

Charlotte Sufi News



NUMBER 1

SUFI ORDER INTERNATIONAL
CHARLOTTE AREA NEWS & INFO

JANUARY 2010

CENTER FOR THE LIVING MESSAGE

TO BELOVED ONES ALL,

Blessed New Year! And here we are with this new beautiful Sufi News format. Thank you so much dear Tajali for getting this all organized and out for us! We are wanting to share inspirations, so send them in . . . poetry, art, songs, event news on Sufism or upcoming events from any tradition. We look forward to sharing them here. We welcome our sister and brother Orders to share as well, to Ruhaniat, Ru'fi and more, and to the Silent Sufi's, a dear thanks for the beautiful resonance you share that is beyond words. – Rev. Sophia Dilkusha McGuire

DEAR FRIENDS, OPENING THE HEART WITH PIR ZIA

The Rising Tide Center, Florida, invites you to attend a 2-day retreat with Pir Zia, *Opening the Heart*. The retreat is February 20 & 21, 2010. Please come and share in the joy of being with Pir Zia and friends on the path.

Friday evening, Feb 19, Pir Zia will give a talk, co-sponsored with Seven Pillars House of Wisdom, *Creating the Universe Anew: Spirituality and Matter*.

More and more, people are choosing to describe themselves as spiritual. Spirituality is often considered as being at odds with the material world, but a more unified perspective is needed now. For we are at a critical juncture, where the health of the living Earth can no longer be taken for granted. At such a time we must ask, what does our spirituality say about our relationship to the Earth, to our fellow creatures, and to our own bodies?

Detailed information at: www.RisingTideInternational.org, flyer on page 3.

SUMMER CAMP INFO 2010 IS AS FOLLOWS:

Dear friends,

Our summer camp plans this year are a departure from what we have been doing for several years. We have two camp events this year, one in Colorado in the mountains about 45 minutes from Ft. Collins and a second one at the Abode. Here are the particulars as we know them so far:

JUNE 21 TO 23 Leaders Training with Pir Zia and other faculty and Retreat Guide Training with Aziza

JUNE 21 TO 23 Proposed Community Camp for all mureeds and inquirers

JUNE 24 TO 27 Silent Retreat with Pir Zia and Aziza
Abode of the Message

JULY 15 TO 18 Silent Retreat with Pir Zia and Aziza*

*Shambhala Mountain Camp in Colorado

We are working out the details for the Community Camp which will happen at the same time as the Leaders Training. I will send out a message later when we have more to report about this camp.

Shambhala offers an ongoing children's camp at reasonable rates so families can be accommodated at all events.

Continued on next page

*Pour upon us thy love
and thy light.* – from Sufi
prayers of Hazrat Inayat Khan

EVENTS OF INTEREST

SUFI CLASS/GATHERING

On the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at Demeters, 7:00. Each week a new theme. If you would like to offer a reading, contact Rev. Sophia Dilkusha 704-305-3218.

DEVI TIDE, MARCH 26-28

Weekend teaching in Charlotte. Contact Rev. Sophia Dilkusha McGuire for more information. 704.305.3218 or sophiasheartsong@yahoo.com



SUFI LINKS

SUFI ORDER INTERNATIONAL
www.sufiorder.org

PIR ZIA
www.sufiorder.org

SULUK ACADEMY
www.suluk@sufiorder.org

SEVEN PILLARS
www.Sevenpillarshouse.org

RISING TIDE
www.RisingTideInternational.org

UNIVERSAL AWAKENINGS
www.universal-awakening.org

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE
www.charlottesufi.org

COMMUNITY LINKS

SANGATI
www.sangati.net

TEMPLE BETH-EL
www.beth-el.com

MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH
www.mpbconline.org

SUFI ORDER INTERNATIONAL CHARLOTTE

Rev. Sophia Dilkusha McGuire
Center Leader & Regional Representative

Demeter Lynne Friedheim
Coordinator

Contact information for submission of articles,
photos, poetry, art, or for information or
questions, please write
sophiasheartsong@yahoo.com or
bbirkner@gmail.com.

To order the Heart and Wings cutout sculpture
on the masthead, please contact Fravarti
Fravarti@mindspring.com



SUMMER CAMP INFO 2010—CONTINUED

The Denver airport is the logical place to arrive for the Colorado camp. The camp site is a two hour drive from the airport. We are working on shuttle plans.

There is a proposal to have a purely community gathering day without much structure. For West Coast people who haven't attended a camp for many years, this would provide an opportunity to reconnect with Sufi family. Probably the best day for it would be Sunday June 20. We need to know how many would be interested in attending an extra day. If you would like to attend an extra day, please let your regional rep know.

Blessings, *Hassan Subrawardi*

GIVE YOURSELF TO LIFE—GAYAN MACHER IN ATLANTA, JANUARY 29-31, 2010

Gayan Macher is going to lead a retreat in Atlanta on Jan. 29-31, 2010. This retreat will focus on “loving our life—feeling passion and connection while we are here. As we ripen we come to see that life is as it is, and if we are fortunate, we can also discover that it is a journey of the heart, a quest of love and faith...that a living heart, even within all life's limitations can become a womb from which Beauty is born, and that all along Existence has been singing love songs in our ear.”

