SpiritistNews

Year 6, Issue 3, May/June 2008



In this issue:

Emotional Stability1
Key Points for the Spiritist Who Visits Other Lands2
The Spiritist Center2
Myanmar and China: Collective Trials
Art in the Light of Spiritism4
Mediums of the Past5
Books/CDs5
Events in the U.S6
Third Revelation7
SSB Activities8

Published By



Mailing_Address: Spiritist Society of Baltimore, *Inc.* 115 S. High Street Baltimore, MD 21202 Tel: 410-382-5328 e-mail: <u>ssb@ssbaltimore.org</u> web site: <u>www.ssbaltimore.org</u>

> EDITORS: Daniel Santos, Ph.D. Vanessa Anseloni, Ph.D

Assistant Editor: Becky Stafford

Emotional Stability

Emotional stability is attained through inner conviction.

This conviction results from our trust in our faith and in the ideals we profess. This is what gives us a sense of security. It reflects our firm spiritual belief and helps us to keep a stable balanced attitude regardless of the problems we must face along our evolutionary path.

Emotional stability overcomes the fear generated by past errors; it also allows us to pursue our superior ideals and be of service to others whenever we wish to do so. It neutralizes environmental instability and helps us to face pressures or facilities with equal poise, refraining from excess and extravagance.

When aware of our mission on earth, we should set ourselves a goal and strive to attain it. We should neither stop nor run, but walk on firmly and steadily, never distrubing others. Our faith in the truth of everlasting life should help us to act serenely.

Ask yourself what you expect from life, how you plan to achieve it and why you want it.

Appraise the contents of your aspirations and compare them with the teachings of the Gospel, then choose the most sensible course of action. Ponder over what you have been through, what you have already sown and reaped.

If you are not sure about the right



choice, stop and pray, seeking inspiration fom the higher realms. Answers will certainly come that will enable you to perceive what is real and most convenient for you, how to achieve it, and why you want it.

Your emotional instability needs prompt and deep care. Start work inside yourself to renew your mental attitude. Decide resolutely to overcome sorrows and pains so that you may attain self-balance.

Whatever you want intensely, you shall get. Do not put your plans off, nor wait for what the future may bring.

Act now.

Today is your most precious moment. Tomorrow things will certainly be more difficult: you may be tired, frail and fearful.

Act on your new resolutions now; you will feel much better, as you will be taking your first steps towards your emotional stability.

From the book, Living and Loving by Divaldo Franco dictated by the spirit Joanna de Angelis.



"Spiritism marks an important stage of human progress - not imposing beliefs, inviting study, enriching reason and sentiments, and satisfying our conscience."

> - Allan Kardec (The Spiritist Review, vol. 1, 2004)

Key Points for the Spiritist Who Visits Other Lands Andre Luiz (Spirit)

Get to know the legal dispositions that rule the country that you are visiting and obey them.

Avoid to partner in prejudices and respect the feelings of each person who you meet. And try to help him/her.

Keep away from personal exhibition.

Be discrete and simple. Respect the belief systems that you find different from your own.

Avoid criticism and discussions. Avoid compromising the Spiritist Doctrine in anyway.

Do not engage yourself in any clandestine business, even if they appear to be legal, despite your financial condition.

Study the language of the country that you visit in order to be more useful. Refuse to make contemptuous comparisons and avoid humiliating your hosts.

Avoid demeaning adjectives in regard to personalities, situations, cases and things related to the Nation that receives you.

Silence jokes of bad taste.

Do not give opinions concerning the difficulties of the area in which you visit, without a thorough knowledge of the causes that produced them.

Do not create problems. As much as possible, avoid financial debts wherever you are.

Do not adulate nor degrade anyone.

Never be sarcastic with any of the habits and beliefs of the country that you visit.

Keep away from indoctrinating anyone. However, be always ready to say a good word or explain the Spiritist concept, promoting then revitalization and elevation in the listeners.

Do not either wish superiority or inferiority for your homeland.

Abolish the word "foreigner" from your vocabulary and treat all children of other nations as true brothers and sisters.

