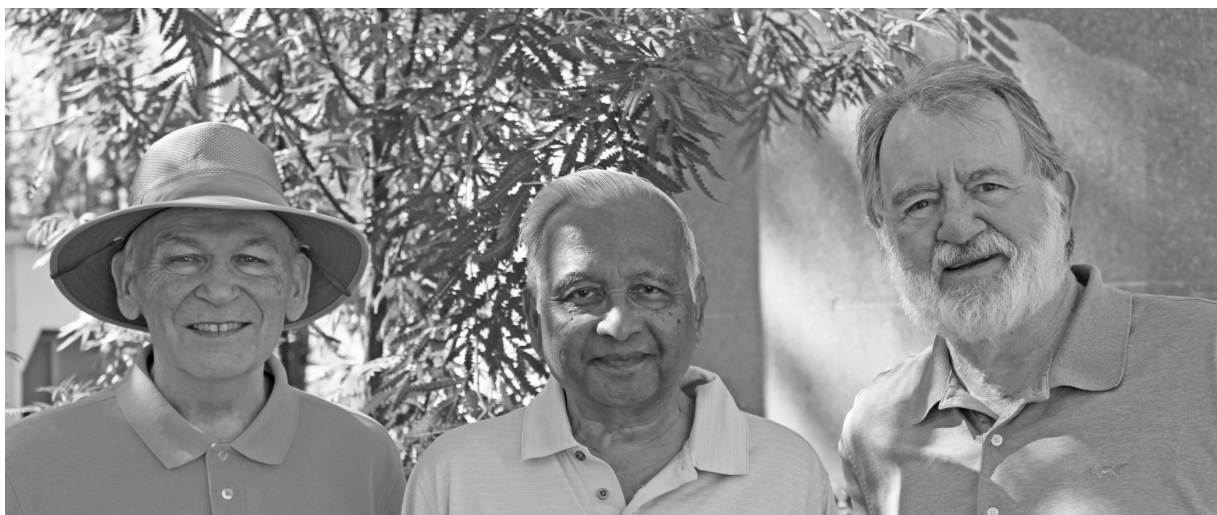




Krotona is an international center inspired by a vision of the oneness of all life and dedicated to the spiritual awakening of the human family.

A Water Lifeline for Krotona

Cor Overweg, Water Manager



Left to right: Cor Overweg, Guru Prasad, Jim Voirol

It began with a vision of securing a stable water supply in an emergency. Because Krotona's well water system is powered by electrical pumps, when the electricity goes out, so does the water. Over the last few years, water disruptions have been more frequent due to electrical outages, wildfires, and mechanical repairs of our aging well water infrastructure. On one occasion, Krotona was without running water for eight days. But thanks to a team effort led by Guru Prasad, Resident Head, we can now connect our water delivery system to municipal water. "This is a lifeline for Krotona," said Guru. "Water for our residential community, students, guests, and fire suppression can continue flowing when we lose power."

Connecting Krotona's sprawling well water distribution system to municipal water was the most expensive, time consuming, and complex infrastructure project undertaken in the last forty years. Completed in November 2021, it took more than two years of preparation, planning, and coordination with the Casitas Municipal Water District (CMWD), engineering firms, surveyors, contractors, and the city of Ojai. Project planning began in 2019 with a series of meetings with CMWD officials to discuss

Continued on page 2

Inside

Krotona School Classes, Page 3

Library Reopening, Page 5

Continued from page 1

a permanent emergency water connection for Krotona. In 2020, we began the lengthy process of meeting with survey and design engineers, along with potential contractors. We also spent months working on numerous technical, regulatory, administrative and contractual requirements set forth by the CMWD and the city of Ojai. It was like working on a giant jigsaw puzzle as we learned to carefully fit each piece of the puzzle in its place.

