

The Temple Artisan

April-May-June 2018

Behold, I give



unto thee a key.

THE ANSWER

God breathes! and through the universes vast, past primordial suns of space and all the vaults between, down to the thrones of one dark star where reign the kings God set upon those thrones, down the high-sprung arches of the Milky Way, that pathway of the gods, falls that breath

as softly as fall the petals of a rose, yet with power which wakes each star, each world to swifter action, until at last it touches the hard heart of some well-nigh spent prodigal, and lo! a miracle! The once hard heart is softened, and with undimmed eyes of faith, a newborn soul looks up unwaveringly into the very face of God. Then from the once dark, Hadean depths of that now quickened soul, up through the star-strewn heavens, softly floats the music of a voice, as Faith makes answer to the questioning eyes of God, saying, "All is well with this Thy son whom Thou hast breathed upon."



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EDITORIAL MIRROR

Inner spiritual growth is marked by alternate periods of pressure and release of tension. With the growth of the individual, the periods of strain become longer and the intervals of release diminish almost to the vanishing point. Tensile strength is being tested ever more intensively until the flexibility becomes so great that at last the pressure is no longer felt and the disciple's inner life is released into a new reality of being, an increased rate of vibration, a new level of consciousness and integration. This is what we all strive for, but we must be patient with ourselves for the only true growth is slow, conscious growth. In our natural human selves we are apt to be impatient. We want it now, faster, faster, faster, whereas we need to savor each moment.

The articles in this issue are filled with suggestions on that process of savoring the moment. Happy moments to you!

— *Eleanor L. Shumway*
Guardian in Chief

I BELIEVE THAT IN ME DWELLETH
EVERY GOOD AND PERFECT SPIRIT.
BELIEVING THIS, I WILL SHOW FORTH THIS DAY,
BY THOUGHT, WORD AND DEED,
ALL THAT PERFECTION THAT DWELLETH IN ME.
I AM ONE WITH GOD AND ALL GOOD.
EVIL HATH NO POWER OVER ME.
THOUGH CLOUDS AND DARKNESS
SEEM TO BE ABOUT ME,
YET DWELL I ETERNALLY IN THE LIGHT.

UP FRONT AND PERSONAL

In our Tuesday study classes we have been reading the Master's messages to the Conventions since 1911. One can easily slip into a mindset of "That was then; this is now," or perhaps listen in a more detached frame of mind as though we were somehow outside the problem or the timing of the solution. I have often found the messages much more relevant when I read them, changing the pronouns to I, me, we, our, us, and your, rather than he, his, him, and the nouns men, man, and mankind. Using this technique of making these messages more immediate, more up front and personal, I have taken parts of the 1951 and 1952 messages to share with you as examples. We will begin with a direct quote from Master Hilarion: "My Children, my heartfelt greetings to all on your Annual Temple Convention, as you convene in sacred and solemn session to receive the blessings now being outpoured from inner planes to help mankind find its way out of the darkness into the Light.

"As you gather together today amid a war-torn, storm-tossed world, troubled, unsettled, divided, and unsure, the struggle between Good and Evil goes on, ever carrying out Life's evolutionary course of high aim and purpose, so that the constructive forces may eventually open the doorway to the Great New Day destined for this cycle, and decreed by the Christos. His all-pervading Love and Light seek to open the hearts of all of us in order that the forces of Unity, Harmony, and Universal Brother/Sisterhood may prevail over the earth." In our time frame, nothing much has changed in the past 67 years.

In more personal, immediate terms, the message goes on to tell us that the Great Master, in the beginning of the Temple work, sounded the call to Templars in His powerful Charge: "Go forth to battle with the Powers of Darkness, armed with the Sword of the Spirit of God, the Breastplate of Righteousness, the Helmet of Eternal Truth. See to it, then, that no stain rest on that armor, no rust on that sword, that you may become One With Us, on that

Great Day Be With Us.” The power and force of these words came from the Christos, the Higher Self of all Life, warning you and me, who aspire to work with the higher laws, how to battle the accumulated forces of evil.

Within each of us the Sword of the Spirit of God, the highest manifestation of Deity, the Atmic principle, must be eternally vigilant and work with the Breastplate of Righteousness, the Heart Consciousness, the Buddhic principle, and the Helmet of Eternal Truth, the Higher Manasic or mind principle, which Triad is the spiritual weapon of the Higher Self. This triad must work unceasingly inside each of us, that no rust on the sword or stain on our armor can accumulate, tainted by the lower self. This Great War of the Ages must be won by the Shining Armor of the Higher Self.

