

# SpiritistNews

Year 4, Issue 3, May/June 2006

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

- Allan Kardec

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# S P I R I T I S M

*bringing common sense into our lives*

When we look into our past, we can find so many great things, good people, stories of success, victories all around us, those great baseball games when we were 10 y/o struggling with our little league team, our friends from the neighborhood, being selected captain of the class, and that prize from the first spelling bee contest. Those are great memories, but the world has changed for us, people expect so much more from us now, and sometimes we are afraid of not being able to deliver. Anxiety invades us, a constant feeling of insecurity takes over us, and we can't find anything in our life system that can help us to retake control. We look for help, we visit some specialists, we read a couple of books, but still we feel empty, our loving family is there but we cannot connect. We are depressed. We cannot understand, everything was going just fine. We take the medicines, we feel different, but still not us. We keep looking, for answers and for remedies. We try everything. We feel worse. We don't want to continue like this, the worst come to our mind but something tell us that is not right, so the idea is discarded. We don't want to take a shower, foods tastes all the same, we don't want to be awake, but don't want to sleep, we ask for our friends but don't want to see them. We know that depression is not a terminal illness. We can come back from it, but how? Sometimes is too late when we realize that our life system is too fragile and we are not strong enough to confront our fears. That our possessions are our Master, we live for them, and if we lose them, the reason for us to live is also gone.

In the Spiritist Centers, all around the world, we can find stories like this. People that is brought in because of pain and it is great to see how, something as simple as a 30, 40 min conversation can change so dramatically the perspectives that

some people have about their lives. Spiritism is so rich, it makes so much sense into our everyday life that once you expose yourself to its logic and rational way of thinking there's no way back. When we participate in a study group, it is great to see how easy we get to open ourselves and share our points of view with others in the group, usually the studies last few months even few years, so there's plenty of time to connect with others. That's one of the key points of Spiritism. We get to understand

that "without charity there is no salvation" as stated by Allan Kardec. We need to reach inside us, and reform those aspects of our personality that we feel are not right, but also to reach out to others, be there for others. We can connect with our family in a spiritual way while doing the "Gospel at Home", once a week, at

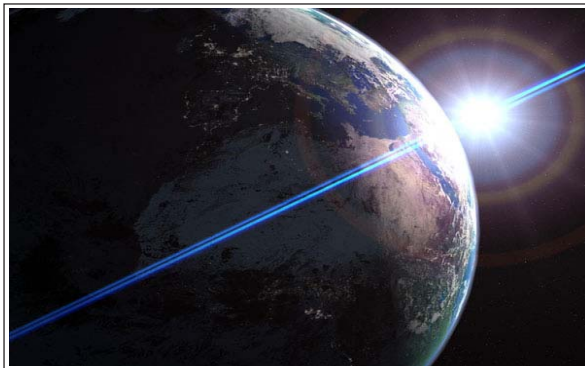
the same day and time, sitting down with our family, doing an opening prayer, reading the Gospel according to Spiritism, then making some comments about the reading and closing with a prayer. That simple routine, this family activity will benefit the family as a whole and to every member individually.

It is never too late to start, it is just a matter of determination. When we realize that we had suffered enough then we make the decision to take actions in favor to our future, that we want to be happier than in our past. Spiritism is a great tool to shape our great future and correct our past. The study group, even a small one, with 4 or 5 participants, will give us the strength to continue moving forward, in our long road to perfection.

God bless us all.

*by Luis Salazar\**

\* Luis Salazar has been a Spiritist for sixteen years, volunteer worker at *Bezerra de Menezes Kardecian Spiritist Assoc.* Miami, Florida since 2001. Currently, he is Vice-president of the Spiritist Center (2005-2007) - Article submitted on April 2006.



