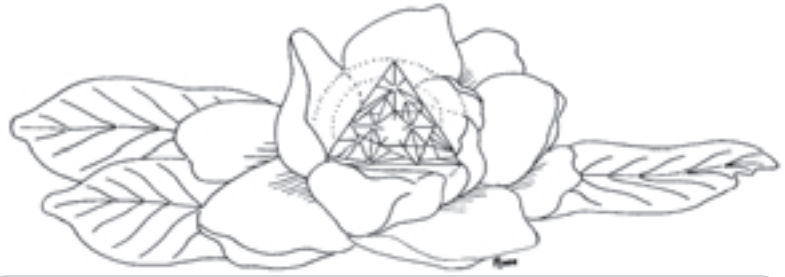


THOUGHTLINE

December 1999



ARCANA WORKSHOPS

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At the Crossing of the Dweller

by Tom Carney

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by Miki Webb

... calendar notes ...

11-12 December, 1999

Meditation for Living Workshop
presented by Tom Carney
Meditation Mount, Ojai

21 December, 1999

Tuesday, 7:45 p.m. p.s.t.
Capricorn Community Meditation Meeting

31 December, 1999

Friday, 10:45 pm p.s.t.
Millennium Meditation Meeting
at the zero hour of the new millennium!

20 January, 2000

Thursday, 7:30 pm p.s.t. (*exact time meeting*)
Aquarius Community Meditation Meeting

18 February, 2000

Friday, 7:45 pm p.s.t.
Pisces Community Meditation Meeting

19 March, 2000

Sunday, 7:30 pm p.s.t. (*exact time meeting*)
2nd Pisces Community Meditation Meeting

... on-going ...

Mondays, 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Group Dynamics Course
presented by Georgia Lambert
\$12.00/per class (call for details)

Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

Glamour: A World Problem Workshop

At the Crossing of the Dweller

According to ancient lore, in Sagittarius the disciple retrieves his arrow and, based upon the course corrections revealed as a result of his experiences in Scorpio, takes aim at the new goal and lets fly. That is where we stand at this point on the Path. Everyone, without exception, is getting ready to let fly with his or her arrow of intention for the next round.

There are a few things we need to think about here. One is the relative sense of "round." There are rounds within rounds, and I want to take a look at a few layers of those. Another aspect of this particular point on the Greater and Lesser Wheels has to do with direction, and there are several layers of direction to consider. Finally, we need to consider not only the disciple as an individual, but the disciple as Humanity.

Let's take a quick look at the rounds issue. It is more complex than this, but rounds are basically ways of bracketing processes as they move through time. Although the round will occur within a time frame, it is not so much a method of dividing time as it is a method for *revealing* the aspects of a developmental cycle. So, you have, as in all else in the universe, a relative set of absolutes. (I love saying things like that.) We have macro-rounds and micro-rounds and many, many other sizes in between. If this subject is of interest, you may want to check out a little book called *Chains and Rounds* by E.L. Gardner. This book covers the basics in a well-written and compact set.

At the moment, we are on the cusp of moving into a new round on several relative wheels. I will mention only a few. The planet is moving into a physical space time frame known as Aquarius. This planet-size move signifies the inauguration of the next cycle of development for our Planetary Logos, Sanat Kumara. It likewise signifies that the system of lives known as the *Creative Hierarchies*, which live and move and have their being within the Life of Sanat Kumara, will also be entering into a new cycle of development. This, of course, means that humanity, the 4th of the Creative Hierarchies evolving on this planet, is also moving into the Aquarian development cycle. And, since we are all members of humanity, this means that each of us, conscious of it or not, is also moving into a period which I like to call the stage of *Aquarian Opportunity*.

So, those are a few of the relative ways to see a round. Actually, observing how some of these terms, like *round*, have come to be used in common speech is often revealing of the characteristics of an age. Perhaps the most common use of the concept of a round as a time divider in modern culture, at least in modern U.S. culture, is the three-minute period of pummeling in a prizefight. These periods are called rounds and, as you know, during these periods each fighter does his level best to beat the opponent senseless while trying to avoid a similar fate. The use of the term in this fashion seems to have a deep resonance for humanity. Our entire evolutionary unfolding can be seen as a series of "rounds" in the boxing sense.

