

The Blue Star



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Harold Klemp
Spiritual Leader
Of ECKANKAR



Public Newsletter in North Carolina

Spiritual Renewal in the Year of Thanksgiving

We must be willing to let our joy of life show in a spirit of celebration. Enjoy the company of your loved ones at special celebrations of your own choosing throughout the year. Give thanks for the gift of life.

—Harold Klemp, *A Cosmic Sea of Words*, p. 208

Captains of our Destiny

BY DAVID JONES
REGIONAL ECK SPIRITUAL AIDE, NC

“As awakened captains of our destiny, we can meet today's challenges in a more relaxed and happy way. The spiritual laws of life give us the many resources to make the very best decision at any one moment.”

—Harold Klemp, *Spiritual Laws of Life*, (back cover)

Recently, my wife and I attended the ECK Springtime Seminar in Minneapolis, MN. Many people thought that it would be a much smaller seminar due to difficult times that many are facing. People naturally become concerned about financial obligations, the world economy and the future. Yet, when Saturday night arrived, the room was packed. In fact, there was some concern whether everyone would fit into the room. Several times, there was an announcement for people to raise their hands and show where there was a seat available so that everyone could find a place. At the final count, there were more people in attendance than last year.

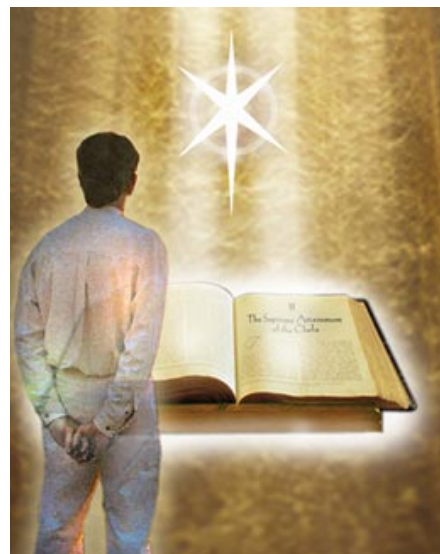
I was impressed by this fact. To me, it meant that these people in attendance had done all they could do to be in the company of the Living ECK Master, Harold Klemp, the spiritual leader of Eckankar, and other like-minded spiritual folks. The Living ECK Master is the embodiment of the highest form of spiritual mastership. To be in his presence is a great gift. This is important to our spiritual growth and it reminds me of a major benefit of attending ECK seminars:

“Each seminar is an opportunity to work out many of the little problems that stand between Soul and a higher state of consciousness.”

—Harold Klemp, *Cloak of Consciousness*, Mahanta Transcripts, Book 5, p. 46.

The world is experiencing some challenges and those challenges may

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Captains of our Destiny

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easily try to land at our own doorsteps. Yes, there are lessons to learn along the way, and our own challenges to face, but in facing them, and learning the spiritual laws that govern our lives, we become stronger and more capable individuals. As we remember that we are vehicles of the divine flow of love into this world, we can also remember to take charge of our lives.

One way to do that is to surround ourselves with those who can spiritually enrich our lives, by associating with people who embody the love of God. I find this love in great abundance at the ECK major seminars in Minneapolis, MN, at the ECK regional seminars, in ECK worship services and in ECK Satsang. Each of these events is an opportunity for spiritual growth, and attending them whenever possible helps us to drop the weight of the world and let our spiritual light shine more brightly.

I certainly found this to be true for myself at the ECK Springtime Seminar. Previously, I had found myself caught up in the concerns of the economy and had allowed myself to feel

that concern and even fear. Yet, in making the commitment to go to this Springtime Seminar, and even planning to stay an extra day to officiate a memorial service in the Temple of ECK, I found that the negative thoughts were less frequent. Even in making that commitment to go, my consciousness was already being changed for the better.

Being at the seminar, attending wonderful workshops and hearing truly inspiring talks was a real highlight for me. Yet, the most special moment of all was the talk given on Saturday night by the Living ECK Master. During that talk, I found myself transported, uplifted and changed. Being in the presence of the spiritual leader of Eckankar is like taking a shower in pure love that works to cleanse away negativity and leave only love and joy behind.

