

# LIVE THE DREAM

8515 Penfield Ave  
Winnetka, CA 91306

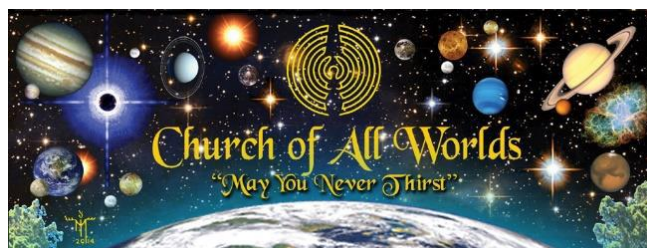
*Founded in 1987 by Terry Brussel and Brian Gitt*

*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)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday September 21, 2024 Live: 11 am-4pm PDT Zoom: 11-1 PDT**

From Family Synergy to Live the Dream—Carrying the Torch

Led by Co-Founder of Family Synergy Pat LaFollette

Family Synergy, Live the Dream, Robert Heinlein's "Stranger in a Strange Land" are all about Multiply Committed Relationships, Group Living, Group Marriage, and Family... by choice.

**Saturday October 19, 2024 2150 AD by Thea Alexander: Key to a Poly Future?**

Led by Rick Davilla

Join Zoom meeting

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

Meeting ID: 317 597 1626

Passcode: Heinlein

**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 4<sup>th</sup>-generation Matchmaker. We provide poly relationship counseling, hypnotic jealousy release, ways to attract and maintain loving relationship(s), 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 Meetup ([www.meetup.com/socal-polyamory/](http://www.meetup.com/socal-polyamory/)). Its ongoing events include those in this Newsletter on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays 11 am - 4 pm PT + special listed events during the year.

The ones given first Saturdays of each month 5:30 to 8:30 pm PDT located at Pitfire Pizza 5211 Lankershim Blvd. NoHo, led by Jim Bratcher. Join us for informal socializing with kindred spirits in the Poly community! Call Jim at 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*

Join Zoom meeting

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

Meeting ID: 317 597 1626      Passcode: Heinlein

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**Saturday, September 21, 2024 Live: 11 am-4pm PDT Zoom: 11-1 PDT**

**11-1 Poly Discussion, 1pm Pot Luck Lunch, 2-4 p Socializing in Clothing Optional Jacuzzi**

**The Philosophy of Family Synergy & Live the Dream: Carrying the Torch  
Led by Co-Founder of Family Synergy Pat LaFollette**

This appears in every Live the Dream newsletter

## “Live the Dream

*Founded in 1987 by Terry Brussel and Brian Gitt*

*Based on the philosophy of Family Synergy,*

*Founded 1971 by Hy Levy and Pat LaFollette”*



**What is that all about?**

## THE BEGINNINGS OF SYNERGY:

Multiply Committed Relationships, Group Living and Group Marriage

Excerpt from *Fifty Years of Polyamory In America: A Guided Tour of a Growing Movement*

by Glen Olson and Terry Brussel-Rogers

Synergy-Noun: the interaction or cooperation of two or more organizations, substances or other agents to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects. (combined: Free Merriam-Webster online/Webster’s unabridged Dictionary of the English language, 1978)

Hy Levy and his wife Joyce were looking for something different. An engineer in his thirties, he recalls he and his wife were not looking to join a commune to make a political statement about planetary resources or create a model for co-operative living- things that others were looking for. He was actually inspired by the utopian novels of Robert Rimmer (*The Harrad Experiment, In Six*), an author who proposed that group marriage, built of couples finding other couples and marrying them could work and be a powerful and joyful lifestyle.

He recalls that in the late 1960’s, early 1970’s, many utopian groups were trying to form, some advocating every form of sexual freedom, but after attending meetings put on by numerous groups, he and his wife realized they were looking for something else. They already had two small children and they were not teenagers trying to change the world, they were people looking to enrich their lives and the lives of others they cared about.

“It was very hard to meet people,” he says, “the only way to contact other like-minded people was to put an ad in the LA Free Press and wait for someone to answer it, or answer someone else’s ad.”

Eventually, after answering a large number of ads and putting in one of their own they met Pat and Ann LaFollette. Hy remembers, “We met each other, we liked each other, in fact Pat and I got along fabulously well.” The LaFollette’s had also read Robert Rimmer and were looking for the same things the Levy’s were.

