

QUEST

The ACE Newsletter No.3 Winter 1986





So much time has gone by since our last issue of Quest, that I thought I'd take this opportunity to reflect on the changes that have come down, and tell you all a little about where we are right now. The study of the various realms of consciousness is such a diversified field that it is no surprise that our projects have gone in all directions.

Through the Starwood Lecture Agency we have helped book author/lecturer Robert Anton Wilson all over the U.S.A. and Canada, and made a lot of friends and valuable contacts besides. This year he will be accompanied by his wife, Arlen Riley Wilson, on a tour which will take him to New Jersey, the Winterstar Symposium in Ohio, Des Moines, Boulder (including the Naropa Institute), Denver, Vancouver, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and other appearances, including a major Libertarian event in L.A. called Freedom: the Final Frontier (for more info on this and future tours, contact us at ACE). There are other projects in the works for Bob, including records, a possible film version of Masks of the Illuminati, and an Illuminatus! role-playing game.

We have moved into a much bigger and better facility in Cleveland Heights, with room for all our events except Starwood and Winterstar. This new office features a large 34x18 room with an 18x12 stage, a kitchenette, a lobby, two offices, and two small store-rooms. We are renting this room out to other groups as well as running our own activities there, including a recent appearance of Isaac Bonewits, a two-day seminar with Robert Anton Wilson, and the ongoing Natural Magick study group run by Ian Corrigan and Moira Kyteter. See the ads throughout this issue for future activities.

We are planning to produce tapes, both audio and video, of some of the classes we have held and will hold at ACE, including a tape of Starwood Music, the class The Structure of Craft Ritual by Isaac Bonewits, and the upcoming panel discussion at Winterstar (see Winterstar info page).

As you may have heard, we have lost the use of Devil's Den Park, the site of the Starwood Festival and Opening Inner Doorways for over four years. The land has been sold to a group for a private residence and summer homes. So, we are asking everyone who reads this to help find a new site for the 1986 Starwood Festival. We have a few leads, but we can always use a bit of help. In the meantime, we can be thankful that we had the use of a site of such spirit and singular beauty.

Finally, I'd like to announce : THE STARWOOD LAND FUND!
We are starting a land fund to accumulate capital to purchase a permanent site for our events, and to rent out for other groups with a similar taste for spiritual and scientific study and celebration, reverence for the Earth, and a desire to interact and network in a private atmosphere of love, trust and joy in the pursuit of a brighter future. We are hoping that everyone who can will consider a donation of ten dollars or more as seed money for this fund, but any donation will be appreciated, of course. This money will be put in a special bank account for this use only. Thank you in advance for your help.

Sensory Isolation and Altered States

The Sensory Isolation Tank has been called the most important research tool since the microscope. By isolating the subject from all sensory input; light, sound, temperature change, touch, even the sensation of gravity's effects, consciousness turns inward to examine itself while both the brain and mind achieves the most profound relaxation possible.

This program is offered exclusively by the Association for Consciousness Exploration. We provide an opportunity to experience our Sensory Isolation Tank in a secure environment. The enrollment fee includes four workshops designed to optimize this unique individual experience, held at the ACE office at 1643 Lee Rd. #9, and a one-hour floatation session at our tank facility with shower, dressing room, and complete privacy, less than a block away in a private residence.

Friday Mar. 21st 7:30-9:30 PM WORKSHOP: Introduction to the Sensory Isolation Tank - covering history, design, effects, and productive uses of Sensory Isolation.

Saturday Mar. 22nd 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM FLOATATION TIME

1:30-3:00 PM WORKSHOP: Imagination and Creativity

3:15-4:45 PM WORKSHOP: The Process and Technique of Meditation

5:00-9:00 PM FLOATATION TIME

Sunday Mar. 23rd 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM FLOATATION TIME