On Sunday and Monday, we were at the Temple of ECK—a Golden Wisdom Temple. Sri Harold Klemp has written about the Temple saying, “All who approach the ECK Temple in

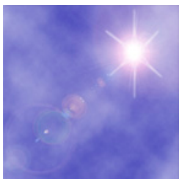
purity and in light will find the blessings of God entering their lives.” The Temple of ECK is truly a special place. As I walked the Temple trails I felt the presence of ECK Masters in a very special way. It was as if many masters had traveled that path and I felt blessed to join them walking on this sacred



ground. The Temple of ECK is a place where you can awaken to the blessings of God that are everywhere. Just as a tuning fork helps you harmonize at just the right pitch, so does the Temple of ECK help you to harmonize with the ECK and see God in all.

The blessings of God are all around us everywhere, in the simple things and in the change and evolution of life. As we learn to be in harmony with the blessings, they follow us

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Captains of our Destiny

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everywhere—surrounding us, surprising us and delighting us in many ways in our lives, moment to moment.

At the seminar, there was a special announcement. For the very first time ever, we were able to pre-register for the next ECK seminar, the ECK Worldwide in Minneapolis. By making the commitment to be with the Living ECK Master, we are able to ride a spiritual wave of love right back there to be with him—and it often brings profound blessings into our lives. We can also pre-register by phone right now for

the ECK Worldwide Seminar. I find this a way of saying that I will plan on being there and take the actions to make it possible. And by doing so we start the flow and begin aligning ourselves with a higher state of consciousness. When we personally make our commitment, we can rest assured that we can ride a powerful spiritual wave each day in anticipation of the seminar.

Yet, it is not only at the major ECK seminars where we experience the presence of the Master. It is in our Spiritual Exercises, even by sitting quietly and singing HU for

twenty minutes each day. And it is in studying the discourses of Eckankar which come with membership, and being in Satsang classes to study together. In the vortex of the energy of that class, we also experience the presence of the Master. And at the ECK Regional Seminars. And in any act of service done with love. When we make a new level of commitment to be with the Inner Master, or the outer presence of the Living ECK Master, miracles occur.

I am experiencing those miracles every day and am grateful to know they are available to us all.

Spiritual Exercise

The Open Heart

In this spiritual exercise, you practice keeping an open heart throughout everyday life. It's very tough; I have to work at it all the time too.

No one technique will work for everyone, but there are ways to keep your attention on having an open heart. Start with something you can love, even a pet or a plant, and just love it a lot. As the love comes, let it pour through you.

The habit of love is catching; it builds, gains momentum, and becomes easier. But like a plant that needs watering and loving care every day, the habit of love takes constant attention.

Love won't come through unless the heart is open. To work with an open heart is to love or care for something or someone more than you do for yourself. This is the first step to the divine love that we are looking for.

—Harold Klemp, *The Living Word*, Book 3, p. 185



Discover Golden Keys to the Mysteries of Life

BY ANNE AND ALDEN BUTCHER,
MOORESVILLE, NC

“I live, move, and have my being at the grace of the ECK, the way you do. I enjoy life as you do. This is what an ECK Seminar is about. It’s a celebration of life...”

The message that each ECK Master will bring is to tell Soul about God’s love—God’s love for each Soul.

That means God’s love for you.”

—Harold Klemp, *How to Survive Spiritually In Our Times*, p. 241

Have you saved the date for the upcoming ECKANKAR Regional Seminar, August 21-23?

An Eckankar seminar is an opportunity to relax in a loving atmosphere with like-minded seekers, a place to learn tools for unlocking life’s mysteries, and to perhaps discover your personal path to Eternal Truth.

We are so excited about this amazing opportunity to serve the extended community, including many surrounding states. In fact, we expect to receive registrations from coast to coast.

We will be offering newcomers free admission to any single session of their choice during the weekend, a \$25 value, or you can pre-register for the entire seminar for \$25 dollars and Sunday breakfast will be included.

