Independent Theosophical Magazine - Electronic Edition - August 2012

Theosophy

ahead in

Forward

the 21st century

Moving

All roads lead to Olcott August 9 - 12, 2012

International Theosophy Conferences, Inc.

Photo Gallery









Theosophy Forward

Theosophy Forward is an independent Theosophical periodical. Thanks to the hard work of a group of dedicated volunteers its publications are made possible. The magazine does not receive any financial support from a specific Section or Theosophical group.

Theosophy Forward encourages all Theosophists, of whatever organizations, as well as those who are unaligned but carry Theosophy in their hearts, to come together. Theosophists of any allegiance can meet and respectfully exchange views, because each of us is a centre for Theosophical work.

Growing awareness of nonseperation is the beginning of the journey we have entered on together. Whatever unity we have in mind, spiritual or other, it always needs to be compassionately supported, as we realize there is but one truth and that all of us, merely by searching for it, make humble attempts to be its representatives.

Acknowledgements and more:

I must thank Sally and Jim Colbert, Garrett Riegg, Juliana Cesano, Elvira Carbonell, Chris Bolger, Jeff Gresko, Janet Kerschner, Pablo Sender, the entire staff at Olcott, the volunteers and all those who sent their greetings. Special thanks to Helena Blavatsky for inspiring so many, showing us the way.

I am grateful for the support and untiring labor put in by my friend and co-worker Anton Rozman in Slovenia. Without him this publication would not have been possible.

Gratitude goes out to all speakers and participants who came to Olcott in Wheaton from all corners of the globe making the event truly a memorable one.

We have seen that actions and activities divide us. The changeable nature of our activities creates division and keeps us separate from and strangers to one another. If we are ever to achieve unity - that is, unity in compassion - we need to understand the teaching of occult philosophy that human beings do everything under the influence of fundamental forces in nature. It is up to each one of us to begin to understand these forces and finally weave them into a magnificent and divine whole.

That is the great activity before us.

