

# The Blue Star



Harold Klemp  
Spiritual Leader  
Of ECKANKAR



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## My Personal Commitment—I Will Always “Just Show Up”

BY ALDEN BUTCHER  
MOORESVILLE, NC

Service seems to be in vogue right now, but it should actually always be a priority if we want to grow spiritually. When we serve we receive more than we can ever give. It's a spiritual principle; it's the reciprocal nature of Divine Spirit. As we give, so do we receive, often many times over.

Recently, I have been contemplating just what it means to be a vehicle for Divine Spirit. In Eckankar, we learn that we are a spark of God, Soul, here to become masters in our own right and ultimately to become a Co-worker with God. But do we truly know what this means?

Yes, we understand that we are here to gain experience, right? So what does experience do of itself? In ECK we gain insight and spiritual awakening and gifts beyond measure through our experiences, both outwardly and inwardly.

Yet, what is next?

Most of us first look at Eckankar because of the restless call of Soul for Truth. However, as we gain from these teachings, and if we really expect to step into the realm of true mastership, we will naturally give back to all life. How could we do anything less? Is this not the principle of gratitude?

The next question might well be, “Where do I start?” What has come to me as I pondered this question of being a channel for Divine Spirit, for the ECK, is that I be present and active by just being part of the larger community, finding ways to participate. And for me, this also means in the ECK community and the activities provided for my upliftment. Even if I have no official duty, as perhaps in an ECK Worship Service, my simple presence at this gathering of like-minded Souls magnifies the flow of Spirit into the community by just one more person—me.

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## From the RESA

DAVID JONES  
REGIONAL ECK  
SPIRITUAL AIDE  
RALEIGH, NC

Peter Skelskey, President of ECKANKAR, will be the guest speaker at the 2010 NC ECK Regional Seminar, entitled Spiritual Tools for Mastering Life's Challenges. Peter will also be the primary speaker for each session, and he will share personal stories of his spiritual journey. He will present the new Community HU program to us in the Sunday morning session, open to the public, and he will share stories that will illustrate the importance of this program.

He will also share what the Community HU means to the world and what we can do to help right here in North Carolina. Please plan now to join us for this historic event and golden opportunity to "Just Show Up!" I know I will be there and I look forward to seeing each and every one of you there as well.

By the way, Pete Solheim, Director of Operations for ECKANKAR and guest speaker at last year's NC ECK Regional, recently shared that he had such a wonderful time and deep spiritual experience at our seminar that he is returning to the 2010 NC ECK Regional. We are pleased that he will be the speaker

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*Continued from page 1* **My Personal Commitment—I Will Always “Just Show Up”**

And I matter, because God loves me and can use my individual consciousness in service. This is not God’s duty in this world; it is mine and my privilege. And what comes back to me is many times more than my humble gesture of simply showing up.

You might wonder if I am speaking about numbers. Yes, I am. There is the old adage that there is strength in numbers. Numbers do matter. When we show up out of love for God, for others—in service—we create a vortex of energy and power that radiates throughout the world, the universe and through the inner worlds in ways that we can only imagine. How could we do less?

When we make a commitment to life, life makes a commitment back to us. That is the Law of Karma—the Law of Cause and Effect, inflow and outflow. When we make a commitment to serve life, life makes a commitment to serve us. That is just the way it works.

All of us are busy. My life propels me in directions I never imagined possible. Sometimes I just want to chill. Other times I may have a bit of a bad attitude over something. Yet, I know I can’t let my response be determined by any person or sense of obligation or anything other than service to all life. That’s all it’s about. Am I willing to give back or not? Or will I accept any excuse to avoid the service that I know is being asked of me, especially when the excuse seems justified, righteous and perfectly reasonable from my particular state of consciousness in the moment?

Actually, I cherish my participation in my local ECK community. So I try to avoid letting issues stand in my way. You see, I made a commitment many years ago that if I were in town I would at least simply show up—for service and participation in ECK classes, the ECK Worship Services, and now the new Community HU available at all the ECK Centers in North Carolina.

A few years ago, I had a dramatic demonstration of this ground rule for myself that I now call, “Just Show Up.” I was at the local ECK Worship Service on a beautiful spring morning, when a group of three couples showed up upon an invitation from one of our members. As it so happened, one of the gentlemen gravitated to me in conversation during fellowship after the service. And because we had common interests, our chat was brisk and interesting. I thought no more of this encounter.

