

Visionary Beginnings

Core Shamanism

Basic Workshop

January 12 & 13



Jeanne Robinson

“Awakening to the
Living Wisdom
in the Universe and in You”

The word "Shaman" comes from north eastern Russia and means "one who can see in the dark". This refers to the Shaman's ability to see into the worlds not normally seen with the physical eyes. The Shaman is familiar with what s/he may call the "lower world", the "middle world", the "upper world", or other dimensions; and to the Shaman these other worlds have just as much reality as this "normal" world in which we live.

Indeed, the Shaman might say that things in this world seem normal, simply because so many people agree on what they see and how they are experiencing this world.

Shamanism is not a religion. It is a method or practice. It is a way of connecting with the Spirit of Life in all things and using that connection to help themselves and others.

The purpose of this workshop is not only to expose the participants to these "other worlds" but also to teach them how to journey to and within these other worlds in order to retrieve information, bring help and healing to someone in need, and to guide their lives and the lives of others into more fulfilling and abundant patterns.

The Shaman is first, last, and always a healer; and the path of the Shaman is the path of the Healer.

WHAT TO BRING

Those who plan to attend this workshop will need to bring a blanket, mat, or rug to lie on; a pillow; food to share for a light luncheon each day [tummies too full tend to lead to drowsiness]; a bandanna or scarf to cover your eyes; pen and

(Continued on page 4)

Beautiful Painted Arrow (Joseph Rael) Visits

February 3 - 10

This February brings a special visit from Joseph Rael.

Joseph is an internationally known Native American holy man, mystic and visionary who has lovingly brought the teachings of his people and teachings from his own mystical experiences out into the world to share with all of us.

His vision of the Peace Sound Chambers has been realized in nearly 100 locations around the world and is the vision that led to the construction of the Peace Sound Chamber here at the Center for Peace 15 years ago.

The ceremonial dances which we provide here at the Center all have their roots in the dances which Joseph initiated. The Sun Moon Dance and the Men's Hollow Bone Dance have changed very little from the dances first brought here by Joseph in 1995. The Drum Dance and Long Dance have matured into slightly different forms as the Chiefs of those dances have been led by Spirit.

Many other dances have been born here based in large part on Joseph's teachings. The Young People's Dance, the Short Dance Initiation, The For the One Dance, The Corn Harvest Dance, and the Couple's Hollow Bone.

If you have met Joseph, then you already have put these dates on your calendar. If you have yet to meet him then by all means make time in your life to spend some time in his presence and hear his teachings.



See page 3 for more on Beautiful Painted Arrow.

Events

January

- January 1, 2008 - 10 am**
Annual New Year's day Sweat Lodge
- January 2 -7pm**
Drumming Circle
- January 7 - 6:45 pm**
Fire Ceremony
- January 9 -7pm**
Grandmothers Council the World
- January 12-13 -10am-5pm**
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- January 17 - 6:30 pm**
Sweat Lodge
- January 20 - 3pm**
Pipe Circle

February

- February. 3, 7 pm. -Sunday**
Joseph Speaks in Peace Sound Chamber
- February 7, - 6:45 pm**
Fire Ceremony
- February 9, 10am-4pm**
Joseph will give a one-day workshop "How to Discover the Visionary Within The cost will be \$75.
- February 16 & 17, - 8 am til**
Work Day - Rebuilding the SunMoon Arbor
(Lunch provided)
- February 21 - 6:30 pm**
Sweat Lodge
- February 24 - 3pm**
Pipe Circle

Arbor Rebuild Project



Arbor Deconstruction is Complete

The Arbor Reconstruction Project is underway!
In November an energetic group met in the meadow and completed the deconstruction of the dance arbor in just a few hours.

The most amazing thing about the project was that the energy of the arbor seemed to lighten *not lessen* but be more light filled after the structure was hauled away.

We are entering into the next phase which is the reseeding.

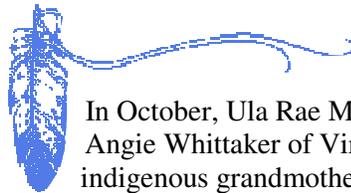
February 16 and 17 we will begin the reconstruction of the shelter with help from our friends from Watersong in North Carolina.