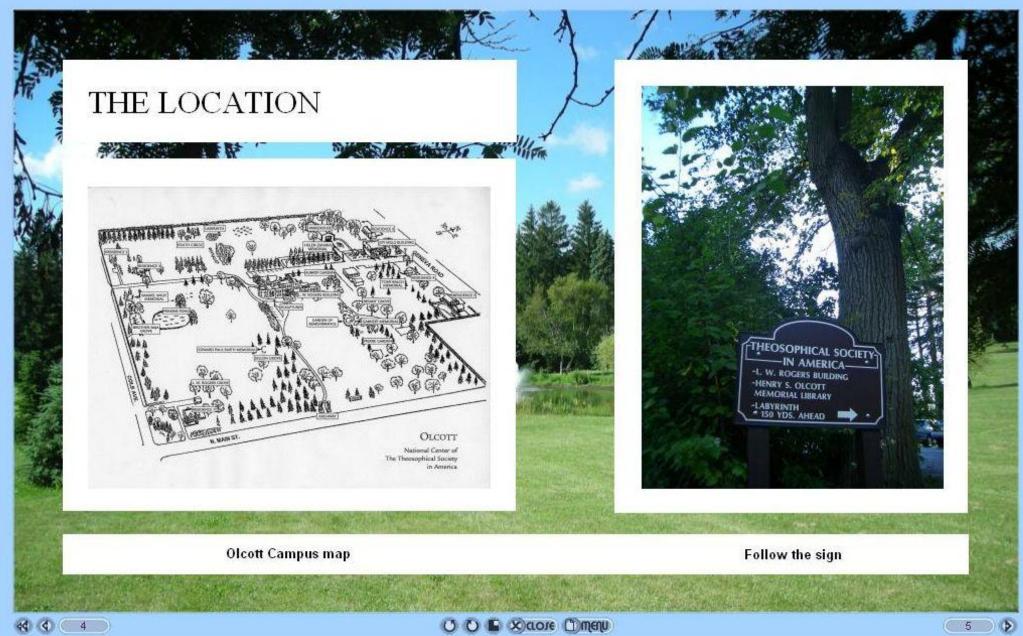
Jan Nicolaas Kind













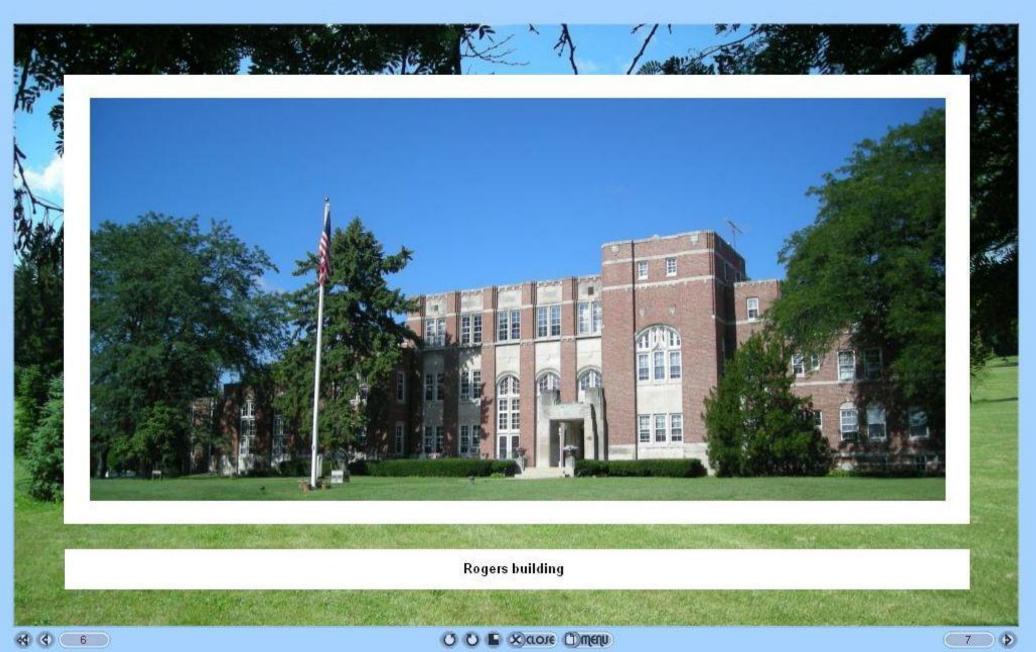










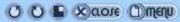








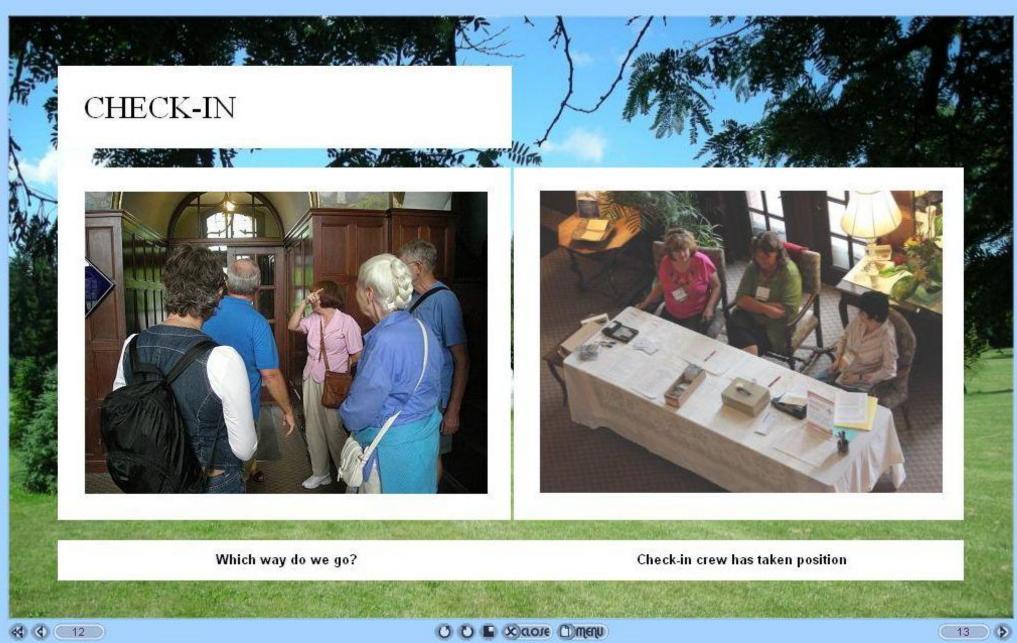


























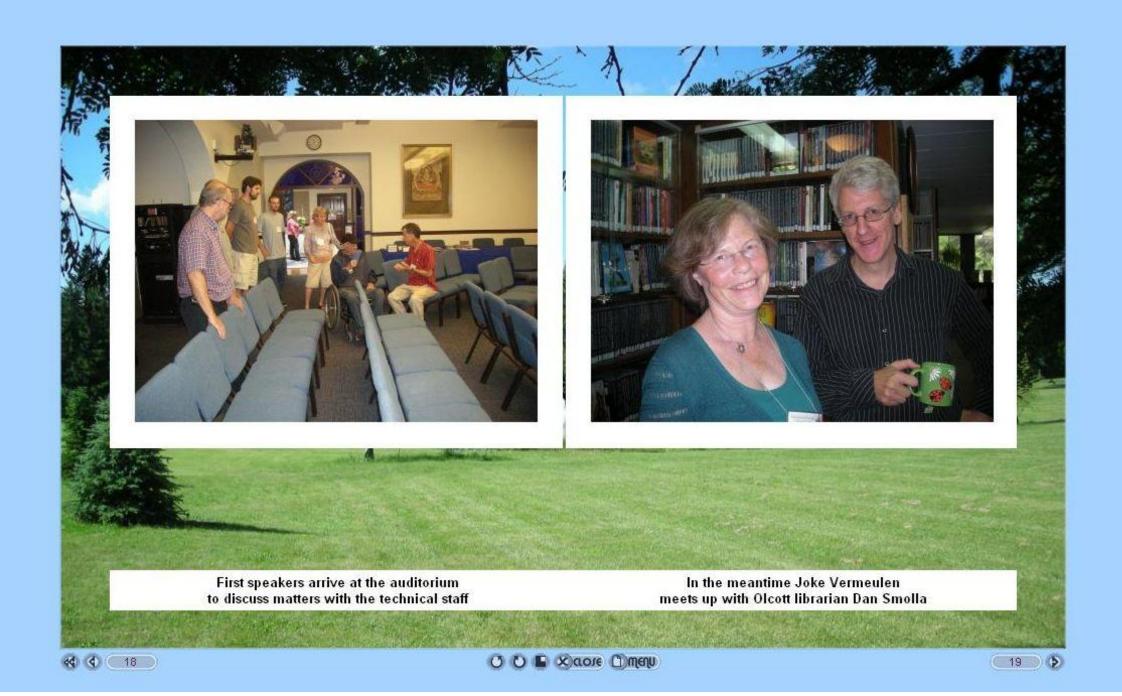
















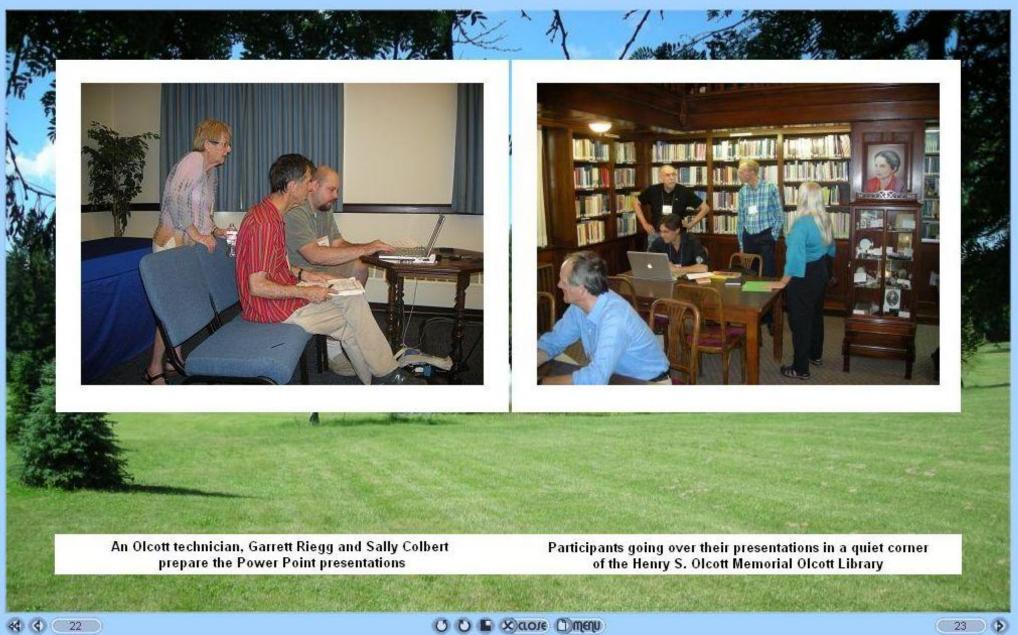
















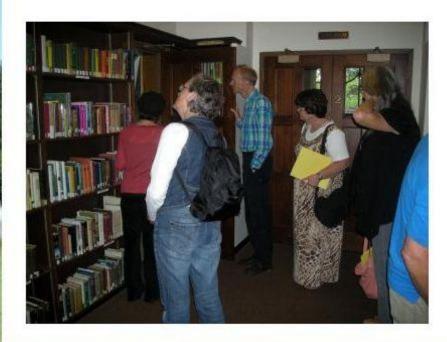






TOUR OF LIBRARY





There is so much to see in the library that one hardly knows where to start

Checking out special collections







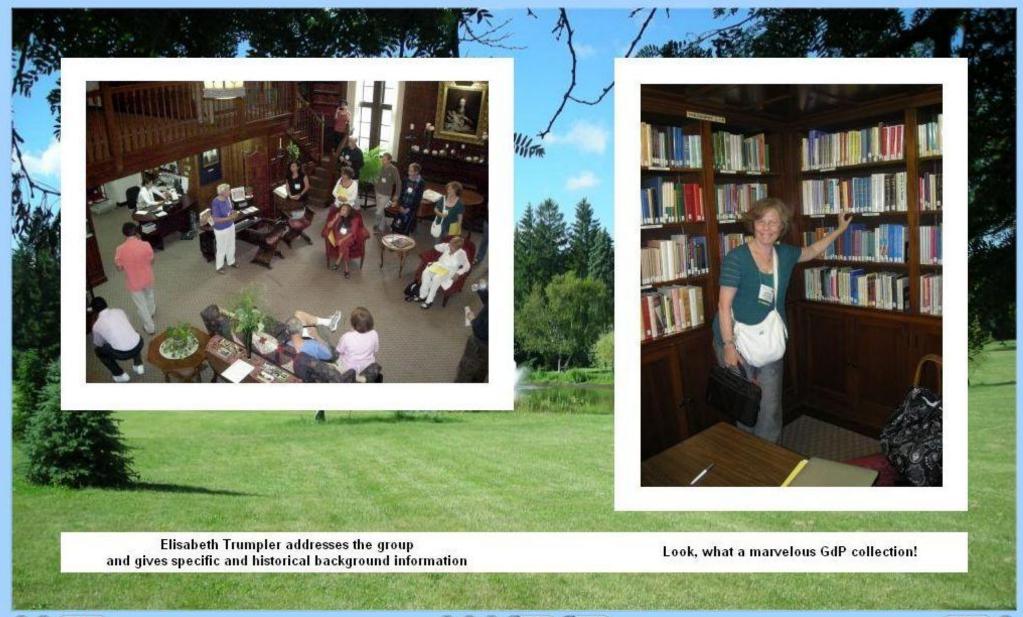










































































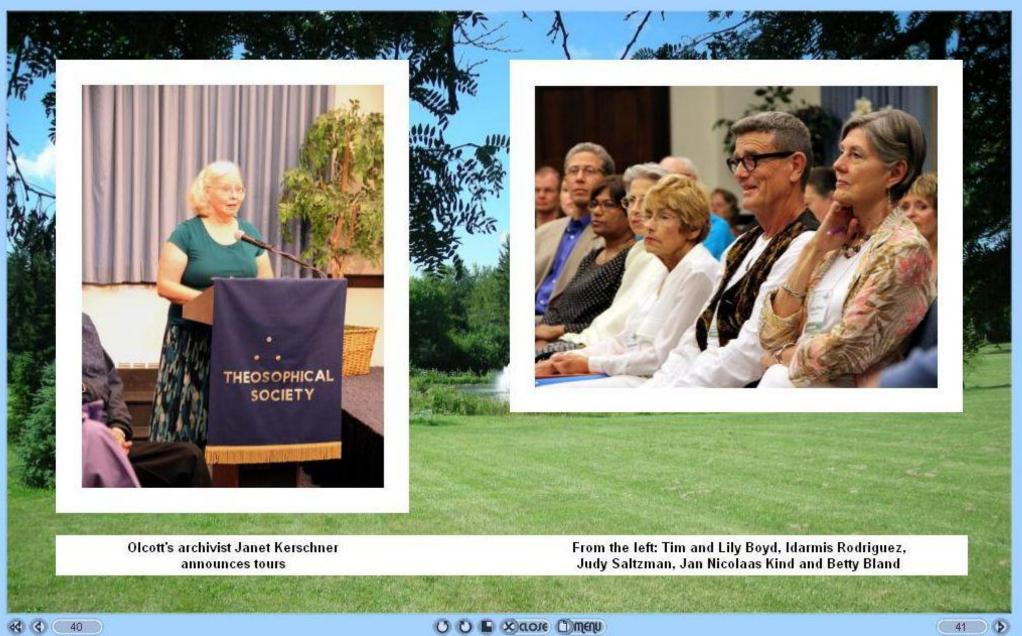




















GREETINGS



Outgoing President Sally Colbert reads greetings

From Ramprakash - ULT Bangalore India:

I went through the ITC 2012 announcement, It is a great effort indeed, very heartening! The topic chosen for deliberations is significant and relevant to the times. I am sure the delegates realize that the basis for union among Theosophists is UNION AND HARMONY which HPB emphasized and illustrated extensively in her writings.

With best wishes for a grand success to the ITC 2012.

From John Algeo, your fellow aspiring Theosophist:

A Greeting to the International Theosophy Conference at Olcott, Wheaton, Illinois.

A movement whose fundamental focus is on the universal human family and the oneness of all life must laud the keynote of this meeting: "Fraternization and Unity." It is not, and has never been, necessary for a single organization to advance those key ideals.

As every human being is at once unique and of a common nature with all other human beings, so the Theosophical movement can consist of many organizations all sharing a common heritage and goal. Diversity within unity give greater strength and applicability to the ways we strive to achieve our common purpose.

May the inspiration of the founders of the movement (both outer and inner) be your guiding light, and may you achieve at this event a fraternal realization of your theme, for your benefit, that of the whole Theosophical movement, and that of the world.









From Gary Kidgell - organizing secretary for the Scottish Section:

On behalf of the members of the Scottish Section I wish to extend our greetings to everyone attending the conference.

We are in no doubt that this event shall serve to inform and inspire all involved towards furthering their efforts towards the pursuit of our society's objects, and especially regarding the realization of the primary objective of our society of Universal Brotherhood which is, of course, based upon knowledge of the timeless spiritual truths contained within our teachings which illustrate both the presence and the purpose of the One Divine Life within creation.

It is truly wonderful to witness the selflessness and tireless efforts of those who work within our society as they seek to implement its purpose by following the same path trodden by its founders and by those who inspired them.

From Marie Harkness - organizing secretary for the TS in Ireland:

A heartfelt thank you for the invitation. Sadly, I will be unable to join you all for what promises to be a very interesting and most inspiring event.

On behalf of all the Irish Theosophists I send warmest greetings from Ireland to you, and to all the Speakers and delegates gathered together on this auspicious occasion.

Rest assured, we will be attuned to you in hearts, mind and spirit. No doubt we are all magnetically linked together at a subtle level through our shared commitment and dedication to the work for the Theosophical Society.













