

# Spiritualist Church of Canada

Winter 2018



*Eternal Progress  
Open to Every Soul*

## *President's Message*

*Dear friends,*

*As I sit to compose my first address as President of the Spiritualist Church of Canada, I am filled with gratitude and truly humbled to be sharing my thoughts with you. I move into this position with an energy of harmony and love for this organization, its members and our member churches. I am grateful for the commitment and knowledge of my fellow board members as we work for the advancement of the Spiritualist Church of Canada.*

*We are living in a time of change. The world is constantly evolving, creating changes on global as well as personal levels. Sometimes we move through the changes eagerly, at other times we dig in our heels and are dragged along reluctantly. As Spiritualists, we can solicit guidance from our Seven Principles as we move through the challenges of change. As you reflect upon each Principle and its meaning, allow its energy to fill your soul. Know within the Principles, we are being offered an opportunity to grow towards our true spiritual self.*

*One of my favourite principles is Personal Responsibility. Understanding that we create the world we live in, by our thoughts, words and actions provide us with opportunities to change the lens on how we see ourselves and the world around us. Remember that the influence of this world of matter is not to remain in a belief system that is flawed by our own thoughts, but for each of us to reach beyond and achieve stability and*

*balance in everything we feel, see, hear, touch and smell.*

*It is time to welcome the Winter Solstice and all the wonderful opportunities that are held within this season of colder weather. As we commence with the excitement of Christmas and what it means to each of us. Getting together with family and friends, to holding the energy of giving and love. Let us take a moment and look at all that the universe presented to us in 2018. Discern what holds value in your life and let go of the rest. You alone are the gatekeeper to your growth and happiness. 2019 is on the horizon! A new year, another time of reflection. How will you create heaven on earth? Let us continue to be that amazing spiritual being having a human experience.*

*Allow the energy of our last principle Eternal Progress open to every Soul, to celebrate within the essence of your being, raising you up to greet Love every moment of each day. We have all worked hard and earned the opportunity to count our blessings, appreciate our efforts, and celebrate our victories. Do not be afraid to say NO to experiences that are not in congruence with who you are. Embrace all that gives you peace, harmony, and joy.*

*Wishing a very happy holiday season to all!*

*Blessings,  
Reverend Angie Morra*

***Merry Christmas from the Board of the Spiritualist Church of Canada***

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## Editor's Message

**Peace on Earth will come to stay, when we live Christmas every day -Helen Steiner Rice**

Christmas marks that time of year for many of us to ruminate on another year over and a new one soon to begin. Reflecting on words and deeds, thoughts and actions, asking ourselves: did I do right more than wrong this year? Was I kind, compassionate, forgiving enough? There is no abacus tallying positive or negative; to judge us, there is only knowledge of self and the golden rule.

What we do, say, think creates a world we must live in and we are striving to live it as lovingly and spiritually open as possible.

We can lament what is lost and at the same time become immensely grateful for what is found. Give yourself the chance to spread your spiritual wings and welcome the changes that you see in you and in others around you; that is the best gift you can give to yourself at any time.

Take some time, reflect upon how the Winter Solstice allows a time for change behind the scenes and seek every opportunity to give and receive love.

Enjoy every step of your journey!

**You are your best thing** – Toni Morrison

**In this edition:** The Spiritualist community lost a big brother in Reverend John Goldsby last month and we send his family our condolences. Whether you knew him personally or not, we all have a wee story, don't be afraid to share with us in 2019. There are a few words and pictures in this edition of a life well shared.

David Jones of Burlington shares a way to receive and give love in his 'A Random Act of Kindness'. Check out a back issue of the SCC newsletter at the Spiritualist Church of Canada website:

<https://www.spiritualistchurchofcanada.com/index.php/events-and-news/president-s-message-newsletters>

Also, why not look for the next events in and around the Spiritualist community for 2019 here:

<https://www.spiritualistchurchofcanada.com/index.php/events-and-news>

There's the latest recommended reading from a local author to whet your appetite for personal spiritual growth and community building endeavours.

