

Peace Talk

Volume 14, Issue 2 March/April 2009

Spring steps in; retreats, then blossoms forth in full glory.

For the One Dance

March 27-29

Led by Candy Barbee (Tennessee)
And Brett Almond (England)

A personal perspective By Brett Almond, England

It has been 2 years since I was at the Center for Peace in

Tennessee for the "For the One" dance in 2007. Since this time I have continued to travel with the dance leading "For the One" dances in Germany (with Candy Barbee), and also leading dances in Israel and South Africa.

When I used to travel to dances (which I have been doing for 15 years) I used to come for "the dance". But over these last few years, in conjunction with



Brett Almond

the "For the One" dance, this has begun to change. Now I come more for the people, for the love and the community. It is almost as if in some ways the dance is ceasing to exist as a separate entity because I have come to realize that we are the dance. When I realized this I realized the potential to create such

powerful change in people's lives is not just limited to a dance arbor. This experience can be recreated in the "real" world.

There is something about being in a place where you are totally accepted, gremlins and all, that holds you safely and allows all that is not real, all that is not you, all that stuff that makes you unhappy, to fall away.

Candy Barbee

For me, something has happened with the "For the One" Dance recently that

has become even more magical. When I dance I am no longer so fully aware of the process I am going through. John Pehrson would sometimes say, "You don't need to know what is in the garbage to take it out". Recently, for me, I have found this following phrase to also be true: "The garbage man may come

(Continued on page 3)

Peace Talk Goes Green

If you wish to continue to receive Peace Talk in the mail, you must contact us to let us know.

After careful consideration, the Council has agreed that this will be the last issue of Peace Talk to be sent out to the entire mailing list.

It is NOT the final issue. Peace Talk will continue to be created and made available as an email newsletter. The print version will be sent to those of you who request to continue to receive it by mail.

There are a number of considerations in this choice to "Go Green".

- Paper usage
- Postage
- Preparation and handling time
- Quicker service

If you wish to receive the newsletter in an email delivered to your inbox, please contact Perry@CenterForPeace.us with your full name and current email address. *Or call 865-428-3070*. Currently the newsletter is produced in PDF format which requires Adobe Reader (free).

The newsletter will continue to be posted on our website under the "Newsletter" tab. It should be available by the first of each odd numbered month: January, March, May, July, September and November.

Please be sure to let us know how you would like to continue receiving the newsletter. Comments are appreciated. ~ editor



World Youth For The One Dance

July 10-12

(Page 4)

Page 2 Peace Talk

Events

March

March 7 - 10:00 am Saturday Sweat Lodge

March 7, - 6:45 pm Fire Ceremony

March 8 - 4 pm Council meetingx

March 15 - 4 pm Pipe Circle

March 19 - 6:30 pm Thursday Sweat Lodge

March 21 - 10:00 am Work day

March 22 - 10am - 4pm Ceremonial Drumming Practice

March 25- 10:00 am
Candy & Brett Workshop

March 27-29 For The One Dance (page1)

April

April 5 - 4 pm Council meeting

April 7, - 6:45 pm **Fire Ceremony**

April 12 - 10 am
EASTER Sweat Lodge

April 19- 4 pm **Pipe Circle**

April 23 - 6:30 pm Thursday **Sweat Lodge**

April 25-26 Native Nurturing Weekend

Fire

~Katy Koontz

Fire has fascinated humans since the days of the cave man. Much revered for its heat and light (not to mention its ability to roast meat and marshmallows), this element also possesses the amazing power of transmutation. And transmutation, quite simply, is the ability to alter reality. Instantly. It's creation energy. And thanks to a vision given to Joseph Rael, Beautiful Painted Arrow, we all have the opportunity to tap into that in a very sacred way—at the Fire Ceremony, held on the 7th of every month at 7:00 pm.

What you'll see if you come is quite simple. As the Fire Elder at the Center, I smudge, create a sacred circle, and lay the fire. At 7:00 pm, I invite the spirit of Fire to come. If Fire chooses to join us, all those gathered watch the fire in silence as it burns untouched until the last lick of flame disappears. Then I invite people to share what they saw or felt while the fire was burning.

But so much more is going on than that. For starters, many of us use the fire for focused meditation. We watch for what direction the fire first falls, the way the flames twist and dance, paying attention to its pops and sparks and the patterns it leaves in the wood as it is consumed (or in what parts are left unburned). Fire uses these images to gift us with metaphors and insights. Each of us



has a different perspective from where we sit (around the fire and in our lives), so what comes up is often different for everyone who participates. And all of it is valid. In fact, in the sharing, we can often see our metaphors reflected in and building upon what others have received, echoing the truth that we are all indeed One.

