



# The Subud Boston *newsletter*

Newsletter of Subud Boston Inc.

July/August 1997 Volume 5 • Number 7-8

## Editorial

The northeast tip of land that forms Boston Harbor is called Deer Island. For years it was the home of the toughest of the state's maximum security prisons. Three years after he managed to escape from Concord prison my friend Louis was recaptured and sent there. In a sense, the state purified itself of this dangerous young black man.

Now the prison is gone and the island processes a different sort of refuse. It is the site of the second largest wastewater treatment facility in existence, the cornerstone of a project to clean up the Boston Harbor. When it comes on line it will process the sewage from all of the Greater Boston area. The difference this will make to the water quality of the Massachusetts Bay and to the health of its estuaries and coastal ecosystems cannot be overstated. Sewage that was once dumped directly into the Harbor will now be purified in a two stage biological treatment process before the nutrient rich effluent is pumped eleven miles out to sea through a tunnel thousands of feet below the sea bed.

The waste that will be processed on Deer Island represents the end product of a tremendous system of agriculture, technology, and energy that has coordinated

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## Subud Mina Clavero

Lillian Schulman

Mina Clavero is a small town of eight thousand people which swells to many times that number during the height of the summer tourist season (Jan.-Feb.). The town is nestled in a peaceful valley surrounded by beautiful sierras (mountains). Clear mountain streams bring an abundance of water to the many rivers making Mina a popular summer resort area. By government decree the area's natural beauty and resources are to be preserved so there is no big industry and none is allowed, making the air, water and earth very pure. I have spent part of the last 2 years in Mina Clavero and it has been my pleasure to witness and participate in the growth of the new Subud community in Central Argentina.

Subud began there around 1973. Several times in the early years members tried to start a Subud community and various enterprises but it seems the time was not ripe until now. In the past two years three new families have moved to Mina and built their homes; and recently one

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## Chairperson's Corner: Universal Spirituality

Lorena Kreda

My discovery of Subud (or its discovery of me) was, in part, a result of a search for a theological concept that was more universal than the near-fundamentalist Christianity under which I was raised. My parents are Protestant and Catholic, and I attended Protestant Sunday school and fellowship groups up through high school. I always struggled with the exclusivity of Christianity as I had learned it.

As I started college I embarked on a search for a more all-encompassing religion that would embrace all peoples, not only Christians. I learned the distinction between spirituality and religion, but it wasn't until nine years later that I finally encountered Subud. Like many people I don't necessarily feel that my search has ended. In fact, I hope I will always be able to keep learning about the nature of spirit and how beings, both animate and inanimate, are interrelated.

Recently I've been drawn into several "Celestine Prophetic" seminars by interesting, so-called coincidental, circumstances. These meetings have literally felt like scenes out of the Celestine Prophecy; people describe auras, perform energetic healings, and discuss higher human potential in many capacities, etc. While I retain a healthy sense of skepticism, I still find it all quite fascinating. One of these seminars has led

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## Bapak's Birthday

### Jillian Hensley

**B**apak's birthday—a matter of indifference to some, of reverence to others. But, surely, for the majority of us who practice the latihan kejiwaan of Subud, it must at least be a matter for reflection. For without the birth of Bapak on or about June 22, 1901, the spiritual training that is so much part of our lives would not have been available to us.

And so the members of Subud Boston, plus some friends from Rhode Island gathered at the Hensleys' home in Westborough on June 22 in remembrance of Bapak. Based on our experience in previous years, we were not expecting too many people. However, by 6:30, when the latihan was slated to begin, at least 25 people had gathered on the lawn at #6 Folly Lane. We were delighted to welcome Rashad and Mardijah Tarantino, who have just moved to Rhode Island from Hawaii and are now regional members of Subud Boston; Anna Clarke, also now a Rhode Islander, having moved there from Connecticut; and Lucia Cargill, no longer a Vermonter, and about to become a Floridian.

With a splendid kousa dogwood at the height of its creamy splendor as a backdrop, we gathered in the twilight for a meal al fresco. And what a meal! Kenton, in characteristically expansive fashion, had felt inspired to cook for everyone. No Chinese takeout or potluck for him! Having borrowed a Rolls Royce barbecue from his brother,

he prepared chicken marinated in his secret sauce (we do, however, know that Pete's Wicked Ale was one of the main ingredients), served with plum sauce and garnished with fresh plums; yams pureed with almonds, maple syrup, and spices; rice with fresh marjoram and exotic mushrooms, accompanied by a sauce flavored with a dash of horseradish and something else that Kenton can't remember; and an enormous salad.

