



Center Community News

The Newsletter of the Center for Sacred Sciences

Fall Retreat Transforms Hearts and Lives

A first-hand report by our woman on the scene,

Kiva Michels

This year's fall retreat was titled Fire in the Heart and all attendees would surely agree that this is an apt title. There was a lot of fire flowing on this year's retreat, both inside the hearts and in the confused and bewildered minds of the "passengers" on what came to be known as the "Bhakti Express." Joel did a masterful job as conductor on this journey through the Bhakti path, and many were "stunned" that he could so adeptly address the path of the heart. Joel shared that his path was a fairly even blend of both Bhakti (path of devotion) and Jnana (path of inquiry). Joel counseled that most people's paths are a blend of the two, and not purely one or the other. On this particular retreat, the entire Bhakti journey was laid out before us and practiced intensively, thus the term "Bhakti Express." Before the train could leave the station, however, all potential passengers had to ponder the impermanence of this world, and the futility of placing any of our hopes in worldly things, which all pass away, leaving us constantly wanting and yearning. This yearning, we learned, was actually very wise and primordial, but simply misdirected as it is truly a yearning for the Divine, rather than for the world. Once we were convinced that the world was not where we wanted to place our hopes, we could then look to begin the journey of the heart.

To ride the Bhakti Express, one could not simply purchase a ticket and climb aboard. This train's toll was twofold: Passengers had to produce a mantra or sacred word or prayer, and have an initiation before boarding. We learned that on a Jnana path, one could simply begin with a love for truth and a burning curiosity about who one is, and what this all means. However, to be a Bhakti, one must have an inner experience of the Divine, the initiation. One could choose to take the Jnana path, but one could not simply choose a Bhakti path. But, what if one hadn't had such an initiation experience? Verbal prayer was offered as a way of "priming the pump for that primordial love and longing in the heart." Many of us realized that we had hardened our hearts in the course of our lives, so before we could deepen into our practices, we had to take a deep look into our hearts, allowing them to begin to open again.



RETREATANTS: (bottom row from left) Jim Zajac, Steve Jonas, Bill Hamann, Clivonne Corbett, Rich Marlatt, Jack Yousey (middle row) Cathy Jonas, Karen Wickham, Fred Chambers, Joel Morwood, Robin Bundy, Ann Everitt, Kiva Michels, Megan Greiner, Tom McFarlane (top row) Alan Mishchenko, Sharry Lachman, Gene Gibbs, Gail Marshall, David Cunningham, Mike Strasburger, Lewis Bogan, Bill Carter, Jim Patterson (not pictured: Peggy Prentice, Miriam Reinhart) (photo credit: Jack Yousey)

We also did simple japa practice, the repetition of our sacred word or mantra, with the intent of cultivating genuine feelings of love and longing for the Divine. Thus began the journey through the hearts which is the Bhakti path; a path along which one feels one's way. The hearts on this path include the physical heart, which is the location one directs their attention in practice; the emotional heart, which is the "place" from which we experience our emotions; the spiritual heart, which is the clear, open space—once the emotional heart is purified—where we can commune with the Divine; and finally the radiant heart which is Consciousness itself, or ultimate reality. Now that all passengers were aboard on this dizzying journey through the hearts, we began to be introduced into the main practice on the journey: "Prayer in the Heart." This practice involved feeling our way into our hearts using our mantra to drop us into that heart space, and getting very close to our hearts with our attention...until our attention was soundly in the heart with warm feeling for the Divine. As Theophane the

