

Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp

Quarterly Newsletter

Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp
October 2010



Haunted Halloween Tours of Cassadaga

Friday and Saturday, October 29 and 30 from 7 to 11pm

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The Answer Is. . .

The Pastor's
Corner

Meet the Board of Trustees, Pastor and Associate Pastors

At the annual meeting, five board members were elected to the seven member Board of Trustees.



Name: Marla Chirnside
Term: 3 year
Title: Trustee
Member: 2004



Name: Rev. Judy Cooper
Term: 1 year
Title: Trustee
Member: 1993

trying to secure the preservation of the buildings through Historical resources. I was able to get the Cassadaga signs restored on I-4. I worked to open the Julia Slater Historical Museum and Colby-Alderman Historic Park.



Name: Denny Groseclose
Term: 3 year
Title: President of the Board of Trustees

Born: Missouri (the Show-Me state).

Pet Project: The Annual Program, increase attendance at Colby Memorial Temple; in our student program; traffic in our bookstore, and a new roof for the Andrew Jackson Davis Building. Also, I'm on the By-laws committee and we have been working on revising them in ways that I believe will benefit the membership.

Born: California

Pet Project: I want every members voice heard. Not just a few.

Member: 2000

Born: Columbus, Ohio

Pet Project: My focus right now is to make sure the finances are sound and to increase membership.



Name: Rev. Mary Rose Gray
Title: Associate Pastor, Colby Memorial Temple, Soloist at Sunday service.

Member: 1990

Born: Springfield, Ohio.

Pet Project: Beautifying the Camp with the color and life of plants and flowers. They enhance healing and upliftment for those around them. It brings a smile.



Name: Sara Lee Berkner
Term: 3 year
Title: Corporate Secretary of the Board

Member: 1973

Born: Boston, Mass.

Pet Project: What I would like to see come to fruition is to get an amended set of Bylaws passed that would better serve the camp membership. I also want to work on raising the money to replace the roof on the Andrew Jackson Davis Building.



Name: Rev. Ben Cox
Term: 2 year
Titles: Trustee, Pastor of Colby Memorial Temple and Music Director

Member: 1990

Born: Orlando, Fla.

Pet Projects: I want to bring Colby Memorial Temple back to center Spiritualism by emphasizing the philosophy, science and religion of Spiritualism and that we are a Spiritualist church. My plan is to accomplish this through teaching in the Temple and healing Spiritually. My top priority is to reach out in the community.



Name: Patricia Fordham
Term: 3 year. She's in her second year.
Titles: Trustee and Association Director.

Members: 2003

Born: Michigan.

Pet Project: Membership.



Name: Anita Evans
Term: 3 year. She's in her third year.

Titles: Vice President of The Board and Historian

Membership: 2004

Born: Southern Virginia and came to Lake Mary when she was 3.

Pet Projects: History of Cassadaga and Preservation of the buildings in Cassadaga. I'm



Name: Rev. Jerry Moore
Title: Associate Pastor of Colby Memorial Temple

Member: 1991

Born: Roswell, N. M.

Pet Projects: As the chairman of the Bylaws and Codification committees, I along with others work to update the Bylaws and policy manual. I take photos and update the camp's Web site.

www.cassadaga.org

Grandmother teaches customs in the Native-American Gathering

Grandmother Fran Taylor is the leader and teacher of customs for the Raven Bearers Intertribal Teaching Council, which has been gathering at Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp for seven years.

“The Raven Bearers Blackfoot tribe believe the raven went into the void and brought back messages from other side,” she said.

That belief is just one spoken during the first Saturday of the month meeting. It is held from 6-8 p.m. in Eloise Page Park or if the weather is not cooperating in the Andrew Jackson Davis Building.

Grandmother, who is teaching sign and Lakota languages within the tribe, said there were about 10 to 12 members of the tribe when it started. It has grown to 20 regular members with more than 45 attending the monthly event.

“It’s growing in leaps and bounds,” she said. “Everyone is welcome. We are a teaching council. We are all teachers and we are all students.”

At each gathering there are prayers, folklore that is suitable for children, ceremonies, a little bit of dancing, drumming and afterward a potluck dinner, Grandmother said. Everyone is welcome to bring a dish.

“We do follow traditions,” she said. “We believe in having a good time. Laughter is very important.”

Grandmother said she was appointed by an older grandmother to hold the position in the Raven Bearers tribe. She said she had concerns because she was not Native-American, but was told: “You have it in your heart.”

