

A Season of Celebration

Native Nurturing Workshop

November 2 7pm & 3 3pm

Native Nurturing moves to a new format this year.

For the past seven years we have met monthly to focus on making available to our children the teachings of the Old Way. The children have learned about ceremony, drumming, the four directions, and chanting.

Beginning with this workshop on the first weekend of November we are changing the format to be more oriented to special events. This workshop format will provide teachings on drumming, ceremonial aspects of fire, and creating a visionary banner for our lives. Story telling and an opportunity to dance will be included.

On Saturday morning there will be a Young People's Sweat Lodge, followed by a feast and a giveaway.

These lessons are based on the teachings of Joseph Rael, Beautiful Painted Arrow, a native visionary. Native Nurturing allows us to be a part of the giving to and the receiving from our children, helping keep us connected to the universal truths of God's plan - providing growth for everyone.



Annual Corporate Meeting of The Center for Peace

Sunday, November 4, 2 pm

All interested parties are invited to attend the Annual Corporate meeting of the Center for Peace. At this meeting we review annual reports and elect members of the corporate board of directors [we choose to use the name Center Council]. The Annual Corporate Meeting will be followed by the monthly Center Council Meeting.

“Long Dance”

December 1 & 2

Jeanne and Perry Robinson Dance Co-chiefs



In the past I have experienced many times that felt like the proverbial “dark night of the soul”; but every one of them turned out to be a powerful turning point – creative point – in my life. Most times I have “stumbled upon” those times and resisted them, when they were upon me. [When that spirit grabbed me in 1955, giving me an opportunity to serve Creator Spirit, I wrestled with all my might! I’m still glad I lost the fight!]

The Long Dance offers an opportunity for us to engage in that same process but on a very positive basis. Instead of resisting a “dark night of the soul” that just may be waiting for us, we hunt it down and embrace it! We look at our lives; we examine what is working for us and what is not; we think of the life we would like to have; we create a banner that represents our thoughts; and we dance though the dark night. We are carried by the drum. We are supported by our fellow dancers. The chiefs, fire keepers, and other support people are there for the sole purpose of keeping us safe and protected while we do our own very personal spiritual work.

I have found that I can allow my future to happen to me or I can dream it and create it. It has worked best, when I do the latter.

Is this your year to dance the Long Dance?

For information see the enclosed flyer or contact Jeanne or Perry at the Center [865 428-3070] or from the web site www.centerforpeace.us.

-- Perry Robinson

Events

November

November 2 & 3

Native Nurturing Workshop

November 4

Corporate Annual Meeting

November 7

Fire Ceremony followed by Drumming Circle

November 10

Warrior's Sweat Lodge

November 15 (Thursday)

Sweat Lodge

November 14 (Wednesday)

"Messiah" Training

November 18

Pipe Circle

November 25

Alliance for Spiritual Ecology

November 28 (Wednesday)

"Messiah" Training

December

December 1 & 2

Long Dance

December 5

Drumming Circle

December 12 (Wednesday)

"Messiah" Training

December 13 (Thursday)

Sweat Lodge

December 16

Pipe Circle

December 23

Alliance for Spiritual Ecology

December 24

Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Ceremony

December 31

Dance of Remembering

January 1, 2008

Annual New Year's day Sweat Lodge

Arbor Rebuild Project

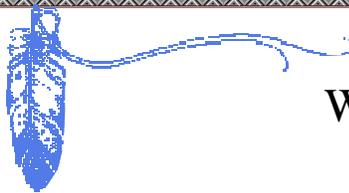


It needs our attention now.

A fund raising project has been begun to rebuild the arbor, and reseed the grass in the dance grounds. The estimated cost of replacement for the Arbor Shelter is \$15,000. We need you to express your commitment to the spiritual growth of the dancers and all those who support the dances.

You will have the satisfaction knowing you have a vital role bringing the vision and mission of The Center for Peace to reality for the dancers.

Donations can be mailed to The Center for Peace, 880 Graves Delozier Rd, Seymour, TN 37865. Mark your check as a donation for the Arbor Fund



Warrior/Public Servant Sweat Lodge November 10th

This Sweat Lodge will be open to those who have served in the military or protective services (police and fire departments). The idea of the lodge is for any who have placed their life on the line for the People.

If you know any returning service members, veterans of any conflict, or fire fighters or police, please extend an invitation to them.

Members of the Center for Peace community will provide the feast. This is an opportunity for each of us to say "Thank you" and "Welcome Home" to the men and women who have committed themselves to protecting us.

