

From the Editor –

Did you ever get that hollow feeling? Well, here at the Couper Press we've got it in a big way. This issue is merely a shell in fact, but contained within are new insights into the always interesting beliefs of those for whom the hollow earth is a certain fact.

Leading off is independent scholar Adam Morris. Morris has a PhD in Literature from Stanford University. He has been awarded the Walter A. Brumm Fellowship for research in the special collections of Hamilton College on two occasions. Morris is nearing completion of his book *American Messiahs*, which will examine American religious leaders such as Thomas Lake Harris, Cyrus Reed Teed, and Father Divine.

Morris's present offering is the first scholarly examination of Koresshan Unity founder Cyrus Reed Teed's last major literary work, his novel *The Great Red Dragon*. Morris frames Teed's novel in the political and social contexts of the time of its composition, examines other works that influenced it, and most intriguingly, finds parallels in Teed's writing to our own times. . .

Second, we have Holly Folk of Western Washington Univeristy, Bellingham, Washington. Folk's article guides us through a brief overview of hollow earth speculation and lore, before arriving at an in-depth look at one of this perennial theory's most ardent contemporary advocates, Rodney Cluff.

Finally, as we penetrate to the heart of the central sun, we present two primary documents recently discovered by Adam Morris at the Koresshan Unity Collection at the State Archives of Florida. Both relate to the Shakers brief, but momentous, interaction—some would say merger—with Teed and his most prominent associates. We hope you enjoy this voyage inside!

We are also excited to announce the publication of Lanny Haldy's *Annotated Bibliography of Inspirationist Publications in Germany and America, 1717-2013*. The first work of its kind, it catalogs the considerable body of literature published by the Community of True Inspiration during its three hundred year history, both in Europe and the United States of America. 312 separate imprints are listed, complemented by English translations of their titles, notes about their contents, and sixty-seven illustrations.

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—Christian Goodwillie