May the wonderful forces and energies raised during these special days radiate outwards to inspire and uplift all beings worldwide and may you be overshadowed by the love, guidance and blessing of the Holy Ones.

From Vic Hoa Chin - The Philippines:

On behalf of the officers and members of the Theosophical Society in the Philippines, I would like to send our very warm greetings to this year's ITC.

It is significant that it is being held at Wheaton. May it lead to more collaborate efforts among all the theosophical traditions. Wishing you a fruitful and productive gathering!

From Antonio Girardi - General Secretary of the TS in Italy:

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It is with great joy that the whole Italian Theosophical Society and I are sending these kind and fraternal greetings to all the attendees at the International Theosophy Conference, which is taking place in the Olcott Center in Wheaton, Illinois.

It is so extraordinary and extremely relevant that many people tied to the modern and contemporary theosophical traditions gather to study the important subject "Karmic Cycles: Wheels of Spiritual Growth" in details.

In this moment, when Mankind is still torn by many factors which neglect the spiritual dimension of Life, my wish is that all those who identify themselves in the theosophical values of the Universal Brotherhood without distinction and of Unity of Life may give TOGETHER a real contribution to the dimension of the Good and the Beautiful mentioned by Plato.









From Navin B. Shah -General Secretary TS in East & Central Africa:

"We are pleased to learn about the International Theosophical Conference on 'Karmic Cycles' which will be held at Wheaton, Illinois from 9th to 12th August 2012. It is dedicated to bring about unity between all Theosophical traditions. We feel this is important as unity should start from Theosophists from all shades - as we believe in unity of everything in the universe.

The Theme: "Karmic Cycles: Wheel of Spiritual Growth" - a well chosen theme as we know that our growth depends on full understanding of Karma and living that law.

We wish all the listed speakers all the best as they deliver their messages on the theme and especially the Keynote Presentations on Theosophical "Fraternization and Unity"

Please convey greetings from our members in East & Central Africa to the assembled delegates. We wish you all successful deliberations and an enjoyable and fruitful conference.

From Diana Dunningham Chapotin - International Secretary, Theosophical Order of Service:

The Theosophical Order of Service sends its respectful greetings to you all on what can only be called a remarkable occasion. Countless ITC pioneers are doubtless sitting invisibly in the wings, beaming smiles upon you.

May your gathering be productive both in the short and long term.









From Anton Rozman - Theosophy Forward Slovenia:

There is urgency for Theosophical unity in the air and you are materializing it into a tangible reality.

May your gathering spread heartfelt feelings of fraternal cooperation through our world, affirming that Theosophy is very much alive and ever actual in alleviating the heavy burdens of humanity!

Wish you a successful conference in all respects.

From Ligia B. Montiel Longhi - President of the Inter American Theosophical Federation - Costa Rica:

We hope that your event will be a successful one for everybody, and that each one of the participants will grow not only in knowledge, but can also implement the teachings to diffuse Theosophy.