# The Enduring Bonds of Affection

Affection is the expression of one heart for another. Affection is born of affinity, or a desire to embrace with the warmth that emanates from the purity of Spirit. As humans may have affection for each other, and indeed for all things in creation, so may they (in the clothing of corporal life) extend the warmth of the heart to those whom they may have known in this life and who have quit the body for the existence of Spirit. And, indeed, the process may be reversed; a Spirit may extend affection to one on the earth.

Is it not comforting to know that, though “deprived” of physical closeness, one may reach out through the means of the universal fluid to one who is no longer in Form? The exchange between incarnate and discarnate may be enhanced greatly according to the degree of affection and selflessness felt by each of them.

A Spirit, who is at least somewhat purified, has full recollection of its former existences but may not be interested in revisiting them as new pursuits arise. But, if the affection emanating from the heart of the human be strong enough and pure enough, it will gain the attention of the Spirit for whom it is intended. The process may work in reverse; a noncorporeal being may desire to improve the lives of those whom it has known before in corporal life and may visit them with messages of love and inspiration.

It is only necessary to reach deeply into the heart and, by touching the loving bonds of affection grown there by mutual caring, one may feel an overwhelming sense of joy and peace at the thought of a departed loved one. Surely a response will come – it is in the nature of things.

- by Jim Pursley



## Decision to Be Happy\*



Joanna de Angelis, in her book *Moments of Health*, establishes “the Divine psyche flows through me. God sustains and guides me all days of my life. There is a flux and reflux of strength that flows through my being and pushes me towards progress. It is up to me to coordinate the movements, choose the goal and move forward. Submitting to this vital force, everything becomes accessible, and I will be able to reach my aspirations in peace.” This is the purpose of the meditations.

About this, Joanna de Angelis writes, “Decision to be happy”. Make every effort to make your life pleasant to yourself and to others. It is important that everything you do shows positive meaning and motivation of new stimuli for the continuation of your existence, which should be characterized by enriching experiences. If the people around you do not agree with your desire to be happy, do not become discouraged. Without any aggression, keep generating well-being. You are the only person whom you can count on from your birth to your death, and after, as a result of your actions. To generate sympathy creating optimistic stimuli for you represents meaningful emotional growth and psychological maturity in full bloom.

It is relevant that your behavior create a pleasant and caring exchange with other people. However, if you do not enjoy it, it will become a torment which will lead you to disturbing and dishonest acts. Your changes in behavior affect the people you interact with. It is natural however, that in fulfilling yourself, you will acquire more resources for generating more happiness around you. All the great leaders of Humankind worked hard until they achieved their goals. To reach what they had selected as happiness, as fundamental to the continued search. Buddha renounced all royal comforts to achieve illumination. Mohammed suffered persecutions and remained unbowed until he attained his goal. Gandhi was imprisoned many times without reaction, faithful to the vision of “no violence” and freedom for his people. And Jesus chose the infamous cross, the change in behavior that focused on love. Everyone who desires integration with the cosmic

consciousness generates sympathy and animosity into the world. They are always at arms length in disagreement with the feelings of others. However, they are faithful to themselves, upon whom they always rely, as well as with God.

When one chooses an enriched lifetime of peace and well being, one is not exempt from suffering, disagreements and other difficulties that may appear. On the contrary, they always emerge with disturbing challenges that they should face without losing their way, and without altering the pleasure they enjoy in preserving the elected behavior. In this way, one transforms the afflicting stimuli into positive contribution without complaint, without suffering, without giving up. Whoever sees only suffering in the struggles of life has a pathologic attitude and needs adequate treatment.

Life is a blessing and must be kept healthy, happy and promising, even when under the injunction of trials and expiations. By turning your life into a pleasant one, your days will be fruitful and sunny. In the decision to be happy, it is indispensable an inner journey to the deepest recesses of the integral being that is the immortal spirit. You are a spirit. You are in a perishable body. The psycho-social mandates, the socio-economic, the socio-emotional, the hereditary, and the prenatal phenomena, all contribute to your reality. Quite often, you find yourself disoriented, bewildered, crushed by the weight of the afflictions that should not be on your shoulders disturbing your sanity. Do not go into rebelliousness.