Recluse put it, “What you seek in prayer is to establish in the heart a quiet but warm and constant feeling towards God....” Repetition of mantra occurred in the heart and many of us found that the mind was much quieter when one’s attention was in the heart. Next, passengers learned that in order to continue this journey into the heart, we had to purify our emotional hearts of strong negative or afflicted emotions. Joel taught a Bhakti method of transforming negative emotions, which is quite simple. It begins by recognizing that every negative emotion is rooted in love; for example, intense sadness arises when we lose someone we love. (It wouldn’t arise much at all if we lost someone we did not love.) The practice involved allowing the negative emotion to arise and fully be there, asking oneself what was the root of love within that emotion, and once recognized, directing that “misdirected” love toward the Divine. Afflicted emotions could be viewed as “fallen sparks from the fire of love” (from the Bal Shem Tov). The more intense the negative emotion, the more fire for the Divine, if directed properly. The train was moving on quickly, and passengers did not linger anywhere long. Next we practiced Unceasing Prayer, which deepened our experience of continual love of and devotion to the Divine. Repeating the sacred mantra throughout one’s day in every moment was the aim of this practice. We found that by so doing, the “story of I” that dominates the mind can be largely shut down and our hearts can be filled with love and longing while our minds repeat sacred mantra. We then moved on to the practice of Silent Prayer in which one drops into the depth of the spiritual heart, noticing the silence from which mantra comes and returns, and allowing all mantra and concept of the Divine to drop away into the “Divine darkness.”

On the Bhakti path, which up to this point seemed easier in many ways than the path of inquiry, we learned that there is one major catch. One falls in love with the Divine, yet ultimately one must let the Divine go completely, as any concept that exists is not the ultimate reality. Many who have taken the Bhakti path find this step excruciating, and some have chosen not to take it. Yet to come to a realization of our true nature, all concepts and distinctions must fall away. Through silent prayer practice, many of us experienced an “elemental sense of our own blind being;” a very subtle experience of the self which separates us from Consciousness Itself. When that last subtle experience of self dissolves, realization can occur. And this is where the real twists began. Joel taught that, since there is nothing but the Divine, there is no self to dissolve and there is nothing that must be done. All passengers knew this as “Bewilderment Station,” and the night we spent there, we had “Train Wreck Heart” tea with dinner. Some passengers got nauseated, and others simply checked out. But, ultimately, we were still all together when we arrived back at Diamond Hall Station on Sunday.

We learned that even though there is nothing to do, and that we are already the Beloved, we still must engage in spiritual practice, as explained by the Buddhist

teaching of Two Truths. This teaching states that from the perspective of the Absolute, there is no self and no effort is needed to do anything. From the perspective of the relative, however, there is an experience of self and one needs to do practices to weaken that experience of self. Even if the practices are not “true” in the ultimate sense, in that they presume the presence of a self that is not actually there, they still help to weaken this experience and help us realize the non-existence of a self. So, there you have it.

Thank you, Joel, for your teachings, which were so clear, and spoke to our hearts. You are truly a gift to us, and we appreciate what you do to help us see our true nature.

On a personal note, I asked my Beloved on retreat, “What do you want of me, Lord? How do you want me to serve you?” This was the response that came: “Love, love, love, love, love yourself and others until there exists no difference between the two. Love, love, love, love, love Me and the world until there is no difference between the two. Love, love, love, love, love until there are no distinctions left....”



Foundation Studies Course

We are a diverse and interesting practice group ranging in age from 30-65 (or so), meeting on Wednesday nights to share our rainbow-colored hues. Together we explore books by mystics from many paths, and discuss meditations and precept practices. We are enjoying sharing time together, being present for and in each other’s presence. Sometimes we sip tea and have informal (but not frivolous) talks after formal group discussions. Such a lovely foundation on the path to the regular Practitioners Group!

Peace, Clivonne and Todd

Thanks to Sheila!

The CSS Board and the Center Community at large would like to extend a warm thank you to Sheila Craven, who has served selflessly and diligently on the Board for the past six years. She brought a wealth of valuable expertise in the fields of business and computers. She played an instrumental part in many projects and we will miss her presence. We wish her well in all the new, exciting endeavors she undertakes.



Introducing the Introducers

Shan Ambika and Vip Short have finished their tenures as Sunday announcers. Now joining coordinator Robin Bundy in the introductions hot seat are Megan Greiner and Steve Jonas. Many thanks to Shan and Vip for lending their unique styles.

