



Welcome to Our Home

Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp



NEWSLETTER
JANUARY
THROUGH
MARCH 2012

Southern Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp

Meeting Association since 1894



Experience this peaceful community where certified mediums and healers are available daily.

Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp, P.O. Box 319, 1325 Stevens St.
Cassadaga, FL 32706 386-228-3171

INSIDE

Who Are We?

History Comes Alive in Cassadaga

Experience Sunday Service

The Answer is . . .

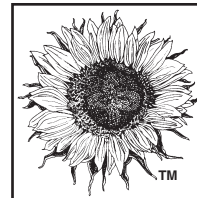
Meet Teketa Shine

The Book Nook

Upcoming Workshops



Visit us at Cassadaga.org



The Declaration of Principles of Spiritualism

1. We believe in Infinite Intelligence
2. We believe that the phenomena of nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.
3. We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith constitute true religion.
4. We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death.
5. We affirm that communication with the so called dead is a fact, scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism
6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye also unto them."
7. We affirm the moral responsibility of the individual, and that he makes his own happiness or unhappiness as he obeys or disobeys Nature's physical and spiritual laws.
8. We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul, here or hereafter.
9. We affirm that the Precepts of Prophecy and healing contained in the Bible are Divine attributes proven through Mediumship.

Spiritualism is not a dogmatic religion. Personal enfoldment through self-education brings people from many other religions. The Principles are intended to be a framework for living our lives ethically.

The Eighth Principle - We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul, here or hereafter. Or simply put, every day is a new beginning. Eternity does not begin at death; Progress is open to any human soul in the living and the possibility of progress continues after death as well. Any action, or intent to change, to promote soul growth and progression, creates a positive reaction. There will always be the opportunity to progress, develop and move forward.

By Claire Van Cott, Certified Cassadaga Medium, Healer

Saturday Night Orb Tours at Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp Cost: \$25

*Orb tours are available upon request.

*Historic afternoon tours start at 1p.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday and cost \$15. They are also available during the weekdays, with a minimum of 2.

*For more information, go to www.Cassadaga.ORG or call the bookstore at 386-228-2880.

Claire Van Cott

SCSCMA Certified Medium and Healer; Psychic
and Spiritual Counselor Harmony Hall #8

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Historical Buildings at Southern Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp Meeting Association

Colby Memorial Temple

By Rev. Elizabeth (Janie) Owens, author of many books including *Cassadaga, Florida, Yesterday and Today*



The Auditorium, circa 1910

The building named the Colby Memorial Temple evolved from an octagonal-shaped wooden structure to what we see today. Originally called the auditorium and built around 1895, this rather primitive structure had a pine needle floor. In 1918 improvements were made to enclose the sides and install six large windows and a heating stove. The building could seat 500 people at that time.

During the annual membership meeting of 1923, it was decided to erect a new building. The old auditorium was torn down to make room for the sandstone brick building we see today, which was completed in 1924 at a cost of \$8,200. The first service held in the new building was chaired by George Warren.

Through its primitive stages and currently, the building has been used for church services, seminars and speaking engagements. Old wooden benches and connected chairs still furnish the interior, while a large stage, commonly referred to as a platform, crosses the majority of the south wall. Behind the back wall of the stage is a séance room.

In the early days of Spiritualism, séances were a common practice enjoyed by many, intended to prove the continuity of life. The séance room is rectangular, with a curtain drawn across the east wall to form a “cabinet.” The cabinet is where a medium sits for the purpose of building up ectoplasm in an enclosed environment. Even after all these years, the vibrations in that room remain very intense due to the amount of ectoplasm that was produced over the years by the mediums.

It was decided, in March of 1975, to name the auditorium Colby Spiritualist Temple. However, Colby Memorial Temple became the final choice in May of 1975.

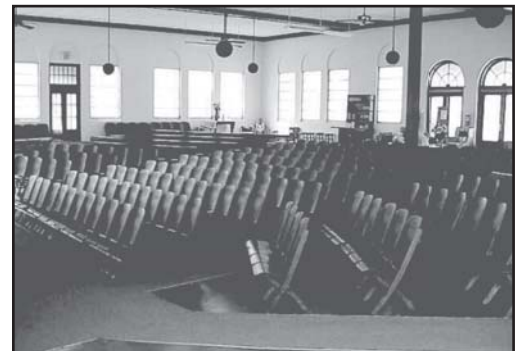
Colby Memorial Temple has seen several necessary refurbishings and the séance room also received some sprucing up in more recent years.