In addition to the monthly gathering, the tribe has brought the custom of a Trade Blanket to the camp.

It’s where people sit and place items that they wish to trade on their blankets. Chief Michael Taylor, who has the “last commission” on decisions of the tribe and is the son of grandmother, was the go between and used sign language to com-

municate.

“It was a wonderful time,” she said. “We hope to do more in the future.”



Grandmother said one of the more important teachings is how people get along.

“We are trying to teach that we need to help each other instead of hurt each other,” she said. “If you have a chance to do a random act of kindness, do it.”

In the early days, Grandmother said, “The Indians had no locks on their doors and no jails. The worst thing that happened in a tribe was gossip about someone. A lot of people could learn from that.”



In the Native-American totem cards, the buffalo means abundance.



The Horse represents strength.

Awaken to Oneness

Deeksha Oneness Blessing
Fourth Tuesday of the month at
Colby Memorial Temple
7-9 p.m.

**Nancy Cunningham,
RN and Facilitator**

nancy32720@yahoo.com
386-801-8661
www.onenessmovementuniversity.org
www.onenessmovementflorida.org

Dr. James W.R. Thomas

Spiritual Counselor Healer
Minister Lecturer
Trance Readings/Spirit
Guides

By Appointment

386-228-0910 386-451-7214
IAM1981@aol.com

Peggy Wilkes Adkins

Medium

Private Readings and
Telephone Consultation

Communication with deceased loved ones. Families and groups welcome.

386-228-2534

**In the hush of solitude
know that you are loved.**

Vision Quest: A Journey Taken Without Leaving

Note to readers: Michael Taylor is Chief of Raven Bearers Intertribal Teaching Council, which has been gathering at Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp for seven years. The article is written by him and is a true account of his journey.

The Vision Quest for me was to let go of an old life and an old way of being, to renew myself and commune with nature. Many people take vision quests for various reasons – a rite of passage from childhood to adulthood; to put forward momentum on their spiritual path; or for healing. Mine was for the latter.

My journey began with a reading at Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp by a friend and certified



Chief Michael Taylor prepares for a recent Native-American gathering held in the Andrew Jackson Davis Building.

medium. Weeks before my vision quest, the medium friend told me of my Father who passed three years previous and how he was kept up at night with a message for me to take a Vision Quest.

As the weeks went by, the medium friend would come to me and say, ‘Your Father said to take that quest, have you done it yet?’ I hadn’t. It was in the works, though. Finally, the perfect time came when I was able to leave my life for a few days (being a single father, that time doesn’t come often). I was guided on this Quest by a former medicine person of The Raven Bearers Intertribal Teaching Council of which I have been named Chief Spirit Warrior.

Before I was able to take this Vision Quest I

had to be cleansed. A strict diet for about a week before and a cleansing bath of white sage, mugwort and lavender the night before was customary for this particular medicine woman. After the preparatory period of a week, I was ready.

We set off into Colby Lake Forest at about 4 a.m. Walking through the pitch darkness was the first challenge. It was a new moon, so there was absolute darkness. After traversing through the forest, we came to a place where we both agreed immediately was the place I would set off on my own to find my place in the forest. After many different protection rituals and blessings that the medicine woman performed, I walked away into the woods. One would imagine walking through the woods in the pitch dark would be difficult but for some reason it wasn’t. I had not even stumbled once. It was like my footing was being guided. Eventually, I came to a place that had four large trees in a circle and I knew this was it. Each tree faced a direction – east, south, west and north. This to me was a sign. I picked Colby Forest because of its connection with Cassadaga, my Spiritual home.

After finding my place, I began the ritual of blessing my circle, which was 10 feet in diameter. I was to stay within it for two to three days. Cornmeal was spread around the perimeter of the area. I said prayers for my Vision to be seen as well as prayers for protection. I was able to bring a few items, a flute, water, a gray wolf pelt that belonged to my Father, a knife, a notebook and some matches. The medicine woman had said I could light a fire if I wanted to. It was not customary, but she allowed it. There would be no food. This was a time of fasting starting the previous day.

