at Grace Brook Farm in Brookline, Vermont. Inner Fire, under the direction of Beatrice Birch, her husband Tom Kavet, and James Taggert, aims to become a healing community offering hope to those struggling with mental illness and who seek treatment alternatives to the mind-altering drugs so widely used in today’s psychiatric world. Over 50 people came together from throughout New England, New York, and beyond gathering slowly in the warm farmhouse kitchen newly lasured by Robert Logsden. Old friends greeted one another over shared food and good conversation until it was time to move into the living room complete with a large fieldstone fireplace.

Music composed by Dorothy Haller and played beautifully on cello by Christina Porkert opened the program followed by the lighting of a remembrance candle in honor of five souls who have inspired the work of Inner Fire. Next, Dr. Sandra Steingard, Medical Director of the Howard Center in Burlington, Vermont, spoke of her own journey as a psychiatrist, her use of psychotropic drugs in her practice, and her gradual awakening to the negative long-term consequences which these drugs can have. Her openness to new ideas, her commitment to the health of her patients, and her courage in standing against the mainstream thinking of her peers regarding the development and use of psychotropic drugs, and the increasing body of evidence and research regarding the negative long-term effects of these drugs. He developed a strong case against the prevailing idea that mental illnesses are brain diseases, chemical imbalances fixable by psychotropic medications. He cited the need for a new paradigm of understanding and, at the very least, a plea for an honest scientific discussion of the issues. He emphasized that an initiative such as Inner Fire would be an important step in the evolution of our understanding and treatment of mental illnesses as they would be working out of a deeper conception of the human being and demonstrating new treatment methods. He stressed the importance and timeliness of this initiative.

Tom Kavet followed with a brief description of the building plans and capital campaign and expressed their gratitude for the generous gifts they have received, including the following three to get them off to a good start.

1. A gift of $50,000.
2. A gift of $150,000.
3. A challenge gift that for every $100,000 raised a $50,000 match will be made up to $200,000.

The next few months will be critical in meeting this challenge and raising enough funds to ensure that the building may begin in Spring 2014 and the doors open in 2015. For a copy of the Executive Summary of the Business Plan or for more detailed information please contact Beatrice at beatrice.birch55@gmail.com.

Vikki True, master-singer, closed our afternoon with two songs, “The Song of Bernadette” by Leonard Cohen and a “Native American Canon,” gathering all the good-will in the room and uniting our voices even as we stood united in our resolve to support Inner Fire. Like the seeds resting in the warmth of the Earth, the seed of this new initiative now rests in the warmth, enthusiasm, and joy of a growing number of people. May it continue to grow strong – becoming an ever brighter light of hope shining into the darkness and lives of those in need.

- Jeffrey Sexton
Ongoing:
Rudolf Steiner's Painting Impulse Exhibit
Visiting hours: Wednesdays, 4-6pm; Fridays, 3-5pm; Sundays, 10am-12 noon; also by appointment (24 hours notice please)
On display are the "nine training sketches" for painters, the "seven Friedward sketches" for 14-18-year-old pupils, eighteen "further motif sketches" including 5 large watercolor paintings and numerous sketches for booth cupolas of the First Goetheanum. The exhibition includes works by Gerard Wagner, particular artistic research that led to his discovery of laws of color metamorphoses and their relationship to some of Steiner's sketches. The Gerard Wagner Gallery at Windy Hill, Harlemville (518) 672- 5746

Ongoing:
Hawthorne Valley Singers, Sunday evenings
The Hawthorne Valley Singers Chorus has resumed their weekly chorus rehearsals after the holidays. We rehearse Sunday evenings from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the Loft (old eurythmy room) at the Hawthorne Valley Waldorf School. New members are welcome on every part - SATB, as we begin to prepare music for a spring concert. If you love to sing, sing for health, and enjoy singing with others, come and join us. Cognitive neuroscientist Julene K. Johnson says "Choral singing allows people to use their bodies and minds while creating something beautiful". For questions and inquiries call Diane Barnes - 518-325-1113.