Keep ever in mind the fulfillment of that promise. “That Great Day Be With Us” will come when you and I begin to let go of the outer fleeting evanescent shadows of the lower self and enter into the consciousness of the glorious New Day of grandeur and majesty, the New Order, the Day of the Christ. Will that happen in this lifetime? Probably not, but every step taken leads to that goal, somewhere, sometime.

Each one of us who aspires to the higher order of life leading to spiritual heights and who desires to help in the redemption of humanity must be awakened to the realization of the Divine Laws governing all life, keeping positive with the constructive forces and working with them at all times.

We must battle the powers of darkness every step of the way to win the victory over our lower self. This is not a matter of eliminating the lower self, but rather of helping it join the higher self. Each of us has to climb the lower rounds of the ladder of life first before reaching the higher rounds, in order to develop the attributes and principles of our Higher Self and incorporate them into our being. Our Higher Self, composed of these higher principles, must be reached by climbing again and again, lifetime

after lifetime, by overcoming the lower forces that are active in all grades of matter. It is a natural process, but a slow and measured one. Our Soul cannot even begin to realize or accept the existence of the Divine Spirit until each of us can identify our Self with that Spirit and thus partake of its nature. Every conscious effort put forth by us towards attaining a realization of the Higher Self will eventually lead us nearer and nearer our goal along the Pathway that leads to God.

Man-made laws cannot meet the tests of every phase of life until those laws are identical with the Divine Laws of God which are just and exact. We, in our outward approach to solving the great mysteries of Life, often find ourselves unable to conceive of the true ideals, and so cling to outworn ideas of a limited concept and, in so doing, block the way to greater understanding. The possibilities of humanity are unlimited, and limiting the limitless ideals of Deity by holding on to some limited human concept does great harm to the Soul's progress. Deity is ever guiding us through the higher laws and sending His Divine message to all of us, free and clear of obstruction. His Message is limitless and eternal.

Before I am able to perceive the God-like qualities in my fellow men and women, I must comprehend and identify myself with the individualized self, the Higher Self, as everyone and everything in the Universe come from the great fountain head of God and are One in essence.

When Divine Laws, the foundation stones of the Universe, are broken by any of us, it will inevitably bring results in perfect exactness with Divine Justice. The Lords of Karma are the administrators of Divine Justice, high spiritual Entities Who guide and direct the action of all degrees of every force and energy set free in the Universe. They do not "pick" on us, nor are they "getting even;" however, these laws so governed cannot be broken without serious consequences. Disobedience to them may obstruct the action of that law for a time, but cannot do so permanently, because the Divine Order in its divinely appointed course always acts for the benefit of humanity, even though its

decrees are delayed and must bring sorrow and suffering upon people and races. From the standpoint of Divine Law, we human beings, as also every creature in all the kingdoms of nature, whether animal, plant, or mineral, is in its rightly appointed place at all times, and definitely placed there as to position and purpose in the divine plan. Believe it or not! The ever-watchful Lords of Karma determine this in accordance with the desires and actions of each one of us — not our outer wants but our real desires. No other person could remove another from his or her place in the universal scheme of life unless such removal was decreed by Karmic Law.

We limit our progress by blocking the concepts of the true ideals; the lesser concepts lead you and me into a limited viewpoint where the true vision is blurred, and so lead us away from these higher ideals.

The Trinity, the Triad of the Higher Self, is omnipresent, immutable and changeless. It is “all that was, is, or ever will be.” The Infinite principle, being omnipotent and omnipresent, contains within Itself every atom of the Universe and is active throughout all grades of life visible and invisible. When you and I have reached the heights where self-consciousness exists in equilibrium, we will have attained to Mastery and will then consciously realize the Divine Laws governing it. This is a lengthy process covering myriad lifetimes, but it is directed by pure Love



Brotherhood in the Garden. Photo by Annie R. Dunbar

for whom the process is timeless.

Life in its ceaseless action is the One Great Light of Love, Divine Essence, uttering itself in never-ending expressions. The Divine Will, the Great driving power, can never be diverted from Its true course of exact Justice which always strikes a balance with purpose and design.

