

... Awareness ... Order ... Creativity ...

THE WISDOM WAVE NEWSLETTER

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SANTA FE RETREAT, A BEAUTIFUL REGENERATION



From the May retreat, Grace Kimball, a long standing friend and founding trustee of Wisdom Wave, smiles with Dr. Shyam, against a backdrop of the Jemez Mountains. Photo, courtesy of Gip Brown

The SANGRE de CRISTO RETREAT Center nestled in the Sangre de Christo mountains, a 10 minute drive from Santa Fe, graciously hosted this year's Wisdom Wave retreat with Dr. Shyam. Music was provided by Alana Woods on the harp and Patricia Brown, keyboard, with talented assistance from retreatants Steve Fawcett, Elizabeth Gut, and Kashi Rai. Gip Brown served as Master of Ceremonies, with a hilarious visit from "Carmen Mirandananda, the Chiquitas and Confusion.". Taj Ameera and Sandy Canzone led communal dances. Patricia gave two talks and Shyam engaged all in a 3 day Socratic interchange. Brother Joseph of the Center blessed all with comfort and ennobled words.

UNIQUENESS, LIGHT, BEING by Shyam

(transcribed by Laura Barnett, edited by Patricia Brown)

Every living being has a life of its own, a consciousness - a sensitivity. Human beings think that they are more than all living creatures, so that they can control all of them. The control comes in many forms, political, religious, medical, oppression, pain, starvation and suffering...we create many forms of controlling and an atmosphere of control in the world. Even your own whims and fancies control you. The very fact that human beings try to control, controls them. Why do we want to be controlled or why do we want to control? Control creates conflict. In

fact, we control nothing but we are controlled by everything. We have a wrong idea about our prowess, our strength, our might, our power. We live in a life which is mystified by false notions, false imaginations. It means that we doubt what reality is, we do not know what reality is. Because we don't know it, we want to know what it is. If a person comes from a foreign country, we follow that person, thinking that he is knowledgable. We form groups. Then the groups clash,



Zuleikha honored Shyam with a dance program for his birthday party at the home of Elliot and Susan McDowell this past summer, 1994. (Photo courtesty of Elliot McDowell)

creating a tumultuous conflict, a crisis of consciousness. Who is good, who is better? Who is the real leader? But there is nothing like that in the world. It is just a myth. We become so gullible, because we don't have our dignity, and the strength to understand our own strength in which lies the light of God. You are not some measurement in feet, hopeless, living in hopelessness, hoping for a hope, hoping for something you think you don't have. That is a thought, the thought "I don't have it." The whole premise of our life is a false premise. Our aspirations, our understanding, our propositions are built on false

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premises. We aspire for something because we live in comparison all the time, comparing persons and places, wanting to become like someone in some place. Every person's uniqueness is implanted in consciousness itself. Therefore one is indispensable to oneself. But we try our best to become second hand human beings, by following persons or ideas in order to be secure, however false that may be. A good thought helps, a bad thought harms. There is no panacea for anything that we yearn for, no short cut, no answer. Because the answer is your Self. You are the

question, you are the answer. You are the light, you are the darkness, you are time, you are space. Show me a time without you. If you are not there, there is no time, right? There cannot be time without you. There cannot be space without you. There cannot be God without you. So are you there, or not?

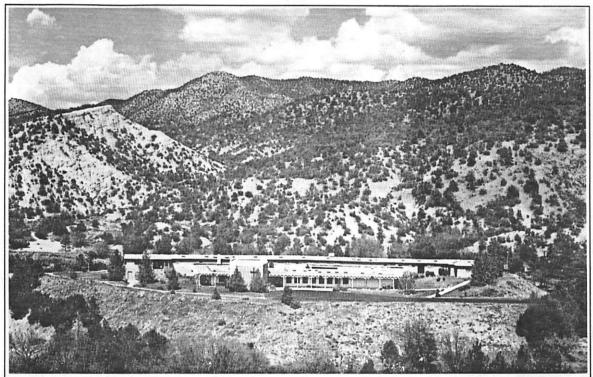
If you are rooted in your consciousness, you will not waver. People who love are the people who rejoice, sing and dance, all the time. Why do we have

conflicts? Why do we create conflict? See if I am not there, then nothing is there. So I must know whether I am there. That means I must be aware, to feel my presence in myself, not in anyone else, not in anything else. To feel my presence in myself means that I am a fully born human being, therefore I have the full feeling of my presence in myself. That is the first step. If you are full, there is no comparison at all. You are full and your fullness includes the entire universe. Early morning you wake up and ask this question: am I present fully, or am I absent totally? Then you will find yourself. You don't need to go to places or to someone to find yourself.

