



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• August 2012 • Volume 56 • Issue 8 •

Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m.

August 5

Not For Sale: Today's Abolition Movement

Guest Minister: Rev. Ben Meyers

By conservative estimates, there are 27 million slaves in the world today. Human trafficking is, in fact, the third-largest criminal enterprise in the world, ranking close behind drug trafficking and the illegal arms trade. It is, in short, a huge and growing industry of organized crime. As people who affirm the value of freedom, justice, equity, compassion, interdependence, and the worth of every person, how are we to respond? The answer is unequivocal not only in our modern Unitarian Universalist principles, but also when we turn to our abolitionist heritage and our pride in that heritage.

Rev. Ben Meyers serves as minister of the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists and is committed to nurturing spiritual growth, social justice, and religious pluralism.

August 12

Fountaingrove: Eden of the West

Service Leader: Frances Corman

Worship Associate: Linda Proulx

Thomas Lake Harris (a former Universalist minister) and Kanaye Nagasawa (a young samurai) traveled west in 1875 to found a utopian colony right in what is now my backyard. We will explore the hopes they brought with them to Sonoma County, known in New York back then as the "Eden of the West." What brought you to this blessed place? I am sure it is quite a story. And why do you stay here? Now that is the real story!

Special music includes a hymn written by Thomas Lake Harris.

August 19

ZEN BUDDHISM 101

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Linda Proulx

Rev. Chris Bell is a long-time Buddhist as well as a UU, and currently studies the Zen koan curriculum under the tutelage of Rachel Mansfield Howlett, a dharma sister of Rev. James Ford, who was Chris's primary teacher before California. What's a koan, you ask? Come to this introduction to the history and practice of Zen (and its accord with the Principles of Unitarian Universalism) to find out. As an added bonus, we will conduct the Dedication Ceremony of young Gavin MacLeamy, too. Yea! There will also be an opportunity for Q. and A. about Zen with Rev. Chris and Rachel after the service.

August 26

"Got Mystery?"

Service Leader: Jan Ögren

Worship Associate: Susan Panttaja

What do you do when the Universe drops a bit of Mystery right at your feet? How can we witness Mystery in our lives? Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen, in her book: My Grandfather's Blessings, states: "After all these years I have begun to wonder if the secret of living well is not in having all the answers but in pursuing unanswerable questions in good company." Come join us for a morning of exploration in very good UU company.

Jan Ögren, MFT is a writer, storyteller and lifelong UU. She is the author of *Dividing Worlds* (which has a UU protagonist). www.JanOgren.net

Universalism: A Philosophy for Living



Universalism: A Philosophy for Living

By Rev. Clinton Lee Scott, 1946

(edited by Rev. Chris)

Universalism is an easy religion to understand. This is because it is based not upon old-world creeds, which are always complex and confusing but upon the present, common, concern of living persons. And Universalism is a religion hard to live. This is because it is based upon moral conduct and ethical action, which are always more difficult than assent to theological beliefs.

Universalism had its rise in the time and in the spirit of American Independence. In content, in its form of organization, and in its spirit, it is the religious interpretation of the best of our democratic ideals. From the beginning, Universalists have championed the reforms and movements which are the best expressions of freedom and democracy in action. They early took a stand against slavery, were leaders in civil liberties, and in prison reform. They made the first fight for the separation of Church and State, before this principle was incorporated into the Bill of Rights. They were among the first champions of public schools free from ecclesiastical control. Such pioneering in social action is the logical result of the underlying theology of Universalism.

Eighteenth century religion in America was dominated by the Calvinistic doctrine that God would consign most of the human race to a fiery hell. Universalism was a revolt against such theological despotism, just as the Declaration of Independence was a protest against political despotism. Over against this theory of a cruel and unsuccessful God, our Universalist forebears proclaimed the Heavenly Parent whom Jesus knew;--a wise, patient, loving, Universal God of all.

Basic within this universalistic view is the belief in the supreme worth of every person. Just as in former times the Universalists proclaimed against the degrading doctrine that human souls were doomed to torment in another world, so today do we in the name of religion avow our faith in the worth in this world of every person as a fellow member of the human family.