During most of these rounds, we have engaged with each other in extremely bloody and deadly battles.

We can also take a page from this larger picture and apply it to our daily lives. Certainly, there are some similarities. How often have we gotten ready for bed and felt like we just went three rounds with a 900-pound gorilla? How often have we turned from an interface with a fellow human to return to our corner and wait for the next bell? How often have we emerged from Scorpio and felt all beat up instead of triumphant ... like the little arrow on the end of the sign signifies we are supposed to feel?

Maybe twenty years ago, a gifted cartoonist named Walt Kelly had his main character, a disciple named Pogo, say, "We have met the enemy and he is us." I watched for the third time recently a film called *Saving Private Ryan*. Many of you have seen this film, which is about a war. This war was billed as the war to end war. This particular war happened more than half a century ago. High among the things we saw in this film about the World War was us killing ourselves. The soldiers who faced one another in that war, as is the case in most—I would say *all*—wars, were ourselves.

It is true that we had to go to war and defeat the threat to humanity's future that the glamour and illusion of Nazism represented. And, if the forces of retrogression that generated this thoughtform and enslaved millions of humans with it are ever successful in again generating such a force and directing it at humanity's future, we will once again have to do whatever it takes to defeat them. However, a very large realization is now, finally, dawning in the consciousness of man. That realization, the result of living and dying through countless rounds in thousands upon thousands of wars, is that the enemy is *us*. We are both friend and foe. In wars, we just kill one another.

Well, as we know, being conscious of the problem is 50% of the solution. However, the rest of the solution does not—emphatically *does not*—lie on the same level as the problem. Another mindless round of bloodletting and killing, the objective of which is the subjugation and domination of the perceived opponent, will solve nothing. Yet, it is only too obvious that humanity is not totally through with this psychotic and barbaric ritual called war. It would be naïve to think so. However, it is clear to many of us that there has been a significant turn in direction. There is a great deal of evidence indicating that, instead of backing into the future, we have turned and are facing the future. We have come to realize that the repetition of blood and death is not the direction for the disciple, humanity, nor is it any longer the way for any one of us.

Does this mean that we cease the struggle ... that we surrender? No, of course not. **BIG FLASH!** The battle, the conflict, the actual, literal engagement of oppositions is

not the problem. The problem lies in our approach to the solution.

If we have, at long last, learned the lessons of our bloody past, we will approach the next round (because there will always, until the end of Forever, be a next round) ... we will approach the next round in a whole new way. Of course, we will approach with a bold enthusiasm, and we will struggle just as mightily as ever. It is only human to do so; but, having finally learned the lesson of our past, we will have exchanged our weapons of destruction for tools of cultivation. This time out, our effort will be to create beauty rather than to kill ourselves. The conflict is necessary and eternal, but the killing, at least for us, is over.

As I have suggested before, the indicator of success or failure of the tests of Scorpio is the direction in which the disciple faces as he starts the next round. Direction, of course, is also relative. There is absolutely a forward and a backward, but forward and backward are entirely relative to the individual. So, when each of us looks at the next round, it would behoove us to do so while we are awake.

It is amazing, isn't it, how long we actually went blithely forward without being conscious in the slightest way of that next step. Maybe this is what is meant by that old relative absolute saw (it's a saw because it cuts two ways), "Ignorance is bliss." Some of us, even after we realized that we *could* look at the next step before taking it, refused for a number of rounds to even look. Well, as another old saw points out, rank has its privileges, which in a relative sense could mean that consciousness definitely has its responsibilities, and once we know what the score is, we are at great risk when we do not look ahead before we move.

This brings me to a seldom-considered aspect of the opportunity afforded the disciple when he enters the energy field known as Sagittarius. For the wise disciple, Sagittarius offers a round, a time of deep reflection. For most folks, reflection means that we look back over the path we have come, seeing and pondering upon the lessons we have learned, our successes and failures all contributing to our forward growth.

On another level, reflecting is something we do all the time. We reflect that which we are—that which is in us—into our environments, filling them with ourselves, with the contents of our emotional and mental bodies. If we are emotionally disturbed, angry, depressed, full of self-pity and self-loathing, we reflect this into the environment. If we are emotionally calm and detached, *we help to empty and clear the emotional field*

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We wish everyone
a holiday season reflecting
meaning for each individual,
and hope that all may be
inspired through light and love
to intelligent response
and right human relations
leading toward peace
through understanding.

