



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 2007 Number 6 June, 2007

Board of Trustees

Lora Lee Chapman President
Don Hoernschemeyer Vice President
Brad Trusso Treasurer
Lois Cole Secretary
Terra Collier-Young Past President
Donna Senko Trustee
Helen Oxley Trustee
Sue Meyer Trustee
Marylou Lamb Trustee
Sylvia Forsyth Trustee
Rick Meyer..... Trustee

Interim Minister Rev. Ann Schranz

Office Hours
Tue, Wed, Sat.....10:00-2:00p.m.
Monday is Rev. Ann's day off.
Appointments can be scheduled at other
times and are always encouraged.
Please call office phone or email
minister@uufsc.org

Office Administrator

Priscilla Mann.....
Office Phone (831) 684-0506
Fax (831) 685-6736
Email administrator@uufsc.org
Office Hours Monday - Thursday
10:00a.m. - 3:00p.m.
Every third Thursday 3:00p.m. - 8:00p.m.

Communications

Terra Collier-Young Publisher
Helen Oxley, Don newfarmer...Proofreaders
Dave "Woody" Wood.....Production
Email.....unicorn@uufsc.org
Webmaster.....Aurora Skarra-Gallagher

**Please submit all Unicorn related
material to unicorn@uufsc.org
The due date for the July/August
issue is **June 10th.****

June Sunday Services

All Sunday Morning Services Begin at 10:00a.m.

June 3

"Human Nature and Divine Nature: Liberal Religious Perspectives"

What distinguishes one religious tradition from another? In part, assumptions and experiences regarding human nature and divine nature. This is the first of a six-part whirlwind tour through key theological and philosophical dimensions of liberal religion, with an emphasis on Unitarian Universalism. Next dates in the series are June 17, June 24, July 1, July 8, and July 22. Rev. Ann Schranz

June 10

"Can Faith Help Heal the World?"

Can faith help heal the world, or does it do more harm than good? In this service, Dr. Tom Newman will explore how UU's can deal with destructive types of faith, while offering a positive alternative theology, as suggested by the *Network of Spiritual Progressives*. Tom is a Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Pediatrics at UCSF and of member of the UU congregation in San Mateo. Ed Newman, Service Associate

June 17

"Salvation: Liberal Religious Perspectives"

From what do we need to be saved? How are we saved from it? This is the second of a six-part series about key theological and philosophical dimensions of liberal religion, with an emphasis on Unitarian Universalism. Rev. Ann Schranz

June 24

"The Congregation: Liberal Religious Perspectives"

Why bother with participating in congregational life? Is it enough to follow a solitary path regarding spirituality and the making of meaning in life? This is the third of a six-part series about key theological and philosophical dimensions of liberal religion, with an emphasis on Unitarian Universalism. Rev. Ann Schranz

In the Interim with Rev. Ann Schranz

Most future ministers spend a summer working in a hospital as a student chaplain. Student chaplains talk with people who are ill or dying, and they talk with the families of patients. Occasionally, they administer rites of passage



(such as baptism), upon request. I rarely talk about my student chaplain experiences, but I will share one experience from that summer. This experience reinforces my support of immigration reform, which provides a path to citizenship for those who are currently in the country without documentation.

A young Latino boy was critically injured in a car accident. His relatives gathered at the bedside. His parents would soon decide to discontinue life support for their son. First, they wanted him to be baptized. The Catholic priest was not available. Since I was the chaplain on call that night, I baptized him.

I gathered information for the certificate of baptism, which the hospital would send to the parents: date of their son's birth, place of birth, mother's name, father's name, and so on. I showed the father the information so he could confirm that I had everything correct. His eyes filled with tears, and he said, "No, that is not right," pointing to his name, the name he had just given me. "Use my real name. You won't give it to the Immigration people, will you?"

