

March 2021 and April 2021

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

LIVE THE DREAM FOUNDED 1987

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday March 20, 2021 11AM to 12:30PM
Chosen Family & How Science Fiction Has Affected Real Families

Saturday March 27, 2021 6PM - Zoom Passover Sader
You decide RSVP 818 886 0069 by 3/20/21

Saturday April 20, 2021 11AM to 4PM
Etiquette of Alternative Relationships
LIVE & ON ZOOM!

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 317 597 1626

Passcode: Heinlein

We will be back to in-person meetings when safe and legal...BUT find us *Always* here on the 3rd Saturday from 11AM-12:30PM Pacific Time ... This will be our Zoom ID from now on.

Live the Dream

March-April 2021

Please visit the Live the Dream website at 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 or call (800) LIFE MATES (543-3628)

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*.

EVENTS

All Live the Dream LIVE events are 11am-4pm on 3rd Saturdays at 8515 Penfield Ave in Winnetka, Ca. 91306 (unless otherwise specified)

For all events: RSVP/more info call the LTD Hotline (818) 886-0069

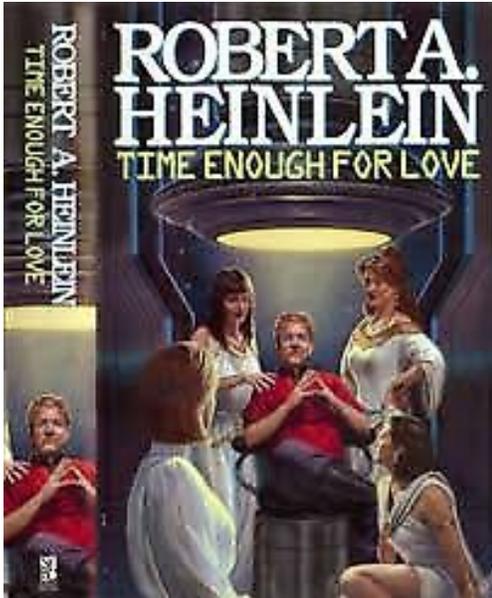
The silver lining of Safer at Home experience: From now on, all our meetings will be available on Zoom for those who can't get to us in person. Some will be hosted by speakers in other areas, too. We will be doing both Zoom and Live as soon as that is safe and legal. Meanwhile...

Come Zoom with Us!

Saturday March 20, 2021 11 am to 12:30 pm
Chosen Family & How Science Fiction Has Affected Real Families

We will discuss chosen families in real and fictional life. Tell us about yours!

LAST ZOOM ONLY MEETING. WE PLAN TO HAVE OUR APRIL MEETING IN PERSON AS WELL AS ON ZOOM!

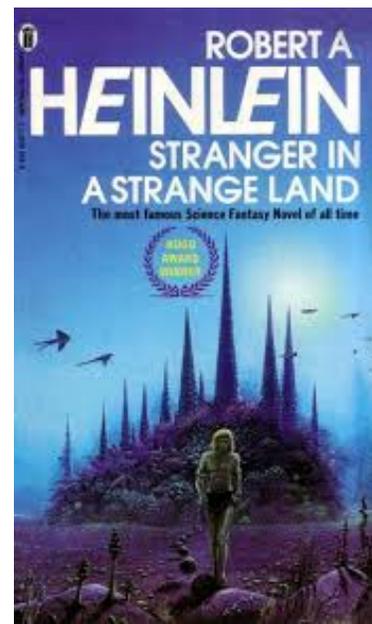


Line Marriage: Multi-Generational Group Marriage, triads and other unusual alternatives are described in *The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress*. While some of the choices made in this example are influenced by the lack of females compared with males on Luna, some excellent examples “different kind of family” are offered here. *Time Enough for Love*’s Tersius colony Family features a large group marriage consisting of many of our favorite characters from Heinlein’s other stories. Their only absolute for being part of this marriage is that all adults pledge to support and to bring up with love all children produced by the Ladies in the marriage already born or in the womb—whoever put those babies in their wombs, co spice or not! This is happening on a planet where the government wouldn’t think of interfering in one’s marital choices and only

your very advanced geneticist gets a vote on whom you make babies with. The water sharing ceremony in *Stranger In a Strange Land* is the best example of Family by choice and has effected families in reality probably more than any other of his books. Church of All Worlds and many other less formal groups including my own intimate friendship network have used this as a model for permanent committed relationships which may shift from lovers to friendship and back again multiple times during an ongoing relationship. Members of a Nest may live together or be “semi residential”. They may live nowhere near each other, but maintain their bonds through phone calls and visits (weekly, monthly, or perhaps a few times a year). The patterns are endless. The common denominator is long term loving commitment.

Which science fiction writings most affected the choices YOU have made regarding family and relationship structure?

Did you discover it's possible to love more than one significant other by identifying with Michael and Jill and their NEST of water brothers from Heinlein's *Stranger in a Strange Land*? Did Marion Zimmer Bradley’s *Forbidden Tower* make you wonder if group marriage could work for you? Did Spider Robinson's *Star Dancers* make you yearn to go beyond even that into the kind of group relationship possible for those connected in heart, mind and spirit? Many of us either built a lifestyle using a science fiction book as a model and/or got valuable ideas about working rules for human relationships by reading stories not limited by the present time line's



social prejudices and limitations. This event is for those already in multiply committed relationships and those who want to learn more about them.

Some of us whose fantasies became realities will share how we did that...



