

SpiritistNews

Year 4, Issue 4, July/August 2006

"To be born, to die,
to be reborn again,
and constantly
progress, that is the
Law."

- Allan Kardec

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When Spiritism and Spiritualism Come Together for the First Time in the United States

Words cannot express the immense joy celebrated by several people who attended the workshops performed by Dr. Vanessa Anseloni and Professor Divaldo Franco at Lily Dale-NY, last weekend. It was the marking of a new era, which brought Spiritism and Spiritualism closer together!

Dr. Anseloni and the Spiritist Society of Baltimore compiled three wonderful presentations introducing to the public in attendance foundations of Spiritism: Reincarnation as a form of healing, history and real purpose of mediumship, and an exhibition of great mediumistic paintings performed by the Brazilian medium Maria Gertrudes.

The first seminar was conducted by Dr. Anseloni on reincarnation - a topic that somewhat separates the philosophies. Making use of her vast background in Neuroscience and Psychology, Dr. Anseloni was able to provide scientific evidence of the topic and tie it to God's Divine justice as a form of healing. The audience was both enlightened and moved.

Following that same afternoon, the well-known Brazilian medium Maria Gertrudes performed mediumistic paintings in front of a large crowd. Several paintings were generated in the course of one hour. The proceeds from the auction of the paintings went to support her non-profit organization for needy children in Minas Gerais, Brazil - Gertrudes' organization project houses more than 100 children in grades K-12 and several living with learning disabilities. It is one of the many projects in which Ms. Gertrudes helping throughout her life from her dedicated mediumistic work.

As it was elucidated in all workshops, Spiritism views mediumship as a sacred mission and the same should never charge for individual gain. Like Spiritualists, several Spiritists strive to achieve high degrees in their professions as part of spiritual



evolution. Hence, Mediumship in Spiritism is never seen as a profession - it is a work of selflessness to get one closer to God. Several outstanding paintings were created mediunicalistically that night - a blessed event indeed.

The weekend events culminated with Professor Franco's workshop the following day in which he presented a historic timeline of mediumistic moments through time, detailing the phenomena (including pre-historical and biblical accounts) and the purpose of this sense. Professor Franco brilliantly related several mediumistic moments, several scientific points of view, and masterfully united Spiritism and Spiritualism under his explanations.

The event was marked by an elucidating message from Dr. Menezes (a discarnate Brazilian physician) mediumistically pronounced by Franco. In it Dr Menezes provided guidance to the relation and responsibility of spiritualists and spiritists. (*read his message below*). ■

by Daniel and Marcia Benjamin*

* Marcia and Daniel Benjamin are members of the Allan Kardec Educational Society-AKSS and the Allan Kardec Fellowship of California. They have been active in Spiritism in the U.S. for the last 20 years.

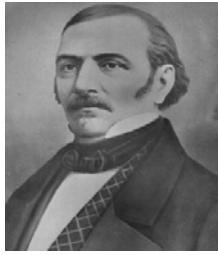


Message to Spiritists and Spiritualists

Dear friends, we live a historic time in the building of a better world. Our knowledge of the truth is a commitment with the Lord of Life to make society happier. Be useful in the knowledge of truth. There is great harshness in the hearts and lots of suffering in the inner world of human beings. To sow the light of hope in the fertile soil of human needs is our duty in the name of the one who is the way, the truth and the life. You have signed an agreement before birth. You have become an instrument of the truth that now you must honor. The time is this and it cannot be delayed. Love and be joyful for you have been called for the work of eternal love. Strive so you can be chosen as faithful servants in the name of Jesus. We signed an alliance of the

Spiritualist spirits and the Spiritist spirits in this city working on the future of blessings for Humanity. May God bless you, dear souls. With tenderness from the devoted, humble and fraternal server, *Bezerra de Menezes*. Much Peace!

This message was received through the medium Divaldo Franco at the closing ceremony of the *First Spiritist Weekend in the Spiritualist City* - Lily Dale, NY, on July 22, 2006 - *Original message in Portuguese, translated by Vanessa Anseloni.*



Allan Kardec
The Codifier of
SPIRITISM

SPIRITISM AND SPIRITUALISM

Paris, September 14, 1869, at the house of Miss Anna Blackwell

One can hardly imagine how happy I am in seeing my good friends gathered together. I am among you, in a congenial and benevolent atmosphere that pleases my spirit and my heart.

For quite some time I have heartily desired the establishment of a regular relationship between the French school and the American one. In order for us to understand one another, it would be sufficient to meet and exchange ideas. I have always considered your hall, dear lady, as a bridge launched between Europe and America, between France and England, destined to suppress the divergences that separate us, and to establish a chain of common ideas from which a union would result in the future.

Dear Mr. Peebles, allow me to congratulate you for your sincere desire to communicate with us. We should not be concerned if we are spiritists or spiritualists. We truly are individuals and Spirits that conscientiously search for the truth and that will acknowledge it with recognition, whether it is a result of French or American studies.

