

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



March 2010

Time, talent and treasure

On Sunday, **April 18** (one service only, at 11:00 a.m.), we'll celebrate our "Time, Talent and Treasure," a special and unique opening to the annual pledge drive.

In addition to having fun and enjoying great food and drink, we'll appreciate:

- ◆ Our social programs: The ways we have (and could increase) to know each other better and enhance our Fellowship's community spirit.

- ◆ Service opportunities: How our talents and experience serve each other, our community, and the world, and the service opportunities we offer.

- ◆ Our generosity in pledging: Why generous pledging to the Fellowship inspires and rewards us as givers.

- ◆ The great things we've accomplished and new, exciting things we can do to advance our mission.

For new members, this is a great opportunity to meet more people and engage more deeply in our Fellowship. For longer-time members and friends, we'll enhance and appreciate our connection with each other.

Please mark your calendar for **April 18**, 11:00 a.m., and come prepared to be welcomed, treated, entertained and inspired.

Jeff Knapp, for HUUF Board

Dream work with Jeremy Taylor

Join us at the Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship **April 9 and 10** as Jeremy Taylor returns to present his 16th dream workshop here.

A teacher in group projective dream work for 40 years, Jeremy helps us learn how to access the symbolic wisdom in the nightly visits from our psyches. He has written three books on the topic, and his popular *Where People Fly and Water Runs Uphill* has just been republished as *The Wisdom of Your Dreams* with a new chapter about becoming more lucid in our dreams and how our dreams are part of the evolution of human consciousness. Jeremy is a UU minister. His web site at www.jeremytaylor.com offers many of his writings on dreams and UU traditions.

We will spend Friday, April 9, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. learning about his dream group tool kit and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. delving into dreams. Newcomers, please plan to attend the Friday night session so that we can make the best use of our Saturday time together. Bring a sack lunch Saturday to enjoy on the beautiful HUUF grounds.

The particulars

- ◆ The workshop will be held

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Jeremy Taylor

People

We welcome new members **Susan Brauner, Michael Chandler, Theresa Jennetti** and **Judith Barry**. Please look for them and welcome them at Sunday services.

Jan and Lisa Roberts adopted a three-month-old puppy named Tike to bring joy into their lives.

Pat McCutchen's back surgery was completely successful, and she now lives without pain. She returned home from the hospital January 22, is enjoying her physical therapy and is getting back into shape for long walks, thanks to the inspiration of female athletes.

Joy Thomas began a second term as president of the Humboldt County Beekeepers' Association.

Jan Rowen is home recovering from her knee surgery. She is under "house arrest" until the second week of April and welcomes visitors. Please call first.

June and David Davis have returned from a one month whirlwind tour of Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Viet Nam grateful that, as pedestrians, they survived the motorcycle melée of Hanoi and Saigon. They are still enthralled by the excitingly delicious, regionally diverse food they consumed in excess.

Karen Knapp

Dream work, continued

at HUUF.

- ◆ Costs are \$60 for both Friday and Saturday, \$20 for Friday night alone; \$60 for Saturday alone. Newcomers *must* plan to attend Friday night.
- ◆ Scholarships are available. Please call and ask. We ask a minimum payment and work exchange.
- ◆ Child care is available both sessions. Let me know that you'll have a child to care for.
- ◆ Jeremy will speak at both Sunday services on April 11.
- ◆ Registering: Mail your check,- payable to HUUF, by **March 15** to hold your space in the workshop. Send it to me 2310 Hillside Drive, Eureka, CA 95501. Questions? Contact me at 442-0743 or barbclark63@gmail.com.

Barbara Clark



FIRST, THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT I FOUND A WAY TO PAY FOR OUR NEW CHOIR ROBES...

Environmental Action Committee

A couple of months ago the congregation voted to rescind its decision to seek Green Sanctuary certification. Subsequently, the HUUF Board changed the name of the Green Sanctuary Committee to the Environmental Action Committee (EAC). At the last meeting of the EAC none of the four members present would assume the Chair position, thus it was decided that the EAC would suspend operations until such time as someone volunteered to be Chair. If you are that someone, please notify the HUUF Board, and they will reconstitute the EAC.

Jack Munsee

Haiti

On Sunday, January 31, \$1300 was collected for the UUSC Haiti disaster relief fund.

Dave Harris

Art and aesthetics

I have curated art shows at the Fellowship for over two years and have really enjoyed doing it. I've also gotten a lot of good feedback from people saying how much they enjoy the art shows and my artist introductions. I'm glad to have provided this service.

Lately, I have been thinking that I ought to share this experience with others, both for myself and for the benefit of the community. There may be others who have ideas about how the art shows can be displayed, would like to be a part of the preparations of art shows, or would like to introduce the artists at the opening of their shows. Sharing these responsibilities would also give others the opportunity to participate in a rewarding aspect of our Fellowship. It would also provide the variety of opinions and ideas that keep an art program vibrant.

