



NEWSLETTER

The Wisdom of Nature

The following is an excerpt from John Radecki's lecture, "The Creation of New Worlds: The Role of Body in Healing the Split Between Spirit and Matter," which he presented at Cornish College North on February 25, 1991. Radecki consented to having it reproduced here due to the strong response of the participants. He welcomes your comments, and may be reached at 821-6326.



As the 20th century comes to a close, we are increasingly faced with the consequences of living out of harmony with Nature. Many attempts are now being made to solve some of the problems we face, but we are at a crossroads, I think, where one must ask if the kind of knowledge we are using to apply to the crisis is itself *contributing* to the crisis. I think it is.

The knowledge of Nature that we have today is knowledge born out of a separation of Spirit and Nature. To put it simply, we know Nature as an object of inquiry, an object bereft of its own subjectivity (or spirit). We now recognize that our epistemology (hard science), born out of the split, cannot help in the matter of healing such a split.

To contribute to solving some of the grave problems facing us now, I believe we need an epistemology that is not divorced from Nature but is, in fact, born from Nature. We need to know what Nature herself has to say about Her condition and what we must do to move more into accord with Nature in our own lives.

I hope the following story is a small step in that direction.

There is a little weed that has several long seed pods each containing about ten seeds. When they ripen, usually about early summer, the pods dry out and become, as

it were, spring-loaded, so that any creature that comes by and brushes against the pod activates a trigger; the pod springs open, scattering the little seeds in all directions.

I had first noticed the weed in my garden last year (1989). I pulled some out and forgot all about it until spring of this year (1990). As I took a customary turn about the garden, I saw, with increasing alarm, that this little weed had spread throughout the yard. Its presence had increased exponentially from last year. A kind of panic overtook me: "At the rate it reproduces, it will soon take over the whole yard!" I couldn't let that happen, so I urgently began a program of elimination, a genocide if you will. My panic had convinced me that I would be crowded out by this fast-reproducing little weed.

So, I tried. I pulled out weeds by the handful, for days. I checked and rechecked the areas that my hands had cleaned out for any stray specimens, any of which were quickly dispatched also. I had to make sure, I convinced myself, that no plant could reach maturity. I wanted no more seeds scattering. At this point, my actions were quite unreflective. I was simply acting under the influence of some compulsion that had gripped me.

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Wisdom of Nature, from page 1—

A week or so later, I was again checking my garden and I did see that some small, immature specimens of the weed had emerged in spite of my diligence. What shocked me and brought me out of my compulsivity was the fact that these little, immature plants had matured precociously! They were bearing seed pods, smaller in scale, but still almost ready for dissemination. Then, I heard a speech that came to me spontaneously. It was a moment of synchronicity. So I can say with conviction that this little weed spoke to me as an emissary of Nature and in fact informed me of something I needed to hear.

The weed said: "This is Nature's response to a threat to the survival of a species. When the older generation is threatened by a panic born of the thought that there are *too many*, then this panic in turn produces a blind, compulsive action that seeks to reduce the *too many*, by any means.

"When this happens," the little weed went on, "the species becomes threatened and this sets off a compensatory movement in the species to ensure its survival.

"Thus, the burden of reproducing the species falls on the younger generation by forcing precocious sexual development in a compensatory move toward saving the species."