Spirits conserve in Space their affinities and their earthly habits. The Spirits of deceased Americans remain Americans, as the discarnates that lived in France remain French in the spirit world. From this results the difference of education in some centers. Each group of Spirits, due to its own nature, its nationality, makes its instructions suitable to the character, the special genius of those to whom it addresses itself. But in the same manner that on Earth the barriers that separate the nationalities tend to disappear, in Space the distinctive characters disappear, the nuances mix with one another, and in a future time, closer than you think, there will be no more French, English or American on Earth or in Space, but only Individuals and Spirits, all children of God, dedicated, due to all their faculties, to progress and universal regeneration.

Ladies and gentlemen, tonight at this meeting I salute the dawn of a future union of the diverse spiritist schools, and I am glad to count Mr. Peebles among those without bias, whose assistance and goodwill will assure the heartiness of our teachings in the future and their universal dissemination.

Translate my works! Only the arguments against reincarnation are known in America. When the demonstrations in favor of this principle become popular, Spiritism and Spiritualism will walk hand in hand and will become, as a result of their union, the natural Philosophy embraced by all.

- Allan Kardec

Source: *Revista Espirita* p. 460-1, 1869 - (Portugues) FEB - "Communications of Allan Kardec." - Translated by Jussara Korngold



Mr. Peebles
One of the leading
American Spiritualist of
the 19th Century.

A Spiritist Weekend in Lily Dale-NY*

After accidentally discovering Spiritism while on a trip to Brazil nearly three years ago, it is ironic that I would now visit the Spiritualist community of Lily Dale, New York to hear Brazilian lecturers. However, since I actually learned of this 150-year old community, which is the center of the American Spiritualist movement from Brazilian Spiritists, perhaps this was an appropriate journey.

I had already heard both lecturers Vanessa Anseloni and Divaldo Franco speak on prior occasions. And, I had also previously witnessed the wonderful mediumship of artist, Maria Gertrudes. Therefore, there was one prevailing question in my mind when I arrived at Lily Dale on Thursday, July 20th: Since Brazilian Spiritists seem to know a lot about American Spiritualism, do American Spiritualists know anything about Spiritism? Also, how similar is Spiritism to Spiritualism in the US?

These questions were easy to answer during the wonderful weekend at Lily Dale because everyone was very friendly and more than willing to discuss spirituality. While a couple of people I spoke with had heard the term "Spiritism," most Americans knew nothing about Spiritism. This is not surprising since the United States Spiritist Council (www.usspiritistcouncil.com) was only formed in November, 1997. There was a small handful of Spiritist Centers in the US prior to 1997 and today there are over 70 Spiritist Centers in the US. However, most centers are predominately Brazilian with some conducting meetings only in Portuguese. When I expressed my frustration of wanting to help disseminate Spiritism in America to Ellen Bourn, the current president of the Lily Dale Assembly, she shared my frustration and told me that even though Spiritualism has been in the United States for over 150 years, relatively few Americans participate or are aware of the movement. I recently visited the National Spiritualist Association of Churches' web site (www.nsac.org) and discovered the NSAC general offices are

actually located in Lily Dale and was founded in 1893. I was surprised to learn that there are approximately 80 Spiritualist churches across the US. However, I know of one Spiritualist church located in Washington, DC where you will only find approximately 20-25 people attending the Sunday service.

How similar is Spiritism to Spiritualism? From what I learned during my weekend at Lily Dale, I would have to say, very similar. The main difference is that Spiritualism, according the principles published by the NSAC does not recognize reincarnation as one of its' principles. However, reincarnation is a very important part of Spiritism. It is interesting to note that everyone I talked with at Lily Dale personally believed in reincarnation, even though it is not officially recognized by the Spiritualist Church located within the community. In fact, while shopping in the wonderful Lily Dale bookstore, a person actually reminded me that one of the most well known mediums in recent US history, Edgar Cayce (www.edgarcayce.org) struggled with the concept of reincarnation. Apparently, Cayce was raised as a strict Christian but later the spirits revealed the principle of reincarnation to him. (*cont. p.3*)



From Left: Vanessa Anseloni, Tom Cratsley, Divaldo Franco and Maria Gertrudes



These enlightening and eloquent books contain messages from the spirits that were brought forth from various mediums in Western Europe. Therefore, it could be said that the comprehensive Spiritism was dictated to us by the Spirit World. After attending a public meeting at Lily Dale and speaking with various attendees, it seemed that some modern Spiritualist teachings are taken from some of our popular authors, such as Dr. Wayne Dyer and Louise Hay. However, Jack Ericson, a member of the Lily Dale Church for over 20 years, was nice enough to give me a tour of the Lily Dale Library. There I saw many old books and journals that form the basis of the Spiritualist beliefs. After speaking with Jack, I could see that Lily Dale has a difficult task ahead with the preservation and perhaps re-publishing of some of these precious books. It is also interesting to note that in the late 1800's there were over 200 journals published per year about Spiritualism. Therefore, one could not help but think that the Spiritualist movement was much more popular in the 1800's than it is today. However, on the other hand, Spiritism has grown to include a few million people around the world, but mostly in Brazil.

