



# AUTUMN 1995 NEWSLETTER

## Alchemy & Transformation

In 1944, Jung wrote in his introduction to *Psychology and Alchemy*: "Until quite recently, science was interested only in the part that alchemy played in the history of chemistry, concerning itself very little with the part it played in the history of philosophy and religion. The importance of alchemy for the historical development of chemistry is obvious, but its cultural importance is still so little known that it seems almost impossible to say in a few words wherein that consisted. . . . The point is that alchemy is rather like an undercurrent to the Christianity that ruled on the surface. It is to this surface as the dream is to consciousness, and just as the dream compensates the conflicts of the conscious mind, so alchemy endeavors to fill the gaps left open by the Christian tension of opposites." (CW 12, ¶ 26.)

After devoting years of study to medieval alchemists' texts, Jung concluded: "[T]he entire alchemical procedure . . . could just as well represent the individuation process of a single individual, though with the not unimportant difference that no single individual ever attains to the richness and scope of the alchemical symbolism." (*Mysterium Coniunctionis*, CW 14, ¶792.)

### **Keynote: Stephan A. Hoeller**

#### *In the Wake of Jung the Alchemist*

This lecture will address the nature of alchemy within its ancient metachemical and its modern psychological contexts, with particular focus on C. G. Jung's contribution to the psychology of alchemy. After an overview of the primary ingredients and the stages of alchemical transformation, this lecture will compare western alchemy with the Chinese alchemy of *The Secret of the Golden Flower*.

#### ***Alchemy: The Ageless Art of Human Transformation***

This workshop will present a quintessential account of the alchemical process of transformation in its ten major stages, as indicated by Jung's commentary on the *Rosarium Philosophorum* ("The Psychology of Transference"). We will note the alchemical presence and role of the Gnostic Sophia in such works as the *Aurora Consurgens* and other alchemical writings. We will consider how principles of alchemical transformation might be applied, as, for instance, in the political structure envisioned by the founders of the American Republic.

**Dr. Stephan A. Hoeller** has devoted much of his life to the study of Jung's teachings, particularly in their relation to the Gnostic tradition and its constituent esoteric disciplines, including alchemy. Retired as professor of comparative religions at the College of Oriental Studies in Los Angeles, Dr. Hoeller is author of *Freedom: Alchemy for a Voluntary Society*, *Jung and the Lost Gospels*, *The Gnostic Jung and the Seven Sermons to the Dead* and other books. He is a frequent contributor to *Gnosis* magazine and other publications.

*This event is co-sponsored by the Theosophical Society.*

#### **Sept. 22 & 23**

Friday Lecture  
7:30 to 9:30 PM  
Good Shepherd  
Center, Room 202

Fees: \$7 members  
\$10 non-members

Friday lecture fee  
waived for those  
who preregister for  
Saturday's work-  
shop.

Saturday Workshop  
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Good Shepherd  
Center, Room 204

Fees:  
\$30 members  
\$40 non-members  
\$25 student/senior  
members  
\$35 student/senior  
non-members

**Oct. 6**

Friday Lecture  
7:30 to 9:30 PM  
Good Shepherd  
Center, Room 202

Fees: \$5 members  
\$8 non-members

**Oct. 20 & 21**

Friday Lecture  
7:30 to 9:30 PM  
Good Shepherd  
Center, Room 202

Fees: \$7 members  
\$10 non-members

Friday lecture fee  
waived for those  
who preregister for  
Saturday's work-  
shop.

Saturday Workshop  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Good Shepherd  
Center, Room 204

Fees:  
\$30 members  
\$40 non-members  
\$25 student/senior  
members  
\$35 student/senior  
non-members

**Gordon Keating, M.D.**

*Alchemy and Healing*

This lecture will explore the nature and process of healing using some of the basic principles of alchemy elucidated in great depth by Carl Jung. The alchemists of the 15th and 16th centuries sought to transform base elements into higher, more valuable elements and to transform matter into spirit, thus freeing the soul. Symbolically, Jung saw the alchemists' opus as a view into the transformation of personality. Using ordinary language, we will inquire into what alchemy has to tell us about healing illness and creating whole and healthy lives today.

**Gordon Keating, M.D.** is a holistic physician-psychiatrist and Jungian psychotherapist living and practicing in Seattle since 1974. He is one of the founding members of the Jungian Psychotherapists Association, recently formed to foster the professional growth and development of Jungian therapists in the Northwest. He has an abiding interest in the relationship of psyche and soma and in whatever forwards the development of fully functioning human beings who continue to grow and play throughout adulthood.



**Terrill L. Gibson**

*Eros & Alchemy: A Multi-Media Jungian Essay on Western Soul and Culture*

Alchemy began in the ancient caves of our Neolithic and Paleolithic ancestors. The fuel of this process, both its means and its ends, is what the ancient Greek mythologists and philosophers eventually called Eros. The recovery and propagation of Eros was behind the mystery religions' passions at the beginning of the current era, the mystical Gothic blossomings of the 12th century, the Neoplatonic reveries of the Renaissance and the profound explorations of modern depth therapies.

This lecture attempts to respectfully track this lingering voice of Eros and her alchemical, symbolic presence in our midst. Through a variety of cinema, audio and clinical anecdotes, images of the transformative imprint of Eros upon our lives and soul will be contemplated.

The Friday night lecture will present the overview and model and the Saturday half-day seminar will deepen the metaphors and possible personal, analytical, and cultural implications, applications, and visions.

