

December 2021 – January 2022

# ***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



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Saturday December 18 6:00PM until 11PM *Live Only*

### **LTD Winter Holiday Party**

Must RSVP 818-886-0069 by 12-15-21 if attending live event so we can buy supplies

Saturday January 15 Live 11AM-4PM (Zoom 11am-12:30pm PST)

### **Poly People in A Variety of Relationships—Lovers, Family (Chosen & Blood), Community and More**

Proof of Vaccination required to attend all LIVE events. Bring your card!

### **ALL REGULAR LTD MEETINGS ARE NOW ALSO ON ZOOM!**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3175971626?pwd=NWVjU3A2M0I2Q29IUkI4L11MRzd2QT09>

Meeting ID: 317 597 1626

Passcode: Heinlein

Find us *Always* here on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday from 11AM-12:30PM Pacific Time. This will be our Zoom ID from now on.

Please visit the Live the Dream website: [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)

**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 regular 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 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 are doing Zoom 11-12:30  
**Attending Live meetings requires proof of vaccination.**

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Suggested Donation For those attending Live: Ladies free with pot luck dish to share—same donation as gentlemen otherwise. Gentlemen (pot luck dish appreciated): Paid members of Live the Dream: \$5. Non-Members: \$10 events. Evening events same price. If you join Live the Dream day of meeting, \$25 for singles, \$40 couple or group at same address, donation for one event or both on same day is included.

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**Saturday December 18 2021 11 am to 4 pm Live, 11-12:30 PST on Zoom**  
*Stranger in a Strange Land through To Sail Beyond the Sunset as a Guide to Polyamory*

Many of those who have chosen a lifestyle of multiply committed relationships now called Polyamory were inspired by the writings of Robert Heinlein. Whether you are among them, came to this life style through some different Door or are just discovering the possibilities of loving more than one Significant Other, you will find both practical answers and food for thought during this discussion. We will present a guide to what aspects of the poly lifestyle are shown in each of these novels and how they might help you with specific challenges or quests for discovery in your own real life relationship choices.

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

2 pm Hot tubbing and socializing

We will watch a poly movie, play the Poly Game of Getting Real or perhaps some episodes of Poly: Married and Dating (as those attending desire) until the party starts.

## **Saturday December 18 6:00PM until 11PM** **Live the Dream Winter Holiday Party**

(Crash space available by arrangement when you RSVP)

Pot Luck Dinner 6 pm. Bring your favorite holiday dish from childhood (or now)—enough to share with 10 people.

**A-F** Your favorite Meat, cheese, nut, fish or other delicious protein dish

**G-M** Juices or fresh fruit;

**N-R** Side dishes or Salads

**S-Z** Desserts and treats.

Latkes, Apple Sauce and Sour Cream provided by Live the Dream.

Songs about the Maccabees, dreidels, lighted up Christmas miniature houses, and a Winter Solstice ritual. We'll light the Hanukkah Menorah—way late since Hanukkah is early this year. Did we forget a ritual important to you? Tell us and we'll add it!



**Bring stories/songs/poetry to share, wrapped science fiction, fantasy or magikal gift (\$5-\$10) for GIFT EXCHANGE.** (Candle lighting & gift exchange at 7pm)

Sharing our holidays is part of what weaves the bonds of Family in a group like ours. Understanding what is important to each of us during this festive season and how we celebrate it is a way to grow closer and delight in our diversity.

7:30 Solstice Ritual led by Terry and Craig Brussel Rogers

**Clothing optional Jacuzzi (with holiday music playing inside it!) available all evening—bring sandals and towels.**

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**Clothing optional Jacuzzi (with holiday music playing inside it!) available all evening—bring sandals and towels.**  
Cost \$5 for paid members, \$10.00 for non-members.

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## **Saturday January 15 Live 11am-4pm (Zoom 11am-12:30pm PST)** **Poly People in A Variety of Relationships—Lovers, Family (Chosen & Blood),** **Community and More** **Led by Paul Gibbons**

Paul Gibbons has been involved in polyamory since long before the word was coined. He joined Family Synergy at age 19 in 1974. Since then, he has experienced group living, open committed relationships, open marriages, and group marriage. He will share what he has learned in over 4 decades of living this life style.

Some poly people are single or solo poly. No primary partner, multiple lovers and honest about it. Others have what used to be called a Core marriage—a couple at the

center of an intimate network of singles, couples, triads, etc. who all relate to at least one member of the couple and may have various relationships with each other.

