

## 2017 FOUNDATION NEWS

### GATHERING OF THE COUNCIL

The 20th Annual Gathering of the Council by Live Video Conference was held on Saturday at the end of January. Council members from the USA, Canada, Europe, Argentina, and Thailand were present and could see and hear each other for the four-hour meeting.

Using recent conferencing technology, we were also able to break into smaller groups and have face-to-face video discussions, providing the opportunity to connect personally.

Michael Harner spoke about the topic of shamanic power and how shamans can help with problem-solving and the larger issues. Kevin Turner gave an excellent presentation on Shona (wolf shaman), as described in chapter 5 of his book *Sky Shamans of Mongolia*. It included never-seen-before photos and films of Shona's healings and divination, including a rare clip of him doing the monotonous drumbeat to enter the SSC.

Alicia Luengas Gates and Gerardo Roemer discussed how it is going in Argentina and in Spain, including the Three Year programs there. (Visit [shamanism.org](http://www.shamanism.org) for information on FSS workshops offered in Latin America. For Spain, visit <http://www.formacionchamanica.com/>)

Michael Hasslinger updated us on FSS Europe progress. (For information and schedules, visit the website of FSSE at <https://www.shamanicstudies.net/>)

Kevin Turner shared about the workshops and ongoing Three Year programs in Asia in Bali, with a second one started in November 2017, and another scheduled for 2018. (For details and schedules for programs offered in Asia, visit the FSS Asia website: [shamanism-asia.com](http://shamanism-asia.com))

Roland Urban, Director of FSS Europe, discussed shamanism and science, after the success of the FSSE conference in June 2016 on the same topic. Participants had the opportunity to journey and ask the spirits about two issues of scientific interest—black holes and diabetes—and then share what they learned.

Susan Mokolke, FSS president, discussed divination for community action, including ordinary reality knowledge, ethical concerns, and the power and effectiveness of gaining the spirits' wisdom on the larger issues.

The meeting culminated in participants asking, to live drumming, about why shamanism was important to them personally. To close, participants offered some inspirational teachings received.

### LECTURES AT INTERNATIONAL TRANSPERSONAL CONFERENCE

Sandra Harner and Kevin Turner recently lectured at the International Transpersonal Conference in Prague, Czech Republic, September 29, 2017, *Beyond Materialism—Toward Wholeness*. Sandra spoke on "Transcultural Shamanic Experiences: Some Examples from Indigenous and Core Shamanism." (See article, pp. 2-9.)

Kevin presented "The Resurgence in Mongolia: Implications for the Worldwide Revival of Shamanism." (See article, pp. 10-13.)

### FSS FACULTY INTERN PROGRAM

A second FSS Faculty Intern Program, began this fall with 12 new interns. The program is intended to train and prepare potential FSS faculty members to teach the FSS weekend (two-day) workshops in core shamanism throughout North America. The FSS is expanding its faculty to make shamanic training available in more locations in the USA and Canada.

FSS faculty members are experienced highly qualified core shamanic practitioners, who have been fully trained and initiated in shamanism and core shamanic healing methods.

After the success of the first program, several new faculty members are now

### FRANCES E. VAUGHAN, IN MEMORIAM



We are deeply saddened to report the loss of Frances E. Vaughan, who died suddenly in Santa Rosa, California, on the evening of Saturday, September 23, 2017. In her passing, she was surrounded by family and friends.

Frances was widely admired for her wisdom, love, compassion, and her practice of gratitude, qualities that inspired all those who knew her. She was a longtime friend and important supporter of the work of the Foundation for Shamanic Studies. She served

on the Foundation's board of trustees and on the boards of the philanthropic Fetzer Institute and Betsy Gordon Foundation.

She was an important leader of the field of transpersonal psychology, and served as president of both the humanistic and transpersonal psychology associations. She published nine books—including *Awakening Intuition* and *Paths Beyond Ego: The Transpersonal Vision*—among other achievements. She long maintained a private psychotherapy practice in Mill Valley, California until her retirement a few years ago.