Seasonal Painting– the Turning Point of Winter
With Laura Summer
Saturday, Sunday, Feb.1, 2 from 9:30am to 4pm
At this time of year we are feeling the cold of winter but deep inside the earth things are turning toward spring. Using watercolor, pastel, collage and ink we will work artistically to experience this shift.
Register with Laura Summer 518 672 7302 <laurasummer@taconic.net>
Bright Wing Studio, 651 Harlemville Rd, Hillsdale,
Suggested donation $0-120

Branch Coordinating Group
Monday, February 3 and 17 at 3:00 pm
These are open meetings at Windy Hill held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. All are invited who wish to take an active part in the life of our Branch of the Anthroposophical Society. For information call Nathaniel at 518-672-4090.

First Class Study
Wednesday, February 5 at 7:00 pm
At Windy Hill. Call Hanna, 325-3648 or John 325-1113.

Free Columbia - After School Program
Making Things / Exploring Creative Energy / Building Community
Thursdays beginning February 6th,
3:30pm-5:30pm
84 Main Street, Philmont NY
This one day a week activity program focuses on providing children with opportunities to experiment with materials, concepts and each other to explore and encourage artistic expression. Teamwork and creative problem solving around tasks that use handwork skills will help introduce new ways of looking at everyday objects and develop an appreciation of different work styles and projects.
It will run for 17 weeks and will be a relaxed, fun way to get to know each other as well as learn more about ourselves. We might re-design Philmont, make birdhouses, create maps, build fairy houses, or craft a fleet of puppets. Children between the ages of 6-12 are encouraged to apply, and must be pre-registered. For more information or to obtain a registration form contact Susannah White, 716-464-0931. Suggested donation: $0-20/session or $0-340 for the entire course.

Community Weaving
Thursdays, beginning Feb. 6, 6:30pm
84 Main St, Philmont NY
Rag rugs are a uniquely useful way to use/reuse materials to create something beautiful. It is pretty much impossible to make one that hasn't interest and appeal. Community Weaving is a once a week drop-in workshop designed to provide any interested person, regardless of age, experience or ability the opportunity to help create rugs for the Art Dispersal Program in May. We will be working on floor looms. It is not necessary to make a commitment for the duration of the program, and there are other tasks and roles open beyond weaver. We will begin working on Thursday, February 6th, and hope to make 6 rugs in the next 12 weeks. This is a great opportunity to develop a new skill, revive an old craft, and spend time with friends and neighbors. For more information contact Susannah White, 716-464-0931.
Suggested donation: $0-20/session. We are also looking for donations of cotton fabric including old sheets, curtains, and ugly material. It will be transformed.
Curative Education Study Group
Friday, February 7 at 7:00pm
The study group will review lecture 11 from Steiner's book Foundations of Human Experience at the home of Christiana and Dr. Basil Williams of 83-7 May Hill Rd near Harlemville. For directions or questions please call 518 672-4332.

Interfaith Forum: Dying, Death and the Afterlife
Sunday, February 9, 1:30 – 3:00 PM
At Berkshire South Regional Community Center 15 Crissey Rd., Great Barrington, MA
Presenters include a panel of local clergy (incl. Rev. Marcato and Ann Elizabeth Barnes) from the Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, Christian Community, Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist faith traditions. $10 Donation requested. Sponsored by Rimon: Resource Center for Jewish Spirituality (www.rimonberkshires.org) Moderated by: Deborah Golden Alecson, MS

Experiencing the Deeper Nature of Nature
Sunday, February 9 to Friday, February 14
This Nature Institute Winter Course with Craig and Henrike Holdrege will focus on contemplative practices that enliven our capacities of thinking, feeling, and perceiving. We will work with these practices and explore a variety of phenomena from nature in our quest to experience the living qualities of life itself. The course is for farmers, gardeners, apprentices, and others who love the land. It meets a portion of the classroom study requirement for apprentices enrolled in the North American Biodynamic Apprenticeship Program. Visit our website www.natureinstitute.org/educ/winter for more information and the registration form.

