

## **Report of the Delegate-at-Large**

Damian Rollison

A little more than a year ago, Rick called me on the phone to ask if I would be willing to serve as Delegate at Large. This request came at a difficult juncture in my life. I had just learned that, despite having very recently moved into a larger house in Halcyon where I expected I would stay forever, I would instead have to move 300 miles away to Northern California. It was very hard for me to accept. After many years of moving away from Halcyon and back again — a pattern that for me goes back to the age of four — I felt at that point that I'd finally, fully rejoined the community as a full time member. And now, once again, I was leaving.

But Rick's phone call turned out to be the message I needed to hear at that moment. By accepting the position of Delegate at Large, I was able to think of this major upheaval in my life not as a banishment but as a mission. It was a great gift to be able to reframe my thinking in this way. And when I heard that the theme of this year's convention would be "Gratitude and Obedience," the meaning of my year in the wilderness seemed to fall into place.

When I moved north and began serving as Delegate, I wondered what I was supposed to be doing differently. Should I reach out to all my new friends and neighbors and let them know that I was available for spiritual consultation? Obviously that was not it. I gradually realized that I was there to serve, with gratitude and obedience, as one small part of a great whole; as a representative of the Temple of Humanity in the broader world; as a testament to the fact that although Halcyon is the Center, in reality there is no time and place — the Center is everywhere and is in all of us. It has been a great lesson for me and an honor to hold that point.