



NSAC News

National Spiritualist Association of Churches, Lily Dale, New York

www.nsac.org

March 2022

Letter from the President

Spiritualism recognizes the sunflower as its symbol. "As the sunflower turns its face to the light of the sun, so Spiritualism turns the face of humanity to the truth." The sunflower can grow and flourish in the harshest conditions. It can survive drought, poor soil, and temperature fluctuations. Not only does it survive, but its seeds provide life-sustaining nourishment to both animals and humans so we can live. The sunflower is the national flower of Ukraine. In 1996 sunflowers were planted at the missile base in southern Ukraine to represent the removal of nuclear weapons from the country. The ceremony marked Ukraine's abandonment of the world's third-largest nuclear arsenal that it had inherited in the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union.

With the current conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the sunflower has become a worldwide symbol for peace and as a show of solidarity for the Ukrainians. Did you know that the sunflower is believed to be one of the few crops that originated in North America and expanded in worldwide popularity, especially in Eastern Europe? In pagan times, the sunflower was revered as representing the warmth of the sun. During the Orthodox church strict Lent fasting practices, it is one of the only oils that can be used. The events of the past few weeks have showed us how fragile our world

is. To aging "baby boomers" it is reminiscent of the cold war crisis and threats of nuclear war. Our lives can change in the blink of an eye. We have all experienced losses and crises that alter the way we view the world and our place in it. Let us strive to make each moment of our days meaningful. Our sunflower symbol represents our religion, but now to the world, it represents solidarity with Ukraine. Let us pray that the tenets and philosophy of Spiritualism as represented by the sunflower bring peace to the world.

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

MPI Call for Instructors

The Morris Pratt Institute has a new Ministerial Residency Program and new Online Courses that will be offered starting in April. These offerings are designed to provide students with a personalized mentoring and evaluation program along with real-world church practices. MPI is currently in the process of building a team of instructors who are interested in helping students achieve their educational dreams and ambitions. If you feel that you would like to be considered for a teaching position at MPI, please contact Stacy Kopchinski, MPI Administrator, and ask for an Instructor Application. This application is also available through Sharon Watson, NSAC Director of Education. For record-keeping purposes and to maintain teaching privileges, MPI is requiring all current instructors and examiners to provide this office with a completed Instructor Application Form. Those who are accepted as instructors into the new ministerial skills program will be financially compensated.

MPI is also putting out a call for experienced Pastors. Contact MPI for an application if you are interested in serving on a Pastoral Council. Applicants must be willing and

available to mentor and evaluate students and oversee church training services for a period of one year.

If you know of someone who you feel would be qualified to teach classes or mentor MPI students please contact by calling (414-774-2994) or emailing (info@morrispratt.org) the MPI office with your recommendations.

Stacy Kopchinski
MPI Administrator



Spiritualists Worldwide Gather To Celebrate "First Contact"

First Contact is "the first meeting between people of two previously unknown cultures," according to *YourDictionary.com*. Trekkies celebrate "First Contact Day" when Vulcans first made contact with humans. Spiritualists celebrate March 31 as the date that "First Contact" was made between those on earth and those in the Spirit World. We call this observance *Hydesville Day: A Celebration of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism*. Though not everyone can travel to Wayne County, New York to visit Newark (the town formerly known as Hydesville), we can all go there virtually through the Zoom hybrid salute to the Fox Family, now held annually.

This year, Hydesville Day encourages unity by bringing Spiritualists from all over the world together via Zoom. So take Thursday March 31, 2022 off from work—this is the 174th birthday of Modern Spiritualism! Set aside time to honor the humble beginnings of intelligent communication with those who have transitioned. Every event this year is free to attend, but you must register using this link:



Image by [b0red](#) from [Pixabay](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEpd6qz8pHNL0wbK99Vz7rPQE4bbm8dBN>

Note: Most listed times are Eastern Standard Time (ET), USA and there will be breaks between events.

8:30 AM ET/7:30 AM CT; 5:30 AM PT (1:30 PM UK). The day begins with the *Opening Ceremony*, which includes short addresses with representatives from NSAC, ISF, SNU, Lily Dale, Canada, and independent Spiritualist Centers.

10:30 AM ET. The International Spiritualist Federation (ISF) will then host the *Divine Service*, the church service. Esteemed English Medium, President Robin Hodson, will be hosting and giving the Inspired Address. Rev. Nancy Ryall will be giving a Spiritual Reading, and evidential medium Hazel Myra Martin will be giving the demonstration of communication.

