

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN DETROIT
Chartered in 1916 as a Branch of the Theosophical Society in America



27745 Woodward Avenue
Berkley, Michigan
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MAY  JUNE 2001

FRIDAY PROGRAMS

8 PM

SUGGESTED DONATION \$5.00

MAY 4 THE ANCIENT WISDOM IN FAIRY TALES

John Algeo, Ph.D.

Fairy tales, both traditional and modern, often express the basic principles of the Wisdom Tradition that we call Theosophy. H.P. Blavatsky taught that fairy tales have an inner meaning through which we can recover ancient truths. John Algeo, retired professor of English, is president of the Theosophical Society in America. Author of the Quest book, "Reincarnation Explored," he has published widely in professional and Theosophical journals and has spoken for the T.S. worldwide. (See his workshop THE THEOSOPHICAL TAROT, Saturday, May 5.)

MAY 11 HONORING YOUR CREATIVE SELF

Charles Alexander

We honor the creativity of others, yet ignore our own creative gifts. Learning how to say Yes! to the Creative Self can be rewarding and spiritually fulfilling. Artist and writer Charles Alexander has exhibited in several galleries in the metro region. His work has been featured in the Detroit Free Press, Ann Arbor News, Metro Times, and Between the Lines, for which he writes a weekly history column.

MAY 18 CHEROKEE SHAMANISM AND THE CHEROKEE MEDICINE WAY

Clifford Alford, Th.D.

Learn about the origins of Cherokee Shamanism, the work of the traditional Adawehe, how Woodlands Medicine differs from the ways of the plains tribes, and how these ancient practices, rituals and beliefs can benefit you today. Dr. Alford began his shamanic training at age five, with his grandmother. His education includes degrees in ministerial studies, criminology and education. He leads seminars throughout the U.S. (Call for information on May 19-20 Seminar, SHAMANISM AS A LIFESTYLE AND SPIRITUAL PRACTICE)

MAY 25 CYCLES OF DESTINY

Mathew Cherian

Mathew explores the use of astrology and numerology as tools of understanding, with practical information on how they can help us to realize patterns in our individual lives and in human consciousness as a whole. A student of astrology, numerology and mathematics for eight years, Mathew has used these tools to counsel others in the business community. He is president of In-The-Light, a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing people of different beliefs together to share common goals and understanding.

JUNE 1 TECHNOLOGY & MORALITY: THE PERILOUS RACE

Winifred Wylie

Civilization's pursuit of technology has made life easier, but has not led to happiness. In fact, in many directions we are headed toward crisis. What part does religion play in regaining balance and re-creating a world of peace and harmony? What are some immediate and long-term approaches? Winifred Wylie is a retired educator, past Director of the Oak Trails Montessori School in Ann Arbor, and president of the Ann Arbor T.S.

JUNE 8 VIVEKA CHUDAMANI: THE CROWN JEWEL OF WISDOM

Balarama Murty

Sankaracharya, the 8th. century philosopher, brought out the Advaita Philosophy (One Supreme Being living in all) in this marvelous Hindu text. He begins with a beautiful verse describing how fortunate we are to be born as human beings. Then he explores how we may realize the true Self by spiritual discrimination (Viveka), knowing the Real from the Unreal. In this interactive discussion, Dr. Murty summarizes some fundamental ideas about human nature and the path highlighted in "The Viveka Chudamani." He is a G.M. senior staff research engineer, is involved with several social, cultural and religious organizations in the metro region, and is active in the Bharatiya Temple, Troy.

JUNE 15 JUSTICE: BALANCING THE SCALES

Elizabeth Vou Vakis

As we perceive it with our physical senses, life occurs in linear time measured by our past/present/future awareness. But life is the result of matter being vivified constantly by spirit, the "vertical" timeless flow from Source. To be truly alive means being at the point where spirit-matter intersect, in a perfectly balanced, eternal now. Elizabeth has long been interested in cross-cultural healing and has a spiritual counseling practice. Her mystic and artistic expression is reflected in music, dance and writing.

FRIDAY PROGRAMS RESUME IN SEPTEMBER

SATURDAY, MAY 5

THE THEOSOPHICAL TAROT

A WORKSHOP WITH JOHN ALGEO, PH.D.

President, The Theosophical Society in America

9 AM — Potluck Vegetarian Breakfast

10 AM to Noon — Workshop

The tarot is not just a device for fortune-telling. It is a system of profound symbols setting forth the Ancient Wisdom in pictorial form. H.P. Blavatsky talked about the tarot and its mystical nature in both *Isis Unveiled* and some of her final writings published after her death. We will look at what HPB said about the tarot and examine the symbolism of the Rider-Waite deck.



WEEKLY HAPPENINGS CONTINUE THROUGH THE SUMMER

MEMBERS' STUDY

Tuesdays

Time: 7:30 — 9:00 PM

Geoffrey Barborka's *The Divine Plan* is for students who enjoy working with intriguing ideas about humanity and our world. Extracts from *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Mahatma Letters* anchor a wide-ranging study. Coming chapters: Doctrine of the Rounds, After-Death States, Paths and Initiation, Doctrine of Universal Knowledge. Open to all members of the TS in America.

FORUM: LIVING IN WISDOM

Wednesdays

Time: 7:30 — 9:00 PM

Our open forum explores how theosophy becomes a living power in life. Basic teachings are shared briefly, with the emphasis on group inquiry and practical spirituality. No text, informal. All welcome.

MEDITATION: PRACTICING THE PRESENCE

Thursdays

Time: 7:30 — 8:30 PM

Interfaith studies combined with silent meditation. Current text is Joel Goldsmith's "Practicing the Presence." From his comments: "Every person who has known dissatisfaction, incompleteness and frustration will someday learn there is only one missing link in this entire chain of harmonious living. That is the practice of the presence of God - consciously, daily, and hourly abiding in some great spiritual truth of scripture. And it makes no difference which scripture: Christian, Hebrew, Hindu, Buddhist, Taoist or Moslem ..." All are welcome.