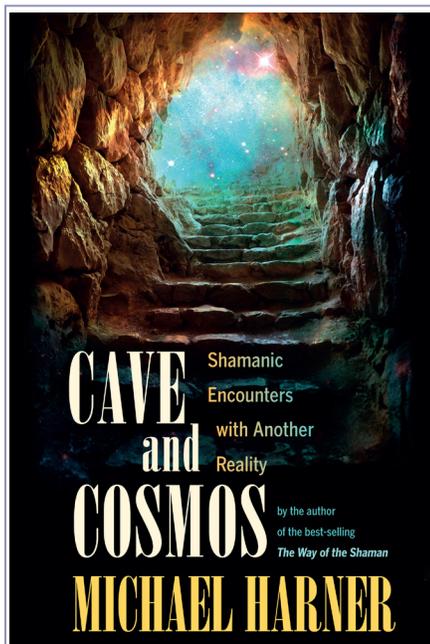
She leaves behind her husband of many years, Roger Walsh, two children by a previous marriage, five grandchildren, and many friends and admirers. We are very grateful to have known her.

—Michael and Sandra Harner, and Susan Mokolke

actively teaching in their local areas. For the next few years, the second program will take this group of interns through a rigorous training program, including attending workshops multiple times and live video training meetings. For general information about requirements for becoming an FSS faculty member, visit <https://shamanism.org/fssinfo/FSSFacultyIntern.php>

### NEW WORKSHOP: ADVANCED SHAMANIC HEALING PRACTICE

The two-day *Advanced Shamanic Healing Practice* is designed to provide students with advanced FSS training the opportunity for hands-on healing practice using multiple core shamanic methods. Participants can practice “putting it all together” by applying multiple core shamanic healing methods in a solo session for another student. This is also a rare chance to exchange information and discuss shamanic healing with other advanced practitioners. The first workshop was taught by Susan Mokolke, July 2017 in the San Francisco Bay Area. A second offering will be held in July 2018 in the San Francisco area. We expect additional offerings to be available in more locations in 2018. Learn more about the training and prerequisites: [https://shamanism.org/workshops/calendar.php?Wkshp\\_ID=37](https://shamanism.org/workshops/calendar.php?Wkshp_ID=37)



### 2017-18 MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Benefits for the 2017-18 Circle of the Foundation membership year are now available, including FSS web store discounts, Shamanic Services listings, live video conferencing for all members, and more. Access the Members Circle with exclusive content: videos, audio, articles, and photo archives. Workshop tuition discounts are available for some membership categories. Members of the Circle of the Foundation are an essential part of the Foundation’s work. As a member, not only do you receive benefits that foster your interest in shamanism, but your membership donation also helps to preserve indigenous shamanism and shamanic wisdom and to return the power and beauty of shamanism to our lives. Not a member? Visit [shamanism.org](http://shamanism.org) and click on the “Join the Circle” tab.

### LIVE VIDEO CONFERENCES

Several live video conferences-webinars were offered last year, some exclusively for FSS members and others for the general public. Live video gatherings for members are hosted by Susan Mokolke, and include FSS faculty members and special guests. We are finding this a great way to bridge the distances and to offer helpful information about shamanic practice

### CAVE AND COSMOS

Named a Kirkus Review Nonfiction Indie Book of the Month, the Kirkus says of *Cave and Cosmos: Shamanic Encounters with Another Reality*: “Harner’s rich compendium gives many ways to consider and explore a powerful and inspiring view of the cosmos.” (See more at [shamanism.org](http://shamanism.org).) Translations available: Czech, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Norwegian, Slovenian, Spanish, and Turkish.

*Cave and Cosmos* is available in paperback directly through the Foundation bookstore, as well as online and in local bookstores. At Michael Harner’s request, all royalties from *Cave and Cosmos* go to the Foundation for Shamanic Studies in support of its work.

and FSS trainings. (View selected videos on the FSS website: <https://shamanism.org/video.html>.)

Live video conferences are one of the benefits of membership. In addition to the videos for all members, Sponsoring and Council members are invited to attend a live video conference with Michael Harner, Sandra Harner, or another special guest. For more information on benefits, visit [shamanism.org](http://shamanism.org) and click on the “Join the Circle” tab.