Here's another piece. When Joseph received the vision of the Fire Ceremony in 1984, Oceanus (creator spirit of the oceans) told him the purpose was to heal and purify the ocean. Joseph explains that in addition to the actual physical ocean, this is a metaphor for the ocean of cosmic thought. (Oceanus is, after all, a metaphor for the birth of new ideas). Oceanus said that by healing our own confusion, we actually help heal the confusion of the physical world.

(Continued on page 3)

Directions: From SEVIERVILLE

Go toward Knoxville on Chapman Highway [US441/US411].

7.0 miles from the Junction of Hwy 66 Turn Left onto
Sugar Loaf Road.

Go 1.6 miles to Graves-Delozier Road.

Right up Hill, stay to the Right, CENTER FOR PEACE on Right at top of hill.

Directions: From KNOXVILLE

Go toward Sevierville on Chapman Highway [US441].

From the Henley Street Bridge go 11.3 miles to the junction of US 411 (Maryville Highway)

Continue on US 441/US 411 4.8 miles

Turn Right onto Sugar Loaf Road.

Go 1.6 miles to Graves-Delozier Road.

Right up Hill, stay to the Right, CENTER FOR PEACE on Right at top of hill. Page 3 Peace Talk

Fire

(Continued from page 2)

How does Fire help us heal our confusion? Many of us feed the Fire things we want to release that no longer serve us (be those things anger, fear, frustration, or even feeling not good enough—all just other terms for confusion, which results when we forget who we really are). Some feed these things to the fire energetically, while others choose a physical representation (such as a piece of paper on which they've written or drawn what they'd like to give up). Because this is a ceremonial fire, it not only transforms but actually transmutes whatever it's given.

Transmutation is similar to transformation, but there's a subtle yet powerful difference. When something transforms, it changes in form—often dramatically so. Paper put in a fire transforms to ash in seconds. But when something is transmuted, in the split of a split of a second (as Joseph would say), it changes energetically and it is actually reborn. (The term "transmutation" actually originated with alchemy, the idea that one could turn a base metal into a precious metal.)

Joseph teaches us that everything is constantly in a state of vibration. Everything is (and all of us are) constantly vibrating, moving, evolving. Nothing is static. In every split of a split of a split of a split of a second, our energy goes from the center of our being way out beyond the beyond, and then snaps back. And that keeps happening over and over again. And what comes back isn't ever quite the same as what went out. It's something new. In a very real sense, it's reborn. And that's exactly what Fire does with whatever we give it.

Fire takes this unwanted, discarded thing and in the split of a split of a split of a second, it celebrates it, honors it, dances it out beyond the reaches of creation, and as it brings it back to us it rebirths it as something new that we can choose to value. Our lead becomes gold. (If you're a Sun Moon dancer, think about the metaphor of dancing to and from the pole.) If we allow it to, this rebirth changes our lives and it can change the planet.

So I invite you to come to the Fire Ceremony on the 7th of every month. And if you can't make it, then light a candle and have your own fire ceremony with the intention of connecting not only with the Center's ceremony but also with other Fire Ceremonies held in various places around the world, at 7:00 pm local time. Allow the spirit of Fire to seep into your pores, into your heart, and into your soul and burn away whatever you are willing to give up. Emerge anew, reborn with fresh insights, and all of creation becomes reborn with you.

~ Katy Koontz

The Center for Peace is an international community focused on ancient wisdom traditions applied in the modern world.

We are located on sixteen acres in Seymour, TN, in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains. Our facilities include a Peace Sound Chamber (a building used for chanting, ceremonies, and vision quests), a sweat lodge, a medicine wheel, dance arbor, open meadow, some peaceful woods and a gift shop.

For The One Dance

(Continued from page 1)

when you are not looking and take out some garbage and you don't even know he has been and you're not quite sure what he took away."

After I danced recently in Ireland in 2008 I found some things different about myself. I felt stronger and a bit more balanced and I couldn't actually articulate how I was different, just that things were much better. It was like a miracle.

