TO THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE MILWAUKEE LODGE

WELCOME TO OUR 2017 SPRING SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAYS, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Our Spring schedule:
March 1 through June 28

This schedule, as usual, will feature a variety of subjects presented by members of the Lodge and by visitors familiar and new. We welcome newcomers Robin Finseth, Hal Dessel and Judith Kubish and returning friends Sharleen Leonard, Peig Myota, and Dr. William Rogers (livestream from Atlanta).

If you enjoy such a variety plan to attend often!

Bob Bendykowski
Program Chairman

Find us online on Facebook and Meetup.com

The Theosophy 101 sessions are meant to be discussion groups. You can download the chapters from Meetup.com
The emblem or seal of the Theosophical Society consists of seven elements that represent a unity of meaning. It combines symbols drawn from various religious traditions around the world to express the order of the universe and the spiritual unity of all life.

- **The Sanskrit word Om**, a very sacred word in India, symbolizes the Absolute expressing itself as the three-in-one divine intelligence or Logos from which the universe emanates and to which, at the end of time, it returns.

- A whirling cross within a circle, a very ancient symbol, found all over the world—in India, among American Indians, and in many other cultures around the globe. In Sanskrit it is called a swastika, meaning “good,” its clockwise motion suggesting the dynamic forces of creation.

- This symbol was called by the ancient Greek Gnostics and alchemists ouroboros. The serpent swallowing its tail represents the cycles of nature, the bounded eternity of the world, and the infinite order of life. The area inside the serpent’s circle represents the whole universe and everything in it.

- Upon that background of the universe are two interlaced triangles, another worldwide symbol. The hexagram or six-pointed star that they form is universal. The upward-pointing triangle, which is light in color, symbolizes spirit or consciousness. The downward-pointing triangle, which is dark in color, symbolizes matter or substance.

- At the center of the six-pointed star of spirit and matter is the Egyptian cross or ankh, symbolic of life. The six points of the triangles and the ankh at the center represent the seven principles of the universe. The ankh represents the idea that life results from the interaction of spirit or consciousness (the upward triangle) and matter or substance (the downward triangle).

“There is no religion higher than truth” is an English translation of a Sanskrit motto, which might also be translated as “Nothing is greater than truth.” The motto is not specifically about what we think of as religion. Instead it is saying that none of our commitments or social conventions or ideas can measure up to the reality of what truly is. Reality is greater than any of its parts and is beyond all our notions about it.
March 1: STUDY GROUP: KYBALION III  
The Group will complete its analysis of the Kybalion by reviewing the Principles of RHYTHM, CAUSATION, and GENDER.

March 8: THE FUTURE OF THEOSOPHY  
Rev. Phoenix Suways will discuss the current TS membership in the youth sector and provide some healthy recommendations and suggestions for building the foundations for a greater and stronger future Theosophical Society.

March 15: THEOSOPHY 101--REINCARNATION (Study Course Ch. 6)  
Theosophy sees reincarnation as a law related to human evolution--both in spiritual growth as well as material form. Through each of our recurring lives in a body of flesh, we gather experience that, during the period between incarnations, we work into faculties and powers needed for further growth in spiritual stature.

March 22: CONSCIOUS LOVE  
Clairvoyance is often more about being aware of one’s self in the world rather than being aware of outside spiritual activity. Born with the gift of clairvoyant sight, Robyn Finseth will discuss the practical steps to achieving a better understanding of our fellow man and what it means to be living in this world we call home which often leads to a happier existence.

March 29: DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE  
The Dances of Universal Peace are spiritual practice in motion, creating experiences of embodied spirituality, rhythm, and heart awareness. Hal Dessel and Judith Kubish, drawing inspiration from many spiritual traditions, will blend chant, live music, and evocative movement into a living experience of unity, peace, and integration. Those wishing to participate in the simple dances should dress comfortably.

April 5: STUDY GROUP: BEYOND LIMITATIONS I  
We begin our examination of this channeled work by covering Part One: Beginnings, and Part Two: Personal Reality Creation as much as time permits.

April 12: THE MYSTERIES OF THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND THE PATH TO AMERICA  
The Templars are linked to the Rosicrucians and Masons and to several voyages to America before Columbus. Join us for an inquiry into the fascinating legends and theories about Templar secrets. Jean Dean continues her research into Francis Bacon’s relationship to the old mystery schools and his influence on modern occultism and theosophy.

