

eTotempole

New Years Eve, December 2002



Dear Friends

Welcome to the Third issue of the eTotempole and the final one for 2002.

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year. Let us hope it will be a peaceful year for everyone.

The next issue will be in March 2003. Please send all contributions by march 15th 2003 to animalwork@espanola.com.

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Practitioner's Council

Next Gathering:

Our next gathering will be hosted by Jeannette Samanen at Temenos Conference Center near Philadelphia over the weekend of **March 14-16, 2003**. The cost will be \$180.00 Save the date!

Flyers will be mailed prior to the event. If you have any questions, please contact Debra Vickroy at debvickroy@aol.com or 626-398-7748 or Jeannette at jsamanen@worldlynx.net or 610-983-9601.

Next Steps

Vision and mission for the Council may be on the agenda for the next meeting. We also discussed meeting an *Animal of Guiding* to help us in our work as guides. It was agreed that we would co-create an agenda for each gathering. We will do this as a group at the beginning of each gathering (following the opening ceremony)

Practitioner's Council Newsletter:

The Prcitioner's Council also publish their own newsletter. For more information or to receive a copy of the Council newsletter, please contact debra Vickroy at: debvickroy@aol.com or 626-398-7748

The IIVR Webpage

The IIVR web page is not yet operational. Rhonda Lunsford is sorting out the confusion, trying to regain access codes etc.

Until it is up and going, the eTotempole seems to be the main place of contact for the community.

Thanks,
Mary Diggin

John White Memorial

The memorial issue of the eTotempole for John White is almost complete.

However, since I mainly received photographs, it is a very large file and not suitable for email. My intention is to upload it to the IIVR website, when ever we can get access and allow people browse and download it from there at their own convenience.

There is still room for more contributions. Send them to animalwork@espanola.com.
Thanks

Mary Diggin

Mum

I feel a great sadness and confusion.
Mum has criticised me.
I am not perfect,
I am not worthy of love,
I'll have to try harder next time,
I don't quite understand what I did wrong,
I wish she'd just love me,
Why doesn't she?
I love when we get on together, and then it ends, abruptly,
And I don't understand why.

Does she not love me?
She doesn't love me.
I hate her too.
I'll kill her,
 now,
I'll cut her out of my life as if she never belonged.
I don't belong.
I belong nowhere.
I am not acceptable.
I have no right to exist.
I am tolerated on sufferance, but,
one mistake and I will be rejected forever.
I reject my mum
She rejects me.
She doesn't love me
Sometimes I'm lucky and we get along, but really,
 Deep down.....
Maybe she loves me, even so?
I don't know.
I feel a great sadness and confusion.

El Salvador – Guatemala

August 28– September 9, 2001
by Eloise Clawson

Recently I had the opportunity to travel to El Salvador and Guatemala with Rev. Chonyi Richard Allen and Lucie LeBlanc. The trip was planned to provide support and healing for people who had suffered from the violence of long civil wars in their countries.

For the past five years I have worked with Richard and my life has been changed by the process of meeting the animals and learning to trust their inner messages. I was excited about the prospects of sharing this experience with friends in Central America, but much larger surprises awaited me as the work began to unfold.

Because of last minute plane cancellations, we arrived late the night before the two day workshop. In the morning the room was cleared, mattresses were placed on the floor for easier relaxation and the work began. The participants were staff from ASAPROSAR, the Salvadoran Association for Rural Health, located in the western region of El Salvador. This is an organization that works with people who are poor and marginalized from society. The trauma of living midst twelve years of civil war was compounded by the devastation of the earthquakes of this past year.

The goal of the workshop was to “care for the caretakers”. The majority of those participating were social workers or psychologists. But it soon became clear that even the rural health promoter would easily meet her animals and experience profound healing from the encounter.

Why did I feel such a sense of awe and surprise by the experience of taking the “animal work” to Central America? I have been going to El Salvador for the past 16 years and continue to be inspired by the work and dedication of these women and men. But there was “that voice of doubt” mumbling within my head! Would they understand the process? Would my translations be adequate for that understanding? What if they were so skeptical that could not journey? I knew the PTPP was useful for people from the U.S. and Europe, but would it be helpful and applicable to those from the Latin culture?