Little did I know, this man had been a life-long seeker. Immediately he joined our Eckankar study group, our Satsang class. His experience there resonated perfectly with his heart’s desires. With gratitude and excitement he drank in the wisdom and love.

But in the next few months he discovered he was in the late stages of cancer. And to the heartbreak of all, he soon left his worldly body behind to move as Soul into the inner wolds. In Eckankar, we do not say that he died, we say that he translated. But he left this world thankful that he had realized his life-long search for Truth. I am certain he was peaceful and confident on his journey home to God.

Later I learned that he gave me credit for being what he needed in that ECK Worship Service encounter that helped him make a bridge to the marvelous teachings of Eckankar. I will never again believe that my service or my presence, in any small way, does not matter.

I know I will always just show up. It’s the least I can do.

*Continued from page 1* **From the RESA**  
on Saturday morning in the main session in the Expo Center at the Crowne Plaza.

In addition, we have Regional ECK Spiritual Aides, ECK leaders from around the country who are also attending and have agreed to be on panels, give talks and be a part of this exciting event. They will be joining us as we meet the public at this seminar to learn more about Spiritual Tools for Mastering Life's Challenges.

Your presence matters a great deal and your many efforts in support of this seminar are greatly appreciated. My wife, Rhonda, and I will be there to personally greet each and every one in attendance at this 2010 NC ECK Regional! See you there!

*David Jones*

The 2010 North Carolina ECKANKAR Regional Seminar

**Spiritual Tools**  
FOR  
**Mastering**  
**Life's Challenges**

Crowne Plaza Resort, Asheville, NC  
Register at [www.MasteringChallengesinLife.com](http://www.MasteringChallengesinLife.com)  
(800) 609-0250

**August 27-29**

## ***Achieve Your Greatest Spiritual Potential!***

**Discover dynamic tools for personal transformation**  
**Enjoy performances by acclaimed recording artists**  
**Participate in inspiring interactive workshops**

*Spiritual Tools for Mastering Life's Challenges*, the 2010 NC ECKANKAR Regional Seminar in Asheville, is coming together in beautiful ways! Because of a technical glitch and also because we're so excited about the quality of presenters and musicians in our upcoming program, ***we have extended our Earlybird pricing until August 13th to accommodate everyone!***

Many have asked for highlights of this seminar. You'll find many listed below. I hope you enjoy these snapshots into the weekend! The Friday Night Social and Concert includes desserts and fruit, in a candle-lit setting. The delicious Sunday Brunch features live music as well. All included with seminar registration! ***The public is warmly invited and may attend any session, and any of the Saturday workshops, as our guest. Or they can register for the entire weekend for just \$25, which includes Sunday Brunch with live music, and youth participation is complimentary.*** Please share the news!

Rooms are available at the Crowne Plaza Resort at a very special rate. Reserve yours at [MasteringChallengesinLife.com](http://MasteringChallengesinLife.com) or call 888-233-9527. We look forward to welcoming you to an uplifting weekend in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountain area of Asheville! Register now at: [MasteringChallengesinLife.com](http://MasteringChallengesinLife.com), or call us at 800-609-0250.

## Amazing Gifts of Attending ECK Seminars

“When I go to a seminar I get recharged, because I find myself surrounded by like-minded people who share the same love for Divine Spirit that I do. ECK, the Holy Spirit, is life. I just fall in love over and over again throughout the weekend, because I am living in the essence of Divine Love,”  
DP, Asheville, NC

“The benefit I get from attending an ECK seminar is love and service. I get love because I choose to serve. In order to get love you must give love and I choose to give love through service.”  
KT, Franklin, NC

“After attending an ECK seminar I have a changed consciousness. When it's over, I look at things differently. I perceive things differently. I am able to see, hear, and feel more clearly. It's like being in love; the grass is greener and the flowers are more beautiful. But, it is beyond human love. You open yourself to receive more Divine Love and become a conduit for more love yourself. It's like stepping into a bigger room.”  
JS, Lincolnton, NC

## Guest Speaker, Peter Skelskey



We are excited to welcome this year's guest speaker, Peter Skelskey, president of Eckankar. Peter loves sharing the love and wisdom that Eckankar brings to people of all faiths and belief systems. He uses uplifting stories to explain how remembering past lives, studying dreams, and practicing contemplative prayer techniques help people find more love, peace and purpose in life. Peter will speak all three days of the seminar and hosts a members only program Saturday 9-10AM. Sunday, he presents a new program being shared globally called the Community HU.