ARCANA WORKSHOPS

in which we are moving. If our *mental* body is over-stimulated ... racing ... scattered ... unfocused ... free associating, we reflect this into the mental aura. If we are maintaining a focused, ordered, still, clear, poised mental attitude, we reflect those qualities into the mental field. These are realities of the path with which, even if not constantly aware, all disciples are familiar.

Yet, Sagittarius presents an opportunity to participate in still another level of reflection which is of the utmost importance to disciples. In Sagittarius, the disciple is presented with the opportunity to choose to approach what,

for him, will be the next gate. At a certain point on the Path, this will be the third gate—the point of transfiguration.

Entering the field of Sagittarius, the disciple is totally focused on taking the next step in the light. That next step will not be revealed by looking back. The reflection required here is, directionally considered, forward. The disciple must develop the ability to reflect forward, to throw a beam of light forward on the path. To do this, the disciple must develop the “Single Eye,” becoming so open to the inflow of light from the Triad that one’s “whole body is full of light.”

It is in the forward-reflected beam of this light that the disciple will see his next step in the Light. He will see the Light in the light. "This means that when the personality has reached a point of purification, of dedication and of illumination, then the attractive power of the soul (whose nature is love and understanding) can function, and fusion of these two will take place." (*Glamour: A World Problem*, p168.) This process leads directly to the Mountaintop in Capricorn.

As we all know, the Light is the Plan. So, in this process, we become revealers or restorers of the Plan in our environments because we become full Light or full of the Plan. And, once more, we encounter a relative sense of direction. We go forward so that we can go backward with more efficiency and greater skill. Remember this in Capricorn.

So, we, as individual disciples and we as the collective—as the "One Humanity"—we stand now, this evening, on a threshold facing a whole new age—the Age of Aquarius. Behind us—actually, we are still up to our knees in it—but, behind us lies the approximately 2500-year period known as the Age of Pisces. If we turn that way which would be, relatively speaking, backwards, we will see a vast and complex system of cultures and civilizations.

These cultures and civilizations are the end results of 2000 plus years of evolution, the apotheosis of the building done by a humanity characterized by self-consciousness, utilizing the energies of intelligence and devotion. It is truly an amazing sight, a prodigious accomplishment even if one looks back only 1000 years.

It only gains in wonder and power when we consider the countless wars and deaths that seem almost to be an integral aspect of self-consciousness. And, when we realize that the entire edifice of cultures and civilizations—all the wonders of poetry, of art and music, the monuments which we call the wonders of the world, the utterly amazing advances in science, from candle power to electric power, from horsedrawn vehicles to spacecraft and even in human relations where we have moved ever more closely to a kind of government that honors the free will of the individual and recognizes the fact of the One Humanity—that all of this and much more was accomplished while under a constant and relentless attack by the Forces of Retrogression, while living under the illusion of separation and materialism where the measure of life is death and competition, which means killing the opponent no matter how lovely it is dressed, is held up as a standard for growth; when we see all of that, then we must truly stand amazed, for humanity has literally outdone itself.

I have no way of knowing, of course, but I would be surprised if what we, Earth's humanity, have

accomplished over the past 2000 or so years in the face of the best efforts of the Dark Forces is not renowned throughout the Solar System.

This is not the time to rest on any laurels, if indeed we do have any, for there are still great and powerful efforts being made to lock the Piscean edifice into place, to make it and all of its very many problems the container for the next age. I think that, given the record of the disciples of the past two thousand years, these efforts will fail. Vigilance is ever the watchword of the trail-wise disciple.