Introduction to Icon Writing
Mondays beginning February 10th, 10:00AM-1:00PM
84 Main Street, Philmont NY
Learn to write icons in the Byzantine tradition using egg tempera and gold leaf gilding. All levels of painters are welcome! Using natural pigments mixed with the yolk of an egg, egg tempera painting is one of the earliest forms of painting and encompasses many of the classical painting traditions. In addition to learning how to write an icon, you will be learning the classical method of constructing a painting, transferring a drawing, handling of form, light, color and composition. A multi-step process, the focus is on spiritual development within the icon writing tradition as well as on artistic development. Known as the spiritual discipline of the mind, heart, and hand, iconography is a continuation of the Russian-Byzantine icon tradition into the twenty-first century. Most materials will be provided and are covered in the $0-60 suggested donation for each 3 hour class fee. It is necessary to have purchased one gessoed icon board before class begins. It takes approx. 10 classes to complete one icon.

Staying Connected Study Group
Monday, February 10 at 8:00 pm.
We will discuss Rudolf Steiner's Karmic Relationships II, Lecture 9. This group is dedicated to the study of Rudolf Steiner's lectures on life after death and reincarnation and karma and regularly meets on the second Monday of the month at the home of Gloria Kemp and Margaret Rosenthaler (518-672-4844). We welcome new members who have a basic foundation in anthroposophy.

Bees Study Group
Wednesday, February 12, at 7:00pm
A new study group will begin on Rudolf Steiner's book Bees, the Eight Lectures Given in Dornach between February 3 to December 22, 1923 at the home of Christiana and Frank Wall on Fern Hill near Harlemville. The study group will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and will begin with lecture 1. For questions or directions call Christiana or Frank Wall at 518 672-4488 or Dr. Basil Williams 518 672-4332.

February Branch Study Group Meeting
Friday, February 14 at 7:30 pm
This month’s Branch Study Group Meeting will be at Camphill Ghent in the MAGNOLIA HOUSE, That’s the second group of light-colored apartment houses on the service road, so please park at the red administration barn at the bottom of the hill, unless you need to minimize walking.

Please prepare by studying the following talk of Rudolf Steiner: The lecture of October 25th, 1918 given in Dornach, from From Symptom to Reality in Modern History (CW 185) Rudolf Steiner Press (1976). Please call Nick Franceschelli at 518 721 8410 for more. In the absence of the Library, it may be possible to purchase these titles, or you could print a copy from the website rsarchive.org.

Participants are invited to prepare to speak about something in the talks that they found particularly striking, as well as to create a place in the meeting for all present to contribute.
Listen, Love! A Valentine’s Day Concert
Saturday, February 15 at 3pm
An eclectic musical tour inspired by the greatest journey of all: the journey of love. Classical, folk, and jazz genres will all receive their due. An afternoon of songs and piano solos from Brecht to Liszt to Bolcom. With Lincoln Mayorga - Piano and Sheri Bauer-Mayorga - Vocals.
At the Culture Hall in Camphill Ghent. For reservations please call 518.392.2760. Tickets: Adults-$25, Seniors-$20, Members-$15, Students-$5.

First Class: free-rendering of Lesson XV
Saturday, February 15 at 7:00 pm
At Windy Hill. Call Hanna, 325-3648 or John 325-1113.

First Class: Reading Lesson XV
Sunday, February 16 at 9:00 am
At Windy Hill. Call Hanna, 325-3648 or John 325-1113.

First Class, Lesson 15
Sunday, February 16 at 3:00 pm
The lessons are at Camphill Ghent in the residence of Brian and Anna Ree. If you have any questions please contact Anna at 518-721-8508

An Orientation Course about Priesthood in Our Time: Working with the Spirit of The Christian Community February 14 – 16 at The Christian Community Hillsdale, NY
with Rev. Bastiaan Baan (Seminary director) and Rev. Liza Marcato. Programs available online at: www.thechristiancommunity.org/tacberk or call 518-325-6749. Sign up by emailing Rev. Baan at: a.b.baan@gmail.com. Themes for the presentations: Elements of Modern Priesthood; The Significance of the Sacraments for Humanity and the Earth; A Modern Relationship to the Traditional Vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience in a Priesthood of the I; WHO is the Being of the Christian Community? The event is open also to those who know for sure priesthood is not for them, but are interested in the themes. Join us for the open lecture and potluck on Sunday!