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So one thing you can tackle is this problem of gullibility. This is one thing very important in life, to tackle this problem of gullibility. All religions say "know thyself." How do you know yourself? If you know yourself according to somebody else's opinion, you know yourself in a second hand way, through someone else's eyes, not yourself. We never make an effort to know. Knowing is being. Being is knowing. Then thinking has meaning. They go together. What happens is not knowing, not being. A human being in fullness, a full being, is all the time in full

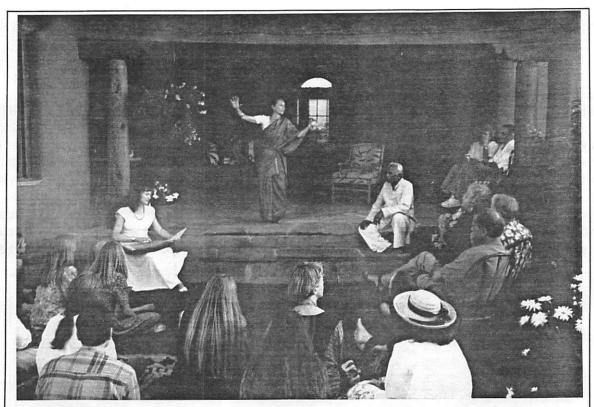
You want to fill your emptiness. Who can fill that emptiness other than yourself? There's a saying, even God cannot fill that emptiness because you never wanted it to be. So God is standing at our door saying, "I've been standing here, waiting all the time. You have never come, you have gone away from me." That is what God is, that compassion, waiting for me, the prodigal to return. "Therefore, I have been waiting for you, I will wait for you my child, you have not returned, therefore I cry. I created this whole universe, I



The Sangre de Cristo Center, a spiritual renewal center administered by the Christian brothers, where 32 participants enjoyed single rooms, beautiful surroundings, vegetarian meals and the Wisdom Wave retreat. The 1995 Memorial weekend retreat will be held at this exquisite location. (post card photo courtesy of the center)

awareness, full growth, in full glory. When that human being thinks, that great thought is God. The full human being thinking about God is God itself., not something different. That thought is very powerful. Here the "I" has meaning, not the small I, the big "I." The "I am" is not an identity with this body and mind, it is the "I" through which you see yourself, totally, in your entirety. The I that is ambushed by all the things in the world, is an empty shell. Then you are not the "I am," you are the "I was."

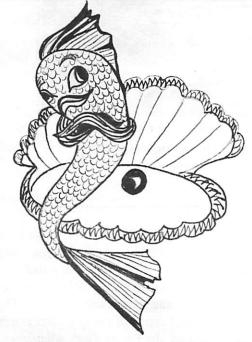
cried oceans, I rolled like clouds, I flashed like lightniing, I trickled like drops, I flowed like rivers for your sake. "God stands at the door of your heart, with glory and magnanimity, with that effulgence. Only you must be aware of that, not aware of some things, this and that. The heart is like a lotus flower, and inside of every flower is a figure, the Madonna, the Goddess, the Father-God, whatever you call it. There in the center of the flower is the Godhead, in the center of your heart. Every day, every moment, every fraction of time, that is there. 1994, S. Kashyap



Zuleikha danced a spontaneous interpretation to Patricia's poem honoring Shyam's birthday: "...Take me into the freedom of love. Raise me yet more in the vastness of Your victory. Make of this small servant, A clear vessel, A burning flame, A secret joy, An open flower, A fragrant garden. My heart, cut asunder, Sings a song of glory to Your name."

(Photo courtesy of Elliot McDowell)

COSMIC CHUCKLES or MEDITATION MUSING:



"DON'T BE SHELLFISH AND CLAM UP OR I'LL JUST TROUT ON DOWN THE PIKE, BY COD, AND YOU CAN JUST FLOUNDER FOR THE HALIBUT!" received by Neva Balduff in deep meditation, drawing by Patricia Brown

WISDOM WAVE



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