



THE UNICORN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Santa Cruz County
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Website home page: Use <http://www.uufsc.org>

Volume 2002, Number 3

March 2002

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The UNICORN

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March Sunday Services

March 3 10:00 AM: What Exactly is an Axis of Evil? President Bush has spoke several times now about an axis of evil where terrorism is bred. How do we, as religious people, view this axis of evil and its potential threat? How do you know or perceive what is evil?
Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley
First Sunday Potluck
Annual Congregation-wide Goal Setting

March 10 9:00 AM: Forum: What Are the Ways That Spirituality Affects Your Daily Life? Leaders: Margaret Ogle, Bonnie Thomas
10:00 AM: The Seed's View from Under the Earth Zsuzsa Bartha, minister of the Meszko Unitarian Congregation in Transylvania and currently a visiting scholar at Starr King School of the Ministry, will speak about the work of Balazs Ferenc (Transylvanian) and his wife Christine Morgan (American) who served her congregation in the 1930s and her own experience in this same congregation as a female minister today.
Service Associate: Karen Holl

March 17 10:00 AM: I Want More! Addiction in American Society Living with the disease of addiction can be devastating. The desire for more, the desire to "checkout" even when we know it comes at a great cost is enticing. The search for meaning can be a difficult and challenging one, especially for those living with the disease of addiction. Healing into wholeness can help us find that meaning.
Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley

March 24 9:00 AM: Forum: Memorable Practical Jokes That Have Been Played on You or You Have Played on Others
10:00 AM: YRUU This Sunday, the Young Religious Unitarian Universalists of our congregation will lead us in worship and share what it means for them to be UU's. YRUU and Advisors

March 31 10:00 AM: EASTER Join us this Sunday for an all ages celebration of Easter as we share communion with one another and stories of hope and renewal.

Langston-Daley Thoughts

This winter has been filled with loss in our community. The deaths of Barney Brookman, Beth Coats and Jean Theimann have left us with sorrow in our hearts. As spring returns to California and the winter rains slow, the hills are still green and the buds are beginning to open. We open our hearts to new life and remember those who are gone.



Woody Wood shared with a song he had written in memory of those who have gone before us, reminding us that the cycle of life is ever present. The redwood tree 2000 years old gives way to a sapling reaching its branches up and out to the sun. We honor the memory of those who have died and look on the new life in our Fellowship with hope and promise.

We each strive to make meaning in our lives, to find a purpose and a place where we can make a difference. Living our values as Unitarian Universalists is our commitment to the future. The challenge to live those values in all that we do can be difficult, and the rewards are often not immediate. Sometimes, it feels as if we are swimming upstream against a current so strong that we will never make it. And yet, each small stroke, each small step, each small act of justice, compassion and awareness matters.

The challenges we face in living our values of justice, equity, compassion and peace are many. Living these values, in the face of so many challenges, does change the world. The members of our Fellowship who have recently died have proven this to be true. Each one of them made the world a little better. Beth by her commitment to social justice, Barney by his work in the field of science, and Jean by her commitment to education and consumer rights.

We all have something to offer the world. We all have something to offer this Fellowship. In sharing our hearts, our skills and talents, and our desire to learn, we make this Fellowship more whole. The legacy of those who have gone before have created for us this wonderful and nurturing community. We in turn bring our own legacy to the future.

I asked last month during one of my sermons, What is it that you love? What is it that feeds your soul? What calls to your

heart? How can you bring that love, that soul, that heart to this community?

I encourage each of you to seek the answers to these questions. I encourage you to use this Fellowship as a place to deepen and expand your spiritual path. This is the community where we can find support and strength in living our values when the upstream swim seems too difficult or too draining.

The redwood tree 2000 years old gives way to a sapling reaching its branches up and out to the sun. May we reach for stars and beyond. May our roots, like the roots of the redwoods, provide us with support and may we grow strong together in memory, in spirit, and in our actions.

Shanti,

What is Scrip?

New members and friends of the Fellowship have been asking Finance Committee members (we sell the scrip) what scrip is all about.

It is simple. You buy paper scrip from us and use it at participating stores, just like regular currency. A \$10 scrip certificate buys \$10 worth of groceries, drug store items or department store merchandise. The Fellowship earns 5% from each sale. If you buy \$100 worth of New Leaf scrip from us, the Fellowship earns \$5. This helps our budget a lot. There is a \$2000 line item in our budget this year to be earned from Scrip sales.

