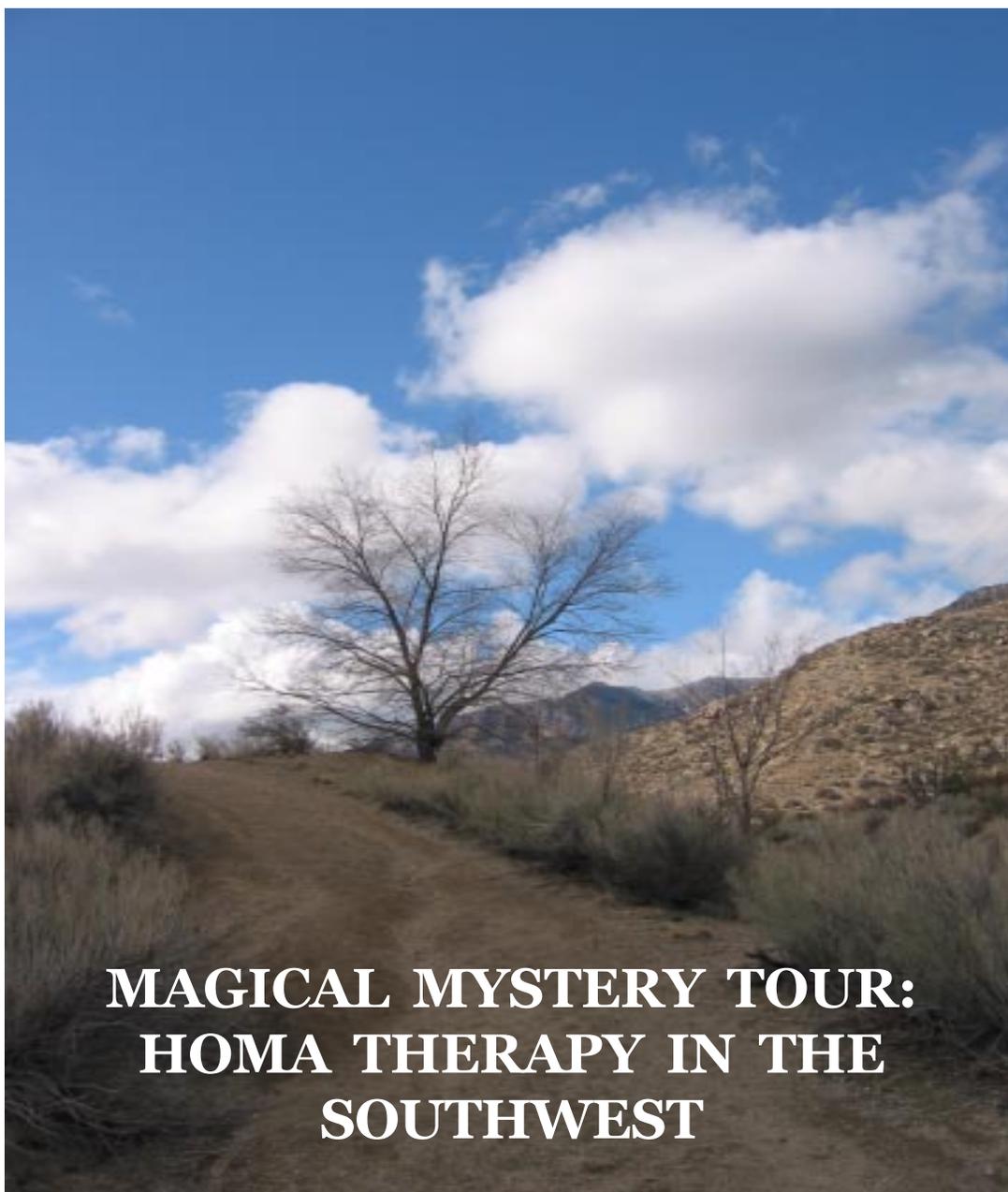


SATSANG

VOL. 30
NO.6



**MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR:
HOMA THERAPY IN THE
SOUTHWEST**

NEW ERA 59

MARCH & APRIL, 2003

Perform Agnihotra



Heal The Atmosphere

NEW ERA 59

MARCH & APRIL, 2003

VOL. 30 NO. 6

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Neurosis

Vasant

When a person has what appears to be a neurosis, this implies one thing, and that is, this person has a habit that has gotten stuck in a groove, so it repeats itself over and over in a try for attention, in order that the person will cure it.

