

# E-Correspondence

from the Central Regional Council  
October, 2012



## 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.**

## Dennis Dietzel Recommended to continue as the CRC Rep to the General Council

The General Council of the Anthroposophical Society in America will be gathering in Ann Arbor during the final weekend of October. This will be their first meeting since the August Colloquium, Conference and AGM. Their agenda is going to be filled with considerations toward the next steps to be taken to continue the momentum toward renewing the Society. Additionally the constellation of the General Council will be assessed. Dennis Dietzel has been serving as the representative for the Central Region based on the recommendation of the CRC. We have once again put forth Dennis as our representative to the General Council and he has agreed to continue serving in this role. We are indebted to Dennis. He has been a wonderful regional council member as well as General Council member. We anticipate our recommendation will be accepted and Dennis will once again be confirmed.

*Thank you, Dennis!*

~Marianne Fieber

## Awakening to our Regional Community

Anthroposophical Communities are special; at least I find them to be so. We experience many individuals coming together out of a remarkable impulse that has a quality of strength and empowerment allowing them to move beyond their families or blood communities. Together they forge something new, something for the future. Anthroposophy is a celebration of relationships. In lecture VI of Steiner's *Awakening to Community*, he shares some challenging and exciting thoughts about community. He says,

*A real community spirit is similarly attracted by our common experiencing when we study anthroposophy together, though it is obviously not a group soul active in the bloodstream.*

*We must make anthroposophy real by learning to be aware in anthroposophical community life that where people join in anthroposophical tasks together, there they experience their first awakening in the encounter with the soul-spiritual element in their fellows. Human beings wake up in the mutual encounter with other human beings.*

Throughout our Central Region, many groups are engaged in study or anthroposophical activity. We all have a part to play in creating our anthroposophical communities where mutual encounters take place. I invite anyone wishing to do so, to send us what you are studying, locally. This may inspire others or ignite some new activity for our fellow journey-folk. We may recognize some common themes which lead to ever more connections.

*May our feeling penetrate  
To the center of our hearts  
And seek in love  
To unite with those  
Who share our goals  
And with the spirits  
Who look down benevolently  
On our heart's earnest strivings*

*Verse for America ~ Rudolf Steiner*

We want to hear from you and awaken to our anthroposophical community in the central region. You may choose to share as much or as little as you wish. Please include your group name, city and state followed by the title of the book, lecture or activity with which you are working along with a contact email address (optional). You may include a few words about how you are working with the theme. We will publish these as they come in over the next few months and I thank you.

Here's an example:

Great Lakes Branch, Ann Arbor, MI: **Mystery Drama Explorations Group**  
30 minutes of drama games followed by reading aloud Rudolf Steiner's Mystery Dramas.  
[marianne.fieber@yahoo.com](mailto:marianne.fieber@yahoo.com)

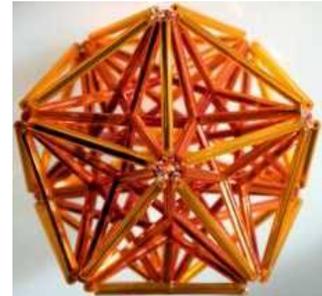
## What's going on in our Region?

Follow the link below to the events listed on the Anthroposophical Society's website.

[Anthroposophical Society in America: Central Region Events](#)

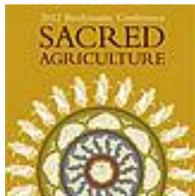
**Toward a Better Understanding of the Foundation Stone** A weekend with Margaret Shipman and Beth Usher  
November 9-10, 2012 - Houston Texas

This weekend is dedicated to making the Foundation Stone Meditation more accessible. Rudolf Steiner called this meditation a "dodecahedral stone of love" and contains all anthroposophical content in the fewest words possible. May it become a constant companion after this weekend. For more information: Lisa Yilalys - [lyilalys@gmail.com](mailto:lyilalys@gmail.com) - 713-882-1301



Circle of Friends in Fargo, ND is hosting a workshop event entitled

**The Christ Event of the 21st Century ~ Singularity and Immortality with Yeshayahu (Jesaiah) Ben-Aharon** November 10-11, 2012



## **2012 Biodynamic Conference: Sacred Agriculture**

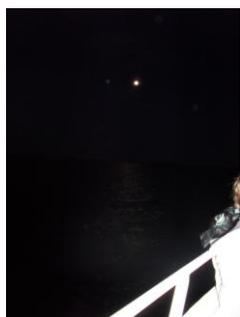
Creating a new relationship with the earth.  
Wed, Nov 14 to Sun, Nov 18 2012 - Madison, WI  
<https://www.biodynamics.com/>

(Dennis and Marianne are attending this conference - if you are planning on going - let us know! We can meet up at some point.)

**SAVE THE DATES: Central Region Annual Meeting - May 3 - 5, 2013 - Location TBD**

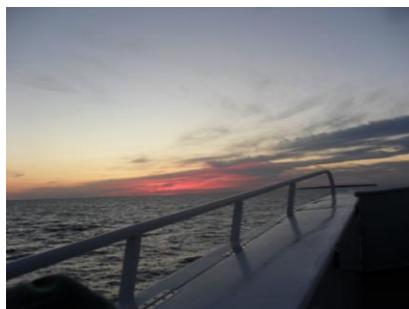
## Reports from the Region:

### Exploring the Night Sky with Mary Stewart Adams



On September 21st Mary Stewart Adams presented at the downtown Ann Arbor library. The title of her program was Storytelling with the Stars on the Autumnal Equinox. Mary and I had reconnected during the August Anthroposophical Society conference and now, being an Ann Arbor resident, I was drawn to hear her speak about what she loves: the story-rich firmament above our heads. I was delighted to see quite a few fellow anthroposophists among the multi-generational audience in a nearly full hall. A point Mary stresses is the fact that we are losing, as a wider society, our connection with the stars, constellations and their stories. She is dedicated to changing that. Through her slide presentation and easy flow of historical facts and star lore, we were led to a relationship between the familiar Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes and constellations. She credited Rudolf Steiner as one of her teachers and a quote by Steiner was featured in her presentation.