I recently mentioned to a friend, who has been a member here a lot longer than I have, that there was an Aesthetics Committee, with a budget and everything. She had no idea that there even was such an animal. The Aesthetics Committee, at this point, is primarily me. There is a great risk of this power going to my head. So if you would like to get more involved in the Fellowship, here is an easy and interesting way to do it. Please contact me if you would like to help develop the Aesthetics Committee and be a part of our art shows (839-3406 or kathrich@arcatanet.com) Thanks.

Katherine Almy



Fabulous February work party

The only thing missing from this work party was you. It really is fun working with and getting to know other Fellowship members. You never know where it's going to lead. If you haven't been to a work party yet, you are missing out on the feeling of contributing physically to our community and the fun of rubbing shoulders. Call me for information about the March work party.

Please remember to thank the following people for taking part in the extraordinarily productive February Fellowship Work Party. They weeded native plantings around the building, mulched plants, installed a hose reel and weeded in the Memorial Garden, cleaned the dust and insects from the Sanctuary light fixtures, installed internet cable protection in the audio closet, weeded the front planter, cleaned and organized the kitchen and pantry and worked on the electric car charging station. Wow! Here's who participated: **Cathy Ennis, Jeff Knapp, Awanna Kalal, Val-erie Gizinski, Chip Sharpe, Barbara Barratt, Steven Briden-baugh** and me.

Scott Allen

Is our building secure?

When you are the last person to leave our building, please make sure the doors and windows are all locked. Test the doors to make sure. Not just the ones you used, but *all* of them. Even if you are sure you didn't use all of them, do it anyway. That way, the next person to open up the building will not have any unpleasant surprises.

Thank you.

Bert Taylor

Loleta

At the invitation of the Social Action Committee (SAC), the January 24 service featured Maureen Lawlor relating the situation about poverty in Loleta. Loleta had no social services until recently when St. Joseph Hospital established a Community Resource Center and a food pantry at the Loleta Community Church. Up to that time, people had to use services in Fortuna or Eureka which was very difficult to do for those without transportation. Maureen said that the most requested items were toilet paper, shampoo and food.

A survey was included with the January 24 Order of Service. We received about 40 responses representing about 45 people. Most respondents said that they would be willing to help provide food and other items. There are other areas that people might become involved with. Since we are just starting, it will take time to work out the needs and logistics between SAC, the Loleta Resource Center, the Loleta Community Church and the Loleta School. The SAC considered responses to the questionnaire at its February meeting and probably future meetings to set up a way to deal with various needs and agencies. If you would like to be part of this endeavor, please contact me at munsee@csulb.edu or 668-4095. I will be out of town until mid-March and won't be able to send you the questionnaire until then. The SAC meets the first Sunday of each month after the 11:00 service, so if you have ideas as to how to proceed we would welcome your attendance. SAC hopes that many of the congregation will get involved in this worthwhile project.

Jack Munsee

Note: Please see next page for "More about Loleta"

Send Annette to France

On Friday **March 19**, join us at 7:30 p.m. for a fun-filled evening of live musical performance. The HUUF will host a benefit concert for our beloved pianist Annette Gurnée Hull. This French-themed benefit concert features many local musicians, all in collaboration with Annette with the shared goal of raising funds to send her to France. Annette returns this summer for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to perform with her long-time friend and fellow pianist, Nancy Corell, at the Musique à Beaumont summer piano institute, in the Loire Valley outside of Paris. The benefit concert will feature Nancy and Annette as well as their exquisite group, PianoVoce, and a delightful group of local singers. The evening will include musical theater, opera, art song, and popular songs, including a few original arrangements by Annette. Please help support the enrichment of arts in our community and help our very talented friend realize this dream.

Sarah Benzinger



More about Loleta

Thanks to all of you who have responded positively to the survey of the congregation about its interest in helping to meet identified needs of the Loleta community. A sub-committee of the Social Action Committee has met to begin the organization of this project. We will begin acting on two main areas: Helping with a reading intervention program and providing food and supplies. As more information is gathered on the needs of the Loleta community, our involvement will expand.

If you would like to participate in this project and have not filled out a survey, forms will be available in the lobby. Please return them to Ginger Gardner or the Social Action Committee mailbox.

Thea Gast,
for the Social Action Committee

SAC brunch

The March Social Action brunch on **March 21** after the second service will be a meal of greens and sociability with children present. Childcare will not be provided. Recipient of the proceeds will be a “green” organization concerned with the environment.

