

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



November 2010

HUUF Board update

At the October Board of Trustees meeting we had a lengthy discussion about ways to improve our welcoming practices on Sunday morning. Suggestions were made to help new families feel more comfortable; and JoAnn reported that the Membership Committee recommends some changes such as improving the appearance of the foyer, allowing coffee/tea in the sanctuary, and starting meetings a half hour after the morning program to provide time for interaction. We also reflected upon how we all need to extend ourselves to newcomers who walk through our doors.

Board members serve as liaisons to the Fellowship's many committees and reviewed recent committee activity. The Building Use Committee is working to revise the building use plan to increase revenue. Personnel is conducting an audit of HUUF personnel. The Board recently met with the Program and Worship Committee to provide support and help with planning Sunday programs.

Co-Chair JoAnn Thomas has been in communication with the Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church as they can be a good resource in our efforts to strengthen our community and secure a minister. Co-Chair Jeff Knapp has sent a request to Wayne Clark with the UUA for an assessment visit to assist with our annual pledge drive. Both JoAnn and Jeff are very involved, day-to-day, with the attention to details and creativity necessary for our work now.

A big thanks to Debbie Coggins for helping the Board present the budget for the current fiscal year to the congregation on October 17. There was thoughtful deliberation of reductions and additions with consensus on approval of the budget. The congregation approved Phyllis Helligas, Jean Munsee, and Felicia Oldfather as members of the Nominating Committee; they are charged to recommend four new Board members for the following year. The Congregation also reviewed a resolution on immigration issues from the Social Action Committee and recommended some changes.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Board's work, please do talk to us.

Wendy Rowan, Secretary

Benefit concert

Don't forget the benefit concert for HUUF that Felicia Oldfather, Virginia Ryder and David Davis will give on Sunday, **November 7**, at 7:00 p.m. to celebrate the new piano. The first half of the program will feature a clarinet, cello and piano trio of Johannes Brahms. The second half will include a jazzy trio by American composer Robert Muczynski and a duo for cello and piano by the Argentine composer Alberto Ginastera. Don't miss this chance for some terrific music by popular local performers. Admission at the door is \$10 for adults, under 18 free.

David Davis

What's inside

Page 2: People

- Congregational record
- UUSC holiday cards
- Art exhibit
- Daylighters
- Soup and game night

Page 3: Guest at your table

- What can you do for HUUF?
- Deadline information

Page 4: Social action (two articles)

- Poem

Page 5: Religious education

- Congregational meeting report

Page 6: Halloween next year

- Newsletter (two articles)
- SAC coffee sales

Page 7: Cats (two articles)

- Blue Lake cemetery
- Projector

People

Dave Goggin has moved. He would probably love to hear from us. If you wish to drop him a letter or card, you can send it to him at VA-SORCAC, 8495 Crater Lake Hwy., White City, OR 97503.

We are wishing **Kinara** the best of luck.

Ana Mae Botley has returned safely from visiting her daughter Becky's family in New Zealand and is driving on the right side of the road again.

Some of us remember **Jim Sharpe** at HUUF prior to the turn of the century. Jim died in Eureka on October 12, 2010. Jim was the companion of Anna Davis, who died in Georgia in 2005. For Jim's obituary, see <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/times-standard/obituary.aspx?n=james-sharpe&pid=146103497>.

Former Board president **Jo Anderson** was in town for a long weekend in October, visiting with old friends.

Karen Knapp



Soup and game night

Friday, **November 5**, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Bring your favorite soup or bread to share. We will provide drinks and games to play together. We always appreciate help setting up and cleaning up. This is an all-congregation Family Ministry Night. Come spend time with your Fellowship family.

Jillian Mooney

Daylighters

What exercise makes your back feel better? Do you do an exercise that strengthens your core, your arms, your legs? What exercise do you do to relax? Come to the Daylighters at HUUF on Tuesday, **November 9**, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm and share your favorite exercises.

A discussion about our own creative aging and how to support it will continue. Tea and cookies will be served.