### CORE SHAMANISM EXPLAINED

Susan Mokolke, president of the FSS, was recently interviewed about shamanism by Eileen Nash for her online/TV program *Restore Your Caring Soul* on the RHG TV Network. The 30 minute interview, “Core Shamanism Explained,” provides a clear and helpful introduction to contemporary shamanism. Watch the video: <https://vimeo.com/234611951>

### CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

The FSS offers traditional Continuing Education (CE) Contact Hours/Credits (CEUs) for its workshops and training programs in the USA and Canada. The CEU is a nationally recognized method of quantifying the time spent in the classroom during professional development and training activities.

CEUs provide a record of training for individuals who need to submit proof of their continuing education to employers, unions, professional associations, or licensing agencies. For details, visit: <https://shamanism.org/workshops/ContinuingEdCEU.html>



*Available for free online streaming at [shamanism.org](http://shamanism.org)*

*The live premiere of the new documentary film *The Way of the Shaman: The Work of Michael and Sandra Harner* took place on Friday May 19, 2017. An enthusiastic audience of about 200 FSS members, supporters, and guests were present at the Lark Theater in Larkspur, California for the first public showing. It was released for online streaming July 2017.*

#### **REVIEW, SACRED HOOP MAGAZINE**

You know, probably, if it wasn't for the work of Michael Harner you wouldn't be reading *Sacred Hoop Magazine*, in fact you probably wouldn't even know the word "shamanism," or what it means, and might not have idea that the spirits exist and interact with humanity.

Born in 1929, Michael was actively studying shamanism back in 1957—the year I was born in—making you and I Johnny-come-latelies, and mere infants. He has devoted his life to bringing shamanism to the West, and created the concept of core shamanism. If you have ever learned to do a shamanic drum journey, or read a new-age book about shamanism, you have to thank Michael, he is the root of everything we—in the shamanic community—do today, whether you have worked with him, or the Foundation for Shamanic Studies, or not.

This is a lovely film, chronicling his life and work, from the 1950s, when he was an anthropology researcher in the Amazon, working with the Jívaro (Shuar) people, through his first tentative steps teaching people in the West, and on to the establishing of his organization, the Foundation with his wife Sandra.

Made up of a series of interviews with Michael and Sandra, along with friends and colleagues—and interspersed with film clips of workshops being taught, and traditional shamans in practice—this film not only shares the history of Michael's work, but is also an excellent "stand-alone" basic guide to modern Western core shamanism in its own right. Core shamanism—which is a sort of de-cultured, extracted kernel of the essence of shamanism, hence its name "core"—is not for everyone, but it's a really important gateway, through which people in the West can contact the spirits. People here can't all go and take a traditional apprenticeship with a shaman in a faraway land, but through learning and practicing core shamanism, a relationship with the spirits can be developed, and through that, the spirits can lead you to who knows where. I think this film should be watched by anyone with an interest in practicing shamanism, and it is also ideal to share with people who don't know what you are involved in, but who would like to know.

Nicholas Breeze Wood, editor  
*Sacred Hoop Magazine*, Issue 97, September 2017

#### **ABOUT THE DOCUMENTARY**

The story of Michael and Sandra Harner in the history and development of core shamanism, the universal, near universal, and common practices of shamanism worldwide. This documentary movie takes us through Michael's early expeditions as a young anthropologist in the jungles of the Ecuadorian and Peruvian Amazon and his life-altering insights into shamanic power. The Harners established the Foundation for Shamanic Studies to preserve, study, and teach shamanism for the benefit of all, leading to a worldwide renaissance of shamanism and shamanic healing through the Foundation's premiere international training programs. The film is an informative and inspiring look at the people behind the evolution of this groundbreaking spiritual healing methodology that honors and builds upon the ancient knowledge of the world's shamans. Through these methods, thousands of students have discovered hidden spiritual resources, transformed their lives, and learned how to help others and our precious Earth.

#### **INTERVIEWS**

in order of appearance

Michael Harner  
 Jack Kornfield  
 Amanda Foulger  
 William S. Lyon  
 Sandra Harner  
 Roger Walsh  
 Jeffrey D. Ehrenreich  
 Stanislav Grof  
 Susan Mokolke  
 Larry Peters

Producer: Wisdom Streaming  
 Director: Coleen LeDrew Elgin  
 Running time: 1:07:42  
 Released: July 2017