



# 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 11

December 2007

## Board of Trustees

Marsha Hudson ..... President  
Bruce Fihe ..... Vice President  
Kara Bowman ..... Treasurer  
Marcia Heath ..... Secretary  
Lora Lee Chapman ..... Past President  
Donna Senko ..... Trustee  
Helen Oxley ..... Trustee  
Randy James ..... Trustee  
Marylou Lamb ..... Trustee  
Jenny Wood ..... Trustee  
Mel Cole ..... Trustee

## Consulting Minister

**Rev. Deane Oliva**

Office Hours: Tuesday 12-4pm  
Wednesday 2-6pm  
Thursday 12-4pm  
Please feel free to call for an appointment  
Cell phone ..... 270-779-9222  
email ..... [cogenisys@aol.com](mailto:cogenisys@aol.com)  
Staff meeting: Tuesdays 1-2pm

## Office Administrator

Priscilla Mann .....  
Office Phone ..... (831) 684-0506  
Fax ..... (831) 685-6736  
Email ..... [administrator@uufsc.org](mailto:administrator@uufsc.org)  
Office Hours Monday - Thursday  
10:00a.m. - 3:00pm  
Staff meeting: Tuesdays 1-2pm

## The Unicorn and Website

Terra Collier-Young ..... Publisher  
Helen Oxley, Don Newfarmer ..... Proofreaders  
Fran McBrien ..... Co-publisher  
Dave "Woody" Wood ..... Production

Website address ..... [www.uufsc.org](http://www.uufsc.org)  
Aurora Skarra-Gallagher ..... Webmaster  
Email ..... [uuweb@uufsc.org](mailto:uuweb@uufsc.org)  
..... [communications@uufsc.org](mailto:communications@uufsc.org)  
..... [unicorn@uufsc.org](mailto:unicorn@uufsc.org)

**Due date for the January issue is  
December 16**

## December Sunday Services

All Sunday Morning Services Begin at 10:00am

Dec 2 **"Stress and Forgiveness"**  
Stresses and distresses occur in surging waves in our lives, as recurrent as ocean tide. Forgiving and forgiveness follow when we dive in and swim with the current. Rev. Margaret Keip will be our pulpit guest this morning.

Dec 9 **"To You I Give, From You I Receive"**  
UULMCA, the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of California is a statewide justice ministry that serves to empower the moral voice of Unitarian Universalist values in the public arena. The Offertory today will be a split collection, with one half of the proceeds going to support UULMCA. Rev. Deane Oliva, Brian Heath, Service Associate

Dec 16 **"Elder Wisdom"**  
This is an opportunity to sit back and take notice of the wisdom of our elders. What do they have to tell us and will we listen to the experience of their lives? Please join us after the service for a celebration.  
Rev. Deane Oliva, Robert Kraft, Service Associate

Dec 23 **"Intergenerational Holiday Surprise"**  
Come and enjoy!  
Rev. Deane Oliva, Brent Haddad, Service Associate

Dec 24 **"Christmas Eve Services"**

6pm Christmas Eve Family Service

8pm Holiday Vespers Service

Reception between services.



Dec 30 **"Chant and Meditation Circle"**

This morning we invite you to welcome the New Year with calm reflection and soul comforting chants, and give you the experience of what the monthly Chant and Meditation Circle has to offer.

Jenean Watrous and

Terra Collier-Young, Service Associates

---

## Opening Words

---

### *Impassioned Clay*

Deep in ourselves resides the religious impulse.  
Out of the passions of our clay it rises.

We have religion when we stop deluding ourselves that we are self-sufficient, self-sustaining, or self-derived.

We have religion when we hold some hope beyond the present, some self-respect beyond our failures.

We have religion when our hearts are capable of leaping up at beauty, when our nerves are edged by some dream in the heart.

We have religion when we have an abiding gratitude for all that we have received.