My close friend, Dr. Vicky Guzman, founder/director of ASAPROSAR, is also a member of the PTPP training group, which meets in Boston with Richard. From the very beginning Vicky’s journeys have been intense and provided the healing of painful experiences suffered during the war. But in my head, “that voice” questioned whether perhaps Vicky’s skill in journeying was because she so naturally is in touch with the clairvoyant aspects of her life. But the staff was unfamiliar with the animal work, would they be open to exploring the process?

The workshop was beginning and my inner questions continued during the introductory discussion of the Personal Totem Pole Process. All were attentive. No uneasy shifting of positions nor avoiding eye contact when it was time to experience their first “journey”. Gently they let their roots descend into Mother Earth, feeling the clear sky overhead and “letting go” into their own personal awareness.

Perhaps because of the recent earthquakes and the current draught in their country, many had to search for the right place to plant their seed, to move it, or to protect it. Others recognized how difficult it was to grow in the intense sun. Rain refreshed and covered their body. For some the leaves shriveled but later unfolded with new growth. Tall green trees appeared to lend shade and support.

Each person hesitated but then began to share from those deep places within. At this point Richard had

only introduced the “seed” but as people began to re-enter their journey, animals spontaneously appeared to them. Animals took one man to reunite with his son who had died. The healing, which Ronny felt, was experienced by everyone in the room. A rabbit and half a horse took the young health promoter to the cemetery to meet with her brother who “disappeared” during the war. The animals wouldn’t talk to her, but gradually she was able to bandage the injured horse and met with her brother all dressed in white, who reassured her he was happy, and he no longer suffered. Over ten years of pain was released in that journey.

There I stood. Astonished! No one had mentioned animals! This was an exercise with the “seed”. But there they were, first one and then a second animal appearing. Some not communicating with words, but communicating nonetheless. The spontaneous change of expressions during the journey and the relaxation of the body, testified to the inner knowing which was occurring.

Meeting the chakra animals was the agenda for the second day. By this time the word was out...“something unusual was happening in the workshop”. Two more people asked to join and the group was asked to make the final decision. The answer was unanimous as they explained, “this kind of opportunity is so rare it would be terrible to deny anyone from participating in such a process. So the group expanded to include the new members.

The animals were in abundance, dolphins, injured animals, squirrels, eagles, raccoons, fish, dogs, worms and kittens. Again my amazement at the power of the process! Carolina, one of the new members of the group met the animals of all of the chakras. Later when Richard guided her in re-entering her journey she became a tress and the council of animals appears, spontaneously, without prompting! No one had even mentioned a council of animals! Suddenly there they all were, up in a tree, helping her rid herself of the worms that covered her. All were together except the little dog, which couldn’t climb the tree. With tears streaming down her cheeks the animals tried to decide what to do? The little dog reassured Carolina that he couldn’t live up in the branches and he would be all right down at the base of the tree. The journey allowed Carolina to experience each of the animals, especially the appearance of her much loved dog that recently died. She was comforted to feel the protection and care of the dog which now resides within her and will be her companion and friend.

Often in my own journey with the animals I have questioned, “Can this process be trusted?” Can I really have confidence in my own “inner knowing”? And yet, I have experienced the changes in my life since first meeting the animals. In El Salvador I was witnessing the power of the animals in the lives of others. I saw people meet their animals for the first time. This challenged my doubts and questioning. It gave witness to the power of the inner process when one trusts the animals and the heart is ready to welcome them.

Because of the deep experiences generated at the workshop, the time allotted for personal consultation with Richard was overflowing with requests. This speaks to the fertile opportunities for the animal work in El Salvador in the future.

The journeys were a myriad of feelings. People came with anticipation, hesitancy, searching, uncertainty, expectancy, and each experience brought healing and new understanding. For me to witness the path of the journey was like seeing and feeling a sacred moment unfold. People met with the energies of color, animals, family, spirits, the Holy Virgin, with God, with the “wall of obstacles” and childhood memories of loss, grief, and anger.