In the message that followed the Master reminded us that, "Amid the feverish, storm-tossed, divided, weary, and distressed world today, when the disintegrating forces have gained a wedge into every department of life, you long for surcease and rest from these outer complexities of life. I would ask you to come closer to the great Center of Light, the one true Light, and enter for a time the doorway that leads to the upper room, illumined and radiating the Light of the Central Sun, where the Christos reigns in majesty and glory. Lift up your consciousness to those heights, and partake of their grandeur and beauty. There you will find and realize the higher expression of the Law: Unity, Harmony, and Love Eternal. There in the inner stillness of that sacred sanctuary you can partake of its beauty and grandeur and know yourself as One with all that lives. In that great Company of Light you will find inner peace and poise."

Now let us hear it from the position of up front and personal. In our inmost hearts we know, and know that we know, that if we would hold to that higher plane of consciousness, then we must seek within. This is called self-responsibility. If we would aspire to serve unselfishly and gain the power of wisdom to know the righteous course, then we must seek within with the greatest determination of will and purpose to obey and carry out God's divine plan. For it is within where we will find the key that unlocks the doorway to the great mysteries of life. You and I must step out of the darkness of ignorance and enter into the realms of Light to gain the inner power and strength of that radiant light and spiritual knowledge.

All humanity must travel the same pathway that leads to the

Spiritual Heights. Each and every thing, from the atom to the star, evolves under fixed inexorable Law, guided by the Masters of Love and Compassion, and all attain the highest development through this evolutionary process of divine guidance.

We all take devious routes to reach that height in accordance with the karmic action and reaction for each one of us. After all, we have been doing this day-to-day stuff for a lot of lifetimes! Some of us take the perpendicular steep and jagged path, while others take the slower winding path, and all of us stumble on and upward, falling down again and again. But we must always get up and go on and know that the many obstructions and experiences along the way are part of our spiritual growth. The positive and negative poles of life are our teachers in every field of endeavor for knowledge and enlightenment. Such is God's plan of spiritual attainment.

As everyone of us is a part of the Great Whole, we are One with our fellow creatures; as Brothers and Sisters traveling along this great journey of life, the responsibility of mutual helpfulness must be fulfilled every step of the way. As a part of God's universe, we must sometime, somewhere, realize, know, and demonstrate our responsibility to each other.

Every atom, force, and substance contains within itself the power to produce all that has ever been, is, or will be produced by every other atom. The Soul contains within itself the constituent parts of all other Souls, as all are parts of God's infinite reservoir, all-inclusive and eternal. The qualities and forces which you and I use for our development are Love, Will, Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Hope, Truth, Justice, Loyalty, Honesty, Service and Obedience. If we base each moment of each day on these twelve qualities and forces, we will see our lives deepen beyond belief.

In our desire for individual development, you and I must use these forces unselfishly in the interest of humanity because of our Oneness with every other creature. To the degree to which we are consciously aware of the higher qualities within ourselves,

to that degree are we able to realize our Oneness with God and our other selves. The great majority who have not reached that development, who have not realized this great truth in the scheme of life, find Deity vague and illusory. But as you and I evolve and come closer to the Divine within ourselves, we are better able to realize the Divine in others and to know that we are brothers and sisters in every step of evolution.

The Brother/Sisterhood of Man is an indisputable fact in life. It is the truth of the fundamental Unity of all that lives, and it calls for letting go of prejudices and creeds and uniting on the principle of Divine Justice, Tolerance, and acceptance of all others. All the evils in the manifested Universe have been brought about by each of us violating the Law of Brother/Sisterhood. Knowledge of the Divine Laws, of karmic action and reaction, and love for each other will someday bring about the ideal state of Brother/Sisterhood among humanity.

God rules over all life, administers the action of Divine Will on the evolutionary forces throughout the Universe, and shows each of us that all development is guided and directed under the rule of Divine Love. And Divine Love, as the karmic administrator of Divine Law, in which all living creatures are a part, comes under this plan. Obedience to that Law — Love — is the fulfillment of all other laws and binds us in bonds of holy Unity. The administrator of karmic law in its higher aspect is ever fair, just, tender, and merciful in its decrees.

