

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



May 2015

Congregational Meeting May 24

Your Board of Trustees calls you to a Congregational Meeting after services on **May 24** to consider and adopt a budget for next fiscal year commencing July 1. A suggested budget, prepared by the Finance Committee and endorsed by the Administration Team and the Board of Trustees, will be distributed well before the meeting for your study. Please attend and participate in this essential congregational business.



Richard Kossow

A Note from the minister

May is a month named in honor of the Greek goddess Maia known for her beauty, nurturing and compassion. Another nuance of the name Maia concerns age and wisdom.

In our time, the month of May is celebrated for its flowers. For most of the world it is the month in which, on International Workers Day May 1, ordinary laboring people are celebrated for the contributions they make for the benefit of all.

On May 5, 1862, the ordinary people of Mexico stood up against the oppression of the French and their courageous stand inspired a hope that still stirs people to action today.

On May 1, 1865, black residents of Charleston, South Carolina organized a May Day ceremony to honor Union soldiers who died in a prison camp there. This ceremony was covered by the New York Tribune and other national papers. It is among the precursors of our modern Memorial Day which is now celebrated at the end of the month.

In the United States, since 1906, the second Sunday in May has been celebrated as Mother's Day. Anna Jarvis helped organize the day in honor of her own mother's great nurturing. Her idea was that it be a time to personally thank our own mothers for their gifts to us, and to honor the nurturing that mothers bring to the world. She later boycotted the holiday because it became so commercialized and shallow.

With these elements and many more, the month of May is with us. If we choose to, we can take it as an opportunity to slow down a bit and think about beauty, nurturing and compassion. And with any luck at all, while we're thinking we'll have some amazing flowers to accompany us.

Yours in the springtime journey

Rev. Bryan Jessup

Inside

Page 2:

Board report
People
Repairing, tables, chairs
Member of the month

Page 3:

Religious education

Page 4:

Member bios
Take two or ten
Summer schedule change
Medical aids

Page 5:

Challenging times
Service auction postponed
Roy Zimmerman concert

Page 6:

HOGWARTS
Art and aesthetics
June Thompson remembrance

Page 7:

Potluck and Cuba program
Halloween Festival?
Tiny house expo

Page 8:

Classified ads

Board report

In April your Board of Trustees initiated a discussion about creating a Congregational plan of priorities and goals for the next five years. We believe such a conversation and priority setting will assist us all in making decisions about growth, programs and stewardship. You are welcome to attend the Board meeting on **May 12**, 5:50 p.m. to offer your thoughts on the formation of a priority plan or wait until a more developed document is presented to the Congregation in the coming months.

The Board adopted event rentals as a marketing strategy to maximize the use of our building in the best interest of the Congregation. Committees are asked to calendar meetings and events as soon as possible to avoid scheduling conflicts.

Among other Finance Committee business the Board chose to move the \$58,000 plus Chaffee Bequest to a California road fund that will increase the rate of return on our investment for one committed year.

Sylvia Shaw

Repairing tables, chairs, etc.

Occasionally, an item needing repair has been stuck in a nook to be forgotten or banished outside to suffer the further ravages of the weather. Other times, the note telling us that it needs repair has required as much time to clean off as does the repair itself. Please do not write with a permanent marker directly on the chair or table. If a post-it note is not handy, and you must rely on tape to secure the note, please use a tape that will easily be removed (blue or green masking tape, not the cheap stuff) and then please email or call both Chip Sharpe and Scott Allen, describing what you know about the broken item. Most items could be tucked into one of the few voids that remain behind the accordion doors in the RE room. Temporary storage in the hallway between the Minister's and the Administrator's offices is also acceptable. Mondays through Thursdays, Roxana could advise you about where to leave it. Thank you

Chip Sharpe



Member of the month

We toast our member of the month, Awanna Kalal. Awanna arrives at 8 a.m. on Sunday mornings to make sure everything is ready for both services, and often does not leave until 1:30 or 2 p.m. We see her on Sundays and when we choose to become members, but we do not see her maintaining the bulletin board, doing the kitchen laundry, printing the name tags and volunteering in the office.

