



# 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 10

November 2002

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## Minister,

### Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley

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Home Phone ..... (831) 689-9660  
Email ..... minister@uufsc.org  
My office hours are Mon, 9 am to 12 pm,  
Tues and Wed, 11am to 3 pm or by appoint-  
ment. 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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## November Sunday Services

- Nov 3 10:00AM: An Intentionally Diverse Religious Community-** New Member Welcome. Seeking a peaceful world is a difficult and sometimes daunting task. The diversity of faith, and cultural and economic backgrounds can make living together a complicated venture. As UU's we practice this living together and hold out a model of success for others to see.  
Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley
- Nov 10 9:00AM: Forum: All About Guilt**  
**10:00AM: Occupational Hazards-** The first in a two part series on the situation in the Middle East. Today I will offer an historical perspective on the relationship between Israel and Palestine and how they came to be enemies. Can there be hope for peace after so many years of hatred and pain?  
Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley  
The Choir will be singing today  
**Potluck follows the Service**  
**Congregational Meeting follows the Potluck**
- Nov 17 10:00AM: Occupational Hazard Part II-** Today our guest, Penny Rosenwasser, will show slides and share the story of her travels to Israel and Palestine As a Jewish Human Rights Activist, she networked with Israeli peace activists and witnessed close up the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, participating in non-violent protests and talking to many people on both sides in an effort to understand and seek peace.  
Service Associate: Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley
- Nov 24 9:00AM: Forum: Have You Accomplished Your Life's Goals?**  
**10:00AM: Poetry -** This morning is a very special service. We will hear the poetry or prose from the talent of UUF members: Gerry Bailey, Judy Anton, Gene Stevens, Mary Bailey, Dorothy Shaw, Susy Leachman & Marijke Meijer.  
Service Associate: Fran Gertler

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## Langston-Daley Thoughts

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Asking for help is never easy, even for someone who tells you that it is an important part of your spiritual journey! I hope that we have been able to act as good role models in this. V, Parker and I have been filled with gratitude at your response to our request. It is a wonderful thing to be connected with such a loving and supportive community.



I also want you all to know that I am emotionally well supported by family, close friends and colleagues. This means that I am available to you if you need anything. Please don't hesitate to call me if you want to talk.

Aside from our personal difficulties, I have had time to keep my ear to current events. I am filled with a great sense of relief in hearing that the Bush administration has chosen to back away from regime change as a primary focus of our preemptive attack on Iraq. While I do believe that Saddam Hussein is a bad guy, who is less than compassionate in his leadership, I also believe that the use of force will only lead to an escalation that is far more than anyone is prepared to handle.

(I still don't understand why Iraq is the target given that 9 of the 12 hijackers were from Saudi Arabia.)

As for North Korea- I am quite sure there is no danger that Bush would even suggest a preemptive attack there. My cynical side is far too aware that they have nothing we want- no oil, no gold, no resources that we need to control. The notion that the US Government is acting from a purely altruistic place is absurd. Bush wants access to oil and will use all means necessary to gain that access. Diplomatic means are less likely to provide such access, but more likely to provide long term solutions and stabilization in the region.

I am pleased with the UN response to the Bush administration. It restores my faith in the global system. It is possible that a firm threat will be necessary to gain access to Iraq in order to conduct real and productive inspections. If that is what Bush is trying to do then I applaud his actions. However, Bush and his administration have proven over and over again that they are not to be trusted. And anyone with the courage to defy their overbearing message or question the veil of silence has been labeled as unAmerican.

I can only hope that my colleagues are right when they conclude that the conservative right wing is grasping at straws as they begin to fall from power. This month's elections will tell a great deal about the real temperature of the country.

I don't like Saddam Hussein, and I am not a pacifist. However, it is my belief that rushing headlong into a war that will only serve to gain Mobil and Exxon unfettered access to cheap oil is simply wrong. Disarming Mr. Hussein is necessary, and with continued allied support and cooperation, we will find a way to do this peacefully.

Shanti,

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## Gratitude & A Diagnosis

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As most of you know, I (V) have been quite ill since this summer. Rev. Pam and I don't want to sound like a broken record but the gratitude we feel is so strong. The support and tangible help that has come from our community has really made the difference in the last few weeks. We want you to know that we finally have a diagnosis. I have a rare autoimmune disorder called Pemphigus (aka PV.) There is no cure for it but we have a reasonable expectation that I can attain remission in a year with the most difficult symptoms of lesions in my mouth and eyes being under control within 4 months. For those of you who want more information, please see [www.pemphigus.org](http://www.pemphigus.org). It's going to be a long haul with tricky medications but we are very, very optimistic about the whole situation. Thank you so much for all that you have done!

