

# The Temple Artisan

July-August-September 2018

*Behold, I give*



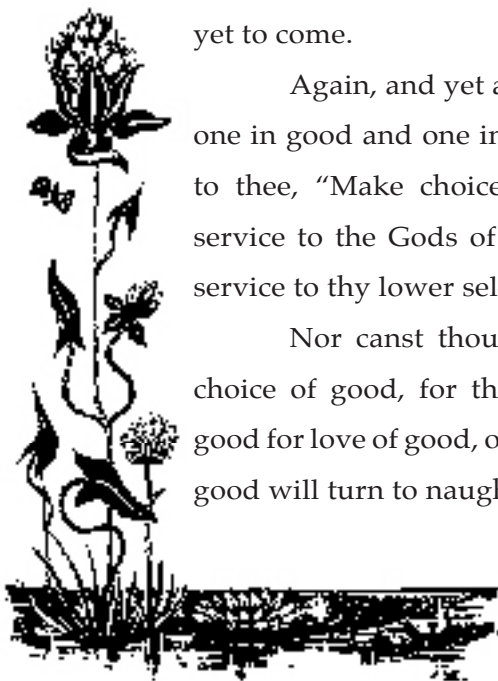
*unto thee a key.*

## THE CHOICE

The choice is thine, O Son of Man, to touch the topmost heights of Life and win the Crown of Immortality and Selfless Love, or sink into the depths of Hadean woe to mourn for aeons yet to come.

Again, and yet again each day, come one in good and one in evil guise, who say to thee, "Make choice between thy loyal service to the Gods of Life, and that same service to thy lower self."

Nor canst thou curry favor by thy choice of good, for thou must choose the good for love of good, or that which seemeth good will turn to naught.



## EDITORIAL MIRROR

Master Hilarion tells us: "Hold your passions, emotions, reserve force. Hold your consciousness, your spirit high and glad, attuned to the highest principles you can conceive. Hold to the beauty and truth of life in every capacity and concern. The Choice is yours." The theme of this year's Convention has been Choice. This is significant as choice is what is powering the evolution of matter, force, and consciousness in the world as we know it. The Paradox is that we have no choice from one point of view. We must choose each moment of each day, and each choice weaves the pattern of our life and then into the Divine Pattern of all life.

— *Eleanor L. Shumway*  
*Guardian in Chief*

## THE 119TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE TEMPLE OF THE PEOPLE

*August 4 through August 12, 2018*

### **Saturday, August 4**

- 8-10 am Continental Breakfast with Karen White,  
Hiawatha Lodge Kitchen
- 10:30 am Informal Opening of Convention, Temple
- Noon Healing Service, Temple
- 1 pm Luncheon and Re-consecration of Lodge,  
Hiawatha Lodge
- 2:30 pm Social Science talks, theme: Choices, Temple
- 7 pm *Agni Yoga and the Temple*, presented by Antonina  
Alexander, Temple

**Sunday, August 6**

8-10 am Continental Breakfast with Karen White,  
Hiawatha Lodge Kitchen

10:30 am Formal Opening, Temple

**The Formal Opening of Convention and Feast of Fulfillment**

**THE INVOCATION**

“In the name of the Great White Lodge and by the power vested in me as the Guardian in Chief of The Temple of the People, I hereby open this 119th Annual Convention by invoking the guidance and blessings of the Powers that rule the destinies of worlds and races, the Brothers of the Fire Mist, the Dhyani Chohans and Dhyani Buddhas, and the Masters of Love and Wisdom, on all proceedings and all who participate in person or in spirit in the Convention for the benefit of all humanity, promoting the Brother/Sisterhood of all Creation.”

Your Father-Brother,

HILARION

**THE MASTER'S MESSAGE  
TO THE 2018 CONVENTION**

My Children:

I bring a message of Faith, Love, Hope, and Courage to surround all my children throughout the world. I would tell you of my Faith in you and your abilities to overcome all obstacles. I would have you know beyond all shadow of doubt of my Love which surrounds and enfolds you every step of the way. I would have you experience the shining star of Hope which will lead you always onward. I would have you know, as I know, that you do have the Courage to persevere and win through to conscious union with All That Is.

As I have told you many times over the past 120 years, in the struggle between the Forces of Darkness and the Forces of Light, humanity suffers deeply through the negative forces of hate, doubt, disbelief, fear, discouragement, and uncertainty, all of which enter in wherever there is any suitable soil. When you choose to open your aura to these forces, you are bound to be affected by them. To counteract this, seek the higher level which is vibrant and pulsating, and cultivate the positive forces of love, light, faith, hope, courage, and trust. Do not let your consciousness dwell on the negative forces, but rather keep your eye on the true vision of life in its totality, its majestic plan and purpose. Difficult? Yes, but not impossible or we would not give it to you to do.

Hold in mind the Strength of the Lodge, giving you strength which leads to completion, with its Grandeur and transcendental Glory. That which has been gained and deeply rooted in the heart of humanity can never be destroyed by those limited in power who wage war against the higher aims and purposes of the Great Evolutionary Law. The Light of the Lodge, illuminating and radiant, shines brighter and stronger than the darkness of any limited power. Out of the maze of darkness and destruction, life's victories have ever been gained and won by sore travail of Soul through pain, suffering, and sacrifice in selfless service for the highest and greatest good of all. Do we promise you comfort and ease? No, but I tell you emphatically that eventually Truth conquers over all adversities. Infinite Love stamps its seal of permanency on all who have mounted to the higher understanding through life's deep experiences. Even though lost for a time, each and every one of you must eventually go back to the fountainhead, the Source of all Life, for help and guidance.