Awanna moved to Humboldt to be near her daughter in 1997 after retiring as a reading specialist in Sacramento. She has been a UU for 63 years, however, please ask her about growing up as a Theosophist and learning about Hindu beliefs such as Karma and Reincarnation.

Sylvia Shaw

People

Welcome to our newest member **Harriet Hill**. Please take time to greet her.

Congratulations to our choir piano accompanist, **Levi Walls**, saluted by HSU as one of the Outstanding Students for 2014-15 in the category of Best Individual Artistic Achievement, Visual & Performing Arts.

Ginger Kossow had a good experience at St. Joe's ER one recent Sunday for a really painful back spasm and she is recovering nicely.

Jessica Knapp is graduating from Mills College with a degree in Social Geography. She continues to perform dance, is active in social justice and is a massage therapist.

We wish **Lucera Love** and her family good thoughts and positive affirmations as she journeys toward good health and freedom from thyroid cancer. Lucera says, "We are so grateful for the healing affirmations and lovely meals that people brought after my surgery. It was a great help to our family"

Judy Rishel reports that her partial knee joint replacement is a ways from bearing full weight which would allow the other knee to be repaired, but she is driving and actively doing physical therapy with excitement over a future with new knees.

We wish **Edie Jessup** speedy recovery from cataract surgery.

Joy Thomas has enrolled in Hospice and is feeling very tired and trying to conserve her energy, with the goal of finishing up the beekeeping class she is co-teaching at HSU. She doesn't need meals right now. She would be fine with brief visits, with a call ahead (to let her know you are coming and to gauge if she has energy for a visit). Cards are a welcome way of letting Joy know you are thinking of her and conserving her energy.

Sylvia Shaw

Religious Education

May 3: Classes by ages

Preschool: What is a bully? How do we show love? We will explore these ideas with crafts, books and activities.

Kdg-2: We will learn about the symbol of our faith, the chalice. How did we decide what it would look like? We will read the book *A Cup Of Light*.

3-5: Japanese Children's Day. We'll learn about the ancient Japanese traditions of celebrating children while encouraging them to be courageous, determined, helpful and gentle. We will make fish kites to hang in the breeze.

Intermediate: We will have a mystery guest to share their spiritual journey. Come see who it will be.

May 10: Friendship Sunday

All ages together. Childcare will be offered for all ages with games, books and crafts. Celebrate our amazing mothers.

May 17: Classes by ages

Preschool: We will wrap up lessons from the year and talk about what it means to be UU.

K-2: We will have a mystery teacher to share our experiences through the year to get ready for our Milestone ceremony next month. Who do you think it will be?

3-5: UU Day and wrap-up for the year. We'll remember back to many of the holidays and holy days we have celebrated this year and learn about some famous Unitarian Universalists. We'll make banners and celebrate a year of learning and growing together.

Intermediate: We will plan our presentation for Milestone ceremony. How would you like to contribute? Come share your ideas.

May 24: Friendship Sunday

We will hang out together, read and play games

May 31

We will practice our Milestone ceremony activities for next week's service. We will talk about what we liked and wish for Religious Education for next year. Think about what you would like to do at Fellowship on Sundays and come and share your ideas.

Children will discuss what they would like to happen in RE for next year. Now is the time to ask what we as parents and community would want for the children of our faith and this congregation. How can we grow thinking, caring activists who will continue to pursue their spiritual journey toward love? We will be looking for two teachers for next year. If you might want to volunteer for one Sunday or two a month please think about what you are passionate about that you would be able to share with our children. We welcome your ideas and energy to our program.

Jillian Mooney



Member bio

I was born and raised in Coronado, CA. My parents were Christmas and Easter Presbyterians as long as they felt some kind of church exposure might be good for us. They relented pretty early and let all five of us choose our own paths. I found then, and still find, more spiritual satisfaction on the water and in doing my chosen work well, than I ever manage in a formal setting.