- Andre Luiz

New York, NY - USA, July 29, 1965

(Taken from the book "Entre Irmãos de Outras Terras" (Among Brothers of Other Lands), psycographed by Francisco Cândido Xavier and Waldo Vieira, published by the Brazilian Spiritist Federation).



Francisco Cândido Xavier or Chico

Xavier (April 2, 1910 - June 30, 2002), was the most popular and prolific medium in 20th century Brazil's Spiritist movement. Mr. Xavier was active as a medium for 75 years. He was a humble man although he was sought out by thousands and thousands of people from many countries for

his wisdom and as a medium to the world of spirits. He led a simple life teaching Spiritism by word and example. He psychographically¹ wrote more than 400 books, which sold over twenty million copies, and all proceeds went to charitable work. He was twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

1. Psychography or Automatic writing is the process, or product, of writing material that does not come from the conscious thoughts of the writer. It is commonly done by people in a trance state. And the written messages are brought from discarnated Spirit.



Fulfill your moral duties rigorously. There is no physical balance without spiritual harmony.

(...) Be patient and forgive constantly. All of us have been charitably tolerated by Divine Goodness millions of times and to keep our heart in the bitterness of intolerance is to provoke our own fall.





THE SPIRITIST CENTER Emmanuel

The Spiritist center, even the simplest one, is a temple of mind renewal towards a superior life.

Its practitioners and attendees should not forget about the dignity of the task received and the elevation of their ministry.

In this regard, it is always lamentable to doubt the divine essence of each task performed therein.

This type of organization provides us with stimuli to boost our will to know, to illuminate, to contribute, to create and to help. Those will come from some act of love or of sympathy of our spirit, not yet polished, which we left in the past in the dark past that we had not rescued.

The Spiritist house is a school where we may learn and teach, sow goodness and receive blessings, bettering ourselves and others in the eternal harvest.

When the doors of the Spiritist temple open, the divine light lightens up in the darkness of human ignorance. Good rays of this star of fraternity and knowledge, which shines to community goodness, provides individuals that approach it, even if they don't want a better life.

(This message received by the medium Francisco C. Xavier, which was published in January 1951 in the *Reformador* – the Spiritist magazine of the Brazilian Spiritist Federation.)

MYANMAR AND CHINA: COLLECTIVE TRIALS



L ast May brought extraneous challenges to the lives of millions of our brothers and sisters in Asia. Several thousands departed from this incarnation in a glimpse due to cyclone and earthquakes. Many more remained behind and will bear emotional, spiritual and material difficulties in the times ahead. In moments like these, we are naturally compelled to search for the meaning of such suffering. Fortunately, the visionary Allan Kardec had posed such questions to the Enlightened Spirits and we can find solace in their answers.

Whether death occurs through a calamity or an ordinary cause, it cannot be avoided when the time comes. The only difference is that, in the case of the calamity, many people depart at the same time.

If we could raise our thoughts high enough to contemplate the human race as a whole, and to take in the whole of its destiny at a glance, the scourges that now seem so terrible would appear to us only as passing storms in the destiny of the planet.

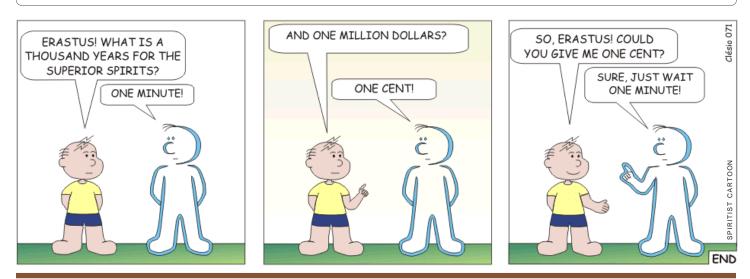
Among natural calamities that are independent of human will, we find plagues, famines, floods, and crop-destroying weather. But we have also found the means to neutralize or at least alleviate the effect of these disasters through scientific means, *e.g.* the improvement of agricultural processes, crop rotation and irrigation, and the study of health conditions. One wonders,



consequently, what we will do for our material well - being once we learn to use all our intellectual resources and when, in our struggle for survival, we begin to unfold the real potential of the Christ within each of us. The answers to questions 737, 739-741 of The Spirits' Book by Allan Kardec bring great relief when we get to know that calamities such as these bring about transformations that will speed along our progress. Destruction (physical death), or better said, transformation is necessary for the moral renewal of spirits who, in each new lifetime, reach a higher level of perfection. Another lesson we learn is the urgent need to transform our behavior in regard to our planet and ourselves. Scientists have already revealed that many of the catastrophes happening today are the consequences of the way we relate to the environment.