Practice and Exploration of Rudolf Steiner’s 6 Essential Exercises
Sunday, February 16, 5:30-6:45 pm
All are invited: Beginners, who seek an introduction to the exercises and also those who wish to deepen their work, to practice and explore "The 6 Basic Exercises" – control of thought, control of will, equanimity, positivity, openness, and harmonizing the five previous exercises. This happens on the third Sunday of each month at the HVS Peach Blossom Kindergarten (please bring indoor shoes).
A few of us who have done cycles of the exercises together feel that indeed we can help and encourage each other in our individual practices. We do this by clarifying the exercises, sharing our work and struggles, and by actually doing the exercises together. Although this is serious work, it can also be playful and full of humor. Call Cecilia Elinson at 672-7447 (before 9pm) or email Laura Summer at laurasummer@taconic.net with questions or for further information about the exercises.

Nature Spirits Study Group
Wednesday, February 19, 7:00 pm
The study group will continue with Lecture 7 from the book Harmony of the Creative Word and will meet at the home of Christiana and Dr. Basil Williams of 83-7 May Hill Rd. near Harlemville. For directions or questions please call either Charlie Dohney 518 672-5270 or Dr. Basil Williams 518 672-4332

First Class
Thursday, February 20, 7:45 pm
Camphill Village, Copake, in the Crypt: Lesson 15 Call Anke Smeele, 329-7973

Uncovering the Voice Singing Workshop
Friday evening, Feb. 21 to Sunday noon, Feb. 23
Through singing exercises developed by Valborg Werbeck-Svardstrom the singing voice becomes free and clear and remains young throughout one's entire life.
One sings with the whole body, bringing about health and healing. Frau Werbeck-Svardstrom established the School for Uncovering the Voice with the blessings of Rudolf Steiner, with whom she collaborated with for 12 years. Her work has spread over the world with the help first of Jurgen Schriefer, and now many others. Come and take part and Improve your quality of life and of singing.

Images of Celtic Christianity presented by Joan Allen
Sunday, February 23, 11:45 AM
At The Christian Community, Hillsdale NY 518-325-674. Donations gratefully received.

First Class
Thursday, February 27, 7:45 pm
Camphill Village, Copake, in the Crypt: Lesson 15 Call Anke Smeele, 329-7973

First Class Meeting
Friday, February 28, 8:00 am
On Lesson 15. Camphill Village, Copake, in the Crypt. Call Anke Smeele at 329-7973
Upcoming in March

“The Wildest Dramas Ever Written”
Rudolf Steiner’s Mystery Dramas: Lecture, Performance, and Workshop
March 7th and 8th, 2014

Introductory talk about Rudolf Steiner’s four Mystery Dramas
Friday, March 7th at 7:30 pm at Fountain Hall, Camphill Copake
Barbara Renold will describe some of the extraordinary scenes contained in this tetralogy, which spans 17 years in the lives of the characters. Given to humanity around 100 years ago, these plays show the intense and complicated soul and spiritual tapestry behind our everyday lives—the weaving of karma from former incarnations in our present day relationships, how that karma is worked on during the life between death and re-birth in different planetary spheres, the influence of a host of different spiritual beings in our actions, and examples of first perceptions on the path of inner development, to name just a few. No other plays encompass such a far-reaching perspective. Suggested donation for the Suggested donation for lecture is $20 or $80 for all three events (Lecture, Performance, and Workshop).