If you have experienced the joy of working together at the Center, you know what a blessing it is to worship together in this way. If you haven't experienced it, why not? There will be plenty of projects to do that weekend and we could sure use your help and loving presence.

Not handy with a hammer? Come and cook.

The estimated cost of replacement for the Arbor Shelter is \$15,000. We need you to express your commitment to the spiritual growth of the Dances and the Dancers.

You will have the satisfaction knowing you have a vital role bringing the vision and mission of The Center for Peace to reality. Donations can be mailed to The Center for Peace, 880 Graves Delozier Rd, Seymour, TN 37865. Mark your check as a donation for the Arbor Fund



Grandmothers Council the World

In October, Ula Rae Mynatt, elder at the Center for Peace, went with Angie Whittaker of Virginia to California to the conference of 13 indigenous grandmothers. These women meet to discuss how the healing of the planet might come about through following ancient wisdom

Join us to hear Ula Rae talk about her experience with the Grandmothers.

Wednesday, January 9, 2008 @ 7PM.

Directions:

From SEVIERVILLE

Go toward Knoxville on Chapman Highway [US441/US411].

7.0 miles from the Junction of Hwy 66 Turn Left onto Sugar Loaf Road.

Go 1.6 miles to Graves-Delozier Road.

Right up Hill, stay to the Right, CENTER FOR PEACE on Right at top of hill.

Directions:

From KNOXVILLE

Go toward Sevierville on Chapman Highway [US441].

From the Henley Street Bridge go 11.3 miles to the junction of US 411 (Maryville Highway)

Continue on US 441/US 411 4.8 miles

Turn Right onto Sugar Loaf Road.

Go 1.6 miles to Graves-Delozier Road.

Right up Hill, stay to the Right, CENTER FOR PEACE on Right at top of hill.

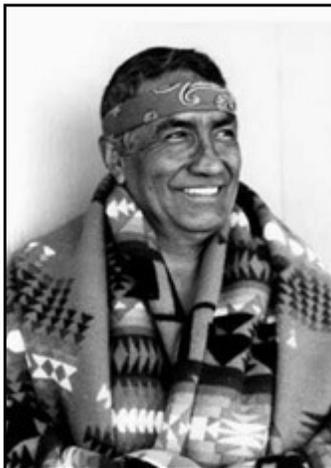
About Joseph Rael (Beautiful Painted Arrow)

(from josephrael.org)

Joseph Rael, whose name, Tslew-teh-koyeh, given to him as a child at Picuris Pueblo, means “Beautiful Painted Arrow,” is widely regarded as one of the great Native American holy men of our time. He was born in 1935 on the Southern Ute reservation to a chief’s granddaughter and a Tiwa-speaking Picuris native. At about age 7, shortly before his mother’s death, he went to live in Picuris near Taos, NM, where his visionary powers were developed until, at about age 12, he began to assist the village holy man in curing practices. He was educated both at Santa Fe Indian school and public high school before getting a BA in political science from the University of New Mexico and an MA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

For a number of years he worked in various capacities in Indian health and social services in both New Mexico and Colorado. At age 45 he quit his social services job to devote full time to teaching and following his visions wherever they might lead.

In 1983 Joseph had the vision to build a Sound Peace chamber, a kiva-like structure where people of all races might gather to chant and sing for world peace and to purify the earth and oceans. He built the first such chamber at his then-home, a trailer park in Bernalillo, NM, and shortly like-minded people began to build Sound Peace chambers in other locations. At present, Sound Peace chambers have been built around the globe. Writes Joseph, “My vision is that through sound we will bring about peace and other important vibrations. Sound can teach us a way to create without destruction.”



Meanwhile, Joseph began leading ceremonial dances, based on his visions, with participants from all races and nationalities. “When you dance you are expanding the vibrations of insight and manifestation,” he writes. “I created three dances — the long dance, the sun-moon dances and the drum dance—for these spiritual gifts.”

