

December 10
(meditation & study 6:00, meeting 7:00)

Introductory Theosophy:

The Technique of the Spiritual Life

Chapter III & IV: The Significance of the Will and the Body

The use of our Will is a factor of supreme importance in all spiritual growth. Will power not only means the ability to choose, but also the power to persevere, to keep to the chosen path. The whole trend of our soft, comfortable, modern life is liable to sap the Will and the power of endurance, making this a weak spot in our constitution. The physical body has a vague elemental consciousness of its own which, when undisciplined, may stand in the way of the spiritual life. Learning how not to identify ourselves with it puts us in a better position to live from a larger perspective.

December 17
(meditation & study 6:00, meeting 7:00)

Members Study:

Self-Culture in the Light of Ancient Wisdom

Chapter 7: Control, Purification and Culture of the Emotions

Based on a deep understanding of our emotional nature, we will explore the means for purifying and controlling our desires and passions, which is one of the most difficult but necessary tasks we undertake as we follow this path.



December 24 & December 31
Christmas and New Year – No Meeting

January 7
(meditation 6:00, lecture 7:00)

Public Talk:

Hilma af Klint,
Painter and Theosophist
Michael Carter

Hilma af Klint, (1862-1944) was a Swedish painter and occultist, her vibrant, innovative, and highly metaphysical paintings have firmly entered the public consciousness and finally taken their place in 20th-century art history. Here we will address how events in the early history of the Society impacted her life story and illuminate the influence of specific Theosophical teachings behind her most well-known artworks.

Michael is an artist and educator, his work is an inquiry into metaphysical theories of art and has shown extensively locally and internationally.

(please bring refreshments to share)



January 14
(meditation & study 6:00, meeting 7:00)

Introductory Theosophy:

The Technique of the Spiritual Life

Chapter V: The Training of the Emotions

The first thing we should do is to realize that we are not our feelings. As we watch them moving, urging, arising, we notice they are motivated by the purely personal outlook. The same body expresses desire, passions, and love. Through self-knowledge we are able to cultivate the finer responses to life and begin to engage in it completely.



January 21
(meditation & study 6:00, meeting 7:00)

Members Study:

Self-Culture in the Light of Ancient Wisdom

Chapter 8: The Functions of the Mental Body

We shall consider in this meeting the functions of the lower mental body, the vehicle of concrete thoughts. As in the case of the emotional body the subject will be dealt with from the special point of view of a self-culturist and we will consider the facts and methods which enable us to understand and use this body efficiently.

January 28
(lecture only 7:00-8:00)

Public Talk:

Death and the Power of Living

Betty Bland

From the point of view of the Theosophical teachings, when we have an understanding of the process of death and dying, life takes on new meaning. And by it we are drawn into a field of consciousness in which we realize all is united and permeated with love.

Betty is a past president of the TSA; after having a near death experience, she was “catapulted into an intense quest of understanding, where nothing matters, but everything matters.”

(please bring refreshments to share)

The Theosophical Society in the Ojai Valley

Established in 1927



Our lodge meetings take place at Krotona School, 46 Krotona Street, Ojai. For the 2019-20 year, we will begin each meeting with an optional guided meditation starting at 6:00 p.m. We will follow with an independent reading time until the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. Though its programs are open to everyone, some are planned especially for TS members. This means that having a knowledge of Theosophy will help in the study but it is not mandatory to join the meeting.

Meetings are free of charge.
Donations are greatly appreciated.

We invite you to support the Society and its work by becoming a member. Membership is open to all who are in sympathy with its objects. Application forms are available in the library and at the meetings.



Three Objects of the Theosophical Society:

1. To form a nucleus of the universal brotherhood of humanity without distinction of race, creed, gender, caste or color.
2. To encourage the comparative study of religion, philosophy and science.
3. To investigate the unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in the human being.



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September 24
(lecture only 7:00-8:00)
Public Talk:
***Self-Culture in the Light
of Ancient Wisdom***
Pablo Sender

On the third and fourth Tuesdays of the month our Members Study meetings will be discussing *Self-Culture in the Light of Ancient Wisdom* by IK Taimni. In this first meeting of the season, Pablo will introduce us to the book and Part I: “Theosophical Basis of Self-Culture.”

