

# Center Community News

#### Newsletter of the Center for Sacred Sciences

## Fall 2012 Retreat at Cloud Mountain: Untying the Knots of the Heart

This was, as usual, a wonderful retreat, with a record number of participants (requiring Jack to meditate *extra* hard during his rare free time). And though it was only eight days (instead of the usual nine), Joel somehow managed to squeeze in everything we needed to become stable, clear, and awake. At the end, several people even shared gnostic-flash experiences, with Joel continuing to emphasise that it is with *practice* that the mind becomes "serviceable," not by trying harder while meditating.

It never fails to amaze me how, though I have heard them so many times by now, these teachings continue to seem fresh and relevant for the practice and the path. With *many* pages of notes from the retreat, I can only pull out a few things that seem particularly worthwhile to me. We focused a lot (more than usual?) on Detachment... the ongoing reminder to "neither grasp nor push away."

—continued on page 2



**Front row**: Jack Yousey, Tom Leach, Fred Chambers, Barb Dewey, Nancy Miller, Bob Cowart

**2nd row**: Mark Hurwit, Ellie Parsons, Vip Short, Joel, Sally Snyder, Megan Greiner, Jim Zajac

**3rd row**: Kristy Murray, Laurie Iaccino, Marie Aum, Shirley Chase, Aileen McNamara, Laura Betty, Mike Barkhuff, Susan Colson

**4th row**: Alan Mishchenko, Rich Holloway, Jim Patterson, Matt Sieradski, Mel Bankoff, Mora Fields, Laurina Peters, Michael Augden, Bob Carnes (Not pictured: Lasse Aum)

#### **Our New Building... Almost Home!**

After many years of searching, we are very excited to share the news that CSS is now in the process of purchasing a property to serve as our permanent home. With the building inspections behind us, we're waiting now only for city approval of our conditional use permit, and everything is currently looking good. We expect to close the sale and move both our meetings and the library to the new building in early 2013.

The 3168 sq. ft. building is located in a peaceful, residential neighborhood in south Eugene at 5440 Saratoga St., near the corner of Donald St. and Fox Hollow. (It's on the LTD bus line.) It has two large rooms with plenty of natural light and is wheelchair accessible. One room will be used for meetings and the other will be the new home for the CSS library, which will be reunited with our meeting location after several years of separation.

The purchase price of the building is \$410,000. Thanks to conservative fiscal management over the years, CSS has built up some modest savings to help toward this purchase. But that amount is only a fraction of the total. Since CSS needs the entire amount relatively soon in order to close the purchase, we have borrowed money for the interim to provide time to raise the funds to pay for the building. So in the coming months and years, CSS will be relying on the members of our community to consider making tax-deductible donations to our building fund. Any amount will be very much appreciated, and will help ensure that CSS can continue its mission far into the future.

Now 25 years after our humble beginnings, we are blessed to begin this new chapter of our community! We look forward to meeting you all in our new home soon.

Joel's koan for everyone:

"Love life, even though
it's going to kill you."

But after only one day of concentration practice, we moved right into choiceless awareness. It seemed as if most of the participants moved quickly into the process of getting more subtle, as Joel provided guidance on how to work more skillfully with effort (and non-effort).

We spent a lot of time watching our thoughts, allowing them to be there and seeing how they come and then go, "self-liberating" back into the silence. At one point, Joel suggested a practice of generating a single, factual thought (like "It's raining outside") and, without pushing it away, just watch it dissolve on its own. It seemed like many people were moved by the simultaneous ease and power of not pushing thoughts away, as we normally do, and a strong potential was built early on in the retreat.

Then Joel "pulled a fast one," in an unusual and brilliant move, by bringing us to the very end of the teachings/path on the second day! And of course, as final teachings and the most basic practices partake of one another, the whole thing was then with us for the rest of the week (instead of building in a one-directional, sequential way). It was like a carrot hanging there before the donkey (us), except for the reminders that craving for the carrot (Awakening) would prevent us from attaining it. This became particularly poignant for those who approached a time of surrender; and my hunch is that, over the course of the week, there were many.

—continued on page 3

# **WaveMeister Joel**{or The Rime of the Ancient Morwood}

May I introduce my Teacher; He's mostly mystic, and partly preacher. He wants to show us all Shunyata, What lies beneath the yada-yada.