In the 80s I was playing French horn in a small chamber orchestra which was invited to accompany the organist at First UU San Diego in a recital. I was impressed with the people and the facility and decided to see what else went on. And I re-found Berti, whom I had known from the late 50s.

When we left San Diego, a UU congregation was one of the requirements for our new community; and here we are.

Jo Weisgerber



Jo Weisgerber

Take two or ten?

The play *Spring Awakening* will take place on Saturday, **May 23**, 8 p.m. at North Coast Rep in Eureka. Tickets are \$20 each and include a dessert buffet following the show. Remember that this is our only fundraiser for this year and if we sell all the tickets, we have a chance to make almost \$2000. That's a goodly amount for not much work. So sell those tickets, which Dave and Ilene Harris have for you. Checks should be made out to HUUF.

Also - we need volunteers to make those delicious desserts I mentioned.

We are out of town until May 3, but you can reach us by cell phone or email: Ilene 267-0438 Email ileneharris@gmail.com or Dave 845-1411 Email harris2761@sbcglobal.net

Ilene Harris

Summer schedule change

June 28 will mark the beginning of a change in format for our summer services.

From 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Religious Education Preschool Room, participants will gather in chairs around the table, light the chalice and have an informal period of reflection and stimulating discussion. The topic will be related to the subject to be addressed later in the sermon at the 10:30 service in the sanctuary. Discussion participants may find they have comments or questions they choose to present at the later service.

Two services, at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., will resume on September 9.

Pat McCutcheon

Medical aids

HUUF has a supply of medical aids that are available for loan if the need arises. The collection is stored at Anna Mae Botley's home in McKinleyville. Available are:

- 2 shower chairs of different types
- 2 commodes which can be used at a bedside or over a toilet
- an electric scooter
- a foam wedge (good if one needs to elevate a leg)
- 1 walker with a seat and basket for carrying items
- 2 walkers without seats
- a bed rail that slips under the mattress and is helpful getting in and out of bed
- a stabilizing bar that clamps on a tub and helps in getting in and out
- a wheelchair
- a transport chair.

Contact me at 599-1250 if you are in need of any of the above.

Jan Rowen

Challenging Times and Cherishing Our Fellowship

The Board of Trustees recently learned that the Service Auction will have to be postponed until October. Postponing our Service Auction impacts this year's budget by the loss of its expected \$3000 income. We will all need to pull together a little harder to support an already tight budget.

How can our Fellowship members rise to these challenging times? All of our committees have worked to reduce their spending this year. So what can we do as individuals to help in these challenging times? Have you bought your tickets to attend the *Spring Awakening* theater fundraiser? If we sell out for this event we can raise needed funds to help close our budget deficit. Perhaps you could add to your pledge for this fiscal year. Perhaps you could honor a friend's birthday or other special event with a HUUF donation. Let's be creative to help us get past this year's budget deficit. We know we can count on our sharing strength to help us maintain our financial strength.

Treasuring our U.U. Fellowship,

Cynthia Chason, Board Member, Treasurer

Service auction postponed

The "Batters Up" Service Auction, originally scheduled for May, has been postponed until October 3, giving everyone more time in the bullpen – coming up with creative offerings, saving up money for bidding, and getting ready to have a crackerjack good time!

Please mark your calendar for this World Series event.

And – it's no too late to join the committee, if you would like to go to bat for it.

Roy Zimmerman concert

Roy Zimmerman's "The Faucet's on Fire!" concert comes to Humboldt on Monday **June 22**, 7 p.m. at the Fellowship. Tickets are \$20 requested donation per person, but no one will be turned away.

What can one person do about climate change, torture, racism, gun violence, fracking, Congressional ineptitude, ignorance, war and greed? "Write funny songs", says Roy Zimmerman.