12:15 PM. We go live to *Hydesville Memorial Park* with the park's historian Tracy Murphy, who will take us on a tour of the foundation where the Fox Family cottage stood back in 1848. Hydesville Day Committee Co-Chairs Rev. JoAnn Santonocito and Rev. Cosie Allen will update us on the progress. You will also witness in a live stream the historic groundbreaking ceremony and dedication of the Rev. Ernst S. Schoenfeld Fountain.

2:00 PM ET; 7:00 PM UK. The Spiritualists' National Union (SNU) will host *The Healing Experience*. Whether you need physical, spiritual, mental, or emotional healing, this event is for you. As the world comes together to heal and be healed with spiritual healing, we will find the peace that passes all understanding. Experience what perfect love and balance will create in your life and in the world.

4:30 PM. Co-hosts former NSAC President Rev. Lelia Cutler and Rev. Lorraine Radice lead us in the first *Hydesville Day Trivia Challenge*. Come for the Spirit ... stay for the knowledge! There will be two short rounds of competition to see who will become the reigning Champion of interesting facts about Hydesville and the Fox Family! Hmmm ... what was in the peddler's pack?

6:00 PM. Rev. Celeste Elliot of the Lily Dale Woman's Day Committee hosts an interesting presentation on *Spiritualist Women in Hydesville History*.

8:00 PM. The NSAC Licentiate Ministers and Certified Mediums Society will host the final event of Hydesville Day with the evening *Church Service* dedicated to our first intelligent contact with the Spirit World. Canadian Spiritualist Minister Rev. Mary Brooks and LM & CM Society President Charvonne Carlson will deliver inspiring addresses. Mediums demonstrating proof of the continuity of life will be Founder and President of The Journey Within (SNU) Rev. Janet Nohavec, Rev. Jacqueline Randall, and NSAC Board Members Rev. Betty Hutt and Rev. Havivah Richards.

Just as Spirit is not held back by distance and travel concerns, we too, can now travel via Zoom to Hydesville to celebrate a Spiritualists Without Borders Hydesville Day! Thank you to all who have made contributions to support the preservation of our history, Hydesville Memorial Park. This March 31, come home to Hydesville for Love, Unity, Healing, Peace, and Community.

Open your heart and join hands with Spiritualists Worldwide. All Are Welcome!

Sincerely yours,
Charvonne Carlson, Ellen Sklaver, and Carol Caesar
Hydesville Day Planning Committee of the NSAC

Ministerial Skills Course Graduates!

We are delighted to announce that the following students successfully completed the MPI Ministerial Skills course on February 26, 2022:

Jacqueline Judge, Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, Falls Church, VA; *Lynette Lex*, First Spiritualist Temple of East Aurora, NY; *Diana Mazzola*, Albertson Memorial Church, CT; *Daiva Morales*, Church of Infinite Spirit, CT; *Gloria Rodriguez*, Albertson Memorial Church, CT; *Shannon Hall Walker*, Spiritualist Church of Norwich, CT.

They braved the Milwaukee winter to spend 9 days in intensive work, role plays, and discussion. These are the first graduates going through the new format that had the first week of the class on Zoom, and the second week in person, with new book selections and updated materials. If you see one of

these hard-working students, be sure to congratulate them on their achievement!

Rev. Cosie Allen and
Rev. Rosemary Calderalo,
Ministerial Skills Instructors

Exciting Foundational MPI Zoom Class!

The Morris Pratt Institute is announcing this two-part class on the Principles of Spiritualism. This series will be held on two Wednesdays, March 23 and 30, from 6 to 8 pm CST. The National Spiritualist Teacher for this educational course is the Reverend P. Bollinger, OM, NST, CM, CH; Pastor of the Spiritualist Church of the Comforter in Santa Barbara, CA.

Come learn about Spiritualism and what Spiritualists believe and practice in their daily lives!

Principles of Spiritualism

1. Overview: Principle 1 and Infinite Intelligence
2. Philosophy, Truth in Nature, and Principle 2
3. Religion of Spiritualism and Principle 3
4. Mediumship, Science, and Principles 4 and 5
5. What is a Spiritualist? Living Principle 6
6. Free Will and Responsibility; Principles 7 and 8
7. Healing; Living as a Spiritualist; Principle 9

Tuition for the class is \$75.00. Payments can be made through PayPal or by calling the office at 414-774-2994. <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/morrispratt1902?country.x=US>.