Finally, in closing tonight, I want to give at least my answer to a question posed more than 50 years ago by our Teacher, Djwhal Khul. He asked, "Will humanity's third ray materialistic personality dominate the present situation

or will its soul of love prove the most powerful factor, taking hold of the personality and its little issues, leading it to discriminate rightly and to recognize the true values and thus bring in the age of the soul or hierarchical control?" (*Glamour*, p160.) D.K. said that time alone would show. Well, I think time has shown, and I think the answer is clear. The humanity that is moving out of the Age of Pisces is vastly different from that which moved into that age. We have grown in many ways. It is clear to me that the merging of the dweller with the soul

is going forward, and that a new consciousness is being born right in front of our eyes, a consciousness that carries all of the hard-gained lessons of our recent past, a consciousness that is moving from knowledge to wisdom, a consciousness that is moving from the separated space occupied by the self-conscious man to a group conscious and inclusive space, a consciousness that understands and is ready to demonstrate through acts of daily living "the innate rightness of the human spirit, the divinity of man and ... the indestructible nature of the soul of mankind." (*Glamour*, p162.)

Behind us lies a truly great victory garnered with great suffering and at great cost. Before us lies a clear, morning sky. Before us lies hope, adventure, awesome possibilities, the opportunity to *actually go where no man has as yet gone*, to discover or uncover or unveil new, undreamed-of states of living, to create whole new cultures and new civilizations. This is the clarion call of humanity's soul. What could be more clear ... what could be more inviting? We stand bow in hand, arrow knocked, ready to pull, aim and release. Is there truly any question in the heart of any human being about our next step? I think not.

***Behind us lies
a truly great victory
garnered
with great suffering
and at great cost.
Before us lies
a clear, morning sky.***

*Tom Carney
On the cusp of Sagittarius 1999*

Stairway to Heaven

Last year at this time, I described Scorpio as a kind of quality control inspector. I suggested that Scorpio's tests were not punishments, but more likely signs that we had been doing something right. The test often means we have managed to draw in more light. Scorpio energy then reveals what must go to maintain that lighter space. In last year's opening, I referenced the common practice of stuffing our junk under the bed when company comes and then forgetting about it. When new light commandeers that space under the bed, Scorpio invites us to clean up whatever is hiding there—the outworn, the unworthy, the inessential. Scorpio points out what is too heavy or ugly for the lighter space, often leaving us to trip over the clutter until we deal with it. Little did I know last year, how literally this analogy would come to life in having my condo painted. I am faced with a seemingly bottomless pit of clutter as every closet, cabinet, drawer, let alone what's lurking under the beds, must be emptied, sorted through and moved. In all this sorting, the ubiquitous question has been: "What is this, and why on Earth are you keeping it?" The experience has given me a whole new appreciation for what Hercules accomplished in cleaning those stables! It also has given me pause as to what we invoke when we write.

Scorpio's energy, of course, does not stop with physical plane clutter, but also looks for stagnant energy on the emotional and mental planes. In contemplating what to write about for this talk, I kept getting drawn back to a talk I had sketched out for the Heart Project way back in Aquarius. An Arcana member asked to be replaced for the Aquarius opening role the day before the meeting. I agreed and used a portion of this sketched out talk. My plan was to finish the talk, type it up and submit it to *Thoughtline*. However, with no external commitment or deadline pushing me, procrastination set in and not much more got done. Enter Scorpio and the nagging pressure was on, to either finish this talk or dump it. In its unfinished state, it was like a half-baked bun in the oven, taking up space, and making it harder to cook up anything else.

The theme of this heart talk suggested a building block relationship between the first two foundational heart virtues—humility and service. It further hypothesized that all of the heart virtues are similarly interrelated. I decided I could now placate Scorpio and finish this article using the examples relating humility and service and then further relating them to the heart virtue for this month—patience. Let me begin by thanking you for your patience in this long prologue, and further expressing the hope that discussing examples of these virtues will help to integrate them in our beings.

The virtues for the Los Angeles Heart Project come from meditation recommendations Djwhal Khul made to the disciple, "DHB," in *Discipleship in the New Age*, Vol. II (p660-66). "DHB's" rays were II, III, 1,1, 7 [soul, personality, mental, emotional, physical, respectively]. My guess is the "DHB" stood for depth, humility and bliss. D.K. described this disciple as one of the special "friends of the Christ." In choosing the order of the virtues for the yearlong L.A. Heart Meditation Project, we looked to which astrological energies would be the most supportive. Dan Underwood started us off with a talk on *Humility* in Capricorn. He said that humility is seeing God's nonseparative perspective. He reminded us it is on our knees, fully grounded in the Earth and Nature, that God's perspective can reach us. It is on our knees that the third initiation is taken and we recognize our true place in the grand scheme of things. Once we have access to this larger, humbling perspective, we can graduate to a whole new level of the second virtue—service. This positive association is a hidden bonus that comes from meditating on any of the heart virtues. We posit that these virtues are so interrelated, focus on any one of them tends to draw in not only more of that virtue but also the other virtues, as well. These virtues are like magnetic building blocks. The more blocks we pull together, the more powerful the magnetic and radiatory effects, and the higher we can go. With each meditation, with each virtuous thought and each virtuous action, we can literally build a stairway to heaven.