"The Faucet's on Fire!" is ninety minutes of Zimmerman's hilarious, rhyme-intensive original songs. His songs have been heard on HBO and Showtime. He's shared stages with Bill Maher, Robin Williams, Ellen DeGeneres, John Oliver, Kate Clinton and George Carlin. He's been profiled on NPR's "All Things Considered," and he's a featured blogger for the Huffington Post.

And now he's coming to Humboldt County. Don't miss a great evening on the liberal fringe.

Edie Jessup



Roy Zimmerman

HOGWARTS

(How Our Governance Works And Related Themes and Subjects)

Do you have questions about how our governance works? I suspect you do. Your Board of Trustees has selected me to be your “go to” person with questions. You can email your questions to me, The Wise Woman of HOGWARTS at jlasken22@gmail.com and I will answer them.

For example, a question might be:

Dear Wise Woman of HOGWARTS – Where do I go if I have a great idea for a book discussion group?

I wrote back: “You go to Wendy Rowan who chairs our Religious Education for Adults which reports to the Ministry and Program Team. So if you can’t get hold of Wendy you could contact Bryan Jessup or Jana Kirk-Levine. They will point you in the right direction.”

So you see, as the Wise Woman of HOGWARTS I was there for that potential Adult Religious Education person and I’ll be here for you too. Just email me your questions at jlasken22@gmail.com and I’ll answer you and include your question in my next HOGWARTS column in our Newsletter.

Just remember “How Our Governance Works And Related Themes and Subjects” HOGWARTS! HOGWARTS is the happy information hub of your hardworking Board.

Our Ministry and Program Team and Administrative Team meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 and are open to all members.

Joanna Welch

Art and Aesthetics

Many thanks go to the cleaners and diggers who have done wonders inside and outside of our home at HUUF. For example, Jeff Knap personally gave the Janitor closet some aid. Then there was Susan Allen literally hanging from the rafters to dust. And the grounds of Humboldt Unitarian Universalist really honor the spirit of our community.

Artists with work in the March/April show, please pick up your work on Wednesday, **April 29**, between 3:00 and 5:00.

The May art show is The Children’s Show. Exploring UU Principles through art day, which was at the equinox, we examined Light and Dark. The children can take their art home after the Milestone Ceremony on **June 7**.

A special invitation: An art show to honor the journey of healing from cancer. Cancer comes unbidden, and takes one on a journey, willing or not. Art can be a powerful medicine to bring healing and meaning to this journey. You may have lived through it. You may be going through treatment now. You may be the loved one of a cancer survivor, or you may have lost a loved one to cancer. If you have been affected by cancer in a way that calls you to create, you are invited to honor this process by submitting your artistic works on this theme for a show in the sanctuary (date to be announced later). Thanks to Lucera love for the idea and description of this show.

Cheryl Rau

Deadline info

Deadline for the June issue of the newsletter is Wednesday, **May 20**, 5:00 p.m. Send your committee reports and articles to newsletter@huuf.org. Neither PDF files nor late submissions can be accepted. Crisp, clear graphics may be sent as a separate file, not embedded in your article.

Stephen Sottong, editor

Lush fresh beauty
Softly bright and deeply true
Coloring my sight

Carrie Browne

Women’s Retreat haiku workshop

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads are 10¢ a word. Send your check to the HUUF office and the text of your ad to newsletter@huuf.org.

June Thompson Remembrance

There will be a Remembrance for June Thompson at 9 a.m. on **May 16** at the Redwood Roots apple orchard followed by a reception at Folklife Farm, 3084 Jacoby Creek.

Jane Riggan

All Fellowship Potluck and Cuba Program

The program is continued by popular demand. On Friday, **May 1**, with the potluck at 6 p.m. and the Cuba program at 7 p.m. Our discussion on April 17 was so interesting that we will continue delving into Cuba's history, especially in relation to the US and the current normalizing of relations between our countries. Richard Kossow states, "At this session of our conversation about Cuba, there will be new slides taken by my companion on the trip and I want to address a few topics that didn't get time at the first potluck:

1. Current political trends.
2. Punishment inflicted by the US embargo and other destabilization efforts.
3. What were the Fidelistas rebelling against?
4. More on food and agriculture."