Many (most?) poly people also have (depending on their age) parents, children, grandchildren, aunts, uncles and siblings who may meet members of their Family by Choice including their lovers and especially committed or handfasted multiple partners. Then there is the workplace or one's own business... a whole other kettle of fish with its risks of loss of income if one is "outed" there. We will discuss how YOU can navigate all of this.

It is Paul's birthday January 20. There will be a cake for him and anyone else with a January Birthday who lets us know it! Call 818-886-0069 before January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 for that.

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## Robert Heinlein Poly Stories or Poly Life?

Volume 1 of Heinlein's life story shows us that he was poly from the start. At that time, it was called companionate marriage. Heinlein was also a nudist who enjoyed Elysium as so many of us did while it was open. His first novel *For Us the Living* written in 1938, but found and published long after his death, has in it the seeds of many of his later stories with a positive attitude towards (and practical advice about) both nudity and multiply committed relationships from *Stranger in a Strange Land* to *Sail Beyond the Sunset*. His biography reveals many of his ideas and characters come from the real-life experiences we will be discussing at this meeting.

### **Bastard Children No More**

For many years, those of us who used Heinlein's novels as a guide to open committed relationships were known as Heinlein's "bastard" children and looked down upon in the science fiction community. At his Centennial celebration in Kansas City in 2007, Terry and Paul led 3 panels on Heinlein's Family structures including marriage ceremonies and customs in his adult novels, and how they served as a guide for real life poly families. Every one of those workshops was packed.

### **Excerpt from Live the Dream Newsletter 2007**

*Heinlein Centennial July 5-8 in Kansas City: Celebrating the 100-year anniversary of the birth of Robert A. Heinlein, Grand Master of Science Fiction.* Heinlein wrote his first novel *For Us the Living* in 1938 (discovered in someone's attic and finally published 2004) with open marriage and freedom from jealousy as one of its major themes. *Moon Is a Harsh Mistress* and (of course) *Stranger in a Strange Land* have these as themes as well. So did all of his Lazarus Long novels from *Time Enough For Love* through *To Sail Beyond the Sunset*. Group marriages are shown in detail from who sleeps with whom and how they relate to each other to how property is handled and children are raised. With the discovery of this first novel and Bill Patterson's work on Heinlein's biography showing he actually lived this life style for some of his life and believed in it throughout, the idea that he was "just writing stories" about this life style were put truly to rest. He believed in what he was writing and we salute him as teacher and inspiration for so many of us who believe you can love and be deeply committed to more than one significant other. Terry and Paul Brussel-Gibbons will moderate 3 Families themed panels with an emphasis on polyamory at this convention. They are:

**Chosen Family-Is Water (Shared) thicker than Blood?**

**Families in Heinlein—conventional and alternative ways to build a family unit.**

## **I Now Pronounce You—ceremonies for open committed relationships and group marriages.**

### **Chosen Family: How Heinlein Has Affected Structures In Real Families**

The juveniles portrayed traditional families for the most part; good ones with mothers and fathers who loved each other. Line Marriage: Multi-Generational Group Marriage of Oberon Zell, triads also described in *Moon Is a Harsh Mistress*. Tersius colony Family similar. 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 of Heinlein’s writings affected the choices you have made regarding family and relationship structure?

### **Families in Heinlein**

*Rolling Stones* gives us a traditional family with grandma Hazel helping with the children. Having her daughter in law be a doctor was a little unusual at the time it was written, but Heinlein’s novels have many strong, very bright women in them.

The juveniles always included kids, young ones on up to late teens, as fully developed characters. *Tunnel in the Sky* had teens as its main characters. *Have Space Suit, Will Travel* had pre-teens. Almost all of his alternate lifestyles books included them, too, either as complete characters (Dora in *Time Enough for Love*, Hazel in *Moon Is a Harsh Mistress*), less developed but definitely present characters such as the children of Dora and Lazarus in *Time Enough*, and Woody’s brothers and sisters both in *Time Enough* and *To Sail Beyond the Sunset*. Even when children are merely mentioned but off stage, they are a strong motivator for the behavior of the adults. Heinlein is very clear throughout that the protection women and children including preservation of assets and the good upbringing of children are the major purposes of marriages of any kind. Lazarus (and Heinlein’s own parents) believed in appropriate discipline balanced by plenty of physical affection.

