

Michigan Satsang Society
A Chartered Affiliate of ECKANKAR
320 East Fourth Street
Royal Oak MI 48067-2706

www.eckankar.org
and www.eck-mi.org

Do you have questions about Eckankar, but no one to talk to?

Talk with others from your home! Participate in an open discussion conference call on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

You ask the questions or just listen. The call will be facilitated by ECKist Shauncie Skidmore and a guest. Eric and Cindy Davis, the Regional Eck Spiritual Aides for Michigan, will be participating on March 24th. The discussions will be enlightening and inspiring. *All are welcome!*

March 24, 7:30pm

April 28, 7:30pm

May 26, 7:30pm

June 23, 7:30pm



Call (218) 844-3377; enter access code ECK (the numbers 325); and press # when prompted.

This is a free conference call service (you pay only the phone charges.)

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INNER JOURNEY



A Michigan ECKANKAR Quarterly Newsletter – Public Edition



Harold Klemp
The Spiritual Leader of
Eckankar
Religion of the Light and
Sound of God

Terms

ECK

The life force, the Holy Spirit.

ECKists

Followers of Eckankar.

Living ECK Master

The title of the spiritual leader of Eckankar.

HU

The singing of the word HU is considered a love song to God. It can be sung aloud or silently to oneself.

Inner Master

The inner form of the Living ECK Master.

Spiritual Exercises of ECK

Do one exercise every day for about twenty minutes to build spiritual stamina gently over time.

The Creativity of Soul by Mary Schebil, Big Rapids



Last fall on a trip to Maine with my husband, we stayed at a hotel that had hiking trails through deep woods. We were told at check-in that they were *hiking trails*, not walking paths.

Later that afternoon, following the direction my husband pointed out, I started down the path. As expected, I soon found myself climbing over deadfall and having to scout out the trail. I was surprised however when the path completely disappeared.

Searching around for the path, I saw a fence with an open gate and decided to go in that direction. There, on the other side of the fence, was the actual hotel hiking trail. Large blue dots were painted on trees every few

feet to mark the way. I then realized that I had started my trek from the hotel on a deer path.

This area of Maine is very rocky and it had been raining heavily for a few days, so the rainwater had collected in pools. I found myself having to jump over wider and wider puddles of cold rain water until I was jumping from tree root to tree root.

Eventually the pools of water became too wide to jump across. I realized I had to turn around in the direction I had come. But I couldn't always jump back on the same tree root I had used before.

It wasn't long before the blue dots had disappeared. Water and trees were all I could see around me. I asked the Mahanta (the inner guide)

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for help and headed in the direction I thought I had originally come. Suddenly there appeared a path with red dots on the trees. Having earlier glanced at a map the hotel clerk had shown me, I realized the red trail would also lead me back to the hotel.

However, soon the red trail was also lost under water. It was nearing dusk and I found myself pulling out a “fear list”. . . *How soon before it became totally dark? . . . Had there been any warning about bears? . . . “Wolves? . . . Could I make it through the night with near freezing temperatures?* and on and on. Singing HU (a love song to God) to quiet the mind I made my way in a direction I thought would lead me back to the fence and the open gate.

Eventually I saw the ocean in the distance, and knowing our hotel was on the ocean, I figured I could climb the fence and follow the shoreline back to our hotel.

Then I saw the sign “Beware of Dog.” *Do I take a chance with the dog and climb the fence or do I continue to search for another way back?* Knowing we have the protection of the Mahanta as long as we don’t put ourselves in harm’s way, I continued on, looking for a way back . . .

. . . and there, up ahead, was a pile of deadfall I knew I had climbed over early in the journey. I had found the original deer path I had started on hours before.

As I made my way back, I asked the Mahanta, *What was that all about?* The answer came immediately, “The Creativity of Soul.” I wondered, *what does being lost in the woods have to do with the creativity of Soul? Didn’t creativity have to do with music, writing, drawing, painting . . .*

After contemplating on what the ‘Creativity

of Soul’ meant, the realization came. The difficult walk challenged me to find creative ways to find or keep balanced—no matter the situation.

