Quest
The ACE Newsletter No. 3 Winter 1986

Winterstar 1986
Feb. 14-16
No much time has gone by since our last issue of Quest, that I thought I'd take this opportunity to reflect on the changes that have come down, and tell you all a little about where we are right now. The study of the various realms of consciousness is such a diversified field that it is no surprise that our projects have gone in all directions.

Through the Starwood Lecture Agency we have helped book author/lecturer Robert Anton Wilson all over the U.S.A. and Canada, and made a lot of friends and valuable contacts besides. This year he will be accompanied by his wife, Arlen Riley Wilson, on a tour which will take him to New Jersey, the Winterstar Symposium in Ohio, Des Moines, Boulder (including the Naropa Institute), Denver, Vancouver, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and other appearances, including a major Libertarian event in L.A. called Freedom: the Final Frontier (for more info on this and future tours, contact us at ACE). There are other projects in the works for Bob, including records, a possible film version of Masks of the Illuminati, and an Illuminati role-playing game.

We have moved into a much bigger and better facility in Cleveland Heights, with room for all our events except Starwood and Winterstar. This new office features a large 34x16 room with an 18x12 stage, a kitchenette, a lobby, two offices, and two small store-rooms. We are renting this room out to other groups as well as running our own activities there, including a recent appearance of Isaac Bonewits, a two-day seminar with Robert Anton Wilson, and the ongoing Natural Magick study group run by Ian Corrigan and Moira Kyteter. See the ads throughout this issue for future activities.

We are planning to produce tapes, both audio and video, of some of the classes we have held and will hold at ACE, including a tape of Starwood Music, the class The Structure of Craft Ritual by Isaac Bonewits, and the upcoming panel discussion at Winterstar (see Winterstar info page).

As you may have heard, we have lost the use of Devil's Den Park, the site of the Starwood Festival and Opening Inner Doorways for over four years. The land has been sold to a group for a private residence and summer homes. So, we are asking everyone who reads this to help find a new site for the 1986 Starwood Festival. We have a few leads, but we can always use a bit of help. In the meantime, we can be thankful that we had the use of a site of such spirit and singular beauty.

Finally, I'd like to announce: THE STARWOOD LAND FUND! We are starting a land fund to accumulat capital to purchase a permanent site for our events, and to rent out for other groups with a similar taste for spiritual and scientific study and celebration, reverence for the Earth, and a desire to interact and network in a private atmosphere of love, trust and joy in the pursuit of a brighter future. We are hoping that everyone who can will consider a donation of ten dollars or more as seed money for this fund, but any donation will be appreciated, of course. This money will be put in a special bank account for this use only. Thank you in advance for your help.

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Sensory Isolation and Altered States

The Sensory Isolation Tank has been called the most important research tool since the microscope. By isolating the subject from all sensory input; light, sound, temperature change, touch, even the sensation of gravity's effects, consciousness turns inward to examine itself while both the brain and mind achieves the most profound relaxation possible.

This program is offered exclusively by the Association for Consciousness Exploration. We provide an opportunity to experience our Sensory Isolation Tank in a secure environment. The enrollment fee includes four workshops designed to optimize this unique individual experience, held at the ACE office at 1643 Lee Rd. #9, and a one-hour floatation session at our tank facility with shower, dressing room, and complete privacy, less than a block away in a private residence.

Friday Mar. 21st 7:30 9:30 PM WORKSHOP: Introduction to the
Sensory Isolation Tank - covering history, design, effects, and productive uses of Sensory Isolation.
Saturday Mar. 22nd 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM FLOATATION TIME
1:30-3:00 PM WORKSHOP: Imagination and Creativity
3:15-4:45 PM WORKSHOP: The Process and Technique of
Meditation
5:00-9:00 PM FLOATATION TIME
Sunday Mar. 23rd 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM FLOATATION TIME
1:30-3:00 PM WORKSHOP: Stress, Relaxation and Health: a
Practical Approach
3:00-8:00 PM FLOATATION TIME
REGISTRATION FEE: $40.00 or $20.00 for ACE Members

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GET TANKED
at
ACE

"Like Floating in Space"

Individual Float Sessions
available by appointment at
$20 first hour, $10 per additional
hour in same session. 1/2 off for ACE Members. Call 932-5421 to schedule time.
High Tech/High Touch

John Naisbitt

High tech/high touch is a formula I use to describe the way we have responded to

technology. What happens is that whenever new technology is introduced into society,

alleviated by the counterbalancing human response, that is, high touch, or the technology

in rejected. The more high tech, the more high touch.