While we reflect upon the possible solutions for what is causing such planetary turmoils, let us give our brothers and sisters a hand by practicing true charity which may be expressed in many ways. A powerful one begins within us through thought and will. The potency of prayer may be a very effective way of reaching out to those who are suffering. Praying for those who departed to the spirit world and for those who remained here on Earth, brings consolation, strength and hope to them. After all, prayer is thought transmission. And thought is life!

by Vanessa Anseloni, PsyD, PhD



The Spiritist Society of Baltimore, Inc.

Art in the Light of Spiritism



rt under all forms will open inexhaustible sources of inspiration and emotion. At times of leisure, humanity will find moral courage in it, and will comprehend that the soul can grow by humble labor as well as by loftier tasks, and that no duty is negligible – that envy is sister to hate - and that often one is less happy in luxury than in mediocrity. In it (art) the skeptic will find faith, the discouraged hope and virile resolutions; all those who suffer, the profound idea that a law of justice presides over all things: that there is

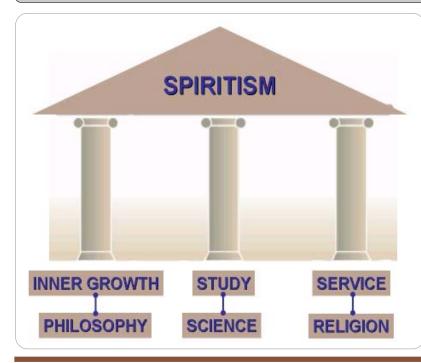
not in any domain effect without a cause, no victory without combat – no triumph without hard efforts, and that above all reigns perfect and majestic law, and that no soul is abandoned by God, of whom it is a part.

Thus, art will operate slowly the renovation of humanity, still so young, so ignorant of itself, but whose desire will carry it, little by little toward the comprehension of its tasks and its aims at the same time that its field of exploration and its perspective enlarge. With each step gained, seeing and desiring more, feeling the center within itself vivified and enlivened, it will see also the shadows disappearing - the somber enigmas of the world resolving - and the way brightened by powerful rays of light. With the shadows will vanish, little by little, narrow prejudices, vain terrors, and apparent contradictions of the universe. Harmony will reign and man will feel his heart and his thoughts enlarged. He will advance a new toward the end of his work, yet his work has no end – for each time humanity lifts itself toward a new ideal which it believes to be the

supreme ideal, it has in truth attained only to the system corresponding to its own degree of evolution. But each time, also, from every effort made toward higher ideals will flow new forces and new pleasures, and it will find in the joy of life and progression, which is the law of being, a more intimate communion with the universe, and a more complete possession of goodness and beauty."

Extracted from the book "Life and Destiny" by Leon Denis, chapter XXIII.

"Heartfelt charity and inner transformation build a safe foundation for good mediumistic practice." -Yvonne Pereira (Pelos Caminhos da Mediunidade Serena - p.87)





Did you know...

WORKSHOPS are followed by LUNCH !

The SSB offers a fresh-made, organic lunch prepared by our practitioners served immediately following each workshop for a modest \$10 per person. Here are some of the things you will find: *organic juices, salads, vegetarian dishes, meat and side dishes topped off with dessert!*

On Workshop days only!

