



NSAC News

National Spiritualist Association of Churches, Lily Dale, New York

www.nsac.org

September 2020

Letter from the President

Hello Dear Friends,

Have six months *really* passed since the pandemic began? It is still with us insistently dragging on with its horrible consequences. We have been gathering through social distancing and virtually, not touching each other. Often, still unable to be with one another in person.

And yet...

Through the darkness a flickering light is beginning to make its presence known. This is a time of great evolution and transformation.

Those who were technologically naïve have morphed into Zoom aficionados. Does anyone doubt that this is a sure sign of technology again moving us ahead at lightning speed? It's almost as if we are being swept along in a great tide of new discovery.

There is light beyond the pallor. The light points to the best of our historic past. We have re-engaged in the art of in person contact and communication whenever those few chance meetings arise. Through the tragedy of the pandemic we have rekindled our consciousness to cherish the brief moments of human engagement no matter how seemingly mundane.

The Judeo-Christian ecclesiastical worship calendar celebrates a new year that begins in September. Let us resolve to be kind in this "new year". In a time of isolation, kindness allows us to connect to others and put our Spiritualism values into practice. It is simple to make kindness a habit. It doesn't have to be a big deal – say hello to all you meet, smile even with your mask on, and let your eyes light up. A little small talk can dissipate isolation.

The ominous presence of the lingering virus has brought to us the opportunity to visit each week with each other across the country and across the world. We all looked forward to Convention to renew our friendships in person. Now we can attend each

other's services, and even visit Spiritualist services in other countries, such as the U.K. Our Facebook page lists many opportunities to connect with each other.

NSAC members are teaching virtually, and our learning is spreading. When someone asks us about Spiritualism, we can direct them to our online classes and services. They can learn and explore our truth from the comfort of their home.

The day will come when we will be able to look back upon this as a growth period of humanity. As a whole, we will come away, more wise, more experienced, more learned than before. As individuals may we all look back upon our actions of today and be proud of how we responded during a time of duress and growth. Isn't this what Spiritualism is all about?

Above all else, stay safe and well.

With blessings and love,
Christine Krithades, J.D., OM, NST, CH
President

From the Secretary

The painting company, My Painters officially resigned from painting the exterior of the NSAC building due to the Lily Dale Assembly's maintenance department. To refer a qualified painter, please call the NSAC office.

The NSAC office received a donation for modular tables to use in the library/meeting room. The tables can be separated and utilized as classroom desks or put together to accommodate a 12-person boardroom table. We are now seeking donations for chairs.

We have reached out to our auxiliaries in Texas and California checking that they are safe from the hurricanes and wildfires. Please keep them in your prayers

From the Department of Missionaries

During these unprecedented times, the Department of Missionaries is here to help you share the truth of

Spiritualism to all who are seeking it. The NSAC has a system in place in order to support you. Each and every auxiliary has an appointed Missionary and an NSAC Trustee Representative, who also serves as a missionary.

Whenever your church, camp, board, or member has an idea, question, or needs support, they should reach out to their Missionary. If you don't hear from the Missionary, please contact the Director of the Department of Missionaries (Pamela Bollinger, 650-773-6743, pjbollinger@gmail.com). The Board of Trustees is also actively working to help you and Spiritualism. You may also contact your Trustee Representative for ideas, questions, concerns or support. The Missionary Department and the Board of Trustees are working together to help you feel our support.

Let us know how we can help. May we all move forward united by the love we all share in both the seen and unseen realms.

Missionaries appointed for 2020-2021 and their assigned states are listed below:

Connecticut, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, The Reverend Rosemary Calderalo, 833 Riverside Drive, Pasadena, MD 21122, rosemarycalderalo@gmail.com

Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, The Reverend Susan Banquer Ferency, 143 Smead Hill Road, Greenfield, MA 01301, siouxspirit22@gmail.com

Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, The Reverend Michael Pillsbury, 4573 Henry Mansfield Road, Henry, TN, 38321, michael.pillsbury535@gmail.com

Florida, The Reverend Marilyn Awtry, 118 Wax Myrtle Drive, Sanford, FL 32773, mjawtry333@gmail.com

Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, The Reverend Betty Jean Hutt, 136

