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SFG and Fall Retreats Will Feature Dr. Wendell Beane, Dr. June Bro, Others

BY SHERRILL L. MCGILL

We are delighted to announce two special retreats this fall, on October 28-31, at the Mt. Marie Conference Center in Holyoke, Mass., the popular location for Region events. Combined, the retreats will make a for mini-vacation with spiritually-minded members and friends.

The two programs, "A Search for God Retreat" with Ron Smith, Dr. June Bro and Bob and Jeri Jeffus, and "Spiritual Transitions: Journey to Wholeness" with Dr. Wendell Beane, Dr. June Bro and Peg A. Van Beane, are designed to awaken your potential to reconnect with God and your inner guidance. The leaders are trained to guide and assist you safely in this journey. By the end of the weekend, you should feel strengthened to continue working toward your spiritual ideals.

A SEARCH FOR GOD RETREAT

The first program, underwritten through a grant from the A.R.E., is keyed to those currently in or interested in A Search for God study groups. The retreat is structured to provide renewal, rededication, recreation and training.

Each affiliated group can elect one representative to attend this training program at no cost. There is a limit on how many we can sponsor through this grant. Your group should have received the letter announcing this retreat and renewed its affiliation with the Region this year. In addition, any member may attend this SFG retreat at low cost (see registration information on page 4); perhaps your group could come together.

The Search for God program is considered by many members to be the foundation and heart of the A.R.E., and perhaps the most important body of the Cayce work. In reading 262-71, given in 1934, Cayce predicted that the SFG lessons would still be alive and relevant a century later.

The program is built on the central theme of the readings: "The Spirit is the life, the mind is the builder, the physical is the result." Presentations progress from the nature of God, to how we can heal karmic patterns and begin to lead a grace-filled life that will change our world and the world at large. Practical techniques for creating an uplifting study group experience will be shared.

This retreat is a pilot program that will be

Region Coordinator and Book Store Coordinator Sought

Graham and I have decided to leave the coordinator position because of the unpredictable nature of my health challenge and a new career opportunity.

We will complete the A Search for God and Fall Region Retreats, but will no longer function as coordinators beginning November 1, 1999. Anyone interested in this position should contact Kevin Todeschi at the A.R.E. (757/428-3588, ext. 7210).

After many years as the Book Store Coordinator, Bettie Rodgers is stepping down in November. The Fall Retreat will be her last event.

Bettie's service to this Region has been an incredible example of selfless service. The money she earned enabled the Region to support educational programs, back Area Team activities and pay the Region phone bills and more. Beyond that, however, Bettie's ability to relate to others has been an inspiration. She expressed her love and kindness through pointing out books to people with specific interests, especially toward newcomers, whom she delighted by giving them *There Is a River*, to "get them started on the path." Those of us who know Bettie admire her enthusiasm, energy and knowledge.

We wish her well as she and her husband, Art, enjoy their retirement.

If you are interested in this position, please call Bettie (518/355-3898).

Both of these positions offer the opportunity to make a difference in the Region through service. Many aspects of the jobs are fun and include traveling, meeting and helping new people, and making lifelong friends.

As we step down, we trust that the Lord will knock on someone's heart and they will open the door to this opportunity—with all its ups and downs, it is a door worth opening.

— Sherrill McGill



**THE
NORTHEAST
SPIRIT**
The Newsletter
of the
Northeast Region
of the A.R.E.

The *Northeast Spirit* is published twice a year by the A.R.E. Northeast Region and is mailed as a membership benefit to A.R.E. members in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont. We invite submissions: 400 words maximum typed or clearly printed. Computer disks and e-mail are welcome and encouraged. For the next deadline contact:

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RETREATS *Cont'd from page 1*

used as a model for other regions. The intent is to help SFG groups grow stronger through individual renewal and training. The belief is that this type of SFG retreat will be most effective in regions where it can impact members who live within commuting distance of one other. We hope that those attending the program will be inspired to mentor and start new SFG groups in their areas.

The A.R.E. wants to offer this program to other regions. You can help by contributing a donation at the retreat.

**SPIRITUAL TRANSITIONS:
JOURNEY TO WHOLENESS**

The SFG Retreat will be immediately followed by the Region Fall Retreat, "Spiritual Transitions: Journey to Wholeness," lead by Dr. Wendell Charles Beane, Dr. June Bro and Peg A. Van Beane.

This program will help you understand and transcend barriers in your life, harmonize your relations to others and deepen your knowledge of God. The first session will focus on learning where you are now in your life and relationships. Other lectures and small-group discussions will enable you to discover where you want to go and how to get there.