1:30-3:00 PM WORKSHOP: Stress, Relaxation and Health: a Practical Approach

3:00-8:00 PM FLOATATION TIME

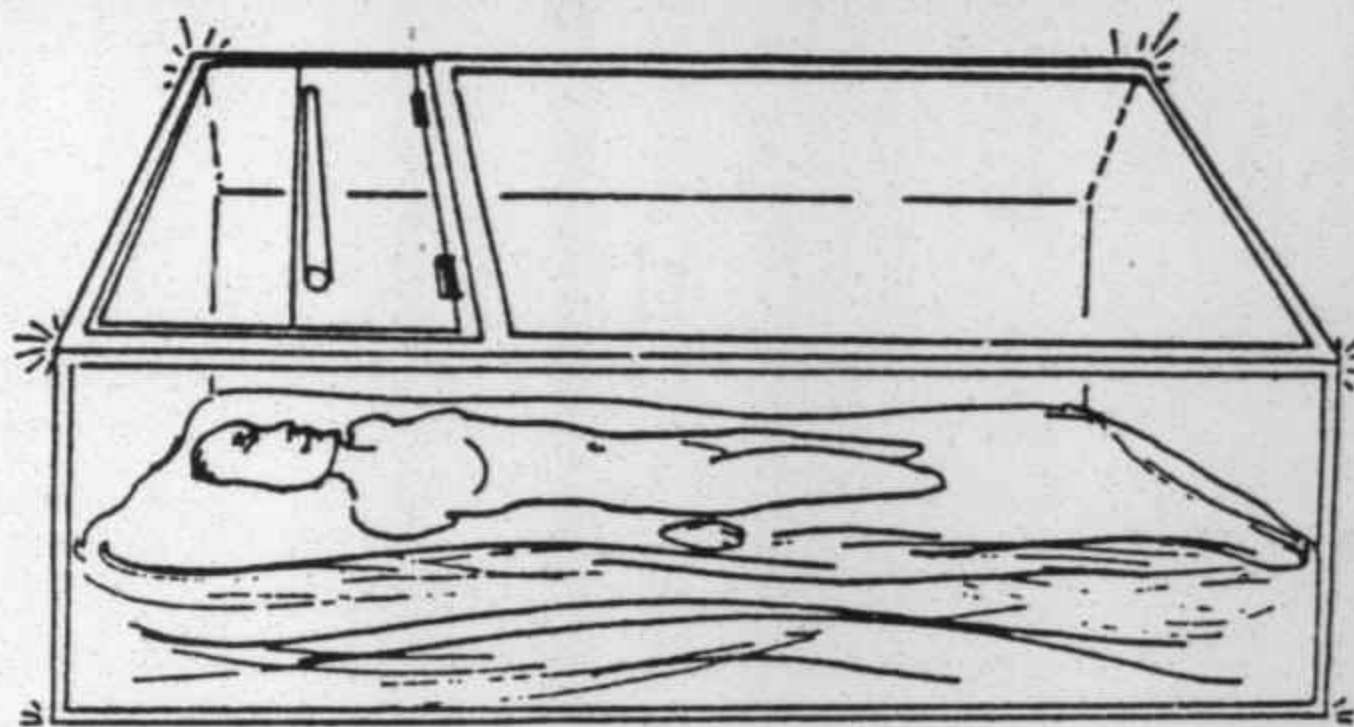
REGISTRATION FEE: \$40.00 or \$20.00 for ACE Members

GET TANKED

at

ACE

Individual Float Sessions
available by appointment at
\$20 first hour, \$10 per additional
hour in same session. ½ off for ACE Members. Call 932-5421 to schedule time.



"Like Floating in Space"

In the dark, warm silence of the A.C.E. Floatation Tank, deeply relaxed states of mind and body come naturally. Even for those unfamiliar with meditation, the conditions of sensory isolation and simulated weightlessness can be the key to deeper relaxation, an aid to the management of daily stress, and an opportunity for new self-exploration.

High Tech/High Touch

exerpted from Megatrends

John Naisbitt

High tech/high touch is a formula I use to describe the way we have responded to technology. What happens is that whenever new technology is introduced into society, there must be a counterbalancing human response, that is, high touch, or the technology is rejected. The more high tech, the more high touch.

The parallel growth of high tech/high touch took place during the last three decades, a period which appeared chaotic, but which really had its own rhythm and sense. The alienation of the fifties was a response to the most intensely industrialized period in our history. During this decade of the gray-flannel suit and the organization man, fully 65 percent of our work force was in industrial occupations, many in assembly-line regimentation. More workers, 32 percent, were unionized than would ever be again. During both the fifties and the sixties, we mass-marketed the products of that industrial era--products with regimented uniformities mirroring their industrial base. High tech was everywhere--in the factory, at the office, in our communication, transportation and health care systems and, finally, even in our homes.

But something else was growing alongside the technological invasion. Our response to the high tech all around us was the evolution of a highly personal value system to compensate for the impersonal nature of technology. The result was the new self-help or personal growth movement which eventually became the human potential movement, but no one has connected it with technological change. In reality, each feeds the other--high tech/high touch.

Now at the dawn of the twenty-first century, high tech/high touch has truly come of age. Technology and the human potential movement are the two great challenges and adventures facing humankind today. The great lesson we must learn from the principle of high tech/high touch is a modern version of the ancient Greek ideal--balance. We must learn to balance the material wonders of technology with the spiritual demands of our human nature.

Perhaps the most powerful technological intrusion was television, far more vivid and engaging than either the radio or the telephone. At almost exactly the time we first introduced television, we created the group therapy movement, which led to the personal growth movement, which in turn led to the human potential movement (est, TM, rolfing, Yoga, Zen, and so forth--all very high touch). Television and the human potential movement developed almost in lockstep, much of both in the bellwether state of California.

I had thought earlier that we might rebel against the computer for dehumanizing us. But now I think we are beginning to understand just how liberating the computer is in a high tech/high touch sense. For example, a company with forty thousand employees has treated those employees pretty much the same for generations. It had to, because that was the only way to keep track of them. With the computer to keep track, the employees can be treated differently, with a unique contract for each of the forty thousand. We are all slowly moving in that direction. In addition, companies are now offering a "cafeteria of compensation." An employee can decide to have a certain combination of salary, pension, health benefits, flex time, job sharing and job objectives. Even pension plans are moving in that direction: because we have the computer to keep track of it, an individual contributor to the pension plan can decide where that contribution is going to be invested. And that is one of the key reasons that unions are out of tune with the new computer-rich information society. The basic idea of a union is to ensure that everyone is treated the same. But now we all want to be treated differently.

There is no high tech/high touch of Electronic Funds Transfer, so bank customers are rejecting it everywhere. The banks offering it are essentially saying, "We used to do business one way and now we are all going to do it another way--electronically."

The problem is with the customers. Some of us want to go to tellers. In fact, some of us want to go to the same teller every time. I don't know about you, but I feel outrageously virtuous writing out my own checks every month--and the banks want to take that away from me.

