

The Threshing Floor

September 2016

Newsletter of the Guild for Psychological Studies

Web site: www.guildsf.org

Phone: (415) 561-2385

P.O. Box 29385, San Francisco, California 94129-0385

e-mail: office@guildsf.org

Guild Vision: The Guild envisions a world in which the significance of each person's truth, authority, and inspired purpose finds fulfillment in life and community.

Guild Mission: Guild seminars offer a way of psychological and spiritual transformation that inspires individuals to live their purpose, expand consciousness, and discover and create meaning in their lives and community.

Anxiety and Joy

a Guild for Psychological Studies seminar

June 27 - July 2, 2017

Leaders: Manuel Costa, M.A., M.F.T.

Jennifer Larson, M.A.

Patricia Calcagno Stenger, M.A., M.F.T.

Location: Angela Center

Santa Rosa, CA

For more information, please contact

Patricia Stenger at

pstenger@Comcast.net

New Guild Website Design

By Harry Henderson

Over the past few months, the Guild has been working with Karen Falk, a talented Web designer and East Coast seminar participant, to create a new design and interface for our website. The new design is cleaner, more attractive, and easier to navigate than the old version, which was designed using different software more suited to an organization with more extensive needs. You can see the results by visiting us at our usual address: www.guildsf.org. We'll be continuing to add material to the site in the coming weeks. As always, feedback and suggestions are welcome.

Also, don't forget to visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/guildsf>.

Sonoma Weekend

By LynnAnne Forest

Valley hills bake a heated welcome,
soft cat echoes ecstatic purrs,
ears of kangaroo hare watch while
Blue jay screeches questionings.

Near rustling oak and maple, newly
watered bright pink flowers lie
Reality... Possibility...
They too welcome, watch, inquire.

Ember burned memories glow in fire
winter chill grey of second day.
Silent space waits expectantly for
encountered knowing.

Furred meow leaps to glass, watches
small bird becoming. It chirps
and flits from branch to branch
from past and now to what may be.

Cat stretches now on hearth place rug
Content completion in all her moves.
I sit and rock and move unhurriedly
From past, and now, to that in need of me.

Grey then moves from muted tones to
darkness of the night.
An owl is heard in search and hunt
while fire's coals go cold.

What wills, what needs, what wants to be
first grows in darkness, thrusts thru pain
And then Becomes through choiceful acts
in times like these.

Laura Grosvenor

We are sad to report that one of our Northwest Committee for the Guild, Laura Grosvenor, died of a sudden heart attack on Wednesday, August 10, 2016. Laura was a friend and compatriot. We grieve.

The Northwest Committee of the Guild for Psychological Studies Rob Fletcher, Maryann Lee, and Kate Lynch

Laura Grosvenor – too young By Nansea and Jack Russell Stone

Though we had met before, we really got to know Laura when we facilitated a weekend in the spring of 2012 for the Northwest Committee at the residential community of Bill Towner, although Bill could not attend. Our subject was to explore the commonality of current Science with Spirituality.

It was then that we discovered Laura's deep fondness for Oneness and Synchronicity, as well as her connection with First Peoples—all subjects we had focused upon since our studies with Norman and Ruth McMullen. It happens that Norman passed away in the U.K. just about this time a year ago, so where are our special touchstones now?

In the spring of 2015, Laura captivated her FB followers with a humorous photo-travelogue through the towns and pubs of the southwestern U.K. all alone. Her humor and pathos were over-the-top-entertaining.

Following that trip, she spent an afternoon in our home on her way to meet her nephew David in the Bay Area. Her handmade and painted drums she left with us hold a place of honor in our bedroom.

After returning home to Aberdeen, she has devoted herself to education and librarianship for neglected people and children of coastal Washington. They carry the greatest burden of loss, for Laura will be irreplaceable in their lives as she was fulfilling her Free Spirit nature. Keep dancing on the brink, Laura, wherever you are.

Laura Grosvenor By Sarah Eeles

Last year Laura took a long-anticipated journey to Wales and England in honor of our dear Jane Harries, Seattle Committee member for MANY years. In the process, Laura made a magical visit to Cornwall and stayed in the little town where the British TV series "Doc Martin" is filmed. One of her greatest joys, she told me afterwards, was that she met and had a conversation with actor Ian McNeice, who plays Bert Large in the program.

This is the picture of the two of them with which she proudly returned. I know she would love to share this very important event with everyone. She had said she wanted to go there again.



Spiritual Knitting between Myself and a College Friend

By Maureen Hartmann

Memories return, of my friendship with Anne (pseudonym) in the 1960s, when we were both age twenty-one. We engaged with courage in common projects and projects on our own, meant by our young idealism to help the future. She taught catechism, trying to prepare herself for a teaching position, badly wanted by her, in an elementary school. Anne stoically narrowed her possibilities by refusing to apply to schools that did not support the Congress for Racial Equality in their curriculum. At the time, I did not understand the risk she was taking: her parents expected her to make her own financial arrangements, while mine did not. At the same time, I leaned on her for encouragement and moral support, which she was ready to give, in my philosophy studies and in my spiritual life. This relationship was my first experience of intimacy.