The parallel growth of high tech/high touch took place during the last three
decades, a period which appeared chaotic, but which really had its own rhythm and sense.

The two phenomena were a response to the mass communication revolution that began in
our history. During this decade of the gray-flannel suit and the organization man,
fully 65 percent of our work force was in industrial occupations, many in assembly-line
repetitive jobs. More workers, 32 percent, were unionized than would ever be again.

During both the 1940s and the 1960s, we made the industrial revolution and the
industrial age—as-products with regimented uniformities mirroring their industrial base.
High tech was everywhere—in the factory, in the offices, in our communication, transportation
and health care systems, and, finally, even in our homes.

But something else was growing alongside the technological invasion. Our response
to the high tech all around us was the evolution of a highly personal value system to
complement the impersonal nature of technology. The result was the new self-help
or personal growth movement which eventually became the human potential movement, but
no one has connected it with technological change. In reality, each feeds the other—
high tech/high touch.

Now at the dawn of the twenty-first century, high tech/high touch has truly come
of age. Technology and the human potential movement are the key challenges and
adventures facing humankind today. The great lesson we must learn from the principles
of high tech/high touch is a modern version of the ancient Greek ideal—balance. We must
learn to balance the material wonders of technology with the spiritual demands of our
human nature.

Perhaps the most powerful technological intrusion was television, far more vivid and
engaging than either the radio or the telephone. At almost exactly the time we first
introduced managed care, we created the greatest single pressure on the industrial
growth movement, which in turn led to the human potential movement (e.g., TM, rolfing,
Yoga, Zen, and so forth—all very high touch). Television and the human potential
movement developed almost in lockstep, each of both in the bellwether state of California.

I had written quite earlier that we might rebel against the computer, and was sure that we might rebel against the computer. But now I think we are beginning to understand just how liberating the computer is in a high tech/high touch sense. For example, a company with forty thousand employees has
to move those employees pretty much the same for generations. It had to, because that was the only way to keep track of them. With the computer to keep track of them, the employees can be treated differently, with a unique contract for each of the forty thousand. We are all slowly moving in that direction.

In addition, companies are now offering a “cafeteria” plan to employees. It is a certain portion of salary, pension, health benefits, flex time, job sharing and job objectives. Even

Should Plan is moving in that direction: Because we have the computer to keep track of it, an individual contribution to the pension plan can decide where that contribution is going to be made. And that is one of the key reasons why the people are with the new computer-rich information society. The basic idea of a union is to ensure that everyone is treated the same. But now all we want to be treated differently.

There is no high tech/high touch of Electronic Funds Transfer, so bank customers are
rejecting the service and are moving in that direction. The banks offering it are coming up with
business one way and now we are all going to do it another way—electronically.

The problem is with the customers. Some of us want to go to tellers. In fact, some of us
want to go to the same teller every time. I don’t know about you, but I feel outrageously virtuous writing out my own checks every month—and the banks want to take
that away from me.

High tech distances us from people. It’s just worse when you again use the
technology of a warm friend, like a warm friend, and in a warm way.

“Hi there, I’ve gone out for a little while…” That’s why so many incredible messages
are left recorded on those machines.

Many of us instinctively feel the metric system is too high tech. To make matters
worse, it was imposed on us by some Metric Council or other (formally in Washington,
D.C.), and consequently we do not want very much to do with it.

“Metric will be as successful as Esperanto.” That prophetic statement was
made by Stewart Brand, the editor of CoEvolution Quarterly and head of California’s Metric
Council. The high tech of metric is being imposed on people without any high touch.
tradesoffs and in the face of the comfortable, high tech/high touch balance of measures
like the inch and the quart. The inch, we all know, is about the size of the middle
joint of our fingers, and the quart has been the traditional container of the ultimate
higher-touch beverage—milk.