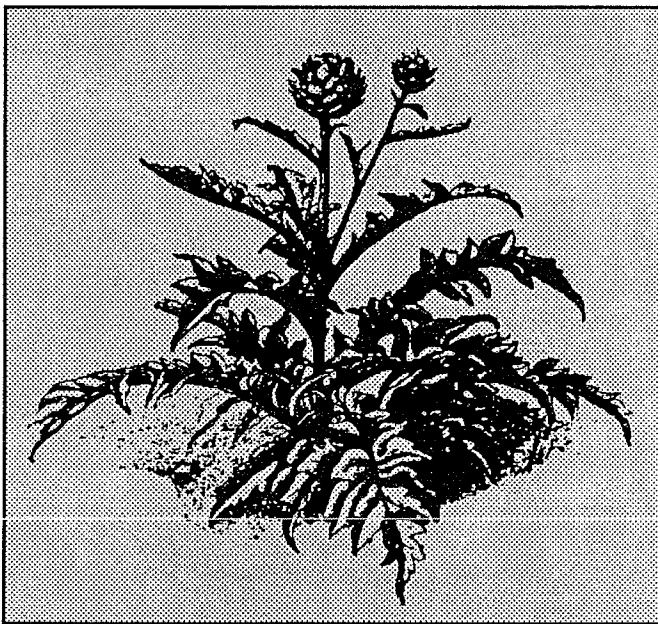
This speech, from an autonomous source, connected me to a thought I had been entertaining for some time. In working with families, and simply in hearing stories through the media, it had become clear to me that adults on the whole

feel that children today are much more difficult to rear. When I had first heard stories like that I felt inclined to say that the problem lay with an inability to understand the child's point of view. In other words, I had believed that the child was not inherently more difficult than in the past. I began to formulate

this thought: "What if children today *are* more difficult to rear in some way that is unique to this time? What if something is happening to children that makes them more of a difficulty for adults today?"

I thought of the ways in which many children seem to despise adult authority; of the growing child abuse; of the many movies depicting the child without adequate parents who becomes the saving hero; of the adult concern with teaching children how *not* to reproduce, even down to elementary school! And so on.

This thought suddenly erupted into conscious connection with the teaching of this little weed. Now I had a context for my puzzling and contentious thought. Now, I dared to say, I understood. This is why children are in fact more difficult to raise today. They are being forced into a precocious sexuality in response to conditions affecting the adult population, which remains by and large unconscious. We, the adults,



feel overcrowded. This is becoming the number 1 issue of our day. A panic lies just beneath the surface. From this panic comes blind, compulsive action which goal is *to reduce the numbers*.

I recalled the flashing sign in New York that registers the national budget defi-

cit, rising at a million a minute, just like the population of the Earth, and the nation's concern with reducing the deficit through increasingly draconian measures. I recalled the statistic emerging from the World Health Organization recently stating that 700 million people will die this year from starvation or inadequate medical care. I remembered a dream of a client in which all the minorities in the U.S. were in a huge amphitheater on an island. While the people were enthralled by the *entertainment* going on, the sea was rising to swallow them up (is this the nefarious purpose of our mind-numbing entertainment industry?).

Genocide, starvation, economic disaster, war, rape of the environment leaving barren deserts, slaughter in the name of short-lived profit. Are not these the chilling tools in the service of reducing the numbers?

The little weed gave me a link between these frightening facts of today *and* the equally disturbing fact of precocious sexual development in children which produces, as we are only too aware, an unbearable burden on the immature ego, resulting in frightening distortions in the state of modern childhood, which strains to bear the burden of a compensatory movement in Nature, to preserve the species in the face of an unconscious adult population that seems bent on its own demise.

After the link was made under the tutelage of the little weed, something shifted within. I no longer felt compulsive. I had achieved a reflectivity that restored relationship. I had a new respect for the weed for a start and no longer had any desire to wipe it out. More than a shift in the microcosm, as it were, I also felt a new relationship to the world in which I live, and an increasing sense of responsibility toward this world, as well as love toward this world which seems to be suffering so acutely today.

Spring Series Schedule

Ken Kimmel

The Return of the Waters of Life

Monday, May 13
7:30 P.M.

Cornish College North
\$5 Members; \$8 Non-members

About the Lecture: The blessed rains of May, foretold by Mayan astronomers when the god of the Southern Cross constellated in their night heavens, brought with them birth and renewal to the scorched and barren earth. This evening we will uncover the images of these renewing waters of life, found in ancient myths, sacred ritual, and arts, and whose symbols appear within our own depths, through dreams. Their manifestation in the unconscious psyche can signal a moistening influence of the feminine spirit, bringing a sense of relatedness and integration to an ego consciousness, parched and cut off from the essence of life.

