

The Temple Artisan

January-February-March, 2004

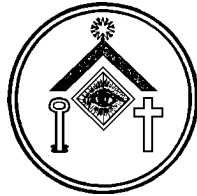
CONTENTS

The Power to Build.....	1
The Editorial Mirror.....	2
Life with God.....	3
Healing Prayer.....	9
After a While You Learn.....	10
A Brotherhood of Souls.....	11
Spiritual Grandeur of Woman.....	14
In Memoriam.....	21
Radiation.....	21
Temple Activities and Notices.....	22

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Behold, I give



unto thee a key.

THE POWER TO BUILD

"All, all I am, my child," the Father saith, "I fain would shower on thee. The fulness, majesty and power of life, in vast immeasurable streams; the wealth and glory of all suns in space, the wisdom garnered by the use of all the higher attributes of gods and men; all, all I hold in trust, I fain would give to thee; and that which I now ask of thee is that with willing heart and in

the love which crowns all service pure, thou wilt take up the little things of life and do them wisely, gladly, knowing that in giving them to thee to do I give thee power to build and cross the Bridge which must be built by effort of thine own to span the stream 'twixt me and thee."



THE EDITORIAL MIRROR

In these days of turmoil and unrest on all levels, we can feel so helpless unless we remember that we have at our command the most powerful force in the Universe. That is the power of Love, expressed through prayer. Even science has accorded prayer the courtesy of investigation with interesting results. This means of tuning into the Consciousness that permeates all Creation is available to all, as language, geographical location, time, creeds or beliefs are not germane. All that matters is a loving heart and a desire to add Love to creation. So this spring, as we watch the renewal of life in the northern hemisphere, let us offer this prayer to the Universal Spirit:

Father-Mother-Son in One: In our inmost hearts we know that You are creating the deep spirit of harmonious, vital, living power which compels Unity. You have given us a place, a way, a cause — the cause of love, the way of righteousness, and the place of unity.

We offer to You our heartfelt gratitude for the guidance, patience, understanding and Love that flows unceasingly from Your heart to ours. You have long shown us the way to listen with our hearts, to act with kindness, and to be tolerant in our judgments. Through the process of striving for harmonious living do we express your teachings.

Help us to do Your work this day and in the days to come. We ask You to help us listen well to Your teachings, and in the listening find the peace that passeth understanding where all things, all peoples, all joys, all sorrows stand in balance in Your radiant Love.

Amen.

— Eleanor L. Shumway
Guardian in Chief

LIFE WITH GOD

Why in the world are we here in the Temple today? Why do some of us live in this peculiar place, coping with plumbing, electrical, and/or heating problems when we might be somewhere else, making a lot more money? Is it low rents, pleasant surroundings, and, if we choose carefully, association with like-minded people? We might think so, conveniently forgetting that lifetimes of association with the Lodge of Masters, and Master Hilarion in particular, have called each one of us here. No matter what we consciously believe in regard to why we are here within the Temple ranks, no matter where our physical address is, the fact remains that we are here, and we are held spiritually responsible for staying at our posts in the work of the Lodge with obedience and faithfulness permeating our lives. We have, on the soul level, dedicated our lives to a conscious, self-responsible relationship with God, or All That Is. There is an old proverb that says, "It is said that our task in life is to go from unconscious perfection..... to conscious imperfection..... and then to conscious perfection."

We are not living in a religious retreat, nor may we indulge in an "only on Sundays" exercise of prayers, meditation and "doing God". We know that God simply IS. So what, you may be asking yourself, do I mean by "Life With God"? I mean that really there is no other life. The Temple Teachings are filled with lessons on the unity of all life, and we more or less all accept that concept, so....what now? How do we live it, demonstrate it, BE it as we move through conscious imperfection to conscious perfection?

I would challenge each of us to examine how we live our life with God. Whether or not we call the Universal Spirit "God", or "All That Is", or Jehovah, or any other name, nevertheless, that changeless/ever-changing consciousness does permeate every one of the manifest universes. Having gotten comfortable with that idea, do we pretty much just live our lives, jogging through our days and nights, doing what we need to do to make a living, clean the house, do the laundry, dig the garden, and, take care of the innumerable things that keep us busy every day, all day? God, if we think in that direction at all during our busy-ness, is a warm fuzzy something surrounding us, unless our busy-ness in-

cludes some health problems, personal sorrow or anguish. Then we usually direct prayers crying for help in that directions.

Why does it seem to be part of the human condition that we often fail to acknowledge our active partnership with God, who is always in, around and through us? Why do we think we can “go it alone” when the going is good, and only reach out a hand when it gets rough? Perhaps this is what Master Morya is referring to when He tells us to seek within.