MEDIUMS OF THE PAST



LEONORE PIPER (1859-1950)

Perhaps the greatest American medium ever. One of the most spectacular and outstanding mental mediums who ever lived. No one, not even the most hardened closed minded skeptic after investigating her mediumship ever suggested

fraud. She was able to convert the greatest materialist, closed minded skeptic this world has ever seen - Richard Hodgson. Because of her brilliant accurate information, Hodgson, who was contracted to by the British Society for Psychical Research engaged private detectives to follow her, to report on whom she met outside her home, to intercept her mail, to invite negative 'dummy' sitters unknown to anyone to her sittings - and to do everything possible to prove that this highly gifted brilliant American was not genuine. All failed and she remains today the greatest American mental medium who triumphed over great challenges.



AMALIA DOMINGO SOLER (1835-1909)

One of the most significant figures in the Spiritist movement is Amalia Domingo Soler. Not only for her immense work spreading Spiritism, but mostly because of her vivid example of abnegation, charity and love.

Amalia was born in Seville, Spain on November 10th, 1835, right after the great Empire of Spain

collapsed due the civil war known as "Carlistas Wars". At that time, Spain went through difficult times, especially poverty and diseases. In this historic frame, Amalia had plenty of tribulations during her childhood. Before she was born, her father left for a long trip and never came back. Then, at eight, she became blind. After medical treatment, she recovered her vision, though with recurrent problems during all her life (...). She worked in collaboration with discrete mediums (Maria, Eudaldo and Miguel Vives) through whom she received the beautiful messages of Father German, her Spirit-mentor. She wrote several books and more than 1,286 articles. Her most popular books are "Memories of a Woman", "Facts that prove", "I forgive you", "Her most beautiful writing", "Spiritist Tales", "Memories of Father German" (recently published in English), "Bouquet of violets", and "The greatest virtues".

Read more at the "SpiritistNews Issue 5, Sep/October 2007" or go to the following link: <u>http://www.ssbaltimore.org/Newsletter/2007/SpiritistNewsSEP-OCT07.pdf</u>

There is no advantage in disapproving when everyone else disapproves. Help your brother with a good word.

- Fransisco Candido Xavier dictated by the spirit Andre Luiz



NOW AVAILABLE!!

Inspired by Allan Kardec's works in the *Revue Spirite* (founded on January 1st, 1858), **The Spiritist Magazine** aims to bring to Spiritists and the lay public updated news about the Spiritist science, including its advancements on the understanding of our origin,

nature, and destiny as immortal spirits. The magazine also focuses on revisiting Allan Kardec's foundational works.

This first edition was made available at the 2nd Spirititst Symposium at New York Historical Society on April 19, 2008.

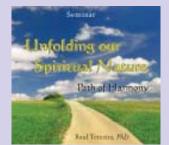
Initially, The Spiritist Magazine will be published quarterly in print and online starting in April 2008. Subscriptions is now available online. For more information please go to:

www.thespiritistmagazine.com

An official publication of the International Spiritist Council (ISC)



Spiritist Books/CDs



UNFOLDING OUR SPIRITUAL NATURE: Path of Harmony

by Prof. Raul Teixeira

In an unmatched wisdom, Prof. Raul Teixeira tells us who we are, our origin, nature and destiny. Combining scientific teachings of physics with the profound insights of Spiritism,

Therapeutic

Visualizations

- Health - CD

Divaldo Franco

(Voice: Greg Stewart)

This CD is unique material brought by

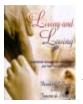
the spectacular mediumship of Divaldo

Franco. His spirit-mentor, Joanna de

Ângelis, gives us this spiritual tool to

find pathways to balance and health ...

Prof. Teixeira enlightens our lives when discussing everyday life topics such as sympathy and antipathy, life and death, suicide and euthanasia, pain relief and past lives. (Voices: Greg Stewart and Vanessa Anseloni)



Living & Loving Divaldo Franco/ Joanna de Angelis

This book is for your day-to-day use. With beautiful inspirational

This book is for your day-to-day use. With beautiful inspirational messages, each page of this little book brings joy and comfort to all events of life.

To order these books and CDs and more go to: <u>www.ssbaltimore.org/bookstore</u>

"Help without demands, so that others may help you without complaints." - by Chico Xavier /Andre Luiz

Events in the U.S.



music that touched everyone's hearts.