Toward the close of this presentation, Mary announced her Full Moon boat cruise the following weekend. September 28th would be the final full moon cruise of the season and this one would be the Harvest Moon. Mary had been working with Shepler's Ferry Service out of Mackinaw City, MI all season on monthly full moon cruises along the Straits of Mackinac, providing commentary about the night sky sprinkled with Star Lore while the Full Moon rose over Lake Huron and the Sun set into Lake Michigan.



I decided I couldn't pass up this opportunity to head north during this colorful season and witness Mary Stewart Adams on her home turf. It was a four hour drive straight to the tip of the mitt of Michigan. The cruise that night was sold out and we shoved off just after 7:30 pm. There were a number of special guests on board, as well as folks who had traveled far and wide to join in, hailing from places like Athens, Georgia, Columbus, Ohio and from throughout the state. One special guest was Robert Dudd, Youth Orchestra Leader at

Crooked Tree Arts Center in Petoskey, Mary's friend and amateur astronomer. Anthroposophist James Stewart and wife from Freeport, MI were present, along with Candice Ludlow, Morning Edition host for Interlochen Public Radio south of Traverse City, who does a weekly "on-air" conversation with Mary every Friday morning, as well as members of Mary's family.

The wind picked up on the open water but the somewhat cloudy sky shone with the Harvest Moon and a number of brilliant stars. The moon's light outshone some of the smaller stars but we still saw some favorites: Arcturus, Vega, Deneb as well as a few constellations; Cassiopeia, the Big and Little Dippers.

The following night, Michaelmas, Mary once again shared her passion at the Headlands International Dark Sky Park with an evening program specifically planned for a group of foreign exchange students and their host families from Holland, Michigan. The 40+ students were truly an international group and came from many countries, including Brazil, Germany, Azerbaijan, Norway, China, Taiwan, Spain, Italy and more. As the Sun set to the West beyond



Lake Michigan, the clouds hugged the horizon, but in between the smoky masses, the moonlight shone like a beam lighting up the rough coastal park. The dark sky was remarkably well-lit by the Moon, and it was a wonderful introduction to the riches to be found in northern Michigan.

I recommend a visit if you are anywhere near the area or make it your primary destination. The following link, [International Dark Sky Park](#) will take you to the Headlands Park and the programs offered year-round by Mary Stewart Adams.

- Marianne Fieber

### A few words from Mary:

In May, 2011, Emmet County's 600-acre Headlands property became the 6th International Dark Sky Park in the US and the 9th in the world. The tremendous response to the designation and the popularity of the on-going programs caught the attention of our State Rep, and he later sponsored legislation that would protect an additional 23,000 acres of state land from light trespass and light pollution. This legislation was signed into law July 2, 2012 as Public Act 251, and is referred to locally as the "Dark Sky Coast" bill, protecting as it does nearly 20 miles of the northwest coastline of Michigan.

*My Head bears the being  
Of the resting Stars.*

*My Breast harbors the life  
Of the wandering Stars.*

*My Body lives and moves  
Amid the Elements.*

*This am I.*

- Rudolf Steiner

My mission in this initiative has been to safeguard the imagination by protecting our access to the night sky and its stories, and the response to this 'star lore historian's' approach has been well-met. Through regular programming, we attract a wide and diverse audience, and we are consistently featured in local, national and international media, including USA Today as recently as October 12, 2012.

I experience a tremendous longing in program participants for the story elements that can accompany, and in many cases 'humanize' the scientific approach to the night sky, and in this I am reminded of Rudolf Steiner's statement, **that of all the sciences, the science of astronomy will be the first to be restored to its spiritual roots.**

Please join me under the starry skies of Northern Michigan!

-Mary Stewart Adams

### Regional Member being heard - A word about Richard Kotlarz

Richard Kotlarz is a member from Minnesota. His background is in engineering consulting, industrial testing and product design. He admits that this background, which is augmented by military service, work in human services and political activism, does not include significant professional experience in the area of economics. He has come to his interest and learning in

economics as a common citizen with a personal mission to understand and resolve the larger issues in the world around him. His quest has taken on a very different nature as a result of his encounter several years ago with the work of Rudolf Steiner and his teachings on the Threefold Social Order. He is currently active in the Twin Cities area speaking and discussing money and economic matters.

Recently, Richard Kotlarz had an opportunity to engage in an hour-long conversation with Diana Longrie on the TV show "Off the Record News" which was aired on channel 15 of the SCC (Suburban Cable Chanel) network in the northeast Saint Paul suburb. The topic for the show was on funding economic and political causes. Richard expressed: "I anticipate that the discussion will be of a nature that one would not expect to find elsewhere in the media."

Also, there has been posted at <http://blip.tv/our-world-today> an hour-long interview Richard Kotlarz and Bob Schmitz had with Suzanne Linton on the SCC TV show "Our World Today" on August 13, 2012.



If you have any suggestions or contributions for upcoming issues, please send them along to Marianne Fieber at [marianne.fieber@yahoo.com](mailto:marianne.fieber@yahoo.com). In the subject line, indicate that they are for the e-correspondence. We hope this format will help us reach members in a timely way with information that is of interest to our members.

**The Central Regional Council is:**

Dennis Dietzel, Roseville, MN  
Marianne Fieber, Ann Arbor, MI  
Mary Louise Hershberger, Fargo, ND  
Alberto Loya, Ann Arbor, MI