



The Florida Federation of the Theosophical Society in America



Dear Friends,

The end of a year is a good time for reflection on the achievements and experiences that touched our lives, and to look forward with enthusiasm to all we would like to accomplish in the new year and beyond. The Theosophical Lodges and Study Centers in our State of Florida, led by outstanding T.S. member-volunteers, continued to offer weekly classes, lectures, and presentations throughout the year, and their doors remain open to seekers of the perennial wisdom. We welcome and encourage your continuous support in their efforts to spread Theosophy.

Last May the Florida Federation shone brightly once again with another successful annual gathering (please see pictures in this Newsletter). Plans are already in place for another potentially wonderful Convention, which is scheduled for May 5, 6 & 7, 2017. The conference theme will be: "What Transformation Means in Your Life: From the Ancient Wisdom to Our Quantum Times" with keynote speaker Professor Aryel Sanat, author of *The Inner Life of Krishnamurti*; and special guest David Bruce, the National Secretary of the Theosophical Society in America and a third generation Theosophist. The weekend will also include talented performing artists, a book-signing event by Theosophical authors, a book sale, panel discussions, movies, yoga, meditation—and free time to enjoy the beautiful surroundings and one another. The Convention will once again be held at *Casa San Carlos Conference and Retreat Center*, 9600 West Atlantic Ave. Bldg. C, Delray Beach, FL 33446, which offers a very relaxing atmosphere for our Theosophical gathering, with its tropically landscaped grounds, access to a walking path surrounding a lake, colorful gardens with benches, and more.

Space is limited and available on a first come first served basis. Pre-registration is required for access to the activities at *San Carlos*, even for those commuting daily or for those securing their own accommodations outside the Retreat Center. Therefore, if you are planning to attend, it is to your advantage to print out the enclosed registration form and return it with your payment as soon as possible. We are looking forward to seeing you, your family, and friends at the Florida Federation's 2017 Convention!

May you all have a joyful and peaceful holiday season, and all best wishes for the New Year ahead.

In Love and Light,

Nori Rao, President
TSA Florida Federation

*Let no one imagine that it is a mere fancy, the
attaching of importance
to the end of a year. The earth passes through its
definite phases, and man with it;
and as a day can be colored
so can a year...*

*The astral life of the earth is young and strong
between Christmas and Easter.
Those who form their wishes now will have added
strength to fulfill them consistently.*
H.P. Blavatsky, C.W., Vol. IX, p. 3.





The Florida Federation of the Theosophical Society in America

MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS

As your nominating committee for the Florida Federation of the Theosophical Society in America, we are very grateful that all the current officers have agreed to serve another term. Therefore we are placing in nomination the following persons for the terms of office for the years 2017-2019

President: Nori Rao

First Vice President: Ricardo Basurto

Second Vice President: Judith Snow

Treasurer: Steve Schweizer

The secretary is appointed by the president.

We are not electing a Director of Communications for the upcoming term since the president, Nori Rao, has again agreed to continue taking care of the Newsletter's content and layout with her daughter, Marina.

According to our by-laws anyone may present an additional nomination for any of these offices with that person's written consent to run. If you wish to present an additional nominee for an office please submit that person's name with that person's written consent by JANUARY 3, 2017 to:

Carol L. Hurd
2261 Everglades Drive
Miramar, FL 33023
Theosophy2011@gmail.com

The names presented by the nominating committee plus additional nominees, if any, will constitute the ballot which will be mailed out to all members at least by April 1. If there are no additional nominees, those presented by the Nominating Committee will be declared elected.

With warm good wishes,
Your Nominating Committee
Carol Hurd,
Gregoria Halley
Jeanette Rothberg



Florida Federation 2016 Convention

Florida Federation 2017 Convention

May 5, 6 & 7

What Transformation Means in Your Life:
From the Ancient Wisdom to Our Quantum Times.

with keynote speaker

Professor Aryel Sanat

and special guest

National Sec. David Bruce

at San Carlos Retreat Center in Delray Beach

Initiation has always been the very foundation of the ancient wisdom: Without that transformation, the "ancient wisdom" turns into a mere system of thought.