On that first morning it was wonderful. I was energized and felt like a true warrior. I sat

and took in the forest. I was at peace. I felt safe. I was home. Daylight came. Before long the forest changed. I was now able to see the place I had chosen. It was more beautiful in the day than in the early morning darkness. As I sat in the morning hours, I watched, intently, as the forest came to life – visual life I should say. I watched butterflies, so many different types, flutter to and fro, like a beautiful dance of the fairies. I watched a dragonfly hunt for flies as if it were a mighty hunter set out for the day to provide itself with food, but had no luck. The day drew on and it got very hot (July may not have been the best time to pick for this). But I had plenty of water, so I thought. I shielded myself from the sun with my wolf pelt. This day was not very eventful except communing with nature, which was very meditative. Time seemed to stand still. There is no way to tell the time until darkness falls. By the end of this day, I felt different somehow.

The night had started. It wasn’t entirely what I expected. I had thought it would be so quiet and peaceful. Peaceful it was, but quiet not even close. I could hear different sounds calling out to each other like a symphony of life. It was truly amazing. As the night progressed, I couldn’t describe how many different creatures I had heard. There was so much going on. It felt surreal, aside for the fact I was not to sleep. Fasting was not the only criteria. Sleep deprivation was also required. So, as you would expect I was tired. I had tried to light a fire. I had a notebook of dry paper and a full book of matches so fire time, I thought. Spirit had another plan, though. I had already used up a book of matches and many dry leaves and paper. The only fire I was able to light was the matches. Nothing would catch fire. I said, ‘‘O.K.



Rev. Mary Rose Gray

Medium, Minister, Healer, RN, LMT, Reiki Master /
Teacher Hypnotist, Rebirther, Sourcing, Teacher and
Lecturer

1124 McKinley St., Cassadaga, FL 352-434-9769

Native-American Gathering

First Saturday of each month at Eloise Page Park 6 p.m.

Family event, drumming, dancing, story telling, sign language, customs, prayer, where all can share in the spirit of Waqan-Tanqa. Covered dish (optional) follows.

Details: 386-445-8807 Grandmother Moon Raven

Chief Spirit Warrior becomes one with Nature

Spirit I'm going with tradition. No fire." Aside from the beauty of the chorus of sounds and the none fire, the first night was uneventful.

Dawn broke again and here started the same butterflies dancing around me and the same dragonfly hunting its territory. I had a couple of visitors that day. It was nice to see them. Being in the forest alone, can be quite lonely at times. My first visitor to my circle was a tiny toad. We sat and looked upon each other trying to figure out what we were thinking about one another. No sooner did I turn from the toad to look to my side and there was a beautiful black racer, my next visitor. Typically, the racer would have made a meal of the toad, but not in my circle — in that circle was peace. No harm would come to any creature in that circle, this I knew.

My water supply had gotten very low, so I put the empty bottles to cook in the sun and collect condensation. This gave me a few more capfuls of much needed water. Something had felt even more different than the previous day and night. No, no it wasn't just delirium, something was different. The sun once again was testing my strength, so around midday I was going to lay down and cover myself with the

wolf (not to sleep, although I was tired, I had no desire to do so). Just as I lay there, a small flock of birds came frolicking through the forest singing and chirping, bouncing from tree to tree. Then the birds took turns hovering right over my head, one by one they took turns. I could feel the slight breeze come from their tiny wings on my forehead. Then it occurred to me I felt different because I was no longer enjoying nature I became one with nature. They loved me as I loved them. We had no harm for each other, only curiosity. The true beauty of nature I had never felt before. Then things started to get cloudy, not the sky but my perception. All of a sudden I found myself hugging the tree to the south looking up hearing words. The words spoken to me were to have patience and my healing has now begun. You see before this quest my heart had been wounded and was not on the mend. No matter how I looked at it my heart would not heal. When I had become a part of nature not just an onlooker, I had been grounded like never before. My Spiritual self had jumped up levels without picking up a book or learning from any other source. The lesson of becoming one with nature taught me that love does heal all wounds. The love of nature. The love of peo-

ple. The love that is in all things. The love of God.

That night I knew my journey was over and Spirit told me I should go. I resisted. I loved it so much I wanted to stay. So I did. I decided I would sleep finally in this beautiful place. So I did. I slept so soundly until I was awakened by



a terrible smell like I had never smelt before. I scrambled for my knife. It was pitch black. I could not see my adversary, but I could hear the growl and smell the scent. I swung my knife and let out a warrior's cry,

which did not faze the creature that watched me. Just then I could hear the branches breaking, as it walked away casually with another growl, probably thinking what is this nut doing in my forest, and I thought the same thing, so I packed up and Spirit guided me through the black night right to the path where I met up with the medicine woman. My final lesson in the forest that night is listen to Spirit.