Every general session will be geared around serving newcomers, with plenty of content that will also inspire chelas (member of Eckankar). We will have a very special guest speaker, and we will hear talks, experience workshops and bathe in wonderful music from North Carolina chelas, as well as many others from around the U.S.

There is more. If you enjoy your experiences at the seminar and wish to take your spiritual studies to the next level, you will have the opportunity to try the new Easy Way program. The "Easy Way Pilot Program" allows seekers to become members right there at the seminar and take their discourses home with them! The ECK discourses are written with a secret, internal rhythm that gradually unfolds your consciousness in a very precise and orderly manner.

To pre-register, go directly to the North Carolina website, www.eckankar-nc.org and download the registration form or click on the link that says “To learn more and pre-register for the Seminar click here.”

You will also have the opportunity to reserve a hotel room on this web site at our special rate. The sooner you do so, the more assured you will be to have a place for yourself and your loved ones for this historic event.

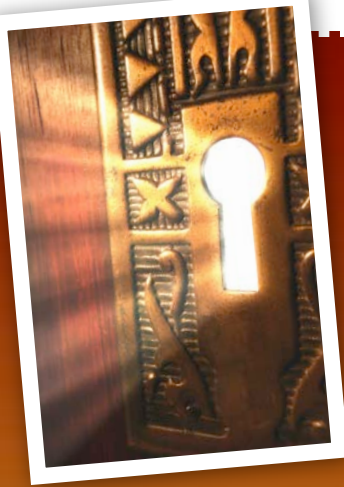
Be sure to register early for both the NC Regional ECKANKAR Seminar and your resort accommodations. If you take advantage of the Earlybird value your Sunday breakfast will be included free. To registration for the seminar on-line and to reserve your hotel room go to www.eckankar-nc.org. Click on the link that says: To learn more and pre-register for the Seminar click here.

The North Carolina Satsang Society Presents



NORTH CAROLINA 2009 ECKANKAR REGIONAL SEMINAR

SAVE THE DATE * AUGUST 21-23, 2009 IN HISTORIC ASHEVILLE, NC



The Key to Heaven

The Sound and Light of God are the heart of the ECK teachings, which say that love, and love alone can give us the key to heaven.

—Harold Klomp,
The Living Word, p. 38

* Discover Golden Keys to the Mysteries of Life *

LEARN TECHNIQUES AND TOOLS TO MASTER YOUR OWN SPIRITUAL DESTINY

ECKANKAR is ancient wisdom for today. Its teachings emphasize the value of personal experience as the most natural way to discover your own path to spiritual freedom and Divine love. Whatever your religious or spiritual background, there are techniques and tools that can take you into the hidden

mysteries of life, bringing untold joy, confidence, and freedom from fear.



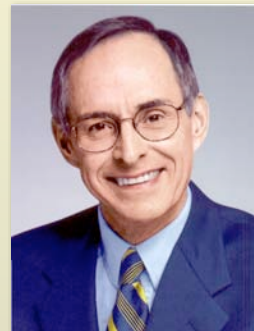
Join in with other like-minded seekers in the breathtaking Blue Ridge Mountains of **Asheville, North Carolina** for renewal of body and Soul.

The gracious Crowne Plaza Resort & Hotel is a destination you will want to experience.

Pre-register for this exciting event & our delicious Sunday breakfast will be included free!

**Reserve your place!
Please fill out and send us the
Pre-Registration form now.**

Enjoy exciting presentations, uplifting music, engaging speakers, insightful workshops and spirit-filled roundtables. There will also be many fun and inspirational activities for youth of all ages. And don't forget the delicious food, all served with fellowship and love.

