

Spiritualist Church of Canada



SPRING 2018

President's Message

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter.

As you read this, I will be on my way back from the sunny south with mixed feelings. It is always great to return and see everyone, but I will miss the wonderful climate. Hopefully the weather will be warming up and the snow gone, by the time I arrive home.

Your board has been extremely busy working very hard. A few highlights are:

Education: The Program has been set for the year; please check our website, Facebook, as well as the flyers in this newsletter for updates.

Student numbers in our Education program continues to grow by leaps and bounds and we thank Rev. Brenda Philp for all her work on this committee.

We are getting very close to having all our educational material copyrighted. It has been a long and time-consuming project, but we can now see the light at the end of the tunnel ☺

Fundraising: We are very excited to announce that International Medium Jim Hyndman from Paris will be hosting some fundraising events for the SCC this year. Jim will teach workshops in Toronto, Guelph, and Sudbury. He will also present mediumship demonstrations and do private readings. For more information on Jim, see the flyers in this newsletter or check out his website at www.jameshyndman.com.

We are also bringing Joanne Wilson, an extremely gifted evidential medium from High River, Alberta to teach a mediumship course in August. Stay tuned for further details.

Membership: Our secretary and treasurer have also been extremely busy with new memberships. We are growing and although it is a lot of work it is very exciting, we thank Mary and Nadine for their dedication.

Annual General Members Meeting: Rev. Sandra Waytowich is working hard on putting in place two intriguing workshops for you. It may seem early to be discussing the AGM as it is not until the 13th, of October but this just shows you how much work and time is involved for this event; many thanks to this year's host, The London Spiritualist Church. Please plan on attending as your input and presence at the AGM is important to both us and the organization; a big thanks to everyone on the board for all the planning and work to date. We are striving to do our best for you, our members, and we welcome feedback.

If there is any way we can assist you in promoting Spiritualism across Canada, please let us know. We welcome updates from our member churches, any celebrations, milestones, or exciting events please, share with us. Our newsletter is a great way to let everyone know what is going on at your churches and can foster ideas for their churches.

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Together we can grow. Please send information to Stevie Martin, our newsletter editor at newsletter@spiritualistchurchofcanada.com

World Congress in London England: Is fast approaching, it is being held at the Arthur Findlay College, which in itself is steeped in spiritual history. As President of the Spiritualist Church of Canada, I am one of the Key-note speakers at this conference. I will be presenting a talk on the challenges and hopes for the future of Spiritualism. We will also have three other members of our organization speaking at the conference: Rev. Sandra Waytowich, Rev. Jim Kinnear and Rev. Brenda Philp have agreed to serve on panels, I am sure they will do us proud. If it is possible for you to attend, I would love to see you there. It is truly exciting times for the future of Spiritualism as we work together on ways to promote our faith throughout the world.

The World Congress program:

Thursday, July 5, 2018

9:00 a.m. Welcome: SNU President David Bruton

Tanya Fernsmith

Chairpersons: Sandy Hagger

Invocation:

Keynote Speakers:

National Spiritualist Association of Churches

Spiritualists' National Union

International Spiritualist Federation

Tea Break 11:00 - 11:30

Spiritualist Church of Canada

Ireland

Italy

Report: Lionel Owen South Africa

Lunch Break 1:00 - 2:30

Break out Groups - 2:30 - 4:00pm

Tea Break 4:00 - 4:30

Collaboration of the Day 4:30 - 5:30

Dinner 6:00 pm

Evening Program 7:30pm Sanctuary

Friday, July 6, 2018

9:00 a.m. - Sanctuary - Divine Service

Tea Break 11:00 - 11:30

The Ministry of Spiritualism 11:30 - 1:00pm

Panel:

Lunch 1:00pm - 2:30

Spiritualist Outreach 2:30-4:00

Panel:

Tea Break 4:00—4:30

Hope and the Global Spiritualist 4:30—6:00

Panel:

Dinner 6:00pm

Evening program 7:30pm - Sanctuary

Rev. Brenda Ropp President
Spiritualist Church of Canada



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Editor's Message

SPRING...a time of newness and beginnings...birds start trickling back into the trees, which have early buds adorning their branches. The grass is slowly turning from brown and patchy to a mild green and sprouts are shooting up faster than we can blink. I was shown the new shoots of the tulips pushing through the garden at Springdale only last Tuesday and they're already another two inches taller!