*Marianne Pennekamp
and Thea Gast,
Co-conveners*

UUSC holiday cards

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee holiday cards will be for sale in the foyer on Sundays before the holidays as soon as they arrive and until they are sold out.

Ursula Osborne

Art exhibit

“From The Collection of the Artist - Works by Maggie Moore” is the current exhibit on the walls of the Fellowship Hall for October and November. Maggie's art spans decades and her life process. She has studied, taught and exhibited locally including a show at the Morris Graves Museum. Maggie is my dear friend, and I feel blessed that she was able to compile and hang this show for us with just days' notice. I feel privileged to present her art to you. I hope you take the time to view and appreciate this work.

*Irith Shalmony
Curator/Aesthetics Committee*

Congregational Record

Completing the Congregational Record is one of the first steps in our quest for a minister and it is proving to be a valuable tool as we reflect on who we are and what we need in a minister.

In our newsletter last month, we asked for your input in a general way and now we need to be more specific. Questions 14 and 15 ask about committees: Which has recently been the most successful and which has had the greatest challenges? We all have had different experiences serving on different committees and would answer accordingly.

Please be specific in your comments and send them to me at cjthomas1228@sbcglobal.net. Thank you.

JoAnn Thomas

Celebrate the tradition of Guest at Your Table

During this season of giving, we join with other congregations in support of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. By helping make the work of UUSC possible, we consecrate our commitment to our part in the interdependent web, the inherent worth and dignity of all, and each of our seven principles.

UUSC works in this country and around the world, helping people recover from disasters; strengthen their communities; and secure employment, health-care, shelter, clean water and good food. This vital work could not continue without our support. UUSC is a membership-based organization and receives no funding from the Unitarian Universalist Association. Each fall, during the Guest-at-Your-Table campaign, our fellowship has shown increasing support for UUSC. In 2009, our individual gifts averaged about \$75 and totaled almost \$3,000.

We hope each of you will take a Guest-at-Your-Table box or otherwise create a daily reminder in your home. These “guests” at our tables represent brothers and sisters whom we may not know but who share this planet with us. The empty box reminds us to give from our fullness to those who are in need, so that everyone can live in justice and peace. We all need help sometimes, we all give help sometimes, and we all deserve a beautiful table, with plenty of good food, love, and beauty.

Boxes will be presented to you during the services on **November 7** and will remain available in the foyer. You may collect daily contributions and bring them to the Fellowship on the first two Sundays of 2011. Contributions of \$100 or more are matched by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock, Manhasset, NY.

You and your family members can also earn UUSC membership by giving at the membership level during Guest at Your Table. Contributions of \$40 or more qualify for UUSC membership (\$75 for dual memberships, \$20 for seniors, \$10 for youth.) Fifty-four of us are current UUSC members. Let’s see if we can achieve 100%.

Chip Sharpe

Deadline Saturday, November 20

Please e-mail articles to jthomas3@csulb.edu. Print and .pdf items cannot be accepted.

Joy Thomas, editor



What can you do for HUUF?

I am writing to share with you my surprised realization about something. Because of competing family and travel priorities, I feared that I could not produce and facilitate a Sunday service program. I was pleased to find the instructions of the Program and Worship committee, under Katherine Almy and Steve Sottong, to be reliable, clear, and allowing for flexibility. I was able to do a lot with email. In total, it was easy, fun and very satisfying, especially working with the great unheralded team that makes Sunday programs possible (Marie, Elisabeth, Annette and Kathy). If you stretch your imagination, maybe you too may find ways that your special strengths and interests can be of use to the Fellowship. I was energized by the whole experience.

So, I am writing to you, members and friends, new and long-term, all of whom have limited time and energy, to urge you to be creative and courageous in finding ways to contribute to this vibrant community, the Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, that we enjoy, cherish, and that so importantly represents our values.

I conclude this note with a paraphrase of a quote from an earlier time when my generation also had a handsome and cool President, whom I adored as I do our present one, “Ask not what the Fellowship can do for you, but what you can do for the Fellowship.”