Several examples of this magnetic building block hypothesis came my way in Aquarius, at least for the first two foundational virtues—humility and service. The first, as may be no surprise to some of you, involves elephants. Twenty years ago, local authorities decided elephants had overpopulated Kruger Park. The adult elephants were too heavy to move easily to other parks; to control the population, park officials simply shot all the adults and shipped a portion of the elephant young to other parks. Now, the heart instantly recoils at this cruel and unnatural solution. However, the park officials assumed that, as mere animals, the young elephants would not be too affected by the loss of their parents, that their instinctual natures would carry them through. The seriousness of their transgression did not begin to dawn on the officials until this generation of orphaned elephants became teenagers and started exhibiting some very un-elephant like behaviors. The males had become a gang of juvenile delinquents, harassing, maiming and even killing other park animals, especially rhinos. At

first, the park rangers could not believe elephants could be the culprits, but they had left unmistakable elephant evidence at the scene of their crimes.

The park rangers' next heartless solution was to develop a "Most Wanted" list of elephant offenders for further executions. After the first such execution, one ranger was so sickened by the prospect of more killings that he looked beyond the immediate symptoms to the likely cause of such unprecedented violent elephant behavior. He hypothesized that the sudden death of their parents destroyed a natural hierarchy essential to elephant society and left a whole generation of elephants with no role models on how and when to assume adult roles. The ranger repeatedly petitioned the park bureaucracy to introduce some mature bull elephants into the orphaned herd. Eventually, his petition was granted. Almost immediately after the arrival of the mature males, the aggressive behaviors subsided. The male teens now found a new outlet for their raging testosterone in sparring with the bull elephants. These even bigger, tougher guys also kept the teens from impregnating young females before they were ready to handle parenthood. Gradually, they initiated the teens into normal adult elephant society.

Man's myopic arrogance had, once again, been exposed and somewhat corrected. One of the great gifts of humility is its capacity to dispel the illusion of separateness. The park officials could not "serve" the elephant community so long as they maintained a separative stance. Forced to consider the harm their expedient actions may have caused, the humbling insight finally began to dawn on them that perhaps elephants are not so different from us and need long term parental/adult support for ideal development. Only then was "service" to the elephants possible, as humans realigned with the Purpose underlying the natural order.

Having seen the dramatic change in elephants' behavior due to objectification, cruelty and loss of parental role models, the parallels to how human juvenile delinquency and gang behavior develop are hard to avoid. This is another way the virtue of humility can aid future service. It helps us to recognize our common ground with the other kingdoms, to not only correct the harm we have done them, but also to learn about ourselves from them. The need for such nonfantasy adult role models is very much recognized by African American leaders in Watts. They have established a "Promenade of Prominence" at 103rd and Success Streets in Los Angeles. On this Promenade, each sidewalk square has a picture of a living black man or woman who serves the greater good. Their pictures smile out from hearts radiating rays of love and goodwill to all, giving the community hope and faith as to what is possible, regardless of one's history. Mentoring programs are on the rise for the same reason. If we are to enter a more group conscious age, we need as many positive group

experiences as possible. The family of birth, for various reasons, too often cannot fulfill the level of role modeling needed to bring out our full spiritual potential. It does, indeed, take the whole village to raise a child. Just as the bull elephants took responsibility for guiding the orphaned teen elephants toward more ideal behavior, we need to recognize our part in guiding our youth toward the good, the true and the beautiful.

The second example is one that even devoted servers too often neglect—the humility needed to serve one's own mate or family. This is a story Jimmy Carter tells on himself, the outcome of which he and his wife now consider one of his most important accomplishments.

