

2011 Himalayan Yoga Tradition Teachers Training Program Faculty Biographies



Swami Veda Bharati, D. Litt, Mahamandaleswara, is the founder and Spiritual Guide of both the world-wide organization, Association of Himalayan Yoga Meditation Societies International (AHYMSIN) and the Swami Rama Sadhaka Grama in Rishikesh, India. He is also the Spiritual Guide of Sadhana Mandir Ashram, his master's ashram in Rishikesh and of the Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust near Dehradun, India. He was born into a Sanskrit speaking family and raised in the centuries old Sanskrit tradition. From the age of nine he has

captivated audiences with the depth of his knowledge and intuition in the Vedas and Patanjali's Yoga Sutras. All of his knowledge has come intuitively through which he has attained the highest academic degrees; BA (Honours) (London), MA (London), D. Lit. (Holland), and is the author of many books.

Swami Veda Bharati combines the best of the ancient and the modern. He is an inspired and loving teacher, a prolific author, poet and an international lecturer. With his unique personality he radiates peace, divine love and joy.

Swami Ma Radha Bharati, M.A. Philosophy, M.A. Public Affairs, has been a student of Swami Veda Bharati's since their first meeting in 1971 when he introduced her to meditation. This life-changing event led her to meet and become a disciple of Swami Rama of the Himalayas in the same year. Ma Radha has extensive experience in teaching ethics and philosophy at several Universities. Most recently she has been both the Academic Director and a permanent Faculty member of Swami Rama Sadhaka Grama in Rishikesh, India teaching and continuing her personal practice under Swami Veda's guidance. Her commitment to serve her community is inspired by the ocean of love that has been shown to her through the presence of Swami Rama and Swami Veda. She took sanyasa (renunciation) initiation on November 29, 2007.



Swami Nityamuktananda Bharati, PH.D., has studied Theology, Education, Psychology, Philosophy and Art and Design. Her extensive travel study and work at universities awakened her interest in Eastern Philosophy (Taoism and Zen) which led to her becoming a ceramic artist, exhibiting worldwide. Over the last 20 years she has worked with several great spiritual Masters, which eventually brought her to the feet of M.M. Swami Veda Bharati. Although she has been a Swami for several years, she confirmed her vows of Sannyasa in 2007 with Swami Veda Bharati.. Her doctorate is in Eco-philosophy on the Mahabhutas (Five Great Elements) and in 1997 she was awarded a “World-Peace Prize” (LGWPF/ NGO of UN). She is the author of several books.



Stephen (Stoma) Parker Psy. D., L.P., ERYT-500 is a licensed psychologist in private practice at Northland Therapy Center in St. Paul, MN. An initiate of the Himalayan Tradition since 1971, he has been a yoga teacher since 1974 and is a principal faculty member of the international teacher training program of the Association of Himalayan Yoga Meditation Societies International. He has taught workshops and seminars on yoga, meditation and spiritual practice worldwide. A Sanskrit scholar, he edited the second volume of Swami Veda Bharati's definitive translation and commentary on the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali.

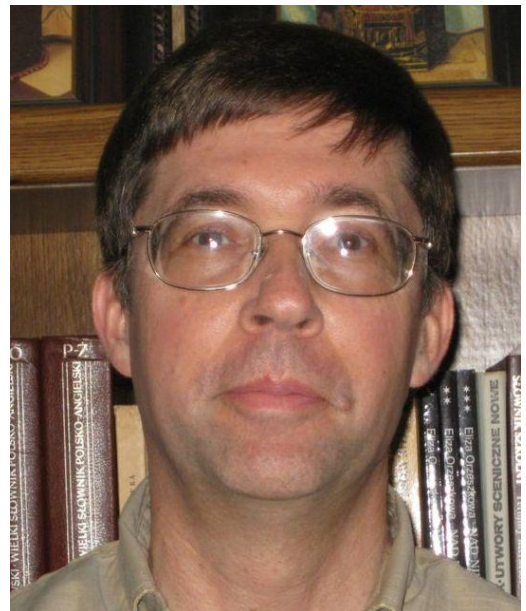
He also serves as an adjunct assistant professor of counseling psychology at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, the School of Professional Psychology at the University of St. Thomas and he has been an adjunct lecturer in the United Nations Peace Studies Training Program at the University of Innsbruck in Austria.



Ma Sewa Bharati received the gift of sannyasa initiation from Swami Veda Bharati in 1998, and since then has lived in India and the US sharing the teachings and blessings of Sri Swami Rama of the Himalayas in particular the preparation and purification of the body, breath, senses, mind, intellect and emotions for meditation. Ma Sewa is helping with social projects near Swami Rama's home village in the Himalayas, and is the Vice Chairman and Spiritual Director of the Swami Rama Nishkama Karma Yoga Trust, founded by the late Sri Swami Hariharananda

Bharati in 2000. Currently, the Trust is running the Swami Rama Institute of Vocational Education and Research, a grade school, industrial training institute, and an Ayurvedic medicinal herbal garden, in the Himalayan Hills.

Paul Emerson, Ph.D. began practicing hatha yoga in 1969 after reading Jess Stern's "Yoga, Youth and Reincarnation." Around 1975 he attended one of Pandit Arya's (Swami Veda) lectures on Superconscious Meditation and was initiated in the tradition by Jim Young that same year. His first official yoga teacher was Dan Richey (Swami Ritavan). He has been teaching through The Meditation Center in Minneapolis since 1976 and is certified through the Rockford school of yoga by the late Behram Guard (disciple of Swami Rama and student of BKS Iyengar). Outside of yoga he is a bioengineer with a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering and has done dialysis research, ventilator design and pacemaker/defibrillator firmware. He currently holds about 8-9 patents and has written a number of articles for medical journals.