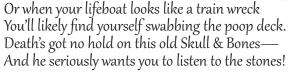
There is a method to his method, You'll surely want it on your deathbed. In fact, this man is so methodical My description turns to terms more nautical:

So with compass, and with sextant We set sail on the great self-hunt! His own compass is deeply moral (And with that I have no quarrel.)

He encourages us to say the precepts So we can guard against self-decept. He shows us how Awareness is choiceless For the mystic, mute and voiceless.

This is a gentle man, for sure; Takes nothing from us, his aim is pure. If you should need him, he's available And his ship is always sailable.

He'll meet you, be it aft or fore Saying humbly, "That's what I'm here for." All earnest sea-kers are welcomed aboard Whether your views lean port side or more to starboard. But in the voyage for Truth ye'll get no rest; He'll have you put his teachings to test. And when you feel going below may be best, He might just send you up the crow's nest.



{ But those who know this seaworthy fellow See him as loving, kind and mellow. }

He quotes The Buddha, "Be rid of the 3 times" (He'd probably like me to be rid of this rhyme...) "And reach the Opposite Shore with a clear mind Leaving all suffering far behind."

Oh Captain, my Captain! I'll sail these rough seas Through the most fearsome gales, or the gentlest breeze As the waves of attention collapse and becalm Into the Sea of Awareness, then we're done sailing on.

And should it come to pass that the whole ship is sinking, We shipmates won't focus on whate'er we was thinking—No! We'll be anchored steadfast to the wondrous deep Of compassion and kindness:

Our Great Captain's keep.

—Quilled by "Seeworthy" Vip Short {xumil@aol.com}





Tom McFarlane has been keeping busy (and doin' us proud). This past October, he joined scientists and nondual teachers from around the world in San Rafael, California for the annual **Science & Nonduality Conference**. Tom spoke on the topic "Nonduality of Observer and Observed in Physics and Direct Experience." Other presenters included David Loy, Gangaji, A. H. Almaas, Francis Lucille, Rupert Spira, and Jeff Foster. (There's a lot more infomation at <a href="http://scienceandnonduality.com">http://scienceandnonduality.com</a>.)

Then, defying the laws of physics (as he is wont to do), he was off to Holland two weeks later for a one-day Science & Spirituality conference organized by the Dutch branch of an organization called the Ancient Mystical Order of RosiCrucians (AMORC). 300 people attended to hear lectures by four authors, including Tom presenting a vision of the underlying



nondual reality that science and religion share. He demonstrated specifically that science does not, as customarily thought, require the assumption of a world of objects with properties that exist objectively, independent of observation. This reporter's head spins when the talk turns to the language of science, mathematics and the system of distinctions superimposed upon a nondual

reality. But I can't think of a better spokesperson for the team. Thanks, Tom!



#### —**Retreat**, continued from page 2

Joel told us that in all his reading he never found *any* instructions on how to actually do that. It is so easy to just say "surrender," but when it comes to the self *itself*, a hair's breadth (of craving) is the same as a hundred miles: if you're there wanting it at all, you cannot have it.

That comes from an actual zen quote that I don't have but paraphrase because it seemed so important to us on this retreat.

"You can never have enough Concentration practice. I myself (almost) never meditate without starting with breath concentration."

—Joel

We all wanted to know how to "shine the light backwards, to the source itself," and this paradox of *doing* that which cannot be done was with us for the whole week. And the reasons we were unable to do it were different for everyone, and this is where we discovered what "Knots of the Heart" really meant. The things that really distract us, hold us, occupy our thoughts and keep us in a state of craving or aversion... it is these things that prevent us from recognizing the "clear light of mind" which is actually a great darkness.

I personally had never heard Joel share so specifically the nature of... that last moment, kenosis, where it is possible to actually awaken in the space between two thoughts. But he described how this space is not only a brief one, but also difficult to grasp because it's not a "thing" but, rather, a dark, empty, spacious nothingness— one "we are, actually, *not* looking to find." It is not a moment in which we can do anything with our own volition —and perhaps that is true for most moments— but we do need to be able to just stay there, without craving or distraction, long enough for *The Recognition* to occur.