Now is time to cooperate with the forces of evolution, to create, at all levels, an environment filled with love, peace and impersonal service.

The teachings from our founder HPB, show us the appropriate way.

From Els Rijneker - General Secretary of the Dutch Section of the TS:

Warmest greetings from the Dutch Section of the TS and its Board.

Unfortunately it will not be possible for us to attend your meetings in Wheaton. However we fully support your initiative to bring about unity in all traditions working with the ideals of Theosophy.

Your theme is "i Karmic Cycles: Wheels of Spiritual Growth". Spirituality is experienced at universal levels where no division, no separation exists.









Yes, let us look at all we have in common; let us build, and leave behind things that keep us from reaching this goal of human perfection.

Your keywords "Fraternization and Unity" are so well chosen ... Dear friends, brothers and sisters, we wish you fruitful gatherings!

From Dolores Gago - President of the TS in Uruguay:

We acknowledge receipt to the invitation to attend the International Conference on "Karmic Cycles" which has been duly informed to the members. As you no doubt will realize, sometimes language becomes an impediment to participate in such events.

When the information reached us, I was tempted to start packing, but health reasons were strong enough to convince me to stay at home.

We think that there could not be a better subject, especially at the present moment when it seems that there exists a greater tendency to divide instead of uniting.

There have appeared so many leaders propagating thoughts for a better life in a narrow way though based on the same fundamental teachings, but forgetting that the karmic wheel is in permanent motion ...

Therefore, a deep study on the subject of the Conference will undoubtedly influence the field of thought thus helping all of us to become more open minded, full of respect for those who, like us, are trying to find the lost key of happiness.

Please accept the very best wishes from all the members of the Theosophical Society in Uruguay for a fruitful and inspiring gathering.













From Jacques Mahnich - Normandy France:

Dear brothers and sisters,

At a time where human cyclic development is taking a sharp acceleration towards self-centered ego glorification and an "ever-more-for-me" attitude trend leading to a desecration and exhaustion of our Mother-Earth resources, theosophy can and must bring its contribution to promote key-values in line with its core teachings.

ITC is an opportunity to voice loud and clear these key values, away from dogmas and ideas conflicts which have been plaguing many spiritual movements.

The gold inside every living life is awaiting the washing machine to reveal itself and illuminate the world. Fraternization and unity can be effective when this cleaning is worked out at the individual level. May this ITC event be part of this process in bringing knowledge and sharing loving kindness.

I wish all participants an enjoyable and friendly experience.

From Maria Rosa and Ernesto Garcia - Argentina:

May the true spirit of Brotherhood touch our hearts and lives. Warm regards to all of you.

From Marja Artamaa - General Secretary of the TS in Finland:

On behalf of the members of the Finnish Section, warmest greetings from Finland, in Northern Europe. I am happy to express best wishes for a successful Convention of fraternity and unity. May it inspire all.

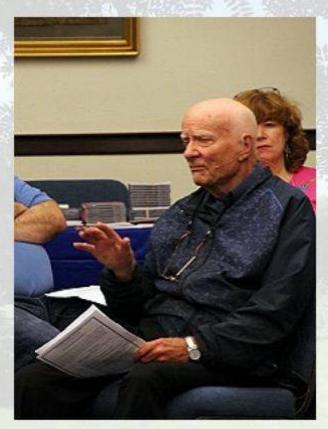












As always Jim Colbert is ready for a memorable presentation together with Sally Colbert, but first he introduces ...

From Mr. M. P. Singhal - International Vice President TS Adyar India:

Dear Friends,

I see from your news-letter that you all are gathering together in Chicago. I send my very best wishes for successful deliberations. Can you send me a synopsis?

Warm good wishes.

From Halldor Haraldsson - Reykjavik, Iceland:

Greetings from the TS in Iceland to the International Theosophy Conference.

On behalf of the Iceland Section of the Theosophical Society I send our cordial and fraternal greetings. May this conference bring us closer to the original aim of the society towards the brother- and sisterhood of mankind.

We were glad to see the emphasis made by Joy Mills and Michael Gomes in recent interviews on the important role of the Theosophical Society today. It is even more important now than ever before.

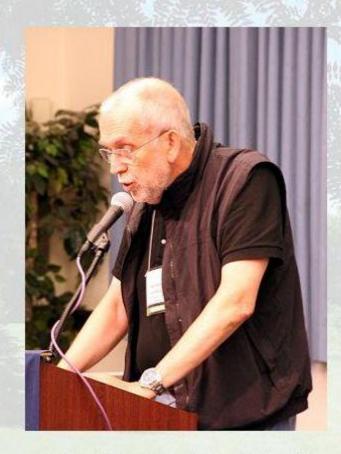
What is especially encouraging is to see your attempt to bring all Theosophical traditions together.

May that be a step in spreading our aims of toleration and understanding so urgently needed in the world today! After all: Water is stronger than the rock.









... Herman Vermeulen and after that Jim asks ...

From Dorothy Bell - Australia:

Warmest greetings to all who have gathered together beyond boundaries of affiliation to share theosophical ideas - which heed no such bounds. This transcending principle echoes HP Blavatsky's message to the 1888 American Convention in Chicago and read by William Quan Judge:

"... a large part of my heart and much of my hope for Theosophy lie with you in the United States, where the Theosophical Society was founded ... But you must remember that, although there must be local Branches of the Theosophical Society, there can be no local Theosophists: and just as you all belong to the Society, so do I belong to you all."

One would have to be made of stone not to be touched by her truth, wherever we pay our membership fees.

So, from a universal Theosophist who calls from a far-flung corner of the planet in Australia - may all feel my earnest and sincere wish that this International Conference be a happy occasion for inner renewal as well as an occasion of expanded sisterhood and brotherhood across those historical lines that were drawn in the shifting sands of time.

From Barbara Farinas, National President of the Cuban Section - Havana:

My dear sisters and brothers,

On behalf of all members of the Cuban Section of the Theosophical Society, I send you our warm regards, with the best wishes that you can spend some days of rich experiences and increasing the promotion of the unity between all of us.









THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

... Jon Knebel to come forward ...

From Joy Mills - Krotona:

GREETINGS TO THE INTERNATIONAL THEOSOPHICAL CONFERENCE

Warm and affectionate greetings to all fellow-students attending the 2012 International Theosophical Conference being held at the beautiful headquarters of the Theosophical Society in America, named Olcott as a tribute to the President-Founder of the worldwide Society! This will undoubtedly be a memorable occasion for all attending these sessions, and so while I cannot be present to actively share in the many discussions, both formal and informal, I shall be with you in thought as I follow in spirit the program which has been arranged.

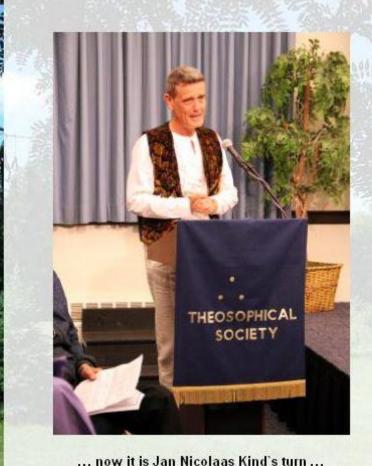
The theme of this year's ITC, "Karmic Cycles: Wheels of Spiritual Growth," focuses on that great universal law of karma which is ever operative not only in the universe, but in our own lives, propelling us forward in cycles of growth and understanding. We may be reminded of the fact that we are all interlinked, so that what occurs to any one of us must resonate in the lives of all of us, for humanity is essentially ONE. No one can take a step forward in the long evolutionary journey without all being affected, so our responsibility lies in awakening our own potential that we may aid all humanity in the great journey toward enlightenment.