## Other Highlights of this Year's Seminar!



**Ending a Chain of Karma from Past Lives—*The Treasure of Daily Spiritual Exercises.*** Director of Operations for Eckankar, **Pete Solheim** brings a wealth of insights and experiences gleaned from over thirty years on his spiritual journey. Pete will speak on Thursday night for all volunteers, and again on Saturday morning.

**There is No Death—*Wisdom Gained through Spiritual Experience,*** presented by a Hospice Society program director from Canada, **Barbara Morningstar**. A heart-warming speaker, Barbara will also participate in **Spiritual Wisdom on Prayer, Meditation & Contemplation—*A Guide to the Most Secret Part of Yourself,*** a workshop presented by **Richard Wildasin** of NC and **Debbie Bryk-Serva**, RESA of Illinois.



***"I Have Never Walked Alone"*** is a featured song on Saturday evening, sung by **Tunde Baiyewu**, which highlights the very real guidance and protection that is possible when working with the Inner Master. Tunde's rich and soulful voice helped create three multi-platinum albums, sell-out tours all over the world and a shelf of awards. Tunde is visiting us from his home in England and will grace our stage on several occasions during the weekend.

**An Adjustment in the Inner Worlds—*Sometimes It's All That's Needed.*** Find out how even a simple spiritual change can make all the difference. International speaker, teacher, and RESA of WA, **Frank Martorelli** will address this topic, and co-host a workshop with **Ada Gonzalez** and **Micah Couttet: Reinvent Yourself Spiritually to Thrive in a Changing World.** Frank will also participate in a workshop with **Joan Horlbeck** and **Mary Schebil: Animals Are Soul Too!**



Love is the most powerful of the spiritual laws! **Walking the Path to the Kingdom of God—*Discover How Love Works*** is the title of this Friday evening panel which will examine how love works in daily life. Moderator **Dan Sailer**, RESA of Tennessee, will be joined by **Fran Blackwell**, of Florida, and **Paul Pulkys of Toronto, Canada.**



**David Jones**, Regional ECK Spiritual Aide (RESA) of NC will welcome fellow RESAs, **Frank Martorelli**, WA; **Bob Hayes**, TX; **Buck Flinn**, MS; **Joe Dobbs**, WV; **Jerry Hiller**, VA; **Dan Sailer**, TN; **Kristin Chabot**, NM; **Debbie Bryk-Serva**, IL; and **Ted and Rachel Carnes**, SC.



In his Sunday talk, *Release Old Limitations and Gain Spiritual Freedom*. Harold Ware, from Austin, TX, speaks from the heart with a depth of spiritual experience. Harold gives workshops at Texas universities on Eckankar, and on Saturday, he and Linda Lafferty of NC will co-facilitate the interactive workshop **The Spiritual Laws—Expand Your Consciousness and Master Your Own Life**.



**Maintain Inner Balance through Detachment** addresses one of *The Five Virtues*. This talk, presented on Sunday morning by **Buck Flinn**, RESA from Mississippi, will help us understand that detachment doesn't mean not to get involved; it means to not let outer circumstances throw off your inner balance. Through a personal story we will hear Buck's warmth and wisdom gained through years of spiritual study and experiences in Eckankar.

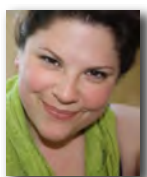


Author, **Dr. Charles Richards** gives workshops and presentations internationally. Saturday evening he will share his experiences on the panel **Learning to Work with the Inner Master—Gaining Your Wings to Fly**. This panel is hosted by **Sherwood Shaffer**, former NC professor, and also includes **Misty Scevola**, OR, and **Susanne Hayes**, TX.



**Spiritual Wisdom on Health and Healing—Mastering the Creative Perspective** is a panel with **Jane Pulkys**, a medical practitioner who appears on television and teaches wellness in Toronto, Canada. She is joined by **Debbie Bryk-Syrva**, a pediatric cardiologist and RESA from Illinois, and **Dr. Michael Stern**, who teaches doctors around the world. Panel moderator is **Robert Scott Bell**, who hosts a weekly radio show on alternative healing and is the former president of the International ECK Youth Council. He will also host a youth panel on Sunday called, **Spiritual Freedom Gained—Through Love, Protection and Guidance**.

**HU, the Most Beautiful Prayer—Discover the Transforming Power of a Simple Spiritual Exercise**, 9-10AM Saturday, is an interactive workshop for the public led by **Ada Gonzalez** of Portland, **Sue Keck** from NY, and **Richard Wildasin** of Asheville. All three presenters have discovered the great joy of living a life filled with the sound of HU. **Denny Pinegar** of NC will share a personal story of how HU has transformed his life.