It was a profound series of teachings and an awesome week, as we all, while on the usual retreat roller coaster, settled into a more quiet and open space. Many of the same elements from other retreats were covered, including the honing of excitement and laxity, practices of the night, focuses on death and impermanence, and an ever-deepening attention on —and surrendering of— our desires, including our spiritual ones.

Ultimately, we were left again with the truth that we cannot move ourselves towards insight and awakening; there is nothing to do but just practice, turning the dharma and letting the dharma turn us. But the depth and joy in the room was palpable, and much gratitude was shared in the end for the sangha as well. It's a blessed community we're a part of, and retreats are a great place to feel that deeply.

- Grateful Reflections by Mark Hurwit



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 all local, distance studies, and supporting sangha members who have made ongoing contributions 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 Sunday offerings, newsletter donations, volunteer labor, and other gifts.

In addition to those donating books to our annual book drive, we thank Barbara Hasbrouck, Judith Hasbrouck, Abdullah al-Zammam, Jennifer Knight, Joel Morwood, and Michael Rolph for their cash donations to the drive. We also thank Richard Ahrens, Shan Ambika, Robin Bundy, Fred Chambers, Lori Cunningham, Sita DeLeuue, Mora Fields, Gene Gibbs, Cathy & Steve Jonas, Jennifer Knight, Sharry and Wesley Lachman, Annie O'Shea, Marleen Marshall, Tom McFarlane, Eleanor Parsons, Ken Paul, Peggy Prentice, Beverly Schenler, Vip Short, Matthew and Hiromi Sieradski for their donations of books, CDs and DVDs for the library collection.

# Thank You!!!

For contributions to the scholarship fund, we thank: Shan Ambika, Michael Augden, Laura Betty, Clivonne Corbett, Mora Fields, Barbara Hasbrouck, Judith Hasbrouck, Laurie Iaccino, Meg Jefferson, Nancy Miller, Carol Mizera, Pat Munden, Jim Patterson, Laurina Peters, Tom Rundle, Vip Short, Michael Strasburger, and those anonymous retreatants who donated cash. For other monetary gifts we thank: Helmut Behrend, Bob Carnes, Lori Cunningham, Jayne Miller, Mo Moscovitz, Peter Lisa, Robert Trainer, and Andrea Pucci and her students for their generous donations including Tamara Cohn, Katheline Duvall, Olga Glidewell, Darla Heil, Jay and Lelsey McCandles, and Margaret Peterson.

Special thanks go to Vinnie and Lou Principe for the gift of their music at our annual parties, Annie O'Shea for her help creating a library pillow for the children's reading bench, Michael Augden for some custom library shelf markers, and Shan Ambika for carting and selling books for the Center's library book-drive. And thanks, of course, to Jack Yousey for his time, professionalism, for going the extra mile, and using his HVAC expertise to help us evaluate the heating and air-conditioning systems in several buildings we looked at to rent or purchase.

A heartfelt thanks goes to Ken Paul for his work as the publicity person for CSS for the past several years. With persistence and humor, he has ensured that our monthly video showings get regularly advertised in the local papers and online calendar. He's also done a lot of research when we were looking for venues to advertise Joel's book when it was first published. Ken is stepping aside from the publicity tasks at the beginning of 2013 and we wish him well in all his future endeavors.

There are so many others for whom there is not enough room here to thank for the many tasks great and small, and too numerous to mention. What can we say? We could not do it without you!



Finally, special mention goes out to Mora Fields, who steps down as our honored and beloved Newsletter Editor after five years of dedicated work. (Yes, she's a real angel; that's a fake halo she uses to convince everyone she's just a regular human.) She hands the baton (pen... mouse... keyboard?) to Mark Hurwit for at least the next decade or three (depending on whether you count using Biblical years).

Mora says she really enjoyed getting to know people through interviews and articles. She also extends her gratitude to everyone who suggested, submitted, and proofread; with special thanks going out to Publications Director Tom McFarlane (affectionately known as "Chief"), to roving reporter extraordinaire Megan Greiner, and to the regulars (and not-so-regulars) at the newsletter mailing-and-pizza parties.

She closes her farewell with "See you there!" so we can apparently expect and enjoy her continued participation in this last but not least important aspect of the newsletter production process. (Plug from new editor: Come on down! It's fun, and we get to eat and drink afterwards "on the house.") And be nice to Mark; he's very sensitive and not yet seasoned through years in the fires of production.

