

### **Finally a Newsletter**

A few months back we promised a newsletter would come out every few months and finally here is the first one. We hope you find it informative and interesting. We expect to send out a newsletter of about this length every two months.

### **2006**

Though we have not traveled near as much as in 2005, life has not slowed down since we moved to Big Oak Flat – it's just changed! As you may know we just released a new book called "*In The Glow of Understanding.*" The book has 78 short stories in it. That brings to four the number of new products this year. We don't expect this level of production in 2007.

### **Back to School**

With the intention of doing research for the next book (*Story Centric Education and Counseling*), I started back to school. I'm working on a masters degree in liberal studies with a focus on the use of stories in education and counseling. I have about another 6 months to go. If you have experience using stories in education or counseling I'd appreciate hearing about it. Also if you know of others doing this professionally I'd appreciate contact information.

### **Reworked and New Web Pages**

We have reworked the [Gentle Place web site](#) several times and improved the product page and shopping cart.

We also created a secondary web site at <http://gentleplace.org>. This site deals with the psychological and educational aspects of stories like those in the first two anthologies. There is a lot of interesting material there as well as links to other interesting sites. Take a look and let me know what you think. Recently, we also added Google Ads to this site. We would appreciate feedback on what you think about the presence of advertisements on such a site.

### **Recognition**

Beyond the wonderful feedback from individuals, Gentle Place also received recognition in 2006. The story "The Gift" received an award from the National Storytelling Network in the category of adult listeners. A picture of the cover of *Still Reflections: Stories of the Heart* appeared on the back cover of the May/June issue of Storytelling Magazine. We also feel honored by Heartwood Music as they published one of our poems entitled "Have You Heard Her Sing?" in their Winter 2006-2007 newsletter.

### **Future**

In 2007 we plan to do several things. We'll write and publish the next book (*Story Centric Education and Counseling*). There will be at least one other CD. Other plans include creating a program called the "Friends of Gentle Place" where those who actively support Gentle Place will get a discount on all products. We need to make changes to the web site in order for this to function. We are also planning to create another web site to encourage would-be authors to publish short stories.

### **Need Gifts ?**

If you are looking for gifts, please consider a book or CD from our [website](#).

### **Opt-Out**

To unsubscribe from this newsletter, please reply with the word "remove" in the subject line or [click here](#).

### **Contact**

If you need to contact us for an order, to give us feedback or just to say hello you can always send an email through the web site or:

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