After requesting bids from engineering firms and contractors, finalists were selected and a timeline for the project was established. The most time consuming work involved the preparation and approval of engineering drawings for the new pipeline. Drawings were created, submitted, commented on, and then redrawn and resubmitted multiple times to various agencies until every detail of the engineering plan had preliminary approval. But once final approval was given, the actual construction of the pipe line went smoothly.

With the kind cooperation and support of our neighbors in the Taormina community, Krotona's contractor dug a trench across one of their residential

streets to lay a water pipe that is 180 feet long and 4 inches in diameter. This made it possible for Krotona to access municipal water through the new pipe system, and when the installation was complete, we connected Krotona to municipal water. Now when we have a power outage, it takes less than ten minutes to switch over to municipal water.

"Bringing this enormous project to a successful completion took careful planning by dedicated people," Guru said. "I would especially like to thank Cor Overweg for his day-to-day assistance in coordinating and implementing the project. His technical inputs and were vital." Other team members were instrumental as well. Jim Voirol played an important role in securing city permits, and Krotona's maintenance workers, Francisco Calderón and Mario Esquivel, helped with the final details of connecting to municipal water. "I would also like to thank Krotona's Board of Directors for providing the financial resources and the constant support that made this crucial project possible," Guru said. And I would like to mention that it is because of Guru's steady project leadership that Krotona now has a reliable source of municipal water when we need it. ■

Of Note

In November 2021, after twenty-one years of dedicated service to Krotona, residents **Nelda and Jack Samarel** moved to Colorado to be with their children and grandchildren. As many know, Nelda served as the director of the Krotona School and was editor of the Krotonian newsletter for many years,

Page 2

among the other activities she was involved in was her profession as an RN as well as here at Krotona. Jack served as the treasurer for the Krotona Institute. Often seen hand in hand taking their morning and evening walks, they always stopped to say hello or enquire how things were. Krotona will miss their presence, but is forever and always grateful for their commitment and support. We wish them all the best. ■

School of Theosophy: January TS Members' Intensive

Maria Parisen

"The Golden Stairs: A Guide for Spiritual Living" program, presented on Zoom January 21 - 28, drew an average of 28 members from as far away as Singapore. Offered annually as part of the Kern Foundation's Partners in Theosophy project, the Intensive brings together members and mentors for projects benefitting the Society. Covid precautions were observed, with onsite attendance limited to Krotona residents and six guests, all of whom attended online from their separate student units.



Seth Edwards, Justin Tanksley and Randy Olson



Sandy Naimou and Kate Gould

Partners' director, Pablo Sender, Barbara Hebert, and Maria Parisen presented six interactive morning sessions. The week also included members' meetings with mentors, research, and networking with open time for rest and renewal in nature. Six Partners presented their work in a private Zoom meeting, to appreciative past and current Partners members: Kate Gould (Patience as Spiritual Practice), Susanne Hoefl-Wellenhofer

(Online School Courses), Sandy Naimou (Producing Theosophical Audiobooks), Randy Olson (Defining Key Terms with Ambivalent Meanings), Nicole Scott (Theosophy and Conscious Consumption), and Justin Tanksley (Forming Young Theosophist Groups). The projects will contribute to TS journals, TSWiki, and the Online School of Theosophy, while also providing wider distribution of Theosophical texts and content for workshops and talks.

Recordings of the six morning sessions were available to participants for two weeks and will be available to inquirers after editing. A second Partners program is in the planning for this fall.