-- V

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## President's Message

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We have a President who seems determined to lead us into war with Iraq. To discuss anything else in this space seems almost trivial.

Probably some (few, I hope) are saying that this is a political issue, and we should not get into it. To them I say, "Please reconsider." Reasonable people may differ on the question of whether or not war with Iraq is the right thing to do at this point in history, but most would agree that war is a moral issue that is properly addressed by religious institutions.

This proposed war is so wrong on so many levels that it is hard to know where to start. We, or most of us, think of our Fellowship as a spiritual and moral framework. How will we amend our fundamental principles to read, "We affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of all people except many thousands of Iraqis whom we expect to slaughter?" Or, "We affirm and promote the use of the democratic process except when we don't have enough votes, and then we will do whatever we want to and the rest of the world can go fly a kite." Ask yourself this: will war with Iraq bring us closer to "...a world community with peace, justice and liberty for all"?

For a refutation of the various arguments put forth by the administration in support of war with Iraq, see "The Case Against War" by Stephen Zunes, an associate professor of politics at the University of San Francisco, that appears in *The Nation*, September 30, 2002.

At its regular meeting on October 17, 2002, the Board of Trustees passed the eloquent resolution crafted by Trica Keith-Spiegel that appears elsewhere in this Unicorn. That resolution will be an agenda item for action by the Congregation at the congregational meeting on November 10, 2002.

Keep the Faith,

Ed

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## Resolution to Oppose a Preemptive Strike Against Iraq

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Whereas the former USSR possessed menacing leaders and stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction hundreds of times larger than what we think Saddam might have hidden somewhere, and we held the USSR in balance—without a war—for over 40 years; and,

Whereas the available intelligence reveals that Al-Qaeda terrorists are supported primarily by countries *other than* Iraq, some of whom we call allies; and

Whereas subduing Saddam's armies would be a difficult task, likely to kill thousands of our young men and women and thousands of innocent Iraqi civilians; and

Whereas the estimated 100 plus billion dollars that could be taken from our tax dollars to execute an extended campaign would devastate our already deeply wounded economy; and

Whereas Americans would earn the resentment and loathing of many Muslims and peoples in other middle-eastern nations; and,

Whereas a war would likely place us at a heightened risk for terrorist attacks here at home; and

Whereas most members of the international community, including most of our close allies, oppose any aggression instigated by the United States; and,

Whereas by striking first we would never be able to prove that Saddam was an imminent threat and would never again be described as a "peace-loving nation"; and,

Whereas as much as we may agree that Saddam is a dangerous man, he could be replaced with an equally despicable despot; and,

Whereas our already stretched-thin troops would be stationed in Iraq for an extended period, possibly many years; and

Whereas we have already squandered much of the support and caring of the world community experienced after 9/11, and continuing on this path would further estrange us from our now tenuous friendships with many other countries; and,

Whereas evidence of *workable* Weapons of Mass Destruction in Iraq remains inconclusive; and,

Whereas using Saddam's violation of UN Resolutions as a reason to strike is hypocritical because U.N resolutions being violated by other countries, including allies, are substantial, and we are not threatening to attack them; and

Whereas, because the United States has workable weapons of mass destruction, we are morally obligated to use considerable restraint while exploring every other way of combatting terrorism,

We, the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Santa Cruz County voted in October 17, 2002, to oppose any preemptive strike against Iraq.

GIVE PEACE A CHANCE!!!

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## Green Reindeer Party

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The third annual Green Reindeer Christmas Party will be held December 14 from 3:00 to 6:00 at George Shackelford and Marsha Hudson's home at 114 Los Altos Court on the west side of Santa Cruz.

This is a jolly party that includes not only potluck refreshments but a wonderfully whacky gift exchange as well. Here's how it works:

For the Potluck: Based on your name's first initial, A to K will bring drinks, L to S will bring appetizers, T to Z will bring sweets.

For the Exchange: Marylou Lamb, the founder of this tradition, explains it this way:

All will bring a weird gift, something funny, inexpensive, or that strange what is it gift Aunt Henrietta gave you that you have no use for (otherwise known as a White Elephant except at Christmas). It will be wrapped and you will place it under George and Marsha's tree. Everyone will get a gift. We will eat, drink, and be merry! Sometime during the party we will open our gifts. Some will be happy and some will be sad to see what their gift is. But there is hope for if someone else wants our gift, we MUST exchange gifts until the Green Reindeer rings her bells. Ha! Then you are stuck with what you have in your hands.

