



Certifications Issued

Certifications have been granted as follows, during the period from April 1 through June 30, 2017:

Licentiate Minister: Denise A. Finnegan, Westville, New Jersey; Heather A. Michaels, Las Vegas, Nevada; Jo-Ann Santonocito, East Aurora, New York

National Spiritualist Teacher: Stacy Kopchinski, West Allis, Wisconsin

Congratulations to these members for this achievement. They have continued their Spiritualist education and, applied for and been granted certification.

Are There Bullies in Your Church?

Bullies are common in many churches. They wreak havoc and create dissension. They typically must have an "enemy" in the church, because they aren't happy unless they are fighting a battle. They tend to maneuver to get an official leadership position in the church, such as chair of a committee, officer, or board member. But they may have bully power without any official position.

Church bullies have always been around. But they seem to be doing their work more furiously today than in recent history. Perhaps this look at

... recognize them before they do too much damage.

nine traits of church bullies can help us recognize them before they do too much damage.

Nine Traits of Church Bullies

1. **They do not recognize themselves as bullies.** To the contrary, they see themselves as necessary heroes sent to save the church from its own self.
2. **They have personal and self-serving agendas.** They have determined what "their" church

should look like. Any person or ministry or program that is contrary to their perceived ideal church must be eliminated.

3. **They seek to form power alliances with weak members in the church.** They will pester and convince groups, committees, and persons to be their allies in their cause. Weaker church staff members and church members will succumb to their forceful personalities.
4. **They tend to have intense and emotional personalities.** These bullies use the intensity of their personalities to get their way.
5. **They are famous for saying "people are saying."** They love to gather tidbits of information and shape it to their own agendas.
6. **They find their greatest opportunities in low expectation churches.** Many of the church members have an entitlement view of church membership. They seek to get their own needs and preferences fulfilled. They, therefore, won't trouble themselves to confront and deal with church bullies. That leads to the next issue, which is a consequence of this point.
7. **They are allowed to bully because church members will not stand up to them.** Even pastors and church staff have been attacked by church bullies. While the bully brings them great pain, they have even greater hurt because most of the church members stood silent and let it happen.
8. **They create chaos and wreak havoc.** A church bully always has his next mission. While he or she may take a brief break from one bullying mission to the next, they are not content unless they are exerting the full force of their manipulative behavior.
9. **They often move to other churches after they have done their damage.** Whether they are forced out or simply get bored, they

will move to other churches with the same bullying mission. Some bullies have wreaked havoc in three or more churches.

Church bullying is epidemic in some of our congregations. It must be stopped. Next month, we'll cover the topic of preventing church bullying.

—This article was originally published at www.ThomRainer.com on March 30, 2015.

Affidavits

Affidavit = A written report which is signed by a person who promises that the information is true. Affidavits are used by NSAC to verify the work of Spiritualist student workers and should be available at each service.

Affidavit forms can be downloaded and printed from the NSAC website Forms page, www.nsac.org/member-pages. It can be announced at each service as to where these are available.

Congregants should be informed of the need for Affidavits by those who are making application to become a Certified Medium or Commissioned Spiritualist Healer. If a congregant receives an evidential message or a beneficial healing, it would be appreciated if they complete an affidavit on that day and hand it to the worker.

The completed Affidavit then is signed by the Pastor, a Pastoral Committee member, or Church Board member as a witness that an evidential message or beneficial healing took place on that date. The Affidavit then is given to the student worker, who keeps them until such time as they make application with NSAC Department of Education.

The nine members of the NSAC Board of Trustees evaluate affidavits. A candidate must have six acceptable affidavits to proceed to examination. Therefore, it is wise to submit more than six affidavits (*not to exceed 12*).

Completed applications are mailed to: Rev. June E. Killmer, Director, NSAC Department of Education, 1635 Old Hart Ranch Road, Roseville, CA 95661.

Request Absent Spiritual Healing

A person in need of spiritual healing in any part of this planet can be found, diagnosed, treated, and probably healed through Absent Spiritual Healing.