The Mystery Journey of Johannes and Maria: Highlights from Rudolf Steiner’s Four Mystery Dramas
Performed by Glen Williamson and Laurie Portocarrero
Saturday from 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm at Fountain Hall, Camphill Copake
A young artist, befriended by the most advanced pupil of a high spiritual master and initiate, seeks his own spiritual development. As he struggles through joy and despair, certainty and illusion, triumph and disaster, a friend accompanies him, guiding him along the path with her own ever-growing strength and love.
In The Mystery Journey of Johannes and Maria, Laurie Portocarrero and Glen Williamson trace Johannes's spiritual development and his relationship to Maria through selected scenes from Rudolf Steiner's four mystery dramas. Unique in the annals of drama, these four plays trace their characters' paths and destinies through repeated incarnations from ancient times up to the twentieth century, vividly depicting the interplay of karma and free will at work as human beings struggle to take responsibility for their destiny.
Suggested donation for performance is $30, or $80 for all three events (Lecture, Performance, and Workshop).

Workshop with Barbara Renold
Saturday, March 8th from 6:30 pm to 9 pm at Fountain Hall, Camphill Copake
Get a taste of these plays by reading and discussing a few scenes and excerpts from the various dramas, particularly following Maria’s and Johannes’ threads of destiny. Perhaps we can come to see how they portray our own life experiences in a form and language that allows us to glimpse the higher self within ourselves and encourages understanding of the deeper aspects of the panorama of what we call our ‘life on earth’ or ‘this incarnation’.
Suggested donation for workshop is $30, or $80 for all three events (Lecture, Performance, and Workshop).

Contact Steve Brannon to register for any or all of these events, or with any questions- wmws.teacher@gmail.com 603-726-6270.

Biographical Sketch of Barbara Renold:
Barbara Renold is a practicing speech artist and director of community theatre. Her exposure to Rudolf Steiner’s Mystery Dramas began at age 18, when she saw all four plays three times on the Goetheanum stage for the first time. Though hardly comprehensible to her at that time, a seed was planted for her future work with the plays. She trained at the Speech and Drama School at the Goetheanum in Dornach, Switzerland from 1977-1981 and supplemented her studies at the Harkness Studio in Sydney, Australia in 1982-83. During her time as a speech and drama teacher at Sunbridge College (1983-2007), she began to produce the Mystery Dramas with amateur groups in Spring Valley, culminating in bringing the 4th drama to a conference in Dornach in 1998, where all 4 dramas were shown in English. In 2006, she began a new cycle of work on the plays. In 2009, “The Portal of Initiation”, in 2011 “The Soul’s Probation”, in 2012, “The Guardian of the Threshold” and in 2013, “The Souls’ Awakening” were produced within summer conferences within the Threefold Community in Spring Valley, N.Y. This August, 2014, the Threefold Mystery Drama Group, led by Barbara, will perform all four of Rudolf Steiner’s Mystery Dramas, highlighting a nine-day festival and conference to explore the future of the anthroposophical movement.
March and Beyond

BIOGRAPHY AND COMMUNITY: PRACTICING SOCIAL ART
THREE WEEKEND WORKSHOPS AT THE ALKION CENTER AT HAWTHORNE VALLEY

March 21-22: Biography and the Journey of Human Becoming
April 25-26: Working with Others: Toward Creative Group Work
May 23-24: The Art of Community Building

Signe and Christopher Schaefer are together offering three workshops on practicing social art. All three workshops will take place on Friday evening, from 7:30-9:15 and all day Saturday, from 9-4. The workshops will consist of exercises, artistic work, small conversation groups and short talks. Fee per workshop: sliding scale, $120-150; with a commitment to all three - $340-400. Those who wish to participate must enroll at least one week in advance of each of the workshops, by mailing a $25.00 registration fee to: Alkion Center, 330 County Route 21C, Ghent, 12075. Be sure to include your contact information.

Signe Schaefer is the founding director of the Center for Biography and Social Art, was for many years the director of Foundation Studies at Sunbridge College. She is the co-author of Ariadne’s Awakening: Taking Up the Threads of Consciousness, and the author of the recently published, Why on Earth: Biography and the Practice of Human Becoming. Christopher Schaefer was a co-founder of the Centre for Social Development at Emerson College in England before teaching for many years at Sunbridge College where he founded and directed the program in Waldorf School Administration and Community Development. He is the co-author of Vision in Action: Working with Soul and Spirit in Small Organizations, and the author of Partnerships of Hope: Building Waldorf School Communities. Although semi-retired, Chris is presently the co-director of the Center for Social Research at the Hawthorne Valley Association and both he and Signe have been involved in supporting the development of Waldorf education in China in recent years.

