



# 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 2005, Number 5

May 2005

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## The UNICORN

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## Upcoming June Services

5th On Death and Dying  
Ed Newman SSA

8th COPA County-wide "Sign Up  
and Take Charge - Action for  
Housing We Can Afford" As-  
sembly - Temple Beth El -  
Aptos, 7pm to 8:45pm

12th The Great Story: All Ages

19th Fathers Day

26th The Paradox of Choice  
Andy Kreyche SSA

## May Sunday Services

- May 1 10:00am: Joyous, Joyous Beltane!** Come dance with us as we ring in summer with Contra dance caller Greg McKenzie and musicians. All ages welcome. A CUUPS production.
- May 8 10:00am: Foundations of our Faith** - We will be visited this morning by Rev. Catherine Linesch from Reno, Nevada to explore courage and hope in a time of change.
- May 15 10:00am: Spiritual Center & Civic Circumference: UU Values in the Public Square** - Unitarian Universalism has been described as a religion with a spiritual center and a civic circumference. How do we nurture social justice ministries that are an expression of faith, and a manifestation of our spiritual practice? How can UUs from many different political parties and congregations strengthen the voice of UU principles and values in the public square? Join us for some stories of challenge and hope from the UU Legislative Ministry, CA. Guest minister, Rev. Lindi Ramsden, Executive Director of the UU Legislative Ministry, CA  
**11:30am: Forum On Universal Health Care**
- May 22 10:00am: Honoring the Nurturers** - This morning we will hear from several fellowship members and friends as they share with us their relationship as a mentor ~ nurturer, or as one who greatly benefited by such loving care.  
**11:30am to 1pm: COPA Congregational Assembly** . Come learn about the COPA Affordable Housing Campaign.
- May 29 10:00am: War and Remembrance** - This service will be in remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service, as well as civilian casualties of war. Bruce Fihe, Don Foster and Fred Seamon will speak of wartime experiences and memories of friends who were killed in wartime.  
 Service associate: Fred Seamon  
**Congregational Meeting following the service**

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## **Rev. Paul Langston-Daley Resigns**

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The Board of Trustees and the minister met in March and concluded that the time had come for our minister, Paul Langston-Daley to leave. His resignation was accepted and the date of separation set for April 30.

In his resignation letter, Paul said, “You have worked very hard to define yourselves, to come together in common cause, and to establish financial stability... Now it is time for a change — I am no longer the right fit for your changing needs... and you now need to reflect on what your needs are and where you will go... As I move forward on my own path, I will think fondly of you. I will be unable to contact you for at least three years to allow your new minister to settle in and get to know you.”

In a signed agreement, eight months of severance was established as well as other benefits, and it was agreed that letters of reference would be given from both Paul and the Board of Trustees for use in the future search process for both. Copies of the Agreement are available from the Board on request.

The Board wrote, “Your efforts have been appreciated and many of us regret that it is no longer a successful match and will miss you.”

— KAA

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## **Congregational Meeting: May 29th**

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There will be a meeting of the congregation following the service on May 29th to handle two issues:

1. Pass the Budget
2. Welcome Congregation



## *President's Letter*

*As we reflect on the Minister's leaving ...*

This month will be our first without a minister in seven years. This means changes in how we see ourselves and how we will continue to fulfill our commitment to our liberal religious community and each other. Many of you have told me of your dreams and concerns about how this future will unfold. Now is the time to face these concerns and to support a new, expanded vision of our Fellowship.

The Board of Trustees and the Committee on Ministry will be working together to address the concerns and issues that come out of this change in our ministry. It is hoped that everyone who has questions or suggestions will bring them to those bodies. Our REACH covenant can inform our procedures for working together to clarify and resolve future issues.

Beginning at our retreat last fall, we joined in developing an amplified vision of our Fellowship by creating a set of future state goals. Initiatives intended to accomplish these goals are now ready to be reviewed and adopted by our committees and board when we meet in this month's Coordinating Council. Everyone is invited to play an active part in fulfilling these goals for us to move forward in our mission. We need you all.

I believe our dedication to Unitarian Universalism and the good will of the Fellowship will allow us to move forward with enthusiasm and renewed vigor in providing a home to those who, in the words of our mission statement, want to... "join together to foster spiritual growth and to promote social justice... and commit our combined actions and personal resources to these goals."

I believe that we must remember that in our religious community individuals are never asked to check their minds or critical faculties at the door of Fellowship Hall and that how we live our lives does matter.

Far from having nothing to say, religious liberals have to proclaim over and over again, against both religious and secular adversaries, the good news that the future remains open and the Fates are not in control.

