

QUEST



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine Newsletter

St. Augustine Beach, Florida

August 11, 2013

FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS ARE HELD SUNDAYS AT 10:30 A.M.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:30 A.M. CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED FOR THE VERY YOUNG

2487 A1A SOUTH, 3/4 MILES SOUTH OF STATE ROAD 312

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED SO ALL MAY SOCIALIZE

Audio transcripts of most presentations are available on the website www.uufsa.org

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The Quest is published monthly from August through June.

The next issue will be available on Sept. 11, 2013. Materials for inclusion in that issue are due by 8:00 a.m. Sept 7.

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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (904) 471-2047, POB 5117, St Augustine, FL 32084

Sunday, September 8, 10:30 a.m.
The Water Ceremony



We will begin our program year on September 8 with our traditional Water Ceremony. As in the past, we invite everyone to bring a bit of water from your adventures over the summer or from your own back yard. We will have our vessel of “waters of the world” to which we will add our individual bits as part of the ceremony. Nana Royer, Elle Barry, and Lola Sorensen will provide leadership for the day.



UU DocUUmentary

My Kid Could Paint That

Friday, August 23, 2013 at 7:00

Directed by Amir Bar-Lev

83 minutes

(2007)

Roger Ebert called it, "spell binding"

In this thought-provoking documentary, Director Bar-Lev tracks the overnight celebrity of little Marla Olmstead, a toddler who creates gallery-worthy paintings on the dining room table of her family home. A media sensation by the age of four, critics compare her work with Jackson Pollock. Sales of her paintings reach \$300,000. Sadly, the bubble bursts. When a 2005 profile by "60 Minutes" suggests that Marla had help making her paintings, the finger is pointed at her father, an amateur artist and night manager at Frito-Lay. Almost overnight, her family is ensnared in a web of accusation and denial, with the burden of proof placed squarely in their lap: Is Marla a child prodigy or an innocent victim of a hoax?

Cynthia



Tag Sale Success!



Thanks to everyone who contributed to making our Tag Sale a big success, whether you donated, participated, or bought. The crowd came and we had plenty of great merchandise ready!



Mary Ellen Kelso

May 15, 1932 – June 24, 2013



Mary Ellen came to the fellowship in its infancy and immediately brought music by playing a keyboard for service and creating the choir. She initiated and created Christmas Programs over the years. She served as treasurer for many years and when the Fellowship purchased its building, Mary Ellen helped by putting up money. Once in the building, she helped organize the religious education program during week after week of meetings, making lesson plans, and creating craft projects. RE programs the UUA offered for were for larger groups so Mary Ellen wrote a program of her own covering an entire year tailored for our RE. Mary Ellen wrote and directed plays with her own costumes to integrate children into our services. A life-long Universalist, she often added her special wit and perspectives to Sunday morning comments. We shall miss her.

Universalist Church of America

Most UUs come to the denomination looking for something they cannot find elsewhere. Mary Ellen Kelso was a rare example of someone who grew up as a Universalist and became a UU by default when the Universalist Church of America consolidated with the American Unitarian Association to form the Unitarian Universalist Association.

The defining theology of Universalism is universal salvation. Universalists believe that the God of love would not create a person knowing that person would be destined for eternal damnation. They concluded that all people must be destined for salvation. Although Mary Ellen did not share on that belief, she carried on the tradition of universal love and caring.

SJEM Food Pantry

Many thanks to our Food Pantry volunteers who continue to staff the pantry two Fridays a month throughout the summer. We really appreciated Nana Royer filling in for vacationing volunteers!

To give you a better idea of how essential the St. Johns Ecumenical Food Pantry is in our county, I am including the July statistics. The pantry provided 506 bags of food to 347 families. (511 adults and 311 children) This was 15,180 pounds of food or 12,144 meals!