This principle was not discovered by any one group, but it is central in the Universalist emphasis. It is a discovery which is coming to more and more persons today. It is man's supreme discovery in his long, uneven struggle. It is the conclusion toward which the religions of the world are striving. It came not by sudden revelation, but by the long slow labor of humanity to wrest from the earth-experience a satisfying life. It is possible to see in imagination in the long stretches of the past, through dark

gropings and weary blunderings, the emergence of the human spirit, laboring for fulfillment and trying to entrench our values. In this struggle we see the ideal of the good life slowly enlarged from merely physical desires to higher spiritual qualities, of co-operative effort, of comradeship, joy, beauty, love, and loyalty.

Yet we live as if the prophets had never lived to show us the way. For nearly twenty centuries Jesus has been held up as a savior. Yet we live as though he had never taught that the Kingdom of God ideal must be built into the world by people learning how to deal decently with one another.

A new world of harmony demands a faith in the universals. It cannot be built on the partialisms of yesterday, with their emphasis on divisions and isolations. These are of a past that has failed us. Modern methods of transportation and of communication bring us face to face with one another in such an interrelatedness and with such an interdependence that we must learn to live together or all be destroyed.

We are together on one earth. We are of a variety of nationalities, languages, complexions, and religions. That there are differences in folkways and cultures, economic status, degrees of enlightenment and achievement cannot be denied. But to make any or all of these differences a basis for belief in the superiority of any racial, religious or national group is to prolong the age-old fallacy of a chosen people. Malachi, the Hebrew prophet, twenty-four centuries ago asked, "Hath not one God created us all? Why then do we deal treacherously every man against his brother?"

Today we also take our stand with views scientifically arrived at, that humankind is biologically and sociologically one. There is no primary conflict between religion on the one hand and science on the other. There is conflict only between science and rational religion on the one hand, and confusion and chaos on the other. Universalists come to their insights and convictions by the scientific methods of experience. While we draw heavily upon the accumulated experience of the prophets, poets and philosophers of every age and of every religion, we hold exclusively to no set of beliefs supernaturally revealed, and embalmed in the historic creeds. Truth is not once and for all time delivered to our minds. It is found by those who love it more than they love conformity and tradition. It is ever discovering and being discovered. Truth is contemporary with continuing human experience. Out of the experience of the race we affirm our confidence in humanity, and in the power of people of good will and sacrificial spirit to overcome all evil and to build a life that shall bring to fulfillment the high and holy dreams of the ages.

Greetings from the Board

Like most of the UUCSR committees and groups, the Board takes a vacation in the month of July. It has replaced its July Board meeting with a potluck get together at Laura Jean's to welcome two new members, Lois Bell and Susan Bartholome, and to thank and bid farewell to two retiring members, Ann Chambers and Craig Work.

In August we will have our regular Board meeting on August 16. We also will be preparing for our annual Board retreat during which we will formulate goals for the coming year and take time to reflect on how to enhance the meaning and depth of UUCSR membership. Rev Chris will once again serve as our retreat facilitator - a role that he plays with great skill and grace. We are truly blessed to have his leadership.

Twelve members and staff of UUCSR attended this year's UUA General Assembly in Phoenix. We found GA to be stimulating, inspiring, moving, and exhausting. Being with thousands of UUs was thrilling as was witnessing the parade of banners - one from each UU congregation - in the Opening Session (ours really is the most beautiful!). This is to say nothing of hearing more than 170 singers, including our own Cathleen Read, fill the hall with glorious music in the Closing Celebration. Clapping, hooting and whistling could be heard from our UUCSR group when Rev Chris was called to receive full fellowship and again when our former member Jamie McReynolds was called to receive

preliminary fellowship. (Note: Jamie will be ordained here at UUCSR on October 28!). The 5-day Assembly culminated in a candlelight vigil at the "Tent City" described so eloquently by Rev. Chris in his July newsletter article. Plans are afoot to share more of the GA experience with all of you including testimonials, photos, videos and more.

I was able to attend the Saturday afternoon events of the All Congregation Retreat at Camp Valley of the Moon. What a delight! Amid many animated conversations was little 2-year old Noah Miller dancing in perfect rhythm as our musicians prepared for the talent show. A delicious dinner was followed by a raffle organized and presented by Annalisa Wiley and Marie Stubblebine with prizes gracefully delivered by Izzy Fisher, Christie Noe, and the Glaser twin grandchildren, Lauren and Liam. The talent show that followed featured superb performances by talented children, youth, young adults and some "older" adults. Heartfelt thanks to the planning committee (Barrie Noe, Leslie Norinsky, Pat Wilson, Denese Pender, Cathie Wiese, Lee Ann Fagan, Doris Lee, and Carole Kraemer) and the many others who created this wonderful weekend for our congregation.