The following thought then occurred to me. Maybe if we can enter into a dance without any expectations of where we will end up and also leave out all expectations of where we think we are starting from, then we can float free and can make huge jumps to places we may have never imagined in a seemingly miraculous way. When we feel the safety of the dance some deep part of ourselves knows (as Jeanne White Eagle often says), "there is no where to fall". There is only love.

Candy Barbee, Brett Almond, the Center for Peace and all the "For the One" Dance community would like to invite you to come be with us on March 27th-29th 2009. If you would like more information please contact – Tamy Brown & Margarita DiVita

E-mail: ancientjaguar@charter.net

(865) 767-2701



Native Nurturing Weekend April 25-26



April brings springtime and another Native Nurturing Weekend is coming up! The best way to describe it is FUN!!! It is a great time to honor our young people and the Center for Peace is a great place for kids to come. We start at 3pm on Saturday and spend the evening singing, drumming and storytelling. The weekend is full of meaningful connections between our children and Mother Earth that lead us back to our beginnings. It is so easy to forget the exuberant love that flows so easily from children.

For parents who attend with their children, you will be giving a gift to your children of openness to the magical spirit of nature. The Center has beautiful meadows and we will sleep in the Peace Sound Chamber so there is no worry about staying warm and dry.

Everyone attending is asked to bring something to eat for the meal on Saturday evening and also for the feast on Sunday following the Children's Sweat Lodge. After the feast will be the children's Give

(Continued on page 4)

Page 4 Peace Talk

Book Review

JOURNEY FOR THE ONE

by Monty Joynes

When I first met Jeanne WhiteEagle and John Pehrson in 1996, I knew they were special people. Jeanne always seemed to be blazing a spiritual trail where I wanted to follow. And I have been able both to follow and participate in the spiritual journey that has been unfolding for them since that time. Which is why it is such a delight to be able to review the book about their vision written by Monty Joynes.

JOURNEY FOR THE ONE is the biography of two people who came together to bring a vision of hope to the people of the world. The hope for true and lasting peace both personal and planetary. How did two ordinary, yet extraordinary, people so totally change their lives in a few short years? Not to mention enroll people around the world in their spiritual vision?

Monty's book catalogs their upbringing, Jeanne's in relative comfort, and John's colored by the hospitalization of his mother and subsequent loss of his primary relationships. When they met Joseph Rael, in 1996, they had not been together as a couple long, although had been friends and business associates much longer. John was very much still in the corporate world, and although they had been doing community building work together, their spiritual leanings were not yet apparent. Though the catalyst of Joseph Rael, an Indian of Pueblo and Ute heritage, they were introduced to new visionary experiences that catapulted them out of their old life within two years.

At first as godparents of sacred chambers around the world, Jeanne used her operatic voice to awaken the energies inherent in these kiva-like buildings. Later following visions that flowed from their experiences they began to teach and lead the people using all their personal gifts as well as the transformative experiences gained through visionary dance ceremonies, vision quests, and sweat

lodges.

If you want to know how mystics are made in the modern world, this book is for you. If you want to know the deep personal sacrifices required to expand your life, this book explains in depth. Read and be amazed.

~CRose

World Youth For the One Dance

July 10 -12



Does it seem early to be talking about a dance taking place in July?

Well, maybe. But

consider this, the people in South Africa are already having fund raising events to help pay the expenses of dancers and crew. The Zulu youth who will be coming to participate do not experience prosperity as do we. This will truly be a lifetime adventure for them - I hope the first of many.

There are young people from Germany, Israel, Norway, England, Croatia and Bosnia who have experienced either the World Youth Dance or have been around the For The One Dance as their parent(s) danced.

What an incredible opportunity this will be for them, but especially for us.

The For The One Dance was birthed at the Center For Peace, as was the Children's program, Native Nurturing. I feel like this World Dance is coming home.

The Dance promises the potential for World transformation. Who better to take those potential possibilities into their hands than the youth of the world?

HELP us make it possible for these young people to make the long and expensive journey from their homes to our Center.

If you have any ideas for fund raising, please forward them to the Center For Peace or to steve@CenterForPeace.us.

Mark donations to the Center or to the For The One Organization as being for the World Youth For The One Dance.

~ That the People may live. ~

Native Nurturing Weekend

(Continued from page 3)

Away so have your children bring something they are ready to part with. They can also just bring something that someone else might like if they are not ready for that.

The day usually ends around 2pm on Sunday. Bring sleeping bags, a change of clothes for after the sweat lodge, something to wear in the sweat lodge such as long dresses or skirts for the girls and swimming trunks for the boys. Towels, pillows, and flashlights are good also.