Humanity, through its many cruelties in the past to fellow men and women by thought, word and deed has built up a barrier between the lower and the Higher Self, and suffering is the inevitable result of these negative forces as they endeavor to block the higher plans of the Lodge. But you must remember that suffering is a necessary process to awaken and unfold the consciousness to the higher aims

and purposes of the Masters of Wisdom, and it must be gauged and accounted for by the Divine Law of Justice, Karma. There is no other way. Without suffering and sacrifice there is no growth. But with awareness on your part that self-same suffering and sacrifice can contain iridescent true Joy. The Soul who sounds the depths of suffering calls forth help from the Higher Forces, which alone can open the heart to a truer understanding of life, its causes and results. Any of you who give a sympathetic hand in the hours of darkness and suffering of your fellow men and women give the divine touch, and the force so released gives aid and help to the sufferer as well as to the giver. During this universal suffering the cry goes out to the Great Healer to help all humanity in its hour of need. Sincere prayer and aspiration avail much in these dark hours of distress and pain. You must go within to the place of stillness and Love.

The true goal of disciples in following the Path requires sincere effort to climb the steep, narrow, winding pathway. Again a paradox for while the pathway may seem narrow and steep, you have a wide range of choices on ways to meet all the difficulties of ascent. You are responsible for those choices and the subsequent living out of the result of each choice. While obstructions must appear every step of the way to test your inner strength and ability, hold fast to that which you have gained.

Those who refuse to do their part in the group become channels through which destructive forces work and detract from the work to the extent of the negative forces present. Expiation for rebellious and selfish acts you indulge in must be made in order to regain the true line of Lodge work. And with the expiation comes the blessing of learning if you will but pay attention. Honestly ask yourself each day, "What have I learned today?" The answer to that question will guide you on your Path. You will be answered by that Great Law which is Love, Love that sees beyond the immediate, self-centered need or want to the final inspiring picture. This is the kind of Love that is not permissive or personal, but a Love that transcends words and goes beyond into the Infinite.

During the many years of Temple existence, all you have received from us in the way of force, directions, and instructions for gaining Spiritual Power and Knowledge, adds to your responsibility for carrying out those directions in accordance with the Higher Law and for the accomplishment of far-reaching results. It is the hour of application along all constructive lines. You are strong enough to do this. No matter what the outer beliefs held by each unit of humanity, in truth all have a share in bearing the burdens of the world, and none can escape. Each person must constantly work on the portion of Truth as he or she sees it.

Each of you do not live unto yourself alone. You may choose to think that you can do without all the other units of humanity, but to aspire to reach the height of development alone is to fail. Each one must accept his or her part of the responsibility for attaining the heights. Ultimately, you have no other choice. As a unit the Temple influence has been felt in many directions and in ways unknown to you. Although you cannot know those directions and ways at this time, you must have Faith and Trust in the working out of the Higher Law. As individuals you have been shown the way of the Truth and the Light, and consequently you are held responsible to give freely of your knowledge to help all those seeking to understand. This is not a call to stand on a corner and preach; this is a call to BE the Truth and the Light every minute of every day. As you quietly do this with Faith, Love, Hope, and Courage, you become a distributing point for the High Forces seeking an outlet into the world for helping humanity.

My love and blessings on you all now and in the future days. I am always with you.

Your Father-Brother,

HILARION

Noon      Healing Service, Temple

1 pm      Luncheon, Hiawatha Lodge

2:30 pm   Temple Officers' Reports, Temple

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER

*The position of Treasurer symbolizes the responsibility to our storehouse of spiritual treasure filled with the jewels we have been given to use, to care for and enhance.*

Convention is an infusion of the very highest wavelengths of soul nourishment, as we gather to stand shoulder to shoulder here in the Temple each August. The electrifying opening notes of Warriors of Light galvanize our many hearts into One as we are awakened and prepared on inner levels to take in the impulse of the Great White Lodge of Masters.

The people we can see on the physical plane aren't the only ones here for a spiritual download. With a slight shift of awareness, it is possible to sense the essence of the Temple's family tree, its deep roots and strong limbs growing cell by cell, ring by ring, year by year over these 119 years of unified action by individuals with a deep spiritual commitment to this work. Group and individual growth happens one day, one deed, one person at a time, as we wholeheartedly invest ourselves in practicing the Temple ideals each moment.

It is said that we are not so much human beings having a spiritual experience, as much as we are spiritual beings having a human experience. Simply stated, this heart-shaped space overflows with spirit, meaning, and light because we choose to be present and to participate in whatever ways we can "to prepare a place for the overshadowing Christ to enter and send forth the message which the world has waited for so long."

Perhaps our greatest tasks are to remember, to remind, and to inspire so that we do not lose sight of our purpose and our connections to each member of this long line of Templars. With so much going on in the world politically, environmentally, socially, and spiritually, any of us can become fatigued, numb, or lost without a spiritual tug once in awhile from a brother or sister. We must all remember that the work of the Master's hands is realized through our hands, and the love flowing from the Master's heart is made manifest through our hearts.

Ideals are invisible. They can be powerful and motivational, but do not contribute to the greater good until and unless we breathe life into them on a daily basis and do our utmost to manifest them here and now.