By engaging in this *theosophical, esoteric* transformation, you not only "fraternize" with your ancient initiate-brothers: It is only through such regeneration that you can live today a more harmonious, meaningful life, and so help create a good society.



Aryel Sanat. Author of *The Inner Life of Krishnamurti*, is a former Professor of Philosophy and Religion at the American University in Washington D.C. He has been an active TS member for 54 years, and his main interest, from the beginning, has been to emphasize the primacy of the esoteric (which is something one does, not a conceptual avocation), in order to understand any & all exoteric "teachings," which is what most people identify as "Theosophy." He has lectured internationally on theosophical subjects since 1964.

Convención de la Federación de la Florida

Mayo 5, 6 & 7, 2017

por el Profesor Aryel Sanat

**"Lo que la Transformación Significa en su Vida Personal:
De la Sabiduría Antigua a Nuestra Era Cuántica"**

La iniciación siempre ha sido la fuente primordial de la sabiduría antigua: Sin transformación, la sabiduría antigua se torna en una mera ideología. Dicha transformación *teosófica, esotérica* no solo nos une a nuestros antecesores, nuestros hermanos iniciados — es solo mediante tal mutación psicológica que se hace posible vivir una vida más íntegra y armoniosa, creando por ese medio una sociedad más sana.

Aryel Sanat. Autor de *La Vida Interna de Krishnamurti*, y ex-profesor de Filosofía y Religión en The American University, en Washington, D.C., ha sido miembro activo de la S.T. por 54 años, y su principal interés, desde el principio, ha sido siempre enfatizar la primacía de lo esotérico (lo cual es una forma de ser, no una creencia o ideología). Solo la vida esotérica nos permite comprender todas las enseñanzas exotéricas — con las que la mayoría tiende a identificar lo que llaman "Teosofía". Desde 1964, ha sido un conferencista internacional.

Florida Federation 2017 Convention

May 5, 6 & 7

What Transformation Means in Your Life:
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at San Carlos Retreat Center in Delray Beach

THE VOICE OF THE SILENCE

David Bruce

Two years before her death, H. P. Blavatsky published a small book called *The Voice of the Silence*. Since its initial publication in 1889, this marvelous work has established itself as a true theosophical classic, whose timeless message of selfless service has touched generations of Theosophists. Discover some of its memorable verses as well as its distinctive stylistic features.

Biographical Sketch for David Bruce



David Bruce is a third generation Theosophist and was active in the Milwaukee Lodge from 1985-2003. He served on the TSA Board of Directors during President John Algeo administration. In 2003, President Betty Bland hired David to work full time as director of education at the national center in Wheaton, Illinois. In 2010, he was promoted to the position of national secretary, a position he has held for the past six years. His current responsibilities include working with local TS groups, scheduling national speakers, managing the National Lodge courses, and supervising the TSA prison program.





Florida Federation Board of Directors

Nori Rao: President
 Ricardo Basurto: 1st Vice President
 Judith Snow: 2nd Vice President
 Steve Schweizer: Treasurer
 Caroline Bremer: Secretary

Florida Federation Lodges & Study Centers

Bradenton Study Center

contact: Judith Snow
 phone: 941-531-3879
 email: judithsnow22@gmail.com
 contact: Gregoria Halley
 phone: 941-342-7657

Brevard Study Center

contact: Silvia Bryan
 phone: 321-412-7767
 email: bryansilvia24@aol.com

Fort Myers Study Center

contact: Karen & Steve Schweizer
 phone: 630-868-8385
 email: flanders_karen@hotmail.com

Deerfield Beach Lodge

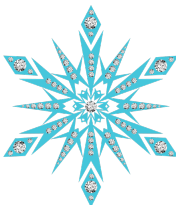
contact: Renate Zum-Tobel
 phone: 954-242-8527
 email: shanti1015@gmail.com
 web: www.theosophymiami.org