“Would you hear what I would speak? Then seek within. Would you feel my Presence near? Seek within. Would you see and know the light? Would you find and hold the Path? Then seek within.” He then goes on to point out that this is the only way to find Him and His Brothers. And as we do so, others will follow our example.

Well.. OKthis all sounds like a good idea. But, wait a minute, what does this mean, “seek within”? Look within, and for whom, and how? For me, this is a part of the process of Life With God. Paradoxically, this process is not an active search, but rather getting still enough to recognize the movement of God within our being. Howard Macy, in his essay entitled “Waiting,” tells us so clearly, “Waiting [for God] is not simply another religious activity to be added to the rest. Though we have methods to help us, meditation and silence for example, waiting is more than physical silence. It is a movement of the heart, a stance we take before God. . . .we choose to wait. We consciously carve out an inner space of yielded tranquility. We hush the insistent noises of our hearts.”

There are practical steps to take in this waiting game. We can turn down the volume of outer noise that constantly bombards us. For starters that means the TV, radio, and cell phones. One of my friends has a regular day of silence and contemplation, in which she consciously strives for stillness of spirit and body. Most of us probably feel that a whole day of stillness is not achievable, and yet, with careful planning, even five or ten minutes of silence between tasks in our outer busy-ness will bring a renewed sense of peace and tranquility into our souls and spirits.

There are many ways to focus on our life with God. Becoming aware that we need to pay attention, and then to make a formal commitment to such a relationship is the first, and most im-

portant, step. Then comes the individual choice of just how we are going to do that in a disciplined way. Each of us will have his or her own method of making this inner connection. In our Temple Teachings we are blessed with many instructions that point the way. I think the key here is to proceed in “a disciplined way.” Here at the Center we are fortunate to have the noon service every single day, while others of us have a time of silence early in the morning, or at bedtime. My mother used to say that her times of inspiration and connection often came when she was on her knees scrubbing a floor!

No matter what we are doing, scrubbing a floor, walking, meditating or quietly sitting still, we can follow Master Hilarion’s simple directions on how to reach a state of awareness “Endeavor to cast every thought out of your mind except the one of obtaining perfect tranquility of mind and body. Do not hold your will rigid. Do not make a strong effort at what so many of you term concentration, for you frequently defeat the desired end by awakening too much energy. Try to reach the condition between sleeping and waking, as far as possible, though listening with the inner ear.”

Doing this can be difficult because we are so firmly caught in outer busy-ness. Even Blue Star had a personal letter from the Master in which He urged her to relax and remember that the world wouldn’t fall into the Great Abyss just because she sat still



for a moment. Besides, everyone else also had the same responsibility to hold up their end of the world.

He goes on to tell her, and us, in poetic words, "So rest awhile and see the Father's hand outstretched to thee and Me. God's great completeness flows around our uncompleted parts as flows the deep wide ocean round the rocks scattered in wild profusion in its wondrous depths, silent save for Nature's undertone. And so my Child, sit thee still and let the waters pass o'er thee and bring thee Patience, Faith and Power with which this whole wide world to bless. For one is truly wondrous wise, a Master midst all My sons and daughters, who knoweth how and when to wait."

There's that word again: WAIT. Hummmmm, maybe I can sit in my favorite chair, watch the world pass by and speculate on what is happening, not having to be involved in activity at all? I don't think so! Our part of that waiting process must be a movement of the heart, an active blending of our force with the force of God which indeed is always bringing us Patience, Faith, and Power with which this whole wide world to bless. Life with God, and there is really no other life, is one of active, spiritual self-responsibility. It is a very wide, two way street between God and us. We have lived long ages in which we were told, in our inner as well as outer lives, what to do and when to do it. Now, as the "New Age" comes into being, we are asked to assume our rightful place in the larger scheme of things, to knowingly become a co-creator with God, to move toward conscious perfection.

The problem here is that as we become conscious of this new spiritual responsibility, and of the pressing need for new behavior patterns, we find our old patterns no longer fit and no one has handed us a list of the new ones. We have to invent the rules as we play the game, as it were. These rules must honor the Unity of all Life. For this game, everything in the manifested Universe is on our team. It is not an individual sport. Interestingly enough, we have been told over and over what to do, but most of us only listen fragmentally. Master Morya addresses this problem of listening very specifically in a message entitled "Listen," in which He acknowledges that we do listen when others speak, honoring the act of listening politely as common courtesy dictates. We listen to outbreaks of meaningless, worthless babble that weary us

because we don't want to appear rude. And we often listen too closely to outpourings of vicious slander, or gossip, perhaps because we secretly enjoy the sound.

