

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN PORTLAND

503-223-6861

Theosophical.PDX@gmail.com

www.theosophical.org

A Branch of the Theosophical Society in America

2377 NW Kearney Street

Portland, Oregon 97210

SUNDAY AFTERNOON PUBLIC PROGRAMS – October – January 2014

Public programs begin promptly at 3:00 P.M. The door is open by 2:00 P.M. for your convenience

Please arrive early so as to avoid disrupting the presentation and others in the audience

Basic Concepts of Theosophy

Group Study. A number of our Sunday programs will be devoted to a basic concept of Theosophy presented in an informal format led by a branch member. As a group, we will study and discuss some of these influential concepts. All levels of interest are welcome.

Group Meditation

You are invited to join in a group meditation led by a branch member on the following dates: October 20, 27, and November 3. All levels of interest are welcome. Optional instruction (1:45-2:00 p.m.). Group meditation (2:00-2:20 p.m.) Discussion and closing (2:20-2:45 p.m.).

**Attention: Book lovers! Mark your calendars
for The Theosophical Society in Portland book sale
October 12-13, 2013; 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Books of all kinds, plus CDs and DVDs, will be
available for sale. You may find rare treasures.**

October 20 Group meditation – 2:00–2:45 p.m. (optional instruction at 1:45 p.m.)

October 20 **Basic Concepts of Theosophy–INTRODUCTION TO THEOSOPHY** – Group Study

Dedicated to man's eternal search for the Divine, Theosophy could be described as a synthesis of religion, science, and philosophy. It asserts the fundamental unity of all existence and holds that all things, including both forms and consciousness, are evolving. Topics covered will include a discussion of the Theosophical world view and the objects of the Theosophical Society.

October 27 Group meditation – 2:00–2:45 p.m. (optional instruction at 1:45 p.m.)

October 27 **THE MYSTERIES OF THE ODYSSEY** – *Patricia Fulbright*

The Odyssey, a perennially favorite tale of children and grown-ups, carries us through a sailor-king's high adventures confronting fabulous monsters and nearly overwhelming catastrophes. These marvellous adventures have delighted us for millennia. In fact, the eponymous hero Odysseus, favorite of owl-eyed Athena, earns strangely enigmatic praise from his guardian goddess: "Only a master thief,

a real con artist, could match your tricks--even a god might come up short. You wily bastard, you cunning, elusive, habitual liar!" (Lombardo translation, Book Xiii, lines 299-301).

This presentation will focus on Odysseus' arduous contests with three goddesses in the epic: Circe, who transforms men into pigs, Calypso, who enslaves Odysseus as a sex toy for seven years, and mighty Athena, who working through Princess Nausicaa and Queen Penelope, transforms Odysseus from a ten-year war-hardened veteran of the Trojan War into a loving father and tender husband. We will explore Odysseus' transformation and wonder at the core mysteries of this magnificent epic.

Patricia Fulbright has taught Greek mythology and literature at Clark College. She is a life long student of Neoplatonic philosophy and ancient Greek literature.

November 3 Group meditation – 2:00–2:45 p.m. (optional instruction at 1:45 p.m.)

November 3 **Basic Concepts of Theosophy – THE THEOSOPHICAL VIEW OF MAN AND HIS SEVEN FIELDS** – Group Study

Interpenetrating the dense matter of our physical world are other “higher” planes or fields composed of finer grades of matter vibrating at higher frequencies. In the same way, man also has “higher” fields composed of these finer grades of matter interpenetrating his dense physical body. Today’s study group discussion will cover man’s seven fields and his vehicles of expression in them.

November 10 **SPIRITUAL CINEMA** – *3 short videos followed by group discussion*

PLEASE JOIN US IN SUPPORTING THE OREGON FOOD BANK! In lieu of donations to the Theosophical Society for today’s program, we ask that you bring two cans or boxes of nonperishable food items for donation to the Oregon Food Bank. Please help us feed the hungry in Oregon. Thank you!

In God We Trust – Richard breaks all the rules in this clever short film on the afterlife and how to work the system so you will get to where you want to go – after this life!

Sweetheart – What begins as a normal phone call from a mother to a son takes some very surprising twists and turns, which reminds us what it is we love about our moms, and how much we miss them when they are gone.

Hope – In this beautifully filmed short, a man, left empty by overwhelming grief, leaves his home intending to end his life. Along the road, he discovers a mysterious woman named Hope who inspires him with her contagious love of life, reopens his heart, and allows him to see the possibility that he may still have a life ahead of him worth living. Can he live his life with Hope?

