

**THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN DETROIT**  
Chartered in 1916 as a Branch of the Theosophical Society in America



**MARCH œ APRIL 2004**

27745 Woodward Avenue  
Berkley, Michigan  
48072-0906

Theosophy has been called the Wisdom Religion. The word stems from the Greek words "theos" (God) and "Sophia" (Wisdom) and refers to the "Wisdom of the Gods". In the 19<sup>th</sup> century Helena Blavatsky's work, with the help of others, was to reveal a portion of this wisdom tradition to the world. Our First Friday programs will focus on the themes in theosophy. Through the exploration of one theme per month, we offer you the opportunity to gain greater depth about the wisdom tradition.

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	<b>FRIDAY PROGRAMS</b>	<b>8 PM</b>	<b>SUGGESTED DONATION \$5.00</b>
<b>MARCH 5</b>	<b>SANSKRIT MANTRAS AND THE AVATARS OF VISHNU: AN INTRODUCTION</b> <b>Thomas Ashley-Farrand</b> Chanting traditions span the centuries and are steeped in ritual and sacred ceremony. Mantra is a powerful way to awaken the mind and heart to deeper levels of being. Join Thomas in an exploration of this powerful practice.		
<b>MARCH 12</b>	<b>KARMA AND JUSTICE</b> <b>Dr. Richard Brooks</b> The Sanskrit work "karma" literally means 'action,' but has the implication that the consequences of our actions are just or fair, in other words, that the Law of Karma is essentially a law of justice. This is expressed in Christianity in the phrase "As ye sow, so shall ye reap." There are a number of different theories as to how the Law of Karma works. Dr. Brooks will discuss some of them and draw implications from them for the way we ought to live our lives.		
<b>MARCH 19</b>	<b>THE MAPS OF OUR DESTINY</b> <b>Jeanie McNeil</b> Various intriguing ancient techniques of prediction and prophecy will be shown to demonstrate the paths of our fascinating destinies.		
<b>MARCH 26</b>	<b>HARMONY OF BODY, MIND AND SOUL: An Introduction to Homeopathic Medicine</b> <b>Monica Gurnani, BHMS, CCH</b> How homeopathy remedies can help in acute and chronic disease. To correct an imbalance or bring back balance in the body. Monica will present homeopathy as an all natural health practice for people of all ages.		
<b>APRIL 2</b>	<b>BROTHERHOOD IS POSSIBLE – ONE PERSON AT A TIME</b> <b>Betty Bland, President of the Theosophical Society in America</b> The first fundamental principle of Theosophy is that all human beings emanate from the one Source, and as such we are intimately connected in the single human family. We will explore ways that we can find peace within ourselves and promote harmony and peace among our fellow beings.		
<b>APRIL 9</b>	<b>THE THREE CRUCIFIXIONS</b> <b>Parke Carrier</b> Parke will cover the Biblical, Historical; the Astronomical, Astrological; and the Mystical, Personal aspects of life.		
<b>APRIL 16</b>	<b>The Magical Religion of Asclepius, son of Apollo, the Sun</b> <b>Christine Mohr</b> Christine will explore Spiritual Astrology as taught by Marsilio Ficino, 15 <sup>th</sup> century physician of the soul, who influenced Giordano Bruno's "Spaccio" and "De Imaginum" compositions, originally to ease the religious antagonism of his time. How can we benefit today from these Hermetic principals to advance our own moral and religious reforms?		
<b>APRIL 23</b>	<b>THOMAS BERRY VIDEO: "THE GREAT STORY"</b> <b>Mara Radzwickas</b> Thomas Berry unfolds the story of creation and he calls us "mad" for the way we are despoiling our home, our planet, its beauty and its living systems. In poetic language, he leads us into the ecstasy of union with the divine beauty of creation. Mara will then facilitate questions and discussion following the video presentation.		
<b>APRIL 30</b>	<b>HOW TO MEDITATE USING CHAKRAS, MANTRAS &amp; BREATH</b> <b>Dennis Chernin, M.D., M.P.H.</b> We will explore the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual benefits of meditation. We will learn to use several objects of concentration including chakras (energy centers), mantras (subtle sound vibrations) yantras (geometric forms), light, and breath. This meditation system is based on the ancient teaching of Yoga philosophy, tantra, and vedanta and has been handed down from teacher to student for thousands of years!		

# **The Theosophical Society in Detroit**

27745 Woodward Avenue  
Berkley, Michigan 48072-0906

## **Directions:**

2 blocks South of Catalpa  
(Approx. 11 & 1/2 Mile Rd.)  
(248) 545-1961

**<http://tsdetroit.org>**

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

**DISCOVERING THE SECRETS IN THE AKASHIC RECORDS**  
**Members Workshop with Betty Bland**  
**National President of the Theosophical Society in America**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 3**

**Time: 10 AM– 12 Noon**

**9:00 AM Vegetarian Potluck Breakfast**

*Find out about the akashic records, what they are, and how they affect our lives. H. P. Blavatsky said that Akasha is the "Soul of the Universe," the recorder and evoker of our karmic predicament. We will explore this mysterious reality and learn about its implications in the ordinary world.*

*Betty Bland has given talks and workshops around the United States on the spiritual life and near-death experiences. She has been a member of the Society since 1970 and has served in many capacities for local and regional activities.*

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## **SANSKRIT MANTRA WORKSHOPS**

**THOMAS ASHLEY-FARRAND**

**MARCH 6 & 7**

**Time: 9 AM - 6 PM**

*A two day Sanskrit mantra workshop based on the telling of the Ramayana, extensive group practice of Sanskrit mantras associated with Brahma, Indra, Saraswati, Hanuman, Rama, Shiva, Parvati, Narayana, Sita, Lakshmi, Dattatreya, Kubera, Vayu and Viswamitra, Devotional songs (kirtan), one or two traditional Vedic pujas, Dr. Wright's Cleaning Out Technique, and individual mantra empowerments. Registration fee: \$200*

**Registration and Information: Contact Mark Shanks at 248.338.2004 or [mes@eaglequest.com](mailto:mes@eaglequest.com)**

**APRIL 18**

**SANSKRIT MANTRA WORKSHOP**

**Time: 1 – 4 PM**

**Taught by Mark Shanks.** *Chanting traditions span the centuries and are steeped in ritual and sacred ceremony. Mantra is a powerful way to awaken the mind and heart to deeper levels of being. Their repetition has the ability to clear the mind and make it more responsive to the inner prompting of Spirit. Monthly sessions thru June 2004. Donations welcome.*

## **WEEKLY GATHERINGS** **MEMBERS' STUDY**

**Tuesdays**

**Time: 7:30 — 9:00 PM**

**Current study: Talks on the Path of Occultism. Authors: Annie Besant & C. W. Leadbeater.** The first volume of a 3-volume set, the books cover & comment on At The Feet of the Master, The Voice of the Silence and The Light on the Path. Three very traditional Theosophical texts. Join us for an exchange of ideas.

## **OPEN FORUM: LIVING IN THE WISDOM TRADITION**

**Wednesdays**

**Time: 7:30 - 9:00 PM**

Wide-ranging studies in applied theosophy, drawing from various traditions and points of view. Informal, interactive. Bring your questions. All are welcome.

## **MEDITATION CIRCLE**

**Thursdays**

**Time: 7:30 – 9:00 PM**

*This support circle is meant to encourage a regular daily practice, using brief reading and sharing to affirm the richness of meditation. We will use several 20-minute silent "sits" to touch and share the power in and beyond us. Please arrive a few minutes early. For information call Ron at (248) 280-4711*