High tech dissonance infuriates people. It's even worse when you again use the technology of the telephone to call a warm friend, and instead get more technology: "Hi there, I've gone out for a little while..." That's why so many improbable messages are left recorded on those machines.

Many of us instinctively feel the metric system is too high tech. To make matters worse, it was imposed on us top-down by some Metric Council or other (presumably in Washington, D.C.), and consequently we do not want very much to do with it.

"Metric will be about as successful as Esperanto." That prophetic statement was made by Stewart Brand, the editor of CoEvolution Quarterly and head of California's Metric

Council. The high tech of metric is being imposed on people without any high touch tradeoffs and in the face of the comfortable, high tech/high touch balance of measures like the inch and the quart. The inch, we all know, is about the size of the middle joint of our fingers, and the quart has been the traditional container of the ultimate higher/touch beverage--milk.

"Man is a clever animal. There is no way to keep him from devising new tools. Rather, the error lies in thinking that new tools are the solution. It could be a fatal error," writes John Hess in GEO magazine.

When we fall into the trap of believing or, more accurately, hoping that technology will solve all our problems, we are actually abdicating the high touch of personal responsibility. Our technological fantasies illustrate the point. We are always awaiting the new magical pill that will enable us to eat all the fattening food we want and not gain weight; burn all the gasoline we want and not pollute the air; live as immoderately as we choose and not contract either cancer or heart disease.

In our minds, at least, technology is always on the verge of liberating us from personal discipline and responsibility. Only it never does and it never will. That is why the human potential movement, which advocates both discipline and responsibility, is such a critical part of the high tech/high touch equation. By discovering our potential as human beings, we participate in the evolution of the human race. We develop the inner knowledge, the wisdom, perhaps, required to guide our exploration of technology.

With the high touch wisdom gained studying our potential as human beings, we may learn the ways to master the greatest high tech challenge that has ever faced mankind--the threat of total annihilation by nuclear warfare.

High tech/high touch. The principle symbolizes the need for balance between our physical and spiritual reality.

(c) 1982. From Chapter 2 of Megatrends: Ten New Directions Transforming Our Lives.
By John Naisbitt, published by Warner Books/New York. Reprinted by permission.

Natural Magick: Earth-Centered Spirituality

Cauldronfire Temple announces an ongoing study group in the religion and magick of Wicca. Wicca is a modern adaptation of principles of natural religion thousands of years old. It offers a life-affirming perspective and practical means for gaining control of your own life. Earth Religion is the religion of the Great Goddess, the Mother and Lover of the World, her Consort/Son. Sun and Moon, Fire and Water, Summer and Winter, the Love-play of the Goddess is the sustenance of Life. Wicca offers the opportunity to be your own Priest/ess of the Gods, free from vast quantities of dogma and heirarchy.

We extend an invitation to learn and experience the Spirituality of Mother Earth. Drawing on the pre-Christian traditions of Europe, tribal religions of the world today, and modern esoteric techniques, we combine meditation and mental training with music, dance, and theatrical ritual. The result is an awareness tuned to the cycles of nature and in touch with the personal power intended for us all.

The study group will meet Sunday after each New Moon. Moira and Ian, the teachers, have 10 years of experience in group teaching and leadership. They are skilled in divination, ritual design, and trance techniques. The group will cover both theory and beliefs and practical applications of the Magick of the Path of Nature. We will meet at the ACE office, and a small fee will be charged to cover site rental.

Goddess-centered, respectful of the Earth, egalitarian and non-dogmatic, the Earth religions offer an alternative to monotheistic religion for modern women and men. Come and see for yourself.

Sunday Feb. 9th and Mar. 16th Donation for site \$2.50
1643 Lee Rd. #9 Cleve. Hts. Oh. For info call: 932-5421
Study group begins at 1:30 until about 4:00 Bring notepad.