The being riddled with so-called neurosis is a being whose mind needs to be cleaned out-- just like a closet that is full to the brink. Some items are needed; others are simply trash.

In emptying out the closet, one might also find items which one has lost that are valuable and helpful in this moment.

How does one go about clearing one's closet?

Now one who is aware of one's neurosis will generally tend to analyze it over and over until this additional analysis turns another groove in the mind. Instead, we are suggesting to empty the closet first. This is done through use of meditation, breathing exercises. Then discard what is no longer needed and organize the rest.

It sounds simple and with a little effort all these so-called neuroses can be healed.

It is like having a virus in the computer. It can cause so much damage if it is not attended to. Mind requires at least as much care as the body.

Magical Mystery Tour—Homa Therapy in Southwestern U.S.

Ed. with Parvati Rosen-Bizberg

In February of this year, several longtime Agnihotra teachers had the privilege of accompanying Shree Vasant to New Mexico and Arizona to spread Agnihotra and Homa Therapy. This would be Vasant's first visit to the area since 1991. The trip would also give Homa Therapy teachers from diverse places the chance to work together.

On February 7th, Shree Vasant and Irma Garcia were met at the airport in Albuquerque by Vincent Taylor, Frank Nelson, and Ron and Ellie Hadsall. Vince had accompanied Frank on the cross-country drive from Baltimore in Frank's newly purchased RV, which served as the base of operations for much of the trip. The Hadsalls are a lovely couple who work at The Ayurvedic Institute in Albuquerque. Everyone drove to a spacious adobe house rented by Greg Hawkins, an Agnihotra practitioner from Santa Fe.

The next day, Shree Vasant, Irma, Vince, Frank and Greg attended the Organic Farming and Gardening Expo at the Glorietta Conference Center. There, Greg talked with Heather and Ric Gaudet of One Straw Farm. The farm is located on a special geological site. The oldest pueblo and acequia in the U.S. were on this land. It is said to be one of the sacred points on the Native American map, and houses a vortex where birds stop and circle before changing

direction on their migratory route. The owners of the land have created a prayer circle space, where various groups meet and perform dances and have drumming circles. A resonance point was installed on the farm the next day.

By Tuesday, Vince had left for Baltimore and Roger Subotnik, Parvati Rosen-Bizberg, Jacob Sawyer and I joined the others. Roger is originally from Baltimore, but has been doing Homa Therapy work in South America for the last several years. Parvati and her son, Jacob, are two of the co-developers of Bhrugu Aranya Healing Centre and community in Wysoka, Poland. We stayed at the DEVA Foundation, an eco-friendly retreat center just outside Santa Fe. Each day we followed a full schedule of healing fires, mantras and meditations, in addition to arranging Homa Therapy talks, meeting with individuals, selling and distributing Homa supplies and literature, phone calls, emailing, plus the usual rounds of cooking, dishwashing, laundry and cleaning. Greg and other local Agnihotra practitioners, Lynsey Rubin, Stephen Auger, Wendelin Scott and Ivy Amar wholeheartedly shared in the work and all the fires there. Ivy had met Vasant during his trip to New Mexico in 1991. Throughout the trip, people came to meet with Parvati for individual healing sessions, which many people reported to be uplifting and

transformative. We were all amazed at how close we felt to each other, although some of us had just met, and by the energy the fires and Mantras created that carried us through the days.



Meeting at the DEVA Foundation. From left: Frank Nelson, Jacob Sawyer, Wendelin Scott, Stephen Auger, Lynsey Rubin, Greg Hawkins, Irma Garcia, Roger Subotnik, Parvati Rosen-Bizberg, Shree Vasant Paranjpe and Ivy Amar.

On Wednesday, February 12, we drove to an ancient burial ground of the Anasazi tribe, to activate an energy point there. After a lengthy drive down dusty desert roads (some with cliff-like ruts), we reached the spot and performed Vyahruti Homa and chanted Sapta Shloki. The following is an excerpt from guidance received by Parvati, from Orion, at the site of the activation ceremony:

“Yes, this is the area. It is more than it appears. There are more than what meets the eye.