Ursula Osborne

Piano story

The characters are: A good piano, Piano I

A better piano, Piano II

The most wonderful piano, Piano III

A surprise piano, Piano IV

Irma Largomarsino and Nick Appelmans are delighted with Piano I, which they acquired recently for their family, by purchase from HUUF. That is the piano willed to HUUF by Woody Marshall, who died in 2008. He had it sent from the east coast for use by HUUF, when we moved to our present building in 1993.

Piano II came along in 2009, a gift from Felcia Oldfather, a fourth generation UU from Kansas and pianist extraordinaire. She owns Piano III. This is the one that used to belong to Charles Faulkerson, now deceased, and formerly music professor at HSU.

Annette Gurnée Hull, our current HUUF pianist is a Humboldt County home-grown UU. Her mother is Marilyn Gurnée. Her father is Dan Gurnée, former HSU Instrument Technician and cellist extraordinaire. Annette has played all three of these pianos. She gives Piano III her highest praise.

Piano IV: After the above story was completed, I received the winter edition of the *European UU Unifier*, the 16-page newsletter for European Unitarian Universalists. Quoting from it, “EUU Now Owns a Piano! - At the Fall Retreat in Maastricht we were all able to sing hymns with and enjoy listening to our choir being accompanied by our very own piano....” We at HUUF are not the only UUs concerned with having a fine piano.

Let me know if you wish to learn more of EUUs, by borrowing their newsletter.

Ursula Osborne

Religious Education



March 7

Curriculum Sunday

- ◆ Preschool: Explore: Building a fair and peaceful world.
 - ◆ What can we do as little UUs? Join us as we explore that even little people can help. We can help our families, our friends and HUUF. We will rainbow ribbon dance to “Peace like a river.” Build mobiles with “5 ways we can help” message and snack.
 - ◆ K – 2nd : Principle 5: All people need a voice. We will talk about the process of consensus and how our congregation practices it. We will learn about its roots in humanism.
 - ◆ 3rd – 5th : Peter Cooper: We will learn about Peter Cooper, a UU, inventor of Jello, and make food art from Jello.
- Intermediate: Random acts of Kindness: What do you think about this? We will discuss this concept.

March 14

All Worship Sunday

All ages will meet together to learn about different ways to express our spirituality through art with an artist teacher. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour.

March 21

Curriculum Sunday

- ◆ Preschool: Explore: Caring for life boat earth. It’s spring! Spring has sprung, and the Earth is reborn. Come dressed for a nature walk (weather permitting). We will collect items from nature to draw, sing, and dance about. Drum Circle/Rainbow Ribbon Dance and snack outside (weather permitting).
- ◆ K - 2nd : Principle 5: All people need a voice: We will continue learning about Humanism and its roots in the history of our UU heritage.
- ◆ 3rd – 5th : *No Ruz* - Celebrate the Iranian New Year and make three wishes while jumping over “fire.”
- ◆ Intermediate: Sharing our random acts of kindness. What can we do for others in our community? What are your ideas?

March 28

Social Action Sunday

All ages will meet together in the CARE building. Wear garden clothes. We will weed around our Religious Education building. Part of being a member of our congregation is caring for our building and grounds. Bring trowels if you have them.

Jillian Mooney





Spring flowers

As gardens and road sides sprout new growth, we are challenged to cut a few sprigs and arrange them in vases for indoors. Please sign up with me, Ursula Osborne, for sharing arrangements with the congregation on Sunday mornings.

The Fellowship has small and large vases. You may also use your own. We like being surprised by something different and decorative in the foyer's niche and also near the chalice each Sunday.

Please call 825-8995 for details.

Ursula Osborne

Religiosity tied to socioeconomic status

The News Focus story "On the origin of religion" (E. Culotta, *Science* 6 November 2009, p. 784) did not incorporate the growing body of psychosociological research that is revealing the crucial role of socioeconomics in the origin and popularity of religion, as well as in creationism. Some hunter-gatherers have minimal religion, and those who do not believe in the gods and an afterlife have spontaneously expanded in prosperous democracies until they are the majority in some nations, such as France, Sweden, and Denmark. Because religion is not universal, as implied in the News Focus article, serious religiosity cannot be the strongly genetically programmed result of major selective evolutionary pressures such as social cohesion

In modern nations, nonreligion and the acceptance of evolution become popular when the middle class majority feels sufficiently secure and safe, thanks to low income inequality, universal health care, job and retirement security, and low rates of lethal crime. This has occurred to greater and lesser degrees in most first-world countries, from Japan to Scandinavia. Religion thrives when the majority seek the aid and protection of supernatural powers because they are impoverished, as in the third- and second-world countries or, in the case of the United States (the most religious and creationist first-world country), because the majority of Americans fear losing their middle-class status as a result of limited government support, high levels of social pathology, and intense economic competition and income disparity. Prosperous modernity is proving to be the nemesis of religion.