In 2011, major work was done to the Temple by adding support for the roof. The Temple had been closed for several months, once again reopening in the middle of December, just in time for the Holiday Season.

The Colby Memorial Temple is a testament to the structure of Spiritualism, ever present and continuing in its growth.



Colby Memorial Temple



Inside Colby Memorial Temple

Experience Sunday Service at Cassadaga

Colby Memorial Temple has a new energy about it.

The Rev. Dr. Louis Gates, pastor of Colby Memorial Temple, and many volunteers re-opened the doors in mid-December for workshops/teachings, healing message services and Sunday service.

It had been closed since June of 2011 and services were held in the Andrew Jackson Davis Educational Building.

In addition to roof repairs, a new carpet was installed and some repairs were made to the concrete floor.

“We invite everyone to experience the energy and the love,” Rev. Louis said. “Come to a service and feel the difference it makes.”

Sunday service, just over an hour, is similar to others with prayer and song. There are differences, though. For instance, a guided meditation takes the congregation on a healing journey. Others participate with hands on healing by certified and/or student camp healers.

The speaker, who gives a talk about an aspect of Spiritualism earlier in the service, takes the platform again to give messages from Spirit to some in the congregation to prove the continuity of life..

This “gives them proof of existence that their [loved ones] are on the other side,” Rev. Louis said. “If you aren’t used to this type of service, it would be unique.

“This service gives you a perspective into how Spirit works,” he said. “It gives you the inner look into higher self – understanding you instead of someone else. We don’t dictate what you need to believe in.”

Rev. Louis, a doctor of metaphysical science, said he enjoys speaking to the congregation and then giving messages.

One topic he spoke on: The Four Agreements by Don Miguel Ruiz.

The agreements are to be impeccable with your word, don’t take anything personally, don’t make assumptions and always do your best.

“It gives people a starting point to guide their path,” Rev. Louis said. “If we all would follow these guidelines, there would be so much gained.”

Many locals, members and visitors from other countries come to the service each Sunday to experience what is offered.



Rev. Dr. Louis Gates

Pauline Gold, a member of the Camp for just over two years, found Cassadaga by “accident.” She moved to Deltona because she thought it was the perfect area to reside in. On the way home one day she got lost and found herself at the Camp.

“I got out of the car,” she said. “I felt like I was home.”

That was in 2007. Since then, she has attended Sunday service on a regular basis.

“It’s wonderful,” she said. “There’s a variety of topics. You’re always learning something new.”

Pauline added, “I’ve always felt extremely welcome. There’s a beautiful sense of community. It feels like family.”

Rev. Louis said when people finally find Cassadaga, they realize they’re “coming home – coming to a place you’ve been called to. It’s knowing where you need to be.”

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Sunday Happenings

9-10:15 a.m. Sunday Lyceum in the Andrew Jackson Davis Educational Building

10:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday Service in Colby Memorial Temple

11:30 a.m. Refreshments followed by Grove Message Service 12:30-1:30 p.m.

What brings you to Colby Memorial Temple for Sunday service?

The Healing, Meditation, Lecture, Messages. . .



Farah Pryor

The Healing part of the service is a big part of the reason I come. After receiving healing, I always feel uplifted and energized. I also enjoy the lectures. I get good, new information and it is always enlightening.



Frank Guzman

I like all of it. The lecture is best. It gives me a broader knowledge of who we are and what our purpose is as a unity. It gives a broader knowledge of the Spiritualist spectrum.



Julie Arnold

I love the guided Meditation. It's my chance to rebalance and touch in with my Spiritual center. It's rejuvenating.