Indeed, in the presence of the Master, performance of a sacred fire serves as an activation of this sacred site.

“Yes, there have been sightings here and in the surrounding hills—sightings of spacecrafts documented as well as not.

“And the beings were of high reasoning, of a higher level of comprehension and of a system of communication which cannot be compared to any in existence now.

“Government may be interested in this area—not for the remains of ancient tribes, but for future technology.

“The excavation was stopped, but temporarily. It should be a protected space, but it will come to be of interest later on.



Gathering at the activation site.

“There are more such sacred places, but this is the burial grounds we had suggested. The next place was a sacred temple. It will be revealed to you.

“Great saints had walked here. The Earth may bury their remains, but the energy is never buried. The prayers and chants of the ancients are in the atmosphere. They are now activated by fire.”

Many of those in attendance remarked about the special energy they felt in that place. Afterwards, Shree Vasant mentioned that this activation was his main reason for coming to New Mexico.

During our stay in New Mexico, Shree Vasant gave evening talks at Longevity Café, The Taos Yoga Center, and Yoga Moves. In each talk, he stressed the need for Homa Farming. Many local people voiced their concerns about red bark beetles, which have destroyed countless acres of piñon trees. The piñon trees are the source of pine nuts, so this problem means the loss of a food/cash crop as well as ecological damage. Some of the new people in Santa Fe area are already looking for a location to begin a Homa farm in the area.

On February 14, we visited the Ayurvedic Institute in Albuquerque. The center was

founded by Dr. Vasant Lad. Before Shree Vasant’s talk, Dr. Lad and his colleagues gave us a tour of the institute. The center offers an Ayurvedic Studies Program, Jyotish (Vedic astrology) programs, and various weekend and intensive seminars. The Herb Department stocks a wide array of Ayurvedic and Western herbs as well as Ayurvedic literature and products. The Panchakarma Department provides traditional Ayurvedic treatments such as oil massage, herbal steam treatment and herbal therapy. Yashoda, a friend of the Institute who runs an Ayurvedic restaurant in Albuquerque, graciously opened her home to us for the next two days.



At The Ayurvedic Institute. From left, facing the audience: Dr. Vasant Lad, Jacob Sawyer, Shree Vasant, and Irma Garcia.

Sunday the 16th we began the long drive to Phoenix in the RV, affectionately dubbed ‘The Magic Bus’. Baltimore area Agnihotris had lovingly stocked the vehicle with food and supplies before the trip, and it was like magic to suddenly find much-needed items in the various storage units. (The duct tape for an emergency side-view mirror repair was especially appreciated.) Along the way, we sang along with tapes from The Dances of Universal Peace, which included songs from the Hebrew, Zoroastrian, Hindu, Native American, Christian, Islamic, Sufi and other spiritual traditions. We also had the freedom to stop for Homa fires at each meditation time. It was a joyous journey.

We arrived in Phoenix Monday afternoon with just enough time to drop our luggage at the hotel and dash off to Papago State Park, where Shree Vasant was scheduled to give another talk. There, we were reunited with old friends—Sally Hobart and Mairi Woods, who were among the first people in the U.S. to do Agnihotra, and West Coast Agnihotris Donna Scott and Michael Kemper with daughter Karlie, and Brooke Knight from California. It was very special for all of us to be together again. New friends joined us as well: long-time Agnihotri Mary Ann Doyle, and her friends. Joan Walling, an enthusiastic travel agent who did a lot of work organizing the trip, and Karen Dennis, who helped with arrangements for the talk and distributing Agnihotra literature. The park, which is just outside Phoenix, has a primeval feel to it, complete with prehistoric-looking caves. The pavilion provided an interesting setting for Vasant’s talk and Agnihotra.