Bio-Feedback Meditation

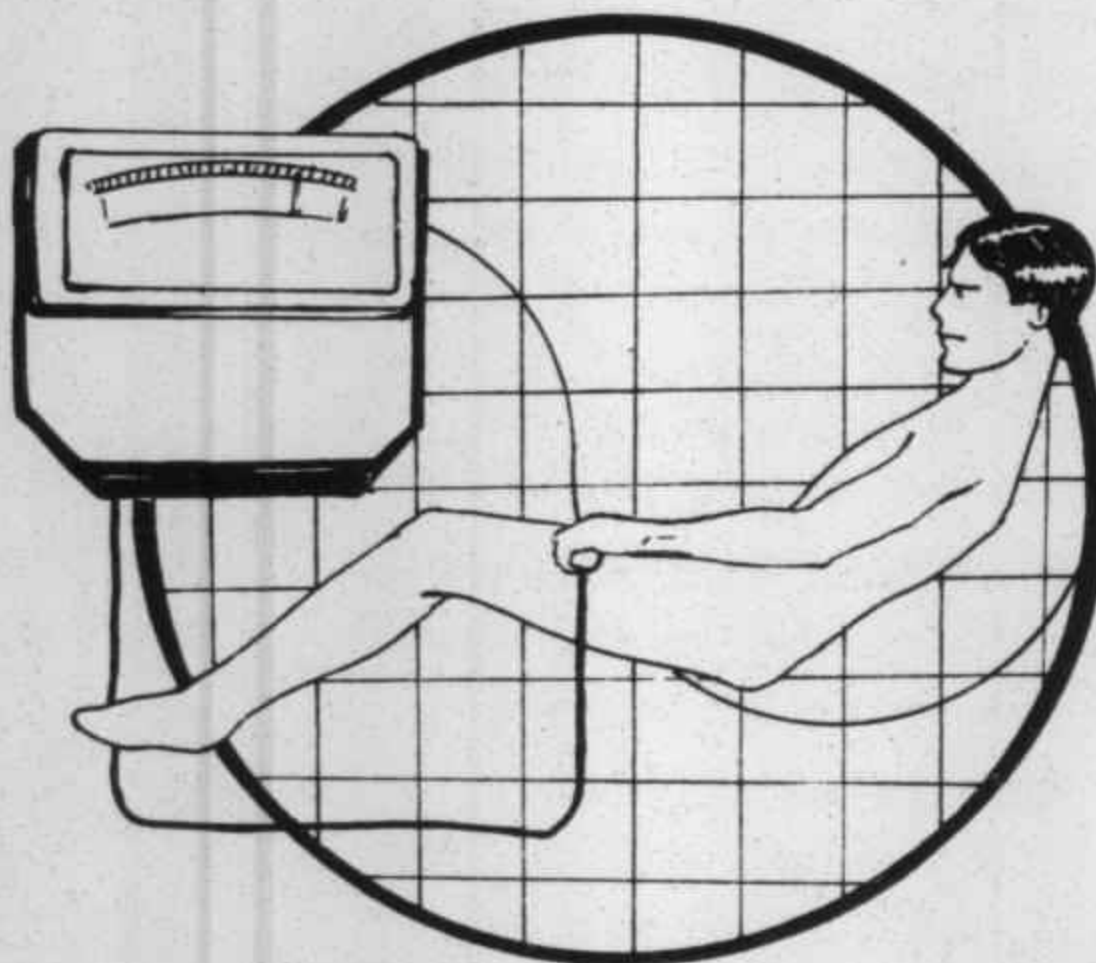
Meditation is an art and a technique of control over one's mind and its relationship to the body. Through meditation, an individual can learn to focus his awareness on a particular idea or an internal process, and thereby use the inherent ability of his mind to identify and control tension, stress, and pain, and even to achieve altered states of consciousness.

Stress, they say, is one of the prices we pay for our busy, active, constantly changing lifestyles. Stress has many causes, both physical and emotional, and the mind and body store stress-produced tension built up over time in a variety of ways. Aching muscles, reduced resistance to disease, physical and emotional anxiety, nervousness, adverse skin conditions, insomnia, and a host of other ills can be caused or aggravated by stress. Compulsive habits, such as chain smoking and over-eating, can also be stress-related.

Coupled with the science of bio-feedback, the art of meditation is an excellent time-tested method of controlling stress. By monitoring the body's success at achieving the desired results of relaxation and internal process control, one can learn to effectively use meditation to aid your mind's ability to change the conditions of the body and aid healing in a fraction of the time needed for meditation training alone. Furthermore, the deep states of relaxation attained during meditation provide an excellent opportunity for self examination and consciousness exploration. Once the training is complete, the bio-feedback devices are no longer necessary.

Joseph Rothenberg, co-Director of the Association for Consciousness Exploration, has been working professionally in the field of mental health for over seven years, and has taught classes and held personal sessions in Memory Enhancement, Bio-Feedback, Meditation, and Stress Management. He is available for personal counselling and aid in these and related fields. His fees are \$25.00 per hour session, \$15.00 for ACE Members. For more information and to set up an appointment call 932-5421.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR CONSCIOUSNESS EXPLORATION
1643 Lee Rd. No.9 Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118
932-5421



Mind Games

The Guide to Inner Space

Sunday Mar. 9th 1-5 PM
1643 Lee Rd. #9

Registration \$25.00
ACE Members \$10.00

This workshop is partly based on the Masters and Houston book Mind Games, a how-to book of mental exercises for achieving altered states of consciousness without the use of drugs or mysticism. The course will include an overview of the styles and purposes of meditation in many systems, and utilize practical experiences in guided meditation. There will be time set aside for input into planning for future classes on the subject, and attempts to make scheduling convenient for the participants of this first class.

A major influence in these exercises will be the use of the "mind-brain system" of Masters and Houston to improve sensory perception, magnify or accelerate mental processes, and retrieve forgotten or inhibited faculties. In a sense, the mind games are a yoga for the West, one that draws on the latest discoveries about consciousness and about Man's latent capabilities, and shows how these findings can be productively applied. For registration and further info call 932-5421