APRIL 19: THEOSOPHY 101: KARMA (Study Course Ch. 7)  
Karma is the law that covers the world of constant change; it is the
law of harmony and equilibrium in the universe. The very core of the universe is equilibrium. We cannot disturb that core; it adjusts itself perfectly in response to every action of ours.

April 26: THE SECRET DESTINY OF AMERICA, Part One. Using Manly Hall's 1944 book of this name as a guide, Phoenix Suvayas will present a unique perspective on our "country in swaddling clothes" including thoughts about national and global politics. Very timely!

May 3: STUDY GROUP: BEYOND LIMITATIONS II In this session we will complete Part Two: Personal Reality Creation and Part Three: The Bigger Picture.

May 10: WHITE LOTUS DAY CELEBRATION In her will, HPB suggested that her friends might gather together on the anniversary of her passing (May 8, 1891) and read from Sir Edward Arnold's "The Light of Asia" and from "The Bhagavad-Gita." This evening the public is invited to join the Lodge in honoring HPB's request.

May 17: THEOSOPHY 101: THE POWER OF THOUGHT (Ch. 8) Thought is the origin of action and controls emotion. It is an energy that consciousness produces to modify the subtle matter of the mental plane. In our causal body, thoughts have a permanent influence on our character. We make ourselves by the way we think. Concentration and meditation are two important aspects of the power of thought.

May 24: THE THREEFOLD SOCIAL ORDER OF RUDOLF STEINER Sharleen Leonard joins us to describe Steiner's holistic and human oriented view of society. In his view society is divided into three areas of activity: Economics, Culture, and Politics. For society to function healthily the three areas of activity need to be held in balance. If one dominates then society will not function properly.

May 31: THE ANCIENT AFRICAN RELIGION OF IFA William Rogers, Ph.D. (via live-streamed via FB) Ifa is a nature-based religion. The rituals, initiation, parables, and songs give us the information we need to study the mechanics of the natural world. Our discussion will focus on the usage of Ifa in the modern world.

June 7: STUDY GROUP: BEYOND LIMITATIONS III In this meeting we hope to complete Part Four: A Time of Change

June 14: THE POWER OF LOVE, HEALING, AND ENLIGHTENED CONSCIOUSNESS The fear and separateness pervading our planet at this time often makes it difficult for us to control our thoughts and emotions. Drawing from
ancient wisdom teachings Peig Myota will outline a technique for developing an expanded consciousness which will assist individuals to heal themselves and may eventually lead to healing the planet.

June 21: THEOSOPHY 101: THE QUESTION OF EVIL (Ch. 9)
A principle of duality or polarity is established at the very beginning of manifestation. Therefore, everything that exists has its opposite, not in an absolute sense, but as a condition of relationship. Evil, like good, does not exist in and by itself, but only in relation to its opposite and to its context.

June 28: THE SECRET DESTINY OF AMERICA, Part Two.
Phoenix Suvayas continues his analysis of Manly Hall's book in the light of national and global developments.

BIOGRAPHIES

Robyn Finseth, M.S., D.C., is a life-long Theosophist having been born into a Theosophical family. She is also a practicing chiropractic physician in Oregon. Robyn will be a featured speaker at the Theosophical Society's 2017 National Convention in Wheaton. Her life's focus has always been connected to healing.

Presenters Hal Dessel and Judith Kubish are certified mentor-teachers and leaders of the Dances of Universal Peace. They have led dance meetings and special DUP events for over 25 years. When they are not dancing, Hal is a psychotherapist and addictions counselor in private practice at Reconnections. He specializes in recovery from and relapse prevention for traumas and addictions. Judith is a Lifecycle Celebrant, interfaith minister, and wedding officiant; her business is Heartland Life Ceremonies. She creates individualized celebrations of significant human events across the lifespan.


Sharleen Leonard has been studying Rudolf Steiner’s philosophy since 1983. Steiner, a spiritual scientist who lived from 1861 to 1925, named his body of work “Anthroposophy”, or wisdom of the human being. Included in his writings were concepts on social order which he offered to national leaders after World War I. Would they work now?

William Rogers, Ph.D. is a historian focusing on religious history. A retired
UWM professor now living in Atlanta, he still lectures at seminaries and for religious groups. He also hosts an internet based radio program called “The Black Reality Think Tank.”