We have religion when we look upon people with all their failings and still find in them good; when we look beyond people to the grandeur in nature and to the purpose in our own heart.

We have religion when we have done all that we can, and then in confidence entrust ourselves to the life that is larger than ourselves.



by Ralph N. Helverson

---

## Save the Dates of December 1-2 for a “Rich Opportunity”

---

We are soooo lucky! On November 18 our District Executive, Cilla Raughley, spent time with us at a Town Hall meeting in which we expressed our feelings and concerns about the “vote to call” process. Now the Reverend Margaret Keip will join us the weekend of December 1-2. This extended visit offers members and friends of UUFSCC a rich opportunity to share and be heard.

On Saturday, Rev. Marg will meet with the Committee on Ministry and the Board of Trustees. She will also conduct the service on Sunday. On Saturday and Sunday afternoons she will meet with members and friends. The Board has scheduled two afternoon “teas.” By this writing you probably know more of the specifics. If you have not already signed up or would like more information, please call the Fellowship Office, 684-0506.

Submitted by Rev. Deane

---

## A Message from the President

---

There will be a special congregational meeting regarding finances on January 27, 2008, after the service. Please mark the date on your calendars.

---

## Committee On Ministry

---

Since I’m writing this column just after our Town Hall meeting with Cilla, I have not had a lot of time to digest all my feelings and observations. In two hours a lot was said, shared, expressed, aired, etc. Although it was time to end, I don’t think everyone got to say all they wanted to or everyone felt heard. We know some did not feel safe sharing, so we have some more work to do as we live our principles.

I am not sure how to proceed and what the role of Committee on Ministry should be. As Cilla pointed out we have chartered new ground with considering calling our consulting minister and there is no established path to follow.

Our leadership and many others have been putting in countless hours trying to do the right thing,



whether it is to listen, gather information, plan and attend meetings, make calls, etc. I, for one, am reaching at least temporary burnout and am very worried that others are too, and I want to have some energy left for the moving forward to come.

I would like to see our community continue moving forward with healing and love, practicing the nonjudgmental principles many of us learned in the recent Nonviolent Communication training. We still have the gift of eight months or so with Rev. Deane. Let’s get the most we can out of that time. Let’s grow, learn, share, and love with her. She has so much to offer us. We are a wonderful group of people with very diverse ideas and opinions; so I say again, let’s keep our eye on the prize, remember the big picture, our longer-term interests and let’s move toward a future we all want to share.

Have a good holiday season! Next time you read my words here it will be 2008.

-- Erica Crawford for the C.O.M. (myself, Bob Kraft, Linda Neher and Lee Cavanaugh)

Note: the Committee on Ministry is still the place to bring conflicts; please ask for help if you need some.

---

## Minister's Musings

---

The season is upon us, let us cheer! Yes, it is the season when everyone is encouraged to smile and greet others with warmth. It is the season when we are petitioned to give, give, give. Isn't it wonderful to be burdened with wealth!



It is the season when we remember our loved ones with memories and tears of love. It is the season in which we are sad with those who are in times of trouble or unrest. It is the season when we remember how important we are to each other. Let us dwell on these memories.

I love being a part of this community. This has been and will be such a rich year for me. UUFSCC is such a strong and loving community; a welcoming and forgiving community as well. Right now we are transitioning into a new phase. We are about to lay the foundation for a strong period of growth and we want to do it right. Right now the Board is putting together a task force for growth. The task force will have a finite number of members but it will attempt to speak with and for the larger fellowship. So, of course, they need your input. Will you offer it freely? Will you speak your concerns? Will you brainstorm with them? Growth will affect EVERYONE.

Right now there is a lot of talk about going to two services. That is an obvious plan and it may be the right one, but perhaps some of you have other ideas or concerns which need to be addressed. Think about our history. Do we want to hear from you? Of course! Do we want you to share differing opinions? Yes! Will we get 100% of us wanting exactly the same thing? ...YES! We all want a vibrant, nourishing community in which we strive for spiritual growth and social justice. That is why we are here.

