



NSAC News

National Spiritualist Association of Churches, Lily Dale, New York

www.nsac.org

November 2018

Convention Report

We held Annual Convention 2018 from September 30 through October 5 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Milwaukee Wisconsin. The Convention theme was *Spiritualism Uniting Worlds*. Our convention was hosted "by and for the people" with generous donations from NSAC auxiliaries to help defray the cost. It also commemorated the 125th year of the founding of the NSAC. One hundred six delegates attended.

Our Convention began with registration Sunday afternoon and a "Taste of Wisconsin" reception. Delegates enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, and the opportunity to reunite with old friends. Let's hear it for mini brats! I enjoyed welcoming delegates attending their first convention. At seven that evening, we held the first of our healing services followed by the first religious service. This year at each healing and religious service, more students were included in order to provide an opportunity to practice their attunements and to obtain affidavits whenever appropriate. The inclusive student participation continued throughout the other three services held during Convention week.

The Convention workshop on Monday was sponsored by the four service clubs. The morning session, *Pastoral Conflict in the 21st Century*, was presented by the Reverends Bonnie Crosier and Norma Turner. The afternoon session, *Multiculturalism and Modern Spiritualism: Uniting the Worlds* was presented by the Reverends Marrice Coverson and Jacqueline Randall, and Ms. Charvonne Carlson. Both sessions were equally enlightening.

At the banquet Monday night, the Lifetime Service award was presented to three ordained ministers: the Reverend Marilyn Awtry (*Spiritualist Church of Awareness, NSAC, Orlando, Florida*), the Reverend John Young and the Reverend Joyce Young (*The Third Spirit of Life Spiritualist Church, Byron, Minnesota*). The Outstanding Performance Award was presented to

Steven J. Vogel, a member of The Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, NSAC in Falls Church, Virginia.

Our business sessions took place Tuesday through Friday. We primarily reviewed annual reports on Tuesday. The delegates voted to adopt a new Code of Ethics. On Wednesday morning there was an informative *Money Matters* workshop presentation given by the Reverend JoAnn Santonocito and Bobbie Caswell. There were seventeen proposed bylaw amendments this year. See the *NSAC News*, October 2018 for a detailed report.

On Thursday afternoon the Reverend Havivah Richards gave an hour-long presentation on healing in the NSAC. An open house reception was held Thursday afternoon at the Morris Pratt Institute, where the MPI President, the Reverend June Killmer, and MPI Vice President, the Reverend James Ehrhart, welcomed delegates.

At the Friday morning Commemorative Service conducted by the Reverend June Killmer, 53 individuals who had passed to Spirit since the last Convention were honored and remembered.

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NSAC Department Directors Named

Following Convention 2018, directors of NSAC departments were appointed for the 2018-19 year. An asterisk follows department names with newly appointed directors.

Department of Education, June Killmer (*Roseville, California*)

Department of Endowments, Rosemary Calderalo (*Pasadena, Maryland*)

Department of Lyceums, Havivah Richards (*Glendale, Arizona*)

Department of Missionaries*, Pamela Bollinger (*Santa Barbara, California*)

Department of Phenomenal Evidence, Frank Kotowski, Jr. (*Bay Shore, New York*)

Department of Publications, Joe Owen (*San Francisco, California*)

Trustees Assigned

All members of the NSAC Board of Trustees each year are assigned as representatives to NSAC auxiliaries. Assignments are made by state, area, or city. This year's assignments are:

Arizona: Stacy Kopchinski

California (*Monrovia*): Havivah Richards

California (*Northern*): Stacy Kopchinski

California (*Sacramento*): Havivah Richards

California (*Santa Barbara*): Cosie Allen

Colorado: Havivah Richards

Connecticut: Jackie Randall

Delaware: Bunny Starr

District of Columbia: Christine Krithades

Florida: Janet Watson

Illinois: June Killmer

Indiana: Cosie Allen

Iowa: Janet Watson

Maine: Carol Luetkens

Maryland: Christine Krithades

Massachusetts: Jackie Randall

Michigan: Cosie Allen

Minnesota (*Rochester*): Janet Watson

Minnesota (*St. Paul*): Carol Luetkens

Missouri: Janet Watson

Nebraska: Janet Watson

Nevada: Havivah Richards

New Hampshire: Carol Luetkens

New Jersey: Bunny Starr

New York: Carol Luetkens

Ohio: Cosie Allen

Pennsylvania: Bunny Starr

Texas: Christine Krithades

Virginia: Christine Krithades

Washington: June Killmer

West Virginia: Bunny Starr

Wisconsin: Carol Luetkens

A Note from the Department of Missionaries

THANK YOU! The Missionary Department has a lot to be thankful for. At the Annual Convention this year, delegates approved a budget for our department and we are going to work for you. Pamela Bollinger of Santa

Barbara, California has been appointed Director of the Department of Missionaries for the 2018-19 year (pjolling@gmail.com, 650-773-6743).