Memory Enhancement

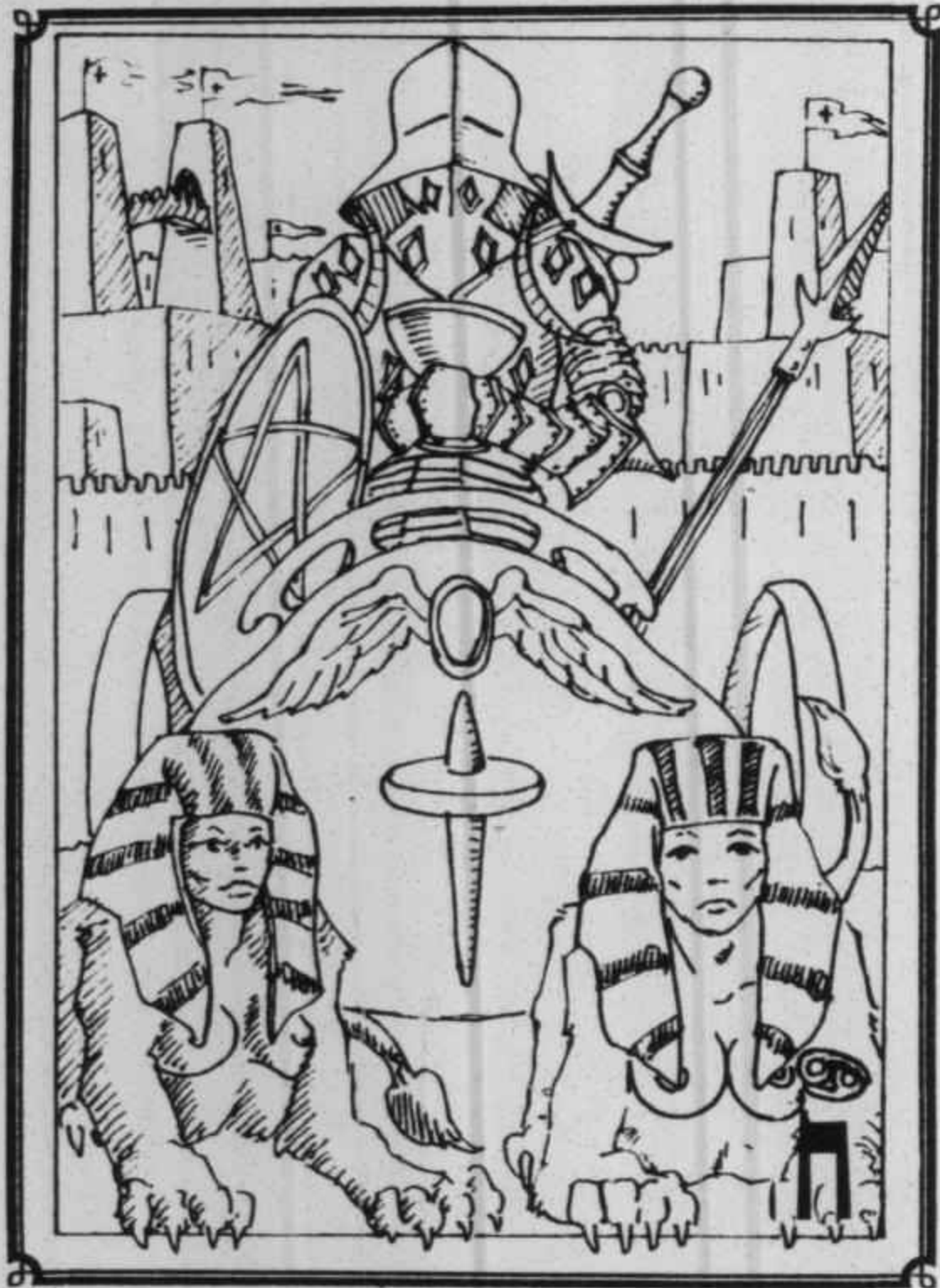
Sunday Feb. 23rd 1:00-5:00
at the ACE Office

Fee \$20/10 to ACE Members

For several years Joseph Rothenberg has been instructing student in techniques for the enhancement of memory, and the participants in these classes have usually begun with the same complaints: "I have a terrible memory for names." "I'm good at names but not numbers." "I just don't have as sharp a memory as I used to."

Actually, your memory is incredibly powerful. You've recorded enormous amounts of data: names, dates, experiences, smells, sights, sounds, textures, ... a vast repository of information, and under the right conditions they can come back with crystal clarity. The trick is to gain effective control and access to the most amazing "computer memory banks" known to Man.

Joseph Rothenberg's class on Memory Enhancement teaches efficient methods of learning, memory storage, and access techniques. Through a combination of mnemonics, relaxation, proper learning, and association he can help you store and retrieve information faster, more efficiently, undistorted, and at your own command.