HAPPY PASSOVER - Much as I would love to do our Passover Seder in person as we have done since 1987, the present CDC guidelines do not quite allow that yet. If any of you would like us to do this on Zoom on the first night Saturday 3-27-21, I am willing to put that together. Let me know by calling our LTD hotline at 818-886-0069 **by 3-20-21**. If not, we **WILL** do it in person *next year*.

April 20 11AM to 4PM Etiquette of Alternative Relationships

We are planning to have this one LIVE and in person as well as on Zoom for the first time in over a year! Limited attendance for social distancing & masks required. Please RSVP for in person attendance. It will be in our house with all the windows open... Craig and Terry are both fully vaccinated. We prefer you be also, but will not require that.

What do you do when your wife brings her lover home for dinner? Who sleeps where if he offers (or is invited) to stay overnight? If your wife has had a depressing day on a night you've got a date, should you cancel and stay home with her? Should your girlfriend keep you company if you do stay home? Is it proper poly behavior to bring a lady home for dinner with your wife before taking her to bed or only if considering a serious long-term relationship with her? Should a residential triad (one woman & two men for example) sleep all together or alternate between joining the lady in her bed? Emily Post did not cover this stuff, but we will!

Note: the real answer to all these questions is that they involve agreements between those involved in a couple, triad or larger group marriage. All of this is negotiable-- preferably *before* the situation arises...Printed examples of such agreements will be available at this meeting.

1 pm Pot luck lunch... Bring something healthy and delicious to share

2-3 pm Get to know each other through a poly type fun game featuring questions designed for quick and deep connection...

3-4 pm socialize in the hot tub.

Living the Dream-Polyamory and Science Fiction in My Life

By Terry Brussel -Rogers

Fifty+ years ago, 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 as Family by Choice. 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 Family Synergy's model group house, the Allot House in 1977). There were also Latke Parties, birthday celebrations and trips to Elysium.

I entered Science Fiction fandom by attending my first World Con in Anaheim in 1984. I had submitted a proposal for giving a panel on Alternative Lifestyles, but never heard back from the convention organizers—until I saw my program in the convention guide after I got there! We gave it to a well filled room on Sunday morning... At World Con that year, 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 have shared holidays, marriages, our kids growing up and other family things in the years between.

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 was Oberon Zell, whose wife Morning Glory actually coined the term Polyamory. 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. Rituals from All Hallows Eve to Beltane are done at many of our Live the Dream meetings or sometimes as separate evening events. Oberon is still in touch with us and will be speaking at our upcoming 50-year anniversary celebration of the founding of Family Synergy—planned for 3rd week end of July 2021.

Live the Dream has been meeting on the 3rd Saturday of the month since 1987 having discussions ranging from poly themes in science fiction to real life poly families talking about their experiences. The meeting are for anyone seeking to learn more about multiply committed loving relationships or simply to connect with kindred spirits already living this lifestyle. We do a pot luck lunch, clothing optional hot tubbing, socializing and other activities in the afternoons following those discussions. We have a Winter Holiday Party, All Hallows Eve celebration, Passover Seder, trips to Renaissance Faire and are open to other events of interest to our members.

It is possible to deeply love and be committed to more than one significant other. Some of those who call ourselves Polyamorous express this by having a primary partner that we may be legally married to and lovers with whom we may share anything from a romantic evening each month to family activities and nights over several times a week. Others are actually in group marriages, some of which have been together for decades. Group marriages, intimate networks, coops and communes, are among the many somewhat unorthodox ways we live together. I have been involved in multiply committed relationships since my teens. I have been in three legal marriages (lasting 14 years, 15 years and my final one to Craig Rogers in 2018), hand fasting, triads (one of which lasted 5 years) and a quadrad lasting over a year. The ceremonies for all of these includes water sharing as an integral part as well as readings from such poly-oriented Heinlein books as *Stranger in a Strange Land* and *Moon is a Harsh Mistress*. I am blessed with a wonderful marriage to a man who is truly my Poly Prince, fitting into our lifestyle as though he has always been in it though he did not become involved until we reconnected at Los Con in November of 2016, married in April 28, 2021. His Science Fiction background sure helped! His close family relationships were important, too, as they gave him a model for the way he now treats Chosen Family. My 2nd husband Paul and his wife Athena are very much a part of Craig's and my life now as are other members of our Nest. These relationships and their transitions allowed me to learn from the challenges, to evolve and to move forward.

I have two grown children (one of whom is Poly) and five grandchildren ranging in age from 11 to 29 who bring me great delight. Both my grown children and their families live nearby in the San Fernando Valley and we visit frequently.

We live in a large, comfortable group house with other members of our community living with us or visiting frequently. We share family activities, holidays together, regular meals... and hugs. We have two fireplaces, a hot tub, and a big country kitchen. I look out our dining room window at trees, greenery and humming birds. Life is good and who knows what joys lie ahead...

**If you have a “What do you do when?” question for us,
or any Poly related article for publication** WHAT EXPERIENCES/BOOK REVIEWS, ETC. CAN YOU
SHARE RELATING TO THE POLY LIFE STYLE? We’d like to run it here.

Please E-Mail to: 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.

Meet Ups & Other Group Events

**NONE OF THIS IS COVID 19 UPDATED. GO TO THEIR
WEBSITES TO SEE HOW EACH GROUP IS HANDLING IT.**

Check out www.meetup.com/Loveopen & www.meetup.com/loving-more
and other SoCal poly groups (40+ groups in the Greater LA Area!)

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:

www.lovemore.com

www.polyevents.blogspot.com

<http://openingup.net/resources/local-organizations-u-s/>

Other groups friendly to Polyamory

KARL HESS CLUB 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 Festival virtual or in person? For details www.burningman.com!

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 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 CURRENTLY 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 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