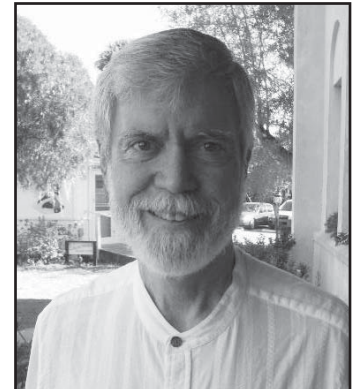
Rev. Dr. Tom Berkner,
Pastor Emeritus

I enjoy the lectures, very inspiring. It brings focus back on an entity, which is God. It helps me dwell on Spirit in this life. Even though being a Spiritualist is important, being a Spiritual person is my ultimate goal.



Pauline Gold

I love all parts of the service. I find the entire service very uplifting. It ends and starts my week on the right foot. It allows me to be with friends and my Spiritual family. It fills me with a very good feeling.



Jim Neill

I was originally drawn here for the messages. As I continued to attend, the Meditation part of the service took over. I really love the Meditation because it allows for actual contact with Spirit.



Meet Teketa Shine
Assistant Manager
at Cassadaga Bookstore

Age: 25

Astrology sign and how it might ring true to you: I'm a Leo with a Capricorn Ascendant and Libra moon. I feel like the stars sum up my personality well, I am very outgoing and fall into the role of leadership often- the Capricorn rising tends to make me very industrious and creative, also connecting me to my earthy-interests of the mineral kingdom!

Hometown: I was born in Orlando and have been a resident of Cassadaga for the last year.

I am the assistant manager at the Camp bookstore, I help many people connect with crystals, minerals, and help in finding the spiritual tools and information that many people come to the bookstore seeking.

How did you arrive in Cassadaga: I was about 20 years old and had heard of Cassadaga but never knew anyone who had much experience with the town or could direct me to its location. After a trying time in my life, I had a day off from work and was looking for adventure. I decided that I would find Cassadaga without looking for directions and got in my car and was determined to end up here. Luckily, my car knew exactly where to take me and I ended up in the bookstore a couple hours later.

What are your credentials: I have been studying spiritual philosophies and principles of many different orientations for about seven years and am very immersed in working with the mineral kingdom (specializing in crystals and gemstones mainly) for about the same length of time. I teach workshops about crystal healing as well as how to work with the stones for your own spiritual growth. I have taken several classes ranging from Buddhist meditation, angel communication, psychic development, yoga, healing, and Reiki.

How did your family react to your choice to be affiliated with Cassadaga: My family has been very supportive of my path here in Cassadaga and though they do not personally feel that the Spiritualist path is in complete alignment with their own, they respect my belief system and fully support me in my career.

What do you like most about Cassadaga: I love the nature here in Cassadaga. I often times spend hours on the trails back in the woods of Colby/Alderman park and enjoy meditating underneath the Oak/Magnolia hybrid tree in the clearing by Lake Colby.

Hobbies: I spend a lot of my free time reading about stones and working with them, as well as making music, writing, creating spiritual arts and crafts, and dancing.

Advice for those who want to become a Medium or Healer: I would advise anyone looking to become a Medium or Healer to check out some of the on-going classes that we have posted here in the bookstore, and to come to the church service on Sundays to speak to other Mediums and Healers that have been active in this community for some time.

Favorite color: Purple.

Meditation practice: I use dance and personal yoga practice as my main form of meditation.

What book are you reading and which book has been most informative on your path: My favorite book is "Jitterbug Perfume" by Tom Robbins, and am currently reading several books on healing, stones, alchemy and Sufi traditions.

**Rev. Margaret Ann
Schmidt**

Spiritualist Medium, Counselor,
Healer & Teacher

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**Rev. Elizabeth (Janie)
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**Gala Day
Heart of Spirit
at Cassadaga Spiritualist
Camp**

**Saturday, Feb. 4
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Vendors, Arts and Crafts and Mini-readings provided by Camp Mediums will raise funds to support Cassadaga's religious, charitable and educational activities and historical buildings.



The Book Nook

By Bookstore Manager Selene Green

***River of Life* by Marilyn Awtry**

Anyone who has done any investigating of Spiritualism has undoubtedly come across the topic of Natural Law. Its concepts are basic to living an enlightened life. It is so important that *two* of the Nine Principles of Spiritualism mention it (#6 and #7).

The definition seems to be simple:

Natural Law is a principle or body of laws considered as derived from nature, right reason, or religion and as ethically binding in human society.