It feels like we are healing when we awaken to a spring morning full of sunshine and sound-cold or not, it is still March after all; can you feel it? Take those few moments to yourself when your eyes open to a brand new day and feel the healing sent to you from Spirit; healing relationships through forgiveness, healing you through service and contemplation. I can feel Divine Spirit healing us, removing weight through songs in the air and breezes, the smiles returning to everyone's countenance, lifting us above the noise and inconstancy of life as we know it. Bliss.

'Spirit healing has a great virtue, it brings us closer to nature, and with this there is an inner appreciation of the mystery of life and its great beauty...' -Harry Edwards

Take time to heal yourself every day. Take a walk through Spiritualism history, with our book review and recommendation from Rev. Brenda Philp. Marvel at the continual work of Angels as

shared by Rev. Brenda Ropp. Check out the education and workshops going on this year, you will want to continue your journey along that path of enlightenment, to healing you. What a great trip it sounds like!

Enjoy the newsletter and never forget if there is something you'd like featured, to comment upon, or to share something of your own contact me at newsletter@spiritualistchurchofcanada.com

Peace love and peachiness in Spirit
Stevie

Inspirations

In winter, I plot and plan. In spring, I move.

Henry Rollins

The way to truth is through the spirit. In the outer world is turmoil and chaos and unhappiness. You think with the mortal mind, with the mind which is part of the substance of earth. You should think with your inner mind; you should approach problems through the inner self, through intuition. The very word explains itself; Intuition—training inside yourself. You are looking outside for help, and all the time the help you want is inside. The world of spirit that so many of you talk about and believe in, and long to touch, is all within.

-White Eagle

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Spirit's Reading Corner

Echoes

Teachings from the Past Wisdom for the Present

A Modern Anthology of Inspiration
By Debra Skelton

This is a book of philosophy and wisdom as given to us by some of the pioneers of Modern Spiritualism. Debra Skelton has gently and respectfully modified the outdated and cumbersome language to be readily understood and enjoyed by the modern reader. Now we can easily follow the flow of thoughts and philosophies of such greats as Andrew Jackson Davis, Emma Hardinge Britten and William Thomas Stead to name a few.

Echoes has very quickly become one of my most treasured books. It is inspirational and thought provoking. I can pick it up intending to read for a few minutes and an hour later, find myself still deeply engrossed.

Review by Rev. Brenda Philp

Are there Guardian Angels?

Rev. Brenda Ropp



From time to time I have been asked if there are such things as Guardian Angels, do they exist and if so, what exactly are they? I am sure we all have had or heard of angelic type experiences, encounters or coincidences that cannot be explained. If so, we may then believe or at the very least, understand that there may be something or someone who truly watches over us.

*Wikipedia states: A **guardian angel** is an angel that is assigned to protect and guide a particular person, group, kingdom, or country. Belief in guardian angels can be traced throughout all antiquity.*

As Spiritualists we do believe in life after death and that our loved ones who have gone to the other side always watch over us. So, in that sense, we believe they are guardian angels for us. Do we have more than one guardian angel? Do we need

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to know who our guardian angels are? I, for one, do not believe we need to know who they are.

However, we can certainly believe angels exist either as a loved one who has passed on, or as a higher power sent from above. I certainly believe angels are there to help us when we need it the most. Some of us may know right away who is helping us, but others may not. Personally, for me it does not matter who or what being is helping me. I just appreciate it and thank them, for in my case, sometimes they have their hands full!

I would like to share with you, a story about an incident that recently happened in my family. This incident confirmed for me once again, that we do have guardian angels, and they help even those of us who may not fully believe or for that matter be a Spiritualist.

On July 26, 2017, my brother-in-law Gary decided to go for a motorcycle ride. He and friends were planning a trip out west. Gary at this stage in his life did not own a bike, although he has a license to ride and has done so in the past. He decided to borrow a bike and get in a bit of riding prior to the longer trip. Right after work, he picked up the bike and off he went, enjoying the freedom a motorcycle brings to you. Yes, I too ride a motorcycle and love it.

