



# THE UNICORN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Santa Cruz County  
6401 Freedom Boulevard, Aptos, California 95003, (831) 684-0506  
Website home page: Use <http://www.uufsc.org>

Volume 2002, Number 5

May 2002

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## Minister, Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley

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My office hours are Mon & Wed, 10 am to 4 pm, Tues, 12 to 4 pm or by appointment. Friday is my day off. I ask that you do not call on Friday or after 9 pm., unless it is a building or pastoral emergency.

## Religious Education Director, Sylvia Forsyth

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## The UNICORN

George Shackelford ..... Publisher  
Marsha Hudson ..... Proofreader  
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## May Sunday Services

- May 5 10:00AM: Salvation by Character-** William Ellery Channing, the first minister to publicly preach Unitarian Christianity spoke about the importance of salvation by character. It is our daily actions that define us and lead, not only our own salvation, but to the salvation of the world.  
Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley  
**First Sunday Potluck**
- May 12 9:00AM: Forum: In Our Culture, Is It Ok To Be Contented?**  
**10:00AM: Flower Communion-** Join us today as we celebrate the beauty of the spring and the joy of our diversity. Bring a flower to share as we create a bouquet representative of the many blossoms within our own Fellowship community.  
Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley
- May 19 10:00AM: Walking the Walk-** New Member Welcome. Members of our Fellowship will share with us the reasons they have found a home as Unitarian Universalists in our Fellowship. We will welcome our newest members this week.  
Service Associate: Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley
- May 26 9:00AM: Forum: When Do You Not Speak Out Even Though You Think You Should?**  
**10:00AM: Democracy and Spirituality-** Democracy is like the weather. Everyone talks about it but no one defines it. We will deal with democracy as a domain of social values, compare democracy and consensus, and discuss their relevance to the life of the Fellowship.  
Service Associates: Jim Weller and Gerry Bailey.

## Langston's Daley Thoughts



At the end of April, the Pacific Central District held its annual meeting in Santa Rosa. I had the pleasure, as my last official act as District President, to open the meeting, and welcome the 38 congregations of the Pacific Central District. Over 300 people attended the weekend of workshops and social events. Twenty-five of our youth Bridged from YRUU (Young Religious UU's) to UUYAN (UU Young Adults Network). We also thanked with deep gratitude our two out-going District Consultants, Bev Smrha and Rev. Robbie Cranch who have served our district well and are both ending their service (10 and 18 years respectively) with the district at the end of June.

It has been my great pleasure to serve our district as a trustee and as President. I have enjoyed the company of many fine volunteers as we worked together to improve the health of an already fairly healthy district. I am, however, looking forward to having more time for our goals and strengthening our leadership here at the Fellowship.

So many volunteers have given their time and energy to make this Fellowship a welcoming and warm home. So many have given their time and energy to bring meaningful services, vital social opportunities, and important justice work to our members and friends. Each of us gives as we are able and we are grateful to everyone who has shared their talent and time.

Outstanding volunteers include, *but are not limited to*, Marsha Hudson, Board President; Barbara Palmer, hostess extraordinaire; Karen Aaker, choir director; John Thiemann, consistent greeter; Dave Boone, master architect; Rosalie Kraft, scrip sales and canvass chair; Jim Weller, Jeremiah Campaign leader; all of our board members, teachers, childcare workers, the chairs of all of our committees, the canvassers, coffee hosts, ISSP volunteers, service associates, youth group leaders, and of course, our Unicorn publisher, George Shackelford.

I have no doubt missed someone in this list -- I assure you it is not intentional. There are so many people to thank and to be grateful for that listing you all would require more room than I have.

Shared Ministry is the lifeblood of our Fellowship. By sharing our skills, talents, and interests we bring ourselves into community and build stronger connections and a stronger Fellowship. I am so often amazed at the level of commitment, caring and compassion I feel each time we come together.

As our understanding of this faith grows, we grow. Not just as

individuals, but as a congregation. And not just as an individual congregation, but as a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association. District Assembly is one place where the power and vital importance of our faith shows brightly. The time we spend together strengthens our Association as whole. We are growing stronger and our voices resound with the promise of justice, equity and compassion.

May it always be so.