It is told that Victor Hugo, the admirable French writer, during his exile, was in the habit of going to a place where there was a hill next to the sea at sunset. There, he would sit, delving into prolonged reflections. While the great genius of the neo-latin language meditated, children played around him. After sufficient meditation, the giant of the quill would stand, then bend over, get a stone and throw it into the ocean. This movement had become so common that he did it automatically. One day, one of the children who usually played there, seeing the great writer repeat the gesture of throwing the stone into the ocean, asked with a mischievous look and childish smile: “Monsieur Hugo, Sir, why do you take a stone and throw it into the ocean after meditating each day?” The esteemed, exiled man answered with a tone of melancholy. “I have many problems and have decided to meditate about one problem each day. Then, after studying it, throw it to the ocean of forgetfulness.”

\* From the CD: *Therapeutic Visualizations – Inner Journey* by Divaldo Franco/ Joanna de Ângelis. See page 7 for more information on this CD.

# First Spiritist Weekend in Lily Dale - NY

This July, Spiritism and Spiritualism finally come together again. Join us in this historical event on **July 21 and 22**. [Divaldo Franco](#), [Maria Gertrudes](#) and [Vanessa Anseloni](#) are giving presentations on Spiritism at the mecca of American Spiritualism in Lily Dale. This event is all organized by the Lily Dale Assembly.

## REINCARNATION & ITS HEALING FEATURES

**Friday, July 21, 2006 1-4pm**  
**Registration: \$40.00**  
**Location: Assembly Hall**  
**Presented by: Vanessa Anseloni**



VANESSA ANSELONI is a Brazilian Spiritist who lives in the USA. For years, she has been instructing individuals and group on the profound teachings and practice of Spiritism in the United States and worldwide. Last year, she beautifully conducted a workshop about America and Its Roles on Earth's Spirituality.

In this therapeutical workshop Vanessa Anseloni will:

- Explain the need for reincarnation and its phenomenal mechanisms.
- Instruct about the healing effects of each reincarnation.
- Provide hands-on work on the Spiritist techniques that can potentiate the healing effects of reincarnation.
- Teach how you can recognize your reincarnatory plan of this lifetime, according to Allan Kardec's works.

VANESSA ANSELONI, Psy.D., Ph.D. is a fifth generation Spiritist from Brazil. She is a neuroscientist and assistant professor at the University of Maryland. As a medium, professor, and founder of the Spiritist Society of Baltimore, Maryland, Vanessa trains and conducts mediumship meetings, spiritual treatments and workshops in the U.S. and worldwide.

## Painting with the Spirits

**Friday, July 21, 2006 7-10pm**  
**Registration: \$20.00**  
**Location: Assembly Hall**  
**Presented by: Maria Gertrudes**



Prepare to be enchanted as you watch internationally known Brazilian Spiritist artist Maria Gertrudes Coelho. Painting mediumistically and using both her hands and feet, Maria Gertrudes's beautiful oil-in-canvas works materialize in less than five minutes each. You can identify the various impressionistic styles evident in her work: Joseph Turner, Van Gogh, Monet, Picasso, Renoir, and a dozen more.

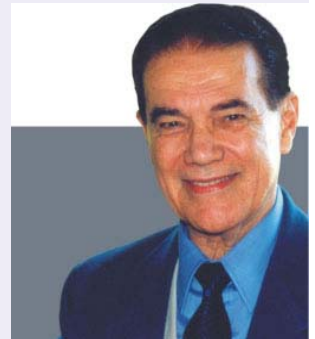
In a single session, Maria Gertrudes produces between 10 and 12 paintings, and she paints during this demonstration will be sold in a silent auction that follows. Proceeds go, directly to a charity foundation (Fundacao Jeronimo Mendonca) in the interior town of Ituiutaba, state of Minas Gerais, Brazil, in support of educational efforts for local orphans, and vulnerable children and adolescents.