Joseph teaches that “Every dance, every ceremony, is both for you and for the cosmos.”

In 1999, Joseph retired from active leadership of the dances he had begun, turning them over to a new generation of his students.

Joseph Rael is the author of a number of books, including *Beautiful Painted Arrow*, *Being and Vibration*, *Way of Inspiration*, *Ceremonies of the Living Spirit*, and *House of Shattering Light*, as well as the forthcoming *Sound, Peace, Power: Mystery School of Joseph Rael (Beautiful Painted Arrow)*.

He is also an artist. His paintings, like his ceremonies and teachings, are based on his visions. They have been called “portal” art, because they open a doorway into alternate dimensions of reality.

As a Native American elder Joseph Rael has spoken before the United Nations and addressed a conference of military officers at the Pentagon on the role of the warrior in the modern world.

More about Joseph Rael’s life can be read in his autobiography, *House of Shattering Light*, available from www.counciloakbooks.com.



*** Joseph will give a talk (donations only) in the Peace Sound Chamber on Sunday, Feb. 3, starting at 7 pm.**

*** Joseph will give a one-day workshop (from 10 am to 4 pm) on the topic, "How to Discover the Visionary Within" on Saturday, Feb. 9. \$75 donation.**

*** Private sessions will be available during the week from Monday, Feb. 4, through Friday, Feb. 8 and also on Sunday, Feb. 10. People must call the Center in advance to schedule these as appointments are limited and will be first-come, first-served.**

Book Review

PRAYER, DOES IT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

and

DISAPPOINTMENT WITH GOD

by Phillip Yancey

I'm not ordinarily a fan of "Christian" writing. There seem to be two types: overly theological and syrupy simplistic. Which is why I find myself in the unlikely position of touting a Christian writer for two of his many books that I have read. The author is Philip Yancey and the books are PRAYER, DOES IT MAKE A DIFFERENCE and DISAPPOINTMENT WITH GOD. Yancey writes with both intelligent soul searching and heartfelt seeking. He is an editor for a Christian magazine and has written about ten books, several best sellers. His book on prayer stirred my own quest to pray more and understand what that means for me. The latest book I've been reading, the one about disappointment with God asks three questions: Is God silent? Is he unfair? Is he hidden? Yancey then goes on to search the old Testament for answers. Drawing on the early stories of the Israelites and Moses, of Job and his trials, and of Jesus and the seemingly contradictory way that he taught his disciples, the author illuminates some ideas that I had never considered.

When God was daily more "accessible" his people really didn't do any better at following his commands. The Israelites had followed Moses through the desert and been fed by manna and seen God moving as a cloud over the tabernacle of the host and yet, the first time Moses' back was turned immediately started worshipping the next idol that came down the path. Can you imagine God's consternation? What else could he do? And like any good parent, he kept on trying to reach his wayward children. I can relate this story in my own life, I dance and fast and pray to get insights and information from spirit for my life. Yet it is sometimes easier to take the path of least resistance and avoid doing the things that were shown to me. Yet I somehow believe that I will get yet another chance to grow and change.

I love the way Yancey doesn't beat you over the head with his message. He shares letters and conversations with real people he comes into contact with and the ways in which their hurts and failures stimulate him to think about God and faith in order to answer their concerns. I have since bought two more of his older books from McKay's Used books, one about Jesus and one about the future of mankind. If you love thoughtful, insightful writing, give Philip Yancey a try.

~**CRose**

Website Update

Please visit the Center for Peace website to see the exciting changes in progress and to come.

Coming soon: ONLINE PRAYER LIST. You will be able to enter your prayer requests online and see others requests as well. Please help us pray for the healing of the world!

Watch for: ONLINE GIFT SHOP. If you can't visit the local gift shop of the Center for Peace, visit online. Some of our most unique and exquisite rocks, crafts, and jewelry will soon be available online. Just like eBay, but without wading through all the the junk!

Council News

The Council added two new members at the Annual meeting on November 4, 2007. **Nan Citty** and **Todd Robinson** have agreed to serve the Center for Peace as Council Members.