# SUMMARY OF OPERATING PROGRAMS for Fiscal Year: September 1, 2011 – August 31, 2012

|  | Incom                    | e               |           |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 1. Membership Dues                     | \$ 32,192.00             | 74%             | 5% 1%     |
| 2. Special Gifts/Memorials             | 4,671.00                 | 11%             |           |
| 3. Sunday & Saturday Retreat Offerings | 4,688.55                 | 11%             | 11%       |
| 4. Bishop Sangha                       | 1,957.78                 | 5%              |           |
| 5. Other:                              | 292.48                   | 1%              | 11%       |
| Library User Fee                       | 108.00                   |                 |           |
| Interest Earned on Savings/CDs         | 90.29                    |                 |           |
| Newsletter Donations                   | 25.00                    |                 | 74%       |
| On-Line Donations                      | 69.19                    |                 |           |
| Total Income                           | \$ 43,801.81             | 100% *          |           |
| * * Perc                               | centages may not total 1 | 00 due to round | ing ————  |
|  | E                        |                 | 404 2% 2% |

|    |  | oning or may mor total . |            |     |          |
|----|--|--------------------------|------------|-----|----------|
|    |  | Expens                   | es         |     | 4% 2% 2% |
|    | Meeting Facilities<br>Library Exp & Acquisitions | \$ 17,219.62<br>7,732.87 | 48%<br>22% | 7   | %        |
| 3. | Organizational/Admin.                            | 5,148.62                 | 14%        |     |          |
| 4. | Newsletter, Holos Journal, Website               | 2,673.79                 | 7%         | 14% |          |
|    | Program/Meeting Exp                              | 1,323.95                 | 4%         |     |          |
| 6. | CSS Audio/Video Production                       | 860.91                   | 2%         |     |          |
| _  | Retreat Scholarship covered by CSS               | 803.00                   | 2%         |     | 22%      |
| To | otal Expenses                                    | \$ 35,762.76             | 100% *     |     |          |

The Center is a non-profit organization, operated almost entirely by volunteers. Joel and the other teachers present the teachings as a labor of love, receiving no financial compensation from the Center for their teachings. Aside from small stipends for our bookkeeper, 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.

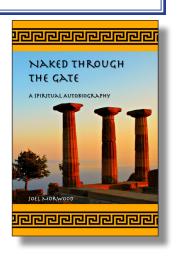
## And speaking of money...

It seems that the Cloud Mountain Retreat Center is looking to fill some residential staff positions for practitioners. Those qualifying for Kitchen Manager or Housekeeper/Relief Cook will enjoy competitive wages, private onsite housing and free meals, free participation in various retreats, access to many dharma teachers, health insurance, and full use of the Center's facilities. If you or anyone you know might be interested in this precious opportunity, get more information at 888-465-9118 or 360-274-4859, write to <info@cloudmountain.org>, or visit <a href="http://www.CloudMountain.org">http://www.CloudMountain.org</a>.

### **NEW: Naked Through the Gate**

There is now a 2nd edition of Joel's spiritual autobiography, with a beautiful new cover and nice looking font. (There are a few minor corrections to the text, but otherwise the book is the same as the 1st edition.) One might say it is a 30th anniversary (of Gnosis) edition, published a bit early. It will be available for purchase on Lulu, Amazon, and directly from CSS.

http://www.lulu.com/shop/joel-morwood/naked-through-the-gate-a-spiritual-autobiography-second-edition/paperback/product-20427544.html



#### **Three Great Classes for 2013**

#### **Fred's Practitioners Group**



Material planned will include breath concentration practice, moving into choiceless awareness. There will also be readings from Jan Frazier's *When Fear Falls Away*, as well as Joel's book, *Through Death's Gate* (along with an associated death practice), Anandamayi Ma's *Matri Vani, VII* (and an associated devotional practice), and Simone Weil's *Waiting for God*, for a contrasting janani perspective. And of

course, there'll be a focus on precepts throughout the year. Ongoing notes will be available at <a href="http://csspractitioners.blogspot.com">http://csspractitioners.blogspot.com</a>.

Increasing Awareness!?
To freedom it leads?!
Fear is a choice?!
And Death, it is near!