Sitting or lying on the lawn, we ate and chatted until the mosquitoes got too much for us, whereupon we took our meals and our conversation indoors and continued as before. Stuart and Marcella had brought a Bapak audio tape, and a group gathered in the Florida room to listen with them, while others remained in the living room or kitchen solving the world's problems, catching up on news, or just hanging out.

The feeling of quiet joy in each other's company was palpable. When almost everyone had gone and quiet reigned, Peter H. (we have three Peters in our group: Baptiste, Hensley, and Tarkoy, so some means of identification is necessary) said to Stuart, "Well, what do you think?" Stuart replied, "It was great—I think we should do it every week!"

Bapak, we enjoyed your birthday and we thank you for the latihan that means so much to us all.

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the importation of nutrients into Boston from all parts of the world. In the wrong place and outside of the appropriate biological system, these nutrients are poisons. They will be dumped into the sea to trouble the coastal environment. Those poisons represent the health and environmental balance of soils in the diverse parts of the world in which they originated. To replace them, petroleum must be drilled, minerals must be mined, and water must be pumped; but none of this will replace the living web which is destroyed when balances are disrupted. For the

structure of an ecosystem is a culture, it is based on the ongoing patterns and interrelationships of life which get richer and more complex unless they are constantly disturbed.

Deer Island has a new function, but the concept underlying its utilization is remarkably unchanged. Deer Island purifies from our society things we don't want to live with, sending them away to where we don't have to think about them. It is still a place society uses to send away that which it has wasted.

My friend Louis was sent away like that. He

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## Newsflash

**Welcome back from the Argentine** (for the summer at least) to **Lillian Shulman** and **Ephraim Gemesio** who are living in Brookline. Welcome also to **Rianti McLean** who has recently moved here from Austin, Texas. She and her husband, **Raimund**, are living at 116c Holden Place, Cambridge, Cambridge, 02138. Their Phone number is: (508)-547-3693. Our newest member, **Peter Tarkoy** was opened at the May gathering in Westborough. Peter lives in Sherborn at 2 Ash Lane, zip 01770. His Ph# 508-653-6583.

**Housewarming party at Rashad and Mardijah Tarantino's** house. Rashad and Mardijah Tarantino have recently moved to Barrington, Rhode Island, after many years in Hawaii. On Sunday afternoon, July 20th Subud members from Greater New England are invited to their new home for a housewarming latihan and dinner. The time for this being 3:00 PM for latihan followed by good food and cheer. They will be supplying the main course and people should bring drinks, desserts and extras.

Directions to their house: Take Rte 95 south to Providence, Rte 195 north to the Barrington/Seekonk exit which is Rte 114. Take Rte 114 south thru Barrington center. At the "Stop" go straight and road

becomes Rumstick Rd. Go 1/8th mile, turn left on Ferry St., then go right on Adams Pt. Rd., turn right on Bourne Lane(next road after Prescott) and # 7 is the immediate dark red house on the right.

**RSVP!** Please let the Tarantinos know if you plan to come! Their phone number is: 401-245-9210; Their address is: 7 Bourne Lane, Barrington, RI 02806.

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## Letters

Dear Kenneth and Cassidy

Please tell Lorena Kreda that a copy of her wonderful article, "Readiness is a State of Spirit" has gone to my four Subud sons and their Subud spouses.

Speaking of my sons, I am enclosing information about Lucas's current conducting assignment (as you probably know, Lucas Richman will be conducting the August 12th symphony concert at the World Congress). He is the co-conductor of "Swan Lake" at the Los Angeles Muxic Center's Ahmanson Theater. I'm sure this exclusive press release to the Boston Newsletter will interest your readers.

Love,

Helen Richman.

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## Northeast Latihan Schedules

Here is an updated schedule of latihan times and locations for those folks who may be travelling around the Northeastern United States or Québec.

**Subud Québec, Groupe de Montréal.** 6775, rue de Bordeaux, Montréal, Que, H2G 2S3, Canada. Tél: (514) 729-1421. Latihan times: Tuesday and Thursday nights, quiet period at 8:30, latihan 8:45 - 9:15, Sundays 10:45 AM quiet, 11:00-11:30 am latihan (and ardently—dare I say rigidly?—adhered to. A minute under or over is seen as lax helping).