CENTER FOR SACRED SCIENCES STAFF

Directors

Fred Chambers
Jennifer W. Knight
Thomas J. McFarlane
Joel Morwood
Miriam Reinhart

Spiritual Director

Joel Morwood

Associate Teachers

Andrea Pucci
Todd Corbett

Library Director

Jennifer W. Knight

Library Assistants

Camilla Bayliss
Robin Bundy
Bonnie Donahue
Therese Engelmann
Sylvia Hawley
Wesley Lachman
Peggy Prentice
Miriam Reinhart

Office Assistant

Maggie Free

Publications Director

Thomas J. McFarlane
Newsletter Editor
Vip Short
Proofreading
Karen Fierman
Maggie Free
Mailing
Wayne Leeds

Website Editor

Thomas J. McFarlane

Retreat Coordinator

Fred Chambers

Retreat Assistant

Gene Gibbs

Sunday Introductions

Robin Bundy
Megan Greiner
Steve Jonas

Audio Engineers

Damien Pierce
Steve Jonas

Publicity

Sheila Craven

Librarian Maximarian

Kudos to Deanna Cordes for womaning the library's book drive fundraiser for six years, carting countless boxes of donated books to various local bookstores in the effort to bring you, the reader, new reading. In addition to that heavy job, Deanna spent three years tirelessly shelving books and helping customers in the library. Thanks, and best wishes. We'd also like to welcome Sylvia Hawley as a library volunteer.

Welcome to a New Board Member!

In September, Miriam Reinhart was elected to the CSS board. She brings a wealth of experience, including nine years of practice at the Center; five years of volunteer work at the Center; co-leading the Foundation Studies Course; and—many years in private massage practice.

Once you see what you are doing or have been doing [dysfunctionally], you also see its futility, and that unconscious pattern comes to an end by itself. Awareness is the greatest agent for change.

—Eckhart Tolle, *A New Earth*

Just look at it, without grasping or aversion... and then watch it vanish, without a trace. Attention is our great tool.

—Joel

Congregation Parties Down Once Again

This past August marked the 22nd anniversary of Joel's Gnostic Awakening. (When this fact was announced from the makeshift stage—otherwise serving as Gene Gibbs' deck—Joel was heard to exclaim, "C'mon now, you're making me sound old!") The annual Enlightenment Day Party celebrates not just one person's awakening, but the very real fact of this realization for all of humanity. We gather to express joy at this ever-present probability for each and every one of us.

The usual shenanigans and tomfoolery were evident this year, with a plenitude of food, song, dance and poetry. Last year's Foundation Studies class held their graduation ceremony with an offering of profound, and sometimes profoundly funny, haikus. These good students are now inducted into the regular Practitioners Group.



THREE TEACHERS with twin letters: Todd Corbett, Tommy Kurzka, and Joel Morwood at the party.

(photo: Vip Short)

Among the highlights was an original song done by Damien Pierce. Accompanied by several of his previously digitized selves, he regaled the crowd with a hitherto-unsuspected "rule" concerning who winds up enlightened—at least, in the CSS heritage. It seems one must have at least one set of repeated letters in one's name: Merrell-Wolff, Morwood, Pucci... you get the idea. (When challenged, Tom Kurzka pointed out that he always used to be called "Tommy.")

One piece of toddfoolery was missed, however. At parties past, we've been treated to a dazzling display of extraordinary magic by Todd Corbett. It's not too soon to begin some subtle pressure on the fellow, to make sure he's up to some of his old tricks next year!

Ask Dr. Gnositall



Dear Dr. Gnositall,

I have this question about asking questions. I know the Center has an official Question Box, and I know that I always have the option of remaining anonymous when my question gets talked about publicly. Still, I'm too scared! I just know that someone will be able to figure out who asked the question, just by the nature of the question itself. Besides, I won't be anonymous to Joel, and I don't want him thinking I'm dumb, either.