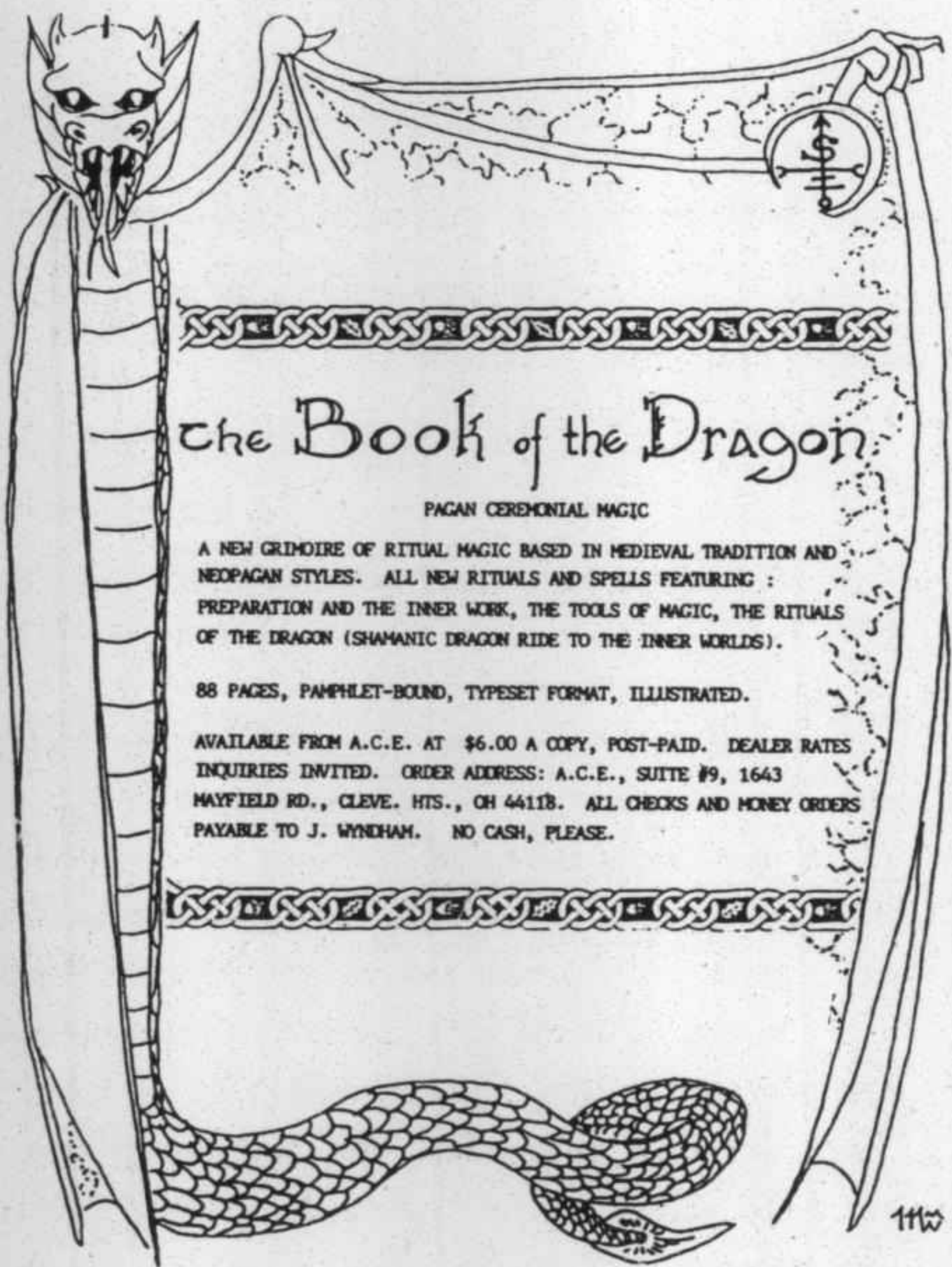


The DARK HORSE TAROT is a deck which draws on the Celtic traditions while preserving the Golden Dawn symbolism and interpretations. In addition to the usual 78 cards, two alternative cards are provided: an Eris trump, and a "Jive" Death trump.

The deck is to be colored by the owner. This NEW printing has new borders, Hebrew lettering and some artwork, and comes pre-cut and boxed. Felt tips or watercolor will complete the deck - plastic will preserve them.

The designers, Chameleons J. Wyndham and D. Stool, have expressed on each card a proper emblem of the zodiacal sign, planet, or element associated with it. It is our hope that users will be able to put the deck to good use in both study and divination, and also as an incredibly enjoyable coloring project!

Tarot deck cost is \$7.95 (includes postage), and is available by mail order from Chameleon Club. For orders and inquiries write: A.C.E. 1643 Lee Rd. #9 Cleve. Hts. Oh. 44118





The Association for Consciousness Exploration is an organization dedicated to the study of the many realms of the mind, and the promotion of these studies on the part of others. We consider the fields of Psychology, Magick, healing, meditation, stress management, mnemonics, Shamanism, Meta-physics, and Quantum Mechanics to be inter-related and, if properly balanced, to possess the potential for a synergistic relationship resulting in advances in our understanding of ourselves and our universe far beyond the potential of the individual sciences.

ACE offers a Membership Card for \$40.00/yr. which provides significant discounts on all our activities and services, including our classes, lectures, and seminars, the use of our bio-feedback and sensory isolation and controlled sensory stimulation equipment, and our library of reference books, periodicals, and videotapes. We also have audio-visual equipment for viewing tapes, 16mm film, audio-tape players, and our personell are available for information, advice, and counselling. For further information contact:

THE ASSOCIATION FOR CONSCIOUSNESS EXPLORATION
1643 Lee Rd. No.9 Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118
932-5421



The STARWOOD LECTURE AGENCY can provide your organization with a wide variety of speakers and entertainers whose presentations relate to the fields of relaxation, healing, Magick, and consciousness exploration. We can arrange tours, provide advice in the promotion of an event, handle all travel arrangements, and generally help make your easy and successful. Our roster of presentors includes:

ROBERT ANTON WILSON JOSEPH ROTHENBERG IAN CORRIGAN MOIRA KYTELER
AMYLEE ISAAC BONEWITS WILLIAM CARL EICHMAN MAGGIE CROSBY
JEFF ROSENBAUM SELENA FOX ROBERT SHEA JOHN BASSETTE LINDA FLORIST
MARGOT ADLER MARTIN LAUBACH MOONSTAR ARLEN RILEY WILSON JIM ALAN
STANLEY KRIPNER VICTORIA GANGER SALLY EATON AND MANY MANY MORE!