He tells us that occasionally we pay attention to fine music. It is during this process, for a short time, when our personal self gets quiet enough, that our very souls are thrilled by the sounds and our lower minds rest, thereby allowing an upliftment. During these infrequent, breath-held seconds life evolves inward and upward, and is lifted out of its heavy waves of darkness to greater and larger opportunities. It is these silent pauses, however short, that contain within themselves enough power and potency to create or destroy worlds, to redeem or to curse mankind, according as applied. These silent pauses become our opportunity to become one with the whole. In those brief moments of listening to the Holy Sounds, by the uplift we receive, by the aspiration that sweeps through us when the Holy Hush falls upon our spirit, we have power within ourselves to lift up all created things into truer, clearer living. In these quick passing, far separated moments the individual soul evolves more rapidly and progresses faster than it does in years or incarnations of experiences with exterior physical, intellectual forces.

Master Moyra then asks if we really want to keep on with the pull of the outer world? Or would we like to find release? He points the way as he concludes with, "Would you listen to finer, truer, sweeter ecstasies for a season? Would you partake of the permanence of Life? Then have a moment with me alone. I would speak with you where no other ear can hear, in the Presence of none other but your own Higher, Master-Self. I would whisper clear and soft and true the Word that is living Light unto the Soul, Eternal Music to the Spirit. It rests with you if I may speak the Word which is YOUR OWN TRUE SELF."

Notice that throughout this message there is no suggestion of hours of meditation and silence. Rather He speaks of the "one short moment your personal self is stilled." He asks us to have a moment with him alone. We can choose to bring those moments into a regular rhythm in our lives. Remember that movement of the heart that Mr. Macy speaks of where he tells us, "Waiting can become a gentle expectancy penetrating the hurly-burley of our days."

This sense of gentle expectancy was made more immediate for me by a friend as she moved into her nineties several years ago. In a letter she told me, “. . . I have a new friend: Old Age. In my 90th year I am becoming used to many blessing which were initially tough to receive. They include putting first the things I perceive to matter rather than the obligations of daily routine; enjoying the luxury of companionship with husband Ken and nurturing reading, with the computer pushed aside! The wrench of slowing down publications which are hard on aging eyes and savoring instead what I can hear and easily see. Meditation is such a delight, and so are the wonderful people like you with the occasional contact one way or another. Burdens I happily took upon myself over the course of 89 years have had their day, and now this day is a new one to discover as the benediction it is. I love it.”

In the moments of stillness when we feel the presence of God more deeply, we can receive the Love that flows into our souls, and then we are obliged, in this creative partnership, to let that Love flow out into every moment of our day. The channel for this is the simple process of practicing the Golden Rule, the embodiment of Brother/Sisterhood. Here are five practical suggestions for putting this into everyday action:

1. Be tender, loving, gentle, forgiving, and accepting of those you contact every day. Don't try to change or improve those around you. We get so busy teaching the other person to be better that we forget to simply love.

2. Observe the common courtesies of saying good night and good morning from the depths of your heart to everyone in your life, every day.

3. With heartfelt meaning, tell others when you see something that needs praise, recognition, or thanks, every day.

4. Be courteous and use good manners. These are important parts of spiritual living.

5. Guard against giving in to the forces of anger, jealousy, envy, irritation, sarcasm, inquisitiveness, and criticism toward anyone.

These simple rules give expression to the very best within us. In fact, they are an out-picturing of our Life with God. Recognition of the fact that we do have a Life with God, whether we like it or not, brings glowing color and undreamed of depths to the

tapestry of our lives. With joy and love we need to speak to God, to listen to God, to laugh and cry with God, and to embody all we know and feel of God. Dag Hammarskjöld, who served as Secretary-General of the United Nations in the 1950s, said it simply and eloquently:

“Give me a pure heart — that I may see Thee,
A humble heart — that I may hear Thee,
A heart of love — that I may serve Thee,
A heart of faith — that I may abide in Thee.”

Remember: All Life is Life with God.

— *Eleanor L. Shumway*

HEALING PRAYER

Out from the Infinite source

A river of healing is flowing.

Washing away the sin, the sickness, loss,

Mending worn bodies with the comfort of its waves.

Sweeping away the gloom out of the tired mind.

Be resting into its peace all you who enter here.

Be stilling the soul into calm

That the Peace of Heaven may bloom.

Here broken hearts can be healed.

Here fever and fear can be changed.

The Light of the Heaven world is close to you here.

The river of Healing is flowing about you.

BE STILL, MY SOUL, AND RECOVER.