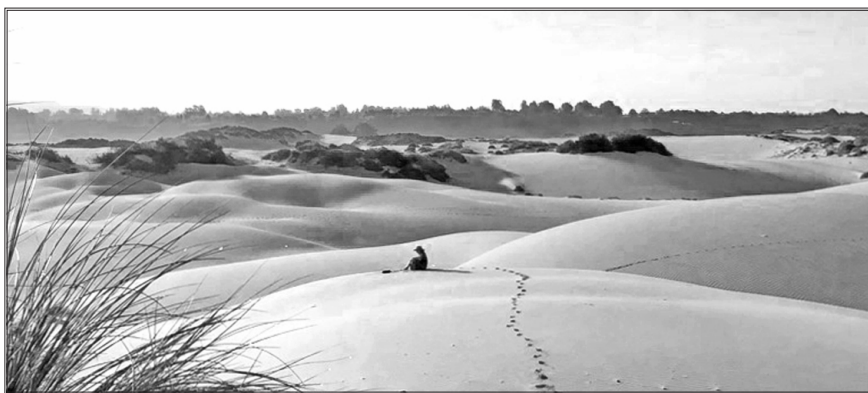
I'd like to close with this charge from the 2014 Master's Message:

*You must build in accordance with the divine plan. You must obey the laws of centralization and discipleship. You must vibrate with principle rather than personality. You must work for the good of all to defeat anything that blocks the true purpose of the Temple. This is work you were chosen to do many years ago, work demanding sincere desire and deep devotion to the eternal principles. All of this work requires pure aspiration and a deep reverence for the Master of Masters, the Christos.*

*I now ask you, as I have asked many times, to guard well the Spiritual treasures accumulated over the years. Guard well the work accomplished in each and every heart. Guard well the brotherly/sisterly relationships existing between you. Preserve harmony in your hearts so that it may go out to all others for their inner help and strength.*

Happy 119th Convention, dear Temple family. May we be blessed as we trust in the Light, and serve each day in the best ways we know.

— Marti Fast



Sunrise Dunes. Photo by Heather Mullin/KiNur Anwa



## REPORT OF THE SCRIBE

*The position of Temple Scribe symbolizes the responsibility to the record of our aspirations, hopes, and faith, and the flow of these to and from all human hearts and minds.*

In my aspirations to gain greater clarity about the purpose of this symbolism and its impact on my life, my beloved bed comes to mind. As I think of faith as foundational to everything I think, say and do, I find my bed foundational to a good night's sleep and a productive new day. When I wake up in the morning, it is my hope about what the new day may bring that puts an optimistic bounce in my step and then my aspirations that give direction to those optimistic steps.

Imagine a world where everyone is able to get a restful night's sleep and how that might relieve some of our tensions, thereby enhancing our abilities to breathe more love into all of our relationships.

This past year I continued to notice the tensions between those of us who believe that our personal will is the Universal Will. I find this more and more challenging for those of us who are endeavoring to know that our personal will is on track to becoming one with the Universal Will.

The entrenchment of positions seems evermore crystallized, as those of us who skirmish to influence the rest of us are once again finding the usefulness of spinning our words, as an effective means for fortifying our creeds. No matter where one may stand within the scheme of things, discerning fact from opinion seems to be requiring mastery.

As someone who can identify with his or her own astrological sign, mine being Libra, my propensity for weighing the pluses and minuses of many a situation seems to be overwhelming my senses. This is especially the case for when it comes to seeing what may or may not be true. I grew up hearing, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder," and now I find it rather evident that truth too is

in the eye of the beholder.

While it makes perfect sense to me that “beauty cannot be judged objectively, for what one person finds beautiful or admirable may not appeal to another,” my concern is that this is becoming more prominently true for the Truth.

This Convention year the Temple Motto and Noon Service Benediction have stood out in my quest for deeper meaning into the position of Temple Scribe.

“Creeds Disappear Hearts Remain” and “There is a Peace that Passeth understanding, there is a Power that maketh all things new. It lives and moves in those who know the Self as One. May that Peace brood over us, that Power uplift us ... till we stand where the One Great Initiator is invoked. And may the Holy Trinity of Love, Will and Wisdom be with us now and forevermore. Amen.”

Over the years I have become quite fond of both of these Temple offerings, hearing them often within the confines of my mind. I have come to believe that there is an alliance of interdependence between “creeds” and the “One Great Initiator” and that their link nurtures the influences that guide us towards fulfilling our highest aspirations.

Additionally I would suggest that belonging to a creed or searching for the One Great Initiator are in essence, strategies to help us discover the true meaning of Universal Aspirations as we journey along the Path.

I also believe that the ultimate Creed has its roots embedded in the First Rule of Discipleship and that the One Great Initiator is hardwired to the Tenth Rule of Discipleship.

Many creeds have initiations. Based on some common definitions, we tend to think of a creed as “a system of a religious belief or as a faith or a set of beliefs or aims that guide someone's actions.” We tend to think of an initiation as “the action of admitting someone into a secret or obscure society or group or

the action of beginning something.” And we tend to think of an Initiator as “a person or thing that initiates someone or something or as a substance that starts a chain reaction.”

Metaphorically speaking, I like to think of our Universal Aspirations in the form of endeavoring to stay on the Path to the Mountain Top while using the Triple Key of Matter, Force and Consciousness as our walking stick. For the most part, our creeds may be represented by the plateaus or landings where the reality of our need to evolve can seem to have ceased. With each heartfelt step upwards or slip downward we find ourselves evermore closer to the greetings of the One Great Initiator. Eventually we may come to learn that we are never really able to remain stationary for very long before the illusion of complacency begins to crumble away, requiring us to have a shift in our position.

Many of us seem to think of our attachments or affinities towards the various economic, religious and scientific creeds as aspirational, without being aware of the unintended consequences of our veiled personal pursuits. It is not my intension to demonize creeds for they’ve been vitally essential to our arriving at this particular point in time. Yet the politicizing and monetizing of the most sacred aspect of life would seem to be approaching the point of satiation and taking its toll on the very fabric of humanity’s long term ability to thrive.