In Native-American Totem
The Deer represents
Gentleness and Trust



The Bear Means
Introspection



The Frog Represents
Cleansing

Pet Talk By Pam

Animal Reading, Equine Massage, Acupressure, Reiki

Pam Finzel, owner

386-405-4190

www.pettalkbypam.com

PetTalkByPam@aol.com

Mini Readings by

Certified Cassadaga Spiritualist Mediums

The First Monday of each month from 7-9 p.m.

(Registration is from 5-7 p.m. in the Bookstore)

The Third Tuesday of each month from 1-3 p.m.

(Registration is from noon to 2 p.m. in the Bookstore)

BINGO

Every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the
Andrew Jackson Davis Building

\$10, \$15, \$20 and \$25 per package.

Extra daubers and refreshments available.

Volunteer for the

Cassadaga Halloween Event!

Have fun . . . Call 386-228-3171 . . . if you dare

Haunted Halloween Tours of Cassadaga

The autumn weather brings a change in the scenery at Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp. Headstones, haunted trails, ghosts of times gone by, devils, ghouls, and sorceresses return – just in time to accompany you on the Halloween Haunted Tour of Cassadaga. Your personal tour ghoul will glide you through the haunted forest and the mystic maze from 7-11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, October 29 and 30. Haunting has taken place for many years at the historical community, especially this time of year.

Curiously, during the end of October, the cemetery makes its only appearance, along with the haunted woods, room of mirrors and the indigenous bone thrower.

The winding woodchip pathway is twice as long as last year and nearly 20 scenes are planned. Several hundreds came each night last year to experience the manifestation of supernatural spectral energy in Cassadaga. Visitors come from all over Florida for a number of reasons.

Cassadaga is well known for the phenomena of spirit energy. Through out history, it has been believed that spirits are most active on Halloween, and that is the best time to connect and observe them in their earthly visits.

In addition, face painters, a storyteller will be at Eloise Page Park. This year there is a photo opportunity, for the brave, of sitting in the often asked about “Devil’s Chair”. A special visitor from The Interdimensional School of Wizardry, the Distinguished Professor Dr. will give a 25-minute talk and demonstration on Halloween and Haunting. It is scheduled for 8 and again at 10 p.m. in Colby Memorial Temple.

Food will be available for purchase from vendors – BBQ with all the fixins, hot dogs and hamburgers – as well as beverages such as pumpkin juice, butter beer and lemonade. There will also be bottled water, cookies and cotton candy.

Mini-readings will be available for \$20 and a limited number of gallery readings at \$10 each in the Andrew Jackson Davis Building each evening

New this year, the Cassadaga Bookstore will be open during the evening. For convenience, additional methods of purchasing tickets have been added. Credit and debit cards may also be used in the bookstore to purchase tickets.

The Halloween Tour is \$10 for adults with children 12 and under with an adult is \$5. The funds raised from this event assist in paying the property taxes, insurance and upkeep of five historical buildings located in the Camp which was established in 1894.

Cassadaga is located off I-4 between Orlando and Daytona, take exit 114 or exit 116. Follow the signs to 1112 Stevens St., Cassadaga, FL 32706. For more information call, 386-228-3171 or go to www.cassadaga.org.

Harry Byard

Medium and Healer

P.O. Box 263

Cassadaga, Florida

386-848-5348

386-473-7188

byardharry@yahoo.com

Richard J. Russell

We Are One

Spiritual Medium and Healer

Spiritual Life Coaching

386-479-3369

RJRussell48@hotmail.com

www.Mind-Body-Spirit-411.com

Sunday Activities

Lyceum (Adult Sunday School)

9:30-10:15 a.m. In the Davis Building

Sunday Service and

Children’s Sunday School

10:30-11:30 a.m.

Colby Memorial Temple (refreshments following service at Andrew Jackson Davis Building)

Grove Service

12:30-1:30 p.m.

Andrew Jackson Davis Building

What's your favorite Gemstone and Why?



Turquoise. I like the color and warmth it brings me.

Mike Griff



Alexandrite. It's the June birthstone. It changes color like Gemini adjusts to moods.

Nora Stewart



Limestone because it's like a rock and I love rocks.



Moonstone. It's magical.

Sydney Carter



Ruby. I love the color.

Bill Morris



Fluorite. It normally comes in deep green and purple. It brings angelic feelings and appearances. Green and purple bring Archangels Raphael and Michael. Robin Matutino

Nellie 386-228-0168

Psychic-Medium-Healer-Teacher

SCSCMA Certified

alwaysnellie@yahoo.com nelliecassadaga.com

CASSADGA BOOKSTORE AND WELCOME CENTER

Monday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Free Mini-Seminars Saturdays 1-2 p.m.