In his time of grief over the death of his son, this father was afraid to provide his own real name for his son's baptism certificate. Any immigration reform which has a chance of succeeding must involve compromises by all interested parties. It will not be perfect, and it does not have to be. As far as I am concerned, it has to provide a path to citizenship for those who are undocumented and who are in the country today. As religious people, we must engage with the issues of the day. We must help create a world where we are free to use our real name.

Rev. Ann

*We are one, after all, you and I;
together we suffer,
together exist,
and forever will recreate each other.
--Pierre Teilhard de Chardin*

UUF Congregational Meeting June 10, After the Service to Vote on the Budget!

President's Letter

On Sunday we join together, we think, we feel, we sing, and we reconnect with those who are with us on the Unitarian Universalist path.



While at the Fellowship, it is easy to feel like a Unitarian Universalist, all the trappings are present; the conversations just flow that way. But what about the rest of the week? Is there a way to keep the connection present with us as we go about our daily lives?

If there is a way, what is it? For me, it can be a challenge to bring forward into the week and my daily life the sense of connection that I find while in the physical building of the Fellowship. Some of the tools I use are reading UU materials during the week. The Unicorn and the UU World are always available to me to bring me back. Also, I can check-in with the UUA.org website.

Shortly after I joined, I kept a poster of our principles on the wall. I liked that; it was a gentle reminder of the aspirations I had toward living and relating to the world. Maybe chalice art would work in your life. Whatever it is, use it! Although I am a Unitarian Universalist from the inside out, these tangible tools are useful to me. These days, I am brought back to my UU connection with committee meetings and volunteer commitments that keep me involved, all week long not just on Sundays. And I am glad for it.

Yours in Service, Lora Lee

UUA General Assembly

Are you planning on attending GA?

Are you interested in GA and want to learn more about it? On Monday, June 11th at 7:00p.m., there will be a pre-GA planning party to go over the plenary agenda for the delegates to vote on and to look over the various workshops and lectures we might attend in support of the UUF. All are invited! Please RSVP at terracoyo@yahoo.com or 462-4995.

Looking forward to the gathering of the tribe,
Terra Collier-Young



UUF Board Meeting Highlights for May 17, 2007

*Motions: Marsha Hudson and Linda Neher designated as delegates, and Helen Oxley as an alternate, to this year's General Assembly. Board is looking for one more delegate and one more alternate from our Fellowship. GA meeting on June 11

*Mt. Madonna School will be allowed continued use of Fellowship parking lot as a designated meeting point in case of a catastrophic event

*Further items of interest: Assistive listening devices system will be installed in June, thanks to Deborah Pembroke.

*A dinner to welcome new members will be held June 8, at the Fellowship.

*TGIF's have all but three dates filled (see page 7 for more information)

*Sunday Services Committee has a good summer of services planned. Marcia Heath was acknowledged for doing a great job as chair.

*Board voted on Bob Kraft and Mark Rogers to replace outgoing members on the Committee on Ministry.

*New webmaster Aurora Skarra-Gallagher will be working toward a visitor friendly website

Respectfully submitted, Lois Cole, secretary

UUF Remembers John Barker



John Barker--1947-2007, the president of the UUFSCC in 1991, died of cardiac arrest on April 30, just three weeks after his 60th birthday.

John served in the Navy during the Vietnam War and was police chief at Cabrillo College for 17 years, retiring in 1996.

In recent years he is remembered as a skilled and witty auctioneer for all five of our fund-raising auctions. In 1996 he acted as the character of a police chief in the Fellowship's Membership Dinner play, "Death Becomes UU."

John is survived by his wife, Wendy, his two children, Gwendolyn and Colin, and his former wife, Jeanne Clinton. "

"Death belongs to life as birth does.