Jinarajadasa Lodge (Spanish)

contact: José Gallo
 phone: 305-926-8828
 email: josegallo9@bellsouth.net
 contact: Pavel Hernandez
 phone: 786-718-5808
 email: pavelhernandez@msn.com
 lodge email: logiaraja@gmail.com
 web: www.logiaraja.org

Miami-Dade Blavatsky Lodge (Spanish)

contact: Juan B. Rodriguez
 phone: 305-244-8119
 email: juan_b_rodriguez@hotmail.com



contact: Olga Dona-Dio
 phone: 305-271-7740
 email: odonadio@aol.com

Miami-Dade Study Center

contact: Allix St. Clair
 phone: 646-246-9056
 email: allix@juno.com

Ocala Study Center

contact: Jean Brown
 phone: 352-236-0911
 email: jbrown203@cox.net
 contact: William Bauer
 phone: 352-426-4436
 email: w1776wqb@yahoo.com

Palm Springs Study Center

contact: Nora Feijoo
 phone: 561-642-6940
 email: nora.feijoo15@gmail.com

St. Petersburg Lodge

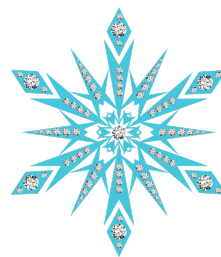
contact: Judith Snow
 phone: 941-531-3879
 email: judithsnow22@gmail.com

Tallahassee Study Center

contact: Judith H. Phipps
 phone: 850-570-7103
 e-mail: majuone@aol.com

Tampa-Besant Lodge (Spanish)

contact: Humberto Sarmiento
 phone: 813-369-0232



The Lodges and Study Centers throughout our State of Florida are aimed at both TS members and the general public.



There is no religion higher than truth

Florida Federation Convention 2017 (May 5th–7th): *Casa San Carlos*

9600 West Atlantic Ave. Bldg. C, Delray Beach, FL 33446. Phone: 561-921-4900

www.casasancarlos.org

This year's convention will be held at the ***Casa San Carlos Conference and Retreat Center***.

Accommodations include semi-private rooms (2 beds per room with a shared bathroom). **The rate below is per person for both nights and includes 6 meals. Meals are buffet-style with both ovo-lacto and vegan vegetarian options. Iced tea and coffee are provided.** For those wishing to bring their own food and beverages, there is a refrigerator in the kitchenette of the conference room, which delegates may use. Please label any food items you wish to bring. There is a Publix market only half a mile from Casa San Carlos for any shopping needs you may have.

Accommodations are limited, so be sure to register early if you wish to stay at the Retreat Center. Of course, you are free to secure your own accommodations.

Commuters not residing overnight at the Retreat Center may attend the **2-day event** for a fee of \$45 per day, with or without meals. Prices listed below to stay at the Retreat Center, however, **include** event registration.

San Carlos has no specific hotel recommendations for commuters, but here are a couple of online links that may help you with your search for a nearby hotel: <http://www.therealplaces.com/zip/33446> and http://www.kayak.com/sem/hotels/destination/-c5173?lang=en&qclid=CLOLuY2_t8kCFZYWHwodD88CmQ.

If you are driving, you may get directions from the "Contact" pulldown menu of Casa San Carlos' Website, which is listed above. At the bottom of the "Contact" page you will find a map for getting "Directions" from your starting point. Of course, there are many options for getting travel directions online.

