

# LIVE THE DREAM

8515 Penfield Ave  
Winnetka, CA 91306

*Founded in 1987 by Terry Brussel and Brian Gitt*

*Based on the philosophy of Family Synergy*

*Founded 1971 by Hy Levy and Pat LaFollette*



[www.livethedream.org](http://www.livethedream.org)



[www.CAW.org](http://www.CAW.org)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday June 17, 2023 11 am-4pm PST Zoom 11-1 PST**  
**Old Friends (Simon and Garfunkel) "How Terribly Strange to Be Seventy"**  
**Learn How to Stay Young and Be Connected at Any Age!**

**Saturday July 15, 2023 11 am-4pm PST Zoom 11-1 PST**  
**Open Poly Discussion with Q & A**

Join Zoom meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3175971626?pwd=NWVjU3A2M0I2Q29IUkI4L1lMRzd2QT09>

Meeting ID: 317 597 1626

Passcode: Heinlein

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**Live the Dream** is an education and support group for those who, originally inspired by the writings of Robert Heinlein, Robert Rimmer, and Marion Zimmer Bradley, are now ready to LIVE such alternative lifestyles as cooperative living, open relationships, and group marriage. Many of our concepts on multiply committed relationships come from Heinlein's *Stranger in a Strange Land* and *Moon is a Harsh Mistress*. Live the Dream also sponsors a nest of Church of All Worlds, the real life, over fifty-year-old spiritual movement inspired by *Stranger in a Strange Land*.

Please visit the Live the Dream website at [www.livethedream.org](http://www.livethedream.org) to view current events, past articles, etc. Terry Brussel-Rogers is a Certified Clinical Hypnotherapist, Life Coach, & a 4th generation Matchmaker. We provide poly relationship counseling, hypnotic jealousy release, success coaching and other services. See [www.acesuccess.com](http://www.acesuccess.com) or call (800) LIFE MATES (543-3628).

Terry is now the primary organizer of the Southern California Poly Meet Up ([www.meetup.com/socal-polyamory/](http://www.meetup.com/socal-polyamory/)). It's ongoing events include those in this Newsletter on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays 11 am - 4 pm PST + special listed events during the year & the ones given first Saturdays of each month 5:30 to 8:30 pm at Pitfire Pizza 5211 Lankershim Blvd. NoHo, Co led by Brad & Jim Call 626-818-8021 for more info.

## **EVENTS**

*All regular Live the Dream LIVE events 11am-4pm on 3rd Saturdays at 8515 Penfield Ave Winnetka, Ca. 91306 (unless otherwise specified). Suggested donation for those attending events Live is \$10 for non-members, \$5 for members of Live the Dream. RSVP/more info call the LTD Hotline (818) 886-0069 or Visit LiveTheDream.org*

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**Saturday June 17, 2023 11 am-4pm PST Zoom 11-11 PST**  
**Old Friends (Simon and Garfunkel) "How Terribly Strange to Be Seventy" Learn How to Stay Young and Be Connected at Any Age!**

Terry turns 70 June 15<sup>th</sup>. What is it like to be 70? I once thought it meant sitting by the fire in a rocking chair, wrinkled, tired and remembering better days. Reporting from the front lines, it ain't so. I have an active love life, both with my romantic husband and our lovers who bring us delight in our bed which is big enough for four to sleep and cuddle in. Five can fit for...other activities. My husband and I celebrated our 5<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in Israel April 28. Among my Old Friends is Glen Olson who turns 70 July 29 about six weeks after I do. We have been best friends since 1968. We will be enjoying that song together when *he* turns 70. I have fantasized and worried about that song for many years. Would our friendship last til then? It has. It is quite an achievement for both of us, especially with all the friendly argument which happens when writing a book together. Many of my friends and lovers have been in my life for decades. What does it take to develop that kind of intimate network? This meeting is about exactly how you can make it happen in your life. Whether you are 17 or 70 you *can* make it happen for you starting NOW!

1 PM Pot Luck lunch—bring something healthy and delicious to share. Cake and ice cream for Terry. Let us know if you have a June birthday and we will add your name to the cake.

Afternoon events include Harp Music, singing and a Summer Solstice Ritual by our High Priestess Elyswythe.

Socializing in clothing optional Hot tub follows.