We stayed in Phoenix for two nights, and a group of us met at the park each sunrise and sunset for Agnihotra. On the last morning, four of us were performing Agnihotra at the park. Just as we finished the mantras, about fifty birds gathered all around us, joyously chirping and singing. There were about six or seven different species: a bevy of quail skittering over the rocks, woodpeckers hammering tunes on nearby metal signs, some black birds perched on vehicles in the adjacent parking lot, pigeons and even two hawks circling at a little distance. Some brave birds flew into the pavilion, swooping right past us. We had been to the park several times before and had hardly seen any birds at all. In mythology, the Phoenix is a bird that rises *from* the fire. On our trip, the Phoenix birds flocked *to* it!

We extend a special thanks to Dr. Vasant Lad, Ron and Ellie Hadsall, Yashoda, Joan Walling and Mary Ann Doyle for all their help, and to all our new friends for sharing in the lighting of many more fires to heal our planet Earth.



At Papago State Park after our visit from the birds. From left: Bara, Greg Doyle, Joan Walling, Mary Ann Doyle, Lynsey Rubin, Karen Dennis, Lisa Powers, Mairi Woods, Wendelin Scott and Patrick Dennis.

Homa News from Australia and India

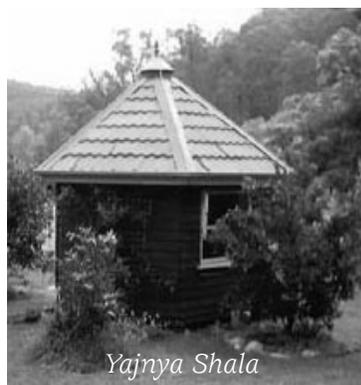
Lee and Frits Ringma
Homa Therapy Association of Australia

BUILDING THE HOMA REFUGE / RETREAT CENTRE HAS BEGUN

You may recall the many messages and indications that have come through Satsang publications, Orion messages and other communications from the international network of Homa Therapy volunteers, that the world in the near future will see difficult times in relation to environmental disasters and economic collapse. In 2002 Shree Vasant Paranjpe advised Frits and I that it was very important to start building a refuge centre at Om Shree Dham as Australia, according to Orion messages, was on the verge of environmental and economic collapse. Taking all these indications seriously, we have always planned to develop Om Shree Dham into a potential refuge centre with as much accommodation as local council will permit. We planned a setup that will enable high quantity and quality Homa food production and storage, i.e. of grains, pulses, vegetables, fruit, herbs and dairy products (from Homa Brahmin cows--cows with a hump) that our small acreage will permit. So despite time and money restraints we have now, in March, 2003, started on the buildings. The first 77 footings are down and the piers are up. *Celebration time!*

SILENT RETREAT AT OM SHREE DHAM

Recently a young woman chose to conduct a six-week silent retreat at Om Shree Dham to



take advantage of the highly charged Homa energy field. Her aim was to come into her centre and find her next direction. The requirements here for such a stay

are: twice daily Agnihotra and an hour of Om Tryambakam Homa, two hours of work in the garden and cowdung drying duty. She managed two weeks and on breaking her silence she explained that the energy field was so conducive to inner work that even two days silent retreat here would be of great benefit.

It was wonderful having her here and the veggie garden is very grateful.

OUR WORK IN INDIA

Frits and I regularly go to India to do voluntary work, teaching Homa farming to village people, as India is in severe environmental crisis and over-the-top chemical farming is high on the list of causes.

There exists a very high rate of suicide amongst farmers as they outlay so much for chemicals--often on a loan basis to the chemi-

cal companies, promising a percentage of the sales of their crop. However, the saturated levels of chemicals in the environment often mean failed crops, so the ordinary people find themselves spiraling down into debt and a destroyed livelihood.

Homa Therapy has saved many from such tragedies. See the great Homa experiment / demonstration in South America at www.homatherapy.com

SOLUTIONS FOR SALINITY AND PH PROBLEMS IN IRRIGATION WATER

Over the last couple of years we have had excellent results with Indian farmers who have taken on the life-style called Homa Therapy.

Salinity is a big problem. We recommended to one farmer to do Agnihotra by his tube well regularly and to regularly place Agnihotra ash into the well. Simultaneously he had the region's agricultural department test the water for salinity and PH. With each test the well water showed improvement on both counts. The quality and quantity of his crops also dramatically improved and this happened in the relatively short time of six months.