You and I should fully understand that the Law of Brother/Sisterhood is Divine and Sacred and that Law must be applied for fuller growth and higher understanding, not as a mere statement, but as a great reality in every phase of our development. When the negative forces enter in, then unbrotherliness separates you and me, and the forces of unbrotherliness bring about great suffering and almost irreparable damage at times, and can last over many centuries, until our spiritual intuition becomes awakened, and in the true meaning of Brother/Sisterhood reunites those of us who have been separated.

One of the basic causes for our cruelty and unbrotherliness is the desire for material power and selfish interests which we have blindly pursued because of our lack of true vision and ability to perceive aright. It will take heroic effort and great wisdom to open our eyes to the true fact that you and I are one along the path, that we have to free ourselves from the karmic reaction of the selfish acts and wrong doings, and then we will begin to act from within rather than by following the outer impulses. You and I will become consciously aware of the essential Unity of all things, and better understand the true principle of Brother/Sisterhood. The voice of the Higher Self ever calls to each of us, and as we listen to that voice the inner urge will come to "do unto others as you would that they should do unto you," every minute of every day. This Golden Rule of all times is the Eternal Voice of Brother/Sisterhood in action among nations and peoples. And this will ever be spoken to us that we may realize its vital part in altruistic living, and Universal Love will rule.

The New Day is before us and awaits our decision in helping to bring this to pass. Each and every one of us has a part in this great work of universal scope and no one can take our place or do our work.

As the struggle for us between good and evil goes on, as the Cosmic Fires cleanse, so we must let ourselves be cleansed by these purifying forces in order that we may understand more fully the true purpose of life, the Great New Day and its Message to all humanity. The Lodge needs each of us to carry on during these challenging times. So we must stand firmly together to promote the Spirit of Brother/Sisterhood over the Earth.

— *Eleanor L. Shumway*



Candle Snuffer. Photo by Anne R. Dunbar

The Guardian Wall

*is stone upon stone of friendship,
and mutual respect is the mortar that binds it.*

— John Varian

LIGHT OF THE SPIRITUAL SUN

In the last Artisan we read that spiritual man is dependent on the light of the Spiritual Sun for power to perceive and comprehend Divinity. Here are some extracts from Temple Teachings, referring to the Spiritual Sun, in order to help us better understand what these words are teaching us.

“But first consider the statement that that which is set in motion and vibration is the robe of the Christos — the Christ-in-you, in me, in every living thing and creature, yet Who reigns supreme over all things, the Christ Who weaves a robe for Himself out of that vital force the ancients termed the Akasha — the Archæus. In the first chapter of St. John you will find a verification of the first of the above statements: ‘In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made.’ The Word — the first-born Son of God, the Absolute — is the Christos. That which we feebly express by the words, ‘the noumenon of electricity,’ that great mystery of science is the Word (in occult philosophy, Fohat), the Christos, the power and potency of all energy and force in manifestation; . . . the form of the Heavenly Man, the pattern for humanity — and builds it by means of vibration; and the form of

the Heavenly Man is the seat of vibration — the Central Sun.” (*Teachings of the Temple*, Vol. I, pg. 436)

“The action of the moon on the ocean tides has long been an accepted fact, but the fact of a similar action by every sun and star or planet on all other life tides, even the blood stream of men and animals within their individual sphere of action, is not so well established, nor is the fact that it is the central nucleus or cell of any one planet instead of the body as a whole that exerts whatever degree of force is necessary to affect the tides of water or life force on any other planet, and that all are subject to the central nucleus of the central sun around which all suns and planets alike revolve.” (*Teachings of the Temple*, Vol. I, pg. 241)

Then we read about the importance of groups of seven human beings.

“Science has striven in vain to discover the source and ultimate nature of Light, Electricity, Heat, and Gravity — the Four which become the Seven by differentiation (the last three are Magnetism, Chemical Affinity, and Cohesion). To reach a better understanding of the main point under discussion — the necessity for a group of seven human beings — it is well to postulate a Central Spiritual Sun as the basic source of the above mentioned energies and of all forms of life in manifestation within the sun and planets of a solar system. The recipients of the radiations from the Central Sun takes the form and nature of the said energies and it is as various degrees of those energies that they become evident to the senses of man on this earth.

“Somewhat as the spokes of a wheel reach the circumference from the hub, the seven direct rays or energies pass from the Central Sun to the center of the objective sun, thence to its circumference, and again to centers of groups of nebulae, which will become centers of other planets, and thence to man.