THIRD REVELATION

Can one consider Spiritism as a revelation? If it be such, what is its character? Upon what is its authenticity founded? By whom, and in what manner has it been given? Is the doctrine of Spiritism a revelation in the liturgical sense of the word? That is to say, is it in all points the product of occult teaching from on high? Is it absolute or capable of mystifications? In conveying to men perfect truth, would not revelation have the effect of hindering them from employing their faculties, since it would save them the work of research? What can be the authority of the teachings of the spirit if they are not infallible, and superior to those of humanity? What is the utility of the morality that they preach if this is other than that of the Christ whom men acknowledge? What are the new truths that they bring to us? Has man need of a revelation and can he find himself and in his conscience all that is necessary to lead him aright? These are the questions which are important for us to focus.

Let us define at first the sense of the word. "Revelation," to reveal, derived from the word "veil," from the Latin velum, signifies literally to take away the veil, and, figuratively, to uncover, to make the acquaintance of a secret or unknown fact. In its most general sense it is employed with reference to every unknown thing which is brought to light, to every new idea which is given to man.

Indeed, all the sciences which have revealed the mysteries of nature are revelations; and one can well say that there is for us a constant revelation. Astronomy has revealed to us the astral universe of which we were ignorant; geology, the formation of the Earth; chemistry, the law of affinities; physiology, the functions of the organism, etc. Copernicus, Galileo, Newton, Laplace, and Lavoisier are revealers.

The essential character of all revelation must be truth. To reveal a secret is to make known a fact. If the thing is false, it is not a fact, and consequently not a revelation. All so-called revelation contradicted by facts is not revelation even if attributed to God. He not being able to tell an untruth or to deceive, we know it cannot emanate from him. It is necessary to consider it as merely a human conception.

What is the attitude of the professor to his pupils if it is not that of a revealer? He teaches them that which they do not know, that which they would have neither the time nor the possibility to discover for themselves, because science is the collective work of centuries, and of a multitude of men who have each contributed the results of their observations, by which those who come after them profit. Teaching is, then, in reality the revelation of certain scientific or moral, physical or metaphysical truths given by men who know them, to others who know them not, and who, without their aid would have remained ignorant of them.

But the professor teaches that which he has learned; he is a revealer of the second order. The man of genius teaches that which he has found for himself; he is the primitive revealer; he carries the light which from one place to another, makes itself known. Where would be humanity without the revelations from men of genius who appear from time to time?



Whence do they come? What becomes of them? Let us observe that the greater part of them is born with transcendent faculties, and innate knowledge that a little work suffices to develop. They belong really to humanity since they are born, live and die like mortals. Where, then, have they obtained this knowledge which comes so mysteriously to them? Will one say with the materialist that chance has given to them cerebral matter in greater quantity and better quality? In this case they would have no more merit than one vegetable greater and more savory than another.

Will one say that God awarded spiritists with a more favored soul or mind than those of common men? – A supposition also entirely illogical, since it accuses God of partiality. The only rational solution of this problem is in the pre-existence of soul, and in a plurality of existences. The man of genius is a spirit which has lived a longer time, who has consequently acquired more and progressed more, than those who are less advanced. In becoming incarnate he brings to Earth what he knows; and, as he is much wiser than others without the necessity of learning, he is that which one calls a man of genius. But that which he knows is the fruit of an anterior work, and not the result of divine preference. Before entering anew into Earth-life, he has an advanced spirit. He is reincarnated; it may be for the purpose of benefiting others, or possibly for the opportunity of acquiring more knowledge himself. (...)*.

- Allan Kardec

But what are men of genius? Why are they men of genius?