— *JOV*

AFTER A WHILE YOU LEARN

After a while you learn
the subtle difference
between holding a hand
and chaining a soul.
And you learn
that Love doesn't mean leaning
and company doesn't mean security.
As you begin to learn
that kisses aren't contracts
and presents are promises.
And you begin to accept your defeats
with your head up and your eyes ahead
with the grace of a woman or a man
not the grief of a child,
and learn to build all your roads on today
because tomorrow's ground is
too uncertain for plans
and futures have a way of falling down
in mid-flight.
After a while you learn
that even sunshine burns if you ask too much.
So you plant your own garden
and decorate your own soul
instead of waiting for someone to bring you flowers.
And you learn
that you really can endure
that you really are strong
and you really do have worth.
And you learn
and you learn
with every goodbye
you learn ...

— *Doug Weedon*

A BROTHERHOOD OF SOULS

There is a fixed limit to the number of individual souls in manifestation throughout each kalpa, or great age; but that limit is far beyond the possible computation of man. One phase of eternal life becomes manifest as Ideation, and whenever or wherever an idea is formulated, by its inherent force or energy, its subtle potency, it becomes a center around which gather a certain limited number of individualized souls which constitutes a definite brotherhood.

The fundamental law of all manifested life is brotherhood. All great systems of religion or philosophy have two aspects: the concealed or Infinite Potency and the revealed or finite expression. The concealed or Infinite Potency lies hidden in the Father-Mother, or the first two of the Trinity, which is the basic principle of each particular system; the Son, the third principle of the Trinity, is the finite expression, and this first manifesting Trinity constitutes the first great cosmic brotherhood. It may also be formulated in terms of Matter, Force, and Consciousness, but it still remains the first brotherhood, and from it spring into existence all lesser brotherhoods.

Each physical body is a brotherhood in itself. Cellular life obtains throughout the manifested Cosmos, and even such a minute organism as a cell is a brotherhood of still lesser lives, subject to the laws of change and growth, and containing infinite potency.

With what measure can a man search out the individuality or identity of a soul? Its sheaths, like fleeting shadows, come and go. Cycles upon cycles of time stretch backward into long-lost ages, and forward into the trackless future. Suns, moons and stars appear and disappear into the silence of the Great Abyss. Passions consume themselves in the fire of their own longing. The trio of heavenly sisters — Faith, Hope, and Charity — rise to indescribable heights of devotion, and sink back into meaningless words. But a soul! — the divine spark of identity — journeys on and on eternally through vast universes incomprehensible to man as man is now constituted, seeking, ever seeking that divine fire from which it was first wafted into space, and away from which its separate life is incomplete; and only through the divine idea of

brotherhood can the individualized soul regain its lost paradise of unity. For unity is the goal on which the eyes of the soul are fixed; and the more rapidly the diversified atoms, molecules, and man coalesce, become one in mind and in action on the lower planes, as they are in reality on the spiritual plane, the more quickly will the desired goal be reached.

Nature furnishes many examples of unity in adversity. Brotherhood as a scientific fact is not confined to any one phase of life. All Science, Art and Philosophy embody and teach the same great ideal. Every artist, musician, or teacher is one of a peculiar brotherhood. The genius, the ideal perfection for which each strives or has attained becomes his, or is his, by virtue of his fellowship with still greater souls who have attained perfection, although the recognition of this fellowship is not always mutual. Genius has been allied to madness in the minds of many whose inner senses still remain sealed, but the genius that only too often incapacitates the artist or musician for what is commonly termed practical life is an efflorescence of life, a higher vibration of Spiritual substance. The effects of these higher vibrations on the atoms of the physical body tend to their refining to such an extent as to render contact with lower or coarser forms of life a constant torture.

It has been said, "the Soul goeth alone to the Supreme," but this statement refers to the Universal or Synthetic Soul. Each individual Soul is a microcosm of a macrocosm and, ere it findeth rest in the Supreme, it has no less a work to perform than that of raising to its own stature the embryonic lives that lie hidden in the nucleoli of every cell of all the bodies it has ever formed and used, for they are part of it, and constitute what we term a group soul, belonging to a still higher Group Soul.

Above us who are now on the physical plane rises rank after rank, degree upon degree, of those who once entered the same path that we are all seeking or have found. At the other end of that path there is the incognizable, incomprehensible loneliness of the last initiation chamber, at the door of which the soul stands knocking for admittance.

That door is the only one which opens from the heart of the Son, or differentiated life, into the heart of the Father, or unified life, and on all the descending steps to the very last, rises the

great anthem of the Eternal Brotherhood. You see it shining from the faces of the souls you pass. You trace it in the atom, the plant, the animal. The glittering constellations of the stars in space proclaim it. The sun darts forth innumerable rays of splendor that softly whisper, "we are children of one Father." But man, made in the image of God — that is, in the imagination or mind of God, endowed potentially with the attributes of a god — betrays, murders, and sacrifices his brother to his own selfish desires, and carries the coat of many colors dripping with the warm life-blood of his brother, back to the door of the Father's house, saying, "A Lion hath slain my brother, I am innocent."

