



NSAC News

National Spiritualist Association of Churches, Lily Dale, New York

www.nsac.org

January 2022

Letter from the President

In many traditions it is customary to say "Happy New Year" to everyone you see for the first time, even after January 1 has passed. So while I am seeing you only virtually, I say to each of you, Happy New Year!



My wish for you and your loved ones is that 2022 will bring you happiness and good health. We have gone through a tough two years, with many losses. We are worn out by two years of the pandemic. Sometimes making a simple decision seems overwhelming. The rules and risks keep changing and we become paralyzed.

In the book *The Power of Pressure*, Dane Jensen urges us to ask ourselves, "What's not at stake for me right now?" "What are the important things in my life that will not change regardless of this decision?" As the pandemic drags on, decisions are harder to make. Do you know why insurance company auditors are paid so much? They are charged with doing something counterintuitive to many of us: predicting the probability of risk. We as humans are risk-averse. We become paralyzed by decisions and overwhelmed at times by the simplest choices, such as what to make for dinner. Let us remember that many decisions can be changed.

One decision that I hope you will all make is to attend our Convention in Phoenix, Arizona at the Crowne Plaza Airport hotel. Grab your calendars right now and mark off the dates in INK, not pencil: Sunday, October 9–Friday, October 14. We have secured a lower rate than we negotiated two years ago. How great is that!! Your room, including free parking, is \$145 with two complimentary breakfasts each day. If you wish to arrive earlier or stay longer

to tour the area, you can take advantage of this lower rate too! We are so overdue to seeing each other in person. I have enjoyed visiting and meeting on Zoom, but I really miss seeing you!!!

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

Much Gratitude for the Generous Gift Received

Susan and Bill Barth share an enduring commitment to Spiritualism. This year they celebrate their 14th wedding anniversary and 15 years since meeting in 2006 at a Spiritualist church. Spiritualism has enriched their lives immeasurably. They took full advantage of an opportunity when circumstances permitted them to give back what they had so generously been given.

With a significant gift in the last days of 2021, they funded the archival preservation project the NSAC dreamed of for years, which allows for organized online access in a searchable format. The timing is critical since many periodicals were approaching the final stages of decline. This project ensures that newspapers such as the *Banner of Light* will be preserved for future generations. It further positions NSAC as the central repository of critical Spiritualist and historic information for countless seekers from academic researchers to the simply curious.

In addition, Susan and Bill established an endowment fund permitting an income stream for NSAC in perpetuity. It also helps NSAC with ongoing operations and for areas of greatest need. Their generosity and their vision have forever changed the NSAC, sharing the light of Spiritualism through new technologies with committed and new audiences through the years ahead. Please join in celebrating this incredible gift and the vision and spirit in which it was given. Thank you, Susan and Bill!

MPI Zoom Classes

Morris Pratt Institute is pleased to offer two special courses!

(1) Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 6:30–9:30 PM CST with the National Spiritualist Teacher, the Reverend Graham Connelly.

Join us for an Overview of communication through time with the unseen realm (Spirit World). We will begin in the times of early cultures such as the Greeks, Romans, and Egyptians, then encounter the key pioneers of Spiritualism, and then progress to connect with notable pioneers of modern science. From here we will venture into specific aspects of the seven energy centers of the human body and the Highways of Communication. We will also explore the mechanics of how we can access and transmit this information through time and space.

(2) Thursday, January 13, 2022, at 6 PM CST, with the National Spiritualist Teacher, the Reverend Richard Schoeller.

To witness physical phenomena in a séance can be a life-altering experience. How do we know if it is being presented by Spirit or if it is psychic phenomena occurring within the group energetic? Physical mediumship is becoming more practiced in the United States and abroad once again. In this seminar, Richard will share with you his experiences of both being a sitter in séance as well as being the medium through which physical phenomena occurs. In addition, Richard will outline ways in which to begin or improve your physical circle.

Tuition is \$50.00 per class. Payments can be made through PayPal or by calling the office at 414-774-2994.

https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/morrispratt1902?country.x=US&locale.x=en_US&fbclid=IwAR1IIEOMUQRIZPSetGFj0TJSgq17kvYF806s00YBUPiAF48X1SXj0JKY0

The Zoom link will be sent out the evening before the class. No refunds.

Congratulations: Hydesville Fund Challenge Met!

The recent successful conclusion to the Hydesville Endowment Challenge matching grant campaign demonstrated more than anything the power of community! With the acceptance of Alice Robertson's generous offer to re-establish an endowment for the Hydesville property and her matching gift challenge, the campaign was launched as part of the Hydesville Day celebration in March, which had a separate fundraising focus for annual maintenance and projects. Alice's challenge to match up to \$18,480 in honor of the 1848 start to Modern Spiritualism galvanized and brought a nearly year-long focus to the importance of coming together around Spiritualist education and history. The Hydesville property and all that is shared there exist as a beacon to the truth of Spiritualism. Words cannot adequately express the depth of gratitude NSAC has for this gift that was a catalyst in so many ways—thank you, Alice!

The maintenance fund itself raised \$29,619.65, which included a special gift of \$20,000 for a fountain in memory of Ernest Schoenfeld, long-time President of the Morris Pratt Institute who also served as an NSAC Trustee and Vice President.

The endowment campaign itself met and exceeded the challenge, coming in on December 31 with a final total of \$23,023.15. With the promised matching funds, this means that the Hydesville Park Memorial Endowment Fund will now have \$41,503.15 to begin generating interest and providing income for Hydesville in perpetuity, growing over time.