HELP IN DROUGHTS

Drought is epidemic in large areas of India,

especially where we work. On a farm where Homa Farming was introduced during drought, all tube wells in the area dried up except on this farm which also ended up supplying basic water needs for the local villagers. On another farm we did a test to determine the moisture level in the soil during a drought . On a Homa farm where no irrigation could take place due to lack of water, still moisture was present in the soil at one foot deep while on neighboring farms one had to dig at least one meter before moisture was found.

QUANTITY OF PRODUCE DOUBLED

During the soya bean season on all farms that practiced Homa Farming, their crop yields at least doubled and often tripled, compared to their neighbours using agro chemicals. On a particular farm where a Western Homa volunteer supervised the Homa soya bean project, despite sabotage from vested interests (twice a hoard of starved white monkeys were released from a mysterious truck seen parked out the front of the farm when the crop was ripe. Of course they proceeded to ravage the crop until they were chased away)--still the crop was more than double that of neighbouring conventional farms.

HOLY NARMADA RIVER: PLANETARY ENTRANCE POINT FOR PRANA

During a short and compact visit to India in November, 2002, Frits and I found ourselves at a very special place. We landed in Indore, the closest city to Maheshwar on the full moon and were greeted by lovely Karen, a longtime Homa volunteer in India with her two children, Aaron and Aurelia. That afternoon we were in Maheshwar and had the joy of spending precious time with Shree Vasant who has brought, for over thirty years now, the lifesaving ancient Vedic science of Homa Therapy to the West. Shree Vasant, known as Vasant Paranjpe, is the author of *Homa Therapy Our Last Chance, Light Towards Divine Path*, and *Grace Alone*.

Parama Sadguru Shree Gajanan Maharaj, also referred to as Maha Shree, who resuscitated the Vedas and reintroduced Homa Therapy to the planet as a powerful means to neutralize environmental pollution and to purify the group mind of humanity, has stated that the rejuvenation of the planet will take place from this special place near Maheshwar by the holy river Narmada (a key planetary entrance point for prana). Maha Shree left the body in 1987 and Shree Vasant continues with the work of spreading Homa Therapy worldwide .

ORGANIC CONFERENCE, DELHI, INDIA NOVEMBER, 2002

One of the reasons we were in India during

this particular visit was to attend an International Conference on Organics called “Indian Organic Products, Global Markets”. The idea of the conference was to interface Indian organic farmers, Indian Government officials, The Tea Board of India, The Spice Board of India etc., with international organic certification bodies, international businesses like Demeter, Biodynamic organizations, other major organic groups, and to encourage India to go organic. By Grace we found ourselves along with Karen and other Homa volunteers representing Homa Therapy at this first organic international conference held in India with five hundred people attending representing twenty-six countries.

The Program was already fully booked and tightly scheduled when we came to know about the conference and therefore no time was available to communicate Homa Therapy officially. However ,all conference seats had microphones for audience participation. Our opportunity came to speak when a key speaker, who was the founder of an Ayurvedic organic herbal company, spoke out about the tremendous difficulties they were having in obtaining supplies of herbs that had potency & in reasonable quantities. The reason for the scarcity, he declared, was degradation of nature - She could simply no longer produce. As a result they had turned to wild crafting, that is, setting up projects in

the wilderness areas of India, such as some remaining Himalayan forests where they would encourage nature to produce. But even in the so-called wilderness, nature was not producing. The speaker was putting out for any solutions.

Here was our opportunity to speak to the conference about Homa Therapy, which is a universal solution. The response we received from the international body of attendants, including Indian government delegates, was overwhelming and many requests came for Homa volunteers to come and give training and to set up resonance systems on large farms and plantations all over India.

In April/May this year Frits and I are returning to India to follow up and keep the enthusiasm going after this major miraculous introduction to Homa Therapy in India.

HOMA VOLUNTEERS

Homa Therapy is always taught free of charge by volunteers. We are a passionate, loosely knit international group of people who simply want to help and we know without a doubt that what we're sharing totally self-empowers people to heal their own environment and themselves with such a relatively small outlay--cow dung, ghee, rice, the initial outlay for copper pyramids and a little self-discipline to be available at sunrise/

sunset timings. For large acreage we help set up systems of resonance to cover sets of one hundred acre areas. We also train the farmers and their workers in Agnihotra and Om Tryambakam Homas as Homa Farming requires four hours Om Tryambakam Homa daily and as many hours as possible on full and new moons. So the transformational practice is given as part of the workers' farming duties! What a Divine conspiracy!

