

SOCIETAS ROSICRUCIANA IN AMERICA®

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TO THOSE WHO SEEK

to improve their conditions
to live a finer life
to understand life's meaning
to harmonize science and religion
to know truth from error

“Let not them that seeketh cease from their search until they find. And when they find they shall wonder; wondering they shall reach the Kingdom, and when they reach the Kingdom they shall have rest. This is the heartening promise of the Master, whose every word and action encouraged the earnest searcher. But you must know how and where to seek.”

This article describes a pathway that can lead spiritual seekers—as it has led countless others since remote times—to a clear understanding of life and the individual’s part in it. This pathway was designed by experienced guides; it provides the necessary help over rough spots; it provides information and instruction. Students of the Rosicrucian Path who do their part will arrive at the goal they seek—the student will learn how to become a better and more successful citizen; they will learn the nature of disease and how to combat it; they will develop their mental forces to greater creative ability; they will awaken their spiritual perception and contact inner worlds; they will learn how to "consciously create circumstances"; they will, in short, make rapid strides in their own evolution.

The Society of Rosicrucians

The Society of Rosicrucians, Inc., a non-profit membership corporation, was founded in 1909 and incorporated in 1912. This Society is the American organization formed by properly qualified initiates to propagate the Ancient Wisdom Teachings in the western world. This body is also been known as the Societas Rosicruciana in America and as the Most Holy Order of the Ruby Rose and Golden Cross (RR et AC), and is part of the world-wide, age-old Rosicrucian Fraternity. Today the organization is known as the Society of Rosicrucians and Societas Rosicruciana in America, Inc., or simply the SRIA.

Antiquity of Rosicrucianism

Legend and tradition ascribes the origin of Rosicrucianism (but not under that name) to Egypt, some centuries B.C., as an organization among the Egyptian priesthood and its Hierophants. Shortly after A.D., the Christian ministry found that the truths of the Ancient Wisdom Religion foreshadowed the New Dispensation, and the

two blended in the thoughts of small groups, which became the resort of the more mystical members of the Christian clergy.

Thus the Fraternity, comprising these groups, as it came down to the Middle Ages, was an organization of clerical members, men who were living the spiritual life and given to spiritual meditation and ecstatic experiences.

These men, true Initiates, *devoted their lives to research in the arcana of nature, applying natural laws and their analogous spiritual laws to the problems of human life.*

It is the priceless wisdom bequeathed us by these true Initiates, plus the accrued testimony of the Initiates of later ages, tested by personal experience and corroborated by the findings of academic science, that the Fraternity offers men and women at the present day through the Societas Rosicruciana in America.

Christian Rosencreutz

The story of the founding of Rosicrucianism is as follows: In 1378 in Germany, was born Christian Rosencreutz, (Rosy Cross) who became a great spiritual leader and mystic. After many years' study and travel in Europe and the East, he revived the Fraternity, and its various branches have since been known under names incorporating his name and their location in their Latin titles, such as Societas Rosicruciana in America.

The great spiritual and philosophical revival and religious reforms that followed Christian Rosencreutz were largely due to those who openly or secretly followed his inspiration. Among these Rosicrucians were many illustrious men of art, literature, science, philosophy and religion, and the curious inquirer may discover even today in their works the keys to their identification with the movement.

Spreading out from Germany, the movement became organized in various parts of Europe, of which two especially are pertinent to our subject—Hungary and Scotland.

Rosicrucianism in America

In 1879, a College was established in Philadelphia, Pa., under warrant from the High Council of Scotia (Scotland) by a number of Americans who visited England and received their degrees from York College of the Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia.

Colleges were established soon after 1879 in New York, Boston, and Burlington, VT., and were recognized in full by the S.R.I. Anglia; they organized their own High Council, and the body thus constituted became known as the Societatis Rosicrucianae in the United States, admitting only 32nd degree Masons. NOTE: *This was not and is not the Societas Rosicruciana in America.*

A member of Massachusetts College, in Boston, having received the VIII Degree constituting him a Provincial Magus, engaged in special research work. He later received his IX Degree direct from Apponyi, a leading Rosicrucian in Hungary, constituting him a Prince Chief Adept and Magus. The American organization being largely inoperative at the time, he undertook the formation and institution of a new branch of the Fraternity in the Western Hemisphere that would devote itself exclusively and assiduously to the true Rosicrucian Art and Operation, open to both sexes on a basis of true equality. The transition of this member, Illustrious Frater Sylvester Clarke Gould, late of Manchester, N. H., on July 19, 1909, prevented the fulfillment of his personal ambition, and the actual work of organization and institution devolved upon the Imperator and Supreme Magus of the Society, Illustrious Frater George Winslow Plummer, who had received full initiation and authority to begin the work in New York from Frater Gould before his passing.