The vision of this event is to begin the process of creating a place for those service men and women returning from the conflicts around the world. We hope to provide them with a safe place to return where they will be met by other service men and women so that the process of integrating back into the community may be facilitated in a good way.

Contact Steve City for information.
(865) 212-4800

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.

Holiday Happenings

Christmas & New Year

Celebrations at the Center for Peace



Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Ceremony

7 pm December 24

This is family time and everyone is invited; because “family” at the Center for Peace includes “whoever shows up”.

Bring your favorite Christmas song or a story to share. Bring beverages and hors d’oeuvres [finger foods] to share. And bring a Christmas gift [not wrapped] for give away.

We’ll have a party and you can still be home before it get’s late.

New Year’s Eve Dance of Remembering

The Dance of Remembering is a dance which Perry Robinson saw in a visionary experience in 1988 – before ceremonial dances were a part of the Center’s life. Being a dance of celebration, it is short and fun.

The spiritual connection of the dance is that it is based upon a memory of how sweet it was, when we lived with an open heart, when innocence was all we knew, and when our joy was defined by what we could share. The Bible, written long, long, after those days were forgotten, gives that time short shrift [twenty verses]; but our souls remember; and aboriginal people all have stories and legends of that time, when humans communicated with the animals and with each other before language was invented.

We cannot go back, but we can activate and celebrate that memory. Perry has seen that in the eyes of the Creator we are still Its innocent, beloved children.

New Year’s Eve seems a good time to think of that.

Let us arrive in time to get things in order and begin at 9 pm, by gathering in the Chamber. Bring delicious beverages and tasty treats to share. Dress comfortably for a family party!

This dance has no chief. Remember the migrating birds, flying south for the winter? They play so beautifully in the air; they have no lead bird; each seems to delight in its own being, as they fly of one mind! What a way to greet a new year!

The cost of this dance is shared in the same way, with offerings of love, some of which may be cash.

~Perry Robinson

New Year’s Day Sweat Lodge

10 am, January 1, 2008

The people who lived in the old way used to take part in a Sweat Lodge before every important occasion in their lives, as well as after some events—like wars and tragedies—to help remove negative influences. It has become traditional to offer a Sweat Lodge here at the Center on New Year’s Day. It’s just a good way to start a new year.



Bring towels, a change of clothing, and food to share in the feast after the lodge.

If you would like to be included in our email list, go to our website

www.centerforpeace.us

And click on “email list”.

Then simply add your name.

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
Steve City	Knoxville	865-212-4800
Margarita DiVita	Jefferson City	865-475-3799
Al Fletcher	Norris	865-494-9950
Katy Koontz	Knoxville	865-693-9845
Cheryl Patterson	Seymour	865-453-3869
Shannon Ray	Knoxville	865 654-7933
Jeanne Robinson	Seymour	865-428-3070
Perry Robinson	Seymour	865-428-3070
Marcus Weseman	Clinton	865-463-1002

Book Review

BEYOND THE BROKEN GATE

-An Ordinary Man's Extraordinary Journey of Learning Who We Are, Why We Live, and Where We Are Going

by Charles Graybar & Bradford Keeney

You all know that I like to read, right? I come across so many books and read so voraciously that sometimes I reach the point where I think "I've heard this all before."

And then a miracle comes my way, a book that opens a door to understanding and I rejoice. This book, written by a former Fortune 500 CEO is such a miracle.

In 1993 Graybar had reached the midpoint in a successful life and like many others, then looks around with a question "It can't possibly be for this?" Frustrated with the lack of answers, he begins to meditate and finds himself in a garden with two spiritual teachers. Tresden and Kalista begin to show him information about the origins of creation, personal life review, and the future of mankind. The "broken gate" appears as a mental construct which seems to signify the way that humanity views itself and self destructs, overriding the actual energy the Creator placed within each of us for our guidance. In spite of our many messengers who volunteered to come to teach us a different way, we persist on our path to destruction.

It is impossible to summarize in a few quotes the profound learning this book makes available. The messages about focusing on compassion, forgiveness and love are certainly not new, but in the manner with which they are presented seems to resonate more deeply than the doctrines we have all heard. The Creation explanation can be found in teachings about Kabbalah and the instructions for living most closely resemble the teachings of Buddhism, but the focus is entirely new: "Source created all things--and imparted awareness to individual souls--with the objective of improving Source itself." When have we ever been told that we are here to improve Source?

In the last sections, Charles is shown the number of souls who are incarnated

here at the present time with the sole purpose of awakening mankind, looking like lights twinkling in the firmament. Yet still the gateway of the future appears uncertain. We are all challenged to focus on not wasting energy, "to conserve your energy and focus it on spiritual learning." And that, after all, is what we here at the Center are trying to do!