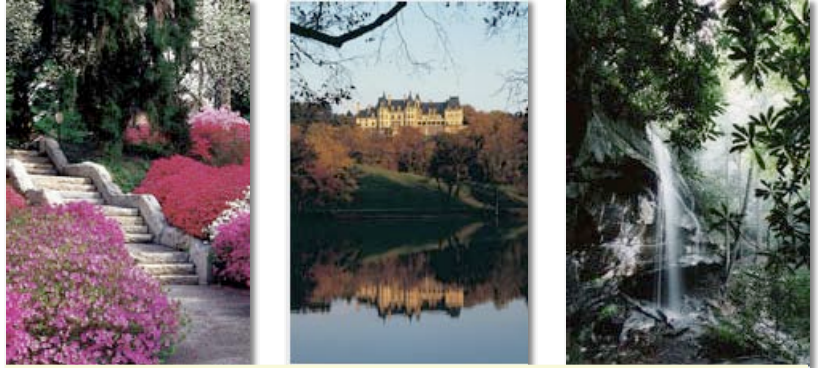


“Love is the keystone of ECK: God is love...The Holy Spirit is love, and you are love.”

—Harold Klomp,
The Eternal Dreamer, p. 251

**North Carolina Regional ECKANKAR Seminar
August 21-23, 2009**

The seminar will be held at the
Crowne Plaza Resort Asheville:
One Resort Drive
Asheville, NC 28806
(828) 254-3211 Telephone
(800) 733-3211 Toll Free Reservations
(828) 285-2688 Reservations Fax
reservations@hulsinghotels.com



Rates and Amenities

Nestled against the majestic backdrop of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Crown Plaza Resort is a sanctuary of rustic elegance and a welcome retreat from the busy world. Enjoy luxurious rooms, golf, tennis, a beautiful outdoor swimming pool, and walking trails.

The Crown Plaza is offering a special rate for the 2009 NC ECKANKAR Regional Seminar. The room rate is \$109 regular king or double, \$129 King Executive Suite, \$179 Loft Suite.

To receive this special rate, register on-line at <http://www.ashevillecp.com> or call: (828) 254-3211 and mention ECKANKAR. These rates are valid only through July 22, 2009.

Reserve your room by July 22nd to receive special Eckankar room rates on a space-available basis

For more information on the Resort, directions and amenities go to: <http://www.ashevillecp.com>

----- Pre-Registration Form -----

New to Eckankar? We warmly invite you to join us for a spiritual experience that can be life-changing.
Adults \$25, Youth Free
Sunday Breakfast included!
Or receive a ticket for 1 free session at the door. Five sessions available throughout the weekend.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Province _____ Zip _____
Phone Number _____
Personal Email Address _____
Age (if under 22) _____
New to Eckankar? _____

List additional family members in the same household attending the seminar:

Name _____	Age _____	New to Eckankar? _____
Name _____	Age _____	New to Eckankar? _____
Name _____	Age _____	New to Eckankar? _____
Name _____	Age _____	New to Eckankar? _____
Name _____	Age _____	New to Eckankar? _____

I would like to volunteer at this seminar

Requested Seminar Donations

	Early Bird By 7/1/09 Best Value!	Regular By 8/10/09	At The Door	Single Session Register on Site
Adult	\$55	\$65	\$65	\$25
Additional Adult Family	\$40	\$50	\$50	\$25
Youth (13-21)	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$10
Youth (5-12)	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$5

Pre-register for this event & Sunday breakfast will be included free (early bird & regular only)!

Suggested registration donation is between \$55 and \$80. Please see note below for any additional donations:

*Additional *Optional* Donation \$ _____ (\$10 - \$25 to help support this seminar)

Total Seminar Donation enclosed \$ _____
(Please make checks payable to North Carolina Satsang Society.)
OR

We accept VISA or Mastercard
Card Number _____
Expiration Date _____

Signature of Card holder (name on card)

Send registration form to:
NC Regional ECKANKAR Seminar
PO Box 15473
Winston-Salem, NC 27113

For questions e-mail: service@eckankar-nc.org or call (866) 754-9998 and leave a detailed message.

Spotlight on ECK Youth

Children have the wisdom of God and are closer to it than many people who have spent years in this world gaining all kinds of knowledge about the nature of religion. Children have it naturally.

—Harold Klemp, *The Secret of Love*

When children ask about God, they want facts.

