Pre-Gathering Intensive - Biodynamics, Earth Healing and Goethean Movement: Sensing and Fostering Health

Robert (Karp) Karbelnikoff

Robert Karp is a consultant, writer, educator, researcher, and social entrepreneur whose work is deeply informed by Rudolf Steiner. Robert has been active in the sustainable agriculture movement for over twenty five years and is the former Executive Director of the Biodynamic Association in the United States and of Practical Farmers of Iowa. Currently, Robert lives in Viroqua, Wisconsin.

Keynote - ‘The Farm Individuality and the Chamomile and Dandelion preparations’ - Mac Mead.

We will look at the heart of biodynamic agriculture, the Farm Individuality, and see how the biodynamic preparations, particularly the chamomile and dandelion ones, help this unfold. - Pfeiffer Center Program Director since 2006 and Farm Team mentor, has worked with biodynamics since 1975, when he first learned biodynamic methods from former colleagues of Ehrenfried Pfeiffer.

“Jacob Boehme and Biodynamics” - Stewart Lundy - Stewart will explore the inner kinship between Jacob Boehme’s work and biodynamics, specifically his seven principles and how they correspond to Steiner’s seven processes. This will draw on Boehme’s The Aurora and The Signature of All Things as additional context for Steiner’s biodynamic preparations. We will then discuss dandelion and chamomile (and their sheaths) in the light of Boehme’s insights.

“The Spiritual Metaphor Considered” - Troy Teets - This workshop will explore the chamomile and dandelion preparations through the metaphor presented by Steiner through his lectures on the Spiritual Hierarchies and Christian Mysteries. The Silica/Calcium relationship in the soil has a parallel metaphor relating to the Elemental Beings, that are present in all things. An understanding of the Elemental Kingdom will aid the biodynamic practice by providing a framework of imaginative.

“Chamomile and Dandelion - A Medical Perspective” - Melissa Greer - This talk will inquire into how we work with dandelion and chamomile from the perspective of illness and health of the human body as understood as a microcosm of the cosmos.

Seek the truly practical material life, but seek it in such a way that it does not numb you to the spirit that works within it.

Seek the spirit, but not out of spiritual lust or spiritual egoism; seek it rather because you wish to become selfless in the practical life of the material world.

Turn to the ancient principle:
“Spirit never without matter, matter never without spirit!”

And say to yourselves: “We will do everything material in the light of the spirit, and we will seek the light of the spirit in such a way that it enkindles warmth in us for our practical deeds.”

- Rudolf Steiner