Renewal of spirit?!
Weil and Ma tell it true!?
Give up the "I story,"
And Love does shine through!

— Fred

#### **Matt's Practitioners Group**

#### No mind, the Unborn, and Non-action: A Course on Zen

Teacher: Zhenxiù (Ma-shu;真秀) – Matthew P. Sieradski Assistant: Sharry Lachman



Texts will include: Huineng's *The Platform Sutra*, Huangpo's *Transmission of Mind*, Bankei's *The Unborn*, Dogen's *Beyond Thinking - A Guide to Zen Meditation*, and Sengcan's *Faith-Mind Inscription* (Teacher's translation). There will also be three lectures prepared in concert with this class.

Practices: Just Sitting (Shikantaza), private meetings with teacher (Dokusan), and precepts, of course. There will also be several day-long (Intensive) meditation practice sessions.

Rain on the mountains Thunder in the north The sun rises in the east What is there to teach?

— . **7**0el

Thunder on the mountain
Fire in the north
Though nothing is spoken
What is - is taught

— Zhēnxiu

#### **Todd's Foundations Studies Group**



The Center for Sacred Sciences Foundation Studies course is offered once every year, and is a prerequisite for attending the regular practitioners group and Center retreats. Facilitated by Todd Corbett, this year's course will introduce new members to fundamental teachings and practices of all the major mystical traditions. The course includes spiritual practices such as meditation and precepts, reading Joel's book *The Way of Selflessness*, and group discussions. (Participants may supplement their readings with books on the list of recommended reading or with those used in the Distance Studies course.)

Foundation Studies course practitioners are asked to become supporting members of the Center, and to recognize that this is not a drop-in group—there must be some degree of commitment to attending, and participants should be available to attend most of the time.

The rest of the Center for Sacred Sciences staff list can be seen at:

http://www.centerforsacredsciences.org/about/staff.htm



## **Seeing Through Egocentric Karmic Conditioning**

by Andrea Pucci (andreapucci@earthlink.net)

There is no alternative to seeing through egocentric karmic conditioning, if we are committed to awakening and ending suffering. If we

want to awaken for the benefit of all that appears in mind, then the ego must be seen through for what it is— a conditioned, nonexistent, shiny, slimy sham

that robs our lifeblood and joy and deludes us into ever ongoing distraction away from Reality That Is Always Here Now And Forever and always inclusive of everyone else and everything else that continues to appear in "the world out there."

The practice of Seeing through ego's conditioning Becomes The Energy Knowing Of Flowing Carefree Bliss. Once you have seen ekc (egocentric karmic conditioning)'s cruel clutches, experience becomes pure joy, letting

The Bullshit And Fly Free Intelligence."

Awareness, Compassion And Intelligence, which I like to call the magnificent and glorious "See Through All

> ego dissolve, letting ekc dissipate again and again Into The Great Space Of Being or as Cheri Huber says "into Center."

It does not matter who is your teacher or what tradition you choose to practice in. If that teacher or tradition (or right

understanding of that teacher or tradition) does not guide you out of ego and into Reality, it is just another distraction. All confusion will eventually be seen and acknowledged though, because our Buddha nature is always ever present and omniscient through all confused appearances of our mind. We will all awaken in Truth, because that is why the universe is appearing. The universe of time and space is the miraculous gift of life and infinite possibility. Whether we receive that gift for the manifestation of suffering or joy is for us to learn about and play with. The dance of Love cannot

help but awaken us from inside out sooner or later. In the last couple of years, I have shared and encouraged the practice of Cheri Huber's teachings to our Bishop Sangha. It is such a practical path for those of us who are living actively in mind's appearances, in the confused world of egocentric karmic conditioned reactions, in jobs, in relationships, in ordinary life, devoted to repeatedly finding the extraordinary, to finding and being liberation, being blissful, free and loving In Each And Every Moment—the lucid dream of

A wish for us all— One Heart of Peace Beating Creative Joyful Responsive Magnificence In the Midst of All that Appears......

being awake in Compassion's Blissful Playful Dance

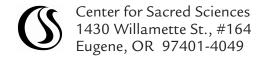
Gassho.

All confusion will eventually be seen through.... We will all awaken in Truth, because that is why the universe is appearing.