All workshops will take place at Hawthorne Valley School, Ghent, N.Y. Inquiries: 518-672-8008 or info@alkioncenter.org

Mathematics Alive!
Algebra Workshop for Middle School Teachers
March 28 – 30, 2014
Weekend workshop for teachers with Henrike Holdrege and Marisha Plotnik

Our goal for this weekend workshop is to assist teachers in entering the inner activity of doing mathematics from which math teaching can become alive. This year we will focus on negative numbers and on solving equations. We will explore the subjects from various angles to enliven them and to give them meaning for teachers and students. Collegial exchange and dialogue will carry our work.

The workshop begins on Friday at 6 pm and ends on Sunday at noon. Course fee is on a sliding scale: $150 - $250. For more information and to register by March 20, contact us at 518-672-0116 or info@natureinstitute.org. We can assist you with finding accommodations.

SteinerBooks Sponsors

NATURE AND THE HUMAN SPIRIT
From Ancient Nature Religion to Spiritual Science
A Workshop in the Berkshires With Dennis Klocek
March 28 – 29, 2014

The goal of this workshop is to reveal a way of striking a balance between skepticism and illusion in the search for a clearer understanding of the relationship between the spirit of the human being and the spirits that animate the natural world. Through lectures and exercises designed around the use of the alchemical mandala as a problem-solving tool, participants will explore the evolution of the search for meaning. The program will cover nature religions of ancient times; alchemy; medieval and Rosicrucian experience of nature; Goethe, morphology, and German Idealism; and Rudolf Steiner and the spiritual-scientific approach to the experience of spiritual realms.

Fee: $100; Where: Rudolf Steiner School, Great Barrington, MA
For Brochure or Registration: contact Marsha Post at SteinerBooks, 413-528-8233, or friends@steinerbooks.org.

SteinerBooks Sponsors

THE MYSTERY OF THE HUMAN HEART
A Seminar in the Berkshires with Armin Husemann, MD
May 9 – 11, 2014

This Seminar will explore in a wide-ranging way the spiritual-physical nature of the heart as a cognitive-perceptual organ and the blood as the bearer of the I. For Rudolf Steiner the discovery and scientific confirmation of the heart’s true function was pivotal in overcoming humanity’s continuing descent into materialism. He also spoke of the heart’s transformation and of a new kind of thinking: a thinking with the heart, “a sensing-heart-eye-organ,” and even of the heart as “an organ of karma.”

Fee: $150 Where: Rudolf Steiner School, Great Barrington, MA
For Brochure or Registration: Contact Marsha Post at SteinerBooks, 413-528-8233, or friends@steinerbooks.org
# February 2014

*(Please see the Events and/or Announcements Section for details)*

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<td>20 1st Class at Copake</td>
<td>21 Singing Workshop Begins</td>
<td>21 Singing Workshop Begins</td>
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<td>23 Images of Celtic Christianity</td>
<td>24 1st Class at Windy Hill</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27 1st Class at Copake</td>
<td>28 1st Class Meeting at Copake</td>
<td>22</td>
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**Chanticleer** is published monthly, September through June, and is paid for by annual contributions from those who receive the newsletter, by e-mail or in print.

*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 Michael Lapointe, P.O. Box 521 Philmont, NY 12565.

Our email address is 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.

The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the next month of publication.

Submissions for Chanticleer may be sent via email to berkshiretaconicbranch@gmail.com. No email? Please call the editor.

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

Editor: John Scott Legg, 518-672-7388; Original Art Work: Ella Lapointe; Mailings: Nathaniel Williams; Calendar: Rich Lumma, 518-292-2012; Treasurer: Michael Lapointe; Additional Coordinating Group members: John Barnes, Dr. Basil Williams, Caroline Gordon, Charlie Doheny, and Nicolas Franceschelli.

Coordinating Group Meetings are listed in the calendar and anyone interested in the life of our Branch is invited to attend.

Our website is berkshiretaconicbranch.org.