Saturday July 15, 2023 11 am-4pm PST Zoom 11-1 PST

### Open Poly Discussion with Q & A.

This is a new format we are trying out for the 11 am to 1 pm portion of the meeting rather than hanging it on Science Fiction or a set theme. We may do it every few months if people like it. Feel free to offer to lead or suggest a topic /different format for future meetings at this meeting or by calling 818-886-0069. Live the Dream is not a book club, though many of us have been inspired by the writings of science fiction. This meeting's content will be based on what those present in person or on Zoom bring in the way of personal experience and share during introductions. Those who are newer to this life style will tell us what they would like to learn from those who have spoken during introductions.

Please note that while the first 2 hours of our meetings are on Zoom as well as in person, this is a real chance to show up and get to know each other. If you can, do come to the live meeting, break bread with us and enjoy the hot tub. If not, we are delighted to have you with us on Zoom.

1 pm Pot Luck Lunch Bring something healthy and delicious to share

2-4 Socializing in the clothing optional hot tub.

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Filk in the evening –songs of science fiction and the space age. Pick, pass or perform. Ask for anything from Harry Potter stuff to Star Trek, from the Ballad of Apolo 13 to Poly Filk and you are likely to get it. Wait til you see what Craig Brussel Rogers can do for the Tennessee Waltz!

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## Building a Friendship Group—From Fantasy to Reality

In high school, college or the Armed Services, it is possible to form friendships which are close and deep. These may be carried on after graduation or (separation from active service) or not. For many, such friendships are happy memories of a past which has somehow slipped away. For others, they are a continuing delight of shared birthdays, holidays, yearly reunions of the whole gang and maybe regularly scheduled one on one lunches together. This is not a matter of chance. Even today, as long after high school/college, or the Military as this may be for you, you can be the one who plans those special shared events for those in your neighborhood, the people who you know from Renaissance Faire or those who dance at the Seniors Center with you on Thursdays. It can be you who provides a place to have those special events, whether that is your living room, a local park or the Huntington Gardens. You can be the one who always calls those who are special to you, remembers their birthdays and maybe takes them out on the day of with a few other close friends or just by themselves. You can do this for your family by choice or by blood. One of my Water Kin is an 80-year-old lady who has her grown kids, grandchildren and great grandchildren at such gatherings as Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas along with her Family by Choice. The love flows freely for all of us. She happens to be polyamorous, but not poly sexual. Many loves mean different things to different people.

In 1969, I was part of a *Stranger in a Strange Land* type Nest formed by about ten science fiction fans who went to high school together. Many of the original group scattered to the four winds, but my first water brother is still my best friend and we've drawn many others to us over the years - twenty-five at last count. Some of these are our lovers as well. *Stranger in a Strange Land* has been my interpersonal relationships Bible all this time and has served me well. I have used it (with some help from such other Heinlein books as *Moon is a Harsh Mistress* and *Time Enough for Love*) as a touch stone for educating people about alternative lifestyles such as multiply committed relationships, group

marriage, and families -by-choice. Family Synergy, which my first husband and I joined in 1977, was my first forum for such discussions as an adult. This organization was founded in the early 70s by Hyim Levy and Pat LaFollette. It was based largely on the writings of Robert Rimmer (*Harrad Experiment, Proposition Thirty-One*), though some of its members were more science fiction oriented. Family Synergy was truly my family by choice during those years—we shared Passover Seders (Hy lead the first really traditional one I had ever been to at the Allot House in 1977), Latke Parties, birthday celebrations and trips to Elysium. Much of this has been carried on by Live the Dream.

I entered Science Fiction fandom by attending my first WorldCon in Anaheim in 1984. There I found Kathy Mar singing filk (SF folk songs) about group living/ group marriage in the lobby. Kathy and I became water kin soon after that convention and shared holidays, marriages, our kids growing up and other family things for many years. I saw how she did group living and how she used Heinlein's teaching stories to create a viable reality in her life.

In 1987, Brian Gitt, Darrell Smith (two of my water brothers then in a triad with me) and myself formed Live the Dream-- many of whose members were in science fiction fandom and whose philosophy was based on writings by Heinlein and others of the SF genre. Robert Rimmer was an honorary member and an inspiration to me personally-- always willing to talk with me about how to live this life style more joyously until he passed on in August of 2001.

In 1988, I heard about Church of All Worlds and discovered to my delight and amazement that Heinlein's fantasy concept existed in the real world and that its organizers and I had been walking similar paths separately for 20+ years.

Naturally, I became a member of Church of All Worlds (CAW). It's founder Oberon Zell published Morning Glory Zell-Ravenheart's article that actually coined the term Polyamory May 1990. He and Morning Glory spent many years in a line marriage (multi-generational group marriage based on Heinlein's *Moon is a Harsh Mistress*) containing up to eight people at one time. When I read "All acts of love and pleasure are my rituals!" in CAW's Green Egg magazine, I felt a joining of spirituality with my choice of lifestyle which has been a blessing in my life. Live the Dream is now the longest continuing Nest of Church of All Worlds.