For more information (and directions) call or email either Marylou Lamb (fauxlamb@frys.com) or Marsha Hudson (mnhudson@pacbell.net). From teens to 90s welcome.

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## TV Needed

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If you are thinking about killing your television, why not consider donating it instead? The Sunday Service committee is looking to replace our TV for use at the Fellowship. Quality counts, and size does matter. Our current model is plenty big, but the picture has deteriorated to the point where everything looks like a bad science fiction movie. We're looking for something with a screen size of at least 24" (preferably more) that still gives a good clear picture. Please contact the office, Reverend Pam, or any member of the Sunday Service Committee (Terra Collier Young, Karen Holl, Morgan Van Dyke, Fran Gertler, Andy Kreyche) if you can help.

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## Annual Auction Gala and Pizza Party

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All Fellowship members are invited to attend our Annual Family Pizza Party and Auction, happening Saturday, Nov. 16. Childcare will be provided and there will be pizza, cold vegies and lemonade for all.

John Barker will be our lead-off auctioneer again. Doors open at 6 p.m. for the silent auction, and pizza will be served starting at that time. The live auction will begin at 7:30. The silent auction in the gallery will close at that time.

Admission will be \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door, with a maximum of \$20 and \$24 per family. Children 5 and under will be free. Ticket sales begin Oct. 20.

With donations beginning to come in, we already hve the following items: eight delicious dinners, three condo stays, a vineyard wine and cheese tasting, a family picnic, a gourmet desert and coffee party, a gorgeous Indian sari, beautiful flowers and a purple teddy bear.

Most of the dinners will be in the silent auction. They will be sold by the individual seat for fixed prices. They are Japanese, Mexican,

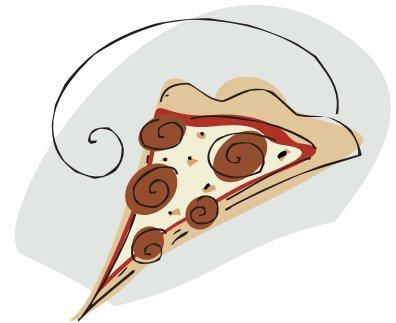
Jewish, Persian, Barbecue, New Year's Steak, Jane & Dave Boone's

dinner and Sylvia's dinner. The New Year's Steak dinner will be in the live auction. Bidders may sign up for one dinner before 7 p.m. If seats remain after that time, bidders may sign up for additional dinners.

Additional donations, both services and items, are needed. Please call Rosalile Kraft, 475-5660, or Laura Stoker, 688-6948, soon to have your contributons included in the advance list, to be available Nov. 10. Please bring items (not large) Nov. 3 and 10, if you can.

Additional items are welcomed the afternoon of the sale. Volunteers are needed to arrange, serve and clean up the supper.

Please call Laura Stoker, 688-6948, to join the crew.





Join other women for a stroll or hike the first Sunday of the month after Fellowship Service or Potluck. This is a very casual group usually just going wherever the spirit moves us and time allows on that day. Sometimes we try and plan ahead but we have no fall schedule as yet. It only takes 2 women to go for a walk together so don't let the lack of organization stop you from enjoying a walk.

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### CUUPS: the Sixth Source

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Grace Before Food: During this Thanksgiving month, consider the origins of our food and show reverence for those who bring it to us. The blessing upon food is a Thanksgiving to all who have participated in the preparation: the earth, the elements, the grains, the animals, the ones who have processed our food and sold it to us – all involved are due the gift of gratitude. We as a country are without a doubt truly blessed that we can celebrate the bounty of the harvest every year in such a grand fashion. And it is this blessing that we must be most grateful for.

“May the glory of the passing away of autumn  
lie about us fresh gold for a time.

And when the dark comes, and the cold  
may we remember how today we stand in glory,  
how we walk in bounty, heaped upon earth's dark carpet;  
how we move knee deep in abundance  
flung against night's winter curtain.

We are thankful for its coming and for its passing.

Let it be.

— Barbara J. Pescan

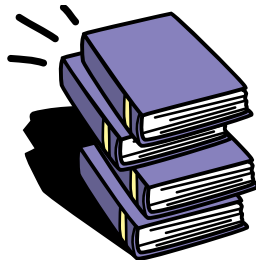
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### First Friday Book Group

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The Book Group meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30pm at Joan Robert's home. Please call her at 688-7598 if you have any questions.