Maria Gertrudes Coelho's work can be found in such prestigious institutions as the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, and was prominently featured in The Washington Post in 2001.

**Be Grateful to Everyone!**

## PSYCHIC AND MEDIUMISTIC PHENOMENA

**Saturday, July 22, 2006 9:00am - 1:00pm**  
**Registration: \$49.00**  
**Location: Auditorium**  
**Presented by: Divaldo Franco**



Finally in Lily Dale, the Brazilian Spiritist medium Divaldo Franco is one of the outstanding mediums in the world. Divaldo Franco has an inspirational and profound message. Enjoy an inspiring and in-depth journey in the get-to-know of the Spiritist therapeutic approach in mediumship with Divaldo Franco. He will share with you techniques you may have never heard of.

In this marvelous and moving event, Divaldo Franco will:

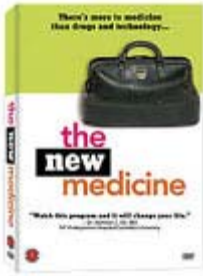
- Teach about the Spiritist Techniques to facilitate Spirit-phenomena, as of Allan Kardec's works
- Teach about psychic surgeries and their healing effects
- Explain how to educate your mediumship and the needed conditions for a sage and productive outcome
- Run a special visualization to help each participant understand his/her own spirituality.

Join us for this historic joining of Spirit as Divaldo Franco addresses issues of great importance for all humankind in our search for enlightenment. Divaldo is a Brazilian Spiritist Medium and internationally renowned speaker whose appearances have inspired and touched millions, worldwide.

DIVALDO FRANCO is a worldwide renowned medium and trance-speaker with 62 years of mediumistic practice. Through his extraordinary mediumship, Mr. Franco has psychographed almost 200 books and 70 of them have already been translated in 15 languages, including English. He has given more than 10,000 lectures and spoken in 52 countries in the continents of Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Divaldo Franco is a spiritual leader who has represented the Spiritist movement at the United Nations meeting for Peace in 2000. Mr. Franco is Doctor Honoris Causa in Humanity and also in Parapsychology by American and Canadian Universities.

This event is all organized by the Lily Dale Assembly.  
For registration and more information click [HERE](#) or  
go to <http://www.lilydaleassembly.com/>





# THE NEW MEDICINE\*

*Integrating mind, body, and Spirit*

A burgeoning movement is taking place in hospitals and clinics across the United States - integrating the best of high-tech medicine with a new attitude that recognizes that treating the patient as a whole person is essential to the healing process. THE NEW MEDICINE, aired on PBS

Wednesday, March 29, 2006 and suggests that medical practice in America may be on the brink of a transformation. As scientific findings reveal that the mind plays a critical role in the body's capacity to heal, the medical community is beginning to embrace a new range of treatment options, including many once considered fringe.

With host Dana Reeve, who was diagnosed with lung cancer following the death of her husband, Christopher, THE NEW MEDICINE went inside medical schools, healthcare clinics, research institutions and private practices to show physicians on the cutting edge of this new approach. By paying attention to a person's cultural values and lifestyle, stresses and supports, these doctors acknowledge the important role that patients can and should play in their own healing and healthcare.

"For years my husband and I lived on, and because of, hope," says Dana Reeve in the introduction to the program. "Hope continues to give me the mental strength to carry on, but also, I'm convinced, hope very directly influences my physical health."

Until recently, scientists viewed the connection between the mind and the body's response to disease with skepticism. Today, thanks to sophisticated new research, the complex biology of mind-body interaction is becoming clearer, and physicians are discovering how something as intangible as hope can help people heal and something as pervasive as stress can sabotage the body's ability to fight infection. THE NEW MEDICINE introduced viewers to some patients who are receiving a new kind of medical care as a result of this breakthrough in understanding:

Tammy lies in a hospital bed at one of America's leading teaching hospitals, at risk of losing her pre-term baby. Despite all the best that high-tech medicine has to offer her, what may actually save her baby's life is relaxation therapy to address the complex biochemical link between stress, the immune system and illness.