Check-in is at the main desk and starts at 3:00 p.m., Friday, May 5th (7:00 AM for those arriving Saturday morning). Casa San Carlos is providing 6 meals for all registrants, including commuters: Friday dinner, all 3 meals on Saturday, and 2 meals (breakfast and lunch) on Sunday. There are no exceptions and no refunds for missed meals. Registrants, therefore, especially those commuting for both the Saturday and Sunday sessions, should take special care to not miss Friday evening's opening dinner. **Saturday only** registrants will receive the 3 Saturday meals as part of their 1-day registration. Parking at Casa San Carlos is free. Handicap parking spaces are clearly marked. All keys should be presented to the main desk when you check-out, no later than 12:00 noon on Sunday May 7th. We are on our own after hours. The Retreat Center **does not** provide 24-hour staff. Quiet time at Casa San Carlos is from 10 p.m. to 7 AM.

What Transformation Means in Your Life: From the Ancient Wisdom to Our Quantum Times, with Professor Aryel Sanat; and special guest David Bruce **(Instructions for Registering)**

To register, please print out and mail your completed registration form (**page 2 only**) with payment to secure your room and meals below. We must receive your **full payment** no later than **April 15th, 2017**. Remember, however, there are a limited number of rooms at the Retreat Center and we cannot guarantee your room reservation if you wait until the last minute to register. Those securing their own accommodations should still mail their registration with payment by April 15th. **You must pre-register for this event. Pre-registration is required for access to the events at Casa San Carlos.**

Casa San Carlos offers a smoke-free, alcohol-free and drug-free environment for its guests. Please do not bring alcohol, illegal drugs, or tobacco to the Retreat Center. Their use is strictly forbidden and will be cause for immediate expulsion and loss of any payments, including any security deposit. Please do not bring pets if you are staying at the Retreat Center. A telephone is available for emergency calls only. Bring your cell if you need to make personal calls.

A swimming pool is available for all room guests and is open from 10:00 AM to sunset. No life guard is on duty; thus all guests are swimming at their own risk. No children under the age of 13 can use the pool without adult supervision. Shower prior to getting into the pool. No running around the swimming pool. Excessive noise will not be permitted. No rafts or floats in the pool. No diving. No food, glass, or drinks in pool area. No rough games in pool.

Please print out and mail your completed registration form (**page 2 only**) with payment to the address below. Your check or money order (no credit cards please) should be made out to the: **Florida Federation of the Theosophical Society in America, Inc.**

Please mail to: **Steve Schweizer, Registrar**
Florida Federation of the Theosophical Society
P. O. Box 07095
Fort Myers, FL 33919-5835

Attendee(s): How many in your family or group, including you? _____

Name (payee or responsible party): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Names of those staying with you: _____

Please check **only one** of the registration options below. Rooms are available on a first come, first served basis, so register early. The double occupancy room option below includes your registration fee and all 6 meals. Two double occupancy rooms share a bathroom between them.

___ **Double Occupancy w/shared bathroom:** \$160/person x Total number of people _____ = \$ _____

OR

___ **I am Commuting** (\$45 per person per day): Includes Saturday and/or Sunday programs and meals.

\$45/person x Total number of people _____ x Total days in attendance (put **1** if Sat. only) _____ = \$ _____

I am including a **tax deductible donation** for the Florida Federation: (**\$25.00** per person suggested): _____ = \$ _____

Total enclosed: (Check or Money Order) \$ _____. **Full payment is due no later than April 15, 2017. We cannot guarantee your reservation if the deadline is missed. You may cancel your reservation for a full refund 30 days prior to the event (April 5, 2017). All paid registrations that arrive after that date are final!**

The Federation will also continue with its annual booksale during the conference. All proceeds from the sale help to offset the Federation's operating costs. If you are driving to the conference, please consider bringing with you any books you would like to donate to the sale table. We appreciate your kind support of the work of Florida Federation and, therefore, The Theosophical Society.

Check here: _____, yes I will be bringing books that I would like to donate to the sale table! Approx. how many? _____

We will contact you by phone or e-mail if there is a problem with any portion of your registration. If you have any further questions, please contact **Steve Schweizer** at sschweizer@theosophical.org; or call **239-603-6058**. Further details are available **online** at: www.theosophical.org/membership/federations/florida.