A deep friendship developed. It became clear that the two couples, though looking for the same thing, were not quite the right mix to build a marriage together, so they went as a foursome to a number of discussion groups on communes.

About that adventure Hy states, “We blew people away because all they wanted to talk about is who takes out the garbage, or how to decide who takes out the garbage- and we wanted to talk about being in a place where people cared about each other. The reason for being there was not political or economic, it was to live with someone you cared for... We ended up getting attacked a lot, because our views were so dissimilar to those of the rest of the room.”

The men were so dismayed at the reception they were getting they decided to put in an ad of their own, advertising a meeting to discuss the philosophies of Robert Rimmer. The meeting drew a group of about a dozen people and was supposed to be about three hours long.

But the idea caught fire. At the end of the discussion period no one was ready to leave so they adjured to a local restaurant for dinner and returned to continue the discussion.

Sometime late in the evening they decided that they should do more than just talk about the ideas of Robert Rimmer, it was time to do something about it. So, they formed a steering committee, composed of everyone who was at the meeting and resolved to go forward. Of course, the group had no name, a problem which would need a solution sooner than they realized.

One of the new steering committee members mentioned that Robert Rimmer would be in town the following month, giving a talk at a convention. He proposed they attend the convention to hear Rimmer speak- and to advertise their existence to any like-minded people.

Now came the problem- they had a group, what to call it? In trying to define what they were looking for Pat LaFollette and Hy Levy had often stated they were looking to build a “synergy” in their lives, create stronger, vital relationships based on their marriages and to provide a stronger family experience for the adults AND the children.

It hit Hy, and perhaps Pat also at the same time they were talking about Family. Obviously, the organization should be called Family Synergy. Later they would invent the term “expanded family” to denote those adults and children that you spent a lot of time with and did family activities with, who were family, but who did not happen to be related to you by blood... like the extended family of Grandma, Grandpa, Mom, Dad, their kids and maybe some Aunts and Uncles with their kids who may or may not live in one house.

The Levy’s and the LaFollette’s attended that convention the following month and met Robert Rimmer. They remember finding a way to get invited up on stage with him and made their announcement. Pat recalls, “At that time I was an artist and had a huge artists loft in the skid row area of Los Angeles. It was four or five thousand feet. We held the next meeting there just in case we got a good turnout.”

In fact, fifty or sixty people showed up- and Family Synergy was in business.

In 1987, Live the Dream was formed as a spin off of the Family Synergy special interest group Explore, Come Live with Us. The organizations were apart and then together again until Family Synergy’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion at which point Terry Brussel-Rogers declared her intent to continue Family Synergy as Live the Dream. How did that happen and how is Live the Dream continuing to carry out the original vision of the founders of Family Synergy?

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**Saturday October 19, 2024 2150 AD by Thea Alexander: Key to a Poly Future?**

Led by Rick Davilla—based on knowing the author

**11-1 Poly Discussion**



We'll discuss Thea Alexander's story of time travel, group living, sexual/spiritual delights and past life soul mate connections. How can we use her findings in our own relationships? Note: according to several usually reliable sources, this book is *not* just fiction!

**1pm Pot Luck Lunch-bring something healthy and delicious to share**

2:00-3:45 Afternoon activity: Jacuzzi and Exercises for developing intimacy-- empathic communication to enhance your love life and friendships.

**4:00-5:45 pm Socializing in Clothing Optional Jacuzzi or Watch a Poly Movie playing in the living room**

**Pot Luck Dinner , All Hallows Eve Ritual led by High Priestess Lilith and Halloween Party follow at 6 pm. If you want to present anything perhaps relating to the costume (or body paint) you choose to wear, do let us know.**

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Will Jarvis has been a housemate in Penfield House since we moved in to it in 2003 (except for 4 years as live in care taker to my best friend Glen's Father, extending his life to 103). He joined as a result of an exercise at our monthly LTD meeting in which everyone wrote down what kind of living situation would make them happy, what kind of area they wanted to live in, what they could pay down and monthly. Turned out he was a good housemate match for us! Will lived in New England as did Robert Rimmer who was part of the inspiration for Family Synergy, our topic for the September meeting. Will attended College at what was the real Harad which appeared in Rimmer's Harad Experiment. They knew each other and Bob Rimmer even discussed with Will the possibility of carrying on his literary work.

## **PILLOW TALK**

\_Story and all fictitious character and place names

By Will Jarvis

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"Ready for bed, Darcy?"