Michael is listening to a soothing voice on a visualization tape that will help him feel positive about his upcoming back surgery and speed his recovery. The source of this New Age-sounding tape? His insurance company.

Matthew, who has cerebral palsy, has lived his entire 18 years with unrelenting and sometimes excruciating pain. The new therapy his doctor introduced to provide relief and enable him to attend college next year on his own is self-hypnosis to dial down the pain.

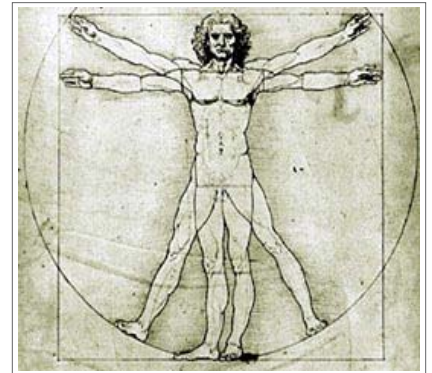


THE NEW MEDICINE explored why even some of the most conservative health institutions are now prescribing meditation and self-hypnosis alongside high-tech modern medicine. "With brain imaging, with molecular biology, cell biology, physiology, we can put all of the pieces of the puzzle together, which we certainly couldn't do even just a few decades ago," explains Dr. Esther Sternberg, research scientist at American University.

THE NEW MEDICINE revealed that medical education is also changing in response to this new science. Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia is one of a growing number of medical schools where there is renewed emphasis on teaching some of the skills of pre-modern medicine - the importance of listening, comforting and encouraging the body's own healing abilities. The traditional doctor-patient relationship is undergoing a shift from paternalism to partnership, as practitioners and consumers alike have begun to promote a more holistic form of healthcare called integrative medicine - seeking to heal the whole person, not simply cure a disease.

Trust and communication are aspects of medicine that have, in many cases, been left behind by a healthcare system in which time is a precious commodity and the average doctor visit with a patient lasts about six minutes. Time to get to know and care about the whole person is a luxury that many physicians feel they don't have.

THE NEW MEDICINE explored the need for medicine to focus more on prevention and engaging people as active players in their own healthcare. At 56, Bill Fink has been wrestling with heart disease for more than 20 years. While high tech medicine has done a good job of keeping him alive, it has done a poor job of keeping him healthy. Now, in a program called "Healing Hearts," at the Scripps Center for Integrative Medicine, he's learning to develop a lifestyle that will keep him out of the operating room - exercising, learning to buy and cook healthy food, attending support groups and stress management classes, taking classes in music, yoga and spirituality, and more.



"Fifty percent of the causes of mortality in this country are related to modifiable behaviors. Smoking, eating, sedentary lifestyles, all of those and more," notes Dr. Dennis H. Novak of Drexel University College of Medicine. Ironically, medical insurance is willing to pay for extremely expensive surgery once a patient with these behaviors becomes acutely ill, but often unwilling to cover the relatively low cost of coaching them through the lifestyle changes that could prevent surgery in the first place.

The National Institutes of Health has been funding rigorous scientific research to determine what alternative healing strategies are safe and effective so that there is solid evidence to broaden medical choices for patients. "Integrative medicine means being able to offer patients a full array of choices from conventional medicine, but to be able to add those complementary and alternative strategies where we have scientific evidence that they work and they're safe," says Dr. Margaret Chesney, Deputy Director of the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM), a division of the NIH.

For those people without health insurance, the option of complementary therapies or a physician who sees a patient as a whole person is rare, but a model program run by Dr. Ellen Beck proves it can be done. THE NEW MEDICINE visited her clinic in La Jolla, California, where medical students, pharmacy students and students of Asian medicine, supervised by volunteer doctors, dentists and nurses, all work together to provide integrative medical care for communities of people who do not qualify for health insurance.