A bit north of Waterloo the unthinkable happened. Somehow the bike drifted into the left

lane and hit a truck head on. Gary may have had a heart attack either just before or at the scene.

Today most vehicles have plastic bumpers, but this happened to be an older antique truck that was made of steel. Gary suffered severe injuries and technically died at the scene. Here is where his guardian angel stepped in.

An Orange medical helicopter was overhead with a surgeon and an anesthesiologist on board. Orange was transporting the two Doctors to a Toronto hospital. They heard on the helicopter's radio and saw the accident below, so they immediately landed beside the accident in a farmer's field. The surgeon, realizing Gary was not breathing, inserted a trach tube in his throat bringing him back and he was then immediately transported to the Hamilton Trauma Centre.

As the prognosis was very grim; family were immediately called; indications were he would not survive long. He had several broken bones, spent many hours in surgery and was in a coma for many weeks.

Gary survived all odds and became a medical miracle. Yes, it will be a long recovery, but as Gary said "I have a very strong Guardian angel or else I would not be here today. He is home from the hospital and is slowly healing. Too many coincidences happened on that fateful day in July to not believe in Guardian Angels, at least for me, but you decide.

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Historic Dates in Spiritualism

31 March 1848

In Hydesville, NY the Fox sisters are credited with ushering in and representing Modern Spiritualism

April 1745

Emmanuel Swedenborg states this is when he received spiritual sight, spiritual illumination, and spiritual powers of reason at 57 years old

28 May 1932

First issue of the Psychic News, founding members: Maurice Barbanell, Hannen Swaffer, and Arthur Findlay

June 1865

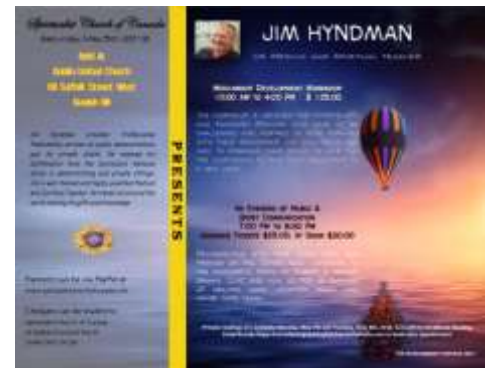
Spiritualist library and lyceum opened in Salem, Indiana where the church was built in 1858

'-a message that makes men free & teaches them to rejoice in their divine heritage; a message that teaches them to rejoice in the fullness of spiritual knowledge; a message that shows them how to live not only on the planes of matter but on the planes of spirit; a message that brings them beauty, love and wisdom, understanding, truth and happiness; a message that speaks of service, service, service...'

-Silver Birch, Teachings of Silver Birch

Upcoming Events

GUELPH



SUDBURY



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Upcoming Education

Spiritualist Church of Canada
Saturday, April 14th, 2018

EDUCATION COURSES
11th Science of Spiritualism
10:00 am to 12:00 pm

11th Spiritualism Past and Present
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Facilitated by Rev. Brenda Philip & Rev. Sandra Waymouth

Cost Per Course is \$ 30.00

Please register in advance. Seating is limited. Reservations are open by mail only. No refunds on cancellations.

MEMBER OPTIONS
Reserve by paying 100% in advance or 50% in advance with a 50% refund on cancellations.

Please bring to class any materials by the Spiritualist Church of Canada, and submit to our Head Office at 21 Queen Street West, Suite 210, Toronto, Ontario M5H 2R4.

Spiritualist Church of Canada
Saturday, May 5th, 2018

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Saturday, June 9th, 2018

11th Science of Spiritualism
10:00 am to 12:00 pm

11th Spiritualism Past and Present
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Facilitated by Rev. Sandra Waymouth

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Last Words/Beginnings

"It is a truth that spirits commune with one another while one is in the body and the other in the higher spheres - and this, too, when the person in the body is unconscious of the influx, and hence cannot be convinced of the fact; and this truth will ere long present itself in the form of a living demonstration.

And the world will hail with delight the ushering in of that era when the interiors of men will be opened, and the spiritual communion will be established."

*-excerpt from Andrew Jackson Davis' Principles of Nature,
1847*

31 March 2018

Happy 170th Anniversary



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