About the Speaker: Ken Kimmel, M.A., MFCC, is a Jungian-oriented therapist in private practice in Seattle, and director of the Pacific Northwest Center for Dream Studies. Since 1981, he has conducted seminars and workshops throughout the West Coast and Hawaii, specializing in dream work and cross-cultural ceremonial art forms. Portions of his 1974 field research among healers, medicine people, and mediums of Central and South America have been published in Stanley Krippner's *Realms of Healing*.

Anne deVore

Yeats' Body of Fate

Friday, May 17
7:30 P.M.

Cornish College North
\$5 Members; \$8 Non-members

About the Lecture: Through the discussion and comparison of Jung's concepts of the collective unconscious and synchronicity, Plato's myth of Er and the Spindle of Necessity, and Yeats' "The Phases of the Moon" and his concept of the Body of Fate, we will gain a greater understanding of our personal journey of individuation. Dr. deVore will begin by looking at the differences between psychological development and soul development, with reference to Jung's concept of individual and self development. She will expand upon this by exploring Yeats' concept of soul development as put forth in his book *A Vision*. In this book, the 28 phases of the moon represent soul development reflecting a theory of reincarnation first mentioned by Plato in *The Republic*, which says we reincarnate out of love for the planet and for a specific benevolent mission. This differs from karmic reincarnation, which is based on reparation. The format for this presentation will include slide projection, lecture, and discussion.

About the Speaker: Anne deVore, Ph.D., is a Diplomat of the Inter-regional Society of Jungian Analysts. She did her undergraduate work in philosophy and literature, and received her graduate degrees in Counseling and Educational Psychology from the University of Colorado in Boulder. Her research interests include creativity, poetry, dreams, prophesy, and metaphysics.

Carl Robinson

When Psyches Do the Tango:

Conflict, Healing, and Growth in Relationships

Monday, June 10
7:30 P.M.

Cornish College North
\$5 Members; \$8 Non-members

About the Lecture: Through our interactions with others—whether friend, lover, acquaintance, co-worker, boss, or client—we are given the opportunity to see into our psyche and soul, and do the most profound psychological and spiritual healing and growth. In this presentation, we will look at how our unconscious affects our relationships and the process of individuation.

By using case examples, personal experience, and demonstrations, we will look at some of the methods that Jungian-oriented therapists may use to work with these issues and how individuals outside of the therapist's office can continue their development. Of major interest will be the process of "splitting off of complexes," the confrontation with our shadow, and a brief introduction to the technique of Voice Dialogue.

About the Speaker: Carl Robinson, Ph.D., is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Seattle. He is a graduate of the California Institute of Integral Studies, a school dedicated to the integration of Western and Eastern psychology and spiritual practices. He has been in the field of psychology for over 13 years.



Fall Preview

These are the lectures and workshops scheduled for presentation in September 1991. Please see the fall issue of the newsletter for further details about these and the other events planned for the coming season.

Lecture by Ursula Wirtz Monday, September 9

Eros Betrayed: Sexual Abuse Within Psychotherapy

A discussion of the issue of therapeutic abstinence, the Freudian abstinence rule, and its modifications in various analytical schools.

Lecture by Tony Frey Friday, September 13

Dr. Frey's recollections of his time at the Zurich Institute with C.G. Jung.

Workshop by Tony Frey Saturday, September 14

Psychosis from a Jungian Perspective

The interplay of psychiatry, psychology, and Jungian analysis will be considered in its theoretical, clinical, and institutional aspects.

Lecture by Mario Jacoby Friday, September 27

The Fig Leaves of Adam and Eve: The Meaning of Shame

Workshop by Mario Jacoby Saturday, September 28

Practical Issues Concerning the Shame Complex

Society Library Notes

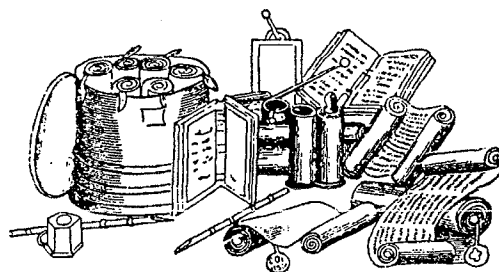
The library is looking forward to having a place where it can become a real library, accessible to the membership at regular times.