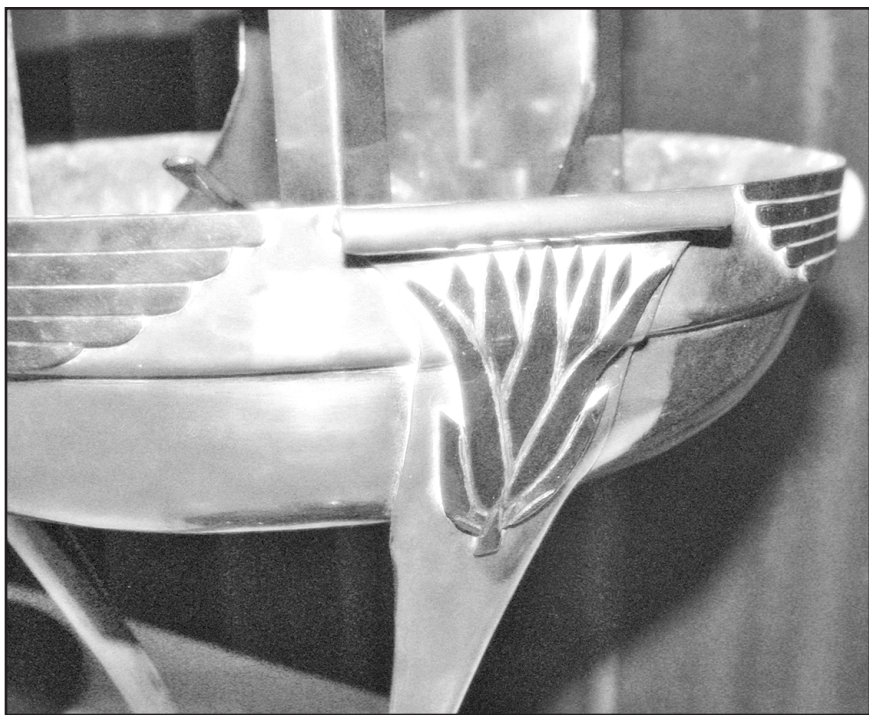
I suggest a Universal Aspirational Creed for Humanity based on the premise that “God is Love, and Love is the Fundamental Source of Being. Therefore, if thou sin against Love, that sin is against God.” And that Universal Aspirational Creed would go like this: “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and mind, and thy neighbor as thyself. This is the highest law.”

Imagine Humanity standing where the One Great Initiator is invoked along our universal aspirational climb to the Mountain Top. We as individuals would need to realize and accept: “When the Law of Love — of Karma — has brought thee out of the morass of spiritual darkness to the beginning of the path which leads to

spiritual illumination, woe be unto thee if thou obstruct that path for thyself or others, by refusing to obey the Master to whose feet that law has brought thee. Only by implicit obedience to the commands of the Master-Teacher shalt thou be able to lift one foot after another while treading that path of discipleship."

We can't choose to be initiated, as the ultimate choice of who and when one is to be initiated is subject to Universal Law. It is in the choosing to aspire to be the change we seek and by living the Golden Rule that we make our aspirational initiations possible. Only when we realize that the Initiation is merely a consequence of the sincerity of our endeavors will our aspirations, hopes, and faith truly be able to flow to and from the hearts and minds of humanity. Here's to many good nights of sleep and beautiful days in the coming year!

— Rick London



*Pedestal.* Photo by Anne R. Dunbar

## REPORT OF THE WEB MANAGER

*The position of Web Manager is to facilitate the connections the Temple has around the world through the web and electronic communication.*

In 2012, the Guardian in Chief officially created the position of Web Master, and in 2017 the title was changed to Web Manager. She recognized that we, the Temple Workers, are in the new millennium and we are in the digital age. With that recognition came the realization that the Temple website, created years before, was inefficient and did not represent the Digital Voice of the Temple of The People.

In a communication to me the Guardian in Chief said the following, "It is true that we could have paid to have all this mechanical stuff done for us, but the important thing here is the ensouling of the Office, not just for now, but for the future. The ensouling process can only be worked out through the testing forces of the Universe. It is not a comfortable process, nor is it one any one of us can hide from. It is in the long run a glorious process, one that nurtures and aids us in our growth. If this new office were not of vital importance for the future of the Temple, there would not be so many seeming roadblocks and testing forces so it can be firmly in place. I have seen that you are the one whose job this is. You have the inner strength, the heart force, and the skills to bring this office into full fruition, not through your lower mind and will, but through your intuition and the careful weaving together of the inner and outer worlds."

For 5½ years, I was troubled, perplexed, angry, and every word you can think of that described my attempt to ensoul this office with what the Guardian in Chief had envisioned. The Guardian in Chief has had Officers' Meetings on a regular basis since convention last year. At a recent meeting all of the officers expressed that they would like to discuss the issues with the website NOW. We did and everyone listened and vowed their support and pledged that they would do whatever was needed to make this work. A few

ideas were discussed but all agreed we would revisit this at the next meeting. As we were readying to adjourn, I brought out a letter that I had written, days before, a letter of resignation. I read the letter stating why it was necessary for me to resign. When I finished, I tore up the letter then and there and withdrew my resignation and thanked everyone for their heartfelt support. In that very dark hour before the Officers Meeting something new emerged. Everything I had been fighting for fell into place. It was not a fix-all nor was it an instant fix. It took several more months for the website to mature to the very professional site that it is today. To say I am grateful is an understatement. But let me say I am grateful, for all the help, all the support, all the suggestion, and everyone that stood with me and beside me. Without all of you we would not have what you see today. All the help I needed was there. It came at the right moment. I want to say a very special thanks for the devoted and dedicated work of Damian Rollison, whose expert technical help is what has made this website work and be the very professional website that it is today.