There is more truth in the biblical text, "Seek and ye shall find," than appears on the surface, for while its truth is apparent in the world of matter, it is of infinitely more importance as regards the soul, for that which we seek we will find in its fullness in the soul sphere, which is governed by different laws than those in operation on the material planes.

We are exactly what we think, not what we appear. If we think truth we become truth, and finally our consciousness rises to and becomes infinite truth. If we recognize, believe, and act with the law of the eternal brotherhood of souls, Love — the underlying law of all creation — will identify us forever with that great Brotherhood of Souls and with the Masters of all wisdom, power and might. We will go in and out of our Father's house, members of one great family, reunited by blessed ties, the grandeur of which we are not yet capable of cognizing, but the spiritual aroma of which reaches us in hours of perfect self surrender and fills us with longing unutterable for the completion of that holy function, "the marriage of the soul."

— B. S.

"To eat, drink and sleep, to be merry or sad, is not life. Life is the intense, pulsating, vibratory acme of knowledge, truth, love, beauty and faith. Reach out and breathe it into your own soul as a famishing man reaches for bread to sustain his fainting body."

— *Beacon Fires*

SPIRITUAL GRANDEUR OF WOMAN

"The world without woman is a rocky cliff without flowers."

— Folk Wisdom

In the coming new era, the demand for woman will increase significantly; and woman must realize her importance — her great mission as Mother of the World — and prepare herself to shoulder the responsibility for the destiny of humanity.

To begin with, let us remember how Master Jesus told of the predestined role of woman. He told us to respect woman, for she is the Mother of the Universe; and the whole truth of divine creation is contained within her. She is the foundation of everything good and beautiful, since she is the source of life. On her depends the existence of man: in suffering and pain she gives him life; by the sweat of her brow until death she fosters and nurtures him; her heart, filled with love, ennobles him, softening the hardness of his heart, conquering the wild beast and transforming him into a lamb. On woman depends the existence of man, for she is the ethical and natural support in his labor.

Woman has the divine gift of separating good intent from evil. She will become for a man a divine Temple where he will easily reach perfect happiness. Draw spiritual power from this Temple. In it you will forget sadness and failures. You will regain lost strength, which you need in order to help others. Don't denigrate woman, for by doing so you will denigrate yourself and you will lose love, without which nothing exists in this world. Care for and protect woman so she can care for and protect you and all your family. That which you do for the mother, wife, widow, or other woman in need, you also do for your God.

The voice of the Woman-Mother should resound among those who decide the destiny of humanity. As a mother, holding her child to her heart, listens to his heartbeat, so the Mother of the World, with the love of her heart, hears the pulse of the Universe, and in the fullness of time aligns the fractured vibrations of the cosmos.

In an address to the Federation of Women's Clubs in America, Nikolas Konstantinovich Roerich said, "When there are disharmonies in the house, then we turn to the woman. When calcu-

lation and computation don't help any more, when animosity and mutual destruction reach their limit, then we turn to the woman. When evil forces overcome us, then we turn to the woman. When the calculating mind becomes powerless, then we remember about the woman's heart. Truly, when malice crumbles the mind's resolution to pieces, only the heart finds the way to salvation. And where is the heart that can replace the heart of a woman? Where is the courage of the heart's fire that can be compared with the courage of woman at the edge of despair? What hand can replace the comforting touch of persuasive assurance of a woman's heart? And what eyes, taking in all pain and suffering, will respond both selflessly and beneficially? In olden days the laurel wreath was given to heroes, yet rightfully it belonged to woman." (N. K. Roerich, *Fiery Stronghold*, New York, 1932, p. 311)



The era of blossoming, the era of renaissance, the era of prosperity will be brought to fruition by woman, by the glowing sacred flame of her heart illuminating all educational walks of life.

In his book *Rose of the World*, Daniel Andreyev writes about the Universal Entity embodying in itself the principle of eternal femininity which is the Virgin Mother Principle of the Cosmos. He talks about the higher feminine principle as inspiring and guiding the whole human race: "Divine femininity we call the Mother of the Logos, and through the Logos, the Mother of the whole Universe. But the eternal union of the Father and the

Mother doesn't change Her everlasting essence. Exactly for this reason we call the Mother Forever Virgin ... It is known that from gnostics to Christian thinkers of the beginning of the Twentieth Century there lived in Christianity some vague but intense and persistent perception of the Universal Feminine Principle — a feeling that this Principle is not an illusion, not a projection of human categories into the cosmic plane, but a higher spiritual reality." (D. Andreyev, *Rose of the World*, Moscow, Prometheus, 1991, p. 120.)