One last difference I noticed between Spiritists and Spiritualists is that Spiritism prohibits mediums from accepting money for their spiritual work. This way no one can say that a medium is "faking" spiritual work for profit. Also, it is believed that a medium's sensitivity is more likely to be pure without the pressure of having "to perform" for money. This principle clearly does not work for the community of Lily Dale. For example, the town charges a gate fee per day for guests to enter the grounds. Most people visit Lily Dale so they can attend a workshop or to get a reading from one of the community's registered mediums who also charge for their services. Therefore, one might say the entire community is setup to accept money for spiritual work. I am not pointing this out in any way to criticize the community of Lily Dale. On the contrary, I met wonderful people there who seem to be highly dedicated to spirituality. Also, homes there are very quaint, but humble and it is obvious that no one is getting rich in Lily Dale. Since Lily Dale only charges a gate fee during the Summer months, one gets the idea that the Lily Dale Assembly could use some financial help which I believe to be a worth while cause as it serves such an important role in preserving and disseminating Spiritualism in America.



Accepting money for mediumship is a difficult issue. Two people who are very active in the Lily Dale community told me that they believe the primary reason mediums there do not experience the same level of spiritual phenomena that was experienced years ago is due to money and commercialization. However, like

Another small difference I noticed between Spiritism and Spiritualism is that Spiritism is based around a set of principles that was originally comprised of five books codified and published in France by Allan Kardec in the 1850's.

all of us, this beautiful community needs financial resources to survive.

How were the three Brazilian mediums received during this "First Spiritist Weekend in Lily Dale?" Everyone I spoke with was thrilled with what they learned and experienced during the presentations. Vanessa Anseloni's workshop on "Reincarnation & Its Healing Features" was presented to a full crowd in the Assembly Hall. Vanessa's experience as a *PhD* research psychologists brings us wonderful insight to the world of spirituality. A medium and Spiritist for many years, Vanessa delivered her presentation in perfect English even though Portuguese is her native language.



Maria Gertrudes who also presented in the Assembly Hall mesmerized her audience with incredible original oil paintings that she painted with her fingers right there in front of us. She took no longer than 5 or 6 minutes to paint each painting in the style of its Spirit artist, including pre-impressionist *Joseph Turner* and such well-known impressionists as *Van Gogh* and *Monet*. Maria is said to trance the spirit of these artists when she paints and once one witnesses her work, it is hard to dispute this claim.



Vanessa Anseloni (president of SSB), Ellen Bourn (current president of the Lily Dale Assembly), Divaldo Franco (Brazilian spiritist medium) and Tom Cratsley (one of the directors of the Lily Dale Assembly)

On Saturday, the second day of this two-day event, Divaldo Franco presented "Psychic and Mediumistic Phenomena" in the Auditorium. Divaldo Franco is one of Brazil's most renowned mediums. He has written over 200 books and delivered over 14,000 lectures in 52 Countries, including presentations to the United Nations. The Auditorium at Lily Dale holds over 1000 people and has been, on occasion sold out for well known

American speakers, such as James Van Praagh and Dr. Wayne Dyer. When Divaldo speaks in Brazil, he typically speaks for crowds of 5,000 to 7,000 people. This time; however, Divaldo spoke for approximately 250 people, many of which had not heard of him prior to coming to this event. I am sure they will never forget Divaldo after the wonderfully amazing lecture he shared with us. He spoke in his native language, Portuguese, for over 3 hours, which included answering questions. Although the entire presentation with breaks lasted 4 hours, it seemed like minutes as the audience listened to every word Divaldo's wonderful interpreter Daniel Benjamin said. Divaldo concluded with the trance communication of the Brazilian Spirit Bezerra de Menezes. Bezerra was once a Spiritist medical doctor in Brazil and is now one of Brazil's most beloved Spirits. Through Divaldo, Bezerra told us "*This day marks the beginning of a new era.*" When one considers the important messages that both Spiritism and Spiritualism have to give us in a time when so many people are searching for answers, one can only agree. ■

** by Greg Stewart*



Divaldo Franco (left) and his interpreter Daniel Benjamin



First United States Spiritist Medical Congress

BRIDGING MEDICINE AND SPIRITUALITY

Washington, D.C., October 7 & 8, 2006

SATURDAY, Oct. 7, 2006

9am – 12pm **Spirituality in Patient Care** by Harold Koenig, MD

12 – 1pm Lunch break

1 – 1:40pm **The Spiritist Medical Paradigm** by Marlene Nobre, MD

1:40 – 2:30pm **Why Must I Suffer? - Searching for the Soul in Psychiatry** by Andrew Powell, MA, MB.Bchir, MCRP, FRCPSych

2:30 – 3:30pm **Mental Disease in Spiritist & Medical Treatment** by Roberto Lúcio Vieira de Souza, MD

3:30 – 4:10pm **Spirituality and its Association with Cardiovascular Disease** by Alvaro Avezum, MD