Laura Jean Hageman
Board President

Meet the Minister

These are brief, informal meetings held once a month following the 10 a.m. Sunday Service as indicated below. They provide an opportunity for visitors and guests to meet with our minister, Rev. Chris Bell, and one or two lay leaders.

Questions are not only welcomed, but encouraged!

Bring your coffee or tea and join us in the Green Room,
located at the opposite end of the hall from the social area.

September 16

October 21

Letter from Faithful Fools

Dear Members and Friends of the UU
Congregation of Santa Rosa,

"For one human being to love another; that is perhaps the most difficult of all our tasks, the ultimate, the last test and proof, the work for which all other work is but preparation" Rainer Marie Rilke

This is a quote that we used in our very first brochure as Faithful Fools in 1998. It is still a foundation of our mission. We share it with you as we write to express our gratitude to your community for your generosity in sharing your collection plate with us. We are grateful to the many individuals and to the whole congregation for your support of our work and vision as Faithful Fools Street Ministry. Over the past 14 years many youth and adults from Unitarian Universalist churches throughout California and the United States have made street retreats. This has served as a foundation and direction for

individuals and churches to reach out in their own communities. It also has opened a path for people to participate with us in San Francisco as shadowers for youth who make street retreats, or to share in the arts and poetry programs we offer, or to accompany individuals who come to Faithful Fools who seek assistance and friendship. We thank you for your own vision and work as a UU congregation that has inspired you to share your resources to support our work and the work of many groups seeking to extend love and justice into the world, person by person. We loved sharing worship with you a few months back and hope that we can continue to support each other for many years to come.

With Gratitude,
Carmen Barsody, Melissa
Fafarman, Kay Jorgensen and
all the Faithful Fools



The Flag Lapel

Beware the heart of darkness
Beneath the flag lapel
Where the short beat thumps for heaven
And the long beat trumps for hell.
Lub-dub, lub-dub,—each fresh new beat
Empowers thought for great
New energy to rob, to kill,
To drive imperial need
Our patriotic predators
Have bred a wondrous thing.
Behold the Law in business suit;
A Presidential King!

Win or lose, the money flows
With each new surge of war;
Let's not forget that ruthless men
Pump profit from the gore.
When blatant lies bring tears to eyes
We know that all's not well.
Beware the cruel heart that beats
Beneath the flag lapel.
—John R. Bastone
April 2008

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2012
Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

E-mail Submissions
Greatly Appreciated!
Newsletter Assembly
10 a.m.—August 29, 2012

Religious Education for Children and Youth

Coming of Age is coming!

This month preparations are underway for this extraordinary program that is set to begin in September. Coming of Age is a rite of passage for youth in grades 8 to 10 to mark the transition from childhood to adolescence. Over an eight month period, five of our youth will participate in three district-wide retreats, attend classes, and spend time each month with an adult mentor from our congregation. It will be a fun and illuminating experience designed to help youth examine their values and beliefs, learn about themselves in relation to our faith tradition, and finally to articulate a personal credo which will be presented to the congregation at a culminating Coming of Age worship service in May. Many thanks go out to our volunteer mentors: Cathie Wiese, Robin Marrs, Lillian Reid, Barry Noe and Frances Corman. Mentor training will take place on August 5th at 1:30. I anticipate some close connections between

youth and mentors over the coming months. These relationships can be an important source of support and encouragement in a time when youth need caring adults in their lives.

Sr. High Youth Group will end its hiatus on August 16 when we will resume our usual schedule of meeting every Thursday from 4-6pm. We have a new youth advisor this year. Now that Izzy has graduated, her dad Eric Fischer has volunteered to join Chris and me in Youth Group. We look forward to another great year with our high school youth and a new crop of musicians for the Lunch Box Affiliation.

As summer winds down I hope everyone will pause in the days before school resumes to have some quality family time, and to make space for truly appreciating being together before the whirlwind of the new school year begins.