* Read more on the book Genesis, chap 1, by Allan Kardec. Published by SAB

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F

Family Day Picnic Fund-raiser

Sunday, August 10th, 2008 11am to 4pm

> Rocks State Park Rocks Wilson Shelter 3318 Rocks Chrome Hill Road Jarrettsville, MD 21084

Tickets \$15.00 (above 12 years old) \$7.00 (6-12 years old) Free (below 6 years old) \$2 entrance fee not included in ticket price

> For more Info: ssb@ssbaltimore.org www.ssbaltimore.org Tel. 410-382-5328



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Support our Clothing Donation Drive

Homeless people and low income families need all types of gently used clothing, particularly warm clothes and coats for cold weather, formal clothes (to attend job interviews), and shoes (which frequently wear out). It's helpful if donated clothing is clean, reasonably wrinkle-free, and on hangers.



ACTIVITIES ARE FREE OF CHARGE

FRATERNALCOUNSELING

SPIRITUAL TREATMENT

These services are offered every Monday from 6:15pm to 7:45pm.

Mediumship Educational Meetings

(by invitation only) These meetings take place every Monday from 8:00pm to 9:30pm for the study and practice of mediumship according to Spiritism.

ROADMAP FOR THE SPIRITIST STUDY AND PRACTICE

This meeting is offered for those who are interested in learning Spiritism and also to become Spiritist practitioner. Thursdays from 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

Stay away from inferior conditions; acquire higher understanding.

- Emmanuel/Chico Xavier (Our Daily Bread, Ch.6, p.26)

2008 SSB Calendar - A Look Ahead...

June

1 (Sun) - Special Talk: **Most FAQs on Spiritism** *by Miguel Sardano, J.D.*

5 (Thur) - <u>Roadmap for the Spiritist</u> Study and Practice

8 (Sun) - 10 YEAR CELEBRATION COUNTDOWN -<u>SPECIAL TALK:</u> LEARNING ABOUT LIFE WITH CHILDREN: Cases on Near Death Experiences in Children - *by Melvin Morse*, MD

12 (Thur) - <u>Talk on Kardec's</u> <u>Genesis: Existence of God by Becky</u> Stafford

15 (Sun) - Talk on the Spiritist Foundation Intellectual and Moral Influence of the Medium by Fabiana Moura, PhD

19 (Thur) - Movie Discussion: THE NEW MEDICINE buy the DVD

22 (Sun) - Talk on the Spiritist Foundation Obsession by Carolina Strosnider

26 (Thur) - SPECIAL EVENT: <u>Sacred</u> <u>Music Concert</u> with Angelika

29 (Sun) - WORKSHOP: <u>The New Generation: Spirituality</u> for Children by Vanessa Anseloni with special guest - Angelika

July

3 (Thur) - <u>Talk on Kardec's Genesis:</u> <u>The Good and Evil</u> by Alba Morales

6 (Sun) - NO ACTIVITY (4th July)

10 (Thur) - Book Discussion -<u>THE</u> <u>NEW EARTH</u> by Eckart Tole

13 (Sun) - Talk on the Spiritist Foundation: Identity of Communicating Spirits -TBA

<u>5th Spiritst Family retreat</u> in Connecticut

17 (Thur) - <u>Talk on Kardec's Genesis:</u> Organic Genesis by Fabiana Moura

20 (Sun) - Talk on the Spiritist Foundation: Desobsession by Leonardo Vieira

24 (Thur) - <u>Talk on Kardec's</u> <u>Genesis: Spiritual Genesis</u> by Leonardo Vieira

27 (Sun) WORKSHOP: <u>The Spiritual Foundation of</u> <u>America</u> by Vanessa Anseloni

31 (Thur) - <u>Talk on Kardec's</u> <u>Genesis: Mosaic Genesis</u> by Luis F. Almeida

UPCOMING

2008 SUNDAY WORKSHOP SERIES Free Admission

Time: 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

June 29 - The New Generation: Spirituality for Children

July 27 - The Spiritual Foundation of America

Spiritist activities for **CHILDREN** above 4 years old are provided, while parents attend workshop

Followed by lunch \$10/person

Healthy, organic meals freshly prepared!

OUR SERVICES LOCATION

22 W. Padonia Rd -*Padonia Plaza* Bdg B, Suite 317 Timonium, MD 21093

Please, contact us for more info.

Phone: 410-382-5328 or 410-837-0991 e-mail: ssb@ssbaltimore.org