Nan's vision led to the creation of our children's Native Nurturing program which she has facilitated along with Katy Koontz for seven years. She serves as chief for the Young People's dance as well as the Short Dance Initiation which she also envisioned.

Todd was one of the early council members and he returns to serve with us once again.

Shannon Ray will be leaving the council and moving to Watersong North Carolina. WE wish her God speed. We will still see her from time to time, but she will be missed.

Good luck Shannon!

Core Shamanism

(Continued from page 1)

writing pad; a personal question which you are willing to share with the group; and an open mind.

Please wear loose, layered, comfortable clothing.

It is important for everyone participating in this experience to arrive on time, so as not to "miss out" on any information or explanation.

There is much information to be covered in two days and sessions will begin as promptly as possible.

The cost for this workshop is \$125. A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is required with registration by January 5.

Call 865-428-3070 for information and registration.



The Center for Peace is a non-profit religious corporation in the State of Tennessee. Donations to the Center for Peace can be claimed as deductions from income for income tax purposes.

Active Council Members of the Center for Peace:

Candy Barbee	Knoxville	865-933-3925
Nan Citty	Knoxville	865-405-6809
Steve Citty	Knoxville	865-212-4800
Margarita DiVita	Jeff City	865-475-3799
Al Fletcher	Norris	865-494-9950
Katy Koontz	Knoxville	865-693-9845
Cheryl Patterson	Seymour	865-453-3869
Shannon Ray	Knoxville	865 654-7933
Jeanne Robinson	Seymour	865-428-3070
Perry Robinson	Seymour	865-428-3070
Todd Robinson	English Mtn.	865-908-5536
Marcus Weseman	Clinton	865-463-1002

For more information about the Center for Peace see www.centerforpeace.us

Perry's Ponderings

“You Shall Know the Truth . . .”

By Perry Robinson

. . . and the truth will set you free”? Where I sit, I am bombarded with a lot of information. Television, radio, internet, books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, correspondence, and a lot of talk: these fill the world in which I live. And I have always been like a blood hound sniffing down the trails of the truth.

Early on in this life, I guess, I came to distrust the “party line”. Raised in the South, before I knew any better way, I nevertheless knew that the racism of my neighbors and the facile fundamentalism of my church didn’t “feel” right. I was not yet glib or clear headed enough, however, to suggest anything better. Some part of me has always been suspicious of attractive ideas, which just might be like bait on someone’s hook. Since the world is what I think it is, most of my experiences since childhood have served to prove that I was right to be suspicious.

So, in a world of words and a flood of information and misinformation, how am I to know the truth, when I find it?

This question is one of THE questions of the moment in our time. It has come graphically to our attention in recent months that our suspicions of untruthfulness in our government were not only correct but also worse than we suspected. With the major media and news owned by “the powers that be”, it feels increasingly hard to find out what is really going on. When I was growing up on the farm, I could let the rest of the world rock along while I just did my growing up on the farm thing. Now, I do not have the luxury of that aphasia.

Somewhere along the way I was impressed with the idea that the Creator placed a part of Itself in human beings—including me. Over the years that has become a central idea in my consciousness. More and more it has come to be prominent among the few ideas that I can trust and hold on to. Finally, my vision on the hillside above the community of Zvat in Israel in 2004 really got my attention about this, reminding me that there are some things about us that do not and cannot change – and this “seed of Creator in us” is one of them.

Recently it has come to me that maybe this “seed of the Creator” inside us offers the key to how we shall know the truth. Certainly, my awareness of this Presence inside me makes it much easier to recognize what matches or does not match the feeling of that Creator Presence inside me.

I have done some testing of how this idea has served me. After all, only the idea that “grows corn” is worth keeping; if it does not, it is worthless. I did a “hitting the high points” sort of check of my internal feelings at certain key points in my life. What I discovered amazed me! I noticed right away that this worked powerfully for me in my life long before I knew anything about the “seed of the Creator” in me. In fact, most of the pivotal choices in my life had been made from intuition or “gut feelings” rather than by using my linear, left brain.