“The heart of every human being is an embryonic center of a world to be, a point of attraction, as it were; but in order to receive and be able to respond to the action of the said energies from the

center of the earth, for instance, they must pass first through the seven most highly organized and highly evolved Beings upon or within the earth. These Beings are vehicles for the transmission of attenuated forms or degrees of the energies referred to. They are sometimes erroneously termed Gods; they are in fact Masters of very high degree. In turn there must be seven lesser beings, and again seven times seven, through whom in constantly lowering degrees those streams or lines of energy must pass in order to safely reach and accomplish their divine mission of growth and development in the masses of less developed human beings, and thence to the heart Center of every other living creature

“By means of the intercommunication established between Master and disciple it is possible for the Master to so instruct the disciple that he may become a conscious instrument for use in the evolution of lesser orders of the kingdoms of nature, at the same time that he is becoming a unit of a center which will ultimately become the nucleus of a larger organized body, and so aid in enlightening the masses of humanity. Thus, as it were, on strictly mathematical principles, a direct line is established from the Central Spiritual Sun through the fields of spiritual as well as material life. I say spiritual life, for spirit is the guide, the director, of all the forms of energy which constitute life in manifestation.” (*Teachings of the Temple*, Vol. I, pg. 488-490)

This material life is our classroom where we are educated according to our level of spiritual progress.

“All the matter in which man has been enmeshed is illusion from the standpoint of the spiritual plane. His belief in all seeming differentiation was, for the time being, necessary for his development, and such differentiation of matter was entirely dependent upon his angle of vision at different eras of his cycle of manifestation. Also he will learn that these angles were formed by the direction given the beams of light — his spiritual illumination — which came directly from the Central Spiritual Sun and were radiated by means of the Lamp when the individual soul had

gained sufficient power to receive and transmit the cyclic influx of power set free by the Bearer of the Torch — the Christos.” (*Teachings of the Temple*, Vol. II, pg. 82)

“Whether it be termed Conscience, Perception, or Intuition, that which impels man to act in unison with the Divine Beings who guide the evolution of the races of mankind is the Light of the Spiritual Sun.

“The appreciation of beauty and perfection of form in the artist; the love of harmony and melody in the musician, are effects of the action of the rays of light from the Central Spiritual Sun shining into the sense centers of man. Those sense centers are, as it were, receiving stations which catch those rays of light and translate them into terms that are comprehensible to man . . .

“When Intuition has opened the avenue of perception in the mind of man, the Light of the Spiritual Sun will reflect an image of the truth through that avenue to a brain center whenever a call is made upon it.” (*Teachings of the Temple*, Vol. I, pg. 532-533)

That is why the Master encourages us to ask each day for His love and guidance.

“The energy of light from the Central Spiritual Sun holds the key of accomplishment. It is by means of that energy that each individual life wave is, metaphorically speaking, expanded, thinned, made more tenuous, elastic, and absorbent as man advances in the scale of evolution by the power of Higher Manas. Correspondingly it has been indrawn, thickened, made impermeable and nonabsorbent by man's inhumanity and his acceptance of the great heresy of separateness, until now it is difficult for the radiations of the Central Sun to penetrate to the center within the Auric Spheres of the masses of humanity wherein dwells the Ego while the latter animates its vehicles of bodies”

It is essential for the development of man that “. . . he no longer desires to absorb and retain the life essence of light for his

individual benefit alone, for he has become conscious of his unity with all living creatures.” (*Teachings of the Temple*, Vol. I, pg. 114)

That is why the Master advises us: “Open thine heart that its inmost shrine may be reflected on the screen of the world by the rays of the Central Sun, in order that man may know that there is speech higher than words.” (*Teachings of the Temple*, Vol. I, pg. 225).

— Annegret Liebig
German Inner Guard



Temple Windows. Photo by Anne R. Dunbar

BALANCE

Today humanity is confused by world confusion. Sweeping changes are taking place around us, and the individual has apparently no control of these mighty karmic waves as they affect humanity periodically. But these karmic waves function under a law of their own, a law of cosmic equilibrium which tends continually to balance, to correct, to heal. Even the most brilliant intellect is inadequate to appraise these cosmic movements and what, to the human mind, might seem most desirable would often result in catastrophe because the balance, the true proportion in relation to the whole, has not been taken into account.