I love this book and reread parts of it almost daily, needing the recollection of why we are REALLY here.

~CRose

Recognitions

Puleo's Grille

Some people might disagree with the Center on a few things; but, when it comes to Puleo's Grille, there are obviously a lot of people who agree with what many of us here at the Center have thought for a long time. In a recent Knoxville News Sentinel readers' poll some of the results were:

- Best chef—Steve Puleo
 - Best restaurant overall—Puleo's Grille
 - Best bartender—Rick Dowling [Straw Plains location]
 - Best restaurant wine selection—Puleo's Grille
 - Best server—Sherry Robertson [Cedar Bluff location]
- Puleo's Grille was also Runner Up in the following categories
- Best Desserts
 - Best meal under \$10
 - Best salad
 - Best server [Connie Boruff]
 - Best special occasion restaurant

Is that a feather I see in Steve's chef's hat? Congratulations!

~Perry Robinson

Healing at CHANGES by Daybreak

Sometimes in our lives, we are blessed an experience of true healing. I have participated in many healing ceremonies at the Center for Peace, and I want to share my experiences in the last months at a business dedicated to healing on many levels.

CHANGES by Daybreak is a new business owned by Steve Citty in west Knoxville. It specializes in a series of electro-muscle stimulation treatments that are calibrated for different levels of muscle and tissue for strengthening, lifting, and toning. It is advertised as a beauty treatment but is actually so much more.

When I first visited Changes in the spring, I had been suffering from a chronic EB virus condition for over a year. The virus had attacked my liver, blood tests were abnormal, and I struggled just to work a part time job. Steve intuitively felt that treating me with the Lymph System would help to clear my body of the effects of the virus. And he was right. After a month of treatments, my liver tests were normal for the first time in over a year. I went on to be treated with Body Systems which strengthened my core muscles and gave me more energy. I was able to return to full time work at a job that is physically demanding.

More recently I experienced a back injury and received chiropractic adjustments which helped but did not entirely resolve the problem. I started having the Iso treatments which isometrically contract each muscle in the affected area of my back and improved dramatically after each treatment.

The healing energy that pervades at Changes comes from the spiritual beliefs of the owner, Steve and the technician, Shannon Ray, both of whom are massage therapists and also longtime members of the Center for Peace. It is wonderful to have these treatments available, even if the FDA does not allow them to be advertised specifically for the medical conditions for which they can be so effective. I am so grateful for the renewed health and energetic benefits I have received there. My hope is that others may also benefit as I have.

Cheryl Rose Patterson

For more information
about the Center for Peace
see www.centerforpeace.us

Perry's Ponderings

Pray Without Ceasing By Perry Robinson

Have you noticed that, when you run into an idea that you need to work on, it just won't go away? I have had these words, "pray without ceasing", on my mind for weeks. So, I guess I need to take another look at this idea. I sidestepped for a while. After all, since every thought, every emotion, every action is a prayer [which is being answered]; we ARE praying without ceasing. – Wait! We don't fully believe that, yet, do we? Part of me STILL believes that prayer begins and ends with my attention to it.

On October 13, before awaking, I had an extended dream about these words and their meaning.

OK, let's go over it once more. Huna philosophy states it succinctly: energy flows in the direction of our attention, which also means that attention is magnetized toward energetic activity; and everything is energy. So the energy here is not just the energy I focus on prayer, but also the energy I focus on all kinds of other thoughts. And it is not just the energy of my focused attention, but also the energy of the universe around me, magnetized to my attention, when I focus on something.

I, literally, CANNOT be an island. I cannot do, think, or feel anything in a vacuum, as if my action, feeling or thought did not affect everything around me..

I cannot isolate myself from my own creativity, no matter how much I may try to do so. Like it or not, I am connected to EVERYTHING THAT IS. That sounds like one of my names for God: All That Is. So I cannot have a thought or feeling and I cannot do anything without affecting everything – in other words without "God" being involved!

Well, you might say, how about if I don't know about Huna philosophy or believe in it? It doesn't matter. This universe is a package deal; and that's just the way it is!

Colby McLemore gave Jeanne and I a plaque, which we kept in front of the TV for many years. It read something like: "Invited or not, God is present". [It was one of the treasures we gave away for our 50th wedding anniversary give away; but the message has been fixed in my heart.] Yes, maybe there are some things that are true, whether or not we know them or believe them. I believe this – almost KNOW this -- ; but, I guess I still must have some little pockets of resistance. Otherwise, I would not have these words, "pray without ceasing", floating around in my head.