The organization thus developed is the present phase of the Fraternity in the United States, now known as the Societas Rosicruciana in America, or briefly THE SOCIETY.

The Society Today

Today we find the Society composed of serious-minded men and women who are studying and applying the principles of an Art which has been taught (sometimes secretly) for centuries and which has had a far greater influence upon the world's history than the masses of people and their nominal leaders have suspected.

These principles never change. The progress of modern science merely confirms them, and, by adding its testimony in their favor, has helped to vitalize and spread their acceptance and use more widely today than ever before.

In Instructions issued by the authority and under the auspices of the Societas Rosicruciana in America, give the student just what the Rosicrucian Fraternity actually teaches and just what it has taught for centuries past. Each instruction is unique, original and exclusive, right from the philosophical archives of the Fraternity.

Objective of the Society

The sole objective of the Society is the spiritual, moral and intellectual development of its members, and, indirectly, of all mankind. This is accomplished through teachings, which correlate Religion, Science and Philosophy, particularly in connection with Mystical Christianity and Hermeticism. It emphasizes the Sage's exhortation: "O Man, Know Thyself." The Society, while including among its teachings the wisdom of several religions, *is definitely not interested in its members' religion, race or creed.* Recognizing the value that inheres in every form of religious expression, it seeks, among other things, to show each member the true, inner meaning of whatever he has already been taught as religion.

Nature's Constructive Principle

Rosicrucian students are linked together with fellow seekers all over the world who are endeavoring to live most usefully to themselves and to humanity, in accordance with principles laid down centuries ago by our Predecessors in the Art and promulgated today by their followers indirect spiritual decent.

Above all, the Society's Teachings guide the student to a constructive life of right thinking, right acting and right speaking; they align the student with Nature's Constructive Principle, stimulating him/her to make the most of the opportunities afforded by every day of mortal life. They develop into activity those interior faculties that afford the student the opportunity to live a real life of continuous spiritual unfoldment in a state of Health, enjoying the Happiness that comes through the possession of true Wisdom and the ability to use it constructively.

Teachings No Longer Difficult to Obtain

The original written Rosicrucian Teachings were originally confined in rare volumes written in Latin, or in cryptic emblem books little understood by the public at large. Until relatively recently, little has been written for the public by the members themselves, and many modern works purporting to give a history or explanation of the Rosicrucians are little more than assumptions or apologetic treatises.

Through self-paced instructions embodied in the correspondence lessons of the Society, the age-old Wisdom Teachings are given in a manner that renders them applicable in a practical way to the problems of every-day life. They are issued in a form especially designed to meet the needs of busy men and women.

The Rosicrucian Teachings lead—NOT to involuntary mediumship, which we hold to be detrimental to health and mentality—but to something far better: to constructive, independent SEERSHIP, in close alignment with the harmonic, constructive principle in Nature, and developing the elements of personal responsibility, moral accountability and spiritual insight.

The Rosicrucian Instructions can be secured without any awe-inspiring obligation, merely by enrollment and a minimal subscription plan. This enables the Society to meet its basic administrative costs.

Two Lines of Approach

The work of the Society is conducted along two general lines, and the seeker may select one or both of these approaches for his development. These twin paths to knowledge are the Society's

- (a) Colleges, Chapters and Consistories, members of which are termed *Collegiate Members*; and
- (b) Annual and Bi-Annual subscription courses, subscribers of which are termed *Associate Members*.

NOTE: At the present time only (b) Associate Membership, is made available to the General Public.

Formerly the Society's Teachings could be secured only through its Collegiate bodies, of which little was known to the general public. With the advance in general learning and an increase in the number of those mentally and morally equipped to undertake its work, the Society's scope of service has been broadened to reach by the Internet those who are barred by residence or other considerations from joining a collegiate body.

Collegiate Membership (Currently open to advanced members by invitation only)

The Collegiate bodies are organized under adepts and conducted according to the Ancient Landmarks, Rituals and Rubrics of the Founders. They meet regularly for the study and application of the principles of the Art, and are graded in three orders, leading through nine degrees to the highest teachings and honors of the Society.

Obviously these Collegiate bodies must be restricted in membership to those found acceptable to their present members. Specific information as to location of Collegiate bodies and their membership requirements will be only given to prospective members at the discretion of the High Council.