I would now like to share one of the newest additions to the website, the addition of the PayPal donation link. Anyone wishing to donate to the Temple work, needs only to go to the website to find in the menu the donation button, click on it and enter the amount of donation. This will work for anyone around the world. We have people making a recurring automatic donation each month. We have people making donations of various sizes. And soon we will have the ability for Temple books to be purchased on line via PayPal and to be able to collect shipping. We rolled out this feature a short time ago but it had a small glitch in it, so we pulled it back to do some more fine tuning on it. We receive donations made via PayPal and the Guardian in Chief and I have instituted a method of sending electronically a thank you to these people. The Temple influence is spreading worldwide.

I frequently get via email, inquiries about the Temple, questions on all manner of subjects and many letters from inmates that are in prisons around the country. These all have to be answered.

Other contacts and correspondence take place with people and groups that are affiliated with the Temple Work and use the Temple Teachings in their group work. Serving as Web Manager, I am privileged and honored to hold a position having this contact with people around the world. I am overjoyed with the contacts that I get to make. I am so grateful for all the support of members and friends that have supported the website work with suggestions and I look forward to another very exciting year ahead working with the Guardian in Chief and the Temple Officers and people around the world to bring the teachings to all those seeking the Light that the Masters send to the world through the Temple Teachings.

— Chris Thyrring



## REPORT OF THE INNER GUARD

*The position of Inner Guard symbolizes the responsibility to the feminine aspect of manifestation, the nurturing, connected, indwelling spiritual force.*

Greetings and love to each of you. We are once again beginning a new Temple year. Are we eager to renew our pledges? Are we eager to forgive those around us as well as ourselves? Are we ready to keep working on our aspirations? Remember that no efforts for good are ever lost.

What aspirations might we have? Brotherhood? The Golden Rule? Kindness? Forgiveness? Faithfulness? Honesty? Obedience? Love of God, neighbor and self? What can you add to this list?

We are assured by Master Hilarion that we have all that we



need to strive for and make progress toward attaining our aspirations. That is up to each of us.

Let me share a quote from Thich Nhat Hanh: “Spiritual practice is not just sitting and meditating. Practice is looking, thinking, touching, drinking, eating, and talking. Every act, every breath, and every step can be practiced and can help us become more ourselves.”

—Margaret Thyrring

## REPORT OF THE OUTER GUARD

*The position of Outer Guard symbolizes the responsibility to the masculine aspect, the protecting, questing and balancing forces.*

One of the principles of the Outer Guard position is protecting. I believe it has to do with inner as well as outer matters. Our surroundings, what we hear, what we see matters. What we think or say, what we do or don't do about it matters. Choices.

What mental pictures are appearing on your screen? Are they good for your soul or not so good? Choices.

Close the windows or doors to harmful thoughts if you can, or not. Choices.

The vibration of each word we hear, we think, or we say will sink into the depths of our consciousness. No Choice.

—Ron Carlson

## REPORTS FROM DELEGATES AT LARGE



*Early Walnuts.* Photo by Anne R. Dunbar



*The three positions of Delegates-at-Large, chosen from those Temple members who do not live here in Halcyon, symbolize the many members world-wide whose dedication to the Truth expressed through the Temple teachings is inspiring. They are meeting the challenge of putting these teachings into practice without the outer group support and daily meetings that we enjoy here at the Center.*

*From Mary Workman in New York:* It has been a privilege to serve as Delegate-at-Large this year. Keeping the Temple in my heart each day has been both grounding and enlightening. During a time of national and global unrest, the teachings have provided a perspective that's comforting: We have been here before, forces are balancing and rising, and there will come a time when we transcend current darkness. Whether it's the Avataric Mantram on the subway, or visions of the Swan in the New York forest, I have a profound gratitude for the words from Halcyon. Thank you to the Warriors of Light, and thank you to the gentle souls with warm smiles and twinkling eyes who remind me each day that there are no little things.

*From Pat Grills in Canada:* Dear Temple members and friends, the past year did not progress as I had wished. Pride and an inflated ego caused me to trip a few times; however the love and support from Halcyon never wavered. With deep respect, I thank you for the honor of being one of this past year's Delegates-at-Large. In this time of deep cleansing it is hard not to get caught up in all the angst and illusion and Drama. Without the Temple many of us would flounder on rocky shores and be tossed as easily as flotsam caught in the wind. In the opening pages of Leaves of Morya's Garden we see:

I am - your Bliss. I am - your Smile. I am - your Joy.

I am - your Rest. I am - your Strength. I am - your Valor.

I am - your Wisdom.



With the love and guidance we are blessed to have, may we  
Group Convention 119. Photo by Anne R. Dunbar

walk together in Light and peace, honoring All That Is. With gratitude and many blessings.

*From Joe Brown in Georgia:* After a difficult search for words to describe my tenure as Delegate-at-Large, these are the only words that do it justice. "I will endeavor to realize the presence of the Avatar as a living presence in my life." I will endeavor "here" and will endeavor "there." I will endeavor EVERYWHERE. I have endeavored; I endeavor now; I will ALWAYS endeavor for this realization.

I cannot put it more succinctly than this. I will endeavor, fail and endeavor again. I will do this because I know that I can do this with the White Lodge behind me.



## REPORT OF THE GUARDIAN IN CHIEF

Today in 2018, we have 120 years of collective history that bind us together. I would like to pay special tribute to everyone who has lived that history. In paying this tribute, let us remember that we are sharing the same joys and sorrows, the same idealism and sacrifices, the same human ups and downs with all those who have gone before us in the Temple work.