TAPOVAN, INDIA

Also during the November sojourn in India we visited Tapovan where ceaseless Om Tryambakam Fire has now been conducted for the last two years, thanks to Bruce and Anne's dedication in the face of many obstacles. We had visited Tapovan several years earlier, around 1998, and the contrast between then and now was mind-blowing. In the middle of desert-like conditions was this flowering, green, peaceful oasis. The local

workers showed increased re-



spect for self and others. I was witnessing a revolution of transformation not just in the paradise of nature where some trees were defying "laws" by fruiting all year round, but in consciousness.

Inspirational Youth Workshop



*Jacob Sawyer
Wysoka, Poland*

For several years now, I have been drawn to working with my peers, using creativity and the healing fires as a way to assist us on our journey of self-discovery. Youth is a magical time when so much vibrant energy lies right below the surface, waiting to be tapped and channeled into one's life path.

In Madison I was given my first opportunity to put this vision into action. The first Homa Therapy Youth Workshop in the U.S. was held in Madison, Virginia from February 28th through March 2nd, 2003.

I chose NOMA House as the location. It is a wonderful facility made available for workshops and retreats, and is a stone's throw from Parama Dham (House of Almighty Father) Fire Temple. The whole atmosphere there was buzzing with energy.

From the moment we started the workshop with a Vyahruti Homa and began introducing ourselves, I knew that I was blessed to be working with such amazing young people. They were genuine and honest. Each person went through a process of introspection and shared what they discovered with the group. There were fifteen of us in all, from New Jersey, Massachusetts, Maryland, Virginia and Mississippi. We all came from different backgrounds and ages ranged from seventeen to twenty-six. Despite the differences, or maybe partly because of them, a mutual trust

and bond was formed.

We began each activity with a healing fire. It was like a return to ancient times, when any meeting, any group gathering, was started with a circle around the fire. The word pyramid means fire (pyr) in the middle (mid). The intensity of the group when we gathered in our meeting room with the fire was palpable, as if you could touch it. Each morning we rose for sunrise Agnihotra and then performed an hour of Hatha Yoga.

One of the first activities we did was focused on Swadhyaya (self-study) which ended up being our main focus for the workshop. Each person had to write down in their journals at least five positive qualities about themselves. By qualities, I mean things that really described their true spirit. For instance, honesty, ability to listen, humor, oneness with nature, etc. We took turns sharing our qualities with the group and explaining why we picked them. Immediately the focus was positive and not on our so-called "flaws". This may sound like a simple activity but when each person commits to the group in sharing these things, the effect is amazing.

Throughout the workshop we went from doing mental activities to physical ones, constantly seeking a balance of inner and outer. There was a natural ebb and flow to the group.

Later in the workshop we discussed some of our weaknesses--things which we felt were limitations in our lives, for example, anger, self-doubt, anxiety, fear, depression, etc. All these obstacles seemed less insurmountable after voicing them with the group. The shadow disappears once one shines light upon it. In other words, the power of our spirit is far greater than our limitations.

Each night we played music, sang, and danced after dinner to wind down. The final day culminated with our individual "performances". Each person had to use some creative medium to express a part of themselves in front of the group. Most people got a little nervous, but when we finally did start, the tension defused and everyone had a good time. Some did improvisational dance. Others sang, rapped, read their poetry, shared their drawings, created a food sculpture, and gave hugs! It was fun and a great release to end the workshop.

One person who attended wrote me:

"It is always easier to see one's faults than one's virtues, so this was a way to make us think, "Okay, I do have some sort of talent, maybe one that I have always overlooked, or one that I even didn't know I had it until other people in the group made me see it."



There was a pulsating energy behind this weekend, the power of the Homa fires. They provided the rhythm to each day, each moment. The healing atmosphere provided a protective space where we could express ourselves freely. It was an intense, concentrated time of transformation. This healing tool cannot be underestimated.