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

Stacy Kopchinski
MPI Administrator



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

Image by Please Don't sell My Artwork AS IS from Pixabay

Come to the Zoom NST Weekend Retreat in Early April

The NST Club invites you to join us for the NST Weekend on April 8 and 9. Links are below. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the events listed below. Donations are encouraged via the general Paypal page at <https://www.paypal.com/us/signin> and sending payment to the NSAC Teachers Club @ nsacnst.

April 8, 7:00 to 9:00 PM EST. Message Circle. Chair: Rev. Kathleen James. Mediums are Charvonne Carlson; Rev. Graham Connolly; Rev. Betty Hutt; Rev. Sharon Watson; Rev. Havivah Richards.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9101123456>

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9101123456>

April 9. Healing Through Technology Classes:

(1) **11:00 to 1:00 PM EST. Philosophy of Healing** with Rev. Lorraine Radice.

(2) **2:00 to 4:00 PM. Exploring Healing within Spiritualism** with Charvonne Carlson.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9101123456>

April 9, 7:00 to 9:00 PM EST. Healing Service with Rev. Havivah Richards.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9101123456>

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9101123456>

Light and Love,
Patricia Horne
339-224-1840

Nominations for NSAC Awards Close April 30

April 30 is the deadline for nominations for an NSAC Award. Awards are presented at the Annual Convention in October, in four categories: Teacher Award, Literary Award, Outstanding Achievement Award, and Lifetime Service Award. Nominations must be on NSAC Form 14, Nomination for Award. Guidelines for submission are on the back of the form.

Go to the NSAC website forms page for members, <https://nsac.org/member-pages/>, and click on Forms. You will need the password to obtain access to this page if you are a member. Contact nsacsecretary@nsac.org for help if needed.

The National Spiritualist Summit is Finally Moving to a Digital Platform!

Our official magazine is finally moving to a digital platform with <https://issuu.com/> This will allow us to offer digital subscriptions so you can read our magazines online on any electronic device: laptop, tablet, and smartphone. You will also be able to download a PDF of each magazine. And if you want to purchase just one magazine, you can do that also. The pricing will be \$25.00 for a digital subscription (one year, 6 issues) and \$5.00 for one digital issue (Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, May/Jun, July/Aug, Sep/Oct, or Nov/Dec).

The transition to this digital platform is nearly complete. Once it is finalized, you will be given instructions on how to purchase our magazine in digital form.

If you still want a printed magazine of one issue or several printed magazines as before (one year's worth of issues, say) and your subscription has expired, you must order it through me and the price will be \$15.00 per printed issue. There will be no discounts for ordering a bundle of printed magazines or a year's worth of printed issues.

For those of you with a subscription that ended with the January/February 2022 issue, you will need to subscribe through <https://issuu.com/> to continue and set up your digital subscription. For those of you with a subscription that has not yet expired, you will continue to receive the printed magazine until your subscription expires. If you do not know when your subscription expires, or if you have questions about your subscription, please contact me.

Frank Kotowski, Editor
nsactns@nsac.org
631-316-1588

Reminders

March 22: Gratitude Day. The fourth Sunday of March in each year shall be known as Gratitude Day. Chartered church societies shall hold a special service in honor of the founding of Modern Spiritualism and of the workers who have devoted their lives to The Cause. A special love offering shall be taken for the NSAC Spiritualist Benevolent Society. (*From NSAC Bylaws Article XVI, Section 4*)

March 31: Observance of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism

April 30: NSAC Awards Nominations due

October 9-14: NSAC Convention in Phoenix, Arizona



Dates in Spiritualism

March 7, 1891: Event—Testimony regarding Lincoln séances by Hudson Tuttle.

March 10, 1973: Transition—Robert J. MacDonald, 5th President of NSAC (1956-1973).

March 20, 1833-1886: Birthday—Daniel D. Home (greatest gift to Spiritualism; levitation).

March 22, 1818: Birthday—J. S. Loveland (authored first American book on Spiritualism and first lecturer to start regular meetings).

March 23, 1822-1922: Birthday—Dr. James M. Peebles (world missionary of Spiritualism).

March 27, 1837-1892: Birthday—Catherine Fox (Modern Spiritualism).

March 29, 1912: Event—Detroit, MI first Spiritualist Temple.

March 30, 1873: Event—First automatic writing of "Spirit Teachings" began.

March 30, 1848: Anniversary—Hydesville, NY. Advent of Modern Spiritualism.

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.

Mom
Evelyn
Glenn

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



Rev. Cosie Allen and Rev. Marilyn Awtry during the Invocation at the Fox Cottage Foundation in Hydesville Memorial Park during the First World Congress of Spiritualists in June 2014.

Photo by Valerie Miller

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.