When **Carolyn Walsh McLanahan** sings "*I Am Loved*," it will fill every fiber of your being with a new sense of joy. On Sunday, Carolyn will sing and also address one of *The Five Virtues*, **Discrimination—A Vital Tool for Spiritual Growth**. The ever popular, "*Stones in My Path*," by **Nancy McGimsey**, is an inspirational song that brilliantly addresses the issues we face in our everyday lives.



"When you do something for God, for the highest principle, you do each step until it sings," is sage advice from Harold Klemp, author and spiritual leader of Eckankar.

**Bob Hayes** (shown) from Texas, will help open the seminar on Friday with his wisdom and insights on the topic, **Mastership is Anything Except Just Getting By—Making Life a Masterpiece!** Bob is known as a poet and master storyteller, and he is also the RESA of Texas.

Spirituality, bluegrass and the Celtic influences of Ireland combine in the artful music of **Jim Hagan**. Jim has performed from New York to the lively pubs of Kerry and now lives in Tennessee with his family. He will perform on Saturday morning and various times throughout the weekend.





Dreams are an important asset for our spiritual growth. The panel, **Achieve Love, Wisdom and Guidance—Working with Your Dreams**, is designed for all those who want to discover the treasure trove awaiting them in dreams—both when awake and asleep. It includes former RESA from Australia, **Henry Koster**, as well as **Paula Madzo** of MN (both shown); and **Kristin Chabot**, a dynamic speaker and RESA from New Mexico. It is hosted by **Michael Bailey** from New Zealand.



**Stepping Toward Self-mastery—Taking Charge of Your Own Life** is the special creative arts presentation on Saturday night that promises to be poetry in motion. The spiritual poetry of Denise Fast and the stories her poems illustrate have charmed people the world over. Denise Fast has published a series of books of poems filled with the miracles that have helped her thrive on the road to mastery.



**“Dreams are an opening door leading to a world only Soul can explore.”** **Bill Mann**’s song, with these lyrics, will introduce the panel on dreams on Saturday night. Bill draws on a wide variety of musical influences to express what is important to him: spiritual growth and experiences. He has performed the world over and will also perform with his brother Michael Mann, and with Jimmy and Jean Johnson, his mom and stepdad. Bill also hosts the Friday night concert.

A **youth program** for kids of all ages will run concurrently with the main program and will include fun activities, crafts, Alpine Tower leadership development and team building, film-making, a pool party, and a full seminar program for youth to learn and participate in a rich spiritual environment. "Flyin' the Wind Wrist Rings" with rainbow ribbons will add color and fun on Sunday morning, as youth participate in the main program in the opening musical performance. All youth are welcome!



### Saturday, August 28, 2010

#### Transformational Workshops

9 a.m. – 10 a.m.

\*HU, The Most Beautiful Prayer—*Discover the Transforming Power of this Simple Spiritual Exercise*

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

\*Animals Are Soul Too!—*Divine Love and Spiritual Help from the Animal Kingdom*

\*Spiritual Laws—*Expand Your Consciousness and Master Your Own Life*

3 p.m. – 4 p.m.

\*Spiritual Wisdom on Prayer, Meditation and Contemplation—*A Guide to the Most Secret Part of Yourself*

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

\*Reinvent Yourself Spiritually To Thrive in a Changing World

\*Exploring Eckankar—*From the Outer Teachings to the Inner Wisdom*

#### Roundtable Discussions

- Weathering the Spiritual Storms of Life
- Animals Teach About Love and Life
- Finding Answers from Within
- From Grief to Gratitude
- The Art of Spiritual Dreaming
- Wake Up to Waking Dreams
- Past Lives, Reruns from Which We Can Learn

*We look forward to seeing you!*

ECKANKAR presents:  
2010 ECK Worldwide Seminar

# YEAR OF THE ECK Teacher

Featuring Sri Harold Klemp, the Mahanta, the Living ECK Master

“The single most important message that you can ever give anyone is that Soul exists because God loves It. This principle is the heartsong of ECK.”

—Sri Harold Klemp  
*ECK Arahata Book*



Each ECK seminar is an opportunity to travel to new spiritual heights in the company of the Mahanta, the Living ECK Master. Experience a lively, interactive program, fellowship with bright Souls in ECK, and fresh opportunities for divine co-workship.

By accepting this invitation to the 2010 ECK Worldwide Seminar, you make the commitment to grow greater as Soul in wisdom, freedom, & love. Make this seminar a gift to yourself in this Year of the ECK Teacher!