As an adult, I have a great time and love the laughter and joy that I always experience. Children are a special gift from God. Anytime that we can honor them is letting God know our appreciation. It pays off. I have watched children grow into thoughtful and brave adults that will move this world into a good place. I am struck by their wisdom.

In our Native Nurturing Weekend last fall we made a video to send to the children in South Africa. Some of those children will be coming to Tennessee this year---a clear connection to our brothers and sisters with whom we share this earth.

Won't you please consider keeping this movement alive as we join in love and understanding with our children? Hope to see you at Native Nurturing Weekend!!!

Love, Nan Citty

> email at: nan@bluesvoice.com Phone: 865-405-6809

Suggested donation: \$ 50 parent/child

\$ 75 two parents/child \$100 family of 4 +

Center for Peace, Seymour, TN

Do you ever wonder exactly what the moon phase is today?

Visit www.centerforpeace.us
And see for yourself!

Page 5

Perry's Ponderings

"For Those Who Found The Quick Sand" By Perry Robinson

I often think about – and pray for -- people who experience personal tragedies. At the same time I am a little grateful they helped me avoid the particular "mine field" they stumbled into. In the same way as people's successes show examples for the rest of us to look at and emulate, their tragedies show us choices that didn't work so well, which we may be able to avoid. Either way they have blessed us. Certainly, there is much more, however, to our relationship with them than "Boy, I am glad it wasn't me" or "Boy, I wish that had happened to me".

If, as many believe, "the perfect thing" is always happening, how does it work for them. How are my friends' experiences "perfect"? I know it didn't feel perfect to them at the time. They told me that quite clearly; and I share their pain. Furthermore, I just cannot believe they "deserved" this. And I am clear that there was no heavenly "I rolled the dice and you lost".

What's going on with the people who seem to go from one "disaster" to another for a while? How is that perfect? Did they volunteer for this? Is it like other areas of expertise, which some are "good at" and some are not? There certainly seems to be no rhyme or reason; and the hearts of loved ones almost break as they help them pick up the pieces of their broken lives.

I have no inside information on the matter; but I do have a pretty unshakable trust that the Infinite Love and Grace of the Creator is never absent. Plus, my Guides keep telling me that we truly are in charge of our lives — far more so than we have imagined. I have pondered a lot about this, because I have many dear friends who have had some really hard knocks, some of whom are now going through troubling times.

What has come into my meditations over and over is a prayer: "That the People may live! That ALL the People may Live!" First it is my prayer that they will move quickly through this time; and it feels like my prayer is joining with theirs, offering this experience into the universe, "that the People may live!"; because I recognize that these are people of spiritual power and commitment.

Maybe they are like the explorers who first found the quick sand, which others from then on could avoid, or the people who discovered the hard way that oleander is a poisonous plant, or those who died in the tsunami, in Iraq or the Gaza Strip — from losing a finger on a band saw to losing their savings at Las Vegas — maybe on a soul level some people offer their tragic experiences and their lives into the vast pool of human consciousness so others will not need to do so. "That the People may live!"

James Redfield in his TENTH INSIGHT reminds us that we each come into this world with a life plan, which, if we focus on it, embrace it, and stick with it, will carry us through to the fulfillment of our destiny. That awareness helps us remain steadfast in our striving and hopeful in times of difficulty. But at first nod this idea may not seem very helpful to someone in the throes of a major crisis! "It's bad enough that I have this happening; now you gonna tell me it's my destiny? Get outta here!"

I take a lot of cues from my dearest friend and greatest teacher: Jesus. When I re-examine how he faced what we call his greatest trial, the crucifixion, I see two things that help me on this subject. One: If it's in front of you, seems like your destiny, looks painful, but it's yours, you can stand tall in your personal spiritual power and walk through it; look your "executioners" in the eye and forgive them; — and forgive yourself for whatever weaknesses you may have felt. He did that. "That the People may Live!"

Second: If it's in front of you, seems like your destiny, looks painful, and you know that it is NOT yours, you can change your mind!

[For those familiar with Jesus' story, this is the meaning of his prayer and tears in the Garden of Gethsemane. He COULD change his mind; and he knew it. He could accept crucifixion or not; and no one – specially not the Creator -- would condemn him, if he did change his mind. It was his free choice to remain true to his view of himself and to his life purpose; and he took the consequences with strength and power!]