In faith,
Deborah

Here's What's Happening in RE Classes

Here's what's happening in RE Classes this month as we continue our Summer Program exploring creative expression. All ages from K-8 meet together. Children begin in the sanctuary for the first part of worship then adjourn to the RE wing for their class.

Date:	Religious Education is at 10:00am
8/5/12	Children's Chapel - <i>Pictures of Peace</i> This morning children will explore peace, how we make it happen in our own lives and how it looks in the wide world. They will make posters that reflect their images of a peace.
8/12/12	Children's Chapel - <i>Music for the Spirit</i> - Cathy Read will share her beautiful music with the children this morning as we explore the ways that music lifts the hearts of people in many cultures around the world
8/19/12	Children's Chapel - This morning we will look at <i>Beginnings and Endings</i> . As summer vacation draws to an end we will celebrate the joys of the season and look forward to the new school year with a spirit of optimism.
8/26/12	Children's Chapel - <i>Connecting and Creating Through Improv</i> . The children will engage in imaginative play that will connect them as a community and stretch their creativity.

Child Care is provided in our Preschool Room every Sunday during the 10:00 service for children infancy through age 4.

Sr. High Youth Group is on hiatus until August 16 when we will resume meeting every Thursday from 4 - 6pm. Youth Group Advisors are Rev. Chris Bell, Deborah Mason and Eric Fischer. Youth are invited and encouraged to attend Sunday morning worship.

UUCSR Circle Dinners

UUCSR CIRCLE DINNERS are re-forming in September!

What are Circle Dinners, you might ask??? Circle Dinners are informal social gatherings over a pot-luck meal. They are opportunities to enjoy getting to know folks you might never have met otherwise. As participants, we have had some wonderful times visiting other members' homes (large and small---it doesn't matter!) and always look forward to great food and conversation. Some of our groups have even kept on meeting after the official Circle Dinners period has ended over the summer just because we enjoyed getting together so much!

How do they work??? Members and Friends (interested in membership) of UUCSR let the Circle Dinner organizers know they want to be on the list. We then take all the names and shuffle them into groups of 6 to 8 (singles and couples) which becomes a "Circle Dinner Group" for the 4 months of the Circle Dinner period. In the September Newsletter we will post the Fall Circle Dinner Lists. The groups then contact each other, decide on a date, time and place to gather and who will bring what. The rest takes care of itself! Before the fun is over, the group decides the who, what, where and

when for the next month's gathering. You don't need dinner service for 8, a family sized dining room, linen napkins, or even a room with a view! All you need is an enjoyment of meeting new friends, connecting with old friends, and the love of a good meal and conversation (maybe even playing games or music... 'cause that can happen, too). Some groups meet for lunch, and some even decide to meet at a restaurant.

Interested? We are taking sign ups until August 12th. Watch for details in the Social Hall and for the sign up table. We will need your name and phone number to post on the list so that your Circle can connect! Participants already in the Circle Dinner program will continue unless they let us know otherwise.

To be added to the list, or with other questions, contact Lynn Riepenhoff at 525-8424 or Kitty Wells at 953-0620. Cathie Wiese gives many thanks to Lynn and Kitty who have volunteered to keep our Circle Dinners going strong since she retired her "organizer" hat!



Getting to Know UU

Sunday August 19, 2012

11:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

here at UUCSR

Rev. Chris Bell will present information on Unitarian Universalists and our congregation in particular.

There will be plenty of time for questions. This is a

3-hour workshop, not a drop-in session. This is one step towards becoming a member or just getting to know one another. Beverages & light lunch will be provided. Sign up at the Visitors Table, or contact Betz Miller, organizer, betzmillier@comcast.net 539-3654. Childcare provided, indicate ages.

Assistive Listening Devices

**ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES
PROGRESS REPORT #4
DONATIONS TO DATE: \$2075.
DOLLAR GOAL: \$2900.**

HARDWARE STATUS: From these donations Dan Reid bought more devices at a cost of \$883.29 which leaves a balance of \$1191.71. This balance will be used to buy still more receivers, headphones, and neck loops, utilizing rechargeable batteries. In addition it is planned to provide a 16 slot case for recharging and storage of the devices. This will allow the Audio Crew to serve 16 people in an efficient manner, facilitating checking in and out, and storage.