How do we preserve our sense of intimacy? I urge you to consider this past month. How are we close? We talk, rant, rave, respect, and love each other through the good times and the trials. We feel comfortable trying out our nonviolent communication methods to say things that are in our hearts.

We journey together.

Namaste, Deane

---

## A Letter from Karen Genter

---

As much as I would like, I cannot be here today, but my heart is with Deane and with you as I fly cross-country to support my uncle. I, too, am torn between where I'd like to be and where I need to be. I write from my heart.

It seems so long ago that we first arrived here. I was full of concerns moving cross-country, so far away from my roots.

Many of you call this PLACE paradise. The paradise that [Deane and I] have found here lies in this welcoming fellowship of YOU! You are a family of caring, open hearts and minds that we treasure.

Today I would like to remind you of why you are here and why you came here in the beginning as friends and community working together to make a difference.

I have been saddened to hear the stories and read the emails that Deane has shared with me. Not for just us, but for the hurt I hear and the loss we feel.

We will all survive and learn. Healing and growth should be part of that process. I'm concerned that you will allow logic and knowledge to rule and that your heart will be left unheard and broken. That you will turn away from the goals and ideals that brought you here.

This is the time to turn to your family and friends, this fellowship. It is time to take hold of the hand next to yours and begin to rebuild and heal; to listen to the other from your heart and offer yours in return. Together we will grow.

Thank you for being here for us, Karen  
(Read at the November 18 meeting)



Karen Genter, UUF Office Administrator Priscilla Mann, Kären Aaker, and COPA representative Karen Mallory at the "Sky's the Limit" Auction, 2007

---

## Social Action Committee News

---

**SAC Open House:** On December 9, there will be a special Social Action Committee “Split-Collection” service. The money raised at this service will go toward our membership in the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry Action Network, which supports advocacy on behalf of specific social justice legislation and/or mobilize support for or against specific social justice ballot initiatives in California.

Their goals match our own, for example, health care reform, marriage equality and the protection of the environment. Rev. Deane and the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry Representatives will present at the service, Brian Heath will be Sunday Service Associate.



After the service there will be a potluck with tables set up advertising our Fellowship-based social justice program and features, including, but not limited to: Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action [COPA], Follow Your Heart, Green Sanctuary, Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program, [ISSP], Pastors for Peace, and Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. The Social Action Committee and its member affiliates will be providing food for the coffee hour.

At the November SAC meeting the following measures were voted and forwarded to the UUFSCC



Board: 1) Full endorsement of State Senator Sheila Kuehl’s SB 840 Single Payer Health Insurance Plan; and, 2) A proposal to have the December 9 Service a Split-Collection service.

Submitted by Brian Heath

**Green Sanctuary:** The Green Team sent a proposed draft Procurement Policy to the Board for UUFSCC endorsement. Copies will be made available to Committee Chairs and members for comment and suggestions.

We wish very much to thank Susie Shane for purchasing the new recycling containers that will be more easily recognizable to all, and to Woody Wood for his generous donation toward the purchase of our new DVD projector; Chea Berra and Ruth Valdez did the background work.

As the holiday season begins here are a few tips from the Green Team:

\* EnergyWatch says use of LED lights for holiday decorating reduces electricity use. Or if possible try solar decorations.

\* For travel if you can, use public transportation; ask for a hybrid if you need to rent a car; or put some make-up money into the Carbonfund.org, a tax deductible organization that is endorsed by the UU Ministry for Earth to help offset your carbon footprint. Interesting information at that site as well.

\* For shopping: bring your own tote for shopping. Look for green gifts. Fair trade finds are at: [tenthousandvillages.com](http://tenthousandvillages.com) and [worldofgood.com](http://worldofgood.com). Look for local green shops downtown.

\* For nonmaterial gifts: [newdream.org/holiday](http://newdream.org/holiday) And remember: eat less meat, eat local organic produce and walk when possible. Save your waist and save the planet!