We hope that you will enjoy this edition; remember, if there is something you'd like featured, to comment upon, or to share something of your own contact us at: [newsletter@spiritualistchurchofcanada.com](mailto:newsletter@spiritualistchurchofcanada.com)

**Merry Christmas to you and yours  
Peace, Love, and Peachiness in Spirit**  
Stevie

## Inspirations

**One kind word can warm three winter months**  
-Japanese proverb

**People don't notice whether its summer or winter  
when they're happy** - Anton Chekhov

**"The way you get meaning into your life is to devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community around you, and devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning."** -Mitch Albom

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## A Random Act of Kindness

David Jones

*Having recently returned from a trip to San Miguel de Allende in Mexico; I commented to friends about how kind and considerate the people are in that community. I was very impressed, and just yesterday told some folks about it and how the people there are practicing 'Kindness to Others' in that magical environment.*

*Today in Burlington I took my car to a body shop to get an estimate on having a bumper repair on my car.*

*I told the owner of the shop about how back in the springtime I parked my car at McDonald's, then went for coffee and when I returned to my car noticed someone had hit my rear bumper cracking the inside support; and they drove away. I wanted to have it repaired before winter.*

*The owner of the shop had me drive the car into the shop and both he and another man worked on the bumper for about one hour and repaired it. If he had ordered a new part and replaced it the cost would be a few hundred dollars.*

*When I went to pay for the repair the owner said it was free, and I said, "I need to pay you", and he answered that he had not done his good deed for the day and this was his good deed. I was amazed and deeply appreciative.*

*It showed me that kindness to others can happen anywhere and it is important to pass it on.*



## Spirit's Reading Corner

**SPIRITUALISM: A Way of Life**

**Elizabeth Harris, 1995**

*Elizabeth Harris was a Spiritualist...full stop. She believed, she put her money where her mouth is so to speak, and she shared.*

*The book speaks of changes in herself and in Modern Spiritualism. From the preface, entitled 'Come share with Me', Elizabeth's beginning in Spiritualism, to the last chapter - Changing Times' Elizabeth shares Spiritualism's journey in our lives through creativity, love, healing flowing through 27 short chapters, essays really, that share the concepts of Spiritualism as known and how we can continue to grow ourselves by sharing daily.*

*She was a writer of some renown and I was chuffed to discover the book's dedication page included thanks to the Spiritualist Church of Canada for encouraging her to write this book.*

*I was blessed to find this book in a used bookshop, I've been making great finds in since 1982. I share with you that gratitude and blessings.*



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## History of Spiritualism

**January 21, 1854**

Eusapia Palladino, an Italian Spiritualist physical medium born. She claimed to possess extraordinary powers such as levitating tables and communicating with the dead through her spirit guide John King, and other related supernatural phenomena.

**20 February 1882**

The formation of the Society for Psychical Research was formed with Professor Henry Sidgwick elected President and Rev. Stainton Moses as one of its Vice Presidents

-History of Spiritualism, A C Doyle

**February 25, 1923**

Dr. Elwood Worcester, in a sermon entitled "The Allies of Religion,"\* delivered at St. Stephen's Church, Philadelphia, on, spoke of psychical research as the true friend of religion and a spiritual ally of man.

-Journal of The American S.P.R.

**16 March 1908**

Archdeacon Colley had his first sitting with the Crewe Circle. He brought his own camera and recorded two visual phenomena

**30 March 1873**

Stainton Moses begins writing 'Spirit Teachings'. It is said to have been a band of spirits associated with his mediumship through them his body of teaching was communicated