4:10 – 5:20pm **The Impact of Reincarnation on the Paradigm of Change** by Décio Iandoli Jr., MD

5:20 – 6pm **Organic and Psychic Phenomenology of Mediumship** by Sérgio Felipe de Oliveira, MD

SUNDAY, Oct. 8, 2006

9 – 11am **Near Death Experiences – NDE and Where God Lives (Areas of the brain as a biological interface with an interconnected universe)** by Melvin Morse, MD

11:10am – 12pm **Spirit Attachment, Spirit Release and Soul Integration** by Andrew Powell, MA, MB.Bchir, MCRP, FRCPSych

12 – 1pm Lunch break

1 – 1:40pm **Forgiveness and Reconciliation** by Alberto Almeida, MD

1:40 – 2:20pm **Transdimensional Physiology** by Décio Iandoli Jr., MD

2:20 – 3:20pm **Universities and Spirituality in the 3rd Millennium** by Sérgio Felipe de Oliveira, MD

3:20 – 4pm **The Multiple Faces of Depression** by Roberto Lúcio Vieira de Souza, MD

4 – 4:40pm **Scientific Evidence of Intercessory Prayer: A Systematic Review** by Alvaro Avezum, MD

4:40 – 5:20pm **Scientific Evidence for Life after Death: Research on Mediumship** by Marlene Nobre, MD

5:20 – 6pm **Love and its Healing Power** by Alberto Almeida, MD

SPEAKERS FROM THE U.S. and U.K.



SEMINAR - PROFESSOR HAROLD KOENIG, MD

- **Spirituality in Patient Care:** Saturday, October 7, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Medical degree from the University of California, San Francisco, with specialization in Geriatrics, Psychiatry and Biostatistics · Associate Professor of Medicine and Psychiatry, and Director of the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health at Duke University, North Carolina · Author of 30 books and more than two hundred articles and materials on mental health, geriatrics and religion ·

Editor of two specialized medical publications: International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine and Research News & Opportunities in Science and Theology · His Handbook of Religion and Health is considered the most complete approach on the subject.



LECTURES BY PROFESSOR MERLVIN MORSE, MD

- **Near Death Experiences – NDE**

- **Where God Lives (Areas of the brain as a biological interface with an interconnected universe):** Sunday, October 8, 9 am to 11 am

Medical degree from George Washington University, Washington, D.C., with a specialization in Pediatrics · Besides private practice, is a professor in Seattle at the University of Washington · Has done research on brain tumors and leukemia, and founded the

Pediatric Interim Care Center for children exposed to cocaine during the pre-natal phase · In 2005, founded a clinic for the diagnosis and treatment of autism · Twenty years ago, was the first to research Near Death Experiences (NDE) in children · Has produced scientific articles and books that have generated numerous documentaries and interviews · Wrote the best-sellers Closer to the Light (translated into 19 languages in 38 countries), Transformed by the Light, Parting Visions and Where God Lives.



LECTURES BY PROFESSOR ANDREW POWELL MA, MB.Bchir, MCRP, FRCPSych

- **Why Must I Suffer? - Searching for the Soul in Psychiatry:**

Saturday, October 7, 1:40 pm

- **Spirit Attachment, Spirit Release and Soul Integration:** Sunday, October 8, 11:10 am

Degree in Psychiatry from Cambridge University, with a specialization in Psychiatry and Psychotherapy from Maudsley Hospital, London · Worked for eleven years as Consultant and Senior Professor at St. George Hospital, also in London. Moved to Oxford, where he continued working for the National Health Service until 2000 · Was counselor for the Scientific & Medical Network · In 1999, founded the Spirituality and Psychiatry Special Interest Group at the Royal College of Psychiatrists in the United Kingdom, of which he is President, and which assembles more than 1,000 psychiatrists (www.rcpsych.ac.uk/spirit). Scientific publications and articles are listed at www.rcpsych.ac.uk/college/sig/spirit/publications/index.htm

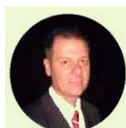


ALBERTO ALMEIDA, MD

- **Forgiveness and Reconciliation:** Sunday, October 8, 1:00 p.m.

- **Love and its Healing Power:** Sunday, October 8, 5:20 p.m.

Physician and therapist with specializations in Homeopathy, Transpersonal Psychology, Group Dynamics, Regressive and Past Life Therapy, Systemic Family Therapy and Neuro-Linguistic Programming.



ALVARO AVEZUM, MD

- **Spirituality and its Association with Cardiovascular Disease:** Saturday, October 7, 3:30 p.m.

> **Scientific Evidence of Intercessory Prayer: A Systematic Review:** Sunday, October 8, 4:00 p.m.

Medical degree from the Federal University of the Mineiran Triangle (Universidade Federal do Triângulo Mineiro), with residency in General Practice at the Federal University of the Mineiran Triangle · Residency in Clinical Cardiology at the Dante Pazzanese Institute, and in Emergency and Intensive Therapy at the Dante Pazzanese Institute · Fellowship in Clinical Epidemiology (MSc) at McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada. Medical degree from the University of Sao Paulo. Director for the Research Department at the Dante Pazzanese Institute of Cardiology.