The Temple has been given a body of teachings that are a distillation of the wisdom of the ages, and we are all asked to use these teachings every moment of every day. We are also enriched over the years by the physical and spiritual contributions from Templars in far flung places. Here we have a gleaming Temple building, a community named Halcyon, our unique homes, the beauty of our surroundings, all the things that we treasure, because of the rich foundation developed slowly by real people; doing and saying real things; feeling inspired or disgruntled; thrilling to the Master's touch or falling through the space of black despair. I do not wish to infer that we need to worship the past, elevating our

predecessors onto pedestals. Rather, let us live our common ideals in our everyday lives. Those who have gone before us serve as our teachers by their deeds more than by their words.

A point has come up in several conversations over the past many months to the effect that it is too bad that there are no replacements for those seemingly “larger-than-life” people of days gone by. Those people we read about, or even knew, such as Ella Vogtherr, Ellen Veblen, Herman Volz, Edward Twistman, John and Agnes Varian, Ebba Whitney, Joyce Hedin, Otto Westfall, and the list goes on and on. All came, all contributed what they could in ways peculiarly suited to each individual, and all went on to other planes to continue the work for the Great White Lodge.

My response to these queries about “where have all the good guys gone?” is that we are too close to the picture of the present to see actual Truth. Each of us, when the time comes to be viewed as “the past” by the future Temple members, will assume the “larger than life” mantle that we tend to drop on the shoulders of others. We are the current teachers, teaching by example as we work on our own commitment to the Temple and our discipleship under the Great White Lodge. Many of us yearn for the seeming simple days of days gone by with parlor games, musical evenings, good conversation, more time to work in the garden, or to be together in other ways. But we live NOW in the days of TV, computers, i-Phones, email, the internet, fast food, fast lanes, social media, and constant communication overload. Our unique, present-day task is to fashion the bridge between today’s inner and outer worlds, using the tried and true tools of yesteryear in terms of today’s realities.

In any month of any year of the past 100 plus years, our Teachings have presented the tools to build this bridge, but we must choose to pick up those tools and use them. The Ten Rules of Discipleship are the foundation, strong and permanent, and they tell it like it is. There is no room for negotiation. The many Temple books, pamphlets, and study courses build on the foundation of the Ten Rules all continually emphasize our responsibility to

make choices, then live out the results, learning from them as we go. These important choices are not the big ones which seem to fall into place when they come up; rather they are the small daily choices of thought, word, and deed as we go about our daily living. How many times and in how many ways throughout the Temple Teachings have we been told there are no little things? The responsibility of that statement is often times overwhelming, and yet by simply meeting this responsibility minute by minute, there comes a flow of love and nurturing from the Master that honors our choices and helps us develop the strength for the next choice.

One fact that becomes increasingly clear to me is that we are not often told specifically what to do or how and when to do it. Within certain broad parameters, Templars everywhere are asked to do what is right; that “right” is determined by active inner participation with the Higher Law. Our lower selves often want no part of that Higher Stuff. We are reminded of that old adage: Better the familiar darkness than the unfamiliar Light. We must remember that in our journey toward the Light, we are asked to bring an adherence to principle, a sense of participating in something larger than ourselves to everything we do, be it weeding the garden, hammering a nail, talking to our neighbor, or attending a class or meeting when we would rather be somewhere else. Several of us remember Harold saying, when we complained that we didn’t get anything out of a meeting or class, “It isn’t what you get out of it that matters; what matters is what you bring to it.”

I don’t know about you, but the more I delve into our wealth of instruction, the more treasure I am finding. Of course it would be easier if someone handed us the treasure; then when things go wrong we can blame the guy (or gal) doing the handing. This is the pivotal point of the Temple Teachings: self-responsibility, coupled with responsibility to our families, to the group, to the Lodge Agent, to the Master, and to God.

As Guardian in Chief, I cannot impose this self-responsibility upon anyone. However, as I work with the increasing clarity of

purpose within my own consciousness, I can articulate what I am learning and perhaps you can glean tools to use in your own process. As I look back over the past seventy-six years of being connected to and/or living in Halcyon, I see a lot of soul-satisfying living and wonderful, instructive, but not always comfortable, interaction with the many diverse people in my Halcyon family. I see some things I might have done differently. I see my own very human need to fix everything for everybody, ensuring a fail-safe, beautiful, comfortable environment where we all live happily ever after.

I suppose I've always known that this "never-never land" would not be possible, but I have come to accept and live with it. I want you to know now, that although I may have done "it" for you, whatever "it" may be, I hereby acknowledge that you and Templars everywhere are self-responsible, fully functioning human beings whom I cherish deeply enough to allow you to bring your talents, your strengths, and your weaknesses to the altar of our common brother/sisterhood. More and more of the daily supervision and maintenance of Temple properties is in other hands. More of my time is available to communicate through email, letters, and responding to those of you who come to me to share a happiness or talk over a problem.

The living paradox for me is that I am the Guardian in Chief of The Temple of the People, a Corporation Sole, and as such there are decisions for which I alone am responsible. I am accountable to the State and Federal governments in physical plane matters, but much more to the point is my accountability to Master Hilarion and my growing awareness of His presence in my life, a growing trust in our connection. With trust and awareness comes the sureness that there is only one way. As He tells us, "Either I am the Truth and my words are true, or I and my words are a living lie. If my words have the ring of truth when I say to you that you are my children and your higher evolution on certain lines rests on your solidarity of purpose, your unity, your staunchness, your willingness and ability to forward the plans of the Lodge, then it



is evident your duty as well as inclination would be to act upon my words in all respects. If my words have the ring of untruth, of falsity, the quicker you are disbanded the better.” There is no wiggle room, but there is a world of Love and protection.