The concept of Sharing Water as presented in *Stranger in a Strange Land* is one form of Expanded Family created in part as a way to replace the kind of security extended blood related families no longer give in today's society which may scatter such families all over the country or even the world as job requirements and other things causes changes of location.

The Extended Family of the past might live together or only in close proximity to each other. It may provide anything from grandparents who help care for the children which can be a real strain for a young couple in nuclear family setting to Grandparents who provide a large caring home for that young couple (which may eventually be their own) instead of having them live in less-than-optimal housing with their money going down the drain on rent. The younger people reciprocated by taking care of elder family members in years ahead.

Expanded family can be created in a number of ways. Marriages are created formally and legally in wedding ceremonies. Handfastings of two, three or MORE for a Year and a Day or "As long as love shall last" are another formal though not legal way of doing this. Sharing water is another way. There are many definitions of what it means to be a Water Brother. Here are some from *Stranger in a Strange Land* where the concept originated. Here water was used because the main character was raised on Mars where water as rare and life depended upon it. To share this life-giving substance was literally to share Life. In our real world, it is a way to formalize those bonds we choose to create and to keep in our lives.

## Quotes from *Stranger in a Strange Land*

*Water sharing is like being baptized . . . and like getting married.*

*It means you trust us and we trust you. We can tell you anything and you can tell us anything...and know that confidences will be kept.*

*It means that we are partners, now and forever. Once done, it can never be broken.*

In *Stranger in a Strange Land*, the Character Mahmoud, Michael's first Water Brother, noted that Michael presented to him this group of Jubal, Anne, Jill, Mariam, and Dorcas as HIS NEW Water Brothers. Mahmoud had JUST met all of them and was not really comfortable with any of them. Because they were Michael's water brothers, Mahmoud had an obligation to them more binding than that owed to the sons of one's father's brother. Mahmoud had to accept them as his family. Mi Familia Su Familia, My Family is your family, including all the problems and delights that may come with them. This is Called Sharing in fullness.

### Heinlein Inspired Reality

Terry (at a Handfasting Ceremony) May you never thirst, never hunger is one acknowledgment commonly used among members of the real Church of All Worlds which is based on the one in Heinlein's novel. In *Stranger*, this is a binding promise to see to it *personally* that one's Brothers (read sisters as well) shall never hunger, be thirsty, nor lack for shelter. Among most who offer these words in ritual, they are far less binding. In most rituals, the sharing of water is simply the recognition that we are all brothers and sisters in the earth, Gaia. Being a bit more traditional, I personally will not use water for such a ritual unless I do mean the words literally. I replace it with juice. I may even verbally state that the sharing we are doing is not a sharing in fullness. In my own inner Nest, the sharing of Water has meanings varying from person to person by their choice. There are those who have chosen to accept my water brothers as their own and those who have chosen to share only with me and to share separately, or not, with each of my other water brothers. Others have decided to change to this meaning after the original sharing. Some have even chosen to break the bond of water brotherhood--which they can do, *on their side*, without anyone discorporating as a result. In essence, we are none of us Martians nor characters in a science fiction story. Each of us does the best we can to be true to ourselves and those we care for. Those present who are members of our Nest, in whatever way they choose to define that, will be asked to come forward and share with us today. We hope you will feel comfortable accepting that invitation.

**Glen:** Will those persons present who are Water Brothers of our Nest please come forward at this time to renew the sharing of water?

A water filled chalice is passed around starting with Glen shares with Terry and which Terry passes to those being hand fasted

The cup is passed to rest of the Nest, ending with Glen

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There are many ways to build the connections YOU desire. Start now to make it happen. Think you can't do it—that all this does not apply to you? Call me at 800 Life Mates (543-3628) and mention this article. I will give you a 15-minute free private consultation on how to create the love and friendships you desire.

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### WHAT EXPERIENCES/BOOK REVIEWS, ETC. CAN YOU SHARE RELATING TO THE POLY LIFE STYLE?

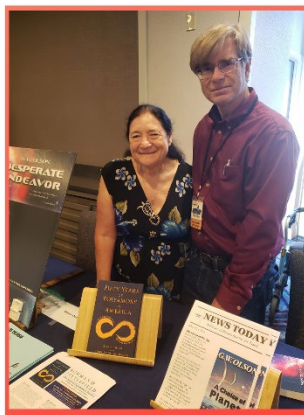
We'd like to run it here or have you bring those questions to one of our 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday events.

