



# School for Esoteric Studies

eNews

Summer 2018

## Member Contributions

Recently I have become involved with a Lifelong Community in our city. This community assists families in transition of every age with housing, transportation, information, and safety. We have become involved as a vocal advocacy group for those adults with disabilities aging in our community. The vision of this group is to offer inclusive housing, recreation, transportation, and access to education and information for all. I think an overall task of the New Group of World Servers and my service is promoting and expanding inclusivity.



On the news I saw a report about a factory owner in El Salvador who was working to make the lives of his employees and his country better by providing on-site education to his employees at this factory. The factory owner noted that a very high percentage of his staff had little education and he wanted to do something about this. This person was also progressive in employing the disabled and ex-gang members.



Incidents of self-determination are on the rise. The youths who have come forward to speak out against gun violence rather than leaving it to their parents or other adults is an example. It is, of course, an issue that plagues most societies, so they are shouldering the responsibility not only for themselves but for the greater good. The West Virginia teachers strike (and now Oklahoma and Kentucky) is not only advantageous for educators but for the students they teach and the communities they serve. In these acts, I am encouraged by the recognitions of group good and the goodwill that underscore these and other current uprisings throughout the world.



The *Andrea Bocelli Foundation* and the *Only The Brave Foundation* united in a collaborative initiative to help reconstruct the “Giacomo Leopardi” Middle School in Sarnano, Italy, which was greatly damaged during the 6.0 earthquake that hit Central Italy in 2016. The aim of this initiative is to rebuild the school building, support the community of Macerata and, more importantly, to invest in the education and future of the 100 children that were affected by the earthquake.

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Image: Pamela Di Meglio

## NGWS Around the World

“About 150 representatives from UN Member States, regional and international organizations and civil society from around the world met in Berlin, Germany, for the annual capital-level [Women, Peace and Security Focal Points Network](#) meeting on April 9-10, 2018. The Network, initiated by Spain in 2015, serves as a cross-regional forum to exchange experiences and best practices to advance the implementation of the UN agenda on women, peace and security, and to improve coordination of funding and assistance to programs.”

“The [Global Ecovillage Network](#) (GEN) catalyzes communities for a regenerative world. GEN is a growing network of regenerative communities and initiatives that bridge cultures, countries, and continents.”

Text drawn or/and adapted from the organizations' websites



## Member Contributions

*Neve Shalom* (Oasis of Peace) is a cooperative village cofounded by Israeli Jews and Arabs in 1972 and conceived by the Dominican friar Bruno Hussar. The first settling families wanted to demonstrate that the three main religions in the country could coexist peacefully. In these forty years of existence the project has expanded in different ways. The village activities are all aimed at teaching and supporting diversity, including a place dedicated to quiet prayer and meditation, "The House of Silence," where people meet in silence to overcome language or faith barriers.



My town was hit by historic levels of rainfall. In my workplace a special taskforce was launched to help the community members homes affected by the rain. We organized and reacted to the emergency quickly, for example by recycling sheets and tarps to insulate the houses and cover holes in broken walls and roofs. There was an immediate response, with people coming to volunteer in the work. In this coordinated effort I found evidence of the spirit of service, compassion, empathy and self-forgetfulness in practice.



The *March for Our Lives* events delivered a message for peace in the US and the world. Held during the Full Moon of Aries, it was a beautiful symbol of group consciousness working for higher purposes. The kids were marching for human rights, for freedom and for social responsibility, which to me seemed to express a sense of growing awareness that our choices are energy and that it should be put to the service of the common good. There was also a voiced concern about our shared future, which unavoidably depends on the welfare of others: a signal of an expanding critical mass and awakening.



The expansion of an "ecological" awareness is noticeable in individuals, groups and organizations that are growing into synthesis, a thoughtform that considers all beings part of a common ecosystem. This has been favored by the trend toward synthesis expressed in the work of many thinkers (Gestalt psychologists, physicists, mathematicians) who have promoted the "paradigm of complexity" of systems made up of interdependent beings. Their work will surely continue to increase during the New Age as we discover that individuals are simply cells belonging to larger units. I particularly appreciate the work of Irwin Yalom, who has been working on this idea for fifty years.

**Request an Entrance Questionnaire to the School** on our [website](#). Once we review the extent and type of study, meditation, and service you have done thus far, we can determine where to place you in the School's program sequence. Students who have done advanced studies in the Ageless Wisdom are welcome to apply for our higher level coursework.