*The walk is in the raising of the foot
as in the laying of it down."*

--Rabindranath Tagore from *Stray Birds*

Wayside Pulpit

*May we live our lives beyond separation,
knowing that nations and cultures are
made up of individuals.*

*May I be as one who rethinks my life, my actions,
and aligns to the glory we are all capable
of.*

*May I follow where I am spiritually guided,
and embrace what is new that is of love.*

*May love flow through me and lend my individual
life and light toward a better world.*

--Jacqueline T. Snyder

Endowment Funds Support Many Worthy Projects



The Endowment Committee is pleased to announce its largest ever funding of grant proposals from UUFSCC committees. We are supporting fellowship-wide training workshops, useful items, and the teen program.

Grants to six applicants totaled \$6883. The Social Action Committee received \$1000 to fully fund a workshop on "Confronting Racism, Welcoming Diversity" June 2, 2007. The Hospitality Committee received \$1800 for some all-weather tables and chairs to be left on the patio and \$1335 went to the Sunday Services Committee to purchase assistive listening devices for members who are hard of hearing. The Compassionate Communication Practice Group won a grant of \$720 to sponsor six workshops on non-violent communication (NVC). The RE Committee received two grants: \$1200 for Positive Discipline Training for Teachers, RE Committee members and parents, as well as classroom observations and feedback from a Positive Discipline specialist, and \$828 for a Fall Kick-Off Retreat for teens in the Sunday morning and YRUU classes.

We are thrilled to support these innovative ideas aimed at enhancing fellowship life and our impact on the wider community. We encourage everyone to take advantage of the workshops offered as a result of these endowment grants -- in particular, note the June 2 workshop on "Confronting Racism, Welcoming Diversity."

Susie Shane, Chair, Endowment Committee,
Members: Lorraine Sandoval-Vigil, Randy James,
Kara Bowman

Committee On Ministry Survey Results

The survey COM conducted January 21 reveals the ways we see ourselves fulfilling our mission:

***Our mission to foster spiritual growth**, we feel is met primarily through our Sunday morning experiences: inspired and well planned sermons, music (choir and singing), and small group interactions. Some believe we could do a better job by using more inspirational music--more music over-all -- and more meditation.

***Our mission to promote social justice** is primarily met by the Social Action Committee's work in bringing issues to the membership. In addition to our work with COPA (Communities Organized for relational Power in Action) and our long history with ISSP (Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program), the Board approves six Sundays a year when the congregation splits the offertory for programs related to specific social justice projects. We could better promote social justice by having a larger presence in the community and a larger presence of social action in all Fellowship events.

***Our mission to honor religious diversity** is met by our sermons that include teachings from a variety of religious beliefs (including Paganism), celebration of a variety of religious holidays, and our use of ritual and music in Sunday services. We remain diverse as a congregation in the variety of points of view as to how to focus our religious teaching: some members prefer more focus on Judeo-Christian roots; others would prefer more focus on eastern religions, and others want our focus to be more directly on UUism.

***We meet our mission to affirm the inherent worth and dignity of all people** by being a *Welcoming Congregation* and our participation in ISSP. It was suggested that by reaching out to minorities, especially Latinos, and being less judgmental of other members are ways to improve this affirmation.

***We meet our commitment to our mission** when we raise money for the fellowship through pledging and when we promote social justice. We believe that increasing the involvement of members in Fellowship activities, as well as a greater involvement of the Fellowship in the larger community, are ways we can improve our commitment. Annual goal setting and more focus on the use of our resources would also help us to do a better job.

Thomas Witz, Marley Smith-Merrill, Erica Crawford, Linda Neher, and Lee Cavanaugh.

NVC Training: Mark Your Calendar

Imagine connecting with the human spirit in each person, in any situation. Imagine interacting with others in a way that allows everyone's needs to be equally valued. Imagine creating organizations and life-serving systems responsive to our needs and the needs of our environment. Training in nonviolent communication helps people connect compassionately with themselves and others to make these dreams a reality.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Fellowship's Endowment Fund, beginning training in Compassionate Communication/Nonviolent Communication (NVC) will be offered at the Fellowship at no cost to members, attendees, and their families.



art by Jackie Morris

Although originally scheduled to occur this spring, time was too short to complete the series before summer, so the training has been postponed until fall. The classes will be held after service on consecutive Sundays from September 9 until October 7 and will be led by local NVC trainer Christine King who spoke at a service in April. If you are interested in participating, contact Kara Bowman (438-5460 or bowman@got.net).