The group will meet on November 1st to discuss *Catcher in the Rye* by J. D. Salinger. For December the book we will analyze is Freud's *Civilization and Its Discontents*. And you may want to get started on January's book, *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* by Alexander Solzhenitsyn.




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### ISSP Unterfaith Satellite Shelter Program

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The Interfaith Satellite Program is a cooperative effort among area churches to offer a meal and a safe place to sleep for the homeless one evening a week. Sunday evenings sixteen to twenty men are here at the Fellowship. Volunteers from the congregation prepare a meal with coffee, milk, and juice. When the men arrive 5:00 to 6:00, they will set up tables and chairs and do all the cleanup.

In October UU volunteers were Randy James, Edy Rhodes, Judy Anton, Erica Crawford, the Fish Family, Sylvia Forsyth, Mary Brooks and John Thiemann. Thank you for sharing your life in paradise with those in the community who need.

Dates available are November 24th through January.. Please call Mary Brooks 462-6480 or Email [Astara@cruzio.com](mailto:Astara@cruzio.com)




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### Yard Sale Results

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Twenty-four Fellowship members plus Rev. Pam worked hard and had a good time raising \$1100 at our Sept. 14 Yard Sale.

Many thanks to the members and friends who contributed the rummage and to the following workers: Mary Brooks, John Thiemann, Iran Mohsenin, Linda Neher, Helen Oxley, Stephen Morairty, Clayton and Joan Rost, Rosalie Kraft, Marylou Lamb, Joan Roberts, Sylvia Forsyth, Barbara Palmer, Ann Kane, Edy Rhodes, Leigh Selby and Larry Eachus, Andy Kreyche, Laura Stoker, Mark Rogers, David, Margie and Matt McArthur, Claire Dubois and Rev. Pam.

A special "thank you" goes to Iran and Nuri Mohsenin for the use of their wonderful Broadway location.

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## Committee on Ministry Starts a New Year with New Faces

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The Committee on Ministry has started off the a new year with leadership by Patt Taylor as committee chair and has four new members: Bruce Fihe, Marley Smith Merrill, Janus Blume and Mark Rogers. The committee meets monthly with the minister and has the charge of serving as the guardians of the Mission Covenant and using it as a standard by which to gauge the effectiveness of the Fellowship's shared ministry.

Some of the committee's responsibilities are to:

1. Review the Fellowship's mission every three years and annually review its long-range goals.
2. Develop tools to gather information from the congregation regarding the effectiveness of the Fellowship's ministry.
3. Facilitate communication and promote dialogue between the various entities of the Fellowship.
4. Anticipate and diffuse any conflicts that may arise in the fulfillment of co-ministry.
5. Plan and design a process to engage the membership in revisiting and reaffirming the Fellowship's Mission Covenant every 3 years.
6. Provide feedback to the minister regarding congregational perceptions of her actions and plan effective responses as needed.

Marley Smith Merrill is the conflict resolution coordinator for the committee, heading up a very important function of the committee: resolving conflict within the fellowship. Marley and all committee members invite fellowship members to share any concerns or interpersonal conflicts that may stand as obstacles in fulfilling our mission of ministry. All matters discussed within the committee are held in confidence.

Also, please note that on Sunday, November 3, Janus Blume will be giving a Pulpit Editorial regarding our Fellowship's Mission Statement.

-- Mark Rogers

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## PCD Post-Thanksgiving Camp

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**Noon Friday Nov 29-2pm Sunday Dec 1,2002  
Camp Campbell, Boulder Creek**

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**Nature hikes, Sing-a-longs, Bead Magic, Mushroom walk & talk, Children's program, Cable slide, Crafts, Digital photography, and MORE!**

Registration includes heated cabins with electricity, all activities and workshops and 6 home-cooked meals!  
Bring a bag lunch for Friday and snacks for the sharing table on Friday and Saturday.

### Registration Fees

Adults 18-64	\$140
Seniors/Students	\$120
Teens 12-17	\$120
Children 6-11	\$ 90
Tots 3-5	\$ 40

### Cancellation Policy

Before Nov 1, 100%
Before Nov 15, 80%
No refunds after Nov 15

Registration Forms in the Office - ask Maria. Or call Marley Smith-Merrill at 336-3322 for more information.