Please think of these needy individuals when you return to the Fellowship in September. Especially needed now is canned meat or fish - beef, ham, chicken, tuna etc. Or you can easily make a donation on the pantry's website: www.stjohnsfoodpantry.org.

Thanks very much for assisting these families!

Cherie Dolgin, Food Pantry Captain

Fellowship Calendar

August 21 Program Committee 4:00 p.m.
August 23 SJEM Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Sept. 8 Start of regular Sunday morning services 10:30 a.m.
Sept. 13 SJEM Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Sept. 18 Program Committee 4:00 p.m.
Sept. 27 SJEM Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

For the most up-to-date calendar, always go to uufsa.org and click on Events Calendar (left side)

Florida District Calendar

For info on the Florida District Calendar, go to <http://www.floridadistrict.org>

Anniversaries

Aug 10	Fosaaen, Jerome & Christine 1996
Aug 18	Anderson, Linda & Dave (1962)
Aug 25	Adman/Gelow, Jindy & Ray 1980
Sept 17	Forrest, Lee Ann & David (1983)

Please let me know if I have missed you.

Don

Birthdays

August

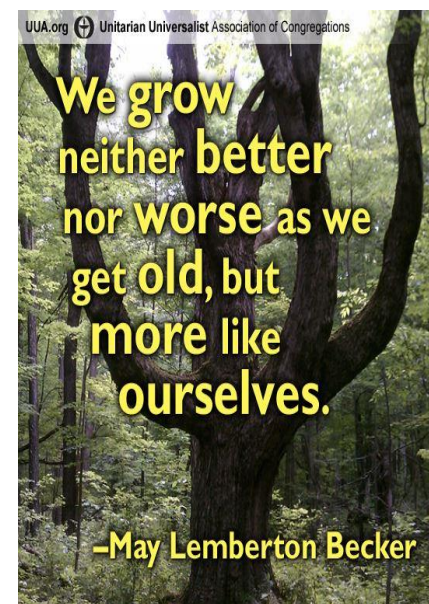
01 Joyce Peterson
04 Florence Abarbanel
12 Gladys Humphreys
19 Fred Dolgin
19 Roy Holmes
19 Amber Grafft-Weiss
20 Cherie Dolgin
23 Linda Holmes
25 Palmer Short
28 Charles Carter
28 Margaret Nicholson
30 Guy Reid
31 Dave Anderson

September

02 Jindy Gelow
07 Peggy Stephenson
15 Susan L. Ballantyne

Please let me know if I have missed you.

Don



UUA General Assembly

June 19 – 23, 2013
Louisville KY



In June, Dave Perkins and I attended, as delegates, our first General Assembly. Among over 3,000 Unitarian Universalists, it was an experience both emotionally and intellectually fulfilling

There were so many concurrent workshops that it was difficult at times to choose which to attend. Fortunately, some of the workshops which we missed are being posted on line (www.uua.org/ga/) Speakers included President Peter Morales, Rev. Dr. William Schulz, Kerry Kennedy, Wendell Berry, Tim DeChristopher, and Eboo Patel, who delivered the Ware Lecture. They were all inspirational and most are also available on the UUA website. The music was wonderful—imagine 3,000+ voices singing “Blue Boat Home”!

As a body, we marched a few blocks to the waterfront park, uniting with Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light participants to rally for alternative energy sources. Here Wendell Berry and Tim DeChristopher spoke again, to the cheers and applause of the

crowd. Back in the convention center, it was very informative to be involved in the democratic process in which the new Statement of Conscience regarding “Immigration as a Moral Issue” was modified and voted on.

There was so much in the way of “take aways” —from the importance of our being familiar with the Christian Bible—with the best translation to read (“The Voice”), the importance of seeking the “resonances” in all faiths, using our “core gifts” as activists, the need to view church as a “launching pad” and not a destination, to the transformative way of looking at community as described in author Peter Block's book, *Community: The Structure of Belonging*, which was noted in one of the workshops. We were left with a plethora of resources—books and internet links—into which we could delve more deeply. It will take a full year, I’m sure, to assimilate the information.