As of now the inventory is:

Receivers: 9 (goal is 16)

Neck Loops: 11 (used by those with T-coil equipped hearing aids)(goal is 16)

Headsets: 7 (goal is 16)

16 slot charging case: 0 (goal is 1)

MAIN SOUND SYSTEM UPDATE: Dan Reid reported that a new amplifier and crossover is to be installed July 26. It is my understanding that this will improve sound for all of us. For technical questions please see Dan.

DONATIONS: Please send your tax deductible check payable to UUCSR to the office at 547 Mendocino Ave. with "Assistive Listening" in the memo line. Janis Brewster, our Administrator, will keep a tally on our progress.

OBSERVATION: On Sunday, July 8, there were not enough devices to accommodate everyone.

Thanks very much,
Bud Willis

Women Together—Farewell to Summer!

Save the date... August 25th! Women Together is hosting our annual End of Summer Gathering. All women of our congregation are invited to join for food and conversation at the Sebastopol home of Cathie Wiese on Saturday, August 25th from noon to 3:00 pm. We will soak up the summer sunshine, share summer stories, take a dip in the pool if you want (it is warm this year!), and enjoy those great Women Together potluck dishes as we say farewell to summer in Cathie's spacious backyard. There will be plenty of shade, too! Bring your favorite potluck lunch dish to share, a beverage of your choice, and a

swimsuit and towel if you think you might like to have some wet recreation.

Plates, utensils, and iced tea will be on hand. We would love to have you RSVP at 829-3634 so we can look forward to your company. Spontaneous gatherers are welcome, too!

The address is 220 Frankel Lane in Sebastopol. It is in town and very easy to find. Call for directions if you'd like.



Help Prevent the Deportation of Potential "DREAMers"

President Obama has instituted a program to temporarily defer the deportation of undocumented youth who arrived in this country before they were 16 years old and are not now over 30. On Saturday, August 18th, there will be an opportunity for these young people to fill out the forms needed to apply

for this deferral. Prior to that date, there will be a training for volunteers who will help them fill out these forms. If you would like to participate, or have questions, please contact Linda Harlow, linda37@sonic.net, or 526-3528 so you can be kept informed of the details.

Laughing at Unfunny Things

"There is a funny side to everything."

My Dad says that, sometimes. I think he learned it from his father, though there's nothing original about the sentiment. From a certain perspective, one can find something to laugh about in nearly every situation. This is what comedians do. Sometimes at the expense of their own feelings, the best comedians look at everything in life, especially the worst parts, and try to make a joke out of it. In many of these cases, the joke is actually a way to see the truth more clearly.

That's the cost of being a comedian.

One is always looking extra hard at the truth, inside, outside, and upside down.

This month, we welcome back one of the best comedians in the entire Bay Area, though most people think of him as a musician first, comedian second.

Roy Zimmerman has built a career over the last decade by looking hard at the world around him, with special emphasis on the political side of things, and then writing funny songs about everything he sees.

His career has been built on three things.

One—he's a genius. Hilarious, insightful, smart-as-a-whip, and possessed of a creative mind that is capable of writing lyrics that are sharp, beautiful, poetic and laugh-out-loud funny all at once. Two—the Internet, especially YouTube, has launched him into worldwide fame through a series of simple videos, usually featuring Roy in his trademark white shirt and tie, looking like somebody's version of a hip philosophy professor, but with a guitar in hand. The majority of his fans have come through such YouTube videos, and great word of mouth has done the rest. Three—Unitarian Universalist con-

gregations love him. Several years ago, almost by accident, he was booked at a UU church, and instantly recognized that his own values were closely akin to those of the UUs he was performing for, in short, the UUs loved him, and he has returned the favor. A glance at his itinerary shows that nearly half of his performance dates are at UU congregations around the country.

This season, as the country gets ready for another (incredibly important) Presidential election, Roy is on tour with a concert he has named, 'Hope, Struggle, and Change.' Filled with songs from his latest CD ("You're Getting Sleepy"), the concert series will be stopping by the Glaser Center this August 18. That's a Saturday night, at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are now on sale after church services, and in the office, as well as on line at Brown Paper Tickets. If you are feeling the need to laugh at the world around you—and who doesn't need to do that, especially now?—join us for an evening of comedy and music.