## Did You Know?

- We know both from physics and metaphysics that we are energetic beings interconnected within a vast cosmic energy field. While much of our daily activity involves external group interactions, lasting change must involve change in that energetic field. See [Our School Group Project](#) for a more detailed discussion.
- If you are approaching the Ageless Wisdom for the first time and would like to develop a disciplined approach, you might consider applying to the [Ageless Wisdom Overview Course](#), designed to provide basic information about these spiritual teachings and fundamental training in creative meditation.
- Spiritual development of necessity involves change within cycles that occurs both individually and for groups. See [Understanding the Rhythm of Creation](#) for a more detailed discussion.



## AAB Talks

In the first meeting of 1944, the group temporarily departs from the study of the Rules for Group Initiation and instead they seek to evaluate whether the group meetings are serving an esoteric purpose and whether the individuals involved are measuring up to the opportunity for service derived.

## Featured Links

Pearls of Wisdom:  
[Cooperation](#)  
[Proposition 6](#)  
[Proposition 7](#)  
[Effects of Harmlessness](#)  
[Harmlessness as the Keynote](#)  
[Harmlessness as Life Expression](#)



## From the School Archives

As we reach the half-way point of the year, a useful guide regarding our attitudes, expectations and opportunities is to recall that the tides of the spirit ebb and flow as do the tides of the sea. Just as the start of the year initiates an increasing opportunity for inner growth, so from the month of July to December the opportunity lies in outer expression of that growth. Of course both inner and outer activities can and must be maintained throughout the year – it is a question of emphasis.

This is no mere theory, as each of us can testify if we look detachedly at the yearly pattern of our lives; and by cooperating with this cyclic pattern we lessen our conflicts and promote greater harmony and effectiveness. The full moon in Gemini in June, the Festival of Goodwill, marks the beginning of the outflow in the implementation of the Hierarchy's Plan – in which we can contribute insofar as we live a life of inner, sensitive receptivity and outer activity. This means sharing fully in human experience at various levels, for esoteric training is not intended to set us apart from others, but to relate us ever more closely as we go about our labors as breakers of barriers and builders of bridges.

[From the July 1962 SES Group Letter]

## Quotes of the Season

The atoms or elementary particles themselves are not real; they form a world of potentialities or possibilities rather than one of things or facts.

*Werner Heisenberg*

### Resurrection

The ashes of a former self shall rise  
And permeate the ether of the skies;  
But deep within the core of rising dust,  
A Living Fire shall transform the rust  
Of iron-shackled Soul, transfigured then,  
To burn, and die, and learn to live again!

*Suzanne B. Miller*



School for Esoteric Studies

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The School for Esoteric Studies makes esoteric discipleship training available to spiritual seekers around the world. Consider donating to the School for Esoteric Studies. Your contribution will help others tread the Path.



Make A Donation



## Events & Community

- [Calendar of Full Moon Festivals and Meditations.](#)
- [European Ecovillage Conference 2018: The Wisdom of Conscious Communities.](#) 10-14 July, Lilleoru, Estonia.
- [Appreciative Inquiry Facilitator Training.](#) 18-21 September, San Diego, CA, USA.
- [Scientists for Peace. Community of Living Ethics.](#) 19-21 October, Città della Pieve, Italy.
- [Ninth International Conference on Religion & Spirituality in Society.](#) 25-26 April 2019, University of Granada, Spain.

## Books, Media & Sites

- [In Pursuit of Silence.](#) Film directed by Patrick Shen.
- [More than Honey.](#) Film directed by Markus Imhoof.
- [Enlightenment Now.](#) Book by Stephen Pinker.
- [The Intelligence of the Cosmos.](#) Book by Ervin Laszlo.

## School Initiatives

- The [2018 Festival Talks](#) are available for download in our website. During July we will be receiving reports from the participants in this year's Subjective Group Conference. With the material submitted we will compile the customary report for the whole School membership.
- We distribute bookmarks with the Great Invocation in different languages. To support this service and to make a request, [check this webpage](#). Flyers about the School for Esoteric Studies' mission and arc of training are also available upon request.
- [Media for the Soul.](#) A new season of our shows *Spirit Fire Radio* (English), *Las Vías del Servicio* (Spanish) and *Lo Spazio dell'Anima* (Italian) has begun! Listen live or listen at your leisure to programs in our archives.
- Our webpages About the School are now available in [French](#).

Terms and Conditions available on our website. The School for Esoteric Studies does not necessarily endorse materials provided through links to other groups and organizations.