

E-Correspondence from the Central Regional Council July, 2012

It has been quite some time since our last issue of *The Correspondence*. An editor to follow in Lori Barian's footsteps has not been identified and we continue to look at our regional communications and how to make them efficient both in terms of human resources and financial resources. There are quite a few items about which we want to inform our Central Region members so this *E-Correspondence* format is being explored as an option. If you have any suggestions or contributions, please send them along to Marianne Fieber at marianne.fieber@yahoo.com. We hope this format will help us reach members in a timely way with information that is of interest.

Communication Support:

If you are receiving this email as a leader in your area, **please forward it on** to all the members in your group, branch or initiative. We want to ensure that all our members in the region remain connected. If you prefer that another member of your group be responsible for receiving and passing this on, please let us know. **We need your help and thank you.**



We want to encourage our Central Region Members to attend the ASA conference August 9-12 in Ann Arbor, MI. It is not too late to register for this important gathering of members and co-workers from across the country and world right here in the heartland - our Central Region! For details on registering please check out the brochure through the Anthroposophical Society website [Anthroposophical Society in America: Conference 2012](#).

Several Central Region members will also be joining the pre-conference Leadership Colloquium prior to this main event also planned for Ann Arbor.

Financial Report from our May Conference

Attached is the financial report for this year's May meeting in Little Rock, AR prepared by our CR Treasurer, Mary Louise Hershberger.

Report from the Annual Gathering in Little Rock, Arkansas

A memorable 2012 Annual Gathering of the Central Region was held on May 4-6 on beautiful Petit Jean Mountain in central Arkansas. The theme of the conference was *“The Grail of the Central Region: Questing from the Heart.”* The watershed of the Mississippi River forms a grail in the land and the Arkansas River which flowed below us is part of the central regional grail system. The grail theme was magnificently designed to encourage warmth and heart-felt connections one to another for all who attended.



Rudolf Steiner’s lecture, *“The Human Heart”* was the study material for the weekend. Dennis Dietzel formed the following mental picture of the heart for us:

Before birth, man draws into himself the forces of the etheric universe, and in so doing forms his own etheric body. By puberty, these forces gather themselves together and suspend within themselves the physical heart.

Man’s astral body brings to the child experiences he has undergone between his last death and his present birth. Throughout his lifetime, man’s actions are recorded in this “astral body.” These astral forces eventually concentrate in the region of the heart.

A concentration of both etheric and astral forces are thus established in the heart by the time of puberty. Steiner describes this as a “joining together of the cosmos of what man does in this world. This is the point where the cosmos is joined to the karma of man. Then when man passes through the gate of death, this ethereal-astral structure—contains all that man takes with him into his further life of soul and spirit.”

Marianne Fieber led our group in a communion with nature and elemental beings on the Saturday morning “Songtrail.” The colossal rocks and outcroppings formed by the abutment of two Arkansas mountain ranges (one formed by eruption and the other by erosion), provided an appropriately ethereal atmosphere for the songs and verses.





Mary Louise Hershberger led an exercise which explored the nature of a question that comes from the heart; a question with the potential to heal. She assigned to the group the task of formulating questions which Parzival might have asked King Anfortas in his Quest for the Holy Grail; questions meant to heal the wound of Anfortas. The questions raised by the attendees led to insightful discoveries of how we can be mindful of healing questions to ask others. This exercise was moving and elicited remarkable depth of understanding for many who participated.

The Parzival Pageant, an original script and score, was written and directed by Marianne Fieber and Dennis Dietzel, and performed by all those in attendance. The Saturday evening highlight evoked lively participation and good cheer. The evening ended with a group stroll through a crystal sun wheel and a meditation before the perigee supermoon. *(edited script and songs are attached to this email)*



Eurythmy was woven throughout the weekend activities by our gifted guest Eurythmist, Raven Garland.

During the Sunday morning discussion of the “Renewal of the Anthroposophical Society, the Central Region Anthroposophists joined in the commitment to share the challenges confronting the Society at this crucial time.

The current CRC members were affirmed for another year at the Sunday morning Annual General Meeting of the Central Region. However, saying farewell to out-going CRC member, Margaret Runyon was a mournful task. Her 14 years of service and her leadership and commitment to the Central Region will be missed. Thank you, Margaret, for your service! Margaret’s departure from the Council leaves a vacancy. We look forward to welcoming our new Central Region Council member next year.



It was a delightful, educational weekend for all of us. We “Little Rockers” are small in number but large in our love for Anthroposophy. We steadfastly strive to plant a seed for Anthroposophy in Arkansas, and thank the Council for inviting us to host this year’s Conference, as this is one more giant step toward that end.

All those who attended are invited to “come again!” And for those who didn’t . . . you missed at great conference! Come see us!

*Respectfully submitted by Sonjia Michaels
for the Little Rock Group*

The CRC is on the look-out for a new partner

With the departure of Margaret Runyon after 14 years of service, the CRC will be looking for an active member in the central region who has been participating in our events and has demonstrated potential as a colleague in service to supporting groups, branches and initiatives working to bring anthroposophy to life.

Council Members will have their next conference call on August 27th. If you would like to add a topic for our agenda, please pass it along.

If you have a notice you’d like to share with Central Region members, please send them for the *e-Correspondence* to marianne.fieber@yahoo.com.