Remaining Spring Classes,
Details www.krotonainstitute.org

Joslyn Lawrence, **Let's Talk About Death**, March 7 - 28 Mondays, On Site

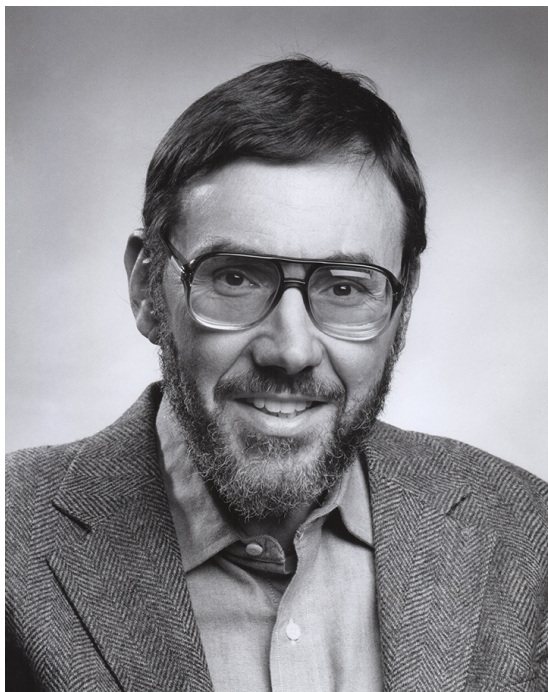
Continued on page 6

In Memoriam of Daniel Moses (1936-2021)

A Lover of the Krotona Land, People, and Animals

Charlene Spretnak

For the past fifteen years my husband, Daniel (many knew him as Danny) Moses, walked twice daily on the beautiful grounds of Krotona Institute and got to know many of the staff members and their pets. We lived in the adjacent neighborhood, Taormina, and sometimes I accompanied him on his walks. He was a spiritual seeker with a life-long commitment to nonviolence and ecological wisdom. During his long career in book publishing—senior editor at Prentice-Hall and then at Simon & Schuster, then editor-in-chief at Links Books, Bobbs-Merrill, and Sierra Club Books—he published many books on spirituality.



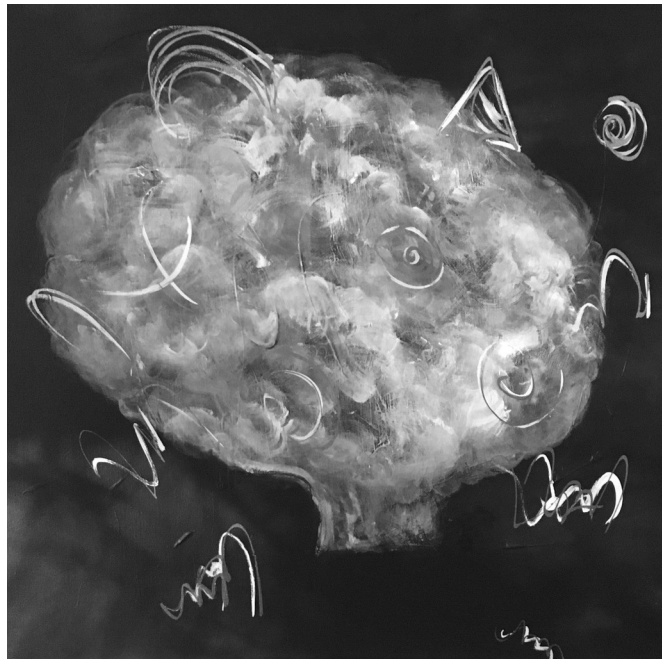
During the civil rights movement, Daniel was active in New York City in Friends of the Student Nonviolent

Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and during the Vietnam War he helped organize Publishers for Peace. After he moved to the San Francisco Bay Area, he was active in the nuclear disarmament efforts in the San Francisco Bay Area in the early 1980s. He was also an inspiring presence in the Green Party of the United States and also in the Green Party of California from 1985 on. The latter selected him to be the top of their first statewide electoral ticket, for Lt. Governor in 1994. Although he did not win, he achieved something that amazed the political establishment: he was so compelling when meeting with the editorial board of the very Republican *San Francisco Examiner*, as all candidates do with all the major newspapers, they endorsed him for Lt. Governor of California over the Democrat and Republican candidates!