Darcy stretched her arms and yawned. "I certainly am, Jim. More than ready." The young redhead yawned again. "But it'll be just sleep. Sorry. I am really tired."

"I am too." Jim looked across the room to the third person present, a middle-aged brunette who was seated on the couch and was obviously wide awake and uproariously laughing to the stories spun by a late-night television comedian. "If I wasn't so tired, I'd probably suggest a little three-way fun with my two favorite ladies."

"And I'd certainly be up for that," the brunette responded, turning her attention away from the TV and to her lovers. "Do you think I could entice either or both of you to stay up until *Ferguson* is over? Then we might

enjoy some of the three-way fun you suggested, Jim.” Lois pulled open the blue bathrobe she had donned after her shower, then turned to give her lovers a direct view of her ample breasts.

“Nope. Sorry. I really am too tired. I've got another early meeting. My promotion to VP of marketing means lots more stupid meetings,” Jim muttered, rambling more to himself than to his polyamorous mates. “It's more money, sure, but it sure takes a lot more of my time. And energy.” Jim sighed and reached downward, between Darcy's thighs and his own thighs to finger his limp penis for a moment. Both he and Darcy were nude and seated in the very comfortable easy chair that Jim's promotion had allowed them to buy, or rather Jim was seated in the chair and Darcy was seated on Jim's lap. The chair had rapidly become a favorite place for the two to relax and also an enjoyable place for lovemaking though just for two at a time. The triad had tried twice to make love with all three together, both times failing and falling off the chair in a laughing tumble. Lois had always enjoyed the couch. It was the one piece of furniture she had contributed to the household when the three had moved in together. Her first sexual experience, at seventeen years of age, had taken place on that couch – Cynthia had been an amazing lover. – and the couch held sentimental attachment for her.

“Well then,” declared Jim. “To bed, and to sleep.”

He stood, moving Darcy to her feet with him. Hugging each other, the two ambled toward the bedroom. Both waved casually to Lois as they disappeared into the hallway.

Left alone, a realization slowly solidified in the mind of Lois Hathaway. This was the third night she had been left alone by her lovers that week. Though the three had made love together only two nights before, and she had made love with Darcy without Jim present the night before that, she had not made love with Jim, alone, without the presence of Darcy, since... since two days after Jim got his promotion at work. Was Jim avoiding her, she wondered. And, if so, could it have anything to do with his promotion? She didn't see how that could be, but she was sure that her poly mates were not telling her something. Her birthday was in three weeks but the practice of the triad had always been one of openness around the planning of such things as birthdays and holidays.

*So, what is it? What's going on?* Lois asked herself. She did no more laughing that night.

“D'ya think Lois suspects anything?” Jim put the question to Darcy while the two were folding laundry the next afternoon. Lois had just left them alone to answer the doorbell.

“How could she not?” Darcy answered his question with a question, but he knew what she meant. Both acknowledged Lois as the smartest person they knew. She was a popular professor at the Los Angeles University of Innovative Studies, and the two mystery novels she had written had both been best sellers in the genre.

“Big breasts and big brains,” Jim intoned humorously. “I like that combo in a woman. And...” He wrapped his arms around Darcy lovingly. “I also like big brains and small breasts in a woman. Yep, Lo has a genius IQ. But you've got a masters in sociology, and that's nothing to sneeze at.”

“My breasts are not small,” retorted Darcy, smiling at her lover. “They're average size. Statistically speaking. Lois told me so one time.”

“Okay. So, we know I like breasts. Of every shape and size. No surprise there. But does Lois know what we're planning?”

A moment later, Lois returned to the laundry room holding an envelope. “The only mail today.” She handed Jim the envelope and asked, “One of your clients, perhaps? Oh, and that was our nosy neighbor Elana at the door. She wanted to know if you two were planning something special for my birthday. But we always plan holidays and special occasions together. You'd never keep secrets from me. Would you?” This was said as innocently as Lois could manage.

Jim held the envelope up to the light and he and Darcy looked at the company name of the return address.

“Teithio Co.” Jim read the name aloud. “Yeah, I think that's for me.”

Stuffing the envelope in the right back pocket of his slacks, Jim returned to folding laundry with Darcy.

“You're not going to look at it? See what's inside?”

“No, Lo,” replied Jim. “I'll deal with it on Monday. During business hours. I don't want any business stuff spoiling my weekend. I wish these guys would stop sending business mail to my home address.”