So may all who have come together at Olcott, joined by all who - like myself - are with you in spirit, feel the ever-abiding presence of the Great Ones, our Elders, who have marked out the way and aid us through all the cycles of spiritual awakening! May it be a joyous occasion, a time of new insights and deepening understanding, a time for sending out upon the world the message of peace and true brotherhood.









From Tran Thi Kim-Dieu - President of TS France and Chair of the European Federation:

The notion of Karma can be considered now to be widely known in the West, People in the East generally mistake karma as a punitive Nemesis, I hope people in the West in its innovative trend should not fall in this trap. Karma in its innumerable turns inevitably brings changes and with them newness that opens doors towards spiritual growth. Embracing changes with full consciousness favors the upward move which is - as we have been taught - limitless. Limitlessness starts with stepping out of oneself, out of one's own feeling of being separated. This movement of consciousness towards others can be also called love.

With this message, on behalf of the Theosophical Society in France, and on behalf of the European Federation, I am sending you warmest wishes for an inspiring and fruitful gathering.

From Abraham Oron - Chairman of the TS in Israel:

To all participants,

Hearty greetings from the members of The Theosophical Society in Israel.

We wish all the participants of this important conference on "Karmic Cycles: Wheels of Spiritual Growth", an insightful and spiritually elevating talks and discussions.

We wish and pray that all the lovers of "Theosophia" worldwide, will unite in making the "Life giving Wisdom" of Theosophy more friendly and accessible to all who wish to free themselves from ignorance and suffering.









... and last but not least Betty Bland takes the stand

From Konstantin Zaitzev - Moscow - Russian Federation:

Dear friends!

We are glad to send our greetings to the conference dedicated to Fraternization and Unity. The Three Objects unite us while doctrines sometimes divide.

Here in Moscow we found it useful to concentrate on Objects instead of particular teachings and it helped to establish the good relations between the followers of different theosophical traditions.

America has emphasized the idea of freedom, not only in political but in spiritual issues too. It seems to be one of the reasons why the Theosophical Society was started in America. 'You are the free workers in the domain of Truth, and as such, must leave no obstructions on the paths leading to it", was said by the Founders of our society, and I hope that this conference will help to serve this purpose.

From CHAGANTI V.K. MAITHREYA F.T.S.:

Dear Brothers and Sisters gathered at the ITC Conference:

Hearty Greetings on this wonderful occasion of reunion! The subject, "Karmic Cycles: Wheels of Spiritual Growth" is very apt.

As a family of six generations of members from April 27, 1882, whose roots go back to the establishment of the Adyar Headquarters in 1882, we consider it a privilege and pleasure to send these warm and fraternal greetings to all gathered in Wheaton.

May the great ones bless and inspire all, in their work for the great Cause. Maithreya and family - Adyar - India









Attentive listeners

From ULT - Paris:

To all participants:

All best wishes for a fruitful Conference for a deeper Unity and Brotherhood to spread the teaching along the original lines handed down by H.P. Blavatsky and W.Q. Judge.

Then R. Crosbie kept the link to carry out the work with an emphasis on an impersonal approach in order to keep the authenticity of the teaching of the Founders.

Your program is full of promising titles with a vast area of applications. This is indeed a great example of good will in the ideal of serve to humanity.

Our fraternal thoughts are with you.















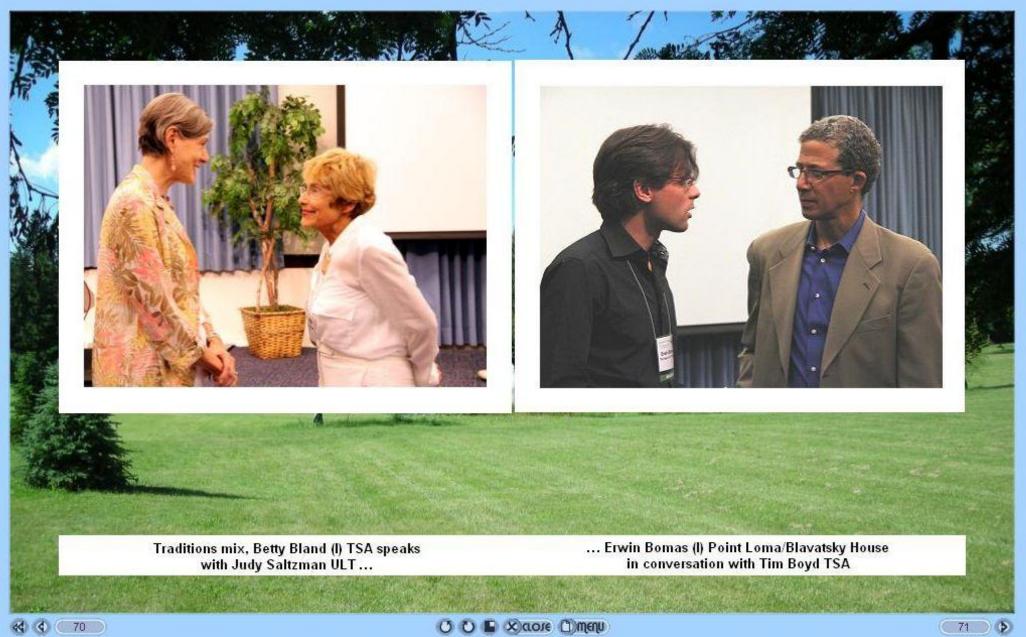












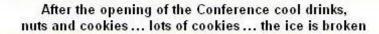






REFRESHMENTS







Happy volunteers preparing fresh coffee ... from Brazil?

