Participating merchants are Longs Drugs, Nob Hill, Ralphs, New Leaf Markets, Staff of Life and Gottschalks. In addition, you can sign up for Safeway electronic scrip. For further information please call Rosalie Kraft, Scrip Coordinator, (475-5660).

Dave Boone is the New Trustee

Following Ed Ratcliffe's resignation last month, the Board is appointing Dave Boone as Trustee to complete Ed's term. Dave's primary responsibility will be as liaison to the Facilities Committee, and his term will last until June 2003. His appointment will be presented for approval at the April 21st congregational meeting.

Golden Torch Update

As many of you know, the Escuelita has received an interim facelift until such a time as the new construction takes place. (It appears that it will be 1-2 years before the Escuelita is replaced with a new facility.) We now have fresh paint, decent heat and lighting, and a computer center with seven brand new computers! The children are signing up for computer classes twice a week taught by Grizelda Sanchez who is also charged with providing social services to the Golden Torch families and will take over coordinating the tutoring program in July. She is kind, creative and has lots of energy to devote to the kids and their families, and I am enjoying working in concert with her.

The tutoring center is being heavily used this year as the kindergarten and first grade children are beginning to enjoy doing homework, and many of the junior high kids are joining in; often the older children are tutoring younger ones which is very gratifying to see! We are now serving between twenty and thirty children daily. My deep appreciation is extended to our devoted Fellowship tutors who contribute immensely to the success of the program: Marsha Bayea, Gene Stevens, Helen Oxley, Jane Boone, Sylvia Forsyth, and Ron Kane and also to our valiant subs Arnold Huberman and Clayton Rost!! Please feel free to call me and to come to visit some time. You can always join in

cont. on page 4

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Recently I was reading Martin Buber as background for a paper I am writing for a Gestalt Practitioners' Journal and was struck anew by how basic Martin Buber's dialogism, or I-thou philosophy, is to my understanding of UUism. Following is a passage from *Between Man and Man* (1947) which I think expresses the spirit of UUism:

This person is other, essentially other than myself, and this otherness of his is what I mean, because I mean him; I confirm it; I wish his otherness to exist, because I wish his particular being to exist. That is the basic principle of marriage and from this basis it leads, if it is real marriage, to insight into the right and the legitimacy of otherness and to that vital acknowledgment of many-faced otherness—even in the contradiction and conflict with it—from which dealings with the body politic receive their religious ethos. That the men with whom I am bound up in the body politic and with whom I have directly or indirectly to do, are essentially other than myself, that this one or that one does not have merely a different mind, or way of thinking or feeling, or a different conviction or attitude, but has also a different perception of the world, a different recognition and order of meaning, a different touch from the regions of existence, a different faith, a different soil: to affirm all this...in the midst of the hard situations of conflict, without relaxing their real seriousness, is the way...from which alone we are from time to time permitted to touch ... on the other's "truth" or "untruth," "justice" or "injustice."

Do you also see the UUism in this passage? Let me know what you think.

Blessed Be,

Marsha

Congregation-wide Goal Setting

On March 3rd after the potluck all members are urged to attend the annual goal setting meeting, when we will gather together to consider our goals for the 2002-2003 fiscal year. The meeting will start at 11:45 and will end at 2:45; Claire Wright of the PCD Leadership School will facilitate the meeting.

We will ask ourselves, what do we wish to accomplish in the next year in terms of programs, in terms of membership growth, in terms of our own personal and spiritual growth? What are the resources, especially financial, that we need to accomplish these goals? The results of this meeting will provide guidance to committees and to the Budget Committee in planning for the coming year.

Golden Torch (cont)

by playing chess or chinese checkers or reading a book to someone!