Blessed Be and Happy Holidays from  
Linda Milgate and the Green Team

---

## There are Many Reasons to Celebrate the Season!

---



December 5



December 22



December 25



December 26



December 31

---

## Philposopher's Stone

---

*Harming Children is a crime.*

*Deceiving War:*

*Harming Children is "too bad."*

*Cherish Children.*



*Submitted by Gene Stevens*

---

## UUF Board Meeting Highlights

---

**Board of Trustees overview:** The UUFSCC Board meets the third Thursday of each month. Fellowship members who would like to attend board meetings are welcome. The board is comprised of five officers and five trustees. The minister and a representative from the Committee on Ministry attend all board meetings. Each of the trustees is a liaison to a cluster of committees and reports monthly by email about those committees' activities. This system, put into effect in July 2007, has been working well to keep all the members of the board informed while not taking up meeting time for reporting.

The September and October board meetings were largely devoted to issues and requirements related to the call for Rev. Deane as our settled minister. This included approval of the Negotiating Team and directing them in regard to the compensation package, as well as discussion and approval of the Letter of Call. The board also decided on the type of search committee it should establish, in the event that the call was unsuccessful. Other items of interest are:

**September 20, 2007 Board Meeting:**

\*Lora Lee Chapman resigned as the Board's Treasurer, but stayed on the Board and the Executive Committee as Past President. On September 15, Kara Bowman became Treasurer.

**October 18, 2007 Board Meeting:**

\*The Board endorsed the UUA President Bill Sinkford's campaign "Not another Dollar, Not Another Life."

\*Lora Lee Chapman agreed to form a task force for the purpose of finding a Volunteer Coordinator.

\*The Trustee position for the RE Cluster vacated by Marylou Lamb in September was filled by Helen Isherwood in October. (Helen has since resigned and thus a replacement is needed who has interest and experience with our RE program.)

**November 15, 2007 Board Meeting:** The principal business of the meeting was to discuss how to respond to the concerns raised by the results of the Oct. 28 vote on calling Rev. Deane as our settled minister. As per the request of petitioners, it was agreed that we would schedule a special meeting to address our finances, especially in regard to a financial package for a future minister. The board also agreed to bring in outside facilitators, including PCD Executive Director Cilla Raughley, and UUA recommended Margaret Keip to help us process our reactions and concerns, and to find a way to move forward together.

Respectfully submitted, Marcia Heath, Secretary \_ 5 \_

---

## Congregational Meeting

---

As part of the board's response to the petition presented them regarding the October 28 vote, there will be a congregational meeting on January 27, 2008 after the service. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the fellowship's finances. The exact agenda and timing of the meeting have not been set as of the date of December's Unicorn deadline. Please hold this date and more information will follow.

Submitted by Kara Bowman, Treasurer



---

## Who Owns the Fellowship?

---

Unless you have specifically opted out, most weeks members receive an email, which lists current UUFSCC, events to "owners-members." The question that naturally arises (for me, at least) is to define who owns the congregation. Dan Hotchkiss, senior consultant at the Alban Institute, answers the question for us and gives us much food for thought. What follows are a few pertinent excerpts.

*"The governing board controls but does not own the congregation or its property. Neither do the donors or the members.*



*The "owner" of a congregation is its mission; the board controls the property for one exclusive purpose: to fulfill the mission. When board members vote, they represent neither themselves nor the members who voted them into office. Instead, they are trustees whose duty is to vote the interest of their beneficiary, and their beneficiary is the mission....*

*Board members, then, owe a "duty of loyalty," which means they must vote in behalf of the real owner—the congregation's mission—even if that goes against the private interest of any individual or group....*

*Everybody in a congregation, especially a small one, has multiple relationships with others. That is part of the power of congregations to touch and transform people in all aspects of their lives. But if conflicts of interest are not managed openly and well, it can also be a major source of conflict, liability, and—worst of all—failure to exercise the kind of moral influence a congregation can and ought to have."*

You can find the full text of this article at <http://www.alban.org/conversation.aspx?id=5290>. It seems to me that this article is wise and thought provoking.