We are here to end the suffering of the ignorance, the separateness, the desire, and the aversion In Our Mind that functions and acts always to separate and isolate us out of the Now Presence Of Joy. That mistaken conditioned ignorance doesn't know what else to do; it just wants to recreate itself again and again because "it" does not exist and never will, so "it" has to think itself into seeming existence again and again by capturing our attention and focus out of reality and into "it." When "its" thoughts stop, "it" ceases to exist, and Reality Shines Its Transparent See Through Radiant Light.

Just as Reality Always Is, so too the seductions of ego are never ending, to distract us out of reality by capturing our attention into its endless stories of I, you, it, them, good, bad, better, worse, comparisons, conflicts, personal insults, attacks, new ideas for new stuff, more, more, more— all the tricks of pathetic, misinformed, mistaken, ignorant, sick, conditioned duality mind that ever competes with what is already perfect, whole, enough and not wrong or missing anything....

To cut delusion at the root requires ceaseless willingness to see through that moment to moment Death of who we truly are —to see through the sham of non existent ego and its endless pathetic ploysto see through and remain ever present in the reality of our true nature which is nothing other than Pure of Creative Joy.



#### **Return Service Requested**

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

#### CONTACT THE CENTER

Refer to website for updates to new library and meeting addresses.

Phone #: (541) 345-0102

Website: www.CenterForSacredSciences.org

1430 Willamette St., #164 Eugene, OR 97401-4049 Mailing Address:

#### MISSIONS 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 which expresses the compatibility between universal mystical truths and the evidence of modern science.

Among the Center's ongoing events are Sunday public services, with meditations and talks given by the Center's spiritual teachers; monthly Sunday video presentations; and -for committed spiritual seekers- weekly practitioners' groups and regular meditation retreats. The Center also maintains an extensive lending library of books, audios, videos, and periodicals covering spiritual,

psychological, philosophical, and scientific subjects. In addition, the Center provides a website containing a great deal of information and 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 this newsletter providing community news, upcoming programs, book reviews, and other contributions and resources related to the Center's mission.

The Center for Sacred Sciences is a non-profit, taxexempt 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 teachers give their teachings freely as a labor of love, and receive no financial compensation from the Center.

Center Community News is published three times a year. Submissions, comments, and inquiries should be sent to: <newsletter@centerforsacredsciences.org>, or mailed to CENTER FOR SACRED SCIENCES, Attn: Newsletter Editor, 1430 Willamette St., #164, Eugene, OR 97401-4049. To update or change your subscription preferences, please visit our website and select the subscription form under the Publications Menu.

> Copyright © 2012 CENTER FOR SACRED SCIENCES \*\* Printed on recycled paper \*\*

# **CSS Calendar**

# December 2012 - April 2013

#### January 2013

| Sunday  | Monday                                 | Tuesday                    | Wednesday  |
|---|--|----------------------------|--|
| 30  | 31                                     | 1                          | 2  |
| CLOSED F  | OR HOLIDAYS (e                         | except Christmas i         | Day)   |
| Public Talk<br>11 am-1 pm<br>(No Video)                   | Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm              | Library<br>6-8:30 pm       | Fred's & <b>9</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm  |
| Public Talk 13<br>11 am-1 pm<br>Library: 2-4:30 pm        | <b>14</b><br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm | 15<br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm | Fred's & <b>16</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm |
| Public Talk<br>11 am-1 pm                                 | <b>21</b><br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm | 22<br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm | Fred's & <b>23</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm |
| Public Talk <b>27</b><br>11 am-1 pm<br>Library: 2-4:30 pm | 28                                     | 29<br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm | <b>30</b><br>Community<br>Night                  |

#### **April 2013**

| Sunday  | Monday                                 | Tuesday                           | Wednesday  |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Last day of $\frac{\mathcal{I}I}{\text{Spring Break}}$    | 1                                      | Library<br>6-8:30 pm              | Community <b>3</b><br>Night                      |
| Public Talk 7<br>11 am-1 pm                               | Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm              | Library<br>6-8:30 pm              | Fred's & <b>10</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm |
| 14  | 15                                     | 16                                | 17   |
| CLOSED FOR SPRING RETREAT                                 |  |                                   |  |
| Public Talk (Matt) 11 am-1 pm                             | 22<br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm        | 23<br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm        | Fred's & <b>24</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm |
| Public Talk <b>28</b><br>11 am-1 pm<br>Library: 2-4:30 pm | <b>29</b><br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm | <b>30</b><br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm |  |