Appointed each year is a board of Temple Officers with whom I meet regularly on matters concerning the Temple. These officers are Inner Guard, Outer Guard, Scribe, Treasurer, Web Manager, and three Delegates-at-Large. Each office symbolizes a certain aspect or facet of the Temple work. For the ensuing year the officers of the Religious Society of the Temple of the People will be Margaret Thyrring, Inner Guard; Ron Carlson, Outer Guard; Marti Fast, Treasurer; Rick London, Scribe; Chris Thyrring, Web Manager; with Olga Mandrigina in San Francisco, Janine Wingate in London, and Alexandr Smirnov in Virginia as Delegates-at-Large. As in years gone by, each one will bring his or her own consciousness to the office, thereby enlarging, sustaining, and nurturing the Temple, themselves, and all of us.

The entity known as The Guardian in Chief of The Temple of the People, A Corporation Sole, will continue to focus on the original purposes of the Articles of Incorporation, the “administration of the temporalities thereof, and the management of the estate and property thereof.” As I work with various representatives of the local, state and federal agencies that we contact, I find a warm response as they realize that we are interested in cooperation and compliance rather than using the law for our own ends.

The inner and outer work of the Temple continues with clear shining direction. We are learning to become more attuned to the guidance of our Higher Selves. At the same time we are learning to humbly accept ourselves and each other with all of our human foibles and divine possibilities. God Bless us all.

— *Eleanor L. Shumway*  
*Guardian in Chief*

6-7 pm     Meditation, Temple

**Monday, August 6**

8-9 am     Meditation, Temple

Noon        Healing Service, Temple

2 pm        Tea and Temple Folks, home of Barbara Norman

**Tuesday, August 7**

8-9 am     Meditation, Temple

10 am      Open House, home of Patte Nolen

Noon        Healing Service, Temple

12:20 pm   Luncheon, home of George and Zelma Colendich

5:30 pm    Temple Study Class, Special Readings, Temple

**Wednesday, August 8**

8-9 am     Meditation, Temple

Noon        Healing Service, Temple

5:30 pm    Potluck/Picnic Dinner, Hiawatha Lodge

**Thursday, August 9**

5 am        Sunrise Hike at the Dunes, meet at the Bologh's  
home

Noon        Healing Service, Temple

2:30-4 pm   Tea, Central Home

**Friday, August 10**

8-9 am     Catered Breakfast presented by Marla  
Lowman and Karen White, Hiawatha Lodge

Noon        Healing Service, Temple

5:30 pm    Study Class, Temple, Special Readings

**Saturday, August 11**

8:30 am    Coffee at the Dunbars, Central Home



- Noon      Healing Service, Temple  
1:15 pm    “*Gold Rush*,” Readers Theatre of South County  
              Historical Society, Arroyo Grande, Temple Carpool  
8 pm        Campfire, home of Karen and Will White

**Sunday, August 12**

- 10:30 am   Temple Builders Program, Temple  
Noon        Healing Service, Temple  
2:30 pm    Ice Cream Social, Hiawatha Lodge  
7 pm        Convention Benediction Service, Temple



*Temple Chairs.* Photo by Annie R. Dunbar

Children of my love,  
my life: I think, I feel, I move,  
I breathe with you.

*From the Mountaintop, Vol. II, pg. 80*

**GREETINGS TO THE CONVENTION  
FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

**BERLIN, GERMANY**

Dear Temple Brothers and Sisters:

Under the banner of the Temple, we again come together to strengthen us in the spirit of universal harmony, love, and wisdom because we are united with all of you in the bonds of holy brotherhood and in a concerted effort to prepare a place for Him who shall come. So joy is received by our hearts and love appears. In deep connection with all of you, your German Temple brothers and sisters are greeting you from our annual meeting in Berlin.

**HOLISTIC CENTRE LONDON  
CREEDS DISAPPEAR HEARTS REMAIN**

To our Temple Family:

We celebrate this Convention with you; in joy and deep appreciation for each and every soul and may we strive to better this world and spread love and wisdom in our daily lives.

In love we share,  
— From your Brothers and Sisters in London

**I WILL ENDEAVOR TO REALIZE  
THE PRESENCE OF THE AVATAR  
AS A LIVING POWER  
IN MY LIFE.**

ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

Dear Temple brothers and sisters, dear friends,

We again gathered together on the inner plane to express with joy and love our devotion and active aspiration for cooperation, directed by the White Brotherhood. Let the Convention time be a Holiday of Light in each corner of the Earth, for every soul.

Our wishes are expressed in the poem by Elena Turkk:

... learn to lift yourself higher  
emotions, desires, passions ...  
learn to feel, see and hear  
not by your ego, but your ESSENCE ...

... learn to lift yourself to the stars,  
in a magic flight of the soul ...  
you'll be there — earlier or later,  
but the heart is now telling: "Do, hurry!"

... learn to lift yourself higher  
than all the stars — to the World of the Fire ...  
learn to feel, see and hear,  
how starry hearts are beating.

— *Your brothers and sisters in St. Petersburg*

## MOSCOW, RUSSIA

The Moscow group is happy to congratulate you and all Temple Members with the Day of Temple Convention! We are grateful to the destiny that brought us to the united Temple of the People.

“The Light of the Great Lodge is in and around us. We are one with it.” (Artisan July 1916, W.H.D.) We feel its radiance and doing our best to send it forth everywhere for the good of our larger self — humanity.