Please E-Mail to: [newsletter@mail.livethedream.org](mailto:newsletter@mail.livethedream.org)

Or mail it to 8515 Penfield Ave. Winnetka, Ca. 91306.

We will take any question with *your* solution or brain storm and give it one or more of our own. Let's have fun with this and learn from each other.

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**November 11, 2022 was the official launch date for *Fifty Years of Polyamory in America: A Guided Tour of a Growing Movement* by Glen Olson and Terry Brussel-Rogers published by Rowman and Littlefield.** Between them, Terry and Glen have experience with open marriage, group marriage, group living and both are part of an intimate network which has evolved from 1969 to present time. *Fifty Years of Polyamory in America: A Guided Tour to a Growing Movement* is unique among the many books about polyamory because the scope of this book is the entire history of the polyamory movement from Woodstock right on into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The book is available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and many other places—even international-- just by Googling its title.

The publishers are putting it in universities and libraries!

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**Podcasts and Appearances by Terry Lee Brussel-Rogers and Glen W. Olson spreading the word on Polyamory through interviews, workshops & Festival appearances**

Emma and Fin, are “Normalizing Non-monogamy”

Link: Podcast Interviews in Swinging and Polyamory ([normalizingnonmonogamy.com](https://normalizingnonmonogamy.com))

Webcast with The Center for Positive Sexuality  
Monthly Educational Series - Center for Positive Sexuality

<https://positivesexuality.org/education/>

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## **Meet Ups & Other Group Events**

Check out [www.meetup.com/Loveopen](https://www.meetup.com/Loveopen); [www.meetup.com/loving-more](https://www.meetup.com/loving-more);  
[www.meetup.com/socal-polyamory/](https://www.meetup.com/socal-polyamory/)

[www.meetup.com/polycocktailslosangeles/](https://www.meetup.com/polycocktailslosangeles/) or [www.polycocktailslosangeles.com](https://www.polycocktailslosangeles.com)

Find many other SoCal poly groups (40+ groups in the Greater LA Area!) on Meetup!

The Southern California Naturist Association Meetup <http://www.meetup.com/nature-519>

This is the largest non-landed clothing optional club in California

### **Other Poly info:**

The Human Awareness Institute [www.hai.org](https://www.hai.org)

Other groups friendly to Polyamory

KARL HESS CLUB [www.karlhessclub.org](https://www.karlhessclub.org)

meets on the 3rd Monday at Dinah's Family Restaurant,

6521 Sepulveda Blvd. (at Centinela), Culver City. Phone: (310) 645-0456 West L.A.

Burning Man 2023 at BLACK ROCK CITY 2023 Aug. 27-Sept. 4

For details [www.burningman.org](https://www.burningman.org)

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**LTD dues** are \$25.00 per year for one person, \$40 for a couple, \$10 each for additional person(s) in the same house. Double that for free attendance at all regular daytime 3rd Saturday meetings.

To become a member or to renew your membership, please complete the following form and either e-mail or snail mail it to the address listed below.

An e-mail newsletter subscription only is available for free. Just be sure to provide us with your e-mail address. Regular meetings are \$5.00 with your current paid membership card (family synergy or live the dream] without membership meetings are \$10.00.

	Membership Type	Single	Couple/Family
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full LTD Membership, <i>Includes Newsletter &amp; Membership Card</i>	\$25	\$40 (\$10 for each extra person <b>at the same address</b> )
<input type="checkbox"/>	Email Newsletter Only	NO CHARGE	NO CHARGE
<b>Make checks payable to Success Center</b>			<b>Total: \$ _____</b>
<b>Membership Information</b> <i>Help Support the Lifestyle you live!</i>			
Name: _____ Age: _____			
Address: _____			
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____			
Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Unattached			Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
<b>Name(s) of Mate/Family to be included in this membership if APPLICABLE:</b> _____			
Fax to 1-818-882-8512 or Mail to 8515 Penfield, Winnetka, CA 91306			
<input type="checkbox"/> I am willing to volunteer: <input type="checkbox"/> Time <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Space			
<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in: <input type="checkbox"/> Science Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Pagan <input type="checkbox"/> Libertarian <input type="checkbox"/> _____-oriented programs.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I could lead a meeting or activity (proposal enclosed)			
<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in Co-operative Living <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes I have space for others <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Location & Phone _____) I am willing to relocate <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			