Gregory S. Paul

This story was submitted by Ed Uyeki

- Travel and stay in homes of people who share your ideals
- Learn about hosting people in your home to earn extra money

The UU bed and breakfast directory *UU're Home* (formerly *Homecomings*) offers a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and are happy to open their home to like-minded people. Travel to different cities and stay in reasonably priced accommodations or become a host and enjoy meeting new friends.

For more information, visit
www.UUreHome.com
or write to
info@uurehome.com



www.UUreHome.com
43 Vermont Court
Asheville, NC 28806
828-281-3253

Daylighters reinvigorated

A few members who fondly recall the Daylighters plan to get them going again. We expect that everyone will want to participate by attending the programs and by sharing their interests as presenters.

The first of four meetings is planned for **March 16** from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Fellowship. Subsequent meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month.

Both men and women are encouraged to participate and contribute. The gatherings will feature a diverse set of programs such as travel slides, hobbies, movies followed by discussions, collections, outside speakers and celebrations. We expect that the group will have plenty of ideas to contribute once we are underway.

Those working on the startup are Anne Weiss, Inge Leonardos and Anna Mae Botley. Anne is the initial lead coordinator. Contact her at anwe33@yahoo.com or 840-0938.

Interested? Curious? Join us for our first afternoon of fun and creativity. March 16, 1:30; at the Fellowship.

Anne Weiss

Deadline Saturday, March 20

E-mail articles to Joy Thomas at jthomas3@csulb.edu.

Balázs scholars fundraiser

Starr King School for the Ministry cordially invites you and your friends to the Balázs Scholars Program Annual Spring Transylvanian Tea which this year features Balázs Scholar Rev. Róbert Bálint, Transylvanian Unitarian minister studying at Starr King School, and Rev. Dr. Rebecca Ann Parker, President and Professor of Theology, Starr King School talking on "From the oneness of god to the wholeness of life: A dialogue between Transylvanian Unitarianism and North American Unitarian Universalism considering history, theology, sociology, politics, differences and shared values."

Saturday, **April 10**, 3:30 p.m.
\$25 donation. Starr King School for the Ministry, 2441 Le Conte Avenue, Berkeley. RSVP to Arliss Ungar, arliss@ungar.us; 925-283-3288

Contact info

Ever since the newsletter went electronic, it has been policy to exclude members' phone numbers and emails from articles. The reason was that trolling devices can find personal information on the internet and subject people to spam; and it was thought that members would find one another through the HUUF directory. However, there is often good reason to make contact information easy to find; and people continue to submit contact info with their articles.

I have talked to members of the Board about this. On the grounds that most of our members are adults and can make their own decisions, it was decided to suspend the policy temporarily. If and when the Board makes an official ruling, the things may – or may not – change back.

Joy Thomas, editor

CLASSIFIED ADS

For sale: One pair Keen Targhee II mid high waterproof hiking shoes size 8 (runs ½ size small). Worn 3 hours. Paid \$136 new. Will sell for \$75. Barbara Barratt 822-1180.

"Secret Wisdom and Dreams." A class with AnaLora Garrard (January speaker at the Fellowship). Discover what you know deep within by opening your heart to your dreams, your body's knowledge, and/or your everyday life experiences. Dream recall ability not necessary. Alternate Tuesdays, 7-9:30pm, March 9th-June 8th. \$135 if pre-registered, or \$150 at the door. AnaLora is the author of *An Invitation to Dream* and has offered workshops and individual sessions on uncovering inner wisdom for over 25 years. Look for her new book, *Your Dreams: Spiritual Messages in Pajamas* next November. Call 826-2647 for information.

Classified ads are 10 cents a word. Please e-mail your ad to Joy Thomas and send your check, made out to HUUF, to the Fellowship.



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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(707) 822-3793

www.huuf.org

e-mail: office@huuf.org.

Administrator Bert Taylor

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday,

Thursday, Friday

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Board of Directors:

Co-President Maureen Lawlor

Co-President Jeff Knapp

Vice President Greg Blomstrom

Treasurer David Harris

Secretary Roxana Hand

Trustees Beverly Morgan Lewis
vacant

Newsletter Editor Joy Thomas

Wanted: Well-organized, creative, resourceful person

Does this describe you? Do you enjoy our Sunday services? Do you have ideas for programs for our Sunday services? Then even if you're a new member to our Fellowship, investigate the opportunity to be a co-chair of our Program and Worship Committee.

The co-chairs organize and oversee production of our Sunday morning services. We have an excellent "cookbook" system in place to produce our services; but the system requires leadership that's creative, well-organized, supportive, open-minded, collaborative, resourceful and able to meet deadlines.

If you ever produced a play or event and enjoyed doing it, you have experience useful for this position. For more information, contact me 825-7674 or headhunter1942@gmail.com.

Jeff Knapp