DÉCIO IANDOLI JR, MD

- **The Impact of Reincarnation on the Paradigm of Change:** Saturday, October 7, 4:10 p.m.

- **Transdimensional Physiology:** Sunday, October 8, 1:40 p.m.

Physician specializing in Digestive System Surgery. Medical degree from the Federal University of Sao Paulo – Unifesp. Full Professor of Physiology in courses in Biology, Physiotherapy and Pharmaceutics at the University of Santa Cecília at Santos (Universidade Santa Cecília de Santos – UNISANTA), State of Sao Paulo. Associate Professor of Health and Spirituality in the course for Gerontology at UNISANTA and member of the Brazilian Spiritist & Medical Association (Associação Médico Espírita AME) Santos, Sao Paulo. Author of several books.



MARLENE NOBRE, MD

- **The Spiritist Medical Paradigm:** Saturday, October 7, 1:00 p.m.

- **Scientific Evidence for Life after Death: Research on Mediumship:** Sunday, October 8, 4:40 p.m.

Gynecologist specializing in cancer prevention. President of AME-Brazil and AME-International. Editor responsible for the newspaper Folha Espírita – FE, Sao Paulo · President of G.E. Cairbar Schutel and of Creche Lar do Alvorecer. Author of several books.



ROBERTO LÚCIO VIEIRA DE SOUZA, MD

- **Mental Disease in Spiritist & Medical Treatment:** Saturday, October 7, 2:30 p.m.

- **The Multiple Faces of Depression:** Sunday, October 8, 3:20 p.m.

Medical degree from the Federal University of Minas Gerais, with residency in Psychiatry at the Minas Gerais State Hospital Foundation · Vice-president of AME-Brazil · Founder and Publications Director of AME-MG · Assisting Physician at André Luiz Spiritist Hospital. Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist at the Renascimento Psychic Assistance Institute. Author of several books.



SÉRGIO FELIPE DE OLIVEIRA, MD

- **Organic and Psychic Phenomenology of Mediumship:** Saturday, October 7, 5:20 p.m.

- **Universities and Spirituality in the 3rd Millennium:** Sunday, October 8, 2:20 p.m.

Medical degree from the University of Sao Paulo · Master's degree in Neurosciences from the University of Sao Paulo · Director of the Pineal Mind Health Institute · Founder and Director of the Unispirit project and President of AME-SP.

Sponsored by the United States Spiritist Council and the International Spiritist Medical Association (Info.: www.ussmcongress.org/index.en.htm)

The Role of Love in Spiritism*



The role of love is an integral part in both the teaching and the practice of Spiritism as well as the evolution of humanity.

Most of the teachings on love are found in the Gospel According to Spiritism, as this is the basis of Jesus' teachings and the moral code of

Spiritism. There are several discussions about love, which indicate that it is not only a core teaching of the Doctrine, but is actually the highest rule of Spiritism.

The Gospel defines love in the introduction where among the comments it states:

"Love – the force which will eventually unite humanity – is according to Plato, a Law of Nature. Socrates adds, "Love is a great spirit: for the whole of the spiritual is between divine and mortal."

In our studies of the role of love in Spiritism and in life, it is important to remember this concept that love is a law of nature and an inherent part of our evolution.

In discussing the Precept, "Without love there is no salvation," the Gospel describes this teaching as **the highest rule of Spiritism**. It is based on a principle of universality and equality. It is by loving each other as brothers and sisters, with gentleness, understanding and compassion, that is the destiny of humanity. As Paul the Apostle discusses, this precept is the key to peace on earth and also in heaven, as for those who have practiced love on earth will most certainly find grace in God's eyes. Paul also indicates that no one can go wrong in embracing love as a norm for life and that regardless of one's faith, if they follow the teachings of love and charity, they are considered a disciple of Jesus. The Gospel goes on to tell us even more succinctly that all of our human obligations can be summed up in this one maxim, "Without love, there is no salvation."

Furthermore, Jesus taught not only that love is one of the conditions of salvation, but also is really the only condition. He believed that all other conditions were implicitly included in the practice of love. In discussing the Last Judgment, Jesus said that we will not be asked what we fulfilled in this life, but only, **one question** will be asked, "Have you practiced the law of love?" Then, according to the answer, the Supreme Judge will make a decision: "Go to the right, all of you who've helped your brothers and sisters. Go to the left all of you who've been hardhearted." Jesus also believed love was not simply to be encouraged but that its practice was essential as the antithesis to pride and selfishness and that it is the absolute condition for future happiness.

Saint Vincent de Paul gives us a message in the Gospel that "Love is the fundamental virtue." He states the following,

"Love is the fundamental virtue. All earthly virtues are based on it, and lacking it, none of the others can exist. Without love, there is no hope for a better fate and no interest in a moral plan of life. Without love, faith is null, since faith is the radiant power that makes a loving soul brilliant. On every sphere of life, love is the anchor of salvation, the purest emanation of life, God's own essence shared with his children."