I've realized what a joy it is to do this work. It feeds my soul. I'm just so grateful. I had many realizations during this short weekend. Now more than ever I know that we are the builders of the New Era. We may be camouflaged in protective layers to conceal ourselves from the outer world, but we can discard them at any moment. We are pure and just and when we speak from our hearts we speak the Truth.

Now is time for the spirit of this generation to be unleashed. There is so much unneeded suffering, and many have lost their way. We are being called back. We are ready.

Letters to the Editor

On Sunday, April 13, 2003, about twenty-five people gathered at the home of Dr. Henry and Jannette Gregory, longtime Agnihotris in Baltimore. Nearly half of those in attendance were young people between the ages of nineteen and thirty-two who have lived in households where Agnihotra was performed or who had relatives or friends who have performed Agnihotra regularly. The young people, most of whom have their own homes, apartments, children and mates now, were invited to begin doing Agnihotra for themselves in their living situations. They were encouraged as Shree Vasant encouraged many of the elders in attendance nearly thirty years ago, to "Take this Agnihotra and make it yours". They were reminded that each of us must do our own spiritual work and that none of us have come to our circumstance by accident or incidentally but by our karma and Divine Grace. The blessings we have received living in proximity to the fire must be shared.

After a twelve noon Vyahruti Homa fire and a brief statement of the challenges facing today's world and a review of the benefits of performing Agnihotra by Henry, Jannette and several of the elders present, the young people were encouraged to share their responses. They spoke of being aware of the peace that they felt consistently in the homes where Agnihotra was performed regularly as they grew up. They said that the feeling of

peace in their households was tangibly different from the atmosphere in their friend's homes--so much so that their friends would comment on the atmosphere of peace in the Agnihotra homes. Further, they said that the only place where they could experience the same level of peace was at the home of other persons who performed Agnihotra.

The young people were encouraged to begin to perform Agnihotra for a fifteen day experiment to see what effects it might have in their lives. After practicing the mantras, several left with Agnihotra pyramids, dried cowdung and ghee to begin the practice. Other young people in this large extended family network, in state and out of state, were contacted and communicated with after the meeting and they, too, began to perform Agnihotra. The eight adult children of the Gregorys had been previously given Agnihotra kits as Christmas presents.

It is among the greatest joys experienced as a parent to have one's children take up the work of burning the sacred fire and by doing so add protection to the lives of family, loved ones and the planet in this time of great transition.

All praises to the One. Om Shree Om,
Henry and Jannette Gregory

I went to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) office today to see who I might be able to talk with about the bark beetle problem and I mentioned that I had a proposed solution. The receptionist put me in touch with Thomas Malecek. His title is Forestry Program Manager, USDA Forest Service, Santa Fe National Forest. He was open and receptive to the idea of a test area for Homa Therapy and I left with him a copy of the document outlining the proposed project. Once we got over the fact that for him Homa Therapy seemed to be an unusual remedy, he let me know that he might be willing to do a 20 acre test area and that he also thought there would be a lot of private land owners that would jump on the offer. He said that people are paying about \$20-\$25 a tree to spray

them and that the cost adds up when there are several acres. He also said that if we continue to have a drought he expects almost ALL pinons to be wiped out by the end of the year. He said the situation is desperate and that land owners know that.

He also said he manages over 1,000,000 acres and that the bark beetle will start becoming active in April. I have emailed him a copy of the [project proposal] document and he will circulate it to appropriate individuals and get back to me in a week or two. He also said he will forward to me any suggestions he has for contacting land owners.

Greg Hawkins
Santa Fe, New Mexico



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FIVEFOLD PATH for Happy Living

1. Perform AGNIHOTRA for purification of the atmosphere which leads to automatic purification of mind.
2. Practice DAAN (sharing of assets in a spirit of humility to reduce attachment to worldly possessions).
3. Practice TAPA (becoming better managers of our energy expenditure by training the body and mind to react to all circumstances in life with Total Love).
4. Perform KARMA (every action for self

purification only and thus no expectations which bind us to the material world).

5. Practice SWADHYAYA (Self-study) for liberation. Who am I? Why am I here? My work on this planet is to learn to react with total LOVE with each opportunity given to me.

This is the Fivefold Path for happy living on the planet. By practicing the Fivefold Path you become better members of your society, group, religion, community, etc.