Submitted by Rev. Deane Oliva

---

## Communications Committee

---

The Communications Committee is looking toward the future! At an informal survey taken on November 18, it looks like a lot of people are willing to receive the Unicorn newsletter electronically and download it themselves.

There are many compelling reasons to shift to this mode of newsletter delivery:

\*Mailing expenses; in order to get the bulk rate we have to send many copies to ourselves;

\*Printing costs, and wear and tear on our office printer;

\*Our Office Administrator's time!

\*Other advantages are that you will be able to receive the Unicorn earlier

\*And you will get to see the imagery and pictures in color! To download the newsletter go to the website, [www.uufsc.org](http://www.uufsc.org), click on Unicorn and print (it is an Adobe PDF file).

In order to make this transition as smooth and efficient as possible please send an email to [communications@uufsc.org](mailto:communications@uufsc.org) and indicate "electronic Unicorn" in the subject line; I will be collecting these names and removing you from the Unicorn mailing list. This may take a few months time so please be patient with the process.

Of course, we will still have copies printed out for people who prefer to have the Unicorn mailed to them, as well as several copies available for the Membership Committee to give to guests. So remember, unless you have contacted me electronically to take your address off the Unicorn mailing list, you will still receive it via postal mail.

Yours in Service, Terra Collier-Young

---

## Musical Ministry

---

**\*Invitation for Holiday Choir:** Imagine it's a cool Christmas Eve. You and many other wonderful people are singing songs of joy and praise together. Your sense of Community and Fellowship blossoms as your voice joins with others in service. This experience could be yours if you join the UUFSCC Holiday Choir. We will be making beautiful traditional music for the two Christmas Eve services. This is a non-audition choir and we need you!

We practice on Wednesday nights at 7pm at the Fellowship and twice monthly on Sundays at 9am in the Sanctuary. We'll have our first meeting/potluck on Wednesday, December 5 at Sylvia Forsyth's house at 6:30pm at 100 Poplar



*(Musical Ministry continued)*

Court Aptos, to get cracking on the holiday music.

Please know that you will be warmly welcomed whatever your skill and experience level.

**\*Calendar for Choir December 07:**

Sunday December 2, 9:30am, Fellowship

Wednesday December 5, 6:30pm, Sylvia's house,

Sunday December 9, 9am, Fellowship

Wednesday December 12, 7pm, Fellowship

Sunday December 16, 9:30am, Fellowship

Wednesday December 19, 7pm, Fellowship

Sunday December 23, 9am, Fellowship

Monday December 24, 5pm, Fellowship

**\*Invitation for Instrumentalists:** Do you play harp? Bells? Guitar? I'm seeking instrumentalists to assist us in the Music Ministry at UUFSCC, especially on Christmas Eve. Your presence will be warmly appreciated. UUFSCC Music Coord, Gail Swain 459-9248 [gailsings@cruzio.com](mailto:gailsings@cruzio.com)

**\*Chant and Meditation Circle** will not be held at the usual third Wednesday in December because we will be leading a Chant and Meditation service on Sunday morning, December 30. Come and experience the gift of music and silence.

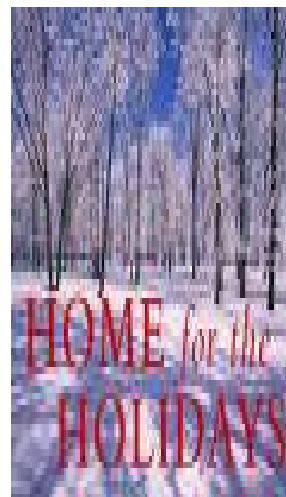
---

## Directory Changes

---

*Please see the Members page on the website for the contact information for new members. Call the office, 684-0506, for the user and password to get into the Members page.*

*This is in accordance to UUA guidelines for member safety.*



## Youth Religious Education Review

RE classes are going smoothly. In concert with the overall fellowship, one of the themes of RE this year is Greening the Sanctuary. For example, the 4-6 grade class is looking at the role that trees play in different religions and the teen group is doing assessment of the energy use of the different appliances at the UUFSSC.