This is a wonderful problem in that there are so many people to thank, it is not possible to name them all in a short article. Here are a few special mentions: First, thanks to Carol Caesar, Ellen Sklaver, and James Bae, the primary organizers behind Hydesville Day 2021, who also provided innumerable flyers and so much Zoom support to enable events to happen throughout the year. Their talents enriched everything! Thanks also go to Charvonne Carlson,

President of the Licentiate Ministers and Certified Mediums Society, and all its members for hosting key events to ensure the challenge could move forward, along with the three other service clubs—the Healers League, the Ministerial Association, and the NST Club—who gave donations to this cause of Spiritualist education!

Thank you to Nancy Ryall for her amazing idea for the gift certificate event! Thank you to the 40 mediums from all over the world uniting beyond organizational boundaries to provide a total of 55 gift readings for purchase! Thank you to the Rev. Richard P. Schoeller who provided an extraordinary evening of spirit messages. Thank you to the Lily Dale Women's Day Committee and to Celeste Elliott for allowing a special showing of *The Spirit Rooms of Lily Dale*, supported by Stacy Kopchinski. Every event had coast-to-coast participation. Thank you to NSAC Secretary JoAnn Santonocito and NSAC Office Assistant Kimberly Williams for ensuring that communications flowed and that gifts were encouraged and acknowledged. And thank you to Tracy Murphy, Hydesville caretaker, for sharing information about her work and to Cosie Allen for never letting NSAC lose sight of the Hydesville vision for the world.

And thank you of course to the more than 200 generous donors who made this success possible and ensured the future of Hydesville for generations to come. This achievement is the accomplishment of the entire Spiritualist community! It started with an idea, and a challenge, and as Spiritualists always do, we said, of course we can! On behalf of the Department of Endowments and the NSAC, thank you again, Alice, and thank you everyone who participated, donated, prayed, and encouraged! Every thought, contribution, and action made an important difference to our collective success for this endowment and for Spiritualism!

Reverend Rosemary Calderalo



Acknowledgment of Donations

Donations were made as follows:

The following tributes were received for the Hydesville Memorial Park Endowment Fund in the name of

- Michael Thorn
- NSAC Long-Range Planning Committee
- Rev. Judy Campbell-Clark

A tribute was also received for the Licentiate Ministers and Certified Mediums Society in the name of

- Rev. James Ehrhardt

We thank all who contributed to these generous donations.

From The National Spiritualist Summit

There are still back copies of *The National Spiritualist Summit* available for purchase going back to the July/August 2020 issue. These magazines will not be reprinted and will become harder to find. If you would like to purchase one or more of these back copies, please email me and let me know which issue(s) you are interested in. The discounted price is \$6.00 for one magazine \$50.00 for five magazines.

Reverend Frank Kotowski, Editor
nsactns@nsac.org

Committee Assignments

The 2022 committee chairs are as follows:

Auxiliary: Carol Luetkens

Budget & Finance: Mark Schoen

Bylaws: Marcia Hyatt

Conflict Resolution: Bonnie Crosier

Convention Site: Jen Rosson, Betty Hutt

Ethics: Patricia Horne

Healing Center: Debbie Malison

Hydesville: Cosie Allen, JoAnn Santonocito

Long-Range Planning: Steve Vogel

Phenomenal Evidence: Frank Kotowski

Publications: Valerie Miller

Science Research: Frank Kotowski

Social Media: Darin Ford

Gratitude Corner

On behalf of the NSAC Hydesville Committee, we would like to thank the following for making the Hydesville Memorial Park Endowment Fund Fundraiser a success: The Licentiate Ministers and Certified Mediums Society for putting together a number of fundraisers for the Hydesville Memorial Park Endowment Fund; Alice Robertson, who not only began the fund, but matched up to \$18,480 from March 31 through December 31; and last, but not least, everyone who gave to such a wonderful fund. Your generosity will ensure that the Hydesville Memorial Park, the birthplace of Modern Spiritualism, will be available for generations to come and visit. Thank you.

Reverend Cosie Allen
Reverend JoAnn Santonocito

To express appreciation to members through this column, simply provide details and contact NSAC at Dept.pub@nsac.org

Dates in Spiritualism

- January 1, 1911:** Event—Publication of the first Spiritualist manual.
- January 4, 1919:** Event—*The National Spiritualist* subscription available.
- January 6, 1863:** Event—Lincoln piano levitation at the White House.
- January 15, 1917:** Transition—W.J. Colville (The Kitten Orator).
- January 16, 1903:** Birthday—Joseph H. Merrill (6th President of the NSAC from 1973 to 1994).
- January 21, 1854:** Birthday—Eusapia Paladino (test medium).
- January 26, 2001:** Transition—Joseph H. Merrill (6th President; see above).

Reminders

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. (*Ordained ministers holding CM and CH certifications are exempt from this filing—file with church secretary; check payable to church; church secretary forwards as group to NSAC Headquarters.*)

October 9–14: NSAC Convention in Phoenix, Arizona

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.

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.

Christine
Becky
Mari
Suzanne
Susan

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

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 the need continues.

Spiritual Healing Center
nsachealing@nsac.org

Service Music Request

The NSAC Music Committee is being reactivated, and I will be sending out a questionnaire for input. We need help from our churches to determine what is needed to include music in our services that our Spiritualist friends and members would like. When received, please complete and return your input to me at lecutler9@gmail.com, as the chair of this committee. We will be focusing on the use of music and new methods with the input from our churches. Thank you!

Reverend Lelia Cutler
NSAC Music Committee Chair

NSAC News

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Deadline: Items to be included in the current upcoming month must be submitted to the Publications Department at Dept.pub@nsac.org no later than three days prior to the first day of the upcoming month.

Subscriptions: 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.