\*Source: PBS website

If you missed this documentary you can certainly buy the DVD or read more about it at [www.thenewmedicine.org](http://www.thenewmedicine.org)



# First United States Spiritist Medical Congress

BRIDGING MEDICINE AND SPIRITUALITY

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

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 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

## SPEAKERS FROM THE U.S.A 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](http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/spirit)). Scientific publications and articles are listed at [www.rcpsych.ac.uk/college/sig/spirit/publications/index.htm](http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/college/sig/spirit/publications/index.htm)

## BRAZILIAN SPEAKERS



**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.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 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



**ÁLVARO 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](http://www.ussmcongress.org/index.en.htm))

## THE MEDIUMS' BOOK

ALLAN KARDEC



# Good or Imperfect Mediums? Tell someone about it!

Have you ever changed something in your life after receiving a medium's reading? Do you feel that you may have a hard time discerning good from imperfect mediums? Well, save your time and money and get to know the features of imperfect and good mediums. In the book on Mediums, *chapter 16*, Allan Kardec compiled a very thorough list on the classification of mediums *according to their moral qualities*. Kardec "asked especial attention in regard to the influence exercised by the good and bad qualities of mediums upon the reliability of the communications received by them, and the indications which enable us to decide between *imperfect mediums*, and those whom we may rightly consider as *good mediums*." Do not let you or your loved ones be misguided. Learn about the characteristics of good and imperfect mediums and tell someone about it!

### Good Mediums

**Serious mediums:** those who only use their faculties for good and really useful ends, and who would regard it as a profanation to use them for the satisfaction of the curious and indifferent, or for any futile purpose.

**Modest mediums:** those who make no merit of the communications they receive, however good they may be they look upon themselves as being only the instruments of others, and do not regard themselves as infallible. Far from shunning disinterested counsel, in regard to the exercise of their mediumship, they seek it.

**Devoted mediums:** those who understand that the true medium has a mission to fulfill, and that he must be ready, when necessary, to sacrifice his tastes, habits, pleasure, time, and even his worldly interests, to the good of others.

**Safe mediums:** those who, in addition to their power, are worthy of confidence on account of their personal excellence and the elevated nature of the spirits who assist them, and who are thus the least likely to be deceived. We shall see hereafter that this security does not depend in any way upon the honorability of the names assumed by the communicating spirits.

## Forgive and Forget

*Sincerely forgive the prevailing ignorance.*

*Do not expect any justification from the other, the one who offended you.*

*Overcome the ingredients of his aggression and try really to forget the bad occurrence.*

*The person who carries grudges is intoxicated by the miasmas that they expel. The aggressor is unbalanced and needs the medicine of goodness to recover. He has lost his lucidity, and for this reason he attacks.*

*Give him the opportunity that he did not give you.*

*The position of the generous person is always more comfortable.*

*It is better for you to be the giver, meaning that you have already attained what your neighbor lacks.*

(Happy Life by Divaldo Franco/Joanna de Angelis)

### Imperfect Mediums

**Mediums who are obsessed:** those who cannot rid them selves of importunate, deceptive spirits, but who are fully aware of; and regret, this obsession.

**Fascinated mediums:** those who are acted upon by deceptive spirits, but who are not aware of this obsession, and who are consequently under a delusion as to the nature of the communications they receive.

**Subjugated mediums:** those who are under the moral, and sometimes the physical, domination of evil spirits.

**Frivolous mediums:** those who do not regard their faculty in a serious light, and who exercise it only for amusement or for futile objects.

**Careless mediums:** those who derive no moral profit from the instructions which they receive, and whose attitude and habits are not improved thereby.

**Presumptuous mediums:** those who assume themselves to be the only ones who are in communication with superior spirits. They believe themselves to be infallible, and regard as worthless and erroneous whatever does not come through them.