It seems Jimmy is a bit obsessive about being punctual, to the point where he would set a time with his wife to leave ten minutes sooner than they needed to be early or an appointment. Rosalyn, aware of this tendency, did not always feel compelled to meet his timeline. Jimmy, however, was at the door at the appointed time, and tended to become more and more irritated with each passing minute until Rosalyn joined him, even if there was still plenty of time to get to their destination. Jimmy admitted he often could not shake this irritation when he had been kept waiting, and could remain unpleasant for the entire outing. Though he knew it was wrong, and put a damper on the event for both of them, he considered his behavior Rosalyn's fault. They had an agreement. She broke it! She needed to become more punctual like him.

Well, this illusory bubble of superiority burst one Sunday morning when Jimmy went to do some writing at his computer. What should greet him but a PC calendar reminder that it was Rosalyn's birthday. Guess who had completely forgotten and had no gift for her? It was Sunday morning in the country. No shops were open where he could attempt to cover up his oversight. Jimmy was further humbled by the realization that Rosalyn would never be in this predicament. He began to question who was the better timekeeper after all, for, when it came to giving, Rosalyn was always lovingly prepared and timely. With no access to material signs of affection, Jimmy pondered what he could give his wife that would make her happy. His unpleasantness when she was "late" leapt to mind. He did up a certificate stating he would never give her a hard time about being late again. He knew that for such a humble gift to be worthy, he would have to keep his promise. Evidently he did, and twenty years later his wife states this certificate was the best gift he ever gave her. A good relationship became better as humility allowed a more nonseparative view of each other. As a couple, they came closer together and enhanced their service as models for the rest of us of what marriage based on right human relations can be.

As hard as consistent right relationships are with other kingdoms and with one's mate, the next example shows the transformational power of the heart virtues in the most extreme of circumstances. Amy Beale was a bright American student with a server's heart. While on a

Fullbright scholarship, she did an internship in South Africa and became an avid Mandela supporter. She returned to South Africa when her schooling was done to continue community service work. Her upper class parents did not really understand her attraction to the culture or her selfless dedication, but they tried to be supportive. In 1992, Amy was brutally murdered by three young black men for no other reason than she was white. Her parents were devastated.

In seeking to better understand their daughter's life and death, Amy's parents traveled to South Africa and visited the projects where the young men who killed Amy had grown up. After experiencing the squalid conditions, the parents began to understand how the extreme poverty, hatred, injustice and constant fear could breed free-floating rage. They decided that if they wanted to prevent what happened to Amy from happening again, they should follow their daughter's lead and try to improve life in those projects. The Beales were successful entrepreneurs in the States and began to volunteer their time in helping the community to fund and set up local business ventures. They began to spend more and more time in South Africa as their sense of purpose grew. They felt a deeper connection to their daughter than even when she was alive, for now they experienced her at the level of the soul's preoccupation with a particular service. They now volunteer in no less than 25 very successful community projects in South Africa, sharing their funds and business expertise. Their projects include various educational programs and several businesses, including a bakery made up entirely of locally trained staff who share their baked goods with the community at very inexpensive rates.

The Beales even joined Desmond Tutu in approving the amnesty given the three youth that took their daughter's life after only a three-year prison sentence. Many asked the Beales how they could accept such an outcome as just. They replied something to the effect that we cannot bring out the core goodness of others, or hold them accountable for their errors, if we never have offered them forgiveness, love and right sharing. For many years we acted as if they and their pain did not exist. We now recognize our part in the pain and seek to make a loving, fresh start with everyone—no exceptions.

Humility takes work when life is going well, but the real test for living this virtue is our ability to rise above self-pity and vengefulness, to God's perspective, when things are going badly. The humility it took for the Beales to seek God's Plan, even in their daughter's murder, is remarkable. The good news is the level of light, love and service their humility opened to them and those around them. It is possible Amy's life was sacrificed as part of the fourth initiation to bring life more abundantly to her parents, those in the villages she served and all those worldwide who have been inspired by her family's story. There seems no end to what good can come out of evil when the virtues of humility and service reign in the heart.