NVC Practice Group

The Fellowship's practice group for people who have already had beginning NVC training will meet through most of the summer at 7:00p.m. on the first and third Mondays, including June 4 and June 18; vacations may cancel some summer dates. Please contact Linda Neher (471-2109) if you have had beginning training and are interested in joining the practice group.

Important Unicorn Information



For the summer, July/August issue, submissions are due June 10 because of General Assembly. For the September issue, submissions are due August 12 because of summer vacations. Please make a note of it as these dates do not follow the standard "3rd Sunday" rule. Your Publisher, Terra Collier-Young

Social Action Committee News

**The Green Sanctuary Committee* will be meeting June 24th in the Gallery at approximately 11:30a.m.

****Confronting Racism, Welcoming Diversity:***

On June 2, 2007, SAC will be presenting a skill-building workshop in prejudice reduction and community development at the fellowship. Registration begins at 12:30 pm. Workshop goes from 1p.m. to 5:30p.m. All are invited to attend. Free to UU members and families.

Because racism and discrimination permeate our schools and lead to violence and crimes against our children, we encourage parents to invite their children (12 years and older) to attend with them. Call Sylvia Forsyth (831-685-8637) to ensure your spot.

****A Convenient Truth:*** "There is little in the architecture of a city that is more beautifully designed than a tree." -- Jaime Lerner, the architect who became Mayor of Curitiba and made such radical and progressive urban planning changes that the world took notice.

On May 20, 2007, SAC presented the movie *A CONVENIENT TRUTH: Urban Solutions* from Curitiba, Brazil. Approximately thirty people watched this important film about Curitiba where problems of poverty, seasonal flooding, waste, transport and slums have been solved with little money but much political will and many groundbreaking ideas. Now residents of Curitiba enjoy over 150 km of bike paths, a bus system so popular that commuters left their cars at home and boarded the buses in droves, gardens tended by street kids and parklands by teenagers, park lawns mowed by sheep, with attendant shepherds and the Open University for the Environment where an old landfill once existed. The earth has benefited and the people have increased employment and affordable housing because of this bold experiment at humanizing the urban environment. The filmmakers Maria Terezinha Vaz and Giovanni Vaz Del Bello were present after the showing and we learned that 40 cities around the world have also been inspired to use Curitiba's example. They urge us, as individuals and as a community, to spread the word about developing cities of hope. If you have any concern about what is happening to our planet Earth and wonder if there are any solutions to our present problems, (who doesn't?) you need to see this film. See it and spread the word--plant the seeds into schools, into your city councilperson's offices, into your community. Hilda Berra, for SAC

Poet's Corner

Call Me by My True Names

Do not say that I'll depart tomorrow
because even today I still arrive.

Look deeply: I arrive in every second
to be a bud on a spring branch,
to be a tiny bird, with wings still fragile,
learning to sing in my new nest,
to be a caterpillar in the heart of a flower,
to be a jewel hiding itself in a stone.

I still arrive, in order to laugh and to cry,
in order to fear and to hope.

The rhythm of my heart is the birth
and death of all that are alive.

I am the mayfly metamorphosing on the surface of the
river, and I am the bird which, when spring comes,
arrives in time to eat the mayfly.

I am the frog swimming happily in the clear pond,
and I am also the grass-snake who, approaching in
silence, feeds itself on the frog.

I am the child in Uganda, all skin and bones, my legs
as thin as bamboo sticks, and I am the arms merchant,
selling deadly weapons to Uganda.

