

**Shared/Collective Dreams**, A presentation and discussion led by Dr. Sally Rhine Feather, RRC Director of Development.

A recent collective dream report was described in which three dreamers seemed independently to participate or view an interaction with a deceased relative in an unusual location. This report led the presenter to consider the frequency, characteristics and possible meaningfulness of collective dreams in general. According to a chapter in Stanley Krippner's book *Extraordinary Dreams*, collective dreams may consist of (1) **mutual dreams** in which two or more people report similar dreams on the very same night or (2) **shared dreams** in which a pair dream of each other in a common space and time, independently remembering similar surroundings, conversations or interactions within the dream. Although there are some dramatic historical recordings of collective dreams that have had significant political effects, the earliest report by psychical researchers is believed to be by the Duke sociologist Hornell Hart in a 1933 report of shared dreams with his wife. In a 1959 book on *The Enigma of Survival*, Hart cites a few other mutual dream types-one of which involved one person dreaming of being murdered while two friends dreamt of him, their friend, being "in trouble" although it was only a dream and no actual murder, death or tragedy occurred.

More recent interest and publications about collective dreaming have related to voluntary efforts of group participants to obtain shared dreams, such as Bob Van de Castle and Henry Reed's "dream helper ceremony" or Robin Shoheit's systematic approach to dream sharing. The current RRC group has expressed an interest in starting such a mutual dream group, that is under discussion at the present time, and will be considered next month following input from Dale E. Graff's upcoming workshop on psi-dreaming. (Presenter's summary).