

# Soul-Link, Inc.

“ . . . fostering an awareness of and response to the sacred in nature, human nature and events of everyday life.”

Volume VII, Issue 3

Fall 2009

## Soul Link Board

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Sheilah Shapiro  
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**SOUL LINK**  
Together on the Spiritual Path

## Soul-Link, Inc.

2514 W. Colorado Ave.  
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[www.soullinkonline.org](http://www.soullinkonline.org)

## SOUL LINK RETREAT

### “Revival III: Becoming Our True Self Again”

Because we breathe the air of our culture many of us fall prey to the illusion that we are who we think we are; that is, we identify ourselves with our roles, titles, and relationships, and we tend to judge our worth by such fleeting things as appearance, affluence, and achievements. All spiritual traditions teach that we are more than we think we are. Our True Self (soul) is the “place” where our self, others, creation, God are one. Because we are rarely conscious of our True Self we become depleted spiritually and in need of something that reminds us of our deep identity - hence Revival III. For the third time, singer-songwriter Joe Uveges will provide the music that can help us reconnect with our souls. Join us for a day of songs, presentations, and group discussion about matters pertinent to spiritual growth.

**Date:** Saturday, October 17, 2009

**Place:** Broadmoor Community Church (315 Lake Ave, C/S 80906)

**Time:** 8:30 (registration), 9:00 - 2:30 (retreat)

**Cost:** \$30 early registration, \$35 at the door.

Lunch included, scholarships available.

**Information:** 719-648-3939

### From *Thomas Merton: An Introduction* by William H. Shannon

One of the consistent themes that weaves its way through much of Merton’s writings is the human search for self-identity. He is very clear that one’s true identity is not that which appears on the surface. There is a huge difference between what we appear to be and what we are, between our exterior self and our inner self. The exterior self, which we think ourselves to be and which we show to others, is not the deep interior self that alone is real. My great spiritual task, therefore, is to lose myself (my exterior self) in order to find myself (my inner or true self)...

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[T]he external self... is an empty self. Out of touch with my inner reality, it is the complex in me of all that is not God and, therefore, all that is ultimately destined to disappear ... The true self, on the other hand, is the self that sleeps silently in my depths, waiting to be awakened by the power of the Spirit ... When this spiritual awareness takes hold in our lives, all sorts of wondrous things begin to happen ... We perceive the whole human family as one and this intuition begins to govern everything we do.

## Quote Corner

*Why should I seek? I am the same as He, His essence speaks through me.  
I have been looking for myself.* - Rumi

*Waste no more time talking about great souls and how they should be.  
Dg"qpg" { qwt ugrh0"* // Marcus Aurelius

*Follow the grain in your own wood.* - Howard Thurman

*We are a faint tracing on the surface of mystery.* - Annie Dillard

*All creation participates in the likeness of the divine essence.* - St. Thomas Aquinas

## Books For the Journey

***The Way Things Are: Conversations with Huston Smith* ed. by Phil Cousineau (Univ of California Press)**

Where can we find what is ultimately meaningful? How can we discover what is truly worth knowing? In one form or another, Huston Smith, the scholar of world religions, has been posing these questions to himself - and to the world- all his life. The twenty-three interviews and essays in this volume offer a uniquely personal perspective on Smith's own spiritual journey and a window onto his wide-ranging reflections on the nature and importance of the religious quest.

***Making All Things New* by Henri Nouwen (Harper San Francisco)**

The beginning of the spiritual life is often difficult not only because the powers which cause us to worry are so strong, but also because the presence of God's Spirit seems barely noticeable. If, however, we are willing to live a life of prayer and practice the disciplines of solitude and community, a new hunger will make itself known. This new hunger is the first sign of God's presence.

***Original Self* by Thomas Moore (Harper Collins)**

It's easy today to lose the deep, direct, and vivid sense of living with passion and originality. Thomas Moore states in his preface that we are "chronically trying to be someone other than this original self. Persuaded that we are not adequate and should fit some norm of health or correctness, we may find a cool distance gradually separating us from the deep and eternal person, that God-given personality, and we may forget both who we were and who we might be. With his usual grace and insight, Moore counters the prevailing assumptions of the day and offers strikingly unorthodox views on what is virtuous and healthy.

# Events of Interest

## Soul Link News

### Location, Location, Re-Location

For the past five years Soul Link has rented a house from Penrose hospital that has served as both an office and meeting space. It was inevitable that Penrose would reclaim the house for its purposes, and now that time has come. The new Soul Link office is located in Old Colorado City at **2514 W. Colorado Ave. Suite 205, Colorado Springs, CO 80904**, and the new phone number is **719-648-3939**. In addition to this space, most of our activities will take place at Broadmoor Community Church (315 Lake Ave). BCC will also be home to the Center for Spiritual Living at Cheyenne Mountain. The Center's constituents will be made aware of our programs and, as it develops its own, they will be listed in our newsletter. This is an exciting partnership that promises to further the mission of both organizations.

### Email Address List

In an attempt to reduce the costs involved with printing and postage, the past several newsletters have contained a statement asking you to consider receiving the newsletter online. If you choose to do so, please send your email address to [soullink@soullinkonline.org](mailto:soullink@soullinkonline.org), or call 648-3939 and state your name and email address clearly. We will continue to print the newsletter and will be happy to send it via snail mail to those who wish to receive a hard copy. If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter please let us know that as well.

### Couples Group

Because most people are in some sort of significant relationship, and because our spiritual journey can be furthered by sharing it with another, Soul Link is initiating a group for couples. Any couples interested in gathering with others to explore questions/concerns about the nature of spirituality, relationships, and other matters that can enhance the dynamic of your togetherness, please contact Sheliah Shapiro (495-8111).

### Men's Group

Spirituality is becoming a front-burner matter for a growing number of people in our society. However, most of those who connect around spirituality seem to be women. Many men have difficulty sharing with others those aspects of life that have to do with the heart and soul. If you would like to explore deeper and more personal issues with other men, please contact Steve Shapiro (495-8111).

## Coming Events

Sept 14, Oct 12, Nov 9,  
6:30pm at BCC:  
**Potluck Discussions**  
Contact Tom Stella  
(648-3939)

Sept 22, Oct 27,  
6:30pm at BCC:  
**Book Group**  
*The Dark Night of the Soul* by Gerald May  
Contact Jim Gilroy at  
[jamesjgilroy@aol.com](mailto:jamesjgilroy@aol.com)

Sept 25,  
6:30pm at BCC  
**Film Group**  
*"The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"*  
Contact Lori Rose at  
[loricospgs@gmail.com](mailto:loricospgs@gmail.com) or Joe Burke  
at [soullinkfilmgp@peoplepc.com](mailto:soullinkfilmgp@peoplepc.com)

Sept 27, Oct 25  
1:00pm at BCC:  
**Spiritual Support Group**  
Contact Sheilah  
Shapiro (495-8111).

Oct 14, 5:30pm at  
Soul Link office  
**Board Meeting**

## SAVE THE DATE

The next Soul Link retreat will be held on Saturday, January 23, 2010.



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# SOU LINK

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## ***“Revival III: Becoming Our True Self Again” Saturday, October 17, 2009***

Mail In Registration Form

*Clip and return with registration fee no later than October 10, 2009*

*Please complete information below, and send it along with your payment of \$30 per person to:*

**Soul Link, Inc.**

2514 W. Colorado Ave, Suite 205

Colorado Springs CO 80904

Name(s) of person(s) attending \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Drop-ins are welcome the day of the retreat. The registration fee “at the door” will be \$35 per person. We hope you will invite a friend to join us for this time of reflection and conversation.