South Wells Avenue, Glenolden, PA 19036, revhutt@gmail.com

Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, The Reverend Elaine Hager, 9 Wood Ridge Drive, Ocala, FL 34482, revelaine@cfl.rr.com

Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, The Reverend Marrice Coverson, 5341 South Cornell, Chicago, IL 60615, spiritspks@aol.com

California, Hawaii, Alaska, The Reverend Pamela Bollinger, (Director), 5750 Via Real, #308, Carpinteria, CA 93013, pjobollinger@gmail.com

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, California (Northern), The Reverend Stacy Kopchinski, stacykopchinski@att.net

California (Monrovia), California (Sacramento), Colorado, Nevada, The Reverend Havivah Richards, havi1@hotmail.com

California (Santa Barbara), Indiana, Maine, Michigan, Ohio, The Reverend Cosie Allen, cosieallen@yahoo.com

Connecticut, Missouri, Wisconsin, The Reverend Bonnie Crosier, revbonnie1216@aol.com

Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, The Reverend Bunny Starr

District of Columbia, Maryland, Texas, Virginia, The Reverend Christine Krithades, ckckck@verizon.net

Florida, Iowa, Minnesota, Janet Watson, nsactreasurer.jan@gmail.com

Illinois, Washington, The Reverend June Killmer, junekillmer@surewest.net

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, The Reverend JoAnn Santonocito, nsacsecretary@nsac.org

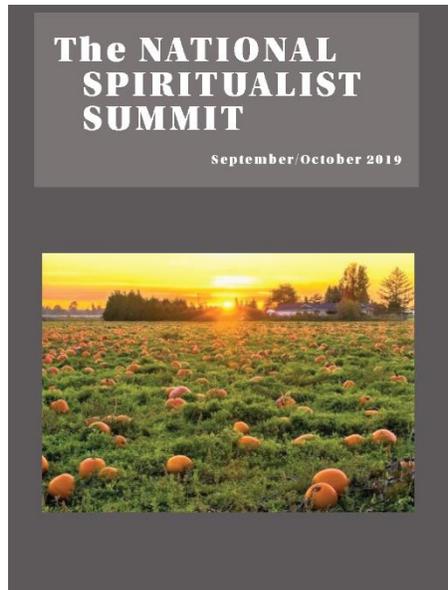
Pamela Bollinger, Director
NSAC Department of Missionaries
pjobollinger@gmail.com
650-773-6743

Spiritual Healing Center Announces Chairperson

The Reverend Debbie Malison has been named as chairperson for the Spiritual Healing Center. Debbie is the Pastor of First Spiritual Church of West Allis and holds credentials for Certified Medium and National Spiritualist Teacher.

Past Issues of TNS For Sale

Twenty copies of the September/October 2019 issue of *The National Spiritualist Summit* are for sale. Below is an image of the front cover of the September/October 2019 issue.



Back copies of other issues will be offered for sale over time. Each copy is available for \$10.00. Complete your archive library or give a gift with back issues.

Purchase your issues by email: nsactns@nsac.org or call: 631-316-1588.

Articles in this issue are as listed:

Why I Won't Be Surprised If I Survive Death

The Man and the Institute

Without Love, There is Nothing

An Interview with Stewart Alexander, Part 2

Andrew Taylor Still: Osteopathy and Spiritualism

Living in A Material World

Media Watch

Help Preserve Our Archives

Why Go to Church Moving Forward...

Neuroimaging During Trance State A Time and A Season for Celebration Lyceum

Psychic and Mystical Experiences of The Aborigine

Responsibility

Indridi Indridason: The Islandic Physical Medium: Book Review

NSAC Healing Center

NSAC Board of Trustees, Department Directors, Service Clubs

Directory of NSAC Ministers, Mediums, and Healers

Directory of NSAC Chartered Churches and Auxiliaries

Frank Kotowski
TNS Summit Editor

TechSoup for Nonprofits

TechSoup is a company which supports nonprofits with substantial discounts on software, hardware and teaching opportunities. They offer transformative technology solutions and skills to assist our auxiliaries.