Winterstar Schedule

LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

- MARGOT ADLER: From Witch to Witch-Doctor...Healers, Therapists, and Shamans
ISAAC BONEWITS: Top-Down Liturgical Design: Programming Effective Rituals
IAN CORRIGAN: The Cauldron and the Grail: Patterns of Spiritual Growth in Paganism
BILL EICHMAN: Advanced Pagan Magick
SELENA FOX: Crystal Magick: Ritual Healing With Quartz Crystals
VICTORIA GANGER: Magick and Music: Finding Your Personal Magickal Sound
ARLEN RILEY WILSON: "God Told Me to Tell You...": The Dangers of Charisma
ROBERT ANTON WILSON: Religion For the Hell of It

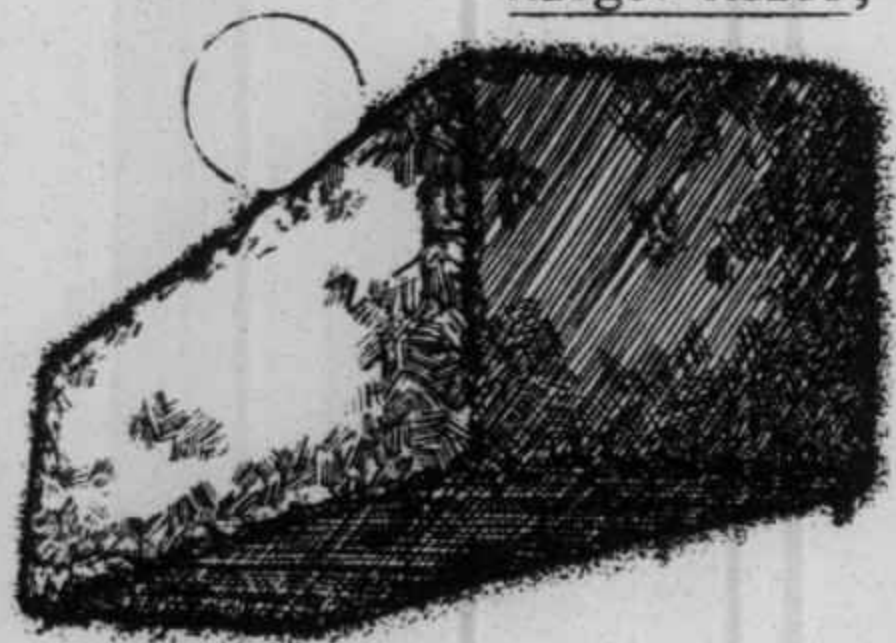
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday 5:30-6:45 Workshop Slot
7:00 PM Banquet, Key-Note Speech, and Sacred Spaces Slide Show
9:30 (aprox) Special Showing of Nevill Drury's videotape on the practice of Magick around the world

Saturday 9:30-10:45 Workshop Slot
11:00-12:15 Workshop Slot
12:15-1:30 Lunch Break
1:30-2:45 Workshop Slot
3:00-4:15 Workshop Slot
4:30-6:00 Workshop for Sat. Eve Ritual: The Six Eons and the Transcendence of Time - a prerequisite for participation.

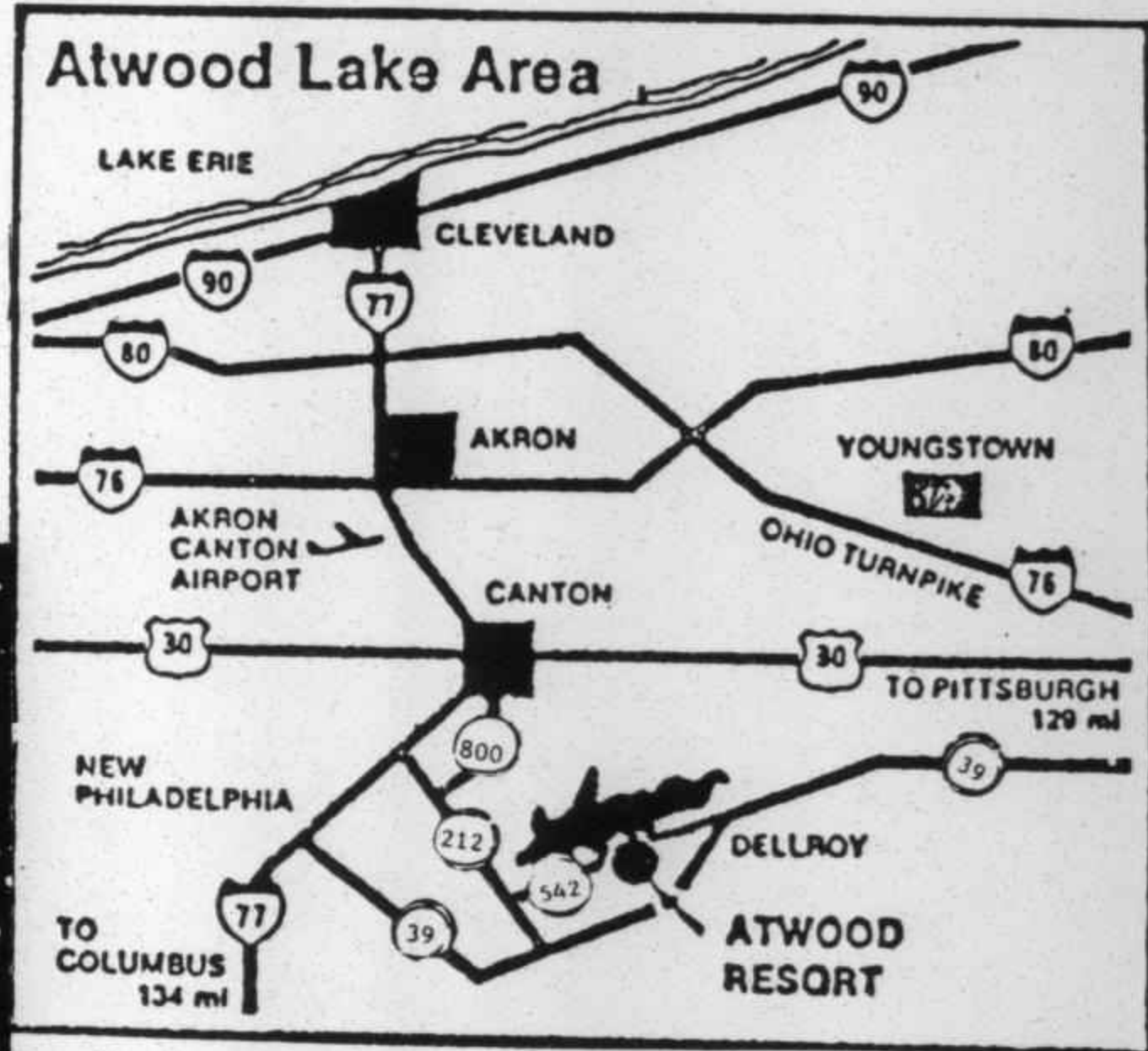
Saturday Evening: Main Weekend Ritual in the ballroom - a joint effort of ACE, 8:30 PM the Crystal Serpent Coven, and Bate Cabal.
Followed by a late-night Bardic Circle