The means by which this takes place is through the prescribed thought energies which are common to both spirit and earthly life. When the application is made for Absent Spiritual Healing, a positive thought terminal is established by the request.

To place names on NSAC's monthly Spiritual Healing Requests list, send the names (*with permission of the recipient*) to the NSAC Healing Center, nsachealing@nsac.org, or use the Contact form on the NSAC website, www.nsac.org/contact.

Church Fundraiser Disclaimers a Must

All advertising for church fundraisers in print and on electronic media—as well as postings on-site—must include a disclaimer. Such presentations, among others, include: using fortune-telling cards (*Tarot and Oracle*), crystals, crystal balls, Ouija boards, tea leaves, palmistry, or other means and demonstrations that do not prove the continuity of life.

Disclaimers, prominently displayed, should include the following wording:

All presentations (during this event) are made for comparative, informational, and educational purposes and may not reflect the teachings of the National Spiritualist Association of Churches.

Annual Reports Due August 31

Annual reports from each chartered auxiliary (*church, camp, school, and state association*), including payment of all fees, are due NSAC post-marked no later than August 31. Report forms are included in the monthly mailing for July or may be downloaded from the NSAC website Forms page, www.nsac.org/member-pages.

The full form includes a single statement for notary witnessing of

both the president and secretary signing at the same time. If this needs to be done separately, download the file with alternate pages 3 and 4 of the annual report, which provides two notary statements. Alternate pages 3 and 4 are not PDF fill-in enabled.

Filing Convention Delegate Reports

NSAC's monthly mailing for July includes forms needed to name delegates to NSAC Convention 2017 in October. The forms must be post-marked no later than August 31 when mailed to the NSAC Secretary (*July 31 if sent through a state association*). In order to be processed, an auxiliary must have filed its annual report and paid both its charter fee and its member assessment (*per-capita*) fee.

A new *Convention Delegate Report* form is included in the package. It will simplify calculation of the number of delegates allowed and provide a place to notify NSAC of delegate proxies which may be available from an auxiliary.

Forms to name delegates and alternate delegates have not changed. The form to request proxies for additional delegates has been renamed *Convention Delegate Proxy Request*.

The entire package with an instruction sheet can be downloaded as a single 5-page PDF file from the NSAC website Forms page, www.nsac.org/member-pages. The forms are fill-in enabled.

Reminders

July 25: Trustee election candidate statements and photos due to Nominating Committee

August 1: *Credential Renewal Application* due to church secretary from Ordained Ministers, National Spiritualist Teachers, and NSAC Missionaries

August 11: Birth date of Andrew Jackson Davis

August 13: Spiritual Science Day

August 22: Proposed Bylaw amendment filing deadline

August 31: *Annual Report and Convention Delegate Credential* forms from each auxiliary due at NSAC. Check

for earlier due date if member of state association

October 22-27: NSAC Convention 2017, Milwaukee

Bookstore News

Featured this month . . .

There Is No Death, by Rev. Robert J. Macdonald. This booklet is an address given by Rev. Macdonald at the Kiel Auditorium in St. Louis on September 19, 1944 reiterating the eternity of life. BKS 357, \$3.00

AJ Davis Post Cards. These post cards are blank on the back for your personal correspondence. The front features an illustration by Davis of himself looking upon the Catskill Mountains. BKS309, \$0.15

Aura Energy for Health, Healing and Balance, by Joe H. Slate, PhD. The definitive book on defining, understanding, and utilizing your unique aura energy field to bring you new insights, growth, and personal power. This book will teach you how to tap into the healing and rejuvenating power of your mind which is limitless. A must-have for the serious student of the human energy field as it relates to its relationship to the human mind.

BKS 852, \$12.95

Order from NSAC Bookstore, PO Box 217, Lily Dale, NY 14752, nsacbookstore@nsac.org, 716-595-2000. Checks and credit cards accepted. If order total is \$100 or more, prepayment of 50% is required.

NSAC News

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