The Christos, Jesus, drew near to Himself poor women, sinners who were used by priests experienced in magic, who were considered as sacrifices and who were forbidden contact with the spiritual world by those priests. A woman was an incomplete spiritual slave. And the Master Christ, with his Divine Power and Knowledge, awakened the women. He showed them his great all-forgiving love and let them feel the results of his influence over them. He helped them to understand their inner world. He undertook the extremely difficult task of bringing through to earthly consciousness all the stages of initiation at the dawn of the Age of Wisdom to tie the past with the coming day. Thus came the encounter with the Higher World, and so occurred the transfiguration. The Mother of God brought a babe to the Temple of the Father, and here occurred the first encounter of the God-Son with the earth. The Son came to the Temple of the Earth, and then man, in the recesses of the Temple, had to find what he needed to penetrate the Temple of Spirit. And he prayed; and God's Mother came to help him, and this saved him. From the Mother's hands he drank the cup of initiation, and great Love dawned upon the heart of woman — that Love that offers the opportunity to give oneself and one's life to serve others.

The whole Trinity came to earth in the body of woman and man: woman, the Mother of God; and man, the Christ, who blended in himself Love and Reason (the Father.) With their life on earth they brought about the great initiation of Humanity into the Mysteries of God.

The Church, by its authority, sanctified the cult of the Mother of God in the East, and the cult of the Madonna in the West. Reverence for the Mother of God is one of the aspects of Christianity. Humanity experienced this motherly aspect of the all-encompass-

ing, unlimited heart of the Mother of God. In this heart humanity found safe sanctuary from bitter earthly sorrow and wonderful ties connecting a suffering humanity in the Immaculate Virgin Mary, reaching to the sky with high aspirations but chained to the earth by countless failures.

Motherhood — raising children, creating the hearth and home, taking care of the sick and treating with ethical healing, the transformation of nature, creating with love, nurturing religious upbringing by creative impregnation of the soul of the one she loves — is where woman is irreplaceable and infinitely gifted.

The mother's heart, the woman's heart, is a great treasure. It kindles us and illuminates the family. Who will understand all and forgive? Mother, woman. Who will inspire heroic deeds? The loved one, the girlfriend, woman.

In 1930, one of the women of Altai, a member of the Sisters of Gold Mountain, wrote a letter to Elena Ivanovna Roerich, in which she shared her thoughts about women's unity. This letter was gladly received with joy by Elena Ivanovna, and in April of 1931 she responded, also by letter. Elena Ivanovna wrote, "In these difficult days of cosmic cataclysms and human disintegration and degeneration, of forgetting all higher principles of being that offer the true life and lead to the evolution of the world, there needs to be raised a voice calling in the resurrection of the spirit and bringing the fire of heroic deeds into all actions of life, and of course this voice should be the voice of a woman, who drank her cup of suffering and humiliation and who was tempered in great patience.

"Let now the woman, Mother of the World, say, 'Let there be Light!'

"What will be that Light and what will be the fiery valor? It will be in the raising of the banner of Spirit, on which will be inscribed Love, Knowledge, and Beauty.

"Yes, only the heart of Woman-Mother can gather under this banner the children of the whole world, without distinguishing gender, race, nationality, or religion.

"Woman — Mother and wife, witness of the development of man's genius, can evaluate all great masculine importance of the culture of thought, of knowledge.

"Woman — who inspires Beauty, knows the whole strength,

the whole synthetic power of Beauty.

“Humanity has to realize the all-encompassing Cosmic law, the law of greatness and balance of two principles as a foundation of the Universe. All aspects deprived of these two principles call into life imbalance and destruction. But let woman, realizing this law and endeavoring to balance these principles, preserve the whole beauty of the feminine image. Let her not lose the softness of heart, the fineness of feelings, sacrifice, and the courage of patience.

“Sisters of Gold Mountain! We face a challenging but wonderful time. I send you the call of the heart. Arm yourselves with the fires of aspiration, patience, and courage. Through all obstacles carry ‘The Banner of the Mother of the World,’ the banner of Sacrifice and Beauty, so in the hour of victory you place it on the top of the World.” (N. K. Roerich, *State of Light*, Alatas, 1931, p. 46)

Nikolas Roerich highly valued feminine Unity and repeatedly pointed at the significance of women in teaching spiritual values to the younger generation.

In spheres of higher creativity is a pattern opposite to that which we see in the physical world: there the fertilizing principle is feminine, and the forming and embodying principles are masculine.*

The feminine principle is inspiring and leading the whole human race. Let us remember those who were called Muse in olden times, inspiring the world’s artists and authors of scientific discoveries.