**Subud Woodstock, Vermont:** Latihans Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30 PM at the Subud house in Barnard Vermont. For exact directions or schedule updates, call Helise Heijn at 802-457-1779. Travellers are welcome to stay over at the Subud Woodstock house for a \$10 per night donation.

**Subud Boston:** Sunday and Wednesday, 8:00 PM at Saint Andrew's Church, Belmont. **Directions:** From the West, come towards Boston on Rte. 2. In Cambridge, pass the Fresh Pond Shopping Center.

Follow Rte 2 through two traffic circles in succession. Right at traffic lights onto Huron Ave.. Then go left at the first traffic lights and follow the road to the end. Take a Right onto Mt. Auburn Street. Pass Star Mkt. on the right. At fork go right on Belmont St.. Several blocks up turn right onto Marlboro St.. Church is on right. Contact: Kenneth Henderson, (508) 369-9717

**Subud Upper Quabbin** meets at 87 Old Wendell Rd., Northfield, MA, on Sun. and Thurs. at 7:30 PM. Directions: Hillel Natanson:(413) 582-9902.

**Subud Connecticut:** 7:30 Mondays and Thursdays at Harmony House, 42 Gungy Rd., Lyme, Connecticut. Call Elmira Ingersol, (860) 434-8708 or Vita Dodson, (860) 439-1987 for directions and schedule updates.

**Subud New York:** Mon. and Fri., 7:00 PM. Ladies' latihan Wednesdays at 12:30 PM (noon). Helper/committee latihan on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM.

The New York Subud House is located at 230 W. 29th St., New York City, (Manhattan) between 7th and 8th Avenues. Call ahead for any schedule updates, 212-563-1196.

Also on Friday evenings dinner is available at the Subud house at 8:00 PM for a donation of \$8.00.

## New York Subud House Grand Opening

### Dorothea Gillim

Eight members of our group drove to New York on April 12th for the gala opening of their beautiful new hall. Partygoers included Jillian and Peter Hensley, Laura White, Sonia Owen, Marcella and Stuart Cooke, Lorena Kreda, and Dorothea Gillim. The event turned out to be a preview of the upcoming World Congress, drawing people from both coasts, as well as Subud dignitaries from abroad. There was much schmoozing with old friends to be done, as well as meeting of new ones, throughout the weekend.

If anyone would like to see what's possible in creating a space that does justice to the power of the latihan, go to New York. That group is to be congratulated on working hard and sparing no expense to create a hall which is both grand and inviting. The building itself contains two airy, plush, beautifully-lit latihan rooms, a large kitchen and cozy cafe. They have managed to make it a viable operation by renting out space to yoga classes. Quite simply and appropriately, it is the premier Subud residence in this country.

Those who attended brought back memories of amazing hour-long latihans, a fabulous dinner, great entertainment, and the strong desire to return soon. Thanks, New York, for showing us the way!

## Boston Yard Sale a Success!

### Lorena Kreda

From a rather meager assortment of tired old goods sprang a surprisingly productive two day yard sale. It just goes to show what a little bit of marketing, merchandising, and the blessing of outstanding summer weather (which finally arrived Saturday morning) can do to purvey another person's treasures. This year's yard sale, held June 14 and 15, netted \$575 for the Subud Boston housing fund. Considering we were lacking much in the way of big ticket items, this is an impressive sum. I'd like to extend a warm thank you to all who contributed items to the sale and to those who staffed the event. This was a valiant group effort.

Special thanks to Suzanne for supplying the venue and a yummy pancake breakfast on Saturday morning. Kenneth, Lillian, Peter, Jillian, Kenton, Marcella, Stuart, Ann and Stella were invaluable in helping throughout the weekend. Peter and Kenton were also responsible for our awesome signage making us arguably the best marked yard sale in the state.

Despite the work involved, there's a certain satisfaction in seeing your discarded odds and ends find their way to someone who can actually use them. Clothing was sold at the bargain basement price of 25 cents a pound. One woman, who seemed to really be in need, found quite a lot she could use, and this made the whole day worthwhile. Everything that was leftover was donated to the Vietnam Veterans Administration.