Peter Fabian, P.T., CFP, ERYT-500 has been a student of Swami Rama and Swami Veda since 1978, taking mantra diksha in 1980. He is currently a permanent Faculty member at Swami Rama Sadhaka Grama, Rishikesh India. His duties involve the training of Yoga Teachers in the residential Gurukulam Program and individuals and groups that are visiting the ashram. He also travels in Asia and North America in support of Swami Veda Bharati's Mission as one of the Lead Teachers in the Himalayan Yoga Tradition - Teacher Training Program. His degrees include Psychology and Physical Therapy (1973 and 1979) and is a certified Feldenkrais Practitioner and Yoga Teacher. He maintains a private practice in Physical Therapy in California.

Mary Bowman-Cline, CMT, ERYT-500, has been teaching Hatha Yoga since 1986 in Michigan and Minnesota. She was a member of the Yoga Association of Greater Detroit in Michigan, in 1994 began studying yoga at The Meditation Center. Mary was initiated by Swami Veda Bharati in 1998 and is certified through the International Himalayan Yoga Teachers Association. She teaches Hatha Yoga and Children's Yoga classes at The Meditation Center and in the community. Outside of yoga, Mary is a Nationally Certified Massage Therapist specializing in rehabilitation from auto accidents and other injuries at her office in Northeast Minneapolis. She also volunteers at local Hospitals and Hospice bringing massage to cancer patients and their families.





Chuck Linke, RYT-500, received initiation into the Himalayan Tradition in 1970, after spending twenty years travelling the globe studying and practicing meditation with monastics. Chuck serves on the Board of Directors for the Association of Himalayan Meditation Societies International (India) and the Los Angeles branch and is the Director of the Teachers Training Program (HYT-TTP). He currently resides in Portland Oregon working as an Engineering Manager, teaching hatha, meditation and Heart Math programs at the Raphael House, a safe-house for victims of domestic violence.

Weekends often find him on the slopes of Mt Hood volunteering for the Portland Mountain Rescue.

Barbara Aschettino, BS, RYT-500, is a long time student of Yoga and was initiated into the Himalayan Tradition by Swami Veda Bharati in 1982. As a former sales and marketing executive for a high tech firm in Silicon Valley, Barb's yoga and meditation practice helped her to thrive in the corporate jungle. She switched gears 10 years ago by retiring from the high tech world, and began studying Physical Therapy and teaching Yoga. Her dream is to simplify and make the wisdom of the Himalayan Tradition accessible to everyone.

She lives with her husband in Atlantic Highlands, NJ where she teaches Hatha and Meditation at several locations near the Jersey Shore.

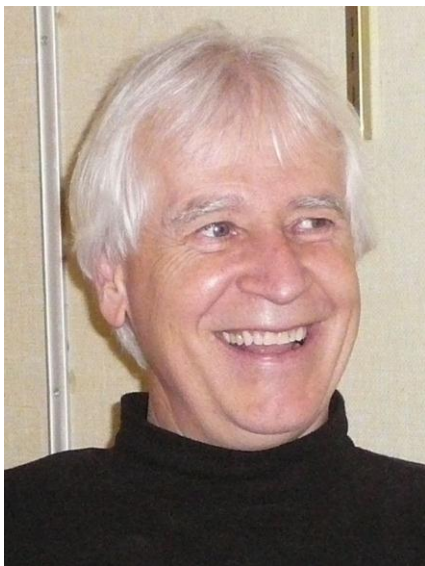


Dr. Rene David Alkalay Ph.D, N.D., began his journey into yoga and the science of mind in 1958 when he found his first yoga teacher, Richard Hittleman. In 1983 he met his guru, Swami Rama of the Himalayas. Throughout the years, he has studied with Swami Prabhupada, Swami Satchidenanda, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh Srivatsa Ramaswami, Swami Bua, Swami Veda Bharati, and Pundit Tuganait, among others. His mentor and teacher in several healing systems (ayurveda and homeopathy) was Rudolph Ballantine, with whom he studied and worked for seven years.



Dr. Alkalay is the executive director and spiritual preceptor of the Genesis Society, the Tree of Life Yoga Center, the Genesis Tree of Life Wellness Center, and the Genesis Center for East West Studies, organizations that he founded. His personal mission, which was revealed to him by Swami Rama at his initiation, is to teach and to transmit a tradition of interfaith understanding to future generations of spiritual aspirants.

Rene lives in Forest Hills, NY with his wife, Rachelle. He has two daughters, Sharon and Janine.



Jim Nelson, M.A., MAT, holds two Masters Degrees in Teaching and Counseling Psychology and has over 35 years of experience as a teacher, therapist and consulting psychologist. He helps emotionally disturbed youth at the Anoka-Hennipen School District and has a private counseling practice. He is a member of the Who's Who of American Teachers and was the first recipient of the Medtronic's Outstanding Teacher Award. Jim has taught yoga and meditation for decades, and is Vice President of the North American Region for AHYMSIN—an international non-profit organization dedicated to non-violence, and spreading the teachings of the Himalayan Tradition.