We have had some transition in the RE committee. Brent Haddad is taking over as committee chair and we are pleased that two new members, Annie Lubke and Sue Stone are joining the RE committee. Karen Holl will be leaving in January for six months in Costa Rica.

We hope that all of you have been contributing to Guest at Your Table boxes that help support the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. The boxes will be collected at the December 23 Intergenerational service that Brent Haddad and Rev. Deane will be coordinating.

--RE Committee (Brent Haddad, Devi Tong, Thomas Witz, Ted Merrill, Karen Holl, Beth McKinnon, Sue Stone, Annie Lubke)

### *Sun. Schedule for December:*

- \*Dec. 2—RE Classes, Devi coordinator
- \*Dec. 9—RE Classes, Ted coordinator
- \*Dec. 16—RE Classes, Beth coordinator
- \*Dec. 23—Intergenerational Service
- \*Dec. 30—RE Classes, Karen coordinator



### *Class Updates:*

**Preschool/Kindergarten Class** is finishing up our Fall activities, we'll be making a scarecrow and recycled bird-feeder. Upcoming Winter Holidays include learning and crafts on Chanukah, Winter Solstice and Christmas themes.

--Juliet Goldstein

**1-3 Grade Class** will continue to explore their place in the global community by learning how various cultures celebrate the winter season. Students will also brainstorm ways that they can give gifts to the planet by making positive changes to create a greener world.

--Natasha Castro



Travis



Serena & Kamyar

**4-6 Grade Class** will be continuing our discussion of change, both on a personal and community level, as well as looking at the effects of our choices on the world in which we live. We will take some time to explore various holiday traditions from around the world, continuing with our exploration of trees as a sacred part of the interconnected web of life, which we started in November. We are also looking into some possible planting projects for the students to take part in at the fellowship. --Annabelle Siino

**Sunday Morning Teen Group** will continue to build on conversations of Buddhist spirituality, UU principles and giving thanks during the upcoming holidays. --Lee Maranto

**YRUU:** Thanks to everyone who helped with feeding the homeless group Sunday night, November 18! YRUU meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 7-9pm. Come join us!

### **Upcoming events:**

- \*Saturday, December 1—Baking (afternoon)
- \*Sunday, December 2—Bake Sale Fundraiser
- \*Saturday - Monday, January 19-21—Snow trip!!!



Great Fun at the 2006 YRUU Snow Trip!!



"Thanksgiving Skit" w/ Serena, Randy, Tucker, & Lois



The Gratitude Tree!



The youth passing out the "Guest at Your Table" boxes for the UU Service Committee.

---

## Hospitality Committee Reports

---

**Welcome to the Holiday Season!** Thanks to Nancy and Guy Cantwell and Sue and Rick Meyer for hosting coffee in November. Also a big thanks to committee members Jane Boone, Mary Brooks, Barbara Woodruff, Patt Taylor, and myself as well as to John Thiemann, and Iran Mohsenin for helping during the sandwich lunches in October and November.

We do need coffee hosts for December Sundays! Look for the sign-up clip board at the end of the refreshment tables!

December 9 Potluck will be held during the Social Action Committee Open House. Please bring the following:

A-H Main Dish  
I-M Salads  
N-P Drinks  
R-T Bread / Butter  
U-W Dessert



No one responded to having Thanksgiving at the fellowship this year. Maybe next year it can happen!

Christmas Eve Service, Monday, December 24 will have two services: Family Service at 6pm and Vespers Service at 8pm. Refreshments will be served between them at around 7pm.