That is why child-like faith is most essential, even for the most erudite. For between human opinion and super-human perception exists a gap that only faith can bridge. Those higher beings whom we call Masters and Initiates have spanned that gap. They are concerned always with wholeness: the whole person, the whole country, the balance of the planet. In the light of that concern, much of idealism as an isolated quality developed out of proportion to the whole, is seen as an imbalance which must be held back until the rest of the person, the country, and/or the world can grow into it.

The same is true of the nation. An unredeemed bitterness and reactionism can completely unbalance and devastate a country even though an idealistic leader stands far out in front. It would be far better to have a leader representing the mean, not much advanced from the masses of the people. This does not mean that we as disciples should not choose the leader who seems to us to be the most spiritually evolved. Truly it is our duty to do so. But with this more comprehensive understanding, we shall be able to keep our inner balance if or when the tide turns against such a one. In words of the Ancient Wisdom we are told: "Keep your equilibrium though the Himalayas fall." Here is where we must place our effort. Let us take three words down deep into our souls as we go about our daily tasks: Balance, Wholeness, Peace.

— *Joyce Hedin*

THE POWER OF LITTLE THINGS

I have said much in the past in connection with the power of little things, but it is a subject of such importance too much can hardly be said in relation to it. Especially is this true in this critical age when so many important discoveries are being made, each one primarily dependent upon the devotion of some one person's investigation of the minutiae of life. He who despises the rule of little things will never rise to any height of life until experience has taught him many sad lessons

The human monad was a little thing in time and space when first it separated from the mass which held it in suspension within the great void; yet the Hierophants who sit upon the thrones of a universe and rule the suns and stars therein were once of those "little things." And never in the history of this earth was the rule of little things so potent as in this present cycle, for man is awakening to his inherent power and is learning the methods by which that power may be utilized. Those methods all rest upon some one essential yet inconspicuous verity.

Investigation has brought to the consciousness of the race the fact that a single disease germ, barely visible under the strongest microscope, is the "little thing" which by increase may eventually sweep the inhabitants of populous cities and countries into one huge grave. A single spark of fire may be responsible for laying low thousands of towering, great-girthed trees and blaze a way through fields and towns to the shores of some far distant river or ocean. The first drop of water seeping through the soil upon the fiery masses in the interior of the earth may make way for others, until at length a head of hissing steam is generated powerful enough to displace rocks and earth; and the fire and earth elementals may be aroused to such a fury that they may even split a continent in twain by internal convulsions.

So it is through all the fields of life, the "little thing" is the thing we have most cause to fear or to love; and were it not for our knowledge that a divine purpose is being served, a divine

plan worked out, all men must go, as does now the blind man all the days of his life, with outstretched arms and trembling feet, lest by a single step he strike his foot against a stone or fall into some fiery furnace just ahead. Ah, my children, look out for the "little things" and walk steadily and with open eyes. Look into your own hearts, not into the hearts of others, for the signs of the coming of those first.

It is man's perversity in first searching his neighbor's life for traces of some evil that has given that evil the needed opportunity to grow within his own life beyond his power to vanquish; for however undeserved it may seem from a superficial point of view, no evil can happen to you that has not received its first impulse from some one single act or thought of your own. Of course you will not accept this if you reject the fact of reincarnation and karma, but exact justice is unthinkable under any other predications. Perfect love cannot exist apart from perfect justice.

You are not responsible for the good or evil results of a good or evil act only so far as you are responsible for the act itself. So long as you are attached to the results of any act you are wandering in an interminable maze. The more impersonal, unselfish your kindly acts, the purer, the more potent, the greater the results will be. Those results will be of lasting benefits for the whole race instead of for your personal self alone.

It should be enough for you to know that you have raised the race to which you belong to whatever extent you have been of service to any individual part of that race. You are manipulating eternal cosmic energies in every good and therefore serviceable thing you do, for God is good and good is eternal. The appreciation or lack of appreciation in the case of the individual primarily benefited by a kindly act of yours should be of no special interest to you. The good things are generally little things in their beginnings; so watch well your opportunities for doing the things, speaking the kind word, lending a helping hand, regardless of the immediate effect on yourself.