## TRIBUTE TO REVEREND JOHN GOLDSBY

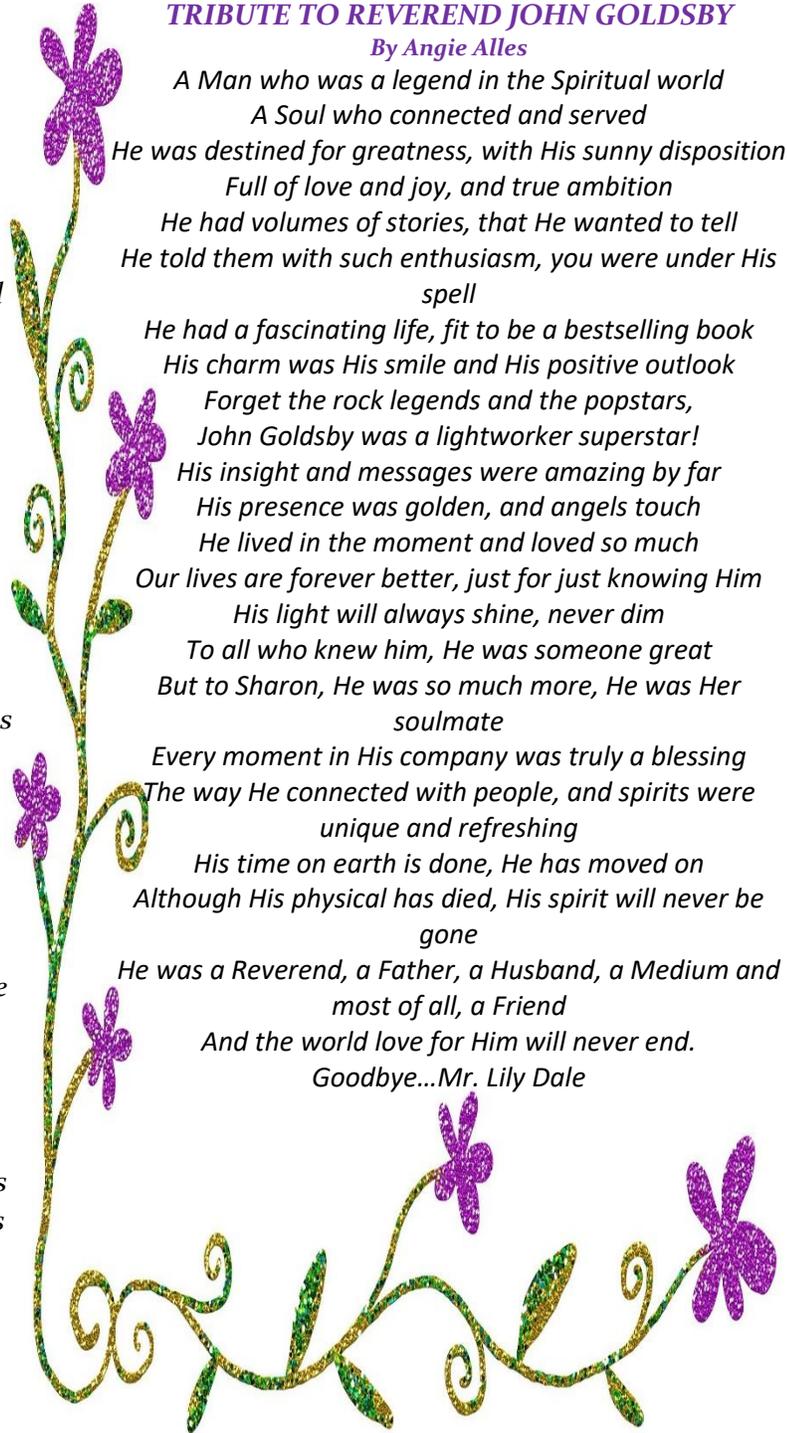
By Angie Alles

A Man who was a legend in the Spiritual world  
A Soul who connected and served  
He was destined for greatness, with His sunny disposition  
Full of love and joy, and true ambition  
He had volumes of stories, that He wanted to tell  
He told them with such enthusiasm, you were under His spell