Howard family marriages were mostly serial monogamous or (more likely according to *To Sail Beyond the Sunset*) open committed relationships with others being added secretly at first (Maureen had to dye her hair and become a supposed mother-in-law so her husband could be the father of the child he gave his daughter in law.), then more openly as such things became more acceptable in outer society and as the Howards migrated off planet. They always included children by definition since the whole idea of those marriages was a breeding scheme for long life. Lazarus’s one marriage to a non-Howard (Dora) takes place on such a planet. The frontier society they founded was certainly not monogamous and did include plenty of children. Secundus and Tertius had Howards as the majority. By the time we get to Number of the Beast, we have a constantly growing group marriage on Tertius which includes most of Heinlein’s major characters and plenty of children with the commitment of all adults in the marriage being to the welfare of those children until they reach adulthood. Lazarus Long, Jubal Harshaw, Hazel (once more), Lazarus’ cloned sisters, his mother Maureen and even such computers (pre and post transformation to humans) as Minerva, Mike and Athene are members of this family. *The Cat Who Walked through Walls* and *To Sail Beyond the Sunset* depict characters who travel frequently through time, may have formal and informal romantic liaisons in other times/ parallel time lines, but who generally return to the group marriage they are part of --frequently with the new partner in tow.

### **I Now Pronounce You:**

Wedding ceremonies abound in Heinlein’s stories: *I Will Fear No Evil* gives us one old man in a young woman’s body marrying another still in his own body. They have a traditional ceremony as a lead in to one of Heinlein’s few examples of an open relationship where the participant mostly pretend to monogamy. *Moon Is a*

*Harsh Mistress* adds Wyoh to Mannie's Line marriage, *Friday* marries into her S group with great contractual formality, Lazarus marries Dora on horseback and gets her pregnant immediately afterward. Lazarus' Tertius colony family adds Maureen in a formal ceremony. All of these ceremonies, including Stranger's water sharing, are ways of making a commitment to another person or persons for the safe and responsible raising of children and the joy of the adults who raise those children. Only the S group in *Friday* is presented in a really negative light, though by the end of that book our main character is completely enmeshed in a very positive group marriage. Heinlein clearly approves of marriage in any form which assures safe and effective raising of children, preservation of assets, and plenty of loving for all involved. He does not expect marriage to be eliminated in future society. To the degree that it is set aside, he believes that society to be a sick one. He expected marriage to Evolve rather than disappear.

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## Excerpts from a Yule (Solstice) Ritual—You can try this at home!

PRIESTESS stands to PRIEST's left.

PRIESTESS and PRIEST turn to face each other.

PRIESTESS stands with feet together, hands crossed at the wrists on her chest just below her neck as PRIEST says:

"I call upon thee, O mighty mother of us all, bringer of fruitfulness,  
by seed and by root,  
by flower and by fruit,  
by stem and by bud,  
by life and by love,  
here below as above,

And ask thee to descend into this body of thy priestess (NAME).

PRIESTESS then moves her feet apart to shoulder width and reaches her arms out sideways as if to touch the shoulders of anyone next to her were anyone there.

PRIEST takes the pentacle and touches it gently to

PRIESTESS's forehead, L foot, R hand, L hand, R foot & head.

PRIEST replaces the pentacle on the altar and says:

"Hear now the words of the great mother who of old was called among men by many names."

PRIESTESS then reads the Charge of the Goddess.

I am the eternal goddess,  
Ever changing, ever living,  
Ever loving, ever giving,  
Yet I charge you, if you would,  
Be mine and follow my ways. (pause)

Then shall you gather yourselves once in a month, and better it be when the moon is full, and assemble in some secret place. There you shall adore the spirit of me who am queen of all witches. There shall you dance, sing, feast, make music and love, all in my praise, and to those who would learn sorcery, to these

I will teach things as yet unknown.

Keep pure your highest ideal; strive ever towards it; let naught stop you or turn you aside, for mine are freedom, knowledge and rejoicing, the ecstasy of the spirit, the earth's love for her creatures. Mine is the secret door of life and death, and all these I do give freely to the children of wisdom.

I give unimaginable joys on earth, certainty, not faith, while in life; upon death, peace unutterable, rest, ecstasy. Nor do I demand sacrifice, for behold! I am the mother of all living and my love is poured out upon the earth.



What Experiences/ Book Reviews/ Etc. do you have to share relating to the Poly Lifestyle?  
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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## Meet Ups & 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)  
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](http://www.lovemore.com) [www.polyevents.blogspot.com](http://www.polyevents.blogspot.com)  
<http://openingup.net/resources/local-organizations-u-s/>  
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 3rd Monday at Dinah's Family Restaurant, 6521 Sepulveda Blvd. (at Centinela),  
Culver City. Phone: (310) 645-0456 West L.A.



**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