The great Russian church fathers, Sergey Radonezhski and Serafim Sarovskii,[†] through numerous visions and prayers to the Mother of God, were given the overshadowing protection of the Higher Feminine Principle. The great Socrates called his teacher a Woman. Within the deep understanding of Higher Love and enlightenment of Plato there was also a woman involved. The Divine Comedy is the fruit of two, Beatrice and Dante. The great heroic deed done by Joan of Arc, the flame of her heart, the flame of the execution fire, leave an eternal memory of her. The great

* In relation to this passage, we recommend the article by U. V. Mazurin, “World of Paracelsus,” *Delphis* #4, p. 34.

† See the article about Serafim Sarovskii by E. S. Uzkovaya, “Fiery Elder,” *Delphis* #4, p. 5.

heroic sacrifice of the wives of the Decembrists lives in eternal memory. How many Russian women became Muses for the great artists of the world! The spiritual seed of their immortal creations was indeed sown in the depths, in the hidden creative recesses of their subconscious minds, by women. The names of those women deserve the appreciation of their descendents in the same measure as the names of the artists themselves. In all areas of science, art, the building of society, and governing, woman showed that she can achieve the highest success.



The strengthening of the influence of women in the New Age grows out of the natural properties of her character, such as heart force, softness, responsiveness, aspiration for truth and justice, love, compassion, and love of peace. Today in our society these qualities are required much more. Leaning on these qualities, woman is called to resolve new evolutionary tasks. The influence of the feminine principle toward legislative, diplomatic and political bodies should be significantly strengthened. In any cooperation of man and woman, the law of ratios should be taken into account; for in any area of high creativity, man and woman should be on the same level of development of consciousness. Only when the equilibrium of principles is restored will humanity receive a powerful impulse and a huge surge of new creative

forces.

“In the New Age, the woman herself should realize the gifts given her by Nature. We are stepping into the era when the feminine soul will become purer and wider, when more and more women will become profound inspirations, sensitive mothers, wise leaders, far-seeing guides of humanity.

“This will be an era when the feminine and the human will manifest with a force never seen before, balancing to perfect harmony the autocracy of the masculine principle.” (D. Andreyev, *Rose of the World*, Moscow, Prometheus, 1991, p. 125)

The world has never before needed heroes and saviors as it now does. Women, realize the whole greatness of your Principle and aspire to knowledge and power. Where there is knowledge, there is power. Women, show an increase of courage and fearlessness and understanding of your responsibility for every thought, word, and deed. Realize your great purpose as a mother, giving life, guiding and inspiring humanity on the evolutionary path! Love is the flame of your heart. You are Faith, Hope and Love. Every day, affirm yourself in joy and readiness for the most difficult thing. This will be your contribution to the building of the New Country and the New World.

The coming era is called also the Era of the Mother of the World, or the Era of Woman. The Mother of the World is a great creative power in our being, giving form to all cosmic breath. Not for nothing are the three miracles existing on the Earth all of the feminine gender in the Russian language: *food*, to feed people and keep them always healthy and strong; *woman*, to perpetuate the thread of life; and *book*, to maintain the link from era to era.

— Eugenia Mikhailovna Velichko,
translated from the original Russian by Rita Moiseyeva

“Spiritual Grandeur of Woman,” by Eugenia Velichko, was published in Delphis, #4, 2003. Delphis is a widely circulated Russian-language magazine in Moscow offering an emphasis on Agni Yoga, Theosophy, modern science, and ancient wisdom. Its publisher, the Delphis Collective, actively translates and publishes articles from the Artisan, and we are pleased and privileged to reciprocate with the first of a series from our Russian brothers and sisters.

IN MEMORIAM

Amos Leon Dana, husband of Patty Lentz Dana, passed away on December 22, 2003. Amos, born in 1940 in Santa Maria, California, lived in Nipomo and Pismo Beach, attending the local schools. It was in high school that Amos and Patty met. They were married in 1962.

After college Amos worked as a probation officer, retiring in 1999 as Deputy Chief Probation Officer of San Mateo County. He also taught for 20 years at the Santa Clara University Political Science Department.

He is survived by wife Patty, four children and their spouses: Susie and Greg Stangland, Don and Gloria Dana, Richard and Carol Dana, and Peter and Rebecca Dana; and by eight grandchildren.

We will all miss him.