So I'm asking you instead.

Signed,

SILENTLY WONDERING

Dear Silently:

Hmmm...sounds like someone has a bit of a self-image problem here. Someone seems to think that they're pretty darn important—almost like they're the star of the show! (Which simply puts that someone in good company with all the rest of us.) When it comes to something that stands a tiny chance of possibly humiliating you, nobody else is remotely as concerned as you are. So my advice is, loosen up and live a little. Life is not a rehearsal, etc. Take that plunge and see what happens. Also, you might try asking yourself, "Exactly who is it that is so scared of being 'exposed'?" This might bear some spiritual fruit.

Secondly, I'm glad you asked! Because it grants me the opportunity to point out to all the other petrified seekers out there that they do indeed have another option. You can always write to Dr. Gnositall just by emailing editor@centerforsacredsciences.org. But I cannot guarantee that I won't try to twist your arm about permission to forward your excellent question on to Joel.... He'll only think you're "dumb" if you never speak up!

Dear Dr. Gnositall,

Could you say a little about the "pride of the knower?"

WILLINGLY I SEEK HUMILITY

Dear WISH,

I wouldn't know anything about that.

[Editor's note: This old quack Dr. Gnositall really wants to have an advice column in the CCN. I told him I'd humor him for an issue or two, but it all depends on whether he gets any questions from the readership. Please, save your genuine spiritual questions for the Question Box, but do consider asking the good doc anything impertinent, riddish, or humorous. He needs something to do, now that he no longer practices.]

A Summertime Mini-Retreat with Andrea



Shan's yoga studio—what a lovely, perfect spot for this sort of retreat. We are so grateful for Shan Ambika's generosity in offering it for this special occasion, and to Megan Greiner for bringing it all together. One of the greatest things about doing any sort of retreat with Andrea Pucci is her laugh! Very infectious! Any opportunity to be around her is worth getting in on. She radiates love and warmth. Her teachings are clear, as well as thought-provoking (uh-oh). She is a prober and a listener because she truly wants to know what is going on with students and their practice. She questions, some would say, relentlessly to get at it. I found the experience valuable and, given the opportunity, would attend again.

—Cathryn Cardellino

Sutra from Sri Bob

When you ain't got nothin', you got
nothin' to lose;
you're invisible now, you got no secrets
to conceal.
How does it feel?
...To be on your own,
no direction home
a complete unknown.
Like a rolling stone?

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

The Center relies entirely on donations to support its services. On behalf of all those who benefit from these services, we would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the Center. Without the support of these individuals, the Center could not exist as we know it. We wish to acknowledge everyone who has expressed their generosity through membership pledges, Sunday offerings, volunteer labor, and other gifts.

For donations to the library of books, tapes, CDs, VHS Videos, DVDs, money, and gift certificates we thank Shan Ambika, Josh Baran, Inge Brouwer, James and Kimberly Carson, Clivonne Corbett, David Cunningham, Sita DeLeue, Paul Flashenberg, Megan Greiner, Nancy Hagar, Bill Hamann, Inner Directions, Anahata Iradah, Cathy and Steve Jonas, Jennifer Knight, Emma Leyburn, Tom McFarlane, Carol Mizera, Eleanor Parsons, Miriam Reinhart, Holly Saunders, Alix Taylor, David Waldman, Blu Wagner, and everyone who donated to the book drive.

For their contributions to the Retreat Scholarship Fund we thank Camilla Bayliss, Lewis Bogan, Bill Carter, Susan Colson, Clivonne Corbett, Todd Corbett, David

Cunningham, Cathy and Steve Jonas, Sharry and Wesley Lachman, Rich Marlatt, Doug Martin, Tom McFarlane, Alan Mishchenko, Carol Mizera, Mary Moffat, Diana Morris, Hanna Offenbacher, Jim Patterson, Miriam Reinhart, Vip Short, and Michael Strasburger.