We are taught that love is above all else, because it is accessible to everyone from the poorest to the richest, from the least to the most educated. It is also a universal principle, independent of particular beliefs and accessible to all beings regardless of their background.

In the section in the Gospel on Love Toward Criminals, we are taught that true love is one of the most sublime principles of the Divine Code. Jesus emphasized that the practice of this principle is what would bring humanity forward in complete brotherhood. As Elizabeth of France states:

"True love for others doesn't consist in simply making monetary contributions to the needy, giving handouts, or even offering comforting words as your gifts. God expects much more from you. Sublime love, as Jesus taught it, also consists in constant generosity in all things pertaining to your neighbor. Your love should even embrace those who solely believe in giving alms. For, when true love blossoms in their lives, how beautiful will be the words of love, faith and courage they will help raise to the Lord."



Jesus specifically discusses Love toward Criminals to point out that we must not discriminate against the less fortunate and we must not despise anyone, as we are all equal before God. We are reminded that even a soul who has become rebellious has come to learn and evolve and that it is our duty to help this type of individual with our prayers and our love.

In the book Self Discovery, Divaldo Franco as the spirit Joanna de Angelis, states,

"Love is the most vigorous foundation for the construction of a healthy personality. It is so because it generates stable behavior."

Here, once again, love is described as a tool for evolution. It is what makes the individual capable of setting oneself free from the rigorous effects of instincts. We see an evolution of love from the possessive quality to one of unconditional acceptance. Through the practice of unconditional love as Jesus taught, we are evolving as individuals and as a whole.

As we can see from this brief examination, love is not only a core teaching of Spiritism, but it is of the highest order. Love is fundamental to fulfilling the teachings of Jesus and is the true basis for the evolution of humanity. It transcends all religion and philosophy. It is a universal code, which can guide us forward if we are willing to follow it. As the Spirit of Truth reminds us so clearly:

"Spiritists, love one another. This is the first precept. Educate yourselves. That is the second." ■

** by Beth Terrence*



A LITTLE MORE

You have the impression of having exhausted the stock of all your resources in a particular work of love. But if you persevere a little more in your devotion, nobody can predict the laurels of light that will shine in your path.

You are sick and intend to obtain a prolonged license. But if you continue a little more in your service, nobody can predict the treasure of new energies which will appear in your way.

You meet huge difficulties when doing good deeds and wish to run away from them. But if you persist a little more in the construction of goodness, nobody can predict the triumph that your hours will collect at the living sources of charity.

You believe you cannot tolerate the inopportune friend, the disobedient son, the inconsequent brother, the inconstant wife or the unwise husband. But if you withstand a little more the difficulties in the family, nobody can predict the extension of the jubilation that is to come in your home nest.

You assume that misfortune is your destiny and cry at the door of despair. But if you cultivate a little more faithfulness to your own obligations, nobody can predict the greatness of your success in a close tomorrow.

You experience great fatigue and do not wish to hear the friend with a long talk. But if you extend a little more your sacrifice, nobody can predict the prodigies from the harvest of blessings that will come from your brief minutes of courtesy.

Note that you also demand incessantly from your neighbor a little more of goodwill, a little more of cooperation, a little more of time, a little more of kindness. Patience should never end.

It is fair that you wish a little more of happiness. But to achieve that it is necessary that you help a little more in the happiness of others.

Pay attention to the lessons of life and you will understand that the victory in good is always to work according with your duty and to serve a little more.

by André Luiz

(Message received by the medium Chico Xavier)

Translated by Luis E. Almeida

Note...

The 1st Spiritist Event in Lily Dale happened on July 21-22, 2006. It was sponsored by the spiritualist organization, Lily Dale Assembly.

All the proceeds of the ticket sale went to Lily Dale Assembly organization who kindly paid all travel and lodging expenses for all presenters and interpreter.

Vanessa Anseloni and her team of the Spiritist Society of Baltimore (SSB) lovingly helped in the organization of the event. However, none of them received any financial benefit from it.

As a Spiritist society, the SSB is committed to spreading Spiritism based on one of its most noble principles "doing good without expecting any reward."