It's never too early to start visualizing next year's extravaganza so don't throw away that TV, that bentwood rocker, or that velvet Elvis. Set it aside for next year's sale! △

## Subud Connecticut Update

### Anna Clark & Kenneth Henderson

On Sunday June 15th Subud Connecticut came together for latihan followed by a scrumptious potluck at the sparkingly beautiful surroundings of Harmony House which is also home to Elmira Ingersol and Mary Mulhausen. Then, (gasp) there followed a business meeting. In spite of a natural aversion to structure and bureaucracy, a consensus was clearly reached on the need for some organization. A reassuring quote of note was "What makes you think God isn't organized?"

We decided to investigate the possibility of becoming incorporated as Subud Connecticut. This would enable the group to form an identity independent of the place where the latihan is held. Other advantages to being incorporated would be the tax exempt status and the ability to open a Subud Connecticut bank account. To this end, Hamid Kaber and Anna Clark will investigate the details of incorporation and report back to the group on their progress at subsequent meetings and Aaron Fatone has agreed to serve as treasurer for the group.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of the phone tree and an updated membership list as Subud Connecticut now exceeds 30 members! △

### Quote of Note

...Bapak can make you laugh in your latihan. So you should ask, "Why is it I am able to laugh in my latihan when I am tested by Bapak but not when I am doing my latihan by myself?" You are allowed to ask this. You are allowed to ask God. ...Once you have done your latihan which you normally receive, you can ask to receive other things. And this way your latihan gets broader and wider.

CHAIRPERSON'S CORNER *continued from 1*

me to begin seeing a particular chiropractor who, in addition to holding impressive credentials, is an ordained rabbi and has a black belt in some form of Tai Chi that I can't pronounce much less spell. He also does a bit of energy work. In a conversation with him that began with relaxation technique he echoed to me what another highly accomplished Tai Chi practitioner-friend once said: when you get to the level of connecting with the universal energy source, religion (or spirituality), martial arts, yoga, and even just breathing become very similar. They're all tapping into the same source.

Following the common lines among these practices, I've often thought that there was a strong association between psychology and the latihan. If there is a goal to manifest one's inner (God-given, if you will) nature to the fullest extent possible, psychology can be highly complimentary to a spiritual practice such as the latihan. Psychology helps to satisfy the cognitive/mental needs of us human, sometimes rational, beings. Perhaps Tai Chi is a path toward our inner self through the physical realm just as the latihan and other spiritual paths approach our true self through the spiritual realm. Perhaps the psychological and physical are both also spiritual and the common word I'm looking for is "energetic." All living and non-living things have an associated electro-magnetic field, and many people describe the latihan as a flow of energy. As an aside, it's also rather curious that my chiropractor seems to be working to affect my spine in much the same way as the latihan, at times, suggests.

Interestingly enough, the more I delve into energetic answers and notions of universal spirituality, the more attractive organized religion is also becoming. There is a certain beauty about the rituals and order that is Catholicism and there is a deep sense of warmth within the community of Judaism, to give two examples. By contrast, there is a definite loneliness in bare universality, but by approaching religion from a more universal stance it can be easier to find truth in a religious organization without inner conflict. A universal approach gives context for more liberal interpretations of religious dogma. To a fundamentalist, this may sound rather arrogant, but I fear any tolerant stance will present conflict to a person of fundamentalist beliefs.

In closing, I am very interested in any and all sources leading to a better understanding of universal energy, spirit, and the interrelation of living (and non-living) things, and I am only such a very short way into this exploration. Please feel free to share any comments or thoughts this article may inspire by corresponding with either the newsletter office or with me directly via e-mail at: kreda@eng.gdai.com.

Thanks!

△

MINA CLAVERO *continued from 1*

more has started building a summer home. Our new latihan hall is finished and this year work has begun on a guest house which will at first have a capacity of eight.

The group now consists of the ten adults and eleven children who live on the thirty acres of land which surrounds the latihan hall and several more families who live in nearby towns. Several new families have expressed an interest in joining us including one couple from the Ukraine.

During Easter of 1996, Subud Mina Clavero hosted the Zone 9 meeting. One hundred people came from ten countries and to help inaugurate the—then still not quite finished—2400 square foot latihan hall; and, for the past two Ramadans, many Subud guests have come and stayed in members' homes or camped near the river.

In our group we have two kedjiwaan counselors and the Subud Argentina National Chairman; and, as of May, the national offices have been relocated to Mina from Buenos Aires.