It meant we have the tools we need to stay centered in the knowledge that we are Soul and our experiences are happening *for us*, not to us. Tools such as asking the Mahanta for help, singing HU, and being open and aware of how the ECK (Holy Spirit) is guiding us.

The creativity of Soul has to do with staying awake and aware, aware of what we are creating every moment of our lives.

A fear list or a path home to God?

- Newsletters are available on-line at www.eck-mi.org or subscribe below.
- See your mailing label for remaining issues in your subscription.

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(Please check all that apply.)

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Mail to Newsletter Subscription, 22567 Woodward, Big Rapids MI 49307, or call (248) 546-9224 and provide the above information. You may cancel at any time.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN EVENTS

Cadillac

Worship Service, first Saturday of month, 10-11am.

Apr 3—An ECK Book Discussion will replace the ECK Worship this month.

May 1—*What is Spiritual Freedom*

June 5—An ECK Book Discussion will replace the ECK Worship this month.

Services are at Berkana, 214 Harris St, Cadillac, (231) 796-5028.

Book Discussion, *A Modern Prophet Answers Your Key Questions About Life* by Harold Klemp, second Wednesday of month, 7pm, 640 Quail Lane; (231) 796-5028.

Grand Rapids

Worship Service, second Sunday of month, 10-11am.

Apr 11—*Animals and Divine Love*

May 9—*Creative Ability is Survival*

June 13—*The Secret of Life: Thy Will Be Done*

All events are at the Motel 6 Meeting Room, US 131 at 76th St, (616) 752-8460.

Kalamazoo

Eckankar on TV, inspiring talks by Harold Klemp.

Portage Cable Access, Channel 20:

Mon—6pm, Tues—4pm, Thurs—9:30pm

Lansing

HU Song, fourth Tuesday of month, 7:30pm, call Bob Thomasson, (517) 668-8532 for location.

2010 ECK Springtime Seminar — April 2-4 — Minneapolis, Minnesota

This three-day international seminar offers spiritual growth through unique, dynamic workshops and other events designed to help you take your next spiritual step toward accepting the full love of God in this lifetime. Come see Sri Harold Klemp speak on Saturday evening. A seminar brochure is available at www.eckankar.org or 1-800 LOVE GOD.

Visit www.eck-mi.org for events added after publication of this newsletter. All Michigan events are sponsored by the Michigan Satsang Society and open to the public with no donation requested.

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visit www.eckankar.org or call 1-800 LOVE GOD or write: Eckankar, PO Box 2000, Chanhassen, MN 55317-2000 USA

EASTERN MICHIGAN EVENTS

Ann Arbor

Worship Service, first Sunday of month, 10-11am, Gretchen’s House (a child development center), 2340 Oak Valley Dr, Ann Arbor, (734) 913-9822.

Book Discussion, *The Living Word, Book 3* by Harold Klemp, third Sunday of month, 1:30pm, Ypsilanti Library, Room 8 (main floor), 5577 Whittaker Rd (South of I-94.)

Dexter

Book Discussion, *How to Survive Spiritually in our Times* by Harold Klemp, second Monday of month, 6:30-8pm, Dexter Public Library, 3255 Alpine St, (734) 913-9822 or e-mail a2.mi.eck@gmail.com.

Royal Oak

Worship Service, first Sunday of month, 12-1pm. Youth Room runs concurrently.

Apr 4—*Cause and Effect*

May 2—*You Are Soul*

June 6—*The Divinity of All*

Introductory Talks, third Saturday of month, 2-3pm.

Mar 20—*The Miraculous Power of Your Imagination*

Apr 17—*Is Life a Random Walk?*

May 15—*Creating Spiritually Grounded Relationships*

Book Discussion, *Stranger by the River* by Paul Twitchell, fourth Sunday of month, 3pm, Jeffrey Erlichman, (248) 514-3288.

Eckankar Center Open Hours, Thursdays, 6:30-7pm.

All events are at the Royal Oak ECKANKAR Center, 320 East Fourth Street, Royal Oak, (248) 546-9224.