Shanti,

## What the Board Did in March

—Decided to appoint an internal audit committee for this year's annual audit, rather than hiring someone to conduct an external audit. The audit will begin at the end of July. We have been hiring an external auditor each year for a nominal fee, and we have been getting a cursory report in return. A thorough external audit would cost \$2000, which we cannot afford. Another advantage of an internal audit is that our audit committee will be asked to review our procedures as well as our books, which an external auditor would not include.

—Changed from December to November the date when the Board makes recommendations for use of the annual distribution from the Endowment Fund. This will make more disbursements possible each year.

—Considered whether to go to two identical services on Sunday mornings to cope with the crowding at Sunday services. Both Pam and the Board are reluctant to go to two services if alternatives can be found. Conducting two services creates a number of problems, such as how to handle RE, and it entails additional costs. Pam will work with Facilities Committee and Sunday Service Committee to look for creative solutions to alleviate crowding and avoid the need for two services

## Congregational Meeting - June 9

All members are urged to attend the Congregational Business Meeting on June 9 after the Service. The agenda is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Verification of Quorum
3. Minutes of previous meeting
4. Standing Orders: Approve 2002-3 Budget
5. New Business
  - a) Approve Jim Weller as replacement Trustee
  - b) Approve Mission Statement
  - c) Abrams Bequest Ad Hoc Committee: recommendations
  - d) Master Plan Building Expansion: recommendations
6. Adjournment

## 2002 General Assembly is Coming!

The 2002 General Assembly meets in Quebec City, Canada from June 20th (afternoon) to the 24th (night). There is on-line registration available at <http://www.uua.org/ga> and some application forms may still be found in the office. The website also contains an updated list of workshops and scheduled events.

Room rates typically run from \$200 to \$400 a night for 1-4 people although there are single beds available at Laval University for \$38. The university is located about 3 miles from the Convention Center.

Quebec is the oldest city in North America, and is found where the St. Lawrence and St. Charles rivers meet. A fortified city, built on a hill to provide a lookout point, the Old City (*Vieux Quebec*) has a distinct European feel. The Quebec City Convention Center (*Centre des congrès de Quebec*), where Most GA events and all exhibits will be held, is located on Boulevard Rene-Levesque just outside the walls of Old Quebec.

## Welcome To Our New Caretakers!

Please welcome our new caretakers, Nicholas Robinson and Jessica Davis, who have moved into the apartment with their baby daughter Lillian. They officially started their duties on March 7. Contact Randy James directly (W:425-4739 Ext.4 or H:458-4213) if you have any requests or concerns regarding maintenance or cleaning.

## President's Letter

Dear Friends:

As I write this I look out my window at the garden. The coral bells are blooming, the climbing rose is in full flower and my favorite rose, a delicate full petaled orange called "just joey" has four buds which are just beginning to open. It is spring, finally spring. The air is warm and everywhere I go I see gardens vibrant with color.

With so much life bursting about us it is easy to think of renewal. For me, however, this spring corresponds more closely to endings. The book I have been working on for over three years now is almost ready for publication, the classes I am teaching at Cabrillo College will be over in a month, and, my second term as President of the Board will end in June. Thus, although spring is usually when we look forward to the burgeoning of the earth—and of our lives, I find myself in a reflective state, looking backward over my two and a half years as the President of the Board.

There are usually multiple reasons why we decide to do something new. When I accepted the nomination for President back in the spring of 1999, I saw it, certainly, as an opportunity to be of service to this Fellowship and to the UU movement of which I have been a part for over fifteen years. But, to be frank, I also saw it as an opportunity to further develop myself as a leader. More to the point, I saw it as an opportunity to be a leader in a congenial environment in the hope that the experience would counteract some of the disappointments I experienced, and heal some of the woundings I received, during my years as a corporate executive in the eighties.

These two years have done that for me. As one of the Fellowship leaders I have found that people desire to do the right thing, rather than what is most expedient; I have found a commitment to giving, rather than a demand to receive; I have found a willingness to listen, rather than a pretense of listening; and, I have found a love of the community, rather than a disconnected gathering of people.

As President of the Board I have felt your appreciation for my efforts. Even though I have had my share of frustrations and made my share of mistakes, I have always felt the embrace of your acceptance. This has been the healing experience I had hoped for.

Blessed Be,

Marsha

## Results of April Congregational Meeting

**Membership of the Board:** Dave Wood, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the committee's Board nominees for 2002-2003, and the congregation unanimously elected the slate as nominated. The new Officers and Trustees are as follows:

President: Ed Newman

Vice President: Ann McCrow

Treasurer: Bill Sampson

Secretary: Barbara Palmer

Trustees: Stephen Holm, Patricia Keith-Spiegel,  
and Gerry Bailey

The remaining Trustees will be incumbents with overlapping terms who do not require replacements in this election.