For other special monetary gifts we thank Bob Carnes, David Cunningham, Doroethy Leonard, Donald Mihalow, Alan Mishchenko, Mo Moscovitz, and Alix Taylor Robertson.

Special thanks go to Jim Zajac, Miriam Reinhart, Shan Ambika, Mike Barkhuff, Bruno Kamps, Todd Corbett, Sharry Lachman, Judy Morgan, Cathy Jonas, Liz Baldner, Gail Marshall, and Tom McFarlane, for assisting George Mottur.

We would like to thank Paul Flashenberg, Maggie Free, and Sylvia Hawley for helping in the library and around the center in our end of summer work parties.

Finally, we would like to thank Mike Craven, Wesley Lachman, and others for many other tasks, great and small, too numerous to mention.

¡Mil gracias!

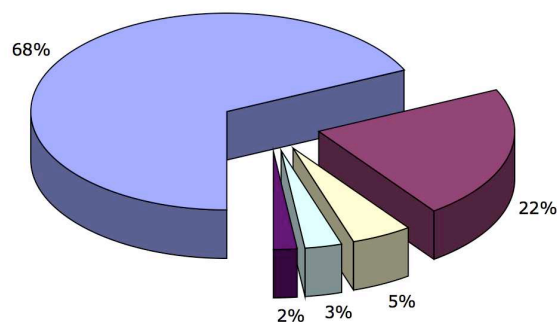
SUMMARY OF OPERATING PROGRAMS

Fiscal Year September 2004 – August 2005

From its inception, the Center has been run almost entirely as a labor of love by volunteers. Our spiritual director, Joel, receives no compensation and, aside from small stipends for our treasurer, audio engineer, and newsletter editor, the Center has no paid staff. We rely entirely on the continuing financial support of our members to defray expenses as we continue providing services to increasing numbers of seekers. Any donation to help support Center programs and services is greatly appreciated. The Center for Sacred Sciences is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, and any contribution is tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

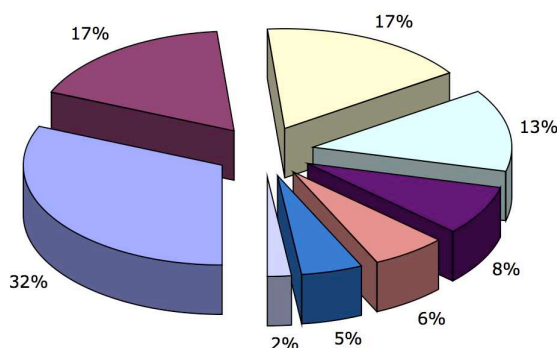
Income

Membership Dues	16,533	68%
Special Gifts/Memorials	5,320	22%
Sunday Offerings	1,099	5%
Interest Earned	705	3%
Other:	585	2%
Library User Fee – \$510		
Newsletter Donations – \$75		
Total Income	\$24,242	100%



Expense

Meeting Facilities	7,720	32%
Organizational/Admin.	4,224	17%
Library Exp & Acquisitions	4,072	17%
Bookcase Extensions	3,326	13%
Center Community News	1,940	8%
Digitizing A/V Recordings	1,525	6%
Program/Meeting Exp	1,351	5%
Web Site & HoloS	511	2%
Total Expenses	\$24,699	100%





Center for Sacred Sciences
1430 Willamette St., #164
Eugene, OR 97401-4049

Change Service Requested

**Non-profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Eugene, OR
Permit No. 185**

CONTACT THE CENTER



Meeting address: 1571 Buck St., Eugene, Oregon
Web address: www.centerforsacredsciences.org
Phone: (541) 345-0102
Postal address: 1430 Willamette St. #164
Eugene, OR 97401-4049

MISSION AND PROGRAMS

The Center for Sacred Sciences is dedicated to the study, practice, and dissemination of the spiritual teachings of the mystics, saints, and sages of the major religious traditions. The Center endeavors to present these teachings in forms appropriate to our contemporary scientific culture. The Center also works to create and disseminate a sacred worldview that expresses the compatibility between universal mystical truths and the evidence of modern science.