The better one understands the concepts, the easier it is to live by them day in and day out.

Marilyn Awtry's *River of Life: How To Live in the Flow* is filled with Natural Laws and Physical Laws, laws of science. There must have been hundreds of hours of research to show just how widespread these concepts have been among the enlightened throughout history. But what makes it easy to understand is her use of examples to give you specific ways to use the concepts. And her definitions of each of the laws are among the best I've read.

So whether you are new to the concepts of Natural Law or are very familiar with them but still struggle, I highly recommend *River of Life* as the springboard to higher understanding and a happier, more "spiritually mature" life!

Bookstore Hours: Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Open until 7 p.m. on Mediums Nights

JANUARY

The Rev. John Lilek will be at the Camp from January 15 until the end of the month. He will teach various workshops, and hold several transfiguration demonstrations, materialization séances and messages services. See Cassadaga.org for detailed information.

Saturday, Jan 14 - Guest Speaker: Rev. Ben Cox 2-4pm \$5 Donation. Topic: Cross Correspondence Case in the Andrew Jackson Davis Building (AJD).

Monday, Jan 23 - Women's New Moon Circle Gathering 7-9pm, Harmon Hall #5, Donation. Offered by Robin Matutino.

Sunday, Jan 29 - How to See The Aura 2-4pm AJD \$20. Learn how to see the Aura around you and others. Learn to see the colors and explore the meaning of each. Presenter: Rev. Don Zanghi.

FEBRUARY

Saturday, Feb 4 - Gala Day - Heart of Spirit 10-4 Vendors, Arts and Crafts, Food. Mini-Readings provided by Camp Mediums will raise funds to support Cassadaga's religious, charitable and educational activities and historical buildings.

Sunday, Feb 5 - Psychometry Workshop 2-4pm, AJD \$15 Learn to receive impressions from an object through touch. Bring a small personal item that has NEVER belonged to anyone else for a group activity. Presenter: Rev. Mary Rose Gray

Tuesday, Feb 7 - Women's Full Moon Circle Gathering 7-9pm, Harmony Hall #5, Donation. Offered by Robin Matutino.

Saturday, Feb 11 - Your Chakra System 10am-4pm AJD \$35. Presenter: Nellie Edwards

Saturday, Feb 11 - Guest Speaker 2-4pm Speaker to be determined. \$5 Donation. Check the website for updates.

Sunday, Feb 12 - Getting Published 2-4pm AJD \$20. Presenter: Rev. Elizabeth (Janie) Owens.

Sunday, Feb 12 - Cara Seekings 2-4pm Colby Memorial Temple.

Sunday, Feb 19 - I Knew That! 2-4pm AJD \$25 Presenter: Rev. Diane R. Davis

Tuesday, Feb 21 - Women's New Moon Circle Gathering 7-9pm, Harmony Hall #5, Donation. Offered by Robin Matutino

Saturday, Feb 25 - Rebirthing Breathwork 11a-2p AJD \$25. Visiting Presenter: Joan DeRosa.

Sunday, Feb 26 - Structure and Function of the 3rd Eye 2-4pm, AJD \$25. Presenter: Rev. Don Zanghi

MARCH

The Rev. Stephen Hermann is scheduled to be in camp March 15-26. He will be holding several workshops and message services while here. See Cassadaga.org for detailed information.

Thursday, March 8 - Women's Full Moon Circle Gathering 7-9pm, Harmony Hall #5, Donation. Offered by Robin Matutino

Saturday, March 10 - Creative Awakening 10a-4p. AJD \$30 Prepaid by Feb. 15 or \$35 Register at door; AJD Presenter: Rev. Robert Johnstone.

Saturday, March 10 - Guest Speaker 2-4pm to be announced. \$5 Donation Check the website for updates.

Sunday, March 11 - The Spiritual Path of Imagery 2-5p AJD\$30. Visiting Presenter: Jenny Garrison

Thursday, March 22 - Women's New Moon Circle Gathering 7-9pm, Harmony Hall #5 Donation Offered by Robin Matutino

Sunday, March 25 - You Can Read Their Past Lives 2-4pm; AJD \$20. Presenter: Rev. Don Zanghi