I am very pleased to have applied for and received a grant from the Cultural Council, which along with assistance from the Pajaro Valley Office of Migrant Education is making it possible to resume Mexican folkloric dance classes for the kids and (with additional funds which I am currently seeking) to purchase dance attire for them. My gratitude goes out to the fellowship for providing us with a space for our weekly classes and to our guardian angel Barbara Palmer who has been the backbone of the weekly transportation from the trailer park to the fellowship. (If anyone wants to assist her with this, give her a call.) The Cultural Council funds are also designated for me to produce an Aptos Community Cinco de Mayo program which will take place on Saturday, May 4 in the afternoon, probably at the Cabrillo College theater. Our kids will dance, along with U.C.S.C.'s folkloric dance troupe, Las Mejicas, and some musicians from El Teatro Campesino in San Juan Bautista who will perform corridos chronicling the farmworkers story. I am hoping also to work it out so the kids can dance at their local elementary school. **Please save the May 4 date and plan to attend with families and friends!** If you would like to help with such things as helping the kids dress, ushering, directing traffic, overseeing food sales etc. Please give me a call at 458-4101. Warm regards to you all.....Sheila



Edy Rhodes and Susie Leachman do some gardening! The first Saturday morning of each month you too can help make our church beautiful!

Congregational Meeting - April 21

All members are urged to attend the Congregational Business Meeting on April 21 after the Service. The agenda is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Verification of Quorum
3. Minutes of previous meeting
4. Standing Orders: Elect Officers and Board Members
5. New Business
 - Approve Dave Boone as replacement Trustee
 - Approve the addition of two members to Committee on Ministry
6. Adjournment

First Friday Book Group

The book for March is only part of a book; two chapters from *The Brothers Karmazov*. The chapters are "The Rebellion" and "The Grand Inquisitor."

At last month's meeting we did select books for the coming months; the list has been modified because of cost or unavailability.

- April *Caravan* - James Michner
May *Girl With a Pearl Earring* - Chevalieb
June *Crime and Punishment* - Dostoyevski
July *The Trial* - Kafka
Aug *Life is a Miracle* - Wendell Berry

If any of these books appeal to you, join us the first Friday of each month at 7:30 at Joan Roberts. If you need more information, call 688-7598.

Town Hall Meeting

Our Mission workshop was a great success. We developed several statements that will be condensed into a single mission statement.

We want to offer an opportunity for everyone to discuss and have input into the process, so we are holding a town hall meeting on March 17th following the service to discuss the mission of our Fellowship. Please join us in determining the purpose and mission of our Fellowship.

If you have questions, please call Rev. Pam or members of the Committee on Ministry, Patt Taylor, Randy James and Jenny Wood.

Stebbins Summer Gathering

at Asilomar Conference Center in Pacific Grove, CA
will be held August 23-29, 2002.
Registration: Open March 10 to May 10.

Meet UU's from many places.

Some of the planned workshops:

- * Practical Patriotism * Bicycling * Collage & Decoupage
- * Poetry Writing * Morning Stretch * Growing Within
- * Concerning the Oppression Tacitly Sanctioned by Church & Society — text: "Proverbs of Ashes: Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us" by Rita Nakashima Brock and Rebecca Parker

- plus live jazz night, talent show, auction, foreign film festival, and more.

Check out the web site: www.serve.com/stebbins or talk to Helen Oxley at 477-0998—she has been to Stebbins many times and loves it.

To request a Stebbins 2002 brochure: send an e-mail to the Registrar at Eileen36@pacbell.net or write to Eileen Plunkett, registrar, 18 Oceano Pl., Novato, CA 94949-6128 or call (415) 883-7759



Note the change in the meeting date for this month!

Join us the first Sunday of the month (usually) for a hike or walk after the potluck or service. The March hike at Elkhorn Slough has been changed to Saturday, March 2nd, because of the conflict with the congregation-wide goal-setting meeting after the March 3rd service. Meet at the Fellowship to carpool to Elkhorn at 10:30am or meet in the Elkhorn Slough parking lot (donation required) at 11:00am. We will walk around the slough and hopefully see egrets and/or herons roosting in the rookery trees there. Bring your binoculars!

YRUU Upcoming Conferences

Elections Conference
First UU Church of Oakland, 685 14th
Street, Oakland
Dates: February 15th to 18th
Ages: 12-22 welcome

Senior High Conference
UU Church of Berkeley
1 Lawson Road, Kensington
Dates: May 17th to 19th
Ages: 15-22

Summer Conference
UU Society of Sacramento
2425 Sierra Boulevard, Sacramento
Dates: August 23rd to 25th
Ages: 12-22

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact: Rachel Harris(925) 229-1493 or emeraldgirl413@email.com

Women & Religion Spring Retreat

W&R, PCD section is holding their Spring Retreat, "Listening to Our Hearts' Song", in our backyard. The retreat will be held April 5-7 at Monte Toyon in Aptos. There will be affinity groups, workshops, circles and shared worship. Also a book exchange, a mini-boutique (you can sell your arts & crafts) and silent auction. If you are interested Maria has a flyer and registration forms available at the office.