Among the Center's on-going events are Sunday public services with meditations and talks by the Center's

spiritual director, monthly video presentations, and—for committed spiritual seekers—a weekly practitioners' group and regular meditation retreats. The Center also maintains an extensive lending library of books, audios, videos, and periodicals covering spiritual, psychological, and scientific subjects. In addition, the Center provides a website containing teachings, information, and other resources related to the teachings of the world's mystics, the universality of mystical truth, and the relationship between science and mysticism. The Center publishes a newsletter containing community news, upcoming programs, book reviews, and other information and resources related to the Center's mission.

The Center for Sacred Sciences is a non-profit, tax-exempt church based in Eugene, Oregon, USA. We rely chiefly on volunteer labor to support our programs, and on public donations and membership pledges to meet our operating expenses. Our spiritual director gives his teachings freely as a labor of love and receives no financial compensation from the Center.

Center Community News is published three times a year by the Center for Sacred Sciences. Submissions, comments, and inquiries should be sent to:

Publications Director, Center for Sacred Sciences
1430 Willamette St., #164, Eugene, OR 97401-4049

To update or change your subscription preferences on-line, please visit the Publications page of our website and click on the link to the Subscription and address form.

Copyright © 2006 Center for Sacred Sciences

CSS CALENDAR

JAN. 2006 – MAY 2006

JANUARY 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1 CLOSED	2	3 CLOSED	4 Practitioner 7:30
8 Video* 11 am	9	10 Library 6:00–8:30	11 Practitioner 7:30
15 Talk 11 am	16	17 Library 6:00–8:30	18 Practitioner 7:30
22 Talk 11 am	23	24 Library 6:00–8:30	25 Practitioner 7:30 (ALL)
29 Talk 11 am	30	31 Library 6:00–8:30	1 (February) Practitioner 7:30

* *The Jew in the Lotus*

This video tells the story of how author Rodger Kamenetz came to write "The Jew and the Lotus," about an historic meeting between a group of Jewish rabbis and the Dalai Lama of Tibet as part of his own spiritual journey from crisis to redemption.

FEBRUARY 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
5 Video* 11 am	6	7	8 Practitioner 7:30
12 Talk 11 am	13	14 Library 6:00–8:30	15 Practitioner 7:30
19 Talk 11 am	20	21 Library 6:00–8:30	22 Practitioner 7:30 (ALL)
26 Talk 11 am	27	28 Library 6:00–8:30	

* *Susan Postal: Zen Journey*

American Zen priest Susan Postal describes her more than twenty years of highly personal experiences with various Buddhist teachers and traditions.

MARCH 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			1 Practitioner 7:30
5 Video* 11 am	6	7 Library 6:00–8:30	8 Practitioner 7:30
12 Talk 11 am	13	14 CLOSED	15 CLOSED
19 CLOSED	20	21 Library 6:00–8:30	22 Practitioner 7:30
26 Talk 11 am	27	28 Library 6:00–8:30	29 Practitioner 7:30 (ALL)

* *Eckhart Tolle: Living In Balance*

An insightful interview with Eckhart Tolle, the contemporary mystic and author of *The Power of Now*.

APRIL 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
2 Video* 11 am	3	4 Library 6:00–8:30	5 Practitioner 7:30
9 Talk 11 am	10	11 Library 6:00–8:30	12 Practitioner 7:30
16 Talk 11 am	17	18 Library 6:00–8:30	19 Practitioner 7:30 (ALL)
23 CLOSED	24	25 CLOSED	26 CLOSED
30 Talk 11 am			

* *Father Keating: Conversations With Remarkable People*

In this interview, Cistercian monk Father Keating discusses the technique of centering prayer and the Christian contemplative tradition.