Set-up for the potluck starts a 5:30 p.m. While consuming the delectable delights that everyone brings, we will have lively conversations and a chance to get to know one another better. Childcare will be provided. As always, assistance with set-up and clean-up is greatly appreciated.

Berti Welty

Halloween Festival - will it be?

We have a crew. Sandy & Berti will help with skits and props, Judy with crafts, lots of volunteers to cover guiding lights and food. But, no one has yet stepped forward to be trained as a chair/co-chair. As chair you will have the people who led in the past be available to lend a helping hand. This could be just your niche.

If no one volunteers to chair the Halloween festival by **May 1**, it will *not* happen in 2015. Call any of us if you have questions. This crucial undertaking is a major interface between HUUF and the larger community. We need *you*.

Sandy Lynn, Berti Welty, & Judy Rishel

Tiny House Expo event: Invitation to participate

A Tiny House Expo village will be held on Saturday, **September 26**, on the Fellowship grounds, from noon – 6 p.m. Affordable Homeless Housing Alternatives (AHHA) is sponsoring the first annual Tiny House Expo of small affordable living units for homeless in a village setting. This will be a fun family event that demonstrates the actual living options and offers hands-on construction workshops, children's activities, festive food, entertainment, educational forums and an auction fundraiser to support the work of AHHA. Rex Bohn has agreed to be our auctioneer for the auction fund raiser.

The Expo will feature Humboldt-made dwellings that can assist having legal, safe, warm, and dry places to sleep for all our neighbors. People can tour examples of tiny houses in village set up, temporary shelter/tent camps, car camping, and more. Keynote speakers and panel discussions on issues about the establishment of immediate places to live for the over 2,000 unhoused neighbors in Humboldt County will include voices of the homeless.

This first Expo of community village options for those who live on the edge will be an opportunity for the wider public to see what settled camps might look like, and what they might contribute to the economy, equity, and the environment.

AHHA is extending an invitation to all HUUF members and friends to be a part of Humboldt's creative engagement in this event and fundraising for AHHA to assure the founding of a variety of safe, legal places to live around Humboldt County. Committees are forming now, and you are invited to participate in the Tiny House Expo success. Please contact Richard Kossow - richardk@humboldt1.com, 826-1227, Edie Jessup - ediejessup@gmail.com, 616-1596, Allen Lesser - alpractices@yahoo.com, Sylvia Shaw -sls500@yahoo.com, 599-1563, or Administrator, Roxana Stengl, 822-3793, if you can help us with this event.

Sylvia Shaw

You scream from above
I am in your neighborhood
A blue feather drifts slowly down
Gigi Collins
Women's Retreat haiku workshop

Born on other side
of earth's ocean, our souls are so
connected
Life's mystery
Wendy
Women's Retreat haiku workshop



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 506
Bayside, CA 95524

24 Fellowship Way (off Jacoby Creek Road)

(707) 822-3793

www.huuf.org

e-mail: office@huuf.org

Administrator: Roxana Stengl

Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Minister: Rev. Bryan Jessup

Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

822-3793 minister@huuf.org

Director of Religious Education: Jillian Mooney

Board of Trustees:

Co-Presidents Richard Kossow

Jana Kirk-Levine

Vice-President Barbara Madaras

Secretary Sylvia Shaw

Trustees Joanna Welch

Treasurer Cynthia Chason

Newsletter Editor Stephen Sottong

newsletter@huuf.org

Calendar Editor Roxana Stengl

Classified ads

Available for Child Care

Kayla Kossow. Arcata High Sophomore, experienced with caring for babies through elementary school age. Call or text 362-9332.

Bridge Anyone?

Duplicate Bridge game every Tuesday, 10:45 – about 3:00 - Ocean West Clubhouse, McKinleyville. Bring a bag lunch. A friendly group willing to welcome and help bridge players new to duplicate. Call Peg Douglas 633-5794 or Kossows 826-127.