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## Agenda for the Congregational Meeting

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There will be a Congregational Meeting on November 10 following the service to handle the following business:

- a. Call to order
- b. Roll call of members
- c. Reading minutes of the previous meeting
- d. Special orders
  1. Election of Nominating Committee of five (5) members
- e. Unfinished business
- f. New business
  1. Allocate remainder of Abrams request:
    - \* \$18,000 additional for patio improvements
    - \* Balance to Building Fund
  2. Approve Endowment Fund grants
  3. Approve addition of Dave Wood to Board of Trustees to replace Jim Weller
  4. Resolution on war with Iraq
- g. Adjournment

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## Unicorn Deadline

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The deadline for December is November 17th. Please place articles in the Unicorn office folder or email them to the editor by that date. Please email computer text and photos. Thanks.

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## November Dinner Club

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Dinner Club meets once a month usually the second Saturday at different host's homes. Number 1 is host; 2 brings main dish; 3 brings salad; 4 brings dessert; and 5, if there is one, brings a vegetable. Hosts please call ahead and arrange time and place. If you need substitutes, call the alternates and if not available, try to invite anyone from the Fellowship.

If you would like to join the Dinner Club, please call Iran Mohsenin 475-0105 or e-mail nmohsan@earthlink.net

The first dinner club below will meet at a different time because they are involved in a Fellowship activity on the second Saturday.

### Group 1

1. Meyer
2. Forsyth
3. Smith-Merrill
4. Collier-Young
5. Wood

### Group 2

1. Boone
2. Morairty, S.
3. Thiemann
4. Newman
5. Rogers

### Group 3

1. Anton
2. Mohsenin
3. Lamb
4. Dupree/Makalani
5. MorairtyM.

### Group 4

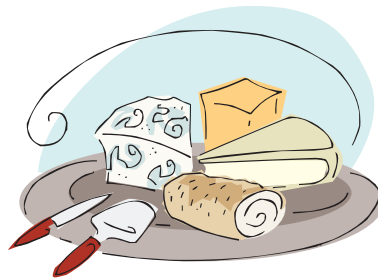
1. Hudson/Shackelford
2. Oxley
3. Aaker/Fihe
4. Bailey, G.

### Group 5

1. James/McCrow
2. Lester
3. Wilson
4. Keith-Spiegel/Racimora

### Alternates

Ed and Missy Ratcliffe  
Clayton and Joan Rost



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## November TGIF Meets The Third Friday

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*November 15th At The Mohsenins  
390 6th Ave., Santa Cruz  
5:30-7:00 p.m.*

TGIF is open to all and is a purely drop in social affair . You do not need to call ahead but just show up and contribute a small sum for whatever you eat and drink.

We need host homes for December 20, January 17, February 20, March 21, and April 18. We will begin once a week TGIFs in May. Please call Iran Mohsenin at 479-0105 or e-mail nmohsan@earthlink.net

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## Croning in November

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Calling all Sisters who wish to be publicly identified as "WISE WISE WOMEN".

The Crone's Space, a group connected to CUUPS, is organizing the Second Annual Croning event to take place on November 9, 2002.

The wisdom of the Crone is all around us. She is present in every "little old blue haired lady" waiting to be recognized and honored. She is the grandmother who cares for her own children's children. She is the maiden lady who never had children of her own. She is the homeless woman, the pampered matron, the hard working invisible woman who we pass daily, the lesbian woman who goes unnoticed, the teacher, the doctor or nurse , the everyday women. The wisdom of the Crone is all around us; we have but to notice her.

Last year over 50 women, all ages, came together to celebrate in ceremony the Croning of five women. The event was such a wonderful experience for everyone present that the new Crones and their Crone sisters want to share their experience with other women who are ready to take the next step in a woman's journey. If you feel you are ready to leave the role of matron and are ready to discover your next station in life as a wise woman, please call Patt Taylor at 724-2778 or any of the other Crones you know in the fellowship to reserve your place in this special honoring event for women.

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## Have You Checked Out The Forum Lately?

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The Fellowship's forum that meets the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 9:00AM is hoping you will join us for lively discussions. Imagine putting a group of Unitarians in a room and throwing out a provocative subject, any subject. The result is a discussion that will give you ideas to mull over and that will stay with you. Join us in the New Room and see for yourself.

**November Potluck  
2nd Sunday November 10**

**(before the Congregational Meeting)**

Hospitality Committee will provide sandwiches and beverages. Please bring finger foods so we can be ready for the meeting.

**CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 10**

**(after the Potluck)**

**Annual  
Auction Gala And  
Pizza Party!  
With John Barker  
as the lead-off Auctioneer  
Saturday, November 16**

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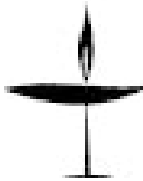
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