You can help with the task of bringing all the materials together in one place by returning any books or tapes you have had longer than six or eight weeks.

Library materials may be returned at any Society event (regardless of location) or mailed to Box 19243, Seattle, WA 98109.

Following are some of the books recently acquired by the Society library:

Artemidorus, *The Interpretation of Dreams (Oneirocritica)*
 Barber, *King Arthur: Hero and Legend*
 Carotenuto, *Kant's Dove: The History of Transference in Psychoanalysis*
 Charbonneau-Lassay, *The Bestiary of Christ*
 Colman (Ed.), *The Father: Mythology and Changing Roles*
 Corbin, *Avicenna and the Visionary Recital*
 Engelsman, *The Feminine Dimension of the Divine*
 Fraser, *The Warrior Queens*
 Godwin, *Harmonies of Heaven and Earth*
 Godwin, *Robert Fludd: Hermetic Philosopher*
 Larsen, *The Shaman's Doorway*
 Mackay, *Extraordinary Popular Delusions*
 Mattoon (Ed.), *The Archetype of Shadow in a Split World*
 (Berlin, 1986, Conference Proceedings)
 O'Flaherty, *Other People's Myths*
 Pedersen, *Dark Hearts: The Unconscious Forces that Shape Men's Lives*
 Perry, *The Heart of History: Individuality in Evolution*
 Samuels (Ed.), *The Father: Contemporary Jungian Perspectives*
 Samuels (Ed.), *Psychopathology: Contemporary Jungian Perspectives*
 Scholem, *Kabbalah*
 Schwartz-Salant (Ed.), *Liminality & Transitional Phenomena*
 (Chiron Clinical Series)
 Signell, *Wisdom of the Heart: Working with Women's Dreams*
 Trismosin, *Splendor Solis*



Call for Submissions

The C.G. Jung Society, Seattle, is seeking submissions for the fall edition of the newsletter. Contributions of relevant essays, poetry, news, and media reviews will be considered for publication. Please send to: P. O. Box 19243, Seattle, WA 98109. Questions? Call David Steinmetz at 776-7774. The deadline for the fall issue is July 3.

C.G. Jung Society, Seattle 1991 Annual Meeting

Date: Monday, May 20, 7:30 P.M.

Agenda: 7:45-8:15 Business Meeting and Election
1991-1992 Board of Directors

8:15-9:30 Video tapes from the
Wisdom of the Dream Archives
will be shown.

Location: University Heights Center
5031 University Way NE
(Parking available from Brooklyn Avenue)

All Society Members Are Invited to Attend
Light Refreshments Will Be Provided

Publicity Suggestions Requested

The publicity committee would like to find better ways of calling attention to Society events, and of making them known to a wider audience. Our best sources of publicity, by far, are this newsletter and the word-of-mouth publicity of our members. We would like to find ways to improve on what we're now doing.

We encourage you to tell your friends, whether in the Society or not, about the lectures and workshops we sponsor. If you're planning to attend, please invite someone to go along whom you think would appreciate the chance to become acquainted with Jungian psychology and the Society.

We would also appreciate receiving any suggestions you have about other media for advertising, especially those which reach a different audience from our newsletter. We currently advertise in *Common Ground*, and have notices occasionally in the *Seattle Weekly*, the *P-I*, and the *Times*. If you know of a periodical that would list our events but doesn't, please let us know. We would also appreciate your help in posting our flyers at bookstores, coffee shops, campus bulletin boards, etc., you are familiar with. If you know of a business that will post our mailed flyers, please let us know so we can add it to our mailing list.

If you have any suggestions about either advertising media or the publicity program in general, please write to the Society box number, or call the Society phone machine and leave a message. Thank you for your help!