So, what about this "pray without ceasing"? I always take my questions to the world of experience. In my dream I was shown specific people – including myself – who, although deeply committed to their spiritual path and involved in healing their lives, are experiencing health challenges and/or other forms of difficulty. In the context of my dream, I was shown that part of the reason is that we are treating symptoms instead of causes.

Here is how it unfolded in the dream; maybe it is something we need to look at:

When I have a physical condition, I want a quick and easy treatment, which will not interfere with my schedule or change the way I live my life. I know that every disease or hurt was caused by something I did, thought, or participated with in some way. So I start looking for the cause, while I take my doctor's medicines for the symptoms. The only problem is that, when I find a cause, I may too quickly assume it is the only cause and quit looking. It may not be the only cause at all. The first answer may be the main one; but it may also be simply a symptom of a mindset. If I practice forgiveness and release that one thing, without looking at the mindset, I am just treating a symptom.

In this case, "pray without ceasing" means: keep looking and keep forgiving and releasing. Keep saying: "I apologize; I love you."

Everything is a part of the whole; all of life is holistic. The only problem is that our limited brains cannot recognize or grasp the whole picture at any one time. It is like knitting [Actually, I do not even know how to knit, but I know I could learn.]: At any moment I am only dealing with the part where the loose yarn passes my needles. If I am knitting a sock, the only part of the sock that I can do anything about is what my needles are touching. If I hold the yarn too tight, it will cinch up, if too loose, it will stretch out. Getting started is important and training my fingers how to do those little movements to get it right. Once I do that, I can let my mind drift and think about all kind of other things, while the knitting still goes on.

All the while, however, those little movements are still part of the whole. If I become cross or upset in any way, I will knit that right into the sock; I may end up with a sock too tight around the instep or too loose around the ankle. It just won't fit.

Living moment by moment, we are "knitting" the fabric of our lives. Every thought, feeling, emotion, or action goes right into it. We are the creators of this fabric of our lives.

More than that: we are the creators of the world just as it is. We did our part in making it. "Those out there" could not have done it without us. Because ALL THAT IS has been listening and responding to us –to every one of us – everywhen and everywhere.

I think maybe our job must be also to listen and respond to ALL THAT IS - everywhen and everywhere.

When I pretend that every word, every thought, every action, and every emotion I express is my prayer in this moment, I see and experience life differently.

I knew that; I bet you did too!

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.

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.

November 4 - Annual Meeting

– visitors welcome

December 9 – visitors welcome

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

Alliance for Spiritual Ecology

— Sun., Nov. 25, & Dec. 23, 5 pm

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

Peter Calhoun describes in Soul on Fire 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

— **First Wednesday of each month.**

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 the First Wednesday of the month, bring your drum, and come join us.

Work is Worship

There is always plenty to do. Lunch provided.

Steve City (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

November and December, 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Oct. 28	29	30	31	Nov. 1 	2 7 pm-Native Nurturing Workshop	3 Native Nurturing Workshop - 3pm
4 2 pm, Annual Corporate Meeting followed by Center Council Monthly Meeting	5	6	7 7 pm, Fire Ceremony, led by Katy Koontz And Drumming Circle	8 6:30pm, Sweat Lodge, led by Steve City	9	10  10am, Sweat Lodge
11	12	13	14 7pm, "Messiah Training", #5, led by Perry Robinson	15	16	17 
18 3 pm, Pipe Circle in the Chamber	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving Day	23	24 
25 5pm — Alliance for Spiritual Ecology Ceremony	26	27	28 7pm, "Messiah Training", #6, led by Perry Robinson	29	30	Dec. 1  Long Dance
2 Long Dance	3	4	5 7 pm, Drumming Circle	6	7 7 pm, Fire Ceremony, led by Katy Koontz	8
9  4pm, Center Council Monthly Meeting	10	11	12 7pm, "Messiah Training", #7, led by Perry Robinson	13	14	15
16 3 pm, Pipe Circle in the Chamber	17 	18	19	20 6:30pm, Sweat Lodge, led by Steve City	21	22
23  5pm — Alliance for Spiritual Ecology Ceremony	24 7pm, Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Ceremony	25 Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays!!!	26	27	28	29
30	31  9 pm, Dance of Remembering	Jan. 1 10am, Annual New Year's Day Sweat Lodge	2	3	4	5

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Coming Soon:

January

Core Shamanism

January 12 - 13

February

Joseph Rael

Watch for dates to be announced

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

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

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