Daniel died on September 12, 2021 of three lung conditions caused by end-stage ankylosis spondylitis. He was 85. A beautiful memorial service for him was held on November 21 on the terrace of the library at Krotona, with speakers from various areas and periods of his life plus family members. A reception followed in the courtyard. Virginia Kron, a professional cellist in Ojai, played two movements from Bach's First Cello Suite, as a red-tailed hawk circled above, which everyone agreed must have been Danny in spirit. ■

Latest Library News Susan Johnson

The Krotona Library is OPEN again! Please come by and say "hello." We've missed you! The library is currently open to the public on Saturdays 12-5pm, Sundays 1-5pm, and by appointment during the week. We may soon have regular weekday hours.



Thought Forms

At present, the Krotona Library and School are hosting the extraordinary paintings of Carolyn Wayland. As many know, Carolyn is a longtime friend of Krotona and has been a member of the TS for more than thirty-five years. Coordinated by the Krotona School Director, Maria Parisen, this is the second art show for the Krotona Library in recent years. These purchasable paintings will be exhibited throughout most of 2022 and will be shipped by Carolyn herself. Carolyn's new book *Painting the Cosmos: A Metaphysical Universe* (Shakti Press) as well as gift cards are available for sale in the Quest Bookshop (open the same hours as our library).

We welcome you to visit Carolyn's exhibit and enjoy the stunning view of the surrounding mountains of Ojai from the lovely library terrace and gardens.

On April 9 from 1 to 4 pm (CDT), Carolyn will join Pablo Sender, PhD, for a workshop titled "Abstract Art and The Secret Doctrine: Painting as a Meditative Experience." The program is sponsored by the Theosophical Society in America and will explore the connection between painting, meditation, and the metaphysical realities. The discussion will be based on a series of compositions by Carolyn inspired by Blavatsky's *The Secret Doctrine*. In Pablo's words: "Painting the Cosmos offers a novel approach to connect us with the highly metaphysical concepts found in *The Secret Doctrine* by H. P. Blavatsky. By skillfully using the abstract technique, Carolyn presents a series of paintings illustrating the main topics dealt within Blavatsky's work, from the ultimate reality to the manifested cosmos."

For more details about this workshop, please visit www.theosophical.org. ■

Please help us keep our mail list current. If your mailing address or email address has changed please let us know so you don't miss an issue of *The Krotonian*. Email us at schoolinfo@krotonainstitute.org or send to 46 Krotona Street Ojai CA. 93023



Continued from page 3

Ravi Ravindra, **Yoga and the Journey of Self-Transformation**, March 15 - 31, 11 Weekdays, Zoom

Cynthia Overweg, **One Earth, One Humanity**, April 19, 20, 21, Zoom

Cynthia Overweg, **Being with the Earth**, April 23 Retreat, On Site

Rabbi Rami Shapiro, **How to be an Authentic Mystic: Four Rules You Must Follow and Then Break**, April 26 - 29, Zoom

Sue Prescott, **Relationships: A Path to Spiritual Awakening**, May 3 - 6, On Site

Andrew Harvey, **Revolution of the Divine Feminine**, May 7, Zoom

Eneida Elena Carbonell, Luz María Tamarit, **Fin de Samana en Español**, Mayo 20 - 22, On Site and Zoom ■

Of Note

Randall Bush

In February 2022, Randall Bush, a resident of Krotona for a few years, moved to a nearby assisted living center. As he loved residing at Krotona, Randall volunteered his services in the Library,



Bookshop, and the School. He also helped in the Maintenance department when needed. We wish Randall well as he settles into his new place and thank him for all his contributions to Krotona. ■

The Krotonian

2 Krotona Street, Ojai, CA 93023-3901 805. 646.2653 info@krotonainstitute.org

Editorial Committee: Idarmis Rodriguez (editor), Ananya Sri Ram Rajan (editor), Rochelle Voiroll (layout /design) Douglas Borgatti, Cynthia Overweg, Guru Prasad,

Distribution: free. Publication date: Spring and Fall. Views expressed in these pages are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of the Krotona Institute of Theosophy.