He had a fascinating life, fit to be a bestselling book  
His charm was His smile and His positive outlook  
Forget the rock legends and the popstars,  
John Goldsby was a lightworker superstar!  
His insight and messages were amazing by far  
His presence was golden, and angels touch  
He lived in the moment and loved so much  
Our lives are forever better, just for just knowing Him  
His light will always shine, never dim  
To all who knew him, He was someone great  
But to Sharon, He was so much more, He was Her soulmate

Every moment in His company was truly a blessing  
The way He connected with people, and spirits were unique and refreshing  
His time on earth is done, He has moved on  
Although His physical has died, His spirit will never be gone

He was a Reverend, a Father, a Husband, a Medium and most of all, a Friend  
And the world love for Him will never end.  
Goodbye...Mr. Lily Dale



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## IN MEMORIAN Reverend John Goldsby

On Friday 16 November 2018, Reverend Goldsby made his transition in Barrie, Ontario. John was a well-respected Spiritualist Medium for over 50 years.

His friend, David Jones said, 'There are many of us that have treasured memories of John's fun style of presenting his mediumship at various locations such as Lily Dale, NY and Springdale Spiritualist Church in Toronto. Still, others had the privilege of sitting in 'Circle' with John. His good work will live on.'

*The following was written by Reverend Vivian Greene of the Spiritualist Society of Barrie, Tracie Oksman assisted.*

John was born on 4<sup>th</sup> June, the only child of Arthur and Dorothy Goldsby in Napier, New Zealand. They emigrated from England on the same day and met by chance on the ship. It takes a long time to sail from England, so they had plenty of time to get to know each other and enjoy their shipboard romance; they married soon after their arrival in New Zealand.

They lived in New Zealand for about 10 years but decided to return to Britain when it was evident that as well as missing her mother, Dorothy was terrified of the earthquakes. This must have been her gifted abilities opening up because soon after they left, an earthquake wiped out Napier and it had to be rebuilt.

So, at the age of 8 or 9, the Goldsby family moved to Torquay, Devon. John's father was a keen gardener and opened a florist shop, where John often helped him out. Torquay was a very popular holiday destination so in order to bring in extra income, Dorothy rented out rooms running a bed and breakfast establishment.

*There were times that John had to sleep in the garden shed since his room had been rented out and this shed became a personal space to call his own.*

*John had a close relationship with his mother; she attended the local Spiritualist Church and sat in a circle on Saturdays, it is here that she first went into trance. This is not so surprising when we look at John's grandmother Annie Ashurst, who was a well-known medium and regularly read for some very wealthy people. And as most of us know, that gift carried on with John.*

*John's family immigrated to Quebec and settled in Chamblais, Quebec, (even though they did not speak a word of French) and eventually, they moved to London, Ontario, choosing London because it had a familiar name. It was in London that John met Rev. Ken Jackson whereupon they formed a close friendship.*

*One day while John sat in Circle he went into trance; from that point and without formal training, John started working as a medium. He worked in many different churches in Ontario and in Lily Dale. Eventually, someone said to him, "You've been doing this work long enough, it's time to get your papers and carry on the work"*

*It was at this time that John quit his job at St. Joseph's Hospital in Hamilton to become a full-time medium. He received his ordination at the Carlson Church in Buffalo with Rev. Wendling, who was at that time 93 years of age.*

*John was a guest on local radio stations and on television, including the Discovery Channel, which helped increase his visibility. He served in Lily Dale for more than 30 years and even became known as Mr. Lily Dale.*

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*During those early years in Lily Dale, John would do anything to make any and all events successful, this included directing traffic when there was a “big name” such as Deepak Chopra or Wayne Dyer onsite; in fact, John was Lily Dale’s go-to guy.*

*During his time in Lily Dale, he was part of a committee that traveled conducting workshops, some as long as 5 days. He set the agenda for all auditoriums and filled in for workshops, essentially anywhere that he could be of help. All this led to the Canadian Weekend, which is held every year. Someone remarked one year when John did not attend, that it didn’t feel like Canadian Weekend without ‘Mr. Lily Dale’.*