The congregation also approved the appointment of Dave Boone to complete the unexpired term of Trustee Ed Ratcliffe.

**New Mission Statement:** Patt Taylor, Chair of the Committee on Ministry, presented a proposed new Mission Statement for the congregation. It would replace the existing Mission Statement, which was described by Rev. Pam as a listing of ministries rather than a single overarching statement of our mission. The new statement is a composite of mission statements compiled at the February 2 congregational retreat with Robert Latham, where members of the congregation reflected and articulated their ideas about the mission of the Fellowship. Members are invited to comment on the proposed new Mission Statement between now and June 9, when the congregation will be asked to vote on its adoption. Members may direct their comments to the Committee on Ministry or to the office. The proposed new Mission Statement is as follows:

We the members of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Santa Cruz County join together to foster our spiritual growth and to promote social justice. Honoring religious diversity and affirming the inherent worth and dignity of all people, we commit our combined actions and personal resources to these goals.

**Enlarged Committee on Ministry:** Patt Taylor outlined a proposal to increase the membership of the Committee on Ministry from three to five because of the workload of the committee. The proposal requires a change in the Bylaws, where the size of this committee is specified. The proposal was adopted with one nay vote and the remainder votes in support.

**Update by Ad Hoc Committee on Abrams Bequest:** Bruce Fihe, Committee Chair, provided an update on the committee's recommendations to date. These are described in another article in this Unicorn. The committee recommends that funds from the bequest not be used for operational items that normally appear in the budget, but for other special purposes.

## Update on 1992-93 Master Plan for Building Expansion:

Dave Boone reviewed the history of the plan and its levels, with drawings. The plan will be submitted to the congregation in June because a number of years have elapsed since its original adoption. Dave said that 200 is the maximum number of people we will eventually be able to accommodate because of parking limitations. We need to modify our Use Permit in order to move forward with an expansion of the sanctuary, with additional RE space on one side and additional chair space on the other. The Use Permit process will require at least the remainder of this calendar year. After that we will need architectural drawings, followed by a Building Permit, which will require another six months. We may be able to start moving on the back patio in June. Dave Wood and Marsha thanked Dave on behalf of the congregation for the extensive architectural consultation which he has donated for the benefit of the Fellowship.

## Women Walkers

Join us May 5th after the Potluck (if it's happening in May) for a mostly level hike at Elkhorn Slough. We should see the rookery trees covered in egrets, herons & cormorants, and hopefully see some baby birds testing their wings! In June we will explore some of the trails at the nearby "land of medicine buddha." Hope you have been out enjoying the wonderful spring wild flowers -- they'll be gone all too soon.

## UU Stebbins 2002 Summer Gathering

Would you like to spend 6 spiritually-rich and fun-filled days at Asilomar on the Monterey coast this summer, August 23-29? The deadline to register is May 10. To find out more, go to <http://www.serve.com/stebbins>

For a free brochure, e-mail your snail-mail address to: [Eileen36@pacbell.net](mailto:Eileen36@pacbell.net) or to [ClarkQuilt@aol.com](mailto:ClarkQuilt@aol.com)

**We'd L-UU-V to have you join us!**

## Guidelines for Announcements

While the amount of Sunday Service time consumed by announcements has been growing in recent weeks and some people have felt frustrated with the service leader that they were not allowed to make their announcement, the Sunday Service committee asks that you review the policy on Sunday morning announcements.

### SUNDAY SERVICES ANNOUNCEMENT GUIDELINES

The Sunday Service Committee recognizes that announcements are an important form of communication in our community. In order to accommodate all of these announcements, we would like to reiterate a few guidelines to keeping the service running smoothly.

-Announcements for the service should be given to the service leader or placed on the pulpit no later than 9:55 AM. (Yellow forms are in the office hanging next to the calendar.) Any announcements turned in after that time will not be announced. Please do not place announcements on the pulpit after the service has begun.

-Verbal announcements are limited to related events and functions of the Fellowship and will be limited to a total of 7 minutes. Those making verbal announcements are reminded to be respectful of the time limit so that others who wish to speak may have the opportunity to do so. If possible we prefer if you allow the service associate to make your announcement.