## Special features of this seminar:

**Sri Harold Klemp, the Mahanta, the Living ECK Master** will speak Saturday evening.

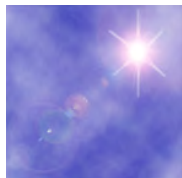
**Acres of Diamonds—A Field of Dreams**, a special event for ECK members featuring a panel of Eighth Initiates is part of a dynamic Friday-morning program

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of the dedication of the Temple of ECK! Celebrate at one of three ECK New Year celebrations at the Temple of ECK. Seminar at a Glance at [www.ECKseminars.org](http://www.ECKseminars.org).

October 22–24, 2010  Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Religion of the Light and Sound of God

**We would love to hear your stories from the heart. The topic of the next newsletter will be: Spiritual Renewal in the Year of the Teacher**

If you would like to submit articles, artwork, poetry or photography to *The Blue Star*, please send to: [mweber@carolwoods.org](mailto:mweber@carolwoods.org), [harpnhu@charter.net](mailto:harpnhu@charter.net), or contact Chris for instructions for non-digital submissions.



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## ECKANKAR Centers in North Carolina

The Charlotte ECKANKAR Center  
Highland Business Center  
818 Tyvola Road  
Charlotte, NC 28217  
(704)519-0181

The Triangle ECKANKAR Center  
6001 Chapel Hill Road, Suite 103  
Raleigh, NC 27607  
(919) 852-1550

Winston-Salem ECKANKAR Center  
Location: 930 W Fourth Street  
Mail: PO Box 15473  
Winston-Salem, NC 27113  
(336) 725-1050

The ECKANKAR Center of WNC  
797 Haywood Road, Suite 4  
Asheville, NC 28806  
(828) 254-6775  
EckankarWNC@gmail.com

The Greensboro ECKANKAR Center  
2311 W. Cone Boulevard, Suite 140  
Greensboro, NC 27408  
(336)373-8279

Wilmington ECKANKAR Center  
5040 Wrightsville Road  
Wilmington, NC 28403  
(910)799-8356

The High Country ECKANKAR Center  
9218-1A, Suite 3, Highway 105 South  
Foscoe, NC (Beside Volunteer Fire Dept.)  
highcountryeckankarcenter@charter.net

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## The Song of HU, A Gift to the World

*“If you want to lift yourself to a higher state of consciousness – so that the political issues, the family issues, the social issues of the day do not throw you out of balance, so that you can find a happier, more contented life while you’re living here – sing HU, the most beautiful prayer.”*  
— Harold Klemp, *HU, The Most Beautiful Prayer*, p. 586

Followers of many spiritual traditions have long used the singing or chanting of holy words to bring themselves closer to the divine. In the same way, those who have discovered HU, sing it for their spiritual upliftment. Singing HU brings help in their lives, because it connects them to the source of all life.

Eckankar has embarked on a program of bringing HU to people globally. Although this ancient sound does not belong to any religion, it has been lost to all but a few through the ages. It was sung by the ancient Egyptians at the foot of the Sphinx, and Sufis have chanted it in their spiritual practices for centuries. In some African cultures children are taught to sing HU when afraid or in trouble. The intention is to uplift individuals to their highest potential.

Harold Klemp, the spiritual leader of Eckankar says in the book *HU, The Most Beautiful Prayer*, “Singing HU each day can lead to a deeper understanding of yourself and why things happen the way they do in your life. It carefully opens your awareness to new viewpoints and attitudes. Anyone can work with HU regardless of age, background, or religion.”

As a form of non-directed prayer, singing HU (pronounced *hue*) simply entrusts our concerns to Spirit without directing any specific changes to outer events or other people. It is an act of trust, a way of saying “They will be done.”

A highlight of the upcoming seminar, “Spiritual Tools for Mastering Life’s Challenges,” is a **Community HU Song**. In this concluding event on Sunday morning, hundreds of attendees will sing HU together for twenty minutes, followed by five minutes of silent contemplation. Guest speaker, Peter Skelskey, president of Eckankar, will lead the HU Song. Also of note is the interactive workshop, *HU—The Most Beautiful Prayer*, Saturday at 9:00 am.

This 2010 NC Eckankar Seminar, open to the public, is August 27-29 at the Crowne Plaza Resort in Asheville, NC. Learn more at: [www.masteringchallengesinlife.org](http://www.masteringchallengesinlife.org).

You can also check with your local ECK center for times and dates for the Community HU.