The Hospitality Committee will serve hot cider and decaf coffee. We ask that everyone bring a dozen or so cookies or finger foods to share that evening.

Thanks, Sylvia Forsyth

---

## UUF FYI's

---

**\*YRUU** (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists) will be hosting a Bake Sale after the service on December 2 to raise funds for their upcoming snow trip, so be sure to come and show your support.

**\*Stewardship Day** will be at 9am on Saturday, December 1, when folks come together and help keep our UUF grounds and building lovely. Contact Scott Young for information at [scott.young@baymoon.com](mailto:scott.young@baymoon.com)

**\*ISSP (Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program):** For the past 16 years we have opened our doors, fed, and housed ~18 homeless men every Sunday night. Please contact Sally Real (426-6979) to sign up and take part in this ministry.

---

## Compassionate Communication

---

During a conflict, saying "I feel sad (mad, scared, etc.)" is often more effective than saying "I feel attacked (rejected, left out, etc.)" The latter words are really blaming someone for what you think they did and often arouse defensiveness rather than compassion.

If you've had NVC training and want to practice skills like this, you're welcome at the Unitarian Universalist Non-Violent Communication Practice Group that meets off-site from 7:00pm to 9:00pm on the first and third Mondays. Call Linda Neher (471-2109) for more information.



---

## CUUPS: the 6th Source & 7th Principle

---

Winter, with its long dark nights, is the time of year that we celebrate the light at the heart of darkness. For this reason, winter is known as the season of faith and the season of rest, the period of going inside the house and inside ourselves. It offers an opportunity to envision the new year with those sparks of inspiration that come to us in the darkness.

This is a time to find inner strength and resolve, for it can be a challenging time, one in which our faith is tested. It is important to gather personal power and inward strength now. Consider these three kinds of power: presence, communication, and position. The first is the power of awareness of ourselves and that which is around us. It is our vibration tone, our harmonic resonance, our witness-self. The second is the power of our voice, how well we communicate our individual truth: what we feel, think, and know. The latter asks us to look at how we use our position to serve, create, and take responsibility.



Contrary to the natural rhythms of Earth and the dormancy of our hemisphere, our culture makes this season the busiest time of the year, when we get together with friends and family, travel across the country, and enjoy holiday parties. Although such beloved celebrations are important, be sure to take some contemplative time for yourself.

May the sacred dark and silence bring you the gift of insight and the power of personal reflection.

Blessed Be, Terra Collier-Young

---

## December Dinner Club

---

The Dinner club is an opportunity for UUF Members and Friends to spend an evening together, share food, and conversation. It is usually held on the second Saturday of the month, but if that date does not work for hosts or guests, hosts will call their guests and choose another time. First name on list is host, second named person(s) brings main dish, the third name(s) brings salad and bread, and the fourth brings dessert. If there is a fifth, that person brings a vegetable.

Group 1: 1) Lamb 2) Cantwell 3) Senko  
4) LeMaster 5) McCreadie

Group 2: 1) Newman 2) Heath  
3) Woodruff 4) Paul

Group 3: 1) Bowman 2) Wood, D.  
3) Star Dancing/Partlow 4) Johnson, D.

Group 4: 1) Forsyth 2) James/McCrow 3) Keith-Spiegel/Racimora 4) Smith-Merrill

Group 5: 1) Neher 2) Hudson 3) Crawford  
4) Cole

Group 6: 1) Oxley/Newfarmer 2) Bunger 3) Aaker/Fihe 4) Collier-Young

Substitutes: Tong, Isherwood, McBrien, Mohsenin, Thiemann,

Submitted by Iran Mohsenin



---

## Poetry Corner

---

### *The Desiderata*

*Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even the dull and the ignorant; they too have their story.*

*Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter; for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.*

*Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism.*

*Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is as perennial as the grass.*

*Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself.*

*You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.*

*Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive God to be, and whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.*

*With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.*

--Max Ehrmann

---

## First Friday Book Group

---

The First Friday Book Group continues to look ahead and in doing so has made plans through March of 2008! Seems impossible but it is just around the corner.