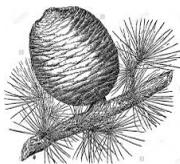
Pablo is a long-time student of Theosophy, a resident of Krotona and an international speaker for the Theosophical Society.

October 1
(meditation 6:00, lecture 7:00)
Public Talk:
Freedom, Free Will, and Responsibility
Gerry Kiffe

What does it mean to be truly free? In what ways are we trapped and confined but perhaps do not acknowledge it? Do we really have “Free Will” or is it an illusion or is it the Freedom to choose? What is the role of Responsibility on the spiritual path; are we our brother’s keeper? These are the questions we will pursue with a general discussion session to end the meeting.

Gerry has been involved in Theosophy since 1974, he shares his time and energy giving talks and participating in many Theosophical groups from Santa Barbara to Los Angeles.

(please bring refreshments to share)



October 8
(meditation & study 6:00, meeting 7:00)
Introductory Theosophy:
The Technique of the Spiritual Life

Chapter I: Introduction and Meditative Inquiry
On the second Tuesday of the month we will facilitate an Introductory Theosophy discussion on *The Technique of the Spiritual Life* by Clara Codd, utilizing the study guide written by Maria Parisen. Tonight, we will begin with an Introduction to the book and the practice of Meditative Inquiry.

October 15
(meditation & study 6:00, meeting 7:00)
Members Study:
***Self-Culture in the Light
of Ancient Wisdom***

Chapter 4: The Constitution and Functions of the Physical Body

It is important to realize very clearly the function of the physical body. The proper attitude to adopt is to consider it as an instrument of the soul for its work here on the physical plane. An instrument that should be kept in order, treated and developed in such a manner that it is able to perform its specific functions with the highest degree of efficiency.

October 22
(meditation & study, 6:00, meeting 7:00)
Members Study:
***Self-Culture in the Light of
Ancient Wisdom***

Chapter 5: Control, Purification, and Sensitization of the Physical Body

Within the limitations under which we work there are still vast possibilities of progress and advancement open to us. The first step in bringing the physical body under our control is to separate ourselves in consciousness from it and realize that we are the master of this body.



October 29 - No Meeting

November 5
(meditation 6:00, lecture 7:00)
Public Talk:
Ancient Ethics for Troubled Times
Jon Fergus

Based on HPB’s statement that the ethics carried out in the Theosophical Society are to be found in the systems of the world’s great reformers, we will engage in a summary exploration of those ethical systems. The aim will be to better understand the nature of those ethics and their application to 21st century life.

Jon is a Canadian student of Theosophy, whose focus of study is the teachings of HP Blavatsky & WQ Judge.

(please bring refreshments to share)

November 12
(meditation & study 6:00, meeting 7:00)
Introductory Theosophy:
The Technique of the Spiritual Life
Chapter II: Understanding of Ourselves

To understand the technique of the Spiritual Life we must understand ourselves. We are not only this body, which we see with the physical eyes. There is a soul, which uses the body by “osmosis,” as it were, for thought and feeling originate in the inner, subtler worlds of being. The Spirit is the third factor within us—it is the eternal, undying part, which endures forever.

November 19
(meditation & study 6:00, meeting 7:00)
Members Study:
***Self-Culture in the Light
of Ancient Wisdom***

Chapter 6: The Functions of the Emotional Body

All the organs of sensation are situated in the emotional body and our most difficult trials and sufferings usually come from our struggles with our desire nature. When we become self-aware and master over these desires, we are already well on the path towards peace and harmony.

November 26
Thanksgiving week – No Meeting

December 3
(meditation 6:00, lecture 7:00)
Public Talk:

Listening – The Heart of Community
Glori Zeltzer and Leon Berg

“So when you are listening to somebody, completely, attentively, then you are listening not only to the words, but also to the feeling of what is being conveyed, to the whole of it, not part of it.” Krishnamurti’s words seem so simple yet how often do we fully listen to one another without being distracted, without judgement of what is being said, without wanting to interrupt? Join us as we explore listening and things that get in the way.

Glori is a licensed marriage and family therapist with forty years of practice, specializing in relationship counseling. **Leon** is a founding member of The Ojai Foundation, and for the past 30 years he has been a Senior Facilitator and Trainer in the Way of Council.

(please bring refreshments to share)