So, where does patience fit into these examples? Certainly, it is glaringly absent at the start of each of these stories. However, once humility opens the door to God's nonseparative perspective, the mind becomes illumined. One sees what it means to be part of the solution. Having touched the greater good, one commits to serve—whatever it takes. One then invokes patience for all that gets thrown at servers in training—thankless work, frustration, failure, emotional reactions, fatigue, etc. Patience is like the shock absorbers on your car. It smoothes out the myriad bumps in the road as one meets challenges and repeatedly realigns with the rightness and inevitability of the Plan. Patience is possible to those who see the vision whole and their goal as already met on the inner planes. They have intuited the truth and this knowledge allows them to remain steadfast in their efforts, calmly dealing with hindrances as merely temporary distortions in time.

The ranger who saw the solution to the elephant violence, no doubt, had to show considerable patience and finesse in getting his views heard, let alone implemented. Getting any bureaucracy to see past its collective denial, to accept its errors and rectify them, is not work for the faint of heart. Think of the elephants' need for patience in having to endure us until we learn the error of our ways. Think of how many times Jimmy Carter must have invoked patience to keep his promise not to rant about his pet peeve for twenty years. But, with each invocation, more patience is built into our equipment and a steadier identification with the will-to-good develops. The server's patience then begins to influence the outer environment. The patience the Beales invoked to keep their lower vehicles in check long enough to learn the good that could come out of their loss is inspiring. We posit that level of patience is a direct result of their earlier determination to humbly understand the tragedy that befell their daughter, and their further commitment to serve however they could to prevent such tragedies in the future.

A major lesson of these stories is: Manage to activate any of the heart virtues, and the others will come rushing to your aid and support. Look again at the examples in this talk. Do you see any of the other heart virtues we have explored this year? In each example, once the heart is open, you will find them all in play.

In closing, I was recently able to hear Jane Goodall speak. She is a world server who epitomizes how the heart virtues work in concert. Jane came from humble beginnings, but became enamored with the Tarzan books at an early age. She was sure she would be a much better Jane for Tarzan than the Jane in the novels—"not such a wimp." As she grew up, her draw to Africa persisted, to the utter bewilderment of many of her cohorts. She had no money for higher education, so she patiently worked as a waitress and secretary until she could earn the fare to Africa. Blessed with humility, Jane had intuited her

proper place in the grand scheme of things and resolutely set out to “follow her bliss.” Once in Africa, the rightness of her intuition became apparent when she soon met the renowned paleontologist, Dr. Louis Leaky. Despite her lack of degrees, Leaky found Jane’s spirit so irresistible, he arranged for her first research project with chimps. With painstaking patience, Jane studied these long-admired beings, imitating them as best she could, humbly seeing her place in their world and learning about oneness in the process. The humble service, love and patience she exhibited in coming to identify with chimps has put the whole human kingdom more in touch with this species. It also has made us more aware of the many man-made challenges they face, and our obligations to the environment.

Jane’s latest book, *Reason for Hope*, documents her optimism for the world’s future. Humbly in touch with the Plan, she calmly and confidently serves on ever-wider levels, defending the rights of various animals, working to protect the environment, as well as upholding the rights of suffering humanity. At sixty-five, she continues to show near inexhaustible stamina in pursuing these goals, despite coping with repeated bouts of malaria and deep grief over the painful illness

and death of her beloved second husband. She exudes a serene, healing joy which touches all she meets. She gives credit for any such effects to having been touched by the deep peace of her Tanzanian forest abode. There, over four decades with her chimpanzees, she experienced the palpable embrace of Spirit all around. Though observant of the shadow aspects of chimps and her own species, the forest gave her the unshakable conviction that all life is evolving away from these shadow aspects toward beauty, cooperation, compassion and love. Her hope is to convince enough others of this truth in time to avoid various scenarios of worldwide catastrophe.

Her most ambitious project to date is working with the world’s youth to initiate them into group-conscious service at an early age, so they will demand right human relations as adults. The joyous insights and accomplishments of these international youth groups spur Jane on that the soul of humanity can and has been tapped. With the heart virtues in one’s tool chest, there is no limit to the good each of us can do. May we all become more heartfilled, less “wimpy,” Janes!

Miki Webb
Scorpio 1999



bulletin board

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