— Gene Reeves, Unitarian Universalist Theologian

In faith,  
Kären

# Report from the Treasurer and the Finance Committee

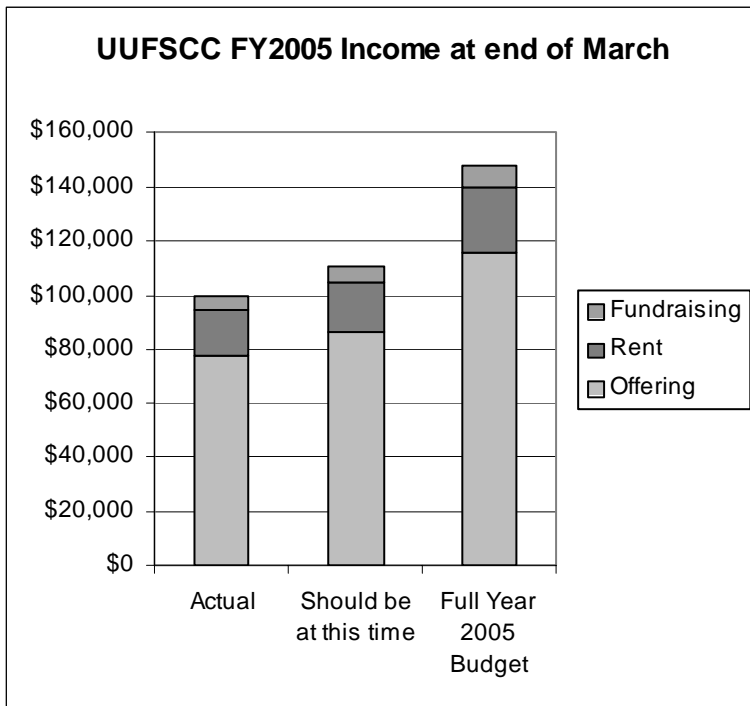
## April 1, 2005

### Car Auction:

Congratulations to Brent and Moyara Haddad for submitting the high bid on the Toyoto Camry. Their bid of \$4601 has been received and the Haddad's are now the proud owners of this exceptional car. Thank you Ed and Carol Newman for this very generous donation. It is greatly appreciated, especially with the Fellowship having such a large budget deficit (see below).

### Budget News

As of April 1, we were 75% of the way through our current fiscal year (FY 2005) but our pledge income was only at 63% of budget. Total offering income was at 67% while building use income was at 72%. We currently project that pledge/offering income will be 11% or \$12K under budget for FY2005. We hope to turn these numbers around by asking all members to send in the balance of their pledges, if at all possible. Thank you all for your help in keeping our Fellowship financially solvent.




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## Membership Volunteers

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Membership table volunteers for May:

- May 1 Judy Anton
- May 8 Fran Gertler
- May 15 Marsha Hudson
- May 22 Jane Boone
- May 29 Iran Mohsenin

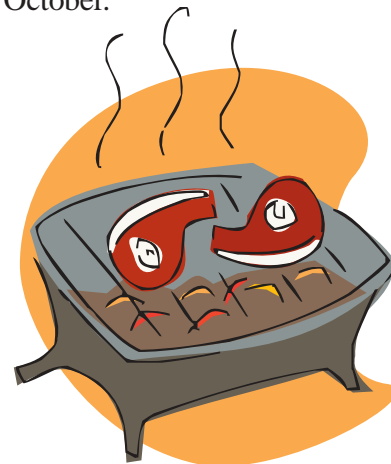
New Member classes will be held on May 15 and May 22 after the service. All persons who are interested in learning more about the Fellowship and are thinking of joining are invited to these two sessions that will be conducted by members of the Membership Committee. Sign up sheets will be made available at the Fellowship.

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## Dinner Club

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Dinner Club was going to be held in May but because the Membership Dinner is now scheduled for May 7 instead of being held in April, the dinner club will not be scheduled for this month. We will continue this activity next October.




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## Corrections

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There is a correction to the article about the Board in the April issue. First, we have trustees, not directors. Second, Lora Lee Chapman is not completing her own two year term, but rather is completing another member's term when they were unable to complete it.

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## HELP US FIND ENTHUSIASTIC, QUALIFIED CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS

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We will begin reviewing applications for religious education teachers on April 20. However, due to an e-mail snafu (which has now been corrected) we will need to extend the application timeline. We would like to interview teachers by mid-May but will continue reviewing applications until all positions are filled for preschool/kindeergarten, 1-3 grade, 4-6 grade, teen (Sun. morning), and YRUU (Wed. night twice monthly) classes.