SPIRITIST DOCTRINE: 150 YEARS OF LIGHT AND PEACE



SPIRITIST WORLD CONGRESS



CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA
OCTOBER 10-13, 2007
CONVENTION CENTER OF CARTAGENA

PROMOTED AND ORGANIZED BY THE INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL (ISC)
CARRIED OUT BY THE DESIGNATED SPIRITIST COOPERATION (COOPESPI)
WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE SPIRITIST FEDERATION OF THE ATLANTIC COAST (FECA)

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WWW.SPIRITIST.ORG

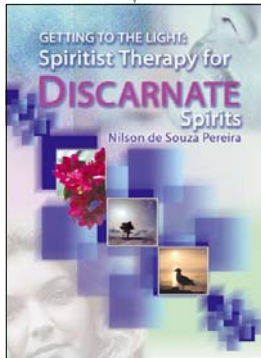


END

Clésio 006

The **SSB bookstore** is finally online. Now you can buy your book or CD by using your Credit Card (*MasterCard, Visa, American Express, Discover*) or Paypal System. Also, special discounts will be offered to Spiritist Centers. To visit it, please go to www.ssbaltimore.org/bookstore

NEW RELEASES



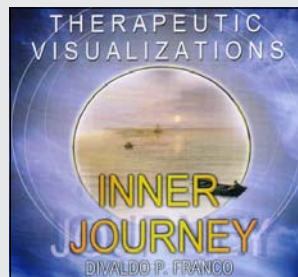
Getting to the Light: *Spiritist Therapy for Discarnate Spirits* by Nilson de Souza Pereira

This small book offers objective guidelines about the therapeutic approach to troubled discarnate spirits according to Spiritism. It's strongly recommended to anyone interested in (1) understanding the dynamics of spirit intervention; (2) using Spiritist therapy for the good of humankind; and/ or (3) serving as a Spirit counselor or psychotherapist. Someone may ask, "why do we need to treat discarnate spirits?" This book certainly addresses this question and many others. An example of how much can be done through spirit-counseling is a moving true story from Divaldo Franco's book (and CD) *Understanding Spiritual and Mental Health*. A discarnate spirit who had been obsessing a mother and son communicated through Divaldo Franco and received spirit-counseling from Nilson Pereira. As a result of the treatment, the troubled spirit was able to be helped towards the light, mother and son were freed from the obsession, and the outcome of the treatment brought new life to all involved in the drama. To this extent, this book truly presents the Spiritist Therapy, a way to alleviate human suffering, both for discarnate and incarnate spirits. (35 pages) - Published in collaboration with SSB.

Therapeutic Visualizations – Inner Journey (CD)

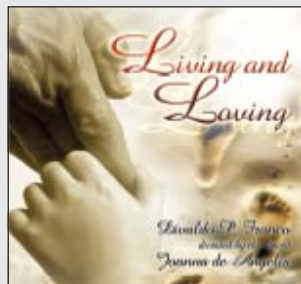
"Live in a way that you leave enlightening footprints in your pathway as if they were stars pointing out the pathway to happiness." - Joanna de Ângelis.
Deep therapeutic visualizations. Three tracks:

- 1 – Decision to be happy
- 2 – Visualization of Liberation
- 3 – Visualization for Inner Balance



Living and Loving (CD)

Through the hands of Divaldo Franco, Joanna de Ângelis brings us inspirational messages that will uplift your heart and enlighten your soul. Beautiful voices of Dave Enway and Amy Biank.

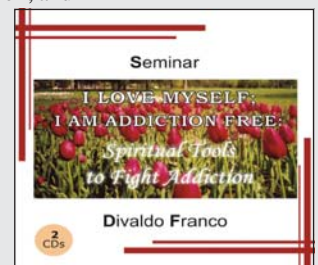
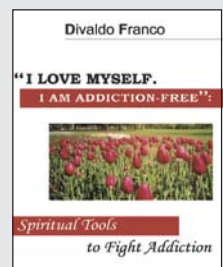


These books/CDs are available for purchase at SSB bookstore online. The production of these materials is a fruit of collaboration between SSB and the "Mansion of the Way"

"I love myself, I am addiction-free": SPIRITUAL TOOLS TO FIGHT ADDICTION

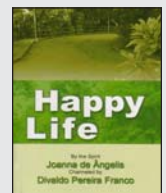
Bilingual book (English - Portuguese) and CD (English). Seminar given by the renowned medium Divaldo Franco in Baltimore, MD - USA, 2005

The seminar covered true stories about drug addiction; family issues in drug-addiction; and genetic, psychosocial, socioeconomic and spiritual issues that induce addiction. Divaldo Franco explored academic and spiritual therapies from a Spiritist perspective. He placed special emphasis on the role of education as a critical factor for the health of the whole person.
(CD voices: Greg Stewart and Vanessa Anseloni)



Happy Life

Divaldo Franco/Joanna de Ângelis
This book is for your day-to-day use. Each page brings joy and comfort to all events of life.

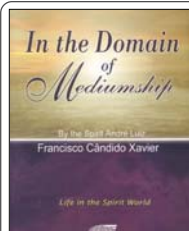


Memoirs of Father Germain:

A Spirit Tells The True Story of His Last Existence
by Amalia Domingo Soler

The true life story of Father Germain is full of intrigue, adventure, human emotion, and morality... which will provide you with tremendous love, inspiration, and hope!

Translated into English by Edgar Crespo from the Spiritist Society of Florida). \$ 21.95 at Amazon.com.