“How 'bout I fix us some iced tea?” Darcy offered.

“Yes! Great idea! Thanks!” As she heard herself say the words, Lois hoped she hadn't seemed overly enthusiastic. She was just glad for some time to be alone with Jim. She hoped he'd somehow drop a clue to what was happening with her paramours.

But Jim said little during the few minutes it took to finish with the laundry. And then Lois found herself alone again. Jim had pulled off his shirt and gone outside to lay in his hammock in the shade of the big tree in the back yard.

“We better go wake Rip van Winkle,” Lois said. “We're supposed to go to a lecture tonight. Remember?”

“I'll do it,” Darcy said, already moving toward the side door of the house.

Outside, she heard Jim before rounding the corner of the house to where he had strung his hammock, though the mumbled words that came from the slumbering man were unintelligible. She woke him easily enough, and he sat up. She cautioned him about talking in his sleep, and warned: “What if Lo had come out to wake you instead of me?”

“Did I.... Did I say... *anything?*”

“Not that I could tell. Fortunately.”

“So, then nothin' to worry about? Right?”

“Okay, Maybe I am being overcautious. Let's get back inside and get ready for the lecture. You're the one wanted to hear Noreen... Noreen...” She tried to remember the name of the lecturer. “Noreen Norcross.”

“Noreen Norris. Noreen Norris. She's poly people like we are.”

“You sure it isn't because she's also a porn star?”

“Well, maybe that too,” he admitted, grinning broadly. “A little...”

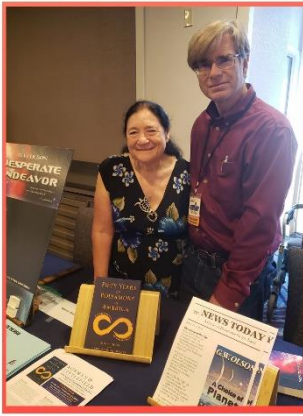
She made no reply, except to hug him, and he followed her into the house.

FIND OUT THE SURPRIZE IN STORE FOR LOIS IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

Look for Will's novel “LIGHTS. CAMERA. EMANCIPATION!” coming soon!

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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. It is a fascinating read, and is being used in academic research papers on the subject. Between them, Terry and Glen have experience with open marriage, group marriage, and 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 at on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and many other places—even internationally!-- just by Googling its title.

The publishers are continuing to put this book in more and more universities and libraries! Students are using material from it in Masters theses and Doctoral dissertations on Polyamory!

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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 email to: Terry\_bg@msn.com

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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## **Meetups & Other Group Events**

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

[www.meetup.com/polycocktailslosangeles/](http://www.meetup.com/polycocktailslosangeles/) or [www.polycocktailslosangeles.com](http://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](http://www.hai.org)

Other groups friendly to Polyamory

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

meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at Dinah's Kitchen Restaurant,

4130 Sepulveda Blvd. (at Washington), Culver City. Phone: (310) 645-0456 West L.A.

Burning Man 2024 at BLACK ROCK CITY

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

Emma and Fin are “Normalizing Non-monogamy”

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



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

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



**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 DAY TIME 3<sup>RD</sup> 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 CURRENTLY PAID MEMBERSHIP CARD (FAMILY SYNERGY OR LIVE THE DREAM) WITHOUT MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE \$10.00.

	<b>Membership Type</b>	<b>Single</b>	<b>Couple/Family</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full LTD Membership Includes Newsletter & Membership Card	\$25	\$40 (\$10 FOR EACH EXTRA PERSON AT SAME ADDRESS)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Email Newsletter Only	NO CHARGE	NO CHARGE

**Make checks payable to Success Center      Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Membership Information      Help Support the Lifestyle you live!**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Age:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Single     Married     Attached     Unattached    Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s) of Mate/Family to be included in this membership if APPLICABLE:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**FAX OR Mail to: FAX#1-818-882-8512 – 8515 Penfield, Winnetka, CA 91306**

I am willing to volunteer:     Time     Meeting Space

I could lead a meeting or activity, proposal enclosed

I am interested in  Science Fiction  Pagan  Libertarian  \_\_\_\_\_ Oriented Programs

**I am interested in Co-operative Living:     Yes  No**

**I have space for others:     No  Yes (Location & Phone \_\_\_\_\_)**

**I am willing to relocate     Yes  No**