— *Much love from the Moscow group*



*Dunes.* Photo by Heather Mullin/KiNur Anwa

## HARMONY

Let us take for our meditation the idea of 'Harmony.' It is based on coordination of forces. There might be operations in music that some would call inharmonious, and yet that dissonance is a part of the harmony because it is coordinated. Let us bear in mind that harmony does not mean goody-goody actions or conditions. We must take humanity as a whole and not pick up one detail which might, from a single angle, be called inharmonious.

Nature illustrates that. She does not hesitate to throw up a mountain or throw down a mountain. Looked at from one angle it may be a discord, but from another angle it is a bit of harmony.

Let us make a practical application of it to our daily lives. We must be true to ourselves; strike our own note; be true to the whole and the God within ourselves; true to ourselves and the Higher Self; true to the whole orchestra of humanity; and still strike our own true tone, that tone which is our own real Higher Self. Thus we will manifest throughout life a mentality which is most beautiful and which belongs to our Ray, the Hierarchal Ray which is brought into expression through us. There is not an ugly character in life that could not be brought into beauty, if it would strike its own note.

A story is told of a musician who was passing a church one day and heard singing. He entered the church. But he was a very accomplished musician, and it was painful to him to hear that choir. The singing was very discordant. He was about to leave disappointed when he caught one note. He heard one voice singing true and that one voice kept its tone in spite of the discordance about it, and it soon swung all the voices into harmony, perfect harmony, perfect harmony and perfect tone. That is what I mean.

Another illustration of another character might seem inappropriate. General Grant in one of the battles of the Civil War was sitting at the edge of a wood, smoking his inevitable cigar. Things were going very badly for his side, and aide after aide

dashed up to report how badly things were going. He made no comment, sat there imperturbable, calm, poised, confident. After six or seven reports had come in he said to the last one, "Go back and tell General \_\_\_\_\_ 'Never mind what General \_\_\_\_\_ is doing to us. Just think of what WE are going to do with him.'" He had his own plan, his own note. He held his ground and won.

Harmony is a power quality, something that you can hold. With it you are invincible. The forces of disharmony may bank up against it but are transmuted and changed into harmonies. All life is a process of transmutation. We take the crude elements of God into our bodies and transmute them into something alive. All nature is doing this transmuting work. This is our work as human beings, as entities. We must transmute and transform the hells of this world, transmuting lead or baser qualities into the higher. In proportion as we are conscious of Nature's plan for raising everything to a higher scale by the forces of her harmonies, we can, by attuning ourselves with those forces, work with them, and they will work with us. We have the Power of the Infinite Good. Infinite Light and energy behind us. There is nothing we cannot do. Anything we want to do we can do. Anything we want to be we can be, if we sound our note with the Universal Song of Life.

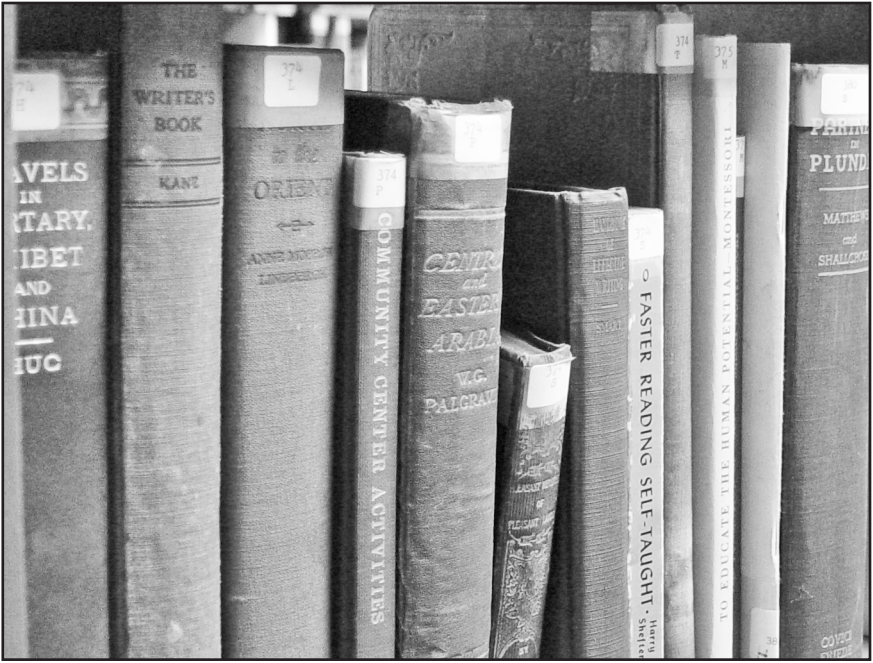
Each one has the power to find that keynote.

The power of Harmony. — Let us take that into the Silence.

— William H. Dower



1930 Temple Porch. Photo by Unknown Photographer



Library Shelf. Photo by Anne R. Dunbar

## A PRAYER

Father-Mother-Son,

From our inmost hearts we plead

For power to love unselfishly;

For wisdom to perceive aright;

For perception of righteous course;

For determination of purpose;

For power of action according to Thy Will.



## 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 *Hiawatha Series of paintings by 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.

**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.

**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.

**Speakers in the Sunday Services** were: May 13, Eleanor L. Shumway: *Soul Choices*; May 20, Barbara Norman: *For The Love of God*; June 10, Eleanor L. Shumway: *Aids to Study*; June 17, Chris Thyrring reading: *The Writings of Dr. Dower*; July 8, Eleanor L. Shumway: *I Am One With God*; July 15, Richard Berg: *Messages from the First Convention*; July 22, Patte Nolen: reading *About Harold Forgostein*.

### *The Temple of the People*

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