Roy Zimmerman—Hope, Struggle and Change. Saturday, August 18, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$18 in advance, \$22 at the door.

By David Templeton



Advocates for Social Justice

Share the Collection:

On Sundays, **August 12th** and **August 26th**, one half of the collection will go to sustain our Saturday Breakfast Program. Due to the drying up of some of our grants, we are having to support this expanding and deeply appreciated service almost

entirely ourselves. If other money becomes available, or the demand decreases, we will gladly go back to sharing with local organizations that mean so much to you and the larger community.

Hot Topics—Sunday August 19

Hot Topic - Sunday, August 19

11:30 in the Board Room

WHERE DID ALL THE MONEY GO?

This morning we will ask that and other questions to three bankers - one from a local credit union, one from a local commercial bank, and we hope, one from a national bank - plus a realtor who helps people avoid or sort through the mess.

We will ask them three questions:

1. How did the financial collapse happen?
2. What must we do so it doesn't happen again?
3. What part is your institution playing in that solution?

Come hear their answers and bring your own questions!

Girls Day: A Volunteer Opportunity for Women of UUCSR

The Advocates for Social Justice want you to know about a volunteer opportunity coming up for women in the congregation. It is Girls Day, an annual event of the Boys and Girls Club of Sonoma County. The following description is excerpted from the publicity literature for this event:

"Girls Day is a 1-day event aimed at empowering young women through mentorship and fun with women in Sonoma County. 100 women will spend the morning with 100 club girls...(they will) join together for lighthearted games, activities, food and fun.....Girls Day aims to expose these young women to a variety of female leaders who will inspire them to grow up to be caring, productive, responsible women."

This year's Girls Day is in the advanced planning stage and women are now being recruited to serve as partners for the girls for this day of fun. It will be held on Saturday, September 29, 9:30 AM until 2 PM at Santa Rosa Junior College. This day is a small sampling of a mentoring experience. Ongoing mentoring is part of the Boys and Girls program. Participation in Girls Day can be the beginning of a connection with the mentoring program or a stand-alone experience.

For more information including details of the day and how to get involved please call or email Jeanie Bates, 824-0530, jeaniebmft@gmail.com.



UUCSR Writers

Next Regular Monthly Meeting is from 4 - 6 pm, **Monday, August 6** at the Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave. Santa Rosa. Whatever your creative endeavor: fiction, non fiction, memoir, poetry, essay, etc., our focus is to provide an atmosphere where serious writers improve and hone their writing skills. Regular monthly meetings are devoted to: Individual "Work in Progress" 5 to 7 minute presentations. The Writer states what kind of feedback he/she wants from the group. The participants listen carefully and give kind, respectful, resourceful, encouraging responses to the Writer. The UUCSR Writers is open to the novice, the more experienced, and the published author. Membership at UUCSR is not required.

UUCSR Writers Presents:

Laureates David Templeton and Tom Mariani
12 noon At the Video Droid "Haven Cafe"

Bring your lunch or buy something at the "Haven Cafe", 1901 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa

David Templeton, UUCSR Writers Literary Laureate 2010-2012 and 2013-2015

Jean Cocteau's 'La Belle et La Bete' - A Talk and The Movie

David will talk about his new play, "Pinky" and how his two characters David and Pinky draw from Cocteau's film for their improvisational role-playing

Wednesday, 12 noon - 2:30 pm, August 1

At 12 noon "Talk with Q & A by David Templeton
Movie begins at 12:30 pm, after his Presentation

Tom Mariani, UUCSR Writers Poet Laureate 2010-2012 and Story Teller Laureate 2013-2015

Chaucer's "A Canterbury Tale" - A Talk and The Movie
Tom will talk about Chaucer and the Pilgrim's journey to Canterbury

Monday, 12 noon - 2:30 pm, August 13

At 12 noon "Talk with Q & A" by Tom Mariani
Movie begins at 12:30 pm, after his Presentation

At the UUCSR "Glaser Center" Monday Afternoon Series—Bring your own snacks and beverage. UUCSR Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa

The Great Courses on DVD. "Building Great Sentences: Exploring the Writer's Craft"

This course of 24 lectures on DVD is for the serious writer. Dr. Brooks Landon, Ph.D. has taught a sentence-focused prose-style course for more than 30 years at The University of Iowa, where he is Professor of English, Collegiate Fellow and Director of the General Education Literature Program.