-Non-Fellowship announcements can be printed in the Order of Service or placed on the announcement board on the front patio.

-Announcements are not to be made during joys and concerns.

We would like to continue to limit the number of verbal announcements, and appreciate everyone who has given written announcements to Maria in the office. We encourage people to continue to do so by giving, emailing, or even calling the office by the Wednesday before the service so they can be added to the Order of Service. The Sunday Service Committee appreciates your cooperation in this matter.

## Our Budget Process

Spearheading the Fellowship's budget process has been the Integrated Growth Planning committee's campaign "Gather the Spirit, Harvest the Power." This program has emphasized membership involvement in planning our vision. We held several events to define our goals and missions before we developed the budget. Following that the individual committees and those most responsible for managing and operating our expenses submitted budget proposals to the Budget Committee. In March the Budget Committee reviewed and formed the overall proposed fiscal 2003 budget, which runs from July 2002 to June 2003.

The annual canvass is now underway. Volunteers are contacting each member to discuss their interests and concerns about Fellowship operations and to obtain a pledge of giving toward our proposed budget.

Our volunteers have copies of the current proposed budget and can show you specifically what is planned. The Pledge Drive runs from April 15 to May 6.

Following the Pledge Drive the results are passed to the Budget Committee. They will hold meetings on May 9 and 13 to adjust the proposed budget based on what members have pledged. On May 16 the revised budget will be presented to the Board for approval. Plans are to make copies available in the office between May 26 to June 9 so members can further examine it. Then on June 2 an open meeting will be held after the service where the Budget Committee will answer questions members may have. The following week on June 9 a Congregational Meeting will be held after service to vote their approval of the final budget.

- Linda Neher and Walt Weintz, Budget Committee Cochairs

## CUUPS: the Sixth Source

May-hey-hey! During this month, the Goddess and God want you to join them in the merriment of this fertile season. And CUUPS would like you to join us in some merry making as well. To continue the Beltane celebration, on Saturday, May 4th at 10:00 to 4:00, dance instructor Stephanie Free will come to the Fellowship and teach us many wonderful group dances, including a Spiral Dance, that we can do at other gatherings and rituals. This event is open to anyone who would like to come. A nominal donation will be collected at the door. Contact Patt Taylor @ 724-2778 or use the sign up sheet on the "Fun for All" board in the chair-storage room.

On Sunday, May 12th, after the service, we will have a Mother Honoring Ritual in the spirit of Mothers Day to show our appreciation to the Sacred Mother of us all: the Earth. Again, all are welcome. Bring a gift that you would like to give Her: seeds, something to plant, incense or sage, water, mulch, etc... Call V. for details @ 689-9660. Be Blessed!

## A Message from Sheila Carrillo

Dear UUF friends,

I wanted to invite you to come to see our very own Golden Torch folkloric dancers perform at a very special event that I am putting on for Cinco de Mayo funded by the Cultural Council of Santa Cruz County. I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing the children to hold their classes at the Fellowship; without this practice space and the transportation provided by Barbara Palmer, we would not have a troupe!

The very first Aptos Community Cinco de Mayo, a bilingual program honoring our farmworkers, will take place at the Cabrillo College theater on Saturday May 4 at 2:00. Teatro Campesino's Daniel Valdez will recount the migrant farmworker's experience singing corridos— ballads of the fields. U.C.S.C.'s folkloric dance troupe Los Mejicas will perform regional dances of Mexico and seventeen of our Golden Torch children ages 6-15 will perform. Homemade Latinamerican food, handi-crafts and bilingual books will be available after the program. Admission is on a sliding scale of 0-\$10 and children of all ages are welcome. Please come and bring your friends. (And of course if you want to check in to see if I need last minute assistance, please call me ASAP 458-4101!)

Regards and thanks,  
Sheila

### Unicorn Deadline



The Unicorn deadline for June is May 19th. Please place articles in the Unicorn office folder or email them to the editor by that date. Thanks.