*A photograph of John Goldsby hangs in the local museum in Lily Dale to this day.*



*There came a day when John’s driver was not available, and Rev. Judy Merrill asked Sharon to fill in. On the return trip John was very talkative and when they arrived at his door, he wouldn’t get out of the car, he just kept talking and talking.*

*Sharon was watching the time since she was expected at her mother’s house for dinner. Finally, she decided to just take John with her, which became a regular Sunday event. Coincidentally, John and Sharon learned that they had been living pretty much the same lives, they went to the same markets, went on the same walks, attended the same church only separately, since they didn’t know each other yet.*

*John wanted to repay Sharon for driving him to church, by asking her out for dinner, which she refused. But He didn’t give up, he asked her again, and again, Sharon was not interested in dating at that time; especially with anyone as high profile in the community as John was but she finally caved! After agreeing to the dinner date, she realized that it was scheduled for Valentine’s Day. Assuming John, being a man, would have forgotten what day it was, she was the one who actually made the reservations.*

*Sharon wanted to mark the occasion with something. She had found these beautiful creamy white coloured roses and decided to buy him a single rose. Imagine her surprise when John arrived on her doorstep, bringing with him a dozen of the exact same creamy white coloured rose.*

*They started dating and later working together. On 11<sup>th</sup> June they were married at Springdale Church in Toronto, serving tea and cookies afterward to the guests. Following one ceremony up with another the same day, Sharon was ordained by Rev. Doreen Bauld; many loved ones were able to witness another important event in Sharon’s life. A reception followed after in the backyard of their home and as Sharon says, “The rest is history”. John and Sharon’s love started out the exact same way as it ended... with Sharon driving John around.*

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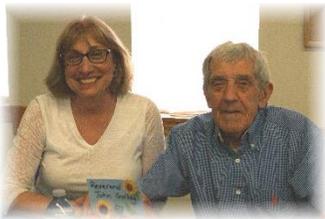
*Eternal Progress  
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*Reverends John and Sharon Goldsby*



*Rev. Mary Schamehorn & Rev. John Goldsby*



*Rev. Angie Morra and Rev. Goldsby*



*Rev. Bev Monoogian & Rev. Goldsby*



*Tori Pettit, Rev. John Goldsby, Brecht Saelens*



*Rev. John Goldsby and Angie Alles*

*We love you John! We thank you for all you have done for Spiritualism, sharing with us what it means to be a Spiritualist.*

*All endings are also beginnings.  
We just don't know it at the time."*

*Mitch Albom*



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## WHAT'S NEW IN THE SCC

The SCC has developed a **'New Board' Training Course** available to our Churches that will be adapted specifically to your Church.

This training will be presented in parts, tailored to your By-Laws, letters patent, Mission Statement and the roles of Pastor and Board members. A personalized church binder will be provided for easy reference in running your Church. The inauguration of the course was well received at Church of Universal Love in September.

Please contact the SCC for further details.

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

**PayPal Issues:** We understand there are a myriad of issues with the PayPal site and we urge you to check with your bank before resending any monies to avoid duplication of payments

\*\*\*Individual members of the Board are unable to answer for the Board. Therefore, any concerns, issues and/or questions must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors via the President or Secretary. The board will discuss and a reply will be put forward.

### Last Words/Beginnings

To our friends and family who made their transition in 2018 we wish them safe passage and that they were met by family and loved ones.

## MEMBER CHURCH NEW LOCATION



**The Healing Spirit**  
Healing • Fellowship • Learning

**Come ring in the New Year on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 with our first service at our new Norval location.**

Join several Mediums as we provide uplifting messages from your Spirit loved ones and become a part of our spiritual community.

Our new location is Norval United Church, 486 Guelph St., Norval.



Effective Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, we will be having weekly Sunday services from 1-2:30pm with a social after every service. We look forward to seeing you!

### Spiritualist Church of Canada Board of Governors 2018/2019

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