Sometimes we make choices that take us into pain. Often our choices do not seem to be as noble or as clear as Jesus'. I know for me, more often than not, my choices have been more like walking in a mist or not paying attention or like following a leader who is going where I wouldn't really want to go, if I had been alert.

But, if we wind up heading where we do not want to go, we CAN choose again! A prisoner, even, can use his forced "time out" as an opportunity to recreate his life!

When our suffering is doing us no good and bringing no good to anyone else, WE CAN CHANGE OUR MINDS. And, while we are picking up the broken pieces, we can put them together in a new pattern.

More than that, in our moments of crisis we may find beside us our Brother who went through the very same sort of stuff. Religionists miss the whole point, when they make him out to be God! He was here to remind us how much we are like him! We, too, can stand tall in power and grace, make choices, change our minds and do what we need to do. We can choose! That the People may live; that ALL the People may Live! He is still waiting for us, who want to be different from him, to change our minds.

Or, as Don Juan Matus told Carlos Castenada: We either make ourselves miserable or we make ourselves strong. The amount of work is the same.

The Center for Peace is a non-profit religious corporation in the State of Tennessee. Donations to the Center for Peace can be claimed as deductions from income for income tax purposes.

Active Council Members of the Center for Peace:

Candy Barbee	Knoxville	865-933-3925
Nan Citty	Knoxville	865-405-6809
Steve Citty	Knoxville	865-300-4424
Margarita DiVita	Jeff City	865-475-3799
Al Fletcher	Norris	865-494-9950
Katy Koontz	Knoxville	865-693-9845
Cheryl Patterson	Seymour	865-453-3869
Jim Phillips	Knoxville	865-971-1959
Shannon Ray	Graham, NC	865-654-7933
Jeanne Robinson	Seymour	865-428-3070
Perry Robinson	Seymour	865-428-3070
Marcus Weseman	Clinton	865-463-1002

Page 6 Peace Talk

Core Activities

Sweat Lodges

— See calendar for dates of Thursday and Saturday sweat lodges.

A sweat lodge, or a stone people's lodge, can be an intensely rewarding experience. By entering the



mother's womb (the lodge) we seek purification and a deeper spiritual awareness through prayer. The steam, heat, and darkness help hold our prayers and add to our personal introspection. The pourer (leader of the lodge), with help from the fire tender, strives to hold a place of safety and security while setting the intent of the lodge. The medicine of the pourer and of each participant helps to enrich the lessons of the lodge.

Times for Saturday sweats reflect the approximate time the fire will be started. Times for Thursday sweats reflect the approximate earliest time participants will enter the lodge. We suggest participants arrive early to gain the full benefit.

Bring two towels, modest clothes for the sweat (clothes you don't mind getting dirty), change of clothes (for afterwards), food (for the feast), and a flashlight (for evening sweats). Gifting the Center, the lodge, the fire tender, and/or the leader is appropriate but not required.

Donations appreciated

For more information, call the Center (865) 428-3070

Council Meeting

-See calendar

This is the gathering of the board of directors to discuss new ideas, future projects, and events. Feel free to come with suggestions and comments.

March 8 4 pm, - visitors welcome April 5 4 pm, - visitors welcome For more information, call the Center at (865) 428-3070.

Alliance for Spiritual Ecology

- See calendar for dates

The Alliance for Spiritual Ecology is an alliance among humans and between the human and elemental kingdoms.

Peter Calhoun describes in <u>Soul on</u> <u>Fire</u> how simple ceremonies by only a few people, can accomplish the seemingly impossible.

The purpose of this Alliance is to begin locally and expand to a world-wide group of people dedicated to protect both the sacred sites of Earth and environmentally sensitive areas

The Alliance is also established to heal areas that have been abused and brought into unbalance; and areas stricken by drought and excessive rainfall.

Donations appreciated

For more information, call Al Fletcher

Drumming Circle

- Every Friday.

7 pm

Drumming is a powerful, sometimes dramatic, way to break into other levels of our mind. Sensitive instruments can measure the way that drumming affects the brain waves. That's the reason for tens of thousands of years the shaman has journeyed with the drum.

This drumming is not specifically for journeying; but you get to use it whatever way you wish – including having a good time doing it!

So, on Friday of each week, bring your drum, and come join us.

Work is Worship

March 21 9am Call for April dates

- Lunch provided.

Steve Citty (865) 212-4800 or Perry Robinson (865) 428-3070

Chanting in the Chamber

The Peace Sound Chamber is available for chanting, vision quests, ceremonies of all types.