## Abrams Bequest Committee April Report

Here is what we have done so far:

Categorized all proposals

Recommend that "normal budgetary expenses" not be considered

Recommend the following items and amounts:

Member Loan Refinance	\$25,000.00
Capital Improvements	
Patio	\$26,000.00
Finish Main Sanctuary Room	\$80,000.00
Solar Electrical System	\$26,000.00
Replenish Savings Account	\$10,000.00 (from first year interest)

Items still under investigation:

Sanctuary and RE Wing Expansion

(seed money/lead gift, not the whole thing)

Endowment/Other Investments

Ministerial Housing

Grand Piano

Playground Equipment

Basically we need to fill in the blanks in the following form:

Principal (\$500,000.00):

Member Loan Refinance	\$25,000.00
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Capital Improvements	
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Patio	\$26,000.00
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Finish Main Sanctuary Room	\$80,000.00
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Solar Electrical System	\$26,000.00
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Sanctuary/RE Wing Expansion	_____
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Grand Piano	_____
-------------	-------

Playground Equipment	_____
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Endowment/Investment	_____
----------------------	-------

Ministerial Housing	_____
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Major Maintenance	_____
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Total	\$500,000.00
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From First Year interest:

Replenish Savings	\$10,000.00
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Bruce Fihe

## First Friday Book Group

The members of the First Friday Book Group will meet at 7:30 on May 4th to discuss Ivan Doig's *Dancing at the Rascal Fair*, a tale focusing on two young Scottish men as they leave their native land in the late 1890's and head for Montana. The narrative reflects on the changes that come to them and to the country in which they have chosen to live; it's an exciting tale. After the discussion we indulge in more good talk and good refreshments, in order to increase our knowledge and our waistslines. Won't you join us? You'd be very welcome!

If this month's selection is not for you, please consider future choices:

June - *Crime and Punishment* by Dostoyevski

July - *The Trial* by Kafka

August - *Life is a Miracle* by Wendell Berry

## UU Dinner Club

This is the last Dinner Club until autumn.

Below is the listing for May. 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](mailto:nmohsan@earthlink.net).

### Group 1

1. Aaker/Fihe
2. Anton
3. Hudson/Shackelford
4. Holden, Jodi
5. Bailey, Gerry

### Group 2

1. James/McCrow
2. Wilson, Meg
3. Flanagan
4. Forsyth
5. Dupree/Makalani

### Group 3

1. Lester
2. Lamb
3. Newman
4. Thiemann
5. Weller

### Group 4

1. Oxley
2. VanDyke
3. Keith-Spiegel/Racamora
4. Mohsenin

### Group 5

1. Wood
2. Brooks
3. Collier-Young
4. Boone

### Group 6

1. Palmer
2. Rogers
3. Cavanaugh-Sandoval-Vigil
4. Morairty

### Group 7

1. Wilson. W
2. Smith-Merrill
3. Ratcliffe
4. Shaw

## Paper Scrip Program Ends

Paper scrip no longer will be sold at the Fellowship as a fundraiser.

Finance Committee and Board members determined that the amount of funds raised in proportion to the hours required to implement the program made it impractical.

Since the program began in 1996 there have been many changes. In 2000, Safeway discontinued their paper scrip and in 2001, both Shoppers' Corner and Deluxe Market did the same. The "umbrella organization," from which we purchased scrip from 10 stores, ended that service in late 2001, so we have had to obtain the scrip from several different locations.

The Finance Committee will continue to sign up members for Safeway E Scrip and from other E Scrip participants. Funds from these sources can help our budget considerably. For information on Escrip, go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com).

The Committee thanks all the faithful purchasers of paper scrip who have helped us in the five years the program was in operation.

Rosalie Kraft, Scrip Co-ordinator

## TGIF: Thank God It's Friday

TGIF is a purely social affair held at different hosts' homes on Fridays between 5:30 and 7: pm. It is open to all members and friends and there is no need to call ahead. All you have to do is drop by and enjoy conversation and fellowship and make a small contribution for the drinks and snacks.

May 3 Laura and Rick Stoker  
295 Mar Vista Ave. Aptos

May 10 Marujke Meijer  
41 A Cathyt Lane Scotts Valley  
440-9060 (call ahead for directions)

May 17 Helen Oxley  
100 N. Rodea Gulch Space 126, Soquel

May 24 Jane and Dave Boone  
58 Arbolado, La Selva Beach

May 31 Clayton and Joan Rost  
619 West Seacliff Drive, Aptos

**FIRST SUNDAY POTLUCK**  
**MAY 5TH**

**The First Sunday Potluck will be held on May 5th after the service. All welcome to stay and have lunch together. A-F main dishes; G-L salads; M-R vegetables ; S-Z desserts. Beverages will be provided by the hospitality committee.**

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**JUNE 9TH**  
**FOLLOWING THE SERVICE**

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