PRESENTERS

DR. WENDELL CHARLES BEANE is professor of the history of religions at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, and an elder in the United Methodist Church since 1961. A student of Mircea Eliade, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, where he has been a fellow of the American Institute of Indian Studies. A distinguished teacher and author, he is former chairman of the department of religious studies and anthropology at UW Oshkosh and has spoken at the A.R.E. in Virginia Beach many times. His most recent book is *The Truth Within You*.

DR. JUNE AVIS BRO is a pastoral counselor, Jungian therapist for over 20 years, and a long-time concert pianist. Working daily with Edgar Cayce in 1943, she participated in Search for God Group #1. She received her doctorate at the Chicago Theological Seminary, has served on the staff of A.R.E., and taught at Atlantic University. With her late husband, Dr. Harmon H. Bro, she co-authored *Growing Through Personal Crisis*.

Dr. Wendell Charles Beane, Dr. June Bro and Peg A. Van Beane have spent their lives guiding people through some of life's toughest transitions by teaching them how to renew their spiritual life and open the way to encounters with the Divine. Their training and personal life experiences will foster a safe haven where we can share the burdens and joys of this journey to wholeness.

Together, these two programs will restore your spirit and provide fellowship with like-minded friends. Reserve your space early. (See registration information and form on page 4; presenters are listed below.)

For, all healing of every nature
is the **ATTUNING** of the body to
the **Creative Forces** of the divine
within, by whatever
means may be used to
coordinate
physical,
mental
and
spiritual.
2348-3



PEG A. VAN BEANE has an M.S.E. in counseling and a B.A. in business administration from the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh. An admissions counselor and academic advisor for 14 years, she is now the Coordinator of Advisement for the College of Letters and Science at UW Oshkosh, and is a member of the National Academic Advisement Association. Peg has volunteered for the Samaritans, a suicide prevention hot line. She believes in listening to the voice within, and is willing to share her experiences of traumatic and dramatic life transitions.

JERI AND BOB JEFFUS are members of the Search for God Revitalization Task Force. They have been members of a Search for God study group and have lead spiritual retreats for over 20 years. They are self-employed graphic artists.

RON SMITH is a member of the Search for God Revitalization Task Force. He has worked in labor relations, for delegates to the California state assembly and as a management training consultant. He is a popular and dynamic motivational speaker.



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**Join Our Region
Meditation**
on the first Sunday of each
month at 9 a.m. or 9 p.m.

Our Region Affirmation:
Be still and know that I am
one with God, the source of
unconditional love, wisdom
and harmony, as I express
these in all that I do.

*For information on the retreat
and the presenters, see the
articles on pages 1 and 2.*

ACCOMMODATIONS

The Mt. Marie Conference
Center in Holyoke, Mass.
has become a popular lo-
cation for Region events.
The Center is a nonde-
nominal facility
sponsored by the Sisters
of St. Joseph of Spring-
field, Massachusetts. Ac-
commodations are mostly
private single bedrooms
with a sink, showers and
lavatories are conve-
niently located and an ele-
vator allows easy access.
Each floor has a lounge
with kitchen facilities and
a TV where conferees can
gather informally. In the
past, conferees have
brought finger foods for
"snack-time" sharing.

NE REGION FALL RETREAT DISCOUNT REGISTRATION
Spiritual Transitions — Friday, Oct. 29 to Sunday, Oct. 31
Please check one:

Fall Retreat Spiritual Transitions Oct. 29-31:
Includes: Lectures, private room, meals (Fri. dinner; Sat. breakfast, lunch, dinner; Sun. breakfast, lunch).
 \$245—Fall Retreat (only); early registration by Oct. 15
 \$260—Fall Retreat (only); after Oct. 15.

SPECIAL OFFER for those attending both the SFG Program and the Fall Retreat:
Includes 4 days, 3 nights, private room, 9 delicious meals and all programs.
 \$305—For SFG Program & Fall Retreat, Oct. 28-31.

SFG registration (only): \$70 per person; Deadline: Oct. 15, 1999.
Includes lectures, private room, meals (Thurs. dinner; Fri. breakfast and lunch).

Please include name and address of each person attending.

PAYMENT METHOD:
 Check or money order payable to: A.R.E. N.E. Region
 VISA or Mastercard

Card no. _____
Exp. date _____

Send registration with a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Please include full name and address of each person attending (add extra sheet).

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____