I am the twelve-year-old girl, refugee on a small boat,
who throws herself into the ocean after being raped
by a sea pirate, and I am the pirate, my heart not yet
capable of seeing and loving.

I am a member of the politburo, with plenty of power
in my hands, and I am the man who has to pay his
"debt of blood" to my people, dying slowly in a forced
labor camp.

My joy is like spring, so warm it makes flowers bloom
in all walks of life. My pain is like a river of tears,
so full it fills the four oceans.

Please call me by my true names, so I can hear all my
cries and laughs at once, so I can see that my joy and
pain are one.

Please call me by my true names, so I can wake up,
and so the door of my heart can be left open, the door
of compassion.



Thich Nhat Hanh

Hospitality Committee Reports



Hospitality committee wants to thank all the people who helped us be hospitable last month: Aurora Skarra-Gallagher, Iran Mohsenin,

Missy and Ed Ratcliffe, Dani Hope and V Kingsley, Ted and Marley Smith-Merrill, Ashley Davies, Joan Roberts, Mary Brooks, and Ruth Valdez.

Thanks to the good work of Mary Brooks and an Endowment Committee's grant to purchase new patio furnishings this summer! The committee is taking the summer off but coffee is still important on Sundays. Please sign up after the service if you haven't shared your hospitality lately.

As Joan Roberts said on Sunday, May 13, "This was fun and easy with someone to do it with!"

New Member Welcoming Dinner

To honor all new members to UUFSCC since July 2006 the Membership Committee invites you to attend a very special "New Membership Dinner."

Date: Friday June 8, 2007

Time: 6 p.m. Place: UUFSCC Sanctuary

The dinner is open to all UUF members, friends, and families. Please bring your favorite entree or salad. Drinks and dessert will be provided. We will need volunteers to help set up and clean up. Contact Hilda Berra 726-1194 or Iran Mohsenin 479-1015.



UUF FYI's

***Stewardship Saturday** will be on June 2, when we join the Facilities Committee and put our elbow grease into the caretaking of the Fellowship grounds and building. Please join us at 9:00a.m.

***Directory changes or additions:**

Dorothy Shaw, 444 Whispering Pines Drive, #104 Scotts Valley, CA 95066-4756, 440-9817

Marylou Lamb, fauxlamb@comcast.net

***Custom UUF tee shirts are available** after the service. Get yourself and a loved one a UUF tee shirt to wear this summer and for the various events we will be participating in: Santa Cruz Pride (see next column) General Assembly (see page 2) and the 4th of July parade in Aptos (See page 7). Youth are \$10 and adult are \$15.

This is how we put the FUN in fundraiser!

Come Out and March: Santa Cruz Pride Parade

If you want to march this year with the UUFSCC contingent, come join us by 10:30a.m. downtown. We'll be congregating near the corner of Cathcart and Pacific. Best parking is at the county government office buildings, as the parade will finish and the rally will start in San Lorenzo Park.

There will be a brief service beforehand. If you would like to speak, contact Fred Seamon at 464-8323 or Meg Lehr at 336-8460.



2006 Santa Cruz Pride with our new "Welcoming Congregation" banner. Photo by Erica Crawford

First Friday Book Group

The First Friday Book Group has some good reading suggestions for those hazy, lazy days of summer.

On June 1st we'll be talking about Somerset Maugham's "The Painted Veil" and the next night, Saturday, June 2, we'll be watching the movie starring Edward Norton and Naomi Watts. E.M. Forster's "Passage to India", which is our July choice, also has the story on film so the Saturday after the discussion on Friday, July 6, will find us gathered around the TV set watching the much acclaimed 1984 movie starring Alec Guinness, James Fox, and Judy Davis. Come prepared for a long evening; the movie is 163 minutes long. Should we have popcorn? Barbara Kingsolver's "The Bean Trees" is what we will focus on in August.

