

# THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTION

The Portland Spiritualist Church

July 2016



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**The Board meeting will be held  
July, 10<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30**

## Newsletter staff

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<b>Distribution</b>	“Open Position”

## From the Desk

It seems that technology has made great strides in bringing the world closer yet seems to make us drift apart.

I can now e-mail my brother in San Francisco and get a response back immediately. Actually, if we both had the technical brains, we could talk to each other face to face via SKYPE or any of the other video platforms. That's great. With technology, I can sit at my desk at work and order inventory in just a few minutes. Not that long ago, the same process would have taken a couple of hours. So make no mistake about it, technology has been a great help for long distance communication and business. I can't imagine our modern world without it.

The drawback though is that we are in the process of losing the ability to make and maintain face to face relationships with our fellow humans. It may be easier and quicker to order merchandise “on line” but we lose the ability to actually communicate with a real human in order to get what we want. We become so involved with texting to our friends on the phone that we miss the face to face conversation with the people directly in front of us. So even though our population is increasing, we are becoming more isolated every day. What's the cure for this affliction?

The remedy is to actually look up and talk to people. Smile and nod to someone in the grocery store just to acknowledge them.

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### **Sunday Speakers and Mediums**

Sunday Speakers Services 6:30 PM

**July 3rd** .....No Sunday Service  
Holiday Week-end

**July 10th**  
Bob Foster  
Portland Spiritualist Church

**July 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Barbara Echardt  
Temple Heights Church

**July 24th**  
Rose Osborn  
Pinpoint of Light Camp

**July 31st**  
Rev. Catherine Sabine  
Spiritualist Church of Eternal Life

**August 7th**  
Dr. Earl Lord  
Harrison D. Barrett Spiritualist Church

#### **Legends**

CM - Certified Medium  
MPI- Morris Pratt Institute Student  
REV- Reverent  
NST- National Spiritualist Teacher  
CH- Commissioned Healer  
LM- Licentiate Minister  
M- Missionary

### **Friday Development Classes**

Friday Classes 7:30 PM

Friday classes are by donation.  
Donation \$5.00 of is suggested,  
but not required.

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**July 1st**  
Coloring Meditation  
Lauren Nelson

**July 8th**  
Meditation and Mediumship  
Lance Cyr

**July 15th**  
Meditation in Motion  
Joao Bordallo

**July 22nd**  
Palm Readings  
Janice Donnelly  
\$50 1/2 hr. by appointment (see flyer)

**July 29th**  
Table Tipping  
Rev. Beth Carter  
& Mike Carter

From the desk  
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You'd be surprised how many smiles and "hello's" you'll receive. Do a little "paying it forward". My brother in law just recently had his coffee paid for while he was on a long drive from Pennsylvania. Try paying the toll for the car behind you the next time you get on the highway. You're not only doing a good deed; you'll have that next person scratching their head for the next two days!

As we become more involved in technology, we're losing our "tribal" roots. Everybody needs some sort of extended family. When we don't have it we become isolated, less happy, and more stressed. We as humans need the contact and commonality of the extended family. This is why I've had so many folks comment to Beth and me how impressed they were with the friendly feeling that they get when they come to our church. They can feel the community and the caring that radiates from us personally and from our vibration as a whole. This is part of our Spiritualist responsibility. Communication and socialization is part of our Spiritual development. The better we communicate with others the more we impart the wisdom and love of the Infinite.

## Invention and the Spirits



**Amanda Theodocia Jones**, a trance medium who had only a grammar school education, began enunciating messages of instruction from a group of spirits who were intent on delivering plans for the uplift of humankind.

Many of these plans were for new social institutions and new forms of government, but for several periods in her career as a medium, the spirits undertook to deliver plans for inventions to her, after first explaining at length about patent rights law.

In 1873, Jones received two patents for canning food through vacuum processing, an innovation that revolutionized the food industry.

### **The Golden Blossom of Vacuum Canning**

She also patented innovations in equipment used in oil drilling. Clearly, trance could be a creative state of mind.



## **Invention and the Spirits**

**American spiritualism** first traveled across the Atlantic with the Boston trance medium Maria Hayden, who made an extended visit to London in 1852 and conducted a series of widely reported séances. She had already “developed” various other mediums in Boston who became famous themselves. British Socialist Robert Owen visited her to obtain a copy of Adin Ballou’s *Spiritual Manifestations*. She convinced him to stay for a séance and then to come back for a few more.

His experiences converted him to spiritualism. Much to the dismay of his life-long associates, Owen became deeply convinced that the illustrious spirits that were delivering messages to him were the vanguard of a force of active and benevolent spirits who were set to help America and Europe initiate the Millennium—a “New Dispensation” that turned out to resemble Owen’s own previously imagined socialist paradise, a world without class distinctions and without nation states.

Although the utopia Owen anticipated was little different from what he had envisioned before, he now had the shattering certainty that it would be ushered in by a decisive, global event, sometime in 1855 or 56. To Owen, human folly seemed to have reached new heights with the carnage of the Crimean War and the displacements and confusion of the political, social, and labor unrest throughout Europe.

The old governments would be overturned, Owen was convinced, by an effort in which the spirits would join ranks with the common people. The people of the Earth would need to take the initiative, however. Owen took the first step by calling a “world’s convention” (inspired by the Crystal Palace Exhibition in London in 1850, it seems) to announce the Millennium in 1855. The decisive, triggering event, he believed, would be made possible by an invention, the image of which he displayed at the convention. It was the “Devastator,” a kind of steam-powered, rolling land battleship. It was not developed under spirit guidance, but Owen’s willingness to use it to drive the world into the apocalypse was certainly strengthened by his conviction that hosts of spirits hovered nearby, ready to guarantee the world’s ultimate destiny.

### **Behold the Devastator**

Despite Owen’s claim that the British Ordnance Department rejected it because the Department did not wish to put itself out of business, we may wonder whether the inventors had actually mastered the technological problems needed to field a battle tank. In addition to the “Devastator,” Owen had another millennial innovation to let the Convention participants investigate—a “new system of architecture” that the spirits had dictated to ex-Universalist minister and Boston spiritualist Simon Crosby Hewitt.

### **Homes of Harmony**

The architecture was intended to represent the curved lines of nature—in this case, it seems, clutches of eggs, although Hewitt formed his plans so that the parts of the buildings all corresponded to parts of the human body, with a central communication shaft (for pipes and speaking tubes), for example, corresponding to the spinal cord.



**PALM READING WITH  
JANICE DONNELLY**

**FRIDAY JULY 22,  
SATURDAY JULY 23**

**PORTLAND SPIRITUALIST  
CHURCH  
17 DUNN ST.  
WESTBROOK**

30 Minute Readings \$50.00  
By Appointment  
Payment in Advance

**“I try to be as accurate as possible, but what I say is not set in stone. A reading is potential, and you have sufficient choice and will power to change yourself and your life for the better.” Janice Donnelly**

**FMI Contact: Rev. Beth Carter (207) 797-2039**

**[2007Spiritualist@peoplepc.com](mailto:2007Spiritualist@peoplepc.com)**

**This event is a fundraiser only.**

**Palmistry is not a part Spiritualism.**