Of course, I know that not all “gut feelings” are in harmony

with this Presence. When, for instance, my anger is triggered, my “gut feelings” can be destructive – I have some memories to prove that! But I also know that, when I am in balance and in harmony with the Presence within me, I can absolutely trust my intuition; simply because I have given – and do still give – my self and my life to that Creator, a part of which is imbedded in my being.

How does it work for me? When it seems that something significant is going on, I first check for balance, to see if I have an emotional investment or prejudgment one way or another about what seems to be “up”. Then, if it is a commercial or political “sales pitch” going on, I notice how I feel between my heart and my stomach. If I feel calm and at peace there, it is probably safe to respond positively; if I do not, I am wary.

I check from time to time, when I am listening to news. I notice what the subject is, when there seem to be reactions in that area of my body. When a political figure is speaking, I keep in touch with what I am feeling along the way.

There is not enough room on this page for me to offer a lot of examples of how this sort of sensitivity has served me. However, I have been able to recognize many times, when I was saved from making “big mistakes” by following this sensing.

The “ah hah!” for me in this process was when I recognized that it seems to have worked as well regarding secular things as regarding the more spiritual things. When you live long enough, you sometimes live to see history confirm your “suspicions” of yesteryear.

This is a major election year in this country. The political “sales” are already being “pitched”; and we haven’t seen anything yet!

With the major news media owned by the “powers that be” and with only those hand-in-pocket with the “powers that be” having the dollars to buy up “air time”, it could seem that we are in for an election in which – more than ever – the winners are bought and paid for.

My advice: do whatever you are guided to do in holding to and seeking truthfulness. Then keep in close touch with that innocent part of you, which is first to recognize it, when “the emperor is as naked as the day that he was born”.

But, most of all, hold to your own inner and very personal commitment to follow what Creator Spirit is offering before you as the part of it all, which is uniquely yours to love.

Love it. And the whole created order will join you in doing so.

I believe that is how the world will be healed.

The Center for Peace is an international community focused on ancient wisdom traditions applied in the modern world.

We are located on sixteen acres in Seymour, TN, in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains. Our facilities include a Peace Sound Chamber (a building used for chanting, ceremonies, and vision quests), a sweat lodge, a medicine wheel, dance arbor, open meadow, some peaceful woods and a gift shop.

Core Activities

Sweat Lodges

— See calendar for dates of **Thursday and Saturday sweat lodges.**

A sweat lodge, or a stone people's lodge, can be an intensely rewarding experience. By entering the mother's womb (the lodge) we seek purification and a deeper spiritual awareness through prayer. The steam, heat, and darkness help hold our prayers and add to our personal introspection. The pourer (leader of the lodge), with help from the fire tender, strives to hold a place of safety and security while setting the intent of the lodge. The medicine of the pourer and of each participant helps to enrich the lessons of the lodge.

Times for Saturday sweats reflect the approximate time the fire will be started. Times for Thursday sweats reflect the approximate earliest time participants will enter the lodge. We suggest participants arrive early to gain the full benefit.

Bring two towels, modest clothes for the sweat (clothes you don't mind getting dirty), change of clothes (for afterwards), food (for the feast), and a flashlight (for evening sweats). Gifting the Center, the lodge, the fire tender, and/or the leader is appropriate but not required.

Donations appreciated

For more information, call the Center (865) 428-3070

Council Meeting

— See calendar

This is the gathering of the board of directors to discuss new ideas, future projects, and events. Feel free to come with suggestions and comments.

January 6 - visitors welcome

January 27 - (February Meeting) visitors welcome

For more information, call the Center at (865) 428-3070.

Alliance for Spiritual Ecology

— See calendar for dates

The Alliance for Spiritual Ecology is an alliance among humans and between the human and elemental kingdoms.

Peter Calhoun describes in Soul on Fire how simple ceremonies by only a few people, can accomplish the seemingly impossible.

The purpose of this Alliance is to begin locally and expand to a world-wide group of people dedicated to protect both the sacred sites of Earth and environmentally sensitive areas

The Alliance is also established to heal areas that have been abused and brought into unbalance; and areas stricken by drought and excessive rainfall.