“Man is a clever animal. There is no way to keep him from devising new tools.
Rather, the error lies in thinking that new tools are the solution. It could be a fatal
error written in excess.”

When we fall into the trap of believing or, more accurately, hoping that technology
will solve all our problems, we are actually abdicating the high touch of personal
responsibility. Our technological fantasies illustrate the point. We are always
swallowing the pill that will eat all the fattening food we want and not gain weight; burn all the gasoline we want and not pollute the air; live as
immoderate as we choose and not contract either cancer or heart disease.

In our minds, at least, technology is always on the verge of liberating us from
personal discipline and responsibility. Only it never does and it never will. That is
why the human potential movement, which advocates both discipline and responsibility, is
such a critical part of the high tech/high touch equation. By discovering our potential
as human beings, we participate in the evolution of the human race. We develop the
inner knowledge, the window, perhaps, required to guide our exploration of technology.
With the high touch wisdom gained studying our potential as human beings, we may
learn the ways to master the greatest high tech challenge that has ever faced mankind:
the threat of total annihilation by nuclear warfare.

High tech/high touch. The principle symbolizes the need for balance between our
physical and spiritual reality.


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Natural Magick:
Earth-Centered Spirituality

Cauldronire Temple announces an ongoing study group in the religion and magick of Wicca. Wicca is an ancient adaptation of
principles of natural religion thousands of years old. It offers a life-affirming perspective and practical means for gaining
control of your own life. Earth Religion is the religion of the
Great Goddess, the Mother and Lover of the World, the Earth/Consort/Sea.

Sun and Moon, Fire and Water, Summer and Winter, the Lover of
the Goddess is the maintenance of Life. Wicca offers the opportunity
to be your own Priest/ess of the Gods, free from vast quantities
of dogma and hierarchy.

We extend an invitation to learn and experience the Spirituality of Moerh Earth. Drawing on the pre-Christian traditions of Europe,
tribal religions of the world today, and modern esoteric techniques,
we combine meditation and ritual training with music, dance, and
theatrical ritual. The result is an awareness tuned to the cycles of
nature and in touch with the personal power intended for us all.

The study group will meet Sunday after each New Moon. Moira and
Ian, the teachers, have 10 years of experience in group teaching and
leadership. They are skilled in divination, ritual design, and trance
techniques. The group will cover both theory and beliefs and practical
applications of the Magick of the Earth. We will meet at the
ACE office, and a small fee will be charged to cover site rental.

Goddess-centered, respectful of the Earth, egalitarian and non-
romantic, the Earth religions offer an alternative to monothetic
religion for modern women and men. Come and see for yourself.

Sunday Feb. 9th and Mar. 16th
Donation for site $2.50
1643 Lee Rd. #9 Cleve. Ms. Oh. For info call: 933-3425
Study group begins at 1:30 until about 4:00. Bring notepad.
Bio-Feedback Meditation

Meditation is an art and a technique of control over one's mind and its relationship to the body. Through meditation, an individual can learn to focus his awareness on a particular idea or an internal process, and thereby use the inherent ability of his mind to identify and control tension, stress, and pain, and even to achieve altered states of consciousness.

Stress, they say, is one of the prices we pay for our busy, active, constantly changing lifestyles. Stress has many causes, both physical and emotional, and the mind and body store stress-produced tension built up over time in a variety of ways. Aching muscles, reduced resistance to disease, physical and emotional anxiety, nervousness, adverse skin conditions, insomnia, and a host of other ills can be caused or aggravated by stress.

Compulsive habits, such as chain smoking and over-eating, can also be stress-related.

Coupled with the science of bio-feedback, the art of meditation is an excellent time-tested method of controlling stress. By monitoring the body's success at achieving the desired results of relaxation and internal process control, one can learn to effectively use meditation to aid your mind's ability to change the conditions of the body and aid healing in a fraction of the time needed for meditation training alone. Furthermore, the deep states of relaxation attained during meditation provide an excellent opportunity for self examination and consciousness exploration. Once the training is complete, the bio-feedback devices are no longer necessary.