**Proud mediums;** those who feed their vanity with the communications which they receive, imagine themselves to have nothing more to learn in regard to Spiritism, and do not apply to themselves the lessons often read to them by spirits. Not contented with the mediumistic faculties they possess, they imagine themselves to possess all the others.

**Touchy mediums;** they are a variety of the proud ones, and are hurt at the criticisms of which they are the object; they take offence at the slightest contradiction, and, if they show what they obtain, they do so in order to be admired, and not at all to profit by the opinion of the listeners. They generally take an aversion to those who do not applaud them unreservedly, and desert the meetings in which they cannot take a leading part.

**Mercenary mediums:** those who make their faculty a source of financial gain.

**Ambitious mediums:** those who, without putting a price upon the exercise of their faculty, seek to turn it to their own advantage, social, or other.

**Dishonest mediums:** those who, possessing some genuine mediumistic faculties, simulate others which they do not possess, in order to give themselves importance.

**Selfish mediums:** those who use their faculty only for personal ends, and who keep to themselves the communications they receive.

**Jealous mediums:** those who are vexed at seeing other mediums better developed, and more highly appreciated, than themselves.

All these bad qualities of mediums have necessarily their counterparts in good ones.

Source: *The Mediums' Book* by Allan Kardec, chap XVI, item 196-197, FEB

**CHARITY IS LOVE IN ACTION!**



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](http://www.ssbaltimore.org/bookstore)

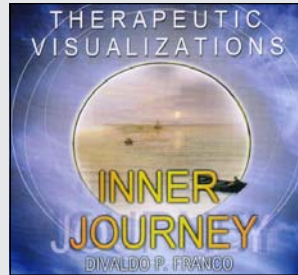
## NEW SPIRITIST BOOKS and CDs

### Therapeutic Visualizations – Inner Journey

"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.

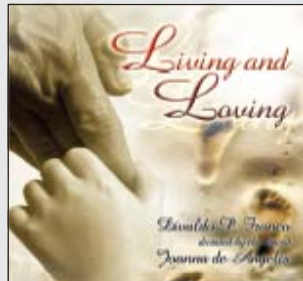
Deep therapeutic visualizations. Three tracks:

- 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*.



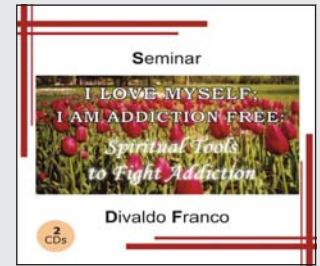
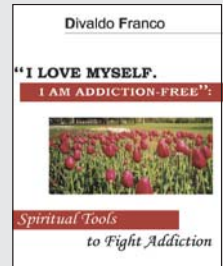
*These books/CDs are available for purchase at [SSB bookstore](http://SSB bookstore) online. The production of these materials is a fruit of collaboration between SSB and the "Mansion of the Way"*

### "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*

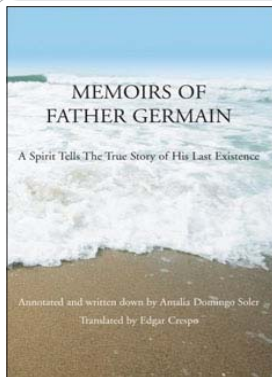
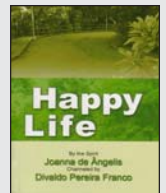
The seminar covered true stories about drug addiction; family issues in drug-addiction; and genetic, psychosocial, socioeconomic and spiritual issues that induce addiction. Divaldo Franco explored academic and spiritual therapies from a Spiritist perspective. He placed special emphasis on the role of 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*

*Memoirs of Father Germain* is the touching, true account of this beloved priest's life relayed to the Spiritist writer **Amalia Domingo Soler** of Spain. (The spirit communications were received through an unconscious medium and Ms. Soler wrote them down...Father Germain was also her spirit guide). 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!