For the past six months we have been having enterprise meetings to try to identify project possibilities that, in addition to hotel and land development, would be good for us and for the area. One of our members has been active in promoting the creation of a fund to be used for people who would like to move to Mina and start enterprises.

We were very happy to have a visit in February from Emma Brownell of Boston who stayed for a month to ride horses, swim, relax, and to study Spanish in the time between graduating High School and starting at Brown University. We have now started Spanish language summer courses from October to April—our spring and summer—as well as intensive TOEFL Prep. (Test of English as a Foreign Language) residential courses.

We are especially proud that one of our younger members, Samara Lustemberg, editor of the Subud Argentina newsletter, Bitacora, is one of the recipients of the XGH Foundation prize of a trip to the World Congress to present her project to develop an International Center for the Arts at Mina Clavero. Since eleven of us have already registered for the World Congress, we think that we will be one of the most well-represented groups there.

We will be bringing slides and video tapes of our wonderful, beautiful place in the hope of encouraging brothers and sisters to visit us next Ramadan (or anytime) or for any who would like to consider having a vacation home or settling among us. You are always welcome. Our address is: Subud Mina Clavero, c/o Gemesio, Santa Isabel S/N, 5889 Mina Clavero, Cordoba, Argentina. Phone: 54-544-70076. Fax: 54-544-72200. E-mail: Subudmin@Satlink.com. △

EDITORIAL—continued from page 2

was sixteen years old and was riding in a car with some friends who went in and robbed a liquor store. He waited in the car because he didn't want to be involved. The owner of the store was shot and killed. Louis was black. He was tried as an adult and convicted of accessory to murder. When he escaped from prison he fled to California where he almost put himself through design school. He came home to Boston to see his mother and was caught and thrown away on Deer Island. The state purified itself of what it didn't want to deal with. Louis was wasted. So too were his mother, his sisters and his friends. Two unrecognized communities were left poorer when Louis was sent down. When Deer Island penitentiary closed he was sent somewhere else. Who knows what he will be when he comes out, or what his effect will be on the communities in which he will live?

In the Antarctic Ocean tiny creatures are dying out called Krill. Krill feed on the phyto-plankton that live on water borne nutrients and the sunlight that shines into those waters for six months a year. Without krill fish die, and penguins, and whales: for the krill are the hook from which is suspended a chain of life. Why are the krill dying? We do not know. We search for a single cause—something

that is the problem so that we can clean it up. Get rid of it. Throw it away. But what is becoming frighteningly apparent is that there is no single thing that is causing the breakdown of the living structure of the web. There is no one thing that we can rid ourselves of so that we can go back to the life we have come to think of as normal. The obliteration of the krill is the result of the thousands of daily assaults on the waters and atmosphere of the planet. The breakdown of our society and the breakdown of the web of life are both symptoms of a wrong pattern of life, a wrong way of conceptualizing problems. We have invented the concept of waste and imagine that there are people or things that have no use. We imagine that there are things we should remove and throw away from ourselves. But there is no place that is "away". When we turn things or people into rubbish, they come back again in mysterious forms whose origins we do not recognize.

It is clear that, in God's plan, everything is used, everything fits, everything has a place. Purification is not a matter of throwing out what cannot be used, but of finding out the use of each person and each thing; and to refrain from using that which we cannot pass on in a state that is fit for further use. This is good social sense, good ecological sense, and good moral sense. △

## Dates to Remember

### July

- 7 Helper/Committee meeting
- 11-13 Vermont Campout (see Newsflash)
- 20 Tarantino house warming party
- 21 Helper/Committee meeting

### August

- 3-17 World congress
- 24 Helper/Committee meeting 7:30 PM

### September

- 14 Autumn General Membership Meeting

## Birthdays

### July

- 2 Bruce Eckler
- 15 Dorothea Gillim
- 20 Dave Anderson

### August

- 1 Magery Frost
- 1 Kenton Hensley
- 15 Ludwig von Hahn
- 17 Marja Eckler
- 30 Amanda Rogers

**Tanja Hrynszyn** from New York, studying in Boston from Aug. 11 until Sept. 5. She is looking for a place to stay (rent). Please call: 212-932-8574

**Malinda Campbell** of Toronto, studying at Harvard for two years. Needs accommodation. Interested in exchange of work for rent.  
E-mail: [campbell@netcom.ca](mailto:campbell@netcom.ca)

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