MAY 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1	2 Library 6:00–8:30	3 Practitioner 7:30
7 Video* 11 am	8	9 Library 6:00–8:30	10 Practitioner 7:30
14 Talk 11 am	15	16 Library 6:00–8:30	17 Practitioner 7:30
21 Talk 11 am	22	23 Library 6:00–8:30	24 Practitioner 7:30
28 Talk 11 am	29	30 Library 6:00–8:30	31 Practitioner 7:30 (ALL)

* *Thich Nhat Hanh: Peace Is Every Step*

This wide-ranging documentary recounts the efforts of Buddhist monk, Thich Nhat Hanh, to teach Buddhist methods of mindfulness and compassion in troubled regions around the world.

MEETING ADDRESS:

1571 BUCK ST., EUGENE, OREGON

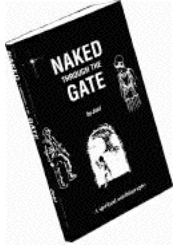


PHONE: (541) 345-0102

Center Publications

For a complete catalog of our current publications and for pricing and ordering information, please visit our website at www.centerforsacredsciences.org

Book Publications



Naked Through the Gate: A Spiritual Autobiography

by Joel, Center for Sacred Sciences, 1985. Paperback, 262 pages, \$11.95

Joel's personal account of his remarkable spiritual path, ending with a Gnostic Awakening.

Through Death's Gate: A Guide to Selfless Dying

by Joel, Center for Sacred Sciences, 1996. Paperback, 83 pages, \$6.95.

A guide to death and dying from a spiritual perspective, including fundamental teachings and practices from the world's great mystics.

Audio Publications

The following are new audio recordings available for purchase. Patrons of the Center's library may also borrow these audios in CD or cassette tape formats. Items marked with an * are newly digitized audio CDs, made from remastered soundtracks.

Foundational Teachings

Four Kinds of Practice

Joel, 2005

Purpose of the Spiritual Path

Joel, 1992 *

Mystical Philosophy

Shifting the Base of Reference

Joel, 1992 *

Aspects of Practice

Who Are You Really?

Joel, 1992 *

Mysticism and Science

Darwinism, Creationism, & Mysticism

Joel, 2005

Video Publications

A Sunday with Joel

by Joel, Center for Sacred Sciences. VHS, \$19.95.

Spend a typical Sunday at the Center with meditation instructions, a discourse by Joel, and questions and answers.

Who Are You Really?

by Joel, Center for Sacred Sciences. VHS, \$19.95.

Joel speaking in Palo Alto on an essential question in all mystical traditions.

Web Publications

Integrating Science and Religion

by Alan Wallace, Winter 2004.

Buddhist teacher, scholar, and practitioner Alan Wallace talks with Tom McFarlane about his life-long endeavor to integrate science and religion, and his hopeful vision for their future collaboration.

Awakened by Death: Account of Gnostic Awakening

with Todd Corbett, Spring-Summer 2005

In this moving discussion moderated by Joel, Todd shares his spiritual path with assembled CSS practitioners, describing how numerous encounters with the deaths of loved ones ultimately brought him to Awakening.

Breaking Through: A Journey to Awakening

with Andrea Pucci, 1998

Joel and Andrea Pucci discuss her spiritual path and her Awakening.

Nothing to Fear but Fear

with Tom Kurzka, 2001

In this interview, Tom recounts the role of fear on his spiritual path and his experience of Gnostic Awakening.

Facing Fear on the Path

by Joel, Spring 2001.

The role fear plays on the spiritual path and advice on how to face it.

Lack and Liberation in Self and Society: An Interview

with David Loy, February 2005

An Interview with Zen philosopher David Loy on our sense of lack and how it manifests both individually and culturally.

The Gate of Unknowing

by Joel, Summer-Fall 2001

Surrendering what commonly passes for knowledge to enter the Unknowing that opens the way to Gnosis.

To Practice or Not to Practice?

by Joel, Winter-Spring 2002