Associate Membership

Today in the United States, both men and women are admitted to Associate Membership in the Society without regard to their membership, or lack of it, in other organizations of similar Rosicrucian ideals. The instructions begin with the fundamental principles of spiritual science, and progress in graded series right through every legitimate phase of the subject.

Those who have already accomplished study in mystical and spiritual science will find these first instructions splendid for shaping the various concepts they have gained elsewhere into a coherent system of sequential thought, affording them a definite working hypothesis of life and a platform from which they can carry on further work.

Spiritual Insight

If followed faithfully, the Rosicrucian Teachings guide the student to True Spiritual Insight—unfolding the essential faculties that give spiritual sight, hearing, and visualization and the ability to contact the inner worlds.

The value of these Instructions is amply demonstrated by the many who have succeeded in attaining spiritual power through them.

The Rosicrucian Teachings unfold and reveal the mysteries of the human mind, its powers and potentialities; that which is true and legitimate in other fields of mystical or spiritual or mental science, will be found incorporated in them.

However, this attainment must be won through merit, and a sincere, unselfish desire to be of constructive good to others less fortunate in life; spiritual power is not won through selfishness.

The importance of spiritual insight may not be apparent to all. That will depend largely on one's definition of the expression. The Society uses "spiritual insight" to designate that condition wherein a man or woman comes to such AT-ONE-MENT with the Source of his/her Being that Its power is reflected through them daily on all planes of being—mental, moral, physical and mundane, as well as what is commonly termed spiritual.

The student learns how and why "ALL IS ONE AND ONE IS ALL,"—the profound Hermetic axiom that is the essence of the most practical *operative* philosophy that has ever been given to man. This axiom is brought down from the realm of abstraction into the concrete world of ordinary affairs, and when once understood in its true light, sheds its effluence throughout our daily lives, *bringing a new and glorious meaning to one's present religion or philosophy.*

The Society's Relationship to Other Bodies

The Society of Rosicrucians is in most complete harmony with all legitimate mystical schools and orders, and their members will find that the Rosicrucian Teachings will amplify their present or previous studies. Other Rosicrucian organizations that respect us, will be respected by us in turn.

It is not necessary to leave your Church. Stay in it and love it better than ever before. It is not necessary for Associate Members studying the instructions to leave any organization of compatible ideals with which they are now affiliated, for true teachings are never really contradictory; they are only seemingly so in some cases and these can readily be explained. We may say in passing, however, that the Society is responsible only for the Teachings issued under its own auspices.

The Instructions: Occult Science Course

The Rosicrucian instructions in Occult Science cover not only the Rosicrucian concept of cosmology, but the Biblical, Hermetic, Alchemic and Kabalistic teachings as well, and they cover the principles of the Tarot, Mental Science in all its forms, and the modern science of Psychoanalysis.

The lessons are available to enrolled students in two types of subscriptions: bi-annually (six lessons) and annually (twelve lessons). Each series of twelve successive lessons constitutes a complete course. Examinations in the form of written essays or reports can be requested at the end of each Level, if desired, and are required if the student desires a signed certificate of course completion in the Associate System. Otherwise all examinations and written work may be eliminated and yet all courses may be taken.

The lessons in each year's series are complete within themselves and require an understanding of the earlier lessons before the later ones can have full meaning.

The Foundation Course in Occult Science, consisting of the Rosicrucian, Hermetic, and Kabalistic/Tarot Series, is the basic course, which Associate Members start with. After each lesson the student is given specific work to

do, requiring a few minutes each day. Following the Foundation Course are the Intermediate Course, the Advanced Course, and the Post Graduate Course.

For more information on the studies contained in the Associate System and its related courses, follow this [link](#).

Enrollment

To enroll as an Associate Member of the Society of Rosicrucians and receive these Rosicrucian Wisdom Teachings, it is only necessary to register and purchase a subscription by following this [link](#).

Bi-Annual subscriptions are \$60, and Annual subscriptions are \$120 (\$10 per lesson). Although students may download all lessons at the time of enrollment, we strongly encourage that students concentrate on thoroughly studying one lesson per month beginning with Level 1, in order to fully absorb the material presented in each lesson.

The cost of subscriptions not only cover actual production costs but also assist in disseminating the Society's Teachings as widely as possible.

The Society seeks to serve every earnest, honest searcher for truth and will go out of its way to make its knowledge available To Those Who Seek. In so doing it aspires to be a chosen vessel of the Lord, who said:

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."