**NOTE**: No videos have been planned as of the making of this calendar. However, it is expected that our once-a-month Sunday viewings will resume after the establishment of our new home on Saratoga Street. Please check the website for updates to our movie schedule:

http://www.centerforsacredsciences.org/gcalendar.htm

#### February 2013

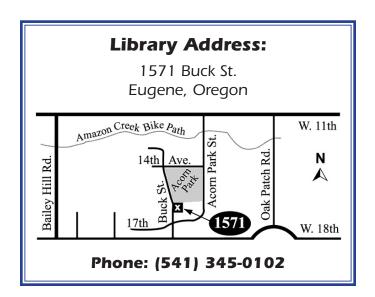
| Sunday   | Monday                                 | Tuesday                           | Wednesday  |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Public Talk<br>11 am-1 pm  | Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm              | Library<br>6-8:30 pm              | Fred's & <b>6</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7–8:30 pm  |
| Public Talk <b>10</b><br>11 am-1 pm<br>Library: 2-4:30 pm        | Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm              | Library<br>6-8:30 pm              | Fred's & <b>13</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7–8:30 pm |
| Public Talk<br>11 am-1 pm  | <b>18</b><br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm | 19<br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm        | Fred's & <b>20</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm |
| Public Talk (Todd) <b>24</b><br>11 am-1 pm<br>Library: 2-4:30 pm | <b>25</b><br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm | <b>26</b><br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm | Fred's & <b>27</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm |
|  |  |                                   |  |

#### May 2013

| Sunday  | Monday                                 | Tuesday                           | Wednesday  |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|
|   |  |                                   | Fred's & <b>1</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm  |
| Public Talk<br>11 am-1 pm                                 | 6<br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm         | 7<br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm         | Fred's & <b>8</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7–8:30 pm  |
| Public Talk 12<br>11 am-1 pm<br>Library: 2-4:30 pm        | <b>13</b><br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm | 14<br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm        | Fred's & <b>15</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7–8:30 pm |
| Public Talk (Tom) <b>19</b><br>11 am-1 pm                 | <b>20</b><br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm | 21<br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm        | Fred's & <b>22</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm |
| Public Talk <b>26</b><br>11 am-1 pm<br>Library: 2-4:30 pm | <b>27</b><br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm | <b>28</b><br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm | Fred's & <b>29</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm |

#### March 2013

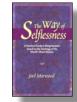
| Sunday   | Monday                                 | Tuesday                           | Wednesday  |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Public Talk<br>11 am-1 pm  | Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm              | Library<br>6-8:30 pm              | Fred's & <b>6</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm  |
| Public Talk <b>10</b><br>11 am-1 pm<br>Library: 2-4:30 pm        | Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm              | Library <b>12</b><br>6-8:30 pm    | Fred's & <b>14</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7–8:30 pm |
| Public Talk<br>11 am-1 pm  | <b>18</b><br>Matt's Group<br>7-8:30 pm | <b>19</b><br>Library<br>6-8:30 pm | Fred's & <b>20</b><br>Todd's Groups<br>7-8:30 pm |
| Public Talk (Fred) <b>24</b><br>11 am-1 pm<br>Library: 2-4:30 pm | <b>25</b><br>CLOSE                     | <b>26</b><br>D FOR SPRING E       | <b>27</b><br>Break                               |
| Closed for<br>Spring Break                                       |  |                                   |  |



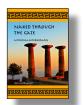
#### **Center Publications**

#### The Way of Selflessness: A Practical Guide to Enlightenment Based on the Teachings of the World's Great Mystics

By Joel Morwood, Center for Sacred Sciences, 2009, Paper, 364 pages, \$27.95 (or from www.Lulu.com for just \$18.00)



A distillation of Joel's teachings on the path of selflessness drawn from his extensive study of the world's mystical classics. Will help seekers in any (or no) tradition understand and take to heart the teachings of the mystics of the great traditions.



#### Naked Through the Gate: A Spiritual Autobiography

by Joel Morwoood, Center for Sacred Sciences, 1985. Paper, 262 pages, \$11.95 From Lulu, Amazon, and directly from CSS.