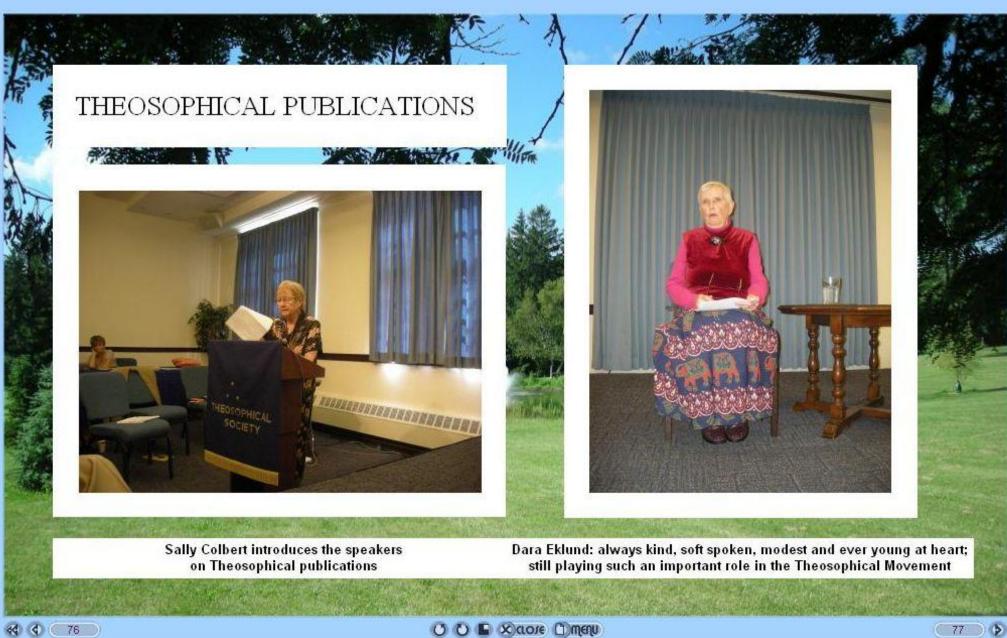
















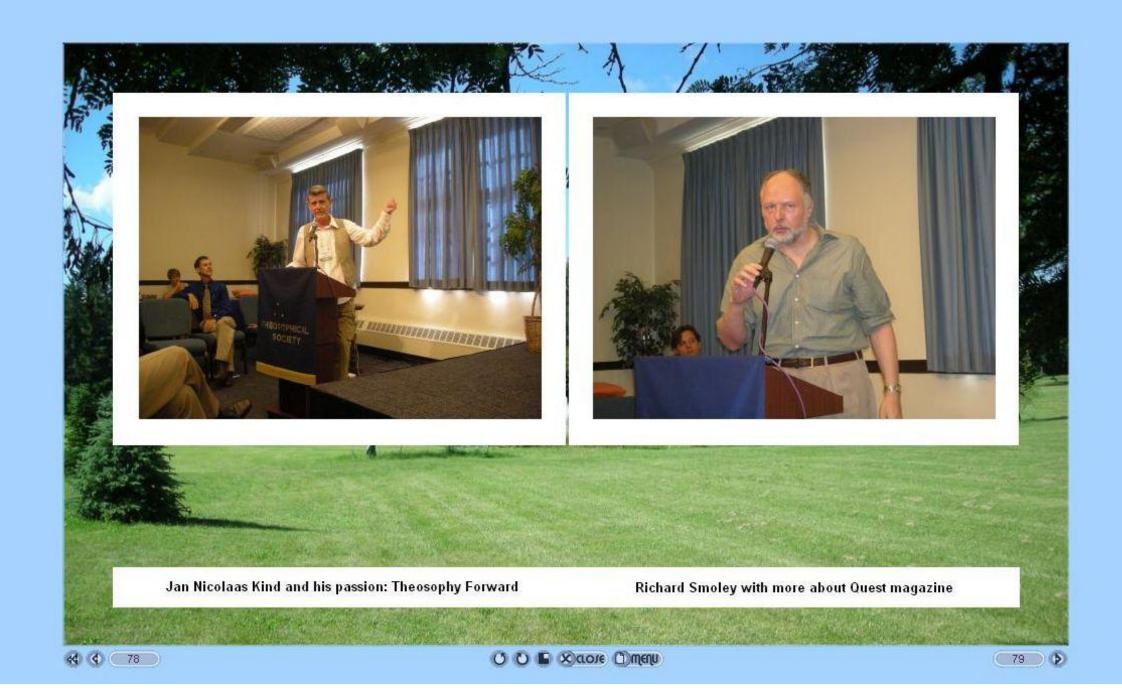








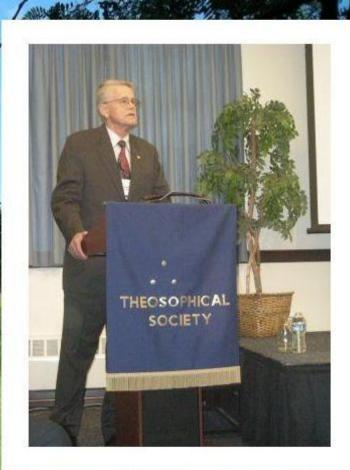




Karma and Reincarnation by Herb Dantzler

Karma and Social Responsibility by Carolyn Dorrance

Reflections on Karma by Nandini Iyer



Herb Dantzler















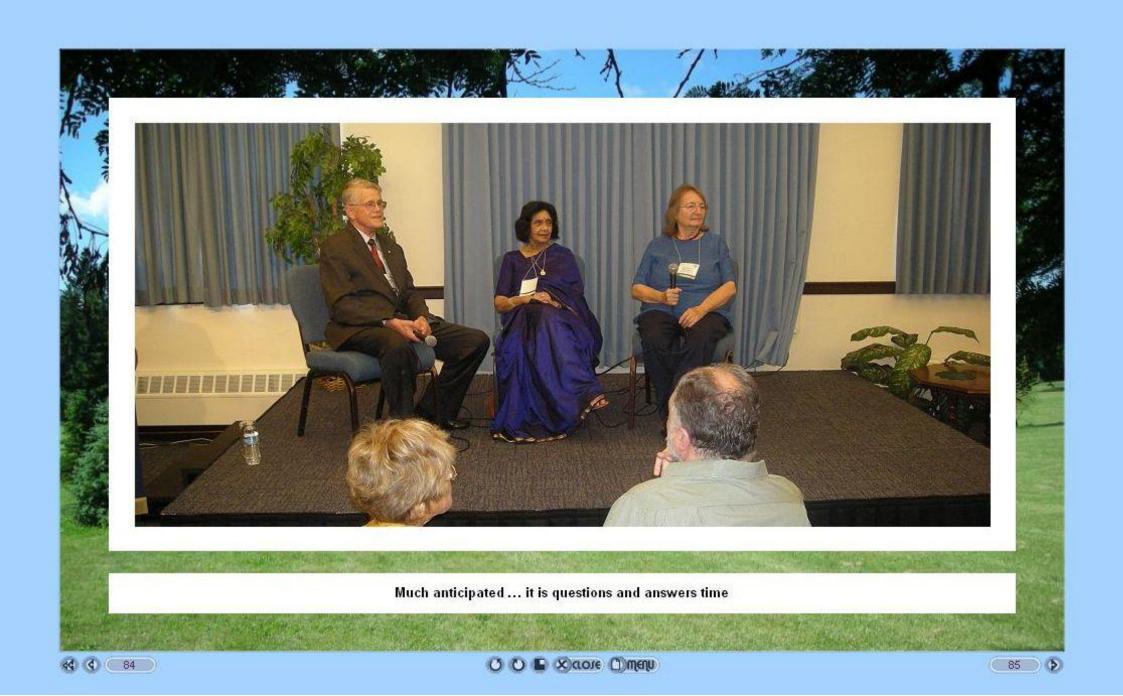


































The Child Mirrors the Race by Johanna Vermeulen

The Race Mirrors the Buddha by Erwin Bomas

Applying the Theosophical Doctrine of Cycles: Workshop by Marijn Gijsbers

Cultivating Moral Maturity Through the Cycles of Our Lives

Workshop by April Hejka-Ekins



Johanna Vermeulen, a breathtaking and profound new look at the Rounds and Races











































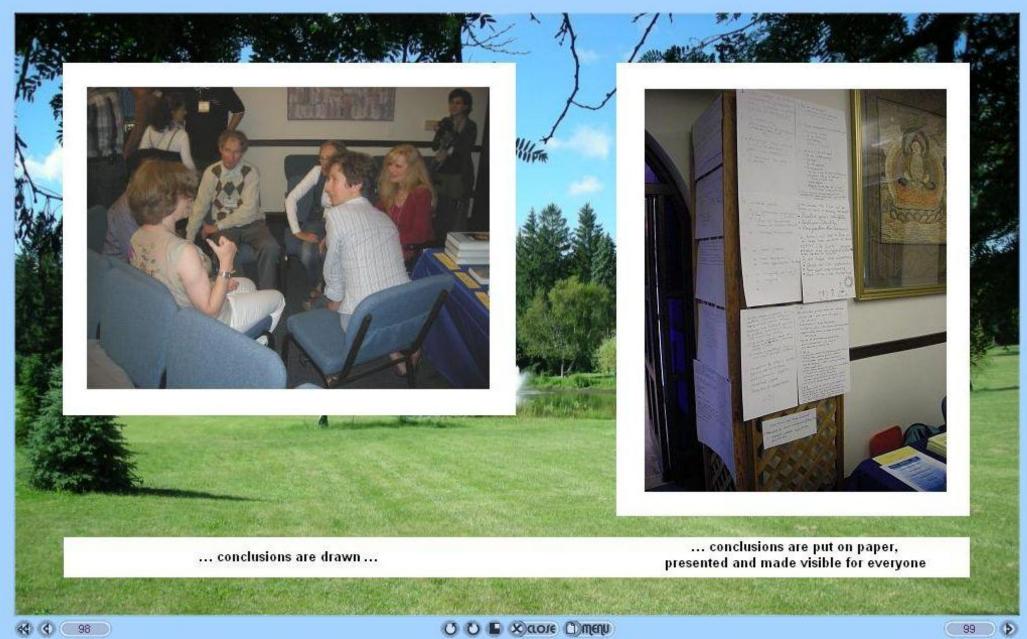
























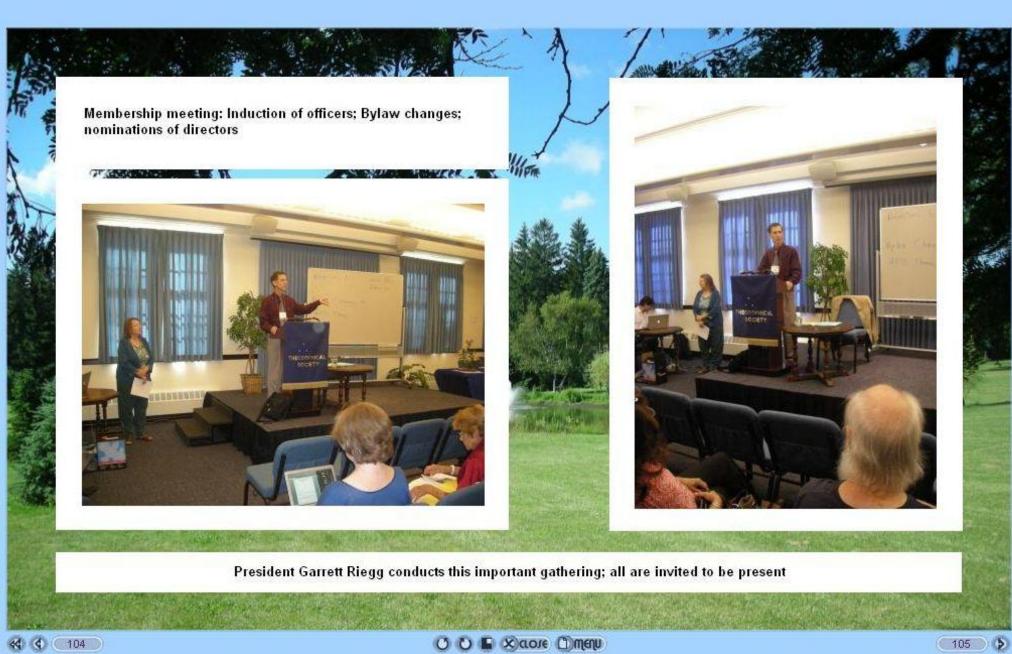




















Blavatsky on Theosophic Education with Correlations ...

by Kenneth Small

TO GREEK WAS TO SEE WATER

Healing with Cycles: The New Science of Brain

Repair

by Helena Kerekhazi

Guhyasamaja (and Kalachakra tantra): Highest