Note from Erica Crawford: I attended this weekend 3 years ago and it was a lot of fun as well as inspirational and affirming. There are a lot of committed women in our district doing great things and this is a great place to connect with some of them. Hope to see you there!

Unicorn Deadline



The Unicorn deadline for April is March 17th. Please place articles in the Unicorn office folder or email them to the editor by that date. Thanks.

Introducing: The New UU People Column

This column is devoted to news about our members, anything you would like to share with others, weddings, illnesses, trips, children, awards. We are seeking a name for this column and suggestions would be helpful. So far, we have two - UU Yente and Chisme (which is the masculine noun for gossip in Spanish, the name suggested by John David Dupree). Please send any information for this column to Iran Mohsenin e-mail nmohsan@earthlink.net or phone 479-0105. Also, send any name suggestions.

John David Dupree and Jumaane Makalani announce the arrival of Lamin Bangura from West Africa on Feb. 2, 2002 after a long struggle which included nearly ten months as a refugee in Daka, where he spoke neither French nor Wolof, the primary languages of Senegal.. Lamin joins Marco in their home in Aptos.

Lamin was born in the West African country of Sierra Leone, where there has been a protracted and particularly violent civil war, dating back to Lamin's earliest memories. The most well-known of the atrocities associated with that war are the thousands of amputations (hands/feet and other body parts) used as terrorist tactics to herd a fearful and poverty-stricken population into compliance with such dastardly deeds, primary for control of the country's rich diamond mines.

Lamin's father, Hassan (to whom John David made the promise to raise Lamin as his son in the event that Hassan's AIDS diagnosis resulted in death) was a nurse who subsequently entered medical school in Russia (making him learn his sixth language). He had hoped to return to his homeland and assist his fellow and sister Sierra Leoneans to obtain access to hitherto mostly non-existent health care. John David believes Lamin harbors the fantasy of following up on the dreams his father had for service to his country, dreams that succumbed to HIV along with Hassan's body.

Though the civil war horrors dictated that Lamin has only completed 5-6 years of school, he is very bright and incredibly motivated — in fact, he wants to take classes during all the Aptos High School periods, but also intends to stay for the 3-5 p.m. remedial classes in English and math Monday through Thursday-he'll be up at 6:00a.m. and not return home 'til nearly 12 hours later on those days. Because he is now 17, he will only be allowed two years at Aptos High School.

The Dupree-Makalani family has expanded exponentially during the first two weeks of February. Nine days after John David, Jumaane and Marco finally won their two-and-a half year battle with the U.S. Embassy in Dakar to bring youngest son, Lamin, home from West Africa (Feb. 2nd) they got word that daughter Andrea Ellen Dupree was in labor with the family's first grandchild. On Feb. 11, Andrea and Mike became the proud parents of a 7lb 4 and one-half oz. girl

(making the first time that John David and Jumaane became grandparents and Peter, Marco and Lamin became uncles). Taking their cue from the Boston graduate school where they met, Andrea and Mike named the first granddaughter Emerson Joy Dupree-Henry and will be called "Emmy" until such time as she might want a "big-girl name". Miss Emmy missed by one day being born on her Uncle Lamin's birthday, Feb. 12. Incidentally, Lamin received his first bike (a mountain bike nearly identical to brother Marco's) for his first American birthday! Celebrations abound on Upper Trout Gulch Road these days!

Thirteen members of the South County Chavarot - ten adults and 3 teens - attended a Sunday afternoon matinee performance of EightTens@Eight on Feb. 10 at the Actor's Playhouse in Santa Cruz. For any one tending to be narcoleptic or having attention deficit, the group highly recommends the former of seeing eight or nine ten-minute plays with slight pauses in between to discuss, stretch, wake up, or shift gears.

Beth Carman and Randy Norton are home from rehab and are doing very well. Beth would appreciate telephone calls and visits, but please call before visits. We are all happy to have them home again and hope we will be seeing Beth in the near future at the Fellowship.