The schedule is as follows:

December: *Gandhi: A Life* by Yogesh Chadra

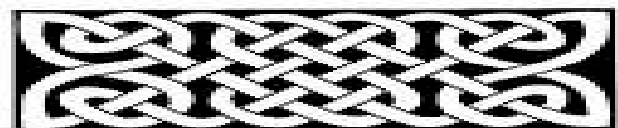
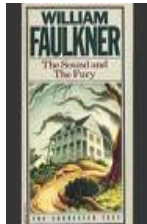
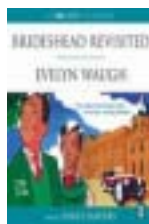
January: *Brideshead Revisited* by Evelyn Waugh

February: *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer

March: *The Sound and the Fury* by William Faulkner

If your taste in reading is as eclectic as ours, why don't you join us? We meet at 7:30pm the first Friday of each month at Joan Roberts' home (688-7598 or [jojoro@cruzio.com](mailto:jojoro@cruzio.com)). In December after our discussion we'll have special treats to celebrate the holidays.

Submitted by Joan Roberts



# Looking Back on 2007



Members Dinner with Aloha



"The Play" by RE



Peace Rally in Santa Cruz



Gay Pride Parade



"Flower Communion"

Meeting Rev. Deane at General Assembly



A Fond Farewell to Rev. Ann



Spiral Dancing on the Patio



"The Sky's the Limit" Auction



Totem Art Project Workshop



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
5pm - BSW F/H/K 9:45am - Religious ... 10am - Service	8pm - AA Stag11 FH	7pm - Communicati... 7pm - YWUJ - FH	7pm - Choir Practice - 7:30pm - Chant Med...	7pm - Board meeting 7pm - Huntington's ...	5:30pm - TGIF - FH	9am - Stewardship ...
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5pm - BSW F/H/K 9:45am - Religious ... 10am - Service 11:30am - RE Comm... 11:45am - Film - He... 6:30pm - Men's Group	10am - Art Cent - G 1:30pm - Carling Co... 8pm - AA Stag11 FH	7pm - Sunday Servc... 7pm - YWUJ - FH	7pm - Choir Practice - 7pm - Open Mic - FH	7pm - Social Action ... 7pm - Sufi Dancing ...	7:30pm - Book Club ...	1:30pm - Private av...
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
5pm - BSW F/H/K 9:45am - Religious ... 10am - Service 11:30am - Potluck - 11:30am - RE meeting 11:30am - SAC Open	7pm - Music Commi... 8pm - AA Stag11 FH	7:30pm - Finance G	7pm - Choir Practice - 7pm - Open Mic - FH	7pm - Coordinating ...		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
UNICORN DEALS INC 5pm - BSW F/H/K 9:45am - Religious ... 10am - Service 11:30am - Elder's C... 6:30pm - Men's Group	10am - Hospitality ... 7pm - NYC Practice ... 8pm - AA Stag11 FH	7pm - YWUJ - FH 7:15pm - Membership	7pm - Choir Practice - 7pm - Huntington's ...	7pm - Board G		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
5pm - BSW F/H/K 10am - All Ages Ser... 11:30am - Unicorn F...	6pm - 6p & 8p Chris... 8pm - AA Stag11 FH		7:30pm - Chant Med...	7pm - Tick Borne Di...		
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
5pm - BSW F/H/K 9:45am - Religious ... 10am - Service 6:30pm - Men's Group	8pm - AA Stag11 FH 9pm - Parking lot in	7pm - Sunday Servc... 7pm - YWUJ - FH	7pm - Choir Practice -	7pm - Social Action ... 7pm - Sufi Dancing ...	7:30pm - Book Club ...	9am - Stewardship ...

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