By the time most children reach elementary school, they have asked their parents about God. Children look for spiritual meaning and, like adults, search for the cause behind all causes.

When your child asks about God, how will you answer?

With the same spiritual answers that you've outgrown or rejected? Children often speak about their invisible friends. Could they be referring to a guardian angel or an inner spiritual guide? When they are frightened by nightmares or talk about when they were big, could they be recalling something important from a past life?

Most children who remember their past lives do so during the ordinary waking state. Others, however, have dreams or nightmares which reflect scenes from their past lives.

Your children need support and answers that make sense. Listen carefully to their questions. They might help you understand more about God.

An Adventure in Service

BY BRYNN SMITH, WINSTON-SALEM, NC

In March I had the privilege of attending the 2009 ECKANKAR Springtime Seminar. There were many wonderful workshops offered to aid attendees in their spiritual growth. I usually look through the program and go to those workshops that immediately jump out and get my attention—there is probably something that I am supposed to get out of them, something just for me. The rest of the seminar I spend in the youth program.

However, this time volunteers were still needed to help with the seminar. When my parents asked me if I would like to serve as a volunteer, I jumped right on it. We went to the volunteer room and I got to pick which workshops I would like to help with. Luckily, one of them was already on my list of workshops that I wanted to attend.

I got up early the next morning because I had to get there an hour before the workshop started. And nervous was I! I'd never done this before; I had no idea what to expect. Coincidentally (although nothing is a coincidence, but is actually just Divine Spirit's way of helping us), my co-host was a friend of the family. So I became comfortable with the situation, and I was ready to go! The job I learned was important but pretty simple: to check badges

and to greet the people as they came in. What a wonderful way to start someone's day, by greeting them at the door and asking how they are! I also thanked them as they left and wished them a wonderful seminar.

The next day I hosted another workshop. I was a pro at this by then and I knew what I was doing! This one was a smaller, more intimate workshop. Again, I welcomed them in. Sadly, there were way more people than expected, and I had to turn some away. I wished so badly that I could let them in to enjoy the workshop and find some jewel for themselves, but I couldn't. But again, nothing is a coincidence, and Divine Spirit was looking out for them. I got to participate in that workshop a little bit, and it was wonderful. There were so many jewels and such golden-tongued wisdom that it was overwhelming in a way, but most appreciated.

I broadened my experiences at the seminar by volunteering and being of service, and I'm glad I took that step. I invite everyone to come to the next seminar, in the physical or on the inner planes. Either way, I will be there holding the door open and greeting you as you enter.

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 Western
North Carolina
797 Haywood Road, Suite 4
Asheville, NC 28806
(828) 254-6775
EckankarWNC@gmail.com

The Greensboro ECKANKAR Center
2309 W. Cone Boulevard, Suite 240
Greensboro, NC 27408-4047
(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

My Search

BY CHRISTINE ROBINSON,
ASHEVILLE, NC

In my search for happiness I turn to those closest to me
But I should have known,
they can't give me more than happy moments
How do I fill the times in between?

There is a longing, a desire for more.
More money, more friends, more time?
No, there *is* more!
I am so close, I can feel it.
It seems just beyond my grasp,
But I believe.

In my search for love I turn to another and am surprised
when he cannot love me the way that I planned.
What a burden we lay on our beloved
with all of our expectations and conditions.

And still there is a longing, a desire for more.
More love, more depth, more understanding?
I *know* there is more.
It's just there, just out of reach.
Still, I believe.

In my quest for truth I seek knowledge,
But isn't that really someone else's truth?
Isn't the only real truth the one within your own heart,
That certainty that you know so clearly that no one can
take it away?

And for this there is a longing, a desire for more.
I can feel its nearness.
I know it is here.
And I believe

In my search for God I seek guidance.
I've looked for so long and so far.
Where is the happiness, the love and the truth?
I sit in silence pondering my journey.
A thought comes softly, "It's all within."
Wait, didn't I say that?

I dare to peek inside and there you are
Waiting to fulfill my every longing, my desire for more.
And I am here
Because I believed.