Rosalie Dwyer is showing 25 of her photographs at the Bleu Spoon Restaurant, 207 Sea Ridge Road, Seacliff, next to the 78 station. Many of the pictures have not been on display at the Fellowship; besides the food is great!

Congratulations to Sarah Savasky who has opened her new law office on Pacific Avenue. We all wish her much deserved success!

Beverly and Bob Cashman, UU members who live at Dominican Oaks, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Dec. 29th at a family reunion party at Theo's Restaurant in Soquel.

UU People Column (Continue)

The celebration was arranged by their four children and was attended by 14 family members.

Adios to Rick and Sue Meyer who are leaving for San Miguel de Allende, Mexico on February 28. They have packed up their Toyota Sienna van and will be gone through June and will be staying in a small furnished house near the historic center of town which is an international art and cultural center in the temperate central highlands. Sue will be studying art and intermediate Spanish and Rick will study beginning Spanish. You can reach them at PMB #317, 521 Logan Avenue, Laredo, TX 78040-6633, a forwarding mail system. Bon Voyage!

UU Dinner Club

Below is the listing for March. Remember - 1 is host; 2 brings main dish; 3 brings salad; 4 brings dessert, 5 brings vegetable or any mutually agreed upon dish. Hosts, please call the members of your group as soon as possible to set time and place. You may change to a mutually agreed upon date if the second Saturday does not work. If someone in your group cannot come at all then feel free to call anyone else as a substitute. If there are any friend or members who would like to join, please see or call Iran Mohsenin 479-0105 or e-mail at nmohsan@earthlink.net.

Group 1

1. Collier-Young
2. Wilson, W
3. Holden
4. Newman

Group 2

1. Keith-Spiegel/Racimora
2. Hudson/Shackelford
3. Lamb
4. Rogers
5. Oxley

Group 3

1. Smith-Merrill
2. Forsyth
3. Brooks
4. Weller
5. Palmer

Group 4

1. Van Dyke

2. Cavanaugh Sandoval-Vigil

3. Aaker/Fihe
4. Lester

Group 5

1. Morairty
2. Bailey
3. James/McCrow
4. Wood

Group 6

1. Ratcliffe
2. Boone
3. Wilson, M.
4. Flanagan

Group 7

1. Dupree-Makalani
2. Mohsenin
3. Shaw
4. Thiemann
5. Anton

Member of the Month: Sarah Savasky

I was born in Boston, and lived in New Hampshire for the first ten years of my life. My parents attended a Unitarian Church for a short time and I have a few memories of attending Sunday School there. I did not have any other exposure to Unitarian Universalism until I visited this fellowship about four years ago.

When I was ten my parents divorced and I moved to California with my mother. I graduated from Santa Cruz High School and then went to Cabrillo for two years before transferring to UC Santa Barbara.

After graduating from college I married Paul. I have two children, Nick, 15 and Amanda, 11. While my children were younger I was mostly a stay-at-home mom. I also did volunteer work for several organizations including the Santa Cruz Aids Project.

I became a member of this fellowship about four years ago. I wanted my children to have a stronger religious foundation than I had. I was attracted to this fellowship, in part, because of its involvement in social issues. Shortly after I became a member I started law school. I graduated from Monterey College of Law in 1999 and have just opened my own law office.

I am currently serving on the Board and have recently helped get the Coming of Age Program started. My daughter, Amanda is participating in the Coming of Age Program too. I am grateful for all the support and encouragement I receive from the people of this fellowship and for the opportunity to support and encourage others.



FIRST SUNDAY POTLUCK
MARCH 3RD

The First Sunday Potluck will be held on March 3rd after the service and before the goal-setting meeting.

This time, please bring finger foods. Let's use our imaginations and see what we all can bring that do not need utensils- deviled eggs, cut up veggies, sandwiches, cookies, brownies, etc. As always, there will be a sign up sheet on Feb. 24 for volunteers for set up and clean up. Or call Barbara Palmer 724-8636 or call Iran Mohsenin at 479-0105 or e-mail her at nmohsan@earthlink.net.

Sunday, March 3

11:45 - 2:45

Congregation-wide Goal Setting

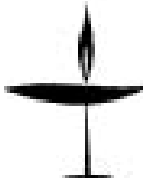
A half-day gathering after the service
(and after the potluck)
to set goals for next year.

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