Again and again, the power of the voice of the animals echoed with insight and wisdom. The process is not a formula applied in a rote manner. It is dynamic, sensitive and flourishes in the skill of a conscientious guide, providing safety and support to a journey that winds to the past and circles to the future.

As we traveled to Guatemala the animals emerged within our own relationships. We were surrounded by the energies of the mountain streams and the clouds resting on the tops of the volcanoes. In the midst of the raw beauty of the countryside, we were confronted with our own humanness, our flaws, and our blind spots. Traveling to unfamiliar places does offer that opportunity! Together we journeyed inward and the animals retraced our steps. It was like seeing and hearing the same scene enacted by three different authors. The animals provided the vehicle for us to explore the rough spots in our relationships, to laugh, pause, and recognize there are places deep within that need healing. My own animals seem more vibrant, more alive because of what I experienced on the trip to Central America.

I say thank you to the people of El Salvador and Guatemala who shared these intimate moments of their lives. A special thanks to Richard for generosity with his time and skills, as he helped heal the wounds hidden deep within individuals and within the earth itself. I remember the sacred dancing and chanting of Lucie, blending with the drum of the healing ceremonies and the prayers of Grandfather Roberto, Grandmother Rosa and Richard as they joined were united at the Volcano in El Salvador and in the mountains of Guatemala. The sacred fire joins and intertwines the air of the heavens to the energies of the earth and our lives intermingle and are connected.

For this, I am grateful

Eloise Clawson Halifax, MA. (September, 2001).

Poem from Festival 2002, Australia

At the animal imagery festival 2002
At Nurimbah Valley, I became a white cockatoo
Away from busy Brisbane, out of comfort zone
I engaged with new people and enjoyed self-reflection alone
A number of messages and images came my way
Some new, some old and some with shades of grey.
I learned about the talking stick and the benefits of open, honest, direct communication
I'll take it back to the office with eager anticipation.
I experienced a parrot, a black swan and a tiny grey mouse.
The birds taught me about healing, but the mouse became a mighty mouse.
A mouse with courage, a mouse with strength.
A mouse with the capacity to both feel and think.
So as I depart my cabin with a view and take with me my talking stick to share with a few
I see this imagery journey as a beginning, not an end.
My white cockatoo staying with me as a friend.

Carolyn

Imagery with Lyssie

by Jenny Garrison
7-25-01

(following a second visit to the orthodontist where he described the necessity for extensive work on the bite and palate, followed by straightening with braces)

Invite an image to come to you that would be your mouth... see your mouth as a picture

I see a little swimming turtle.

say Hello to the turtle. Thank him for coming

He wants to take me to a diamond cave. We go there. There are pictures on the wall of my ancestors. Turtle tells me I can call him Johnny. He tells me that a lot of my ancestors had the same bite as I do, and the old ones had nothing to cure it.

Ask Johnny about Dr. Linn and what he wants to do.

He is OK and so is what he wants to do.

Is there anything that needs to happen in preparation for the orthodontic work?

I need to , well, tell myself that changes are going to happen. I need to visit Johnny every once in a while. I need to tell my body to get ready to make the changes.

Anything else?

Yes, there is one picture he really likes that he wants to show me. He takes me to the back of the cave. It is a picture of a white haired lady with wrinkly skin. She is smiling.

Anything he wants to tell you about her?

Her name is Jane.

(Lyssie's great Grandmother was Jane Garrison, who fits the description! In talking about the imagery, Lyssie felt she had this ancestors blessing with the work that lies ahead)

Community News

This is the place for letting us know what is happening in the animal communities around the world. Workshops etc by PTPP practitioners can be placed here. Please send submissions for the next issue by March 15th 2002.

USA Community News

Summer 2003 Workshop

Steve Gallegos hope to hold a workshop on Dreams at RiverSpirit this summer. It is open to anyone who has completed Year 1 training. Dates to be announced.

Email animalwork@espanola.com for further details.

