



NSAC News

National Spiritualist Association of Churches, Lily Dale, New York

www.nsac.org

March 2018

Nomination for NSAC Awards Closes March 31

March 31 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, available on the NSAC website forms page, www.nsac.org/member-pages/forms. Guidelines for submission are on the back of the form.

Gratitude Corner

We're introducing a new column in the *NSAC News*, Gratitude Corner. Its purpose is to recognize and thank Spiritualists who are especially generous in their service to our religion.

If you know an individual you would like to be recognized for going above and beyond, or is always there helping day after day, we want to hear about it. If a church as a whole should be recognized, please let us know about that too.

Email NSAC Secretary Carol Luetkens, nsacsecretary@nsac.org, your full chartered church name, the name(s) you would like recognized, and brief words about their area of contribution.

Changes for NSAC Yearbook 2018

NSAC Yearbook 2018 will be closing on March 16. If there are changes to your church, camp, or association listing, they must be received by that date at NSAC Headquarters.

Changes may include the following information:

- Auxiliary name (*as chartered*)
- Meeting address (*street, city, state, zip*)
- Auxiliary or Contact phone
- Email (*auxiliary info or Secretary*)
- Secretary (*name, title; NOT pastor or other*)

Only one phone and email address may be listed.

Email changes to NSAC Secretary Carol Luetkens, nsacsecretary@nsac.org.

NSAC Convention 2018

This year's Annual Convention will be held September 30–October 5 at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, the same venue as last year.

Early information now appears on the NSAC website; however the hotel's reservation desk for our convention will not be accepting reservations until early summer. Watch the NSAC website and NSAC News for information as it becomes available.

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There will be opportunities for both individual and auxiliary sponsorship of parts of the Convention. A form will be included in the mailing to auxiliaries in March with areas that can be sponsored. The reverse side of the form calls for volunteers needed.

A Note from the Department of Missionaries

Happy March! As we march into this new month, the first thing the Department of Missionaries would like to do is congratulate the Love of Spirit Spiritualist Church, NSAC in Normal Illinois, on receiving their charter. We would also like to cheer on all churches and camps in the continual growth and outreach you do for Spiritualism. We must always try to remember that we are a collective group of individuals working on a collective path for Spiritualism.

What is a missionary? The answer that Webster's Dictionary gives is "a person undertaking a mission and especially a religious mission." The answer to this question will vary just as we vary. For some, a missionary might be someone who helps a church grow, it might mean a mediator in stressful situations, it may mean support, it may mean a teacher, or it may mean nothing. That said, there is no right or wrong answer. The only true answer for your church or camp is the one you need. Spiritualism teaches and encourages us to find our own truth, seek our own answers, and most importantly remember that there are multiple perspectives to any one thing. Our goal for the Department of Missionaries this year is clear and open communication. We are working to provide an avenue to encourage support and growth to all NSAC members, churches, and camps.

As you spread the truth of Spiritualism through your churches or camps, you may be faced with challenges, people, and situations that do not ring to your truth. The goal for all of us, I truly believe, is the beautiful, compassionate, sacred love that Spirit gives us through the Science, Philosophy, and Religion of Spiritualism. So, when we find ourselves arguing over the "how," we must be reminded of Andrew Jackson Davis' glorious words, "Under all circumstances keep an even mind." "Even" does not mean right or wrong, good or bad, or me vs. them. It means there is always a state of balance. We must strive as a collective group of Spiritualists to spread the love of Spirit to all who feel and need its comfort.

—Stacy Kopchinski, Director
NSAC Department of Missionaries

Register for ISF

The next annual educational Congress of The International Spiritualist Federation and its Biennial Membership Meeting will be held in the United States for the first time in 11 years,

August 12-18, 2018. It will be at Stony Point Center, located in the scenic Hudson River Valley region, about 35 miles northwest of New York City. Whether you are a practicing medium of many years' experience or a student just starting out, this is a wonderful opportunity, as the ISF annual events are special, bringing together like-minded people to share, learn, serve Spirit, and socialize.

This ISF event offers a full week program of tutoring in the various forms of mediumship to include mental mediumship, trance mediumship, healing, trance healing, and physical mediumship (*subject to the right conditions*), as well as various lectures and workshops. While some elements of the program such as workshops and demonstrations are still being finalized, class tutors confirmed include: Ulla Alvarsdottor (*SE*), Anita Garrod (*UK*), Mavis Pittilla (*UK*), Robin Hodson (*UK*), Sue Hodson (*UK*), Ann Luck (*UK*), Dianne Parker (*AU*), Simone Rügsegger (*CH*), Richard P. Schoeller (*USA*); Sharon Siubis (*USA*); Hampi van de Velde (*CH*), and Steve Vogel (*USA*). For more information and to register visit the ISF website at www.theisf.com or email agensec.isfederation@gmail.com.

Bookstore News

Featured this month are a selection of books for the young reader . . .

How Do I Know That God Loves Me?, by Melanie Richardson Dundy. This book has been written for and is dedicated to kids everywhere who

are trying to understand a sometimes-confusing world. It addresses questions such as loneliness, peer pressure, and personal identity for pre-teens. LY625, \$7.00

Susan's Suitcase, by Francine McEwen. A book which helps the younger child cope with and understand loss of all kinds. Especially useful for counselors, teachers and clergy. LY620, \$15.00

Love Everlasting, by Jessica Jung. This selection was written to help children connect with loved ones and to understand that death is very much a part of life. It opens the door to discussions which can aid a child in the healing process. LY623, \$18.00

The Journey of Hunter, by Robin E. Deatrich, MSW. This is a wonderful story about how Hunter, a red fox, overcame adversity and negative feelings about himself. Hunter learned new healthy coping skills by using guided-imagery techniques to help him counteract depression and his lack of self-worth. LY952, \$20.00

Fire in the Heart—A Spiritual Guide For Teens, by Deepak Chopra. Dr. Chopra wrote this book with the teenager in mind. He answers questions such as whether or not we have a soul, if one young person can change the world, and if there truly is a Supreme Force in the world. BKS958, \$12.00

Available again . . .

Automatic Slate Writing Kit. A set of two slates, including chalk, which are enclosed in a cloth bag. Instructions on the appropriate use of the

slates for Mediumship are also included. SLA, \$20.00

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.

Reminders

March 16: NSAC Yearbook 2018 closes

March 25: Gratitude Day (*See NSAC Bylaws Article XVI, Section 4 for details*)

March 31: Observance of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism

March 31: NSAC Awards Nominations due

September 30-October 5: NSAC Convention 2018, Milwaukee

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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.