

The International Spiritualist Federation

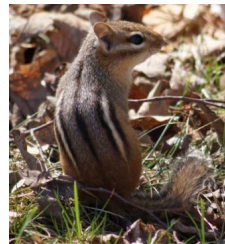
Fraternal Week 1 to 8 May 2011
YMCA Geneva Park, Ontario, Canada



37 Spiritualists gathered from 13 countries around the globe for our **2011 Fraternal Week** at the **YMCA Camp** in Geneva Park on the shores of Lake Couchiching. Spring was slowly arriving.



After being greeted by Kathy & Trudy (left) and the rest of the YMCA reception team it was over to the accommodation block and on the way we were greeted by Chipmunks and Squirrels with spring flowers starting to bloom.



2.00 pm: Registration. Ann Luck welcomes Dianne Parker from Australia who is the morning Trance group tutor (left).



Ann & Robin had the task of putting attendees into the groups (right).

Then the **Flag Ceremony** in the main hall.

After our tea & coffee break, the week began with the **Divine Service**. Al Batten our guest was the speaker, Ann Luck our president the Spirit Communicator, Kristbjorg Einarsdottir the reader & John Goldingham VP was the chairperson.



Steve Vogel guided the **Medicine Wheel** in the evening and then it was time to socialize with old friends and new ones just meet.



Or learn new playing skills and meeting old friends.

(Bill and Robin left, Jean-Marie and Graham right.)



Morning dawned with **Meditation** in the main hall or **Walking Meditation** with John.

Walking Meditation around the 150 acre Peninsula on the east shore of Lake Couchiching gave a wonderful start to the day's programme of learning in our groups.



Morning Development Groups were from 9.30am to 1pm. With a coffee break at 11.00am.



Physical Group with Robin Hodson.



Trance Group with Dianne Parker.



Mental Group with Matthias Güldenstein.



Healing Group with Graham Connolly.



After lunch on Monday and Tuesday we were with Al Batten from Canada who shared his **Philosophy on Spiritualism**.

Then on Wednesday and Thursday afternoon he ran a **Trance Healing** group. Most attended this very interesting group as Al showed us the simplicity and importance of **Trance Healing** and restored our faith in this important aspect of **Spiritual Healing** and our **Philosophy**. Only problem we all wanted more on this subject.

On Monday afternoon Ann Robson chaired a **Demonstration for mediums** wishing to give private sittings



Shamanic Journeying with Steve Vogel,



Mental Mediumship group was with Ann Robson



Psychic/Spirit Art was with Coral Ryder.



A Taste of Trance was with John Goldingham.



The **Mediums Raffle** run by Kristbjorg Einarsdottir and Graham Connolly (right) raised over \$300. There were six Mediums who volunteered their time for the ISF.

Meal time was a treat with good choices for every meal - breakfast – lunch with 3 courses and 2 for dinner.



Tuesday Evening was the **International Demonstration of Mediumship** (right). Ulla Alvarsdottir Sweden, Dianne Parker Australia and Eva Guldenstein Switzerland chaired by Steve Vogel USA.

Monday Evening was the **Demonstration by Tutors**(left). Coral Ryder, Matthias Guldenstein and Robin Hodson chaired by Ann Luck.



Wednesday Evening was the **North American Mediums** turn (left).



Sue Jalbert USA, Bev Batten Canada, Susan Barnes USA and Konstanza Greer USA chaired by Linda Chiles USA.

Wednesday Evening was **Mediumship: Psychic or Spirit Communication** (right).

Graham Connolly, John Goldingham, Bill Parkins and Ann Robson.



Thursday Evening was a **Guest Demonstration of Mediumship** (left).

Karen Willis was visiting Canada and we were fortunate to have her be our guest for the evening. She is from the UK and her web site is: www.karen-willis.co.uk

Thursday Day Trip



Our day trip took us to **Sainte Marie among the Hurons, Wye Marsh** and a stop in **Midland** town centre for a Tim Horton's fix.

Marvin our bus driver & 24 plus Graham & Sue in their car started the tour at 9.30am.

First to Sainte Marie among the Hurons the original first European settlement site.



Our guide was dressed in the clothes of the Jesuit priests who were the first settlers here and gave us an excellent tour of the restored site from the 1800's.

'Past Life' memories of Bill as the financial man sitting in the administrator desk?????



Then on to Wye Marsh for a picnic lunch on a lovely sunny spring day.

There followed a guided walk along the nature trails of the marsh.

Midland town is famous for its painted murals upon the local buildings.

Also Coffee break time for a Tim Horton's.



Donuts of all flavours made it hard to choose from – however it did not take long for Ivo, Elisabeth & Jan to choose.

The day flew by and soon it was time to return for Dinner.



Dianne Parker stayed behind and run a workshop that was enjoyed by seven attendees. Here Robin is presenting Dianne with a small token of our appreciation (left).

Ann Luck on Saturday evening at dinner thanking, on our behalf the kitchen staff for providing us with excellent meals & service and making us feel at home at the YMCA.



Saturday Evening was our final night. Robin Hodson was given the task and he set up a **Quiz & Social Evening** with questions about Spiritualism and associated subjects.



We got ourselves into groups of 6 and the **Raffle Draw** began with 4 prizes being drawn. Linda Chiles (left) had sold over \$300 of tickets for the ISF.

Linda then drew the first four prizes and Elisabeth assisted by giving out the prizes. Further prizes were drawn after each set of questions was asked.



No need to guess whose table won. Yes president Ann (below) led her table to victory.



April Sheerin USA seen here (right) finishing off their prize, a bottle of Champagne.

Robin had really done his homework and after some easy questions he started with, we began to be tested on just how much we really knew about Spiritualism.



Sunday Morning at our final Breakfast

Lining up to get a farewell cuddles and hugs from Graham until we next meet in Switzerland in September.



Our bags lined up as we say farewell to the early leavers and go into the hall for the final events.

A powerful **Healing Service** was led by Steve Vogel followed by the flag ceremony as we put away the flags until we meet again in Herzberg Switzerland.



In our group photo there are only 35 people. So here are the missing two, Dianne Parker Australia and Susan Barnes USA.

Including our three guests Al & Bev Batten and Karen Willis made 40 in all who attended.



Prior to the week beginning the Executive Committee met for two days to complete arrangements for the program and plan our future events. As we are having three events this only 10 gathered here. Pat Campbell and Sue Willison sent in their apologies.



Back row: Bill Parkins UK treasurer, Graham Connolly USA EC, Steve Vogel USA Minutes Secretary, Robin Hodson UK EC, Matthias Gldenstein Switzerland EC, John Goldingham New Zealand Vice President.

Front row: Kristbjorg Einarsdottir Iceland EC, Linda Chiles USA IMR, Ann Luck UK President, Ann Robin UK Membership Secretary.

Honk-Honk as the last word from the geese of the YMCA, Geneva Park, Ontario, Canada.



Report prepared by John Goldingham VP seen here enjoying a Tim Hortons Coffee & Cookie in the shuttle on the way to the Toronto Airport.

Photos supplied by Elisabeth, Eva & John.