Sunday 9:30-10:45 Workshop Slot
11:00-12:15 Workshop Slot
12:15-1:30 Lunch Break
1:30-2:45 Workshop Slot
3:00-4:30 Panel Discussion on the Present and Future of the Magickal Movement featuring: Robert Anton Wilson, Margot Adler, Selena Fox, and Isaac Bonewits



Mail your registration to:

A. C. E.
 1643 Lee Rd.
 Suite #9
 Cleve. Hts., Ohio
 44118

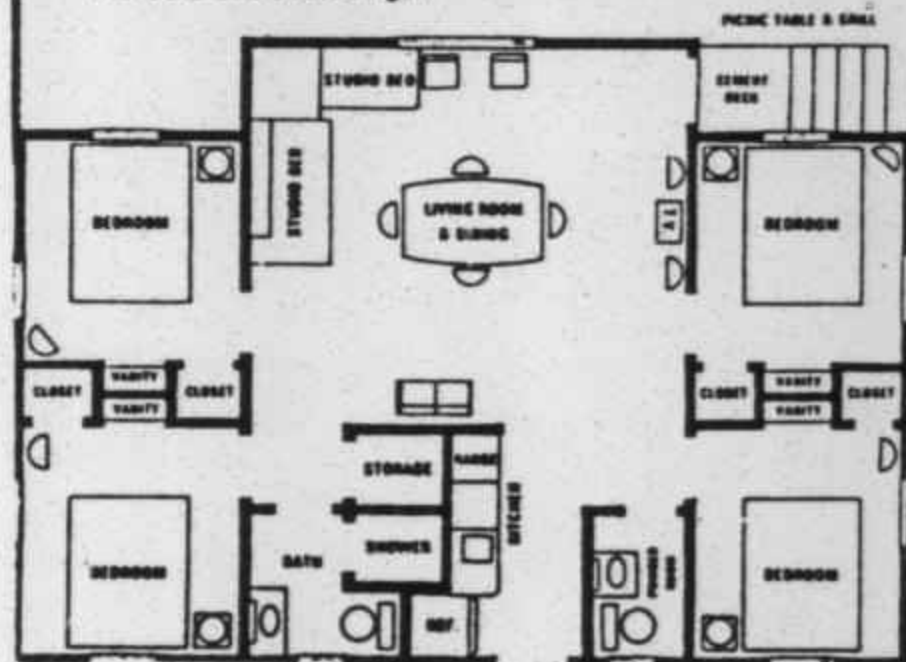


Atwood Features:

Swimming Pool
 Sauna, Hot Tub/Whirlpool,
 Restaurant, Lounge, and
 Much More!



Each cottage has 4 bedrooms with double beds, 2 studio beds in living/dining room area, 1 1/2 baths, complete kitchen with cooking utensils, dishes and silverware, complete set of linens for beds and baths, color television, picnic table and charcoal grill.



In order to assist individuals on a limited budget we are accepting reservations for "crash space". People reserving on this plan agree to accept a place to sleep in a cabin. This plan is offered to help reduce your costs to an absolute minimum.

REGISTRATION: WINTERSTAR 1986

Accommodations: (Friday 4:30 - Sunday Check-out)

\$50.00/bedroom (max. Occup. 2)
 \$200.00/cabin (max. Occup. 10)
 \$30.00/"crash space" for one (limited)

Total: \$ _____

Symposium Fee: (includes all activities except Banquet)

Before Jan. 20th: \$30.00/20.00 ACE Members
 After Jan. 20th: \$35.00/20.00 ACE Members
 At the Door: \$45.00/35.00 ACE Members

Total: \$ _____

Banquet Fee: (includes Key-note speech & slide show)

Before Jan. 20th: Free!
 After Jan. 20th: \$10.00/Free to ACE Members
 Both Free and paid Banquet guests Must Register!

Total: \$ _____ No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____



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