The First Friday Book Group meets on the first Friday of each month--when else?--at 7:30p.m. at Joan Roberts' home. If you need more information please call 688-7598.



Musical Ministry

* Open Mic

Date: Saturday, June 16,
Time: sign-up: 7:00p.m.,
start time: 7:30 p.m.

In the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship sanctuary
Information Phone: 831-689-0670



Open mic is primarily for fellowship members, but is open to all. We provide a comfortable venue for musicians, poets, magicians, and other artists of all ages to perform before a live audience. Refreshments are provided.



* **The Chant and Meditation Circle** will continue through the summer. We meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:30p.m. for an hour of calm. The summer dates are June 27, July 25, and August 22. *Join us!*

* **June '07 Choir Practice:** For information about choir rehearsals & performances in June, please contact Gail Swain 459-9248, gailsings@cruzio.com.

4th of July Parade in Aptos



Who would like to be the organizer for this year's parade? In the past we have had a great turn out for this event and it's an enjoyable way to get our name out in the community--which is a part of our mission statement. *Let's make a showing!!*

TGIF: Fellowship and Fun



Thank Goodness It's Friday, an informal drop-in gathering at members' homes from 5:30p.m. to ~7:30p.m., begins this month. Hosts provide advance directions as

well as drinks and hors d'oeuvres, and guests contribute to the cost. Everyone is welcome!

Please join us for the fun and fellowship on the following dates.

June 1 - Gail Swain

June 8 - New Member potluck at the Fellowship

June 15 - Woody & Jenny Wood

June 22 - Iran & Nuri Mohsenin

June 29 - Eve & Fred Seamon

July 6 - Donna Senko

Hosts are still needed for July 13, September 7, 14 (August is filled.) Thanks to all. The early sign-ups have been great.

Kären Aaker

CUUPS: the 6th Source and 7th Principle

The fog rolls in and the fog rolls out; such is summer in Santa Cruz. But let us be mindful of the most magnificent gift that the fog brings: redwood trees! Perhaps one foggy day you might stroll amongst the redwoods and stand in a redwood circle, on the very spot where the great mother tree once stood, now surrounded by her daughters. Let your senses take it all in; breathe in deep their loamy scent, listen closely to the life all around, to really appreciate their height, look up, then sit in meditation with your back against a trunk and feel their embrace. Redwood trees are a gift indeed.



Last year CUUPS began a tradition of leading drum circles in the summer and would like to do it again, so mark these dates, times, and places on your calendars: Sunday, July 15, after the service in the Oak Grove on the Fellowship grounds; and Sunday, August 19, after the service at the south end of Rio Del Mar beach (fog permitting!) If you have any other ideas for CUUPS events like labyrinth walks, and moon or sabbat rituals, please contact me at terracoyo@yahoo.com or 462-4995.

Honoring the spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature, and respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part,

Blessed be, Terra Collier-Young

Calling Dancers - One and All



I'm planning to develop a service called *Dance, An Affirmation of Life*, to be done on August 5 or 12. If you are interested in participating in, and/or contributing to the ideas for such a service, but were unable to attend the May 27 meeting about it, please call me at 464-8442, or email me at marcia200heath@yahoo.com.



I would love to hear from you, whether you're a young student, a former professional dancer, or any-

thing in between. Think about the joy dance brings to you, what it means to you, and consider contributing in some way to this service.

Marcia Heath

"Sun Dance" and "Moon Dance" by Alfred Gockel



Big Hawaiian Fun at the 2007 Membership Dinner. Aloha!!



Photos by Erica Crawford

If you see a red dot on your mailing label your UNICORN subscription expires with this issue.
To renew, send \$12 to the Fellowship—or join us and receive it as a membership benefit.

**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
of Santa Cruz County
6401 Freedom Blvd., Aptos, CA 95003**

*Time Value Material
Please Do Not Delay*

Non-Profit U.S. Postage Paid Aptos, CA Permit #11



Return Service Requested