We need your help in finding enthusiastic teachers who have prior teacher training and are philosophically in agreement with Unitarian Universalist principles. A job advertisement is posted at <http://www.uufsc.org/REC.htm>. We appreciate you sharing this opportunity with any qualified people who you think may be interested in teaching our children. If you know anybody who tried to submit their application and had it bounced back to the e-mail address, please encourage them to submit their application again.

Teachers are expected to teach a one-hour class most Sunday mornings between September 2005 and mid-June 2006 and attend a two-hour RE meeting one evening monthly. Pay rate is \$60 per class (including preparation, set up and clean up time) plus \$40 to attend the RE meeting. One teacher is sought to work an additional six hours per month @ \$20/hr doing administrative tasks related to the RE program.

Applicants should send a cover letter, including a description of teaching philosophy, a resume, and contact information for three references to UUFSCC RE Committee by e-mail to [dre@uufsc.org](mailto:dre@uufsc.org). Attachments should be in PDF or MSWord format. Review of applications will begin April 20, 2005. Questions should be sent to [dre@uufsc.org](mailto:dre@uufsc.org).

The UUFSCC is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified UUFSCC members are encouraged to apply recognizing that they will be evaluated using the same criteria as all applicants.



*A medicine circle in the sanctuary from February 5th*

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## First Friday Book Group

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In a few days, actually May 6th, the First Friday Book Group will meet to talk about V.S. Naipal's "A Bend in the River." Although written in 1979, one aspect we will look at is its relevance to today and this should lead to a thoughtful discussion.

What we have chosen for June is Henry James' "The Turn of the Screw." I looked for my high school copy of this tale but, alas, over the ensuing 62 years I must have gotten rid of it. Another one of those treasures devalued and discarded.

If anyone is interested in the history of our book group, pick up a copy of Aptos Bookworks Footnotes. There we are at the bottom of Page 2.

The group meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 at Joan Roberts' home (688-7598).

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## Forum On Universal Health Care

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The Social Action Committee will be having a forum about Universal Health Care (SB 840) on Sunday, May 15th at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



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## Unicorn Deadline

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The deadline for **June** is **May 22nd**. Please place articles in the *Unicorn* office folder or email them to the editor by that date.

*Please email computer text and photos.*

## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE SUMS UP A BUSY YEAR – GEARS UP FOR NEW CHALLENGES

These times challenge all UU's to strive towards realizing our principle of "world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all." Accordingly, this past year the Social Action Committee continued several ongoing projects:

**Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program (ISSP):** Every Sunday evening Fellowship members prepared hot dinners for the homeless men that sleep at the Fellowship each week. In particular, Sally Real promoted this effort, using SAC funds to purchase and deliver low-cost food from the Second Harvest Food Bank to supplement that provided by the "Cooks of the Day." The Fellowship presented each man with a gift at Christmas.

**Golden Torch Escuelita:** Fellowship members completed a fifth year of providing tutoring, books, and supplies to the trailer park next door, as well as helping put on a Christmas Party. Several Fellowship members have been involved with the Escuelita for some time, but special credit goes to Gene Stevens and Marsha Beyea for their caring commitment to this work.

**Health Care:** The SAC shepherded through a resolution favoring State Senator Sheila Kuehl's S.B. 921, organizing congregants to send postcards in support of this legislation. Fellowship members collected boycott pledge cards outside Safeway and Albertson store to help grocery workers preserve their health care benefits. Also, Harriet Blue sits on the steering committee of the local chapter of the *Health Care for All* organization.

In addition, committee members worked on a few short-term projects including:

Mailing postcards regarding our concerns about war and peace.  
Arranging transport of medical supplies to an orphanage in South Africa.

Providing Christmas gifts for homeless children.

Collecting \$500 towards the construction of the new Family Center.

Conducting a survey for the UU Legislative Ministry of California.

Hosting representatives from *Pastors for Peace* as they plan for another caravan of humanitarian solidarity with the people of Cuba.

Recently, the Social Action Committee and Fellowship COPA members began discussions about how to integrate the work of the two groups.

**Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action (COPA):** A number of Fellowship members participate in this bi-county coalition that utilizes personal networking and political action to address community concerns. Last year the coalition successfully lobbied the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to require 40% of new housing developments be made "affordable." Fellowship members Art Anton and Cindy Rogers have taken leadership roles on COPA's Health Care and Housing strategy teams, respectively.

**Coming Up This Year:** In conjunction with the Fellowship re-visioning process, the Social Action Committee is in the process of transforming itself in order to better accomplish its mission - engaging the entire Fellowship in the work of creating a society that nurtures the potential of all its citizens. Everyone is welcome to help us chart our future course.



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## Hospitality and Belonging Workshop.

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If you were at District Assembly this year, you heard a rousing message from UUA Moderator Gini Courter about the need for each one of us to welcome those who seek a Unitarian Universalist home...