The Dining Bee. Photo by Anne R. Dunbar

THE TEMPLE OF THE HEART

In the Inner Temple of thy Heart, on the Mystic Altar of Compassion wrought therein of essences distilled of holy aspiration, of anguished prayers, of sacrificing Love and Service of countless lives in aeons past, burns a Living Flame of Life fed by the quenchless Love of God, commingled with the fragrances of thy noblest ideals of Beauty, Truth and Service to all thine Other Selves, and uniting thee with the Divine in all creatures throughout the Seven Worlds of Being.

If thou wouldst keep the noxious weeds of self from choking life's pure stream 'twixt thee and God, then each day offer thou thyself on that Altar Flame of Sacrifice in the Inner Temple of thy Heart, whatever be the pain, so that the dross of all thy lower selves be burned away, leaving thee each day an Image true and splendid of the Shining One within — Thine Own True Self Divine.

— *From The Mountaintop, Vol. II, pg. 225*



Build a center, a fulcrum in your own inner self, where the love of the Great White Lodge may rest; and fear — the greatest of all stultifying, unsettling forces in the universe — will have no more domination over you.

— *Teachings of the Temple*, Vol. I, pg. 198



Potting Shed. Photo by Anne R. Dunbar

NOTES ABOUT TOWN

Like many other places on the globe, Central California has been having unusual weather. We began the year with a long spell of dry, warm weather, then colder weather, smoky air due to the fires in Santa Barbara, then rain. Due to these conditions the grasses and wildflowers have grown rapidly, flowered out and now we must mow and take all necessary precautions for what will apparently be a long, early fire season.

We have been slowly working on clearing the fallen trees and brush. Things are looking somewhat better around town. The next big project is finally clearing the cemetery of the big trees that came down there.

After several months of living three doors down, Patte has finally been able to move into her new home. Although completely new (the old home disintegrated) the new one looks as if it has been there for many years. Mark the builder and his architect have done a superb job in blending it into the neighborhood.

Our guest quarters have been filled with many family members and friends spending some time here with loved ones. There has been a “going out” also, with Halcyon residents traveling to other very interesting places such as Europe, the South Pacific, Hawaii, other states closer to home, and places within California. Bon Voyage everyone!

The book entitled *Images of America: Halcyon* has finally been sent to the publishers, Arcadia Publishing, and hopefully will be in our hands by November 1. Arcadia has done these special books on hundreds of communities around the United States. Karen and Eleanor have filled 130 pages with text and 184 pictures whose captions document the early history of Halcyon. More news regarding this book and its price later!

The Temple website is worth checking out! Chris and Damian have been working on it, updating information, and tailoring it so it works on the new phones.

The Avataric Mantram

I will endeavor to realize the presence
of the Avatar
as a Living Power in my life.

TEMPLE ACTIVITIES AND NOTICES

Temple Groups: There are Temple groups in New York City; London, England; and in Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia; as well as several locations in Germany. Anyone wishing more information about these groups can call the Temple office in Halcyon.

The William Quan Judge Library serves Temple members, residents of Halcyon, and friends with an interest in Theosophy or who are doing research involving some of our special collections. Our library is staffed by volunteers. Hours are 9:30-11:30am on Tuesdays. Other hours are by appointment through the Temple office.

The University Center Gallery is now showing the inspiring *paintings of Alfredo Arciniaga and Harold Forgostein*. Call the Temple office at 805.489.2822 for information.

The Temple Healing Service is held at Noon each day in The Temple. All are welcome to attend.

Study Classes under the auspices of Temple Officers and various Temple Orders are held regularly at 5:30pm in The Temple on Tuesdays and Fridays. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sunday Services are held at 10:30am in The Temple. The *Feast of Fulfillment*, the Communion Service of The Temple, is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. *Enter the Silence*, a prayer and meditation meeting, is held the last Sunday of the month. Speakers present programs on other Sundays. The public is cordially invited to all services.

Speakers in the Sunday Services were: March 11, Eleanor L. Shumway: *Up Front and Personal*; March 18, Janice Bell reading *A Vision* by Joyce Hedin; April 8, Eleanor L. Shumway: *That was then, This is Now?*; April 15, Margaret Thyrring reading *Occultism and Occult Training* by Annie Bessant; April 22, Marti Fast reading *The Realm of Art* by Harold Forgostein.

The Temple of the People

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