November 24 **THE WORK OF THE WHITE EAGLE LODGE** – *Morelle Forster*

The White Eagle Lodge grew out of the Spiritualist movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, its inception being greatly facilitated by the work of the Theosophical Society, which had ignited interest in spirituality as opposed to religion all over the West.

White Eagle, the spirit being behind the work, has had many incarnations as a teacher and leader of men, but chose to take the name for the present work from his incarnation as an American Indian chief in ancient times. He took this name because he says humanity today lives an intellectual, artificial life, cut off from the vital world of nature, and the American Indian name evokes that necessary link. The work has now spread all over the world, and there are many lodges in many countries.

Morelle Forster was a psychotherapist and recently immigrated from the U.K. She has been interested in the Mystical and Occult paths for the last 25 years.

December 1 **Basic Concepts of Theosophy – KARMA** – Group Study

A study of karma would suggest that nothing happens by chance. Join us for a group discussion of how Theosophy explains karma as the impersonal law of cause and effect in our individual lives as well as at such broader levels as family karma and national karma.

December 22 Library closed for Christmas Holiday.

December 29 Library closed for New Year's Holiday.

January 5 **Basic Concepts of Theosophy – REINCARNATION** – Group Study

Theosophy tells us that reincarnation is the means for the evolution of consciousness, with the ultimate flowering of each individual into a perfected being who graduates from the school of human life. Why don't we remember our past lives? How do our past lives affect us today? Our group discussion will cover these and other questions.

January 19 **ZOROASTRIANISM** – *Leslie Rainey*

Zoroastrianism, the ancient fire religion which originated in Persia, envisions the great battle between good and evil. Today's lecture will focus on the main tenets and history of Zoroastrianism, which became a source for many Christian, Jewish, and Islamic traditions and customs. Zoroastrianism is still practiced in Iran and India today.

Leslie Rainey is the Librarian of the Portland lodge and a student of Theosophy.

January 26 **QIGONG AND TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE: WHY QI IS IMPORTANT** – *Christine Walker, MEd, MAcOM, LAc*

One of the basic foundations of Traditional Chinese Medicine is the concept of Qi (pronounced "chee"). It can't be measured, is rarely seen, but people can definitely feel it, so what is Qi? Some refer to Qi as simply energy or life force and through Qigong practice, one can increase their Qi to heal faster and prevent disease. Come learn about this ancient medicine, how it works, what health conditions it can help and even join in a brief Qigong exercise

Christina Walker received her Masters in Education from the University of Pittsburgh and her Masters in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine from the Oregon College of Oriental Medicine. She is licensed by the Oregon Board of Medical Examiners and certified by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. In addition to her Chinese Medicine practice, she has been practicing Qigong for more than 11 years and teaches Qigong classes in SE Portland.

This is the end of the first half of this season's programs.

The program for next fall will be distributed in January.

A contribution of \$5.00 is appreciated. An informal social hour follows all presentations.

Your donations are critical to funding our Sunday public program series.

We turn no one away for lack of funds, yet ask that you be as generous as you can be with your donations. Thank you.

◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ **We welcome book donations.** ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇
We have new and used books for sale. Please check with our librarian.

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LOCATION:

2377 N.W. Kearney Street, Portland, Oregon 97210
Telephone: 503-223-6861

LIBRARY HOURS:

Fridays 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (beginning September 6, 2013)
Sundays 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (beginning September 8, 2013)
(but closed from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. during Sunday public programs)
The library will be closed on Sundays following major holidays.

The Theosophical World View

The Theosophical Society, while reserving for each member full freedom to interpret those teachings known as theosophy, is dedicated to preserving and realizing the ageless wisdom, which embodies both a world view and a vision of human self-transformation.

This tradition is founded upon certain *fundamental propositions*:

Every existent being – from atom to galaxy – is rooted in the same universal, life-creating Reality. This Reality is all-pervasive, but it can never be summed up in its parts, since it transcends all its expressions. It reveals itself in the purposeful, ordered, and meaningful processes of nature as well as in the deepest recesses of the mind and spirit.

Recognition of the unique value of every living being expresses itself in reverence for life, compassion for all, sympathy with the need of all individuals to find truth for themselves, and respect for all religious traditions. The ways in which these ideals become realities in individual life are both the privileged choice and the responsible act of every human being.

Central to the concerns of theosophy is the *desire to promote understanding and brotherhood* among people of all races, nationalities, philosophies, and religions. Therefore, all people, whatever their race, creed, sex, caste, or color, are invited to participate equally in the life and work of the Society. *The Theosophical Society imposes no dogmas*, but points toward the source of unity beyond all differences. *Devotion to truth, love for all living beings, and commitment to a life of active altruism* are the marks of the true theosophist.