RADIATION

Radiate yourSelf everywhere
 Be like the sunshine that opens a flower
 Be like the soothing raindrops that quench the soil
 Be like the warm breeze that gently blows clean

Radiate yourSelf everywhere
 Touch all things with loving thoughts
 Speak words that soothe and caress
 Work quietly, yet with great power

Radiate yourLight everywhere
 Bring colorful understanding through all action
 Share the depth of heart-force in conversation
 Work from the central point of Principle

Radiate yourSelf everywhere

TEMPLE ACTIVITIES AND NOTICES

The renewal of life is very much in evidence as the gentle rains and warm sunshine have brought the fruit trees into blossom, and the wildflowers are filling all the nooks and crannies around town. The blue lupine seems to be a mirror for the sky. The green of the different grasses nurtures our spirits. Later, they also will nurture the mowers as we struggle to keep the weeds from our gardens! In the meantime, we enjoy it all and feel blessed by such beauty.

Not only are we renovating our gardens these days, but several bathrooms have needed serious attention, requiring such things as new floors, fixtures, plumbing and wiring. Derené Darrah's, Drummond's, Moiseyev's, and Zuniga's have all been updated.

In the Comings and Goings department we have welcomed Eugenia Velichko from Moscow. Eugenia comes every year to visit her daughter, Olga Fedosova, who lives in the Bay Area, and they always plan a trip to Halcyon, bringing greetings from everyone in Moscow. Many of us visited with her during tea at the home of the Moiseyevs. Audrey Bukner from Miami, Florida, visited for two weeks, renewing old friendships and making new ones. Tara Kelly and her mom, Carolyn, were here for several days. They had moved to San Rafael with Tom in August, and were back visiting friends and favorite places. Jeff Green and wife Marita are visiting Dorothy Green, while Barbara Ricardo is visiting her daughter Connie and family in Alaska. How fortunate Dorothy is to live with her daughter, Barbara, and have her son, Jeff, near enough to come for visits.

Eleanor Shumway won a seven day cruise to the Mexican Riviera in January on the new Carnival Pride cruise ship. She and her sister, Barbara Reed, enjoyed the activities on board, and the sightseeing in Puerto Vallarta, Matzatlan, and Cabo San Lucas. It was a new, relaxing, and interesting experience for both ladies. Damian Rollison and Natasha Rykman attended a yoga retreat in the Bahamas, returning refreshed. David Brkovich visited brother Harold Brown in southern California for two weeks, seeing all the sights and having a wonderful time. Susie Clark made two trips to Disneyland, one with grandchildren and one just for

grownups. There is something there for everyone!

At Margaret Harloe School, just down the street, Mary Eister's kindergarten class presented "The Three Piggy Opera" recently. Zoe Rollison and Shamus Drummond were enthusiastic performers.

Hiawatha Lodge has been a center of much activity since last summer. We have been using it for potluck suppers at least once a month, first and third Saturday night Movie Night, second and fourth Saturday night Game Night, T'ai Chi groups on Monday mornings, Temple Builders class (the children), second and fourth Sunday mornings, and Tuesday and Friday Temple study classes. The South County Historical Society meets in the Lodge for a potluck dinner and program once a month. The Lucia Mar Adult Education department offers two sewing classes, one during the day on Tuesday, and the other on Wednesday evenings, that meet happily in the Lodge. Now, the children and the adults are planning two plays, to be presented on our wonderful stage during the next three months.

The Temple Builders, the Temple's children's department, has been learning about their community and service. They recently cleaned up litter around The Farm, the thirty acres of land we lease to Jerry Rutiz, who farms that land without the use of pesticides. While the children helped clean up the grounds, they learned about the growing things, the nature forces, and the care that is due them. Concluding with good stuff to eat, it was a very successful morning!

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

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 Mondays, 9-11 a.m. and 6-8 p.m., and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Other hours are by appointment through the Temple office.

The **University Center Gallery** is open every Saturday from 2 to 4 pm. "Triangulation," a show of works by the three local artists Marti Fast, Douglas Bond, and Alfredo Arciniaga is on exhibit until June 5. Please call the Temple office at (805) 489-2822 for information.

The **Temple Healing Service** is held at 12:00 noon each day in the Temple. All are welcome to attend.

Sunday Services are held at 10:30 a.m. 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 on the last Sunday of each month. Speaker 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 in Hiawatha Lodge on Tuesdays and Fridays at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Speakers in the Sunday services were: December 14: Eleanor Shumway, *The Call*; January 11: Istvan Balogh; January 18: Barbara Ricardo reading Rick Ricardo's *The Bhagavad-Gita*; February 8: Marti Fast reading Willy Gommel's *A study in the Study, an Allegory*; February 15: Cecelia Page; February 22: Eleanor Shumway, *Life With God*; March 14: Eleanor Shumway reading Elmer Hedin's *Common Sense in Occultism*.

THE TEMPLE OF THE PEOPLE

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All photography in this issue is by Patricia Tyler.