Krotona Institute of Theosophy: Linda Oliveira, President; Guru Prasad, Executive Vice President

How to reach us: <http://www.krotonainstitute.org/>

Library and Information:

805.646.2653

library@krotonainstitute.org

Quest Bookshop: 805.646.0873

bookshop@krotonainstitute.org

School: 805.646.1139

schoolinfo@krotonainstitute.org

The administrative center for the Esoteric School of Theosophy (EST) in North America is located at Krotona. For information about the EST, contact 805.646.3021 or email essecretary@krotonainstitute.org

If you no longer wish to receive *The Krotonian*, please email schoolinfo@krotonainstitute.org or call Anne Johnstone (805. 646.1139). All rights reserved, including the right to reproduce this publication or portions thereof in any form without written permission from the editor, *The Krotonian* info@krotonainstitute.org.

Moving Forward at Krotona

Guru Prasad

Dear Friend of Krotona,

It has been more than two years since our normal routines were disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic. While it is impossible to predict future coronavirus mutations, it looks increasingly likely that Covid-19 will become endemic and we will learn how to live with it. Science and other developments should provide us with adequate resources to mitigate the situation.

We have been continuously monitoring the Covid pandemic with everyone's safety as our top priority. With that in mind, we have partially opened the Krotona Library and the Bookshop on weekends. We are taking safety precautions that include wearing masks inside these facilities even though the County recently made the wearing of masks optional in indoor public places. The Krotona School continues to offer online classes for the spring session and we hope to be able to invite students for in person classes in the fall of this year. The Library and the Bookshop may revert to normal schedule earlier.

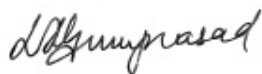
We are making substantial improvements to Krotona's infrastructure this year. The walkways of the Student/Faculty units have deteriorated and these are being replaced with concrete walkways. We are making renovations to the Kern Guest House and the tower at the top of Krotona Hill will undergo changes to strengthen the inside. We have also completed a major construction project to connect Krotona to the Municipal water district. Details are provided elsewhere in this edition of the Krotonian.

The improvements we are making are expensive. As you know, Krotona is a nonprofit institution and so we depend on the generosity of our friends to support a substantial portion of our activities. Your tax deductible contributions are greatly appreciated and can be made at our website www.krotonainstitute.org or donations can be sent by mail. Please be assured that your donation will be wisely spent for the operations of Krotona.

We expect to be fully open to the public in the fall of this year and hope that you will visit us, attend classes, or spend time on private retreat. We look forward to welcoming you soon.

Thank you very much for your continued support. We are grateful.

Sincerely,



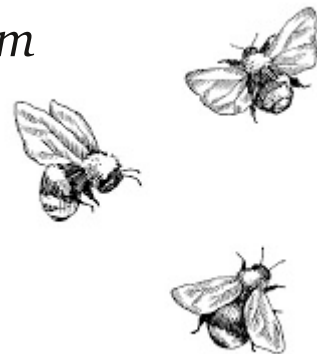
The Krotona Institute of Theosophy is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit center. Donations are tax deductible.

<input type="checkbox"/> I wish to make a donation of \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> I enclose a check payable to Krotona Institute.
Please charge my credit card with \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard
CC# _____	Exp date _____
Last 3 numbers on signature strip _____	Signature _____
Name _____	email _____
Address _____	
City _____	State _____ Zip _____
Mail to KROTONA INSTITUTE, 2 Krotona Hill, Ojai, CA 93023-3901 • www.krotonainstitute.org	

Krotona Institute of Theosophy
The Krotonian
2 Krotona Street
Ojai CA 93023-3901

*Like the bee gathering honey from
different flowers, the wise man
accepts the essence of different
Scriptures and sees only the
good in all religions.*

Srimad Bhagavantam



As a Theosophical community, Krotona:

1. Nurtures living in harmony and compassion with self, others, and nature;
2. Inspires spiritual transformation through an earnest quest for Truth and living the ageless wisdom, Theosophy.
3. Offers a peaceful, welcoming environment to encourage a life of self-inquiry, study meditation, and selfless service.