Joseph Rothenberg, co-Director of the Association for Consciousness Exploration, has been working professionally in the field of mental health for over seven years, and has taught classes and held personal sessions in Memory Enhancement, Bio-Feedback, Meditation, and Stress Management. He is available for personal counselling and aid in these and related fields. His fees are $25.00 per hour session, $15.00 for ACE Members. For more information and to set up an appointment call 932-5421.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR CONSCIOUSNESS EXPLORATION
1643 Lee Rd. No. 9 Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118
932-5421

Mind Games
The Guide to Inner Space

Sunday Mar. 9th 1-3 PM
1601 Lee Rd. #9
ACE Members $10.00
Registration $25.00

This workshop is partly based on the Masters and Houston book Mind Games, a how-to book of mental exercises for achieving altered states of consciousness without the use of drugs or mysticism. The course will include an overview of the styles and purposes of meditation in many systems, and utilize practical experiences in guided meditation. There will be time set aside for input into planning for future classes on the subject, and attempts to make scheduling convenient for the participants of this first class.

A major influence in these exercises will be the use of the "mind-brain system" of Masters and Houston to improve sensory perception, magnify or accelerate mental processes, and retrieve forgotten or inhibited faculties. In a sense, the mind games are a yoga for the West, one that draws on the latest discoveries about consciousness and about Man's latent capabilities, and shows how these findings can be productively applied. For registration and further info call 932-5421.

Memory Enhancement
Sunday Feb. 23rd 1:00-5:00
Fee $20/10 to ACE Members at the ACE Office

For several years Joseph Rothenberg has been instructing students in techniques for the enhancement of memory, and the participants in these classes have usually begun with the same complaints: "I have a terrible memory for names." "I'm good at names but not numbers." "I just don't have as sharp a memory as I used to."

Actually, your memory is incredibly powerful. You've recorded enormous amounts of data: names, dates, experiences, smells, sights, sounds, textures, ... a vast repository of information, and under the right conditions they can come back with crystal clarity. The trick is to gain effective control and access to the most amazing "computer memory banks" known to Man.

Joseph Rothenberg's class on Memory Enhancement teaches efficient methods of learning, memory storage, and access techniques. Through a combination of mnemonics, relaxation, proper learning, and association he can help you store and retrieve information faster, more efficiently, undistorted, and at your own command.
The DARK HORSE TAROT is a deck which draws on the Celtic traditions while preserving the Golden Dawn symbolism and interpretations. In addition to the usual 78 cards, two alternative cards are provided: an Eris trump, and a "Jive" Death trump.

The deck is to be colored by the owner. This NEW printing has new borders, Hebrew lettering and some artwork, and comes pre-cut and boxed. Felt tips or watercolor will complete the deck - plastic will preserve them.

The designers, Chameleons J. Wyndham and D. Stool, have expressed on each card a proper emblem of the zodiacal sign, planet, or element associated with it. It is our hope that users will be able to put the deck to good use in both study and divination, and also as an incredibly enjoyable coloring project!

Tarot deck cost is $7.95 (includes postage), and is available by mail order from Chameleon Club. For orders and inquiries write: A.C.E. 1643 Lee Rd. #9 Cleve. Hts. Oh. 44118

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ACE

The Association for Consciousness Exploration is an organization dedicated to the study of the many realms of the mind, and the promotion of these studies on the part of others. We consider the fields of Psychology, Magick, healing, meditation, stress management, mnemonics, Shumanism, Meta-physics, and Quantum Mechanics to be inter-related and, if properly balanced, to possess the potential for a synergistic relationship resulting in advances in our understanding of ourselves and our universe far beyond the potential of the individual sciences.