**Terrill L. Gibson, Ph.D.**, is a diplomate pastoral psychotherapist and Jungian analyst who practices individual and family therapy with Pastoral Therapist Associates in Tacoma. He lectures and writes widely on the basic theme of the integration of psychotherapy and spirituality. He serves frequently as a consultant, faculty, supervisor and facilitator for a variety of Pacific Northwest universities, social service agencies, corporations, and religious congregations. In March of 1996, a book he co-edited with Laura Dodson, Ph.D., on Jungian analysis and family therapy, is slated for publication by Chiron Press.

**Peter H. Elting**

## *Alchemy of the Heart*

Alchemy is about transformation. The heart, both as organ and as symbol, is an archetype that projects infinite images into our lives. This lecture will look at heart surgery and its antecedents at mid-life as events that reflect many stages in the alchemical journey towards individuation. What happens to the psyche when the heart stops? Much like in alchemy, the death experience during surgery can be the mortification (*mortification*) and darkness (*nigredo*) needed for a new beginning.

In the Saturday workshop we will attempt to deepen our understanding of the alchemical symbolism of the heart and how it relates to life events. Participants are encouraged to bring pictures or stories from their own life or practice. We will relate these pictures to everyday life and use Jungian psychodrama process to enter these images in an active way. (Space is limited to 18 participants; register early.)

**Peter H. Elting, Ph.D.**, is a Jungian analyst, and graduate of the C. G. Jung Institute in Zurich. After a career in international trade, he attended the University of San Francisco and Swiss University, Zurich, receiving his Ph.D. in 1994. He is also a graduate of the Institute for Jungian Psychodrama in Zurich. He is a member of the International Association for Analytical Psychology and also the National Association for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis.

**Linda Leonard**

## *Creation's Heartbeat: Following the Reindeer Spirit*

The reindeer is an animal that is honored during the winter solstice. For the shamanic people of the North, the reindeer is a messenger between heaven and earth, a mystical creature that transports into our lives healing and wisdom from the world beyond. Jungian analyst Linda Leonard recently lived with nomadic people in the Siberian wilderness and studied a culture in Lapland. She came to understand that the reindeer as "spirit guide" is a metaphor for an instinctual way of being in the world, guided by the feminine, that honors both human life and nature.

**Linda Schierse Leonard, Ph.D.** is author of the best-selling *The Wounded Woman: Healing the Father-Daughter Relationship*; *Witness to the Fire: Creativity and the Veil of Addiction*; *Meeting the Madwoman: An Inner Challenge for Feminine Spirit*; and her new book, *Creation's Heartbeat: Following the Reindeer Spirit*.



The Jung Society Board welcomes Gloria Jacobsen as Treasurer, Karen Campbell as Newsletter Editor, and Lynn Hilberg who oversees Membership Committee duties. Bev Osband joins us this year as Vice President.

The Board is happy to announce that, through the ongoing efforts of Bunny Brown, we were able to achieve our major goal for the program year 1994-95, and now have a library on the third floor of the Good Shepherd Center. (See library announcement, back page.)

The Board met for its annual retreat on August 5th. The vision (*continued, back page*)

### **Nov. 10 & 11**

Friday Lecture  
7:30 to 9:30 PM  
Good Shepherd  
Center, Room 140

Fees: \$5 members  
\$8 non-members

Friday lecture fee  
waived for those  
who preregister for  
Saturday's workshop.

Saturday Workshop  
1:00 to 5:00 PM  
Good Shepherd  
Center, Room 223

Fees:  
\$30 members  
\$40 non-members  
\$25 student/senior  
members  
\$35 student/senior  
non-members

### **Dec. 6**

Wednesday  
Lecture  
7:30 to 9:30 PM  
Good Shepherd  
Center, Room 202

Fees: \$7 members  
\$10 non-members

**From  
the  
Board**

*From the Board, continued from page 3*

for the Jung Society that developed during this meeting is:

- to continue to provide our members and the public with programs on Jung and his writings
- to maintain a library for our members
- to work in conjunction with the growing Jungian community in Seattle.

In addition, the Board developed some five-year and one-year goals. Some five-year goals are:

- to increase our membership by 50%
- to increase our savings by 50%.

The one-year goals include:

- to increase the number of active volunteers on committees
- to acquire a computer.

Our board members are extremely dedicated individuals. It is because of their hard work and our members' ongoing participation that we look forward to an exciting program year for 1995-96.

**For workshop preregistration information, call 525-3960.**

## **Library News & Open House**

The library crew has been working hard to get the library open. We plan to have books, periodicals, and a limited number of tapes available for study and loan at our first meeting and open house on Sept. 22nd. We invite all our members to our open house, from 5:00 until 7:15 PM in Room 345 of the Good Shepherd Center. We plan to repeat these hours before all of our fall lectures. Also, we would like to have it open for three-hour periods weekdays and Saturdays. We are looking for volunteers to sign up for regular three-hour shifts for a three-month period. Students, please view this as an opportunity to study Jung. Checking books in and out will be the main duty. Since all library volunteers and users must be members, please feel free to join or re-join the Jung Society at our first event. If you are able to volunteer, please call our message phone, 525-3960, and leave your name and number.

Please return any books that you may have been holding while waiting for the library to re-open. They may be placed in the book drop across the hall from Room 345 anytime that the Good Shepherd Center is open.

**C. G. Jung Society, Seattle**  
4649 Sunnyside Avenue North, Room 345  
Seattle, WA 98103

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