

Soul-Link, Inc.

"... fostering an awareness of and response to the sacred in nature, human nature, and events of every day life."

Volume 1 Issue 13
Summer 2004

Peace in Ourselves, Peace in the World

SOUL LINK RETREAT

SOUL LINK
Together on the Spiritual Path

For the second time in as many years. Soul Link is sponsoring a retreat day with Tony D'Souza. Like his mentor, Anthony DeMello, Tony is a Jesuit priest and a psychologist who lives in his native India. Also like DeMello, he blends the wisdom of eastern and western spirituality in his informative and entertaining presentations. The title of his retreat is "PEACE IN OURSELVES, PEACE IN THE WORLD."

Date: July 10 (Saturday), 8:30 a.m.

Place: First Congregational Church (St. Vrain and Tejon)

Cost: \$20 pre-registration, \$25 at the door

Information: 776-2672

Soul-Link Board

Marty Fernandez
Jim Francek
Eva McGeehan
Patrick Smith
Tom Stella

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*If there is peace in the heart
there will be peace in the home*

*If there is peace in the home
there will be peace in the city*

*If there is peace in the city
there will be peace in the country*

*If there is peace in the country
there will be peace in the world*



Thoughts on Spirituality and Peace

Spirituality is often thought to be primarily an internal matter concerning the tranquil realization of the sacredness of the self, and the practice - often solitary - of meditation and other disciplines whose aim is to foster awareness of, and growth in the spirit.

The reality is that this understanding is only half of the truth. Spirituality is an internal matter that is about discovering who we are (spiritual beings), but it also has to do with how we are (our relationships to others and to the world in general). Many people pursue spiritual growth in order to attain a sense of inner-peace, hoping to find refuge from the chaos of their lives, and from the world's madness. But developing spiritually does not protect us from life's difficulties; rather, it enables us to engage them.

If we are fortunate enough to become peaceful through our pursuit of spiritual growth, we may also find that we are compelled to address the chaos around us. This is so because spiritual maturity brings us to the realization that we are one with everyone at the deepest level of our being. This awareness makes it difficult to turn away from the reality of injustice, and from those who are victims of it. If the peacefulness within us is the fruit of a spiritual presence, and not merely the effect of slowing down and finding a remedy for stress, we will also sense a restlessness that can only be stilled when we address the worlds' unrest. The words of Rabbi Hillel, a contemporary of Jesus, come to mind: "If I do not care for myself, who will care for me. If I care for myself alone, who am I?"

*"The only
thing
necessary for
the triumph of
evil is for good
people to do
nothing."*

Edmund Burke

Thank you, Thank you!

Four people who have made a significant personal contribution to Soul Link are no longer involved in the inner workings of our organization. CoCo Soper and Jeff Tschida are co-founders of Soul Link. CoCo served as the board chairperson, and did most of the administrative work required to sustain us. Jeff was the treasurer and IT guy. Those of you who have attended our retreats also know that both of them added their spiritual wisdom and sensitivity to our gatherings.

Jerry Bagg and Pat Francek also made important contributions to Soul Link. Jerry was a board member and the chair of our Development Committee. Pat was on the Soul Link Council where she helped to both plan and present at several of our retreats.

Thanks to each of you for your efforts and for your passion about matters of the soul.

Soul-Link Book Club

A number of Soul Linkers have asked about the possibility of forming a group that would meet regularly to discuss readings regarding spirituality. Reading is a significant spiritual practice for many people. It is a way to nourish our souls and inform our minds; doing this in common can increase the benefit of this endeavor. If you would like to be part of a group that meets to discuss a book, please contact Marty Fernandez at 550-3199.

SPEAKING OF BOOKS . . .

Here are several recommendations for reading that you may find helpful for your spiritual growth:

Ten Poems to Set You Free edited by Roger Housden

This is the third in a series of "Ten Poems" books. The poetry and commentary will challenge you to look closely at your life and to ask whether you are living it to the full.

A Faith Worth Believing by Tom Stella

This book presents both the traditional interpretation of religious truths, and another, and perhaps more meaningful way to understand them.

COMING EVENTS

Potluck Discussions: Join with other seekers to share a meal and conversation about things that matter. Bring a favorite dish - no RSVP required. Potlucks take place at the Soul Link house located at 2413 N. Cascade Av. They begin at 6:30 p.m. Dates are July 12, August 9 & September 13.

Film Discussion: Gather to view and discuss a film of substance. Popcorn provided! For information regarding the next film, contact Lori Rose (574-9578) lorirose2@hotmail.com or Joe Burke (531-0340) march11th@aol.com. If you signed up for the film discussion group at our last retreat, you will be notified of the next gathering.

Board Meeting: The next board meeting will take place on July 21 at 6:00 p.m. at the Soul Link house.

***Soul-Link
has a new
phone
number:***

776-2672



Soul-Link, Inc.
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Colorado Springs CO 80907

HEREDITY

I met a man today...

At first I said: He's Irish, for he has an Irish way. A sympathy and friendliness that warms you through and through. And then I thought: Oh, no, he's not; he really is a Jew. Those eyes so dark and eloquent are eyes of Israel, Like those of Peter, maybe - or, perhaps, Emmanuel.

He stood there with a quiet grace, so slim he was and tall, I knew he was an Englishman, and not a Jew at all. And, yet, his skin was very fair, a German he could be. Or Viking, such as those who set their ships against the sea. His hair was dark with mystery of India, Japan. His courtesy was China's own; his dignity, Iran.

And he had teeth so white I knew a Negro smiled at me. Until the music of his voice spoke soft of Italy. Oh, I was most confused...I saw the desert land again. And Arab hospitality encamped upon the plain.

I saw a certain Russian strength, and from the Danube shore, A spirit that had suffered much to keep the cross he wore.

Here was a Spanish artist, a philosopher from France, a gay and charming Islander, a hero of romance. I met a man today and he was marvellously fair. He really was a child of God, he came from everywhere.

Anne C. Johnson



Peace in Ourselves, Peace in the World

Saturday, July 10, 2004

Mail In Registration Form.....Clip and return with registration fee no later than July 3, 2004

Please complete information below, enclose your check in the amount of \$20.00 per person (includes lunch) and mail by **July 3**

Mail to:

SOUL-LINK, INC.

2413 N. Cascade Ave.

Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Name(s) of person(s) attending _____

Phone number _____ Drop-ins are welcome the day of the retreat. The registration fee "at the door" will be \$20.00 per person which includes lunch. We hope you will invite a friend to join us for this time of meditation, presentation and conversation.