Practitioners' Council:

The next Practitioners' council meeting will be held at Temenos Conference Center near Philadelphia over the weekend of **March 14-16, 2003**. The cost will be \$180.00

If you have any questions, please contact Debra Vickroy at debvickroy@aol.com or 626-398-7748 or Jeannette at jsamanen@worldlynx.net or 610-983-9601.

Festival 2003

The Festival of the animals 2003 will be held in California, USA , September 25th-28th 2003. The venue is to be announced. NB: For those who were already notified of a change in dates to October 2003, please note that the date has been changed back to the original September dates. Apologies for the confusion.

Condolences

Condolences to Phee Brooks, her husband Guntis Licis and their daughter Arianna, on the death of Phee's mother last week. Phee was to be the organizer of the 2003 Festival but due to the terminal illnesses of both her parents, she had to postpone involvement.

Third Year Training/ Relationship Work Offering:

Jeannette Samanen is opening her Year 3 training to newcomers: Applicants must have completed the first two years of the training. Alternatively, if there are people who have completed the training but would like to do the relationship work piece over again, they would be welcome as well. Anyone who is interested should give Jeannette a call at 610-935-9305.

Here is the 2003 schedule for the Delaware Valley Training with Jeannette:

January 16-18 (Thursday - Saturday)

May 16-18 (Friday - Sunday)

July 18-20 (Friday - Sunday)

September 19-21 (Friday - Sunday)

It takes place at Temenos which is a retreat center in rural Chester County, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia is the closest airport). The cost is \$1600.

Denmark Community News

Steve Gallegos returns to Copenhagen in February:

- 1) The Danish Psychological Association, Stockholmsgade 27, at 24.02.2003 at 19.00 PM: Lecture: Returning to the Roots of Being Human.
- 2) The Danish Society for Psychical Research: 1- day workshop 25.02.2003 at 9.00-16.30: Exploring the Five Different Ways of Knowing and ESP. Place: In-spirit Center, Bülowsvej 50A, Frederiksberg.
- 3) The Danish Psychological Society for Clinical Hypnosis: The Personal Totem Pole Training: 3-days course 26.02-28.02.2003. Place: In-spirit Center, Bülowsvej 50A, Frederiksberg.
- 4) the second part of the training in Copenhagen in the PTPP takes place at September 18-20 2003 at In-spirit Center at Bülowsvej 50A, Frederiksberg.

Stevens 2-days workshop in August with the animals of the emotions was a huge success and also his two lectures.

We are looking very much forward to seeing Steve again in Denmark in February!

Many greetings,
Kaare

Contact: Kaare Claudewitz 0045-3990102 or email him at hypnose@webhuset.dk for further information.

Germany Community News

In 2003 Steve Gallegos will be at the Herberge:

1. 16 to 22 March 2003 with Training Year 1 / 2002, Part II
2. 31 May to 6 June 03 with Workshop Leader Training
3. 7 to 13 June 03 with Training Year 3 / 2003, Part I
4. 14 and 15 June 03 with Supervisory for Certified Guides
5. 2 to 8 August 03 with Training Year 1 / 2003, Part I
6. 9 to 15 August 03 with Training Year 3 / 2002, Part II
7. 16 to 22 August 03 with Training Year 2 / 2003, Part I
8. 9 to 15 November 03 with Training Year 1 / 2003, Part II

For information and booking please call Kiki Larro at 0049(0)8106-4115.



Ireland Community News

Workshop Leader 2

Steve Gallegos will hold a Workshop Leader Training in the Kinvara area next year. September 2003. All applications to Steve at PO Box 468, Velarde, NM 87582

Creativity Workshop

Barbara Trawinsky will hold a workshop on **Creativity** at the end of March. Contact Barbara for further details. telephone: 098-2i641. International: 353-98-21641

Celtic Workshop:

Mary Diggin and Phee Brooks will hold a Celtic Workshop in Ireland 2003. dates to be confirmed shortly. Email mary at animalwork@espanola.com for details.

Further updates:

For information on Workshops with Margaret Vasington, Irish PTPP Gatherings and any other happenings for 2003, please contact Audrey Dickson at audic@esatclear.ie