Discounts work with generous donors through a philanthropy program which allows for these large discounts. Now that Microsoft and Intuit significant require yearly renewals, TechSoup can allow our auxiliaries for considerable savings. Proof of nonprofit status is required to apply for software and hardware discounts. www.techsoup.org

The National Spiritualist Summit Picture Request

The TNS is requesting pictures that can be used for cover pictures for upcoming issues. The photos need to correspond to the issue date. The TNS is published every two months, starting with January/February consecutively each year. The upcoming issue (November/December) would reflect the seasons during those months.

Each photo must be originals from the photographer. Credit will be given to the photographer/holder with each issue. Once submitted, the photo becomes property of the TNS.

For more information contact Frank Kotowski by email: nsactns@nsac.org or 631-316-1588.

NSAC Bookstore News

NSAC Tumblers for Sale

As the summer moved forward, and Lily Dale gets busier, the bookstore had seen a lot more traffic. The 16 oz tumblers have been a hit, \$10 each plus shipping.



SPECIAL for the Month of September, any bookstore purchase of \$25 or more will receive a gift.

Fall/Winter Hours: M, W, F 9am-4pm

Email: nsacbookstore@nsac.org

Reminders

September 22: Observe NSAC Day

September 27: Anniversary of NSAC founding in 1893.

Dates in Spiritualism

September 5, 1859: Birthday—W. J. Colville (Named: The Kitten Orator).

September 11, 1955: Event—Original Fox cottage at Lilly Dale Assembly destroyed by fire.

September 14, 1885: Birthday—Elsie Butler Bunts (Founder: *Lyceum Spotlight*).

September 18, 1847: Birthday—E.W. Sprague (Author).

September 27, 1893 Event—First National Delegate Convention of Spiritualists of United States of America in Chicago, IL. Originally created for all Spiritualists chaired by John Pierpont.

September 29, 1903 Event—Morris Pratt Institute opened as a school.

Long-Range Strategic Plan Rolls Out and Is Available

This report updates members on the nearly year-long effort to develop a **Long-Range Strategic Plan** for the NSAC: The Plan is out and available for your perusal now!

Included as part of the 2020 annual report of the Long-Range Planning Committee (LRPC) was the NSAC's Long-Range Strategic Plan. The revised Plan included data received from the Board of Trustees on August 8, 2020, updating the status of actions already being undertaken by the Board. The 4 pages of Board feedback were generated after a 90-minute Zoom videoconference between the LRPC and the Board at its Annual Spring Board Meeting on July 28. That Board meeting had been postponed from end-of-April to end-of-July due to the novel coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. Also included with the LRPC's annual report submission was a 4-page "Plan Overview" summarizing key aspects of the 78-page Plan and its 10 attachments.

This Plan was developed with input from nearly 160 members, including a 2019 NSAC Annual Convention small-group activity by at least 91 delegates, and a follow-up online survey with 66 respondents. The flipcharts of the Convention groups have been transcribed, along with their instructions and some analysis, and with the survey data, form an "Overview of LRPC Work, 2019-2020" document, that also was enclosed with LRPC annual report, to provide the background data that led to the Plan.

The eight-member LRPC then worked with all these data in nearly 30 almost weekly Zoom teleconference work sessions from November 2019 through August 2020, logging more than 70 hours of group contact time and 465 hours of working together as a group on Zoom, plus untold hours of individual effort, to craft a Plan designed to support, guide, and shape the NSAC well on its way to becoming the Leader in Modern Spiritualism by 2023.

The Board will post the LRPC annual report on the Member Pages of the NSAC Website. It will appear along with other department and committee

annual reports, as a sort of "2020 convention packet" of report documents available to all members. The LRPC's 4-page "Plan Overview" summary also will accompany this *NSAC News*, and be included in the September monthly mailing to all auxiliaries. As the LRPC receives status updates from the Board, it will insert these updates into the Plan in a highlighted color and post these revised and updated Plans, each uniquely date-stamped on the front cover, to the NSAC Website Member Pages, in order to keep all members fully informed and up-to-date.

Now that the Long-Range Strategic Plan is available to members, both the LRPC and the Board encourage members and auxiliaries to print out the documents and begin studying the Plan. One "silver lining" to the coronavirus pandemic (if there can be such a thing!), is that it now has given all of us a full year to familiarize ourselves thoroughly with the Plan before we are called to formally adopt the Plan and amend the *NSAC Bylaws* at Convention 2021, and to work with the Board to fully implement the Plan. Each of us holds a stake in this Plan, and "there are plenty of oars in the water to help the NSAC row forward together."