We'll here's a chance to learn about and practice radical hospitality without the proselytizing!

**Hospitality and Belonging  
at the Starr King UU Church in Hay-  
ward California  
Saturday May 7, 2005  
9:30 - 2pm**

A workshop for UU Congregations on welcoming and integrating guests...building membership through radical hospitality and creating strong communities with a sense of purpose, service and joy.

**All are Welcome!!!**

Registration (includes workbook and lunch) is \$20 per person.

Please email the names of your team with emails and phone numbers, plus any dietary restrictions, directly to me at [mfavreault@pcd-uua.org](mailto:mfavreault@pcd-uua.org).

Send your check payable to PCD directly to:

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Oakland, CA 94609  
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## Member's Son of the Month: Brian Tong

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My name is Brian Tong. I was born at Dominican Hospital and I am 11 years old. My parents got divorced before I can remember. Even though they did that, I don't think my life could be better. I have great friends, siblings, parents, and a great teacher. I like going back and forth between houses because I get a change of atmosphere. At Dad's I get to play with my brother and sister and at Mom's I get to sit and read and be comfy, quiet and mellow. One thing I don't like about going back and forth is that sometimes I think, "Oh, I can do (blank)"; then I remember "Oh dang, I'm going to the other house."

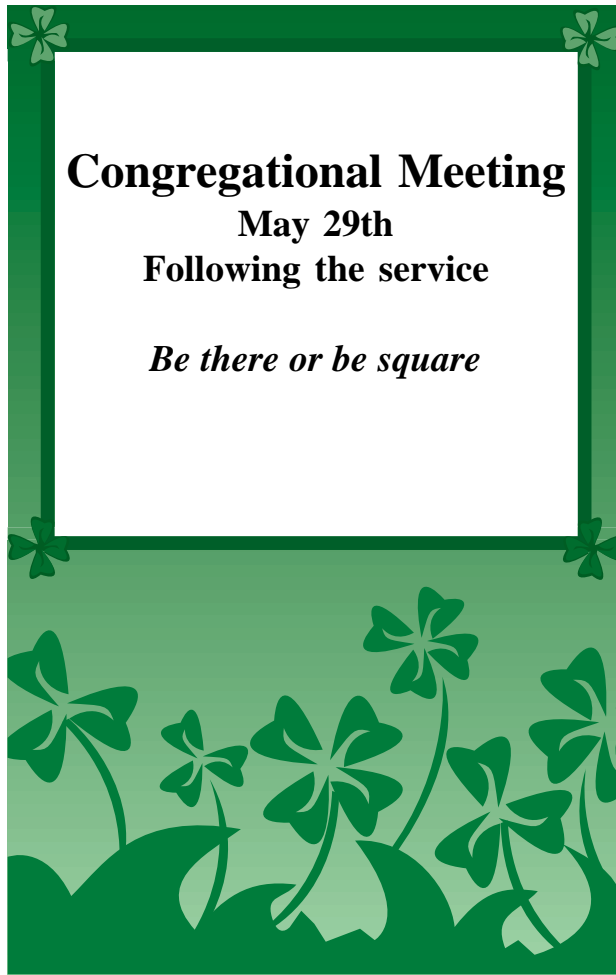
My teacher is very nice and is a good teacher. He talks kindly and doesn't get grumpy a lot. He and my friends are always there for me. I like to read fiction books, adventures, mysteries, fantasies, and hybrids. I might start reading science fiction since George Shackleford is looking for the first Prince of something for me, which I think is Sci-Fi. [*It is fantasy. "Nine Princes in Amber" by Roger Zelazney - Pub.*] I like to draw comics: Manga and regular characters. I want to be able to draw hands and feet, which I will be able to do once I get a book to help me. (I am earning it by writing this article about myself.)

Basketball, football, butts-up, pickle and handball are my favorite games to play at school. At home I like to ride my bike, run around, jump on the trampoline, and work on my potted garden. We planted Strawberries, rhubarb, raspberries, blue berries, hot peppers, cilantro, cucumbers and tomatoes in pots on our deck because in the open they would be eaten by gophers and deer.

I like to cook because I get to create food and eat it later. Also, I just like to cook (and I like to eat). I like the smells and when I mix things together, it's much better than the lone ingredients at the beginning. Some of my favorites are Fried Rice, Salsa, Chicken Casserole, Burritos, Lemon Curd, Horchata, Strawberry Shortcake when strawberries come in our vegetables, and Rice Pudding.

As you can see, "IN MY-Y-Y-Y LIFE I LOVE THESE THINGS!" (and the BEATLES)





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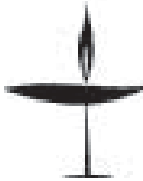
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