Pamela is working on assignment of regions for missionaries appointed for 2018-19: Marilyn Awtry, Rosemary Calderalo, Gretchen Clark, Marrice Coverson, Bonnie Darby, James Ehrhart, Maureen Eslick, Elaine Hager, Michael Pillsbury, and JoAnn Santonocito. Each member of the Board of Trustees also serves as a missionary.

It is because of your work, passion, desire to help others, and spreading the truth of Spiritualism that we are here. So please let us help you. We are working to establish ways to work going forward that are beneficial to you and Spiritualism. With our love for Spiritualism as our driving force, we will focus on clear communication between dedicated workers and churches, all working together for the growth of Spiritualism and to help strengthen our organization.

We hope that churches, camps, and members will make use of their missionary for questions on Modern Spiritualism, teaching, and/or building up our churches. To share the words of the Reverend Lena Drew which continue to ring true today: "The work of one or two may seem rather insignificant, but if we could work together, help with our Churches and our National Offices, the results would be gratifying and very satisfactory. Let us try it for one year, and each one of us do our best for the beautiful Cause of Spiritualism, and our N.S.A., which we all love."

More information will be coming in next month's *NSAC News*. May blessings, abundance, and the loving Light of Spiritualism shine on us all!

Gratitude Corner

Are there members in your church or camp who deserve special recognition for their continuing service in helping build and support your auxiliary? Gratitude Corner is a place where they can be introduced and publicly thanked.

To express appreciation to these members in this column, simply contact NSAC Administrator Bobbie Caswell with details at 716-595-2000 or nsacadmin@nsac.org

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A new publication was presented and offered for sale at Convention. The *NSAC Religious Services* book was introduced by the author, the Reverend James Ehrhart. He and his team were acknowledged with enthusiasm for this amazing job. The first one, signed by all members of the NSAC Board of Trustees, was auctioned and won by Joe Yadao with a bid of \$600. The book is available for purchase through the NSAC Bookstore.

One matter that was brought to the delegates for their information was the vote by the members of the Lily Dale Assembly that they would not be subject to any other organization's bylaws, namely, NSAC. The LDA, a chartered NSAC auxiliary, also voted not to pay the annual charter fee of \$75 for 2018 and not to file an annual report. Following a meeting with the LDA President and the attorney representing LDA, our counsel, Jeffrey Lucas, briefed delegates on the ramifications of this action. The delegates were advised that no determination on a course of action will be made prior to the LDA annual meeting in August 2019.

Our Annual Convention 2019 will be held at the same venue September 29 through October 4. Look forward to seeing each of you at that time!

—Christine Krithades
NSAC President

Bookstore News

Featured this month . . .

Spiritualism in Antebellum America, by Carroll. During the decade before the Civil War, a growing number of Americans gathered around tables in dimly lit rooms, joined hands, and sought enlightening contact with spirits. In this study, Spiritualism emerges as a reflection of and a reaction to many currents in antebellum American life. BKS315, \$50.00

Modern American Spiritualism, by Emma Hardinge. Reprinted in two volumes as a tribute to a great pioneer, Emma Hardinge Britten. Many refer to her affectionately as the "Mother of Spiritualism." The publication also commemorates the centenary of her passing to the Spirit World on October 2, 1899. Written

in 1870, the book chronicles the first twenty years of Modern Spiritualism. BKS446, \$44.00

Index of Names for Modern American Spiritualism, Compiled by Auble. Alphabetic index of all names, movements, philosophies and Spirit Messages included in the two-volume set by Hardinge (*BKS446 see above*). BKS475, \$1.00

Spiritualism, A Way of Life, by Elizabeth Harris. Through a collection of writings, *Spiritualism, A Way of Life* portrays a practical enjoyable way to live ... including a variety of topics ranging from creativity, spiritual healing, death, dying and the after-life, and much more. BKS126, \$15.00

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.

Reminder

January 25: Observance of Founders Day honoring Andrew Jackson Davis and the founding of the Children's Progressive Lyceum

January 31: Renewals of Credentials for LM, CM, and CH due at NSAC. (*OM holding CM and CH are exempt from this filing*) (file with church secretary; payable to church; church secretary forwards as group to NSAC Headquarters)

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