(tarot, mandalas, meditation and much more)

386-228-2880

Spend The Night with Spirit

at Cassadaga Camp!!!

Friday, Oct 29 & Saturday, Oct 30

7:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Medium's Camp—Mini Readings

Children's Circle— Spooky Tales

Spirited Walk thru the Woods!



Pastor's Corner: Rev. Ben Cox of Colby Memorial Temple



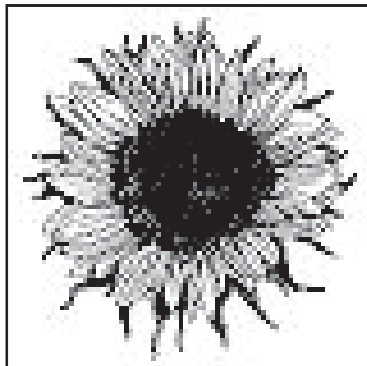
Your Pastor has been busy working in Temple and working outside the camp to be a face for you and Spiritualism in the community. My main duties are to schedule speakers and chairpersons for the Sunday morning services and the Wednesday night Message services. I am also responsible for overseeing the healing gazebo and the Grove Service. Rev.'s Nick and Jean Sourant have been doing amazing work in the gazebo, representing us to the public and doing the healing work of Spirit! Many thanks to Claire Van Cott for overseeing the Grove Service and making sure there is a chairperson every week, including herself. Reverend Jerry Moore oversees the back of the Temple along with our Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Tom Berkner.

On September 18, Rev. Jerry Moore and I attended a Spiritualist Minister's Symposium headed by Rev. Leslie Chaillou of the Church Of Awareness in Orlando. Rev. Dr. Louis Gates and Marie also attended. On September 25, Rick Smith, Mary Klett, Anita Evans and myself all attended and participated in a fundraiser for the NSAC convention, to be held in Orlando in November. Anita and I both did about twenty mini-readings each, then all four of us facilitated a Seance in the main church sanctuary for a group of thirty to thirty-five people.

On October 29 and 30, I, with hopefully many others will be participating in the Cassadaga's annual Halloween Celebration. This is a major fund raiser for our organization for the year, so we need everyone to unite under the banner of

Spiritualism and have some good old-fashioned fun!!! There will be people to guide and people to scare!! Your Pastor will be playing the part of a visiting Professor from the Interdimensional Wizarding School, delivering a lecture on the history and lore of Halloween in the Temple at 8:00 and 10:00 PM. This Professor will also be in the Temple at 7:00 PM for a question and answer session for the public and membership alike. Again, as stated before, I will continue to be a major FACE for the SCSCMA, but we need your FACE too!!

I will continue to reach out into our community to be not THE FACE, but A FACE of Cassadaga for people outside of our organization to recognize and associate with the Camp. It is my hope that each of you will begin to go out into our immediate community and become A FACE also!



The Sunflower was cultivated by the Native Americans as far back as the Pre-Columbian era. They used the mineral-grasping root in combination with other roots for snakebite and a warm decoction was used as a wash for rheumatism and inflammations. They would extract the oil from the seeds to use as a hair conditioner. After roasting the seeds they would be crushed and made into a hot beverage. The Native Americans also made bread from the ground seeds. Sunflower seeds are a rich source of many of the minerals humans need: phosphorus, calcium, iron, fluorine, iodine, copper, potassium, magnesium, sodium, protein, thiamine, vitamin D. The original people of the continent knew how to cultivate and use this essential plant.

Messages From The Next Dimension

Spirit Greetings and consultations

Rev. Ben Cox

Pastor

Colby Memorial Temple

Certified Medium, Healer,

Ordained Minister, Teacher of Buddhist

Meditation and Religion

352-255-4873 cgcolby0@aol.com

Rev. Margaret Ann Schmidt

Spiritualist Medium,

Counselor, Healer & Teacher

Healing/Development Classes

Lectures/House Parties

Readings by phone or appointment

386-228-2222

Walk-ins Welcome By phone or mail

P.O. Box 111, Cassadaga, FL 32706

Arcing Light Healing

White Light Healing from the
Angelic Realm

First Monday of the Month

With Mediums Night

Andrew Jackson Davis Bldg

7 -9 p.m.

www.ArcingLight.org

LoriCarter@aol.com

352-552-5934