In the Domain of Mediumship by F. Candido Xavier and the Spirit Andre Luiz

In this book, Andre Luiz analyzes the various aspects of mediumship, emphasizing the efforts of mediums faithful to the spiritual mandate received prior to their reincarnation. He also warns of the risks involved in the poor interchange between the two worlds. Published by the ISC, translated by Jussara Korngold. - To order this book write to: sab-books@sgny.org

Submission of material to SpiritistNews

Submit your articles, poems, letters to editors, events on the Spiritist English speaking movement in the US and worldwide at ssb@ssbaltimore.org

Special Event

II SPIRITIST RETREAT

October 21 – 22, 2006

All spiritist workers are invited to attend it.

This retreat main goal is to learn new tools that can be used to improve our work in Spiritism in a wonderfully relaxed setting at the Harmony Farm.



A special 4-hour workshop (*Eliminating Cultural Barriers*) will be given by the expert **NARA VENDITTI, PhD.**
See her bio at www.succeedinamerica.com.

Pre-registration required at (410) 382-5328 or ssb@ssbaltimore.org.

More information will soon be posted at www.ssbaltimore.org

Harmony Farm
1338 Harris Mill Road
Parkton, MD 21120

This event is sponsored by the **Spiritist Society of Baltimore, Inc.**
For more information, please call **410-382-5328**

Summer Event:

FRATERNAL PICNIC



Saturday, August 19th, 2006

11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Activities:

1:00 PM - Relay Race
2:30 PM - Scavenger Hunt
Bring your picnic blanket!

Tickets:

\$15.00 (above 12 years old)
\$7.00 (6 - 12 years old)
Free (below 6 years old)

Training on Passes

Sep. 14 and 21, 2006

7 PM – 10 PM

At our Service Location

SpiritWorks Resource Center
1300 York Rd - Building C, 3rd Floor
Lutherville, MD 21093

UPCOMING EVENTS

2006 WORKSHOP SERIES

Aug 26 - Evolution in Two Worlds: Material evolution driven by Spiritual Conscience
Sep 30 - A Medical/Psychologic-Spiritist View of Depression
Oct 28 - Do Spirits influence our lives?

Free Admission !!!

Activities for **CHILDREN** (above 4 years old) are provided, while parents are at Workshop
Time:

7:30 PM - 9:15 PM

OUR SERVICE LOCATION

SpiritWorks Resource Center
1300 York Rd - Building C, 3rd Floor
Lutherville, MD 21093



WATCH IT

**every Saturday
from 7:30PM**

at:

www.ssbaltimore.org

2006 Calendar (special events)

JANUARY

14-Training for Spiritist Speakers (Course)
28- Indigo and Crystal Children:
A Spiritist View
(Special Workshop)

MARCH

4 - Spiritism 101 (Course)
9- Training Program (God and Us)
11- SSB General Assembly
16- SPECIAL SEMINAR with Divaldo Franco and Raymond Moody Jr. MD, PhD
25- Sex and Destiny (Special Workshop)

MAY

11- Training Program
(Sleep and Dreams)
13 - Educational Fundraiser
20- Parenthood for Modern Times
(Special Workshop)

JULY

13 Training Program (Reincarnation)
15- Art in Action: mediumistic painting with
Maria Gertrudes
29-Am I a medium? How? Why?
(Special Workshop)

SEPTEMBER

28- Training Program
(Spiritual Intervention in the Incarnate World)
30-A Medical/Psychologic-Spiritist View of Depression (Special Workshop)

NOVEMBER

14- Training Program
(Hopes and Solaces)
18- Aging Well
(Workshop)

FEBRUARY

25- Adolescence and Spirituality
(Special Workshop)

APRIL

13-Movie Discussion: What the Bleep do we know (Special Activity)
22- Training on "Passes" (course)
29- Healing Through Reincarnation
(Special Workshop)

JUNE

08- Book Discussion: The Messengers (Special Activity)
24- Forgive and be healthier... but how?
(Special Workshop)

AUGUST

10- Movie Discussion: Just like Heaven
19- Fun with family -Picnic (Fundraiser)
26- Evolution in Two Worlds: Material evolution driven by Spiritual Conscience
(Special Workshop)

OCTOBER

12- Book Discussion: Emmanuel's book (Special Activity)
21-22 - II-Spiritist Retreat
28- Do Spirits influence our lives?
(Workshop)

DECEMBER

2- Who is my model?
(workshop)
9- Art & Spirituality Event
(Fundraiser)

JOIN OUR ACTIVITIES

STUDY GROUP ON SPIRITISM

These meetings take place every **Thursday** from 8:00 to 9:30PM for the study on Spiritism. They are open to the general public.

FRATERNAL COUNSELING & SPIRITUAL TREATMENT

These services are offered every **Monday** from 7:00-7:45PM.

Meditation with Kardec

*Every Saturday 7-8 PM,
except on the day of our
monthly workshops*

Mediumship Educational Meetings (by invitation only)

These meetings take place every **Monday** from 8:00 PM to 9:30PM for the study and practice of mediumship according to Spiritism.

Please, contact us for more info.
Phone: 410 - 382-5328 or
410-837-0991
e-mail: ssb@ssbaltimore.org

Activities are free of charge !!!