



Life Off A Star

Volume 5, Issue 1 - April 2014

If you are reading this newsletter and plan on registering for either LOAS 1 or LOAS 2 for this summer, stop reading right now and log onto the Star Island web site and register now!! We currently have space at both of our conferences for this coming August, however, both conferences are filling quickly. If you are undecided about registering, read on and you can go to www.lifeonastar.org to find out more about both conferences.

LOAS 1 - August 9 to 16, 2014

Stephanie and Will Ronco - Chairs

Playing for Social Good: Building a Better World Together by Exploring Why We Do What We Do

A thrilling week of exploration into how we understand ourselves and interact with the world around us, and how we can work together to create a better future. We'll also share workshops, music, and worship to nourish the mind, replenish the soul, and tan the body. Join us – for fun!

Theme Speaker: Dan Ariely, PhD, will be speaking on this year's theme, leading the conference in an exploration of play, work, and why we do what we do.



Minister of the Week: Revs. David and Teresa Schwartz will be co-ministers for the week. David and Teresa are graduates of Harvard Divinity School, and are currently co-ministers at the First Unitarian Church of Chicago.

Current Workshops: *Play for Grownups* with Ken Keech, *Games of the World* with Amy Smith, *Zoom Zoom Zumba* with Sue Sheffler, and *Yoga* with Madeline Bergstrom and Hop Hop.

Jennifer Khavari will be the youth coordinator and Emily Jones will be the Limbo Group Coordinator.



LOAS 2 - August 16 to 23, 2014

Laura Beth Brown & Ben Goodwin – Chairs

"Civilized To Death"

How would a time-traveler from our prehistoric past assess the lives we lead and the future prospects for the path we're on? Dr. Christopher Ryan will lead us in conversation about how we live today in the context of how our species evolved. What have we lost and what have we gained? Do we work too much? Do we play enough? We'll turn modern civilization on its head and explore how we can all live better lives by deepening our understanding of our prehistoric roots.



Theme Speaker: Dr. Christopher Ryan, New York Times best selling author of *Sex at Dawn: How We Mate, Why We Stray*, and *What it Means for Modern Relationships*.

Minister of the Week: Rev. Alison Miller from the Morristown (NJ) Unitarian Fellowship. Rev. Alison Miller is delighted to be returning to Life on a Star II as minister of the week. Alison received her A.B. from Bryn Mawr College in 1996 and her Masters of Divinity from Harvard in 2003. She has served as the minister of the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship since 2005. Two spiritual themes that recur in her ministry are the power of stories to shape both individuals and the community, and the meaning of healing from a liberal religious perspective.

Workshops: *Finding Yourself in the Rhythm* with Matt Meyer, *Conversation on the Corporation* with Judy Samuelson, *Yoga and the Subtle Body* with Julia Abramova, *Tai Chi Light* with Al Chu, and *Soap Stone Carving* with Candis Dixon.

Youth Coordinator will be Patti Emmons.



A portion of each newsletter is reserved for occasions or milestones within our LOAS community. Send an e-mail to our editor if your family has a birth, graduation from high school or college, engagement, marriage, death or other important event. If you know of anyone who would like to receive *Life Off A Star* newsletters or if you do not want to receive any further newsletters, send your request to our editor.

LOAS Family News

Births:

Irene and John Bush would like to announce the birth on September 11, 2013 of their grandson Malkiel Meir Silberbusch born to Oshrat and Daniel Silberbusch and big brother Solal.

Hally McGehean and Troy Mann are proud to announce the birth of their son, Henry Martin Mann on November 29, 2013. Grandmother is Pamela Thompson.

Gail Henry and Sam Francis have welcomed a granddaughter, Rosara Noelle Crombie born to Maggie Henry, former conferee and Pel, and her husband Hamish Crombie. Rosara was born on December 17, 2013, at 7 lbs and 19 1/2 inches, and is adored by her big sister Celia and the whole family.

Gail Henry and Sam Francis have also welcomed a grandson, Walter Clark Henry born to Michael, former conferee, and Skye Henry, on February 26, 2014, at 9 lbs and 22 inches, and is adored by the whole family.

Lois and Jack Grebe are proud to announce the birth of their great-granddaughter Matilda Ruth Dilger to their granddaughter Julia Brenner Dilger and Craig Dilger on February 28, at 7 lbs. 8 oz.

Passages:

Doris Armstrong, former LOAS conferee, passed away on October 28, 2013. Condolences go out to her daughter Rebecca Armstrong and granddaughters Quinn and Chloe Kostman.

Marjory Wiren, former LOAS conferee, passed away on Friday, December 27, 2013 at Ellis Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Norwood, MA. She was married to the late Jacob Wiren and is survived by three children; Martha Stengel of Australia, Anne Gretchen Garcia and Alan Wiren (Miyuki) of Japan.

Myra Addington, former LOAS conferee, passed away in March 2014.

At the November 2013 LOAS chairs meeting it was voted to donate \$5,000 from the scholarship fund to help fund the soundproofing of the dining hall, which is currently underway on Star Island. This money is to be recouped by repurposing up to 50% of the money raised by the annual auction with that as the stated purpose.



The contacts and members for various LOAS positions and LOAS committees are as follows:

Treasurer for 2014– John Pustell – jpustell@verizon.net

Registrar for 2014 – LOAS 1 - Joyce Pickel – loasregistrar@yahoo.com

Registrar for 2014 and 2015 - LOAS 2 – Mary Heafy – maryheafy@gmail.com

Provisioners for 2014– LOAS I - Tom Kennedy and LOAS II - Matthew King

Coordinating Committee: Patti Emmons, Chair – (off in 2014), Randall Grometstein (off in 2015), Jill Brody (off in 2016) plus standing members: Treasurer – John Pustell and Registrars – Joyce Pickel and Mary Heafy.

2014 Delegates to the Council of Conferences – LOAS I delegates are – Jill Brody and Rebecca Armstrong with Nancy Witherell as alternate. LOAS II delegates are Phil Sears and Irene Bush with David House as alternate.

Scholarship Committee: Michelle Kunz - Chair (off in 2014), Diane Taraz Shriver (off in 2015), and Bob Bader (off in 2016)

Child Abuse Committee: Nancy Witherell - Chair, Mary Heafy, John Hoffman, Julie Mabey and Deb Nygren.

LOAS website: www.lifeonastar.org

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