On the bulletin board downstairs there is a write-up of the experience. I encourage all to investigate the UUA GA website and listen to some of the workshops and lectures, and if you have not yet attended a GA, I recommend that you put it on your list of “must do’s” for the coming year.

Nana Royer



Beyond Our Congregation: Let's Go to The Mountain for SUUFI

Southern Unitarian Universalist Fall Institute – October 7-11.

The morning workshops will be led by Michael Dowd and Connie Barlow, international presenters who have created stimulating workshops about the “Connection Between the Sacred and Science.” Other activities include workshops on photography and healing touch, exploration of local falls or the Bascom Arts Center, evening entertainment, talent shows or singing around the campfire. In addition, there are opportunities to walk the outdoor labyrinth, check out the organic farm (large garden and chickens), hike in the mountains, relax on the deck or climb the tower, and much more.

For this five-day multi-faceted programming, four nights lodging, great meals, stimulating fellowship, and breathtaking views of fall colors in the mountains, the cost is \$440. If you are interested, please go ahead and register. If you

would like to be part of car-pooling or renting a small bus depending on the number of participants, please contact Beverly by September 1. There will be an additional charge for those wanting group transportation.

For more information, contact Beverly Cree, or check out the SUUFI website at www.suufi.org or The Mountain website at www.mountaincenters.org. The program info would be in The Mountain Calendar webpage. For general info about The Mountain, check out the display downstairs at UUFSA or talk with Beverly Cree, Lyn Klarman or Priscilla Gulliver.

For more information, check out the SUUFI website at www.suufi.org or The Mountain website at www.mountaincenters.org. The program info would be in The Mountain Calendar webpage.



Notes from the President



I hope everyone is having a great summer and looking forward at the same time to returning to “business as usual” at our Fellowship. We have an exciting Summer program with concentration on discussing the book “Everyday Spiritual Practices” which is being well attended. We have also an adjunct children’s program being managed by Beverly Cree our new co-chair

(with Ruth Weber) for Religious Education which we now refer to as “Faith Development for all Ages”. Youth will explore spirituality through activities such as discussion, creative art, books, relationship-building, drama, connecting with nature, and non-competitive games. Sessions are 1030a on July 8th and 5-630p thereafter through August 25th. Thank you to Lola Sorenson who is managing the Summer session and who found a way we can support our Dining With Dignity program.

Dave and Lee Ann Forrest are championing the Dining With Dignity Program, with a generous assist by our Treasurer Ruth Weber who is handling the donations to support this important outreach program. A big Thank You to all of you who contribute to this important mission.

Nick McAuliffe has agreed to chair the Finance Committee. I could not have tailored an ideal candidate who would be his equal. He will bring dedication, commitment, and wisdom to the job. Thanks Nick for taking on this critical job.

Being your president is a great honor and challenge. I promise to give it my best, remembering the other side of the coin is the need for the support and wisdom of the members and friends of the Fellowship. I am merely your appointed guide. You decide where we

go and how we get there from here. To continue to build this Fellowship we need to listen to one another and agree, remembering failure is just a stepping stone to victory. If I make mistakes, and I will, let it always be on the side of love and generosity. When we make mistakes together let’s keep our sense of humor and fix them together.

I look forward to a year of challenge, growth, and Fellowship with you, with our seven principles lighting the way, I am off to a great start with you and so many other stars shining in our Fellowship orbit.

Guy

From the Editor

Yeah, more change to the Quest layout. For those of you who are wondering why I rotated the page to a landscape view, it is because we are in the computer age. Ninety five percent of the people who receive the Quest get it via email. Presuming that most, if not all, of those people read it on the screen rather than using paper and ink to print it, the landscape view is more convenient. It lets you see more page at a larger size than portrait view without less scrolling up and down the columns.