Donations appreciated

For more information, call Al Fletcher

Drumming Circle

— **First Wednesday of each month.**

7 pm

Drumming is a powerful, sometimes dramatic, way to break into other levels of our mind. Sensitive instruments can measure the way that drumming affects the brain waves. That's the reason for tens of thousands of years the shaman has journeyed with the drum.

This drumming is not specifically for journeying; but you get to use it whatever way you wish – including having a good time doing it!

So, on the First Wednesday of the month, bring your drum, and come join us.

Work is Worship

There is always plenty to do. Lunch provided.

Steve Citty (865) 212-4800
or Perry Robinson (865) 428-3070



Chanting in the Chamber

The Peace Sound Chamber is available for chanting, vision quests, ceremonies of all types.

You are encouraged to come to the chamber and chant, drum, meditate or simply sit (the chamber Spirits love it); please check first that there is not something already scheduled.



Fire Ceremony

— **7th of each month, 7 pm**

This ceremony came from a vision Joseph Rael had in 1984. Its purpose is to heal and purify both the planet's physical oceans and the oceans of cosmic thought. Through healing our own confusion, Joseph was told by Oceanus (creator spirit of the ocean), we can heal the confusion of the physical world.



At 7 pm local time, fire elders light ceremonial fires at each of the Peace Sound Chambers around the world. Those present watch the fire in silence until it burns out, giving to it what we want to transmute in our lives and staying open to the messages and teachings it brings. All are welcome. We suggest you arrive around 6:45 pm.

Donations appreciated

For more information, call Katy Koontz at (865) 693-9845.

More information is available for each month at our website:

www.centerforpeace.us

January and February, 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dec. 30	31 	Jan. 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! New Year's Day Sweat Lodge, 10 am	2 7 pm — Drumming Circle	3	4	5
6 4 pm — Monthly Meeting of Center Council	7 6:45 pm — Fire Ceremony, led by Katie Koontz, Fire Elder	8 	9 7 pm — Grandmother's International Council. Presented by Ula Rae Mynatt	10	11	12 10—5 — Core Shamanism Work- shop, presented by Jeanne Robinson
13 10—5 — Core Shamanism Work- shop, presented by Jeanne Robinson	14	15 	16	17 6:30 — Sweat Lodge	18	19
20 3 pm — Pipe Circle 5pm — Alliance for Spiritual Ecology Ceremony	21	22 	23	24	25	26
27 4 pm — February- Meeting of Center Council	28	29	30 	31	Feb. 1 Joseph arrives	2
3 7 pm — Joseph Rael, will give a talk in the Chamber. Love Of- fering accepted.	4	5	6 	7 6:45 pm — Fire Ceremony, led by Katie Koontz, Fire Elder	8	9 10 am—4 pm, Joseph Rael will present a workshop: “How to Discover the Visionary Within.” The cost will be \$75.
10	11 Joseph departs	12	13 	14	15	16 Work day Re- building the Sun- Moon Dance Arbor
17 Work day Re- building the Sun- Moon Dance Arbor	18	19	20 	21 6:30 pm — Sweat Lodge	22	23
24 3 pm — Pipe Circle 5pm — Alliance for Spiritual Ecology	25	26	27	28 	29	Mar. 1

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*Did you know that you can register online
for most activities at
The Center for Peace?
Printable map and directions also available.
Visit: www.centerforpeace.us*

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Core Activities

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Coming Soon:

"For The One"

World Dance of Peace

Native Nurturing

Weekend Workshop

Watch for dates to be announced

We offer many opportunities, such as:

- Visionary dances
- Sweat lodges
- Fire ceremonies
- Chanting/drumming gatherings
- Young people's ceremonies and activities
- Core shamanism
- Huna shamanism
- Vision quests
- Firewalks
- Teachings on drumming and working with fire
- Workshops on various topics like numerology, fire walking, Druidic traditions, sound healing and chanting, shamanic studies, and many more
- Book groups
- Ceremonies of initiation
- Supporting ceremonies in the local, regional, and international communities
- A safe, family-like environment to grow in

For more information, call
865-428-3070.

Peace Talk

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