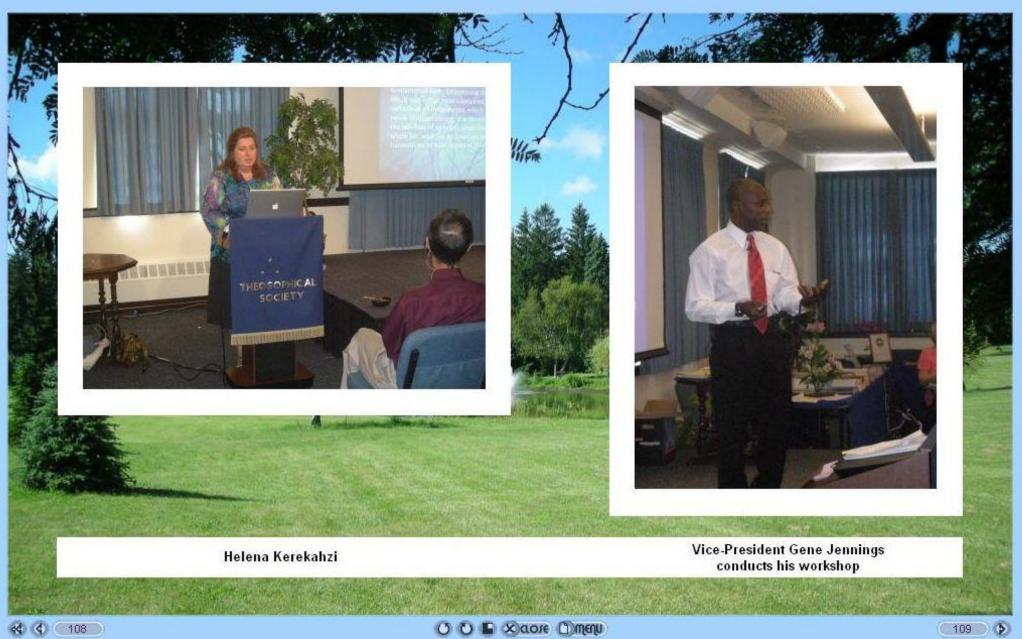
Yoga Tantra

Workshop by Dr. Gene Jennings



Kenneth Small could not attend but Erwin Bomas read his presentation

















BEHIND THE SCENES





The control room in action with Chris Bolger (I) and Ben den Hartogh

Oops ... the sleeping beauty ... Elvira Carbonell: It has been a hard day's night











Empathy in the Kaliyuga by Ruth Richards

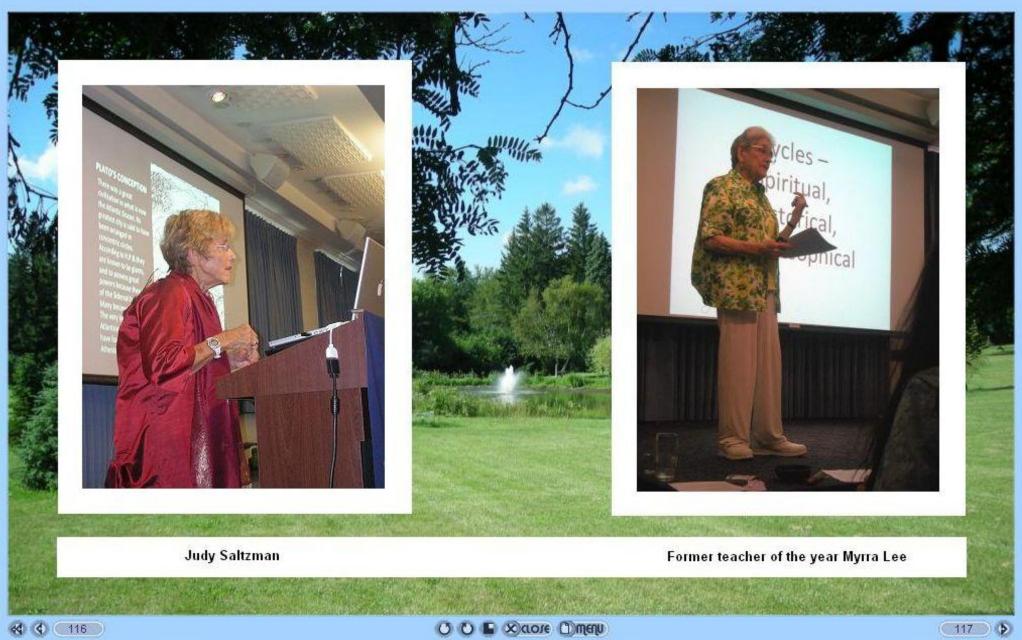
Atlantis and Lemuria in Myth and Science by Judy Saltzman

Seven-Hundred Year Cycles of Spiritual Impulse by Myrra Lee



Ruth Richards







IN BETWEEN





The making of the group photo. It is always a challenge to get all participants together, at the same place and at the same time, in between meetings and other important activities. Believe it or not, this year at Olcott it goes smooth, all are present at the requested time and there is even time for socializing. Multi talented Olcott chef Jeff Gresko, seen on the back, who is also an excellent photographer is conducting the group and guiding everyone to the right spot. The result is published at the end of this photo gallery.