—Arthur Hopkins
Publicity Chair

Volunteers Needed

Student, Senior, and
Reduced-Income Discounts
Available

There are several ways for people with reduced incomes to obtain discounts to Jung Society lectures and workshops. One is by becoming a member of the Society. Members receive a 20 percent to 30 percent discount on admissions. Students and seniors can become members for only \$15 per year. This cost would be made up in attending only two workshops per year. Membership forms and information will be sent to you if you call 782-6877.

A second way to receive a discount is to volunteer to help with setting up for a lecture or workshop. Those who make prior arrangements for this volunteer work are given free admission to lectures and half-price admissions to workshops they help with. For more information on this option, please call the hospitality co-chairs, Kurt Vance and Margaret Swanson-Vance, at 632-9047.

A third possibility is to do other volunteer work for the Society. Those interested in helping the Society in other ways, such as publicizing Society events, bookkeeping, or typing correspondence, are encouraged to call 782-6877. These volunteer activities qualify you for half-price admission to all Society workshops.

The Society is committed to making its educational events available to everyone, despite differences in income.

Mailing List Limits

Although the C.G. Jung Society, Seattle, does not sell its mailing list, the Board does occasionally approve its use by groups or individuals sending materials of relevant interest. If you prefer to receive *only* Society mailings, please drop a note to P.O. Box 19243, Seattle, WA 98109, or call (206) 782-6877.

May 1991						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Board Meeting	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Ken Kimmel	14	15	16	17 Anne de Vore	18
19	20 Annual Meeting	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 1991						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3 Board Meeting	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Carl Robinson	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 / 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

Computer Still Needed

The Society has an urgent need for a computer to use for accounting, writing correspondence, and other administrative tasks. We'd very much appreciate the donation of any usable IBM-compatible or Mac computer. Such a donation would be tax deductible. To make a donation, please call the Society number, (206)782-6877, and leave a message. Someone will return your call promptly.

Cornish College North Meeting Location

Directions to Cornish College North: The North building of the Cornish College of the Arts is at 1501 Tenth Avenue East (at Galer), just north of St. Mark's Cathedral. **By Car**—To park in the lot behind Cornish North, enter the driveway between St. Mark's and Cornish College, then turn right at the far end of the building through the archway. The rear entrance to the building, at the far north end under an arch, will be open and lighted. **By Bus**—There is a bus shelter next to the drive between Cornish North and St. Mark's and a stop directly across the street from the school, providing easy access from the University District and downtown via routes 7 and 9.

Society Library

The Society lending library is located at a Cornish College North classroom, Room 122N, and is available for use coincident with all scheduled events at Cornish North. The lending library contains the Society's collection of taped lectures and seminars, as well as many of Jung's works, and much recent Jungian writing.

Additional materials composing the Society research library—periodicals, reference works, out-of-print books, and a complete hardcover set of Jung's Collected Works—are housed temporarily at a private residence. If you wish to have access to these materials, please feel free to call the Society at 782-6877 to make the necessary arrangements. If you have books or time that you would like to contribute to the library, or if you have any questions or suggestions about the library, please call the Society librarian at 783-5181.

C.G. Jung Society, Seattle

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- Sustaining Member \$75
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- Individual Member \$25
- Couple (same address) \$40
- Student/Senior \$15
- Mailing List ONLY \$5

Please check here if you want to receive *only* Society mailings.

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 Phone (____) _____ Comments _____

Statement of Purpose

This newsletter is published three times a year by the C.G. Jung Society, Seattle, a nonprofit educational corporation founded in 1972. The purpose of the Society is to promote public interest in, and understanding of, analytical psychology and the current use of Jungian concepts by contemporary thinkers. It sponsors lectures, workshops, seminars, and study groups, and maintains a library of Jungian materials. Programs are, for the most part, intended for the general public.

The Society's mailing address is:
P.O. Box 19243
Seattle, WA 98109

For more information about the Society, please call (206) 782-6877.

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