Anne morally supported my beginning an existential philosophy group between Dominican College for women and the men's University of San Francisco. The memory of seeing, in the summer before, on a tour of Catholic Europe, the seats for Vatican II under construction in St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome influenced me to begin the group. I do not know if I thought to share that memory with her.

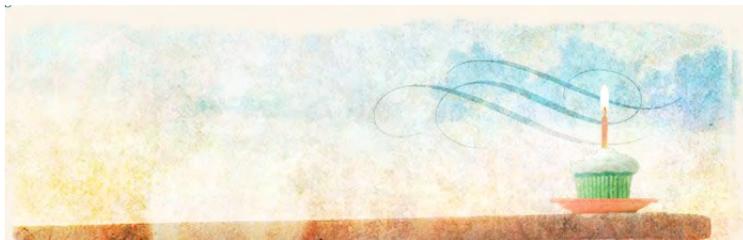
As a humorous aside, my friend asked my favorite young man in the philosophy group from the men's college to the junior prom at the end of the year. The woman manager of the college dining room, in which she waitressed, came into our room to help her with cosmetics on the eve of the prom. My friend was laughing hysterically at all the makeup going on her face, afraid that might cheapen her appearance, and my senior classmate assured her: "I am just bringing out your Irish beauty!"

In recent years, Anne and I have admired, together, John Lewis, the Georgia representative, before he held the sit-in in congress for gun-control. To me, that is a continuity of her stand against CORE.

In spring 2016, thinking of that friendship, I had a vision of dawn blue sky, laced by a few grey and pink cumulous clouds, meaning for me struggle and hope in the sixties continuing into the twenty-first century. There has been meaningful communication between us this summer of 2016, in which she affirmed me spiritually and offered me strength.

September Birthdays

Judith Peterson	Sep 2
Dean Olson	Sep 3
Charlotte L Brown	Sep 5
John Hopkins	Sep 5
Damilia Loupy	Sep 11
Eliane Wilson	Sep 11
Jon Orvik	Sep 13
Elli Norris	Sep 15
Barbara Lyon	Sep 20
Wilene Chang	Sep 22
Patricia Wilson	Sep 26
Howard Lewis	Sep 29
Robin Taylor	Sep 29



Stay Connected

Bob Ridder, Administrative Coordinator, is available for all inquiries by phone at (415) 561-2385, or by email at office@guildsf.org.

Send your email address to office@guildsf.org so that we can keep you connected and up-to-date on Guild events. Also be sure that we have your current mailing address so that we are able to send you this yearly edition of the newsletter. Please keep us updated with your address changes.

Mailing Address

Guild for Psychological Studies
P.O. Box 29385
San Francisco, CA 94129-0385

Guild Website

Visit www.guildsf.org for information about seminars and events, and to register for seminars. The website also has general information about the Guild, past issues of the Threshing Floor, relevant news, and links to resources. If you would like to post information of interest to the Guild community, please email harryhenderson51@gmail.com, our web administrator.

Guild Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/guildsf>, launched in January! If you haven't yet, please "friend" and "like" us!

Newsletter

To receive 12 issues of *The Threshing Floor* a year, please contact the Guild office. There is no charge for an e-mail subscription. For a print subscription, please send a check for \$25 to the Guild office.

Items for inclusion in the Threshing Floor should be mailed to the Guild Office, Attn. Threshing Floor Editor, or emailed to office@guildsf.org. The deadline for each issue is the 20th of the month. Items received after that date will be published the following month.

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Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this newsletter (by contributors other than staff and directors) are the writers' and not necessarily an official position of the Guild.

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Order publications on the Guild website, or contact Carina Ravelly at guildpublishing@yahoo.com.

Donations

Many thanks to our donors! Your financial support in any amount helps the Guild with seminars and other events, with the training of leaders, with outreach, and with other new and ongoing efforts. Because the Guild is a registered nonprofit organization, with 501(c)(3) status, your contribution may be tax deductible. Donations should be directed to the Guild office address, or you may donate online using the PayPal link you'll find by selecting the Make a Donation link on the main page of our website.

Volunteers

There are several people who fill necessary volunteer roles in the Guild. If you would like to be a Guild volunteer, please contact the Guild office at office@guildsf.org and let us know particular volunteer roles that appeal to you. Currently volunteers are members of the editorial staff for the Threshing Floor; members of the Board of Directors; serve as continuing education coordinator; train to serve as seminar coordinator, committee person or cook; provide transportation to/from seminars for attendees; help to catalog or research Guild archive materials; write reviews for Guild books and other publications; etc.

Friends and Members

Friends of the Guild are donors and others interested in receiving Guild information who are not Voting Members. Voting membership requires active participation in some form of leadership or committee role, or other volunteer effort, and the payment of annual dues. Voting members may receive a print subscription to the Threshing Floor upon request.

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