The 1975 Cycle and the Mayan Calendar Predictions by Garrett Riegg

TO CONTROL OF THE PARTY OF

Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation in Conflict Areas by Juan Carlos Morillo

Unity and Cyclic Movement as Keys to Peace Building and Social Reform by Henk Bezemer

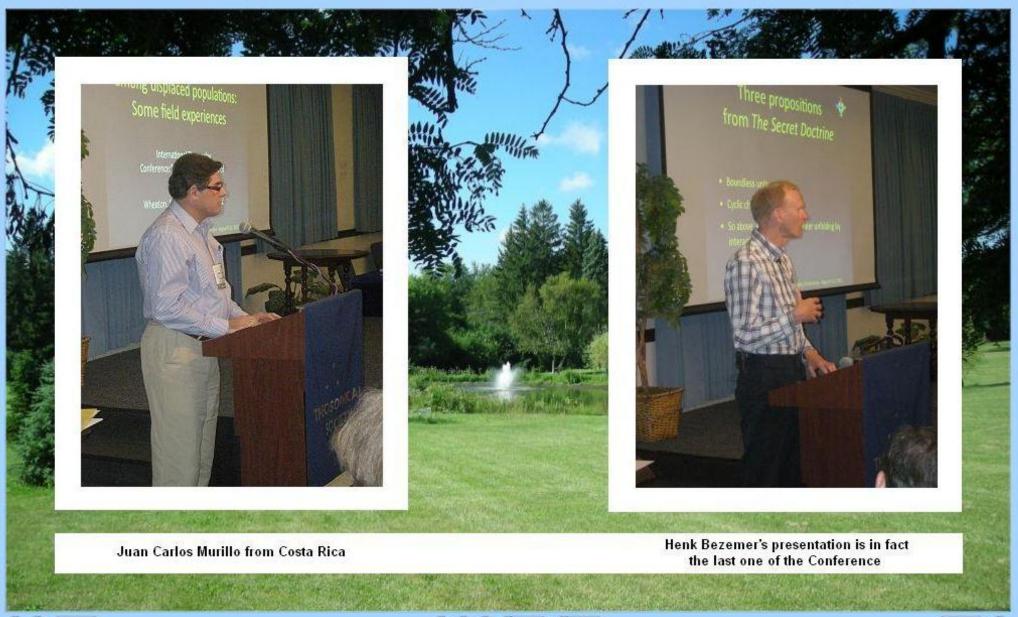


Finally Garrett Riegg can give own his talk





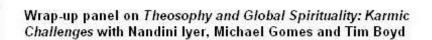
















Garrett Riegg introduces the wrapping-up team

Looking back at the Conference but most importantly looking forward: humor, laughs, reflective moments but above all a feeling of gratitude



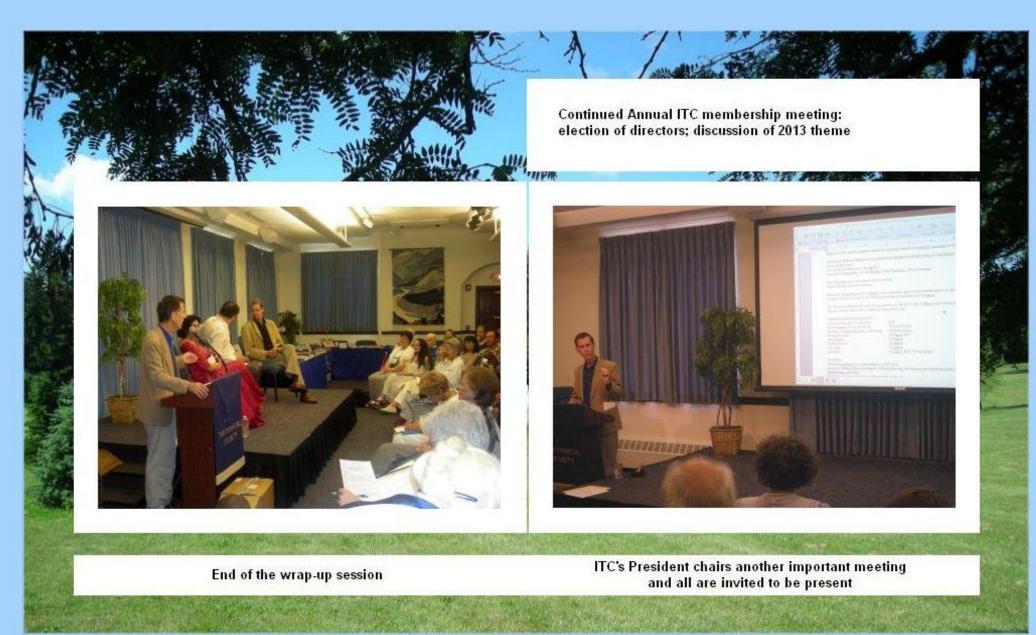




























Before packing up participants will go on a tour to Chicago, enjoying a leisurely boat ride and a meal down town. The bus takes them to the boat and some will take that same bus direct to O'Hare Airport ... All aboard!























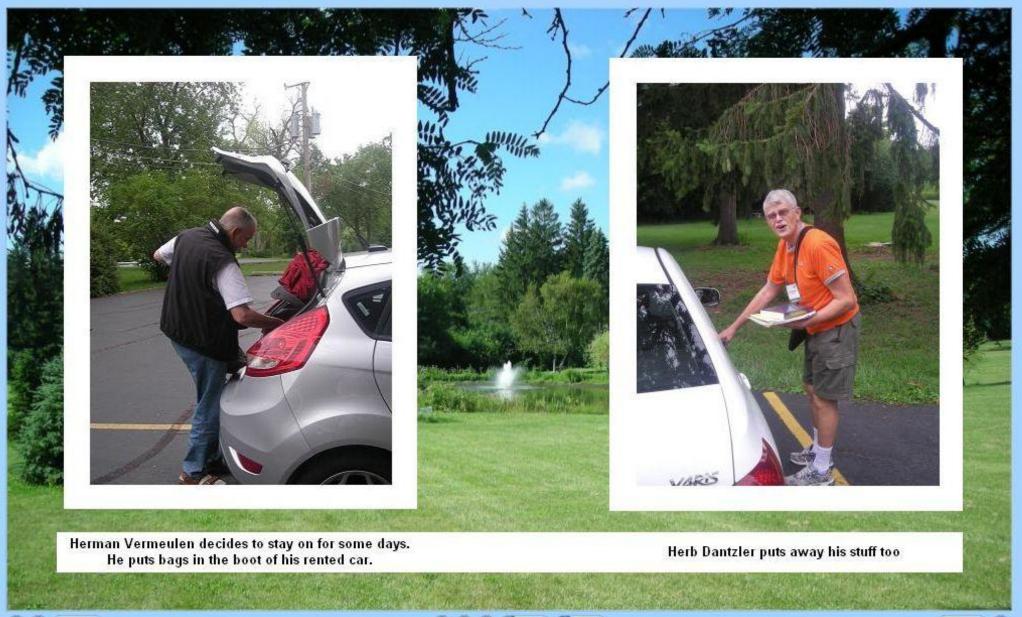
















Group photo ITC Conference August 9 – 12, 2011. It was a wonderful and inspiring gathering. Until next year. In 2013 all roads will lead to New York. (for directions turn over to the very last page)