You are encouraged to come to the chamber and chant, drum, meditate or simply sit (the chamber Spirits love it); please check first that there is not something already scheduled.



Fire Ceremony

— 7th of each month, 7 pm

This ceremony came from a vision Joseph Rael had in 1984. Its purpose is to heal and purify both the planet's physical oceans and the oceans of cosmic thought. Through healing our own confusion, Joseph was told by Oceanus (creator spirit of the ocean), we can heal the confusion of the physical world.

At 7 pm local time, fire elders light ceremonial fires at each of the Peace Sound Chambers around the world. Those present watch the fire in silence until it burns out, giving to it what we want to transmute in our lives and staying open to the messages and teachings it brings. All are welcome. We suggest you arrive around 6:45 pm.

Donations appreciated

For more information, call Katy Koontz at (865) 693-9845.

More information is available for each month at our website:

www.centerforpeace.us

March & April, 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	7 pm — Class: A Course In Miracles	3	4 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer	5	6 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer 7 pm — Drumming Circle	7 10 am — Sweat Lodge 6:45 pm — Fire Ceremony, led by Katy Koontz, Fire Elder
8 4 pm — Monthly Meeting of the Cen- ter Council	9 7 pm — Class: A Course In Miracles	10	11 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer	12	13 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer 7 pm — Drumming Circle	14
15 4 pm — Pipe Circle	7 pm — Class: A Course In Miracles	17	18 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer	19 6:30 pm — Sweat Lodge	20 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer 7 pm — Drumming Circle	21 Work Day in preparation for the For The One Dance
22 10—4 — Ceremonial Drumming Practice	7 pm — Class: A Course In Miracles	24	25 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer 7 pm — Brett and Candy will offer a seminar	26	27 For The One Dance	28 For The One Dance
29 For The One Dance	7 pm — Class: A Course In Miracles	31	Apr. 1 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer	2	3 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer 7 pm — Drumming Circle	4
5 4 pm — Monthly Meeting of the Cen- ter Council	7 pm — Class: A Course In Miracles	7 6:45 pm — Fire Ceremony, led by Katy Koontz, Fire Elder	8 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer	9	10 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer 7 pm — Drumming Circle	11
12 EASTER SUN- DAY 10 am — Annual Easter Sweat Lodge	7 pm — Class: A Course In Miracles	14	15 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer	16	17 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer 7 pm-Drum Circle Coptic Fellowship Conference	18 Coptic Fellowship International Annual Conference
19 Coptic Fellow- ship International Annual Conference 4 pm — Pipe Circle	7 pm — Class: A Course In Miracles	21	22 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer	23 6:30 pm — Sweat Lodge	24 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer 7 pm — Drumming Circle	25 Native Nurtur- ing Weekend
26 Native Nurturing Weekend	7 pm — Class: A Course In Miracles	28	29 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer	30	May 1 10am - Yoga, with Sandy Palmer 7 pm — Drumming Circle	2

Page 8 Peace Talk

What's Inside!

For the One Dance
Page 1

Peace Talk Goes Green
Page 1 | mportant |

Fire
Page 2

Native Nurturing Weekend
Page 3

World Youth For the One Dance Page 4

Did you know that you can register online for most activities at The Center for Peace? Printable map and directions also available.

Visit: www.centerforpeace.us

Journey For The One

Book Review

Page 4

Perry's Ponderings

Page 5

Core Activities

Page 6

Coming Soon:

<u>March</u>

For the One Dance

<u>April</u>

Native Nurturing Weekend

We offer many opportunities, such as:

- Visionary dances
- Sweat lodges
- Fire ceremonies
- Chanting/drumming gatherings
- Young people's ceremonies and activities
- Core shamanism
- Huna shamanism
- Vision quests
- Firewalks
- Teachings on drumming and working with fire
- Workshops on various topics like numerology, fire walking, Druidic traditions, sound healing and chanting, shamanic studies, and many more
- Book groups
- Ceremonies of initiation
- Supporting ceremonies in the local, regional, and international communities
- A safe, family-like environment to grow in

For more information, call 865-428-3070.

Peace Talk

CENTER FOR PEACE, INC 880 Graves-Delozier Road Seymour, TN 37865-7012 (865) 428-3070

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E-mail: perry@centerforpeace.us Web site: http://www.centerforpeace.us

Fax: (865) 429-0842