ACE offers a Membership Card for $40.00/yr. which provides significant discounts on all our activities and services, including our classes, lectures, and seminars, the use of our bio-feedback and sensory isolation and controlled sensory stimulation equipment, and our library of reference books, periodicals, and videotapes. We also have audio-visual equipment for viewing tapes, 16mm film, audio-tape players, and our personnel are available for information, advice, and counseling. For further information contact:

THE ASSOCIATION FOR CONSCIOUSNESS EXPLORATION 1643 Lee Rd. No.9 Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118 932-5421

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The STARWOOD LECTURE AGENCY can provide your organization with a wide variety of speakers and entertainers whose presentations relate to the fields of relaxation, healing, Magick, and consciousness exploration. We can arrange tours, provide advice in the promotion of an event, handle all travel arrangements, and generally help make your easy and successful. Our roster of presenters includes:

ROBERT ANTON WILSON JOSEPH ROOSENBERG IAN CARRIGAN MOIRA KYTELER
AMYLEE ISAAC BONNITT WILLIAM CARL EICHMAN MAGGIE CROSSY
JEFF ROSENBACH SELINA FOX ROBERT SHEA JOHN BASSETTE LINDA FLORIST
MARGOT ADLER MARTIN LAUBACH MOONSTAR ARLENE RILEY WILSON JIM ALAN
STANLEY Krippner VICTORIA CASTER SALLY EATON and MANY MANY MORE!
Winterstar Schedule

LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

MARGOT ADLER: From Witch to Witch-Doctor...Healers, Therapists, and Shamans
ISAAC BONEWITS: Top-Down Liturgical Design: Programming Effective Rituals
IAN CORRIGAN: The Cauldron and the Grail: Patterns of Spiritual Growth in Paganism
BILL EICHMAN: Advanced Pagan Magick
SELENA FOX: Crystal Magick: Ritual Healing With Quartz Crystals
VICTORIA GANGER: Magick and Music: Finding Your Personal Magickal Sound
ARLEN RILEY WILSON: "God Told Me To Tell You...": The Dangers of Charisma
ROBERT ANTON WILSON: Religion For the Hell of It

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday 5:30-6:45 Workshop Slot
7:00 PM Banquet, Key-Note Speech, and Sacred Spaces Slide Show
9:30 (approx) Special Showing of Neville Drury's videotape on the practice of Magick around the world

Saturday 9:30-10:45 Workshop Slot
11:00-12:15 Workshop Slot
12:15-1:30 Lunch Break
1:30-2:45 Workshop Slot
3:00-4:15 Workshop Slot
4:30-6:00 Workshop for Sat. Eve Ritual: The Six Esors and the Transcendence of Time - a prerequisite for participation.

Saturday Evening: Main Weekend Ritual in the ballroom - a joint effort of ACE, the Crystal Serpent Coven, and Rite Cabal.
Followed by a late-night Bardic Circle

Sunday 9:30-10:45 Workshop Slot
11:00-12:15 Workshop Slot
12:15-1:30 Lunch Break
1:30-2:45 Workshop Slot
3:00-4:30 Panel Discussion on the Present and Future of the Magickal Movement featuring: Robert Anton Wilson, Margot Adler, Selena Fox, and Isaac Bonewits

Mail your registration to: A. C. E.
1643 Lee Rd.
Suite #9
Cleve. Hts., Ohio
44118

Atwood Lake Area

Atwood Features:
Swimming Pool, Sauna, Hot Tub/Whirlpool, Restaurant, Lounge, and Much More!

In order to assist individuals on a limited budget we are accepting reservations for "crash space". People reserving on this plan agree to accept a place to sleep in a cabin. This plan is offered to help reduce your costs at an absolute minimum.

REGISTRATION: WINTERSTAR 1986

Accomodations: (Friday 4:30 - Sunday Check-out)
$50.00/bedroom (max. Occup. 2)
$200.00/cabin (max. Occup. 10)
$30.00/"crash space" for one (limited)
Total: $

Symposium Fee: (includes all activities except Banquet)
Before Jan. 20th: $30.00/20.00 ACE Members
After Jan. 20th: $35.00/20.00 ACE Members
At the Door: $45.00/35.00 ACE Members
Total: $

Banquet Fee: (includes Key-note speech & slide show)
Before Jan. 20th: Free!
After Jan. 20th: $10.00/Free to ACE Members
Both Free and paid Banquet guests Must Register!
Total: $

Name

Address

Total Enclosed $