Eight Mondays, 3:30 pm - 6 pm, Aug 13, 20, 27, Sept 10, 17, 24, Oct 8, 15

At 3:30 pm DVD presentation of three 1/2 hour lectures by Dr. Brooks Landon

Group discussion begins at 5:10 pm, after the three 1/2 hour lectures. Participants should make available the time to attend all the sessions in this series.

Your advanced registration is requested. Please send an e-mail to Georgette at GGdeB@aol.com, to reserve your place in this DVD course.

Thursday Mornings at the "Haven Cafe" 10 am -
Meet once a week for coffee and conversation.

Next Sonoma County Poetry Slam begins -
Thursday, 7 pm, September 6

Video Droid "Haven Cafe", 1901 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa.

Help us Sponsor the Poetry Slams

The UUCSR Writers sponsors the Poetry Slams. Your financial support accounts for 100% of the funds needed to provide the Prizes at each Slam.

Any amount donated shall be greatly appreciated. Thank you for you contribution. Please make your Tax Deductible check payable to: UUCSR. Please write "UUCSR Writers" on the memo line.

Mail to: UUCSR, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Information - Georgette G. deBlois,



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Unitarian Universalist Congregation Santa Rosa 14, June 2012

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by Board VP
Mary Louise Jaffray

Members present: Jeanie Bates, Ann Chambers, Joe Como, Laura Jean Hageman (President), Mary Louise Jaffray (Vice President), Alan Proulx, Lois Nagle, Craig Work

Members not present: John Farison, Cathy Weise, Peter Wilson, and co-treasurer Art Rosenblum

Non-members present: Amy Young (co-treasurer), Chris Bell (Minister)

Opening Words by Rev. Chris

Agenda Review: The incorrect date of July 14th for the potluck gathering for new and retiring Board Members and Officers was changed from July 14th to July 21st, 2012.

May 17th Minutes approved as modified:
Correction – The Board's 2012/2013 Budget will be presented at the Spring Congregational meeting, not the Summer Congregational meeting.

Financial Report

Amy announced that according to the Operating Year-to-Date Budget Report, we are currently showing a net income of \$13,340.93. Therefore, we are currently under budget. However, a number of additional expenses are expected in June.

Change of Signatures

Resolutions to change signatures on all relevant bank accounts were unanimously approved. Those accounts include: the General and Payroll Accounts at Exchange Bank, the Everbank Account, and the two Schwab Accounts.

Occupy Spokes Council

The Board approved the continued rent-free use of the UUCSR Social Hall by the O.S.C. for an indefinite period in that said use did not appear at this time inconsistent with UU's current rental and usage policy.

The rental manager needs to obtain a written agreement with OSC specifying the conditions for this use.

Sound System

The Board unanimously approved John's report recommending the replacement/upgrade of two important components of the sound system. These expenditures are expected to be paid in the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2012

June 10th Congregational Meeting

The Board agreed that the Congregational meeting on June 10th, utilizing a new time format (morning instead of afternoon), worked remarkably well. Many more members were present than a quorum required. In addition, Mary Louise Jaffray (Board Vice President) was lauded for successfully conducting the meeting in Board President Laura Jean Hageman's absence.

Goal Group Reports

The Board was updated on the progress made during the year by the various goal groups.

Looking Back

The Board agreed the past fiscal year saw many successes and accomplishments.

Appreciations

Alan Proulx was credited with fostering a successful canvass and with involving more canvassers than ever before. Mary Louise Jaffray was thanked for conducting today's meeting.

Looking Forward

Leadership Development and New Member integration into the Congregation are two areas of concentration emphasized by the Board for the coming year.

Closing Words by Alan Proulx

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 16th, 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Jo Ann Robson



Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa
547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

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Deadline: Wednesday, Noon, prior to Sunday Service

UU Update Newsletter:

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Newsletter by E-mail is available. To sign up, send an e-mail to Administrator@uusantarosa.org with your name and e-mail address

Editor: Janis Brewster

Newsletter deadline follows the 3rd Sunday. All electronic deadlines are noon Monday.

Please place any hard copy submissions in the Newsletter mail slot in the office by noon Sunday.

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