In other words, there are ample opportunities for members to volunteer to step up and implement the Plan. Discuss the Plan with your local auxiliary Board and Pastor or Pastoral Committee. Encourage them to hold auxiliary membership meetings to inform members of the Plan and discuss it with them. The LRPC is available on Zoom to support such auxiliary meetings; just contact us! Please help all of your Delegates to come to Convention 2021 informed and ready to vote on the Plan and its necessary bylaw amendments. Then we all can celebrate what the LRPC, the Board, and the NSAC already has implemented and accomplished!

At varying times during the third week of September 2020, the LRPC will host several 60-90-minute Zoom teleconferences open to NSAC members to answer their questions and receive their comments and concerns about the Plan. The "daytime" and "evening" Zoom sessions will be on Thursday, September 24, and the "weekend" Zoom session will begin at 1:00 p.m. EDT on Saturday, September 26. The

LRPC will post specific times and links for these Zoom sessions on the NSAC Website Member Pages and the “Services and Classes” page on the NSAC Facebook account, so please mark these dates, watch these sites for details and further information about the Plan, and get involved with the future of your NSAC and participate.

This Long-Range Strategic Plan is not an annual event, but a first-ever significant strategic milestone for the NSAC. The LRPC believes informational packets containing at least the Plan Overview and Next Steps to Convention 2021 and mailed to auxiliary Board Presidents and Pastors/Pastoral Committees to be of particular importance and necessary for the widest distribution of the Plan to the membership.

The LRPC will plan additional outreach activities the closer we all get to the **2021 NSAC Annual Convention at the Seattle Airport Crowne Plaza Hotel; Seattle, WA October 5-8, 2021**. There the LRPC will present the Plan to the Delegates with a motion to adopt, and when seconded, will discuss it and bring it to a vote. All the 19 by-law amendment proposals required by the Plan, already submitted for the canceled 2020 Annual Convention, also will be presented for discussion and vote. Pending adoption at the 2021 Convention, the entire NSAC organization—all members, all leaders, all active workers both credentialed and lay workers in our NSAC family—then begin to fully implement the Plan toward a **21st Century NSAC!**

The NSAC/LRPC very much looks forward to receiving your input, your support, and your energy! Please forward ideas, questions, and comments to Steve Vogel, LRPC Chair at

steven.j.vogel@earthlink.net or 703-241-3763.

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 with details at nsacsecretary@nsac.org or 716-595-2000.

Spiritual Healing Requests

Spirit healings result from law-governed forces being put into operation following the sending forth of a thought directive (prayer). Spirit guides and doctors will diagnose the trouble and its cause, attention being directed to overcoming the cause, and then removing the symptoms.

Please set time aside each day to send healing thoughts for each of those listed below, that they may receive from Spirit that which is for their highest and best needs.

Bunny
David
Denise
Elainea S.
Katy N.
Leonard
Louise P.
Susan
Tanya P.
All COVID Patients

Your healing prayers are needed and benefit others in ways we may never know.

Prayer for Spiritual Healing

I ask the great unseen healing force to remove all obstructions from my mind and body and to restore me to perfect health. I ask this in all sincerity and honesty, and I will do my part.

I ask this great unseen healing force to help both present and absent ones who are in need of help and to restore them to perfect health. I put my trust and love in the power of God.

To request Spiritual Healing

In order to respect personal privacy, you first must obtain permission from the person, or from their caretaker, to be placed on the Spiritual Healing list. Then notify the Spiritual Healing Center. Spiritual healing is directed to a specific individual. To list more than one individual from a household or group, submit first name and the initial of the last name of each person. Names will be listed for two months unless removal sooner is requested. Names may be resubmitted if need continues.

Spiritual Healing Center
nsachealing@nsac.org

NSAC News

Published monthly by the National Spiritualist Association of Churches, 13 Cottage Row, PO Box 217, Lily Dale, New York 14752. 716-595-2000, www.nsac.org, nsacinfo@nsac.org.

To subscribe, make a request by email (Subject: NSAC News Request) from the address to which you want *NSAC News* sent. Your request must include: your name; and your church or camp name. A monthly email notice will contain a link to the NSAC website page from which a PDF copy can be viewed and downloaded.