**The book is available for purchase at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), [Barnes & Nobles](http://Barnes & Nobles), and other book websites in paperback for \$21.95.**

(Annotated and written down by *Amalia Domingo Soler* Translated into English by *Edgar Crespo* from the *Spiritist Society of Florida*)

### BE OPEN...

Be open to new ideas.

Discuss them, compare them with what you know and think. Get the most benefit possible out of information that is new to you.

Healthy ideas renew the emotions and supply the feelings with stimuli and enthusiasm.

Nobody is so wise that they do not need to learn more, or so complete that they can dispense with other contributions to their inner growth.

Learn more and be receptive to new contributions.

**HAPPY LIFE** by *Divaldo Franco/Joanna de Ângelis*

### 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](mailto:ssb@ssbaltimore.org)

## Special Event

# ART and SPIRITUALITY in ACTION

by the worldwide acclaimed Brazilian medium painter **Maria Gertrudes**  
Don't miss this unique opportunity to see Ms. Gertrudes Channeling great artists!



**Saturday, July 15, 2006 • 6 - 8:00 PM**  
• Spirit Works Resource Center  
1300 York Rd - Building C • Lutherville, MD  
**Free Admission**  
(Bring cash or checkbook if you would like to buy a painting)

MARIA GERTRUDES COELHO, the Brazilian artist who produces original paintings in the styles of Joseph Turner, Van Gogh, Monet, Picasso, Renoir and a dozen other great impressionists is back in the area to hold FREE public painting session followed by live or silent auctions. Proceedings go directly to a charity foundation (Fundação Jeronimo Mendonça) in the interior town of Ituiutaba, state of Minas Gerais, Brazil, in support of educational efforts for local orphans and at-risk children and adolescents.

Each painting takes less than 5 minutes to materialize. Maria Gertrudes paints with her hands and feet (oil on canvas), and her work is truly beautiful. Each session takes about 60 minutes, and she can paint up to 10-12 paintings per session, always a mix of different artists. This is Maria Gertrudes' fourth visit to the great Washington-Baltimore area. During her previous visits in 2001 and 2003 she performed over 20 sessions and produced and sold nearly 250 paintings in various locations, including institutions such as the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. The funds she's been able to raise with her paintings have allowed her to almost finish the construction phase of the Foundation, with 14 rooms and a large recreational area dedicated to ongoing workshops organized by volunteers on all types of artistic and professional education.

Maria Gertrudes has enchanted thousands of people throughout the world with her phenomenal artistic gifts, producing over 4,500 paintings since 1996. Her mission is to complete 5,000 paintings, and this feat will be achieved this year. THE WASHINGTON POST dedicated half a page to her work in the Arts Session, published in July 12, 2001.

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

Special Talk  
**Scientific Research on Mediumship - Present and Past**  
by Alexander Moreira-Almeida, MD, PhD



**Alexander Moreira-Almeida, MD, PhD**, is a Clinical Psychiatrist, Founder and Director of NEPER (Center for the Study of Religious and Spiritual Problems) at the Institute of Psychiatry, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. He is a Post-Doctoral Fellow in Religion and Health at Duke University Medical Center. His research interests include mediumistic trances and the relationship between spirituality and health.

**Saturday, June 10, 2006**  
**7:30 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Spirit Works Resource Center**  
1300 York Rd -Building C, 3rd fl.  
Lutherville, MD

**Free Admission**

If you have any questions,  
please give us a call at (410) 382-5328.

Sponsored by the  
SPIRITIST SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE, Inc.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2006 WORKSHOP SERIES

May 20 - Parenthood for Modern Times  
Jun 24 - Forgive and be healthier... but how  
July 29 - Am I a medium? How? Why?  
Agu 26 - Evolution in Two Worlds: Material evolution driven by Spiritual Conscience  
**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

14- 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](mailto:ssb@ssbaltimore.org)

**Activities are free of charge !!!**