The guide for the weekend will be Gayan Macher, a companion and guide to those called to the courageous path of love. Gayan has been a teacher in the Sufi Order International for over 20 years. Gayan is also currently a lead teacher in Suluk Academy.

Detailed flier at: web.me.com/hurkalya/Events/Atlanta_Jan2010.html

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE

We now have a local Dances of Universal Peace, lead by Neshamah Emi Miller, February 5, at Unity of Charlotte, East Arrowood Road. More info at www.charlottesufi.org.

BISHOP SPONG VISIT

Yes, when Bishop Spong was in Charlotte it was quite remarkable to be part of the event and get to support such sharing. Myers Park Baptist bought him here and I had the joy of being on the beautiful committee with dedicated and enthused members who organized the event.

The evening we talked with him at a dinner was quite a gift. He and his wife, Christine, were both very accessible and as I sat and asked questions and listened, I was quite aware of the years of experience he had, as well as, the harmony between he and Christine—she organizes his schedule and travels with him everywhere, she has a lovely British accent. Both of them mentioned how they have gotten use to controversy—something Pir Vilayat also worked with graciously. He mentioned how I seemed to converse from the “heart up” and how he came from the intellect down. I commented on how I was inspired by the “quality” of the eternal in his new book! – *Rev. Sophia Dilkusha McGuire*

RUMI BY CANDLELIGHT

A performance of 28 of Rumi's beautiful poems was held in November 2009. They were read by Adrian Vyner-Brooks with original music by Betsy Bevan, piano, Will Ridenour, kora, and Meredith Holladay, vocals.

We performed in the sacred space of a chapel in Greensboro. There were about 100 in the audience and we received a standing ovation. I cannot express the thrill and wonder of presenting such heart opening poems with the deeply moving music of my friends.

The four of us recently made a CD of Rumi's poems, “Friends Outside of Time.” For information on this: adrianvb@pobox.com.

GIVE YOURSELF TO LIFE

Jan. 29-31, 2010

Fri. evening through Sun. noon
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church/Amerson House
1790 LaVista Road
Atlanta, GA

COST:

Register by Jan. 15, 2010: \$150-\$175 (sliding scale)

Register after Jan. 15, 2010:
\$170-\$195 (sliding scale)

Friday evening only: \$30

Limited partial scholarships are available.

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Martha Talbott
13 Old Decatur Circle
Decatur, GA 30030
404-371-0323
mltalbott@att.net





OPENING THE HEART a retreat with Pir Zia Inayat-Khan

What would it mean to think, speak, and act from the heart? How would such a reorientation affect our way of life, our relationships, our perceptions and emotions, and our identity itself? In this retreat, through conscious breath, sacred sound and movement, prayer, and meditation, we will explore the transformational implications of focalizing consciousness in the heart.

Pir Zia Inayat-Khan is the spiritual leader of the Sufi Order International, a mystical and ecumenical fellowship rooted in the visionary legacy of his grandfather, Hazrat Pir-o-Murshid Inayat Khan. Pir Zia is founder of Seven Pillars House of Wisdom and President of the Suluk Academy for esoteric studies. He holds a doctoral degree in religion from Duke University, is a recipient of the U Thant Peace Award, and is a Lindisfarne Fellow.



Special Talk Friday Night: Creating the Universe Anew: Spirituality & Matter

Co-sponsored by

Rising Tide and Seven Pillars House of Wisdom

www.RisingTideInternational.org

www.sevenpillarshouse.org



Talk: Friday February 19 at 7:30PM
Cost \$15 (no charge if attending retreat)
Retreat: Saturday & Sunday February 20 - 21, 2010
9:30AM to 4:30PM (both days)
Cost \$200 if registered by Feb 10 (after Feb 10 \$235)

Events will be held at Rising Tide International 5102 Swift Road, Sarasota, Florida 34231

Pay on-line at www.RisingTideInternational.org or mail checks payable to:
Rising Tide at 5102 Swift Road, Sarasota FL 34231
For further information, contact Tara Muir RTIseminars@comcast.net or 941-926-3398

Flyer design donated by www.Frank'sDesigns.com

TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF 101

Sophia And Demeter will co-facilitate. Choose one of these dates, offering is the same on both dates, Feb 13th and Feb 27th, for more information: svirginiamcguire@gmail.com, or 704-305-3218

INTRODUCTION TO BHAGAVAD GITA STUDY GROUP

Sarah Faircloth, owner of Sangati and Anusara Yoga Teacher will be leading the classes. For six weeks starting in February. More information at www.sangati.net



SUFI HEALING ARTS SHARED IN OUR COMMUNITY

Rev. Sophia Dilkusha graces the cover of *Today's Charlotte Woman*, January 2010 issue.

For the complete article, see: www.todayscharlottewoman.com/this-issue

OUR PRAYERS GO TO THE LOVING UNIVERSE this day in grace and thanks . . . “pour upon us thy love and thy light” to all, all and especially to those in Haiti our brothers and sisters, much love and divine grace holding in this time, and to our dear planet home, reminding us we are held in the space of so much love. We give thanks to the flow and bounty of the universe, to the silsila of all that have been and will be in the heritage of so much. Breath of life and love. – Rev. Sophia Dilkusha McGuire