This is the new 2nd edition of Joel's personal account of his remarkable spiritual path, ending

with a Gnostic Awakening. With a beautiful new cover and nice looking font, one might say it's the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary (of Gnosis) edition, published a bit early.

#### Through Death's Gate: A Guide to Selfless Dying

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



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

The above three books may be ordered at <a href="http://www.centerforsacredsciences.org/catalog.htm">http://www.centerforsacredsciences.org/catalog.htm</a>

#### **Book Publications by Members**



#### The Mandala Book: Patterns of the Universe

By Lori Bailey Cunningham Sterling Publishing, 2010. Hardcover, 320 pages, \$24.95 www.amazon.com/1402762909 (\$16.14)

The Mandala Book is a visual symphony, filled with 500 stunning mandalic images from nature and civilization. Drawing from history, science, religion, and art. Lori Bailey Cunningham leads a journey that spans from prehistoric petroglyphs to Carl Jung, from tiny particles of matter to entire galaxies. She explains the concepts of mandalas, showing how they are at the root of life itself. More Mandala resources available on her website: <a href="http://www.mandalaproject.org">http://www.mandalaproject.org</a>.

#### **Peculiar Stories**, By Mora Fields O Street Publishing, 2010. Paper, 94 pages, \$6.95 youth fiction, age 6-10 & up, www.ostreetpublishing.com

A book of teaching tales that are plain spoken, absorbing, and layered with depth. These stories delve into such topics as where do thoughts come from, how do we deal with things like emotions, fear, and peer pressure, how to experience spaciousness, and the meaning of life.

# The Shortest Way Home: A Contemplative Path to God

by Wesley R. Lachman, O Street Publishing, 2008. Paper, 136 pages, \$10.95, www.ostreetpublishing.com

An introduction to the contemplative mystical path for those seeking a radically new and deeper way to God. A step-by-step presentation of the path of spiritual realization. Each chapter ends with a You find out exercise so the reader can test what has been read against his or her own experience.

# Bringing Home the Mountain: Finding the Teacher Within

By Cathy Rosewell Jonas Free Heart Press, 2010. Paper, 224 pages, \$16.95, www.lulu.com and www.amazon.com

"Cathy Jonas's exciting account of her spiritual journey, Bringing Home the Mountain, overflows with an abundance of experiences and insights. Any genuine seeker should find plenty here to both inspire and instruct on his or her own path to Awakening." — Joel

#### **Einstein and Buddha: The Parallel Sayings**

by Thomas J. McFarlane Ulysses Press, 2002. Paper, 176 pages, \$14.00, www.amazon.com

This remarkable book contains sayings from the founders of modern physics paired with parallel sayings from the works of Buddhist, Hindu, and Taoist contemplatives. Einstein and Buddha challenges us to think deeper about the relationship between modern physics and mystical insight.

#### See all new recordings at:

www.centerforsacredsciences.org/catalog.htm

#### **New CDs**

# **Investigating the Nature of Time** Tom McFarlane, 11/13/2011, 44 min

How to Be Happy in the Hospital Joel, 9/11/2011, 52 min

#### Introduction to CSS: Mission, Programs, Teachings

Tom McFarlane, 9/18/2011, 55 min

#### Striving for Happiness

Todd Corbett, 6/26/2011, 45 min

#### **Spiritual Ignorance**

Todd Corbett, 5/22/2011, 56 min

#### Oneness

Todd Corbett, 2/27/2011, 51 min

#### **What Is Spiritual Realization**

Matthew Sieradski, 2/8/2011, 63 min

#### Listening to the Stones Series: 8 of Joel's Talks from the Fall 2011 Retreat (also available as an MP3 set)

| Learning to Listen                 | Oct. 8, 2011 – 61 min  |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Impermanence                       | Oct. 9, 2011 – 58 min  |
| Emptiness of Objects               | Oct. 10, 2011 – 56 min |
| Emptiness of Self                  | Oct. 11, 2011 – 59 min |
| The Nature of Consciousness Itself | Oct. 12, 2011 – 59 min |
| Universal Sameness                 | Oct. 13, 2011 – 59 min |
| No Goal, No Boundaries             | Oct. 14, 2011 – 59 min |
| The Great Perfection               | Oct. 15, 2011 – 57 min |