June Davis

Social Action as part of the fabric of HUUF

We do not merely recite the aspiration on Sundays at HUUF; we put our aspiration into action in many ways.

The Religious Education (RE) program has a social action project on the fourth Sunday of most months for all grade levels. The particular project is announced in the RE section of the newsletter. In September, RE participants took their annual outing to Redwood Roots Farm to glean for the Food Bank. Everyone is invited to join as a volunteer helper on those Sundays and all other Sundays too. As part of their social action program, RE classes also prepare and freeze meals for the Arcata Night Shelter. These meals are delivered to the shelter monthly by a different RE family each time.

Intermediate and Teen groups take on extra social action activities such as the Intermediate class's gathering of over 1000 pairs of socks for Betty Chinn's program last year.

Tuesdays are HUUF's day to bring food to the the Arcata Night Shelter. This is a regular action chosen by our congregation in 2003 when we joined the Humboldt All Faith Partnership (HAFF). SAC donates money from the its budget to the partnership, while various HUUF members cook and provide hot meals every Tuesday evening to the residents of the shelter. Volunteers contact Jean Munsee at munsee@humboldt1.com. Other local congregations provide hot evening meals on other days of the week. The shelter is outside Arcata city limits in an industrial area. It is a house where homeless people may spend the night.

High Protein Sunday, formerly Tuna Sunday, is the first Sunday of the month when at HUUF we collect tuna and money for tuna, peanut butter or other vegetarian alternatives that can be eaten without cooking. These are delivered to the North Coast Resource Center in Arcata where they are added to food boxes for needy clients.

Coffee sales are held in the foyer on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. The coffee and other Equal Exchange products we sell come to us from the UU Service Committee. Revenue from the sales is sent to Circulo de Amigas for the tuition of nine-year-old Eymi Gonsáles in Jinotega, Nicaragua.

Social Action brunches provide the congregation with sociability on the third Sunday of most months while raising money for deserving local organizations such as Food for People and the Hope Center in Eureka.

The Loleta Program is just getting underway. Notices concerning the need for food donations will appear once a month in the Green Sheet. Please bring only those items listed. These donations will be taken to the Loleta Food Closet for distribution to those who need food. Five or six people are now volunteering regularly in the first and second grade classrooms of Loleta Elementary School. Classroom volunteers may contact Ilene Harris at ileneharris@gmail.com.

The SAC budget from the congregation, in addition to supporting the HAFF, is used primarily to support numerous national and international organizations such as Planned Parenthood of America and Doctors without Borders.

Conclusion: I wrote this report at the request and with the collaboration of others of the SAC and was surprised to discover the extent of our congregation's involvement in the community and the wider world.

Ursula Osborne

November Social Action brunch

SAC brunches will return to their regular third-Sunday-of-the-month position on our calendars, starting this month. That will be on **November 21**, right after the 2nd service. The theme is Harvest Time. Locally-grown produce will be a featured part of this brunch. We didn't want to compete with Thanksgiving the following week, so we're keeping it simple but tasty! There will, however, be pumpkin, despite the proximity to Thanksgiving. The assumption is that most of us will probably not object to having pumpkin pie two weeks in a row.

Price for adult: \$5

Price for child: \$1

Proceeds raised from brunch will go to support an organization in the community that helps folks in need.

Eve Anderson

Poem

I like Spring but it is too young.
I like Summer, but it is too proud.
So, I like best of all Autumn,
because its leaves are a little
yellower,
And it is tinged a little with sorrow.
Its golden richness speaks not of the
innocence of Spring
Nor of the power of Summer,
But of the mellowness of kindly
wisdom of approaching age.
It knows the limitations of life
and is content.

Lin Yutang

(contributed by Ed Uyeki)

Congregational meeting report

Statements, positions or action taken by the full congregation are presented for approval at formal congregational meetings, most of which are called by our Board of Directors. Congregational decisions are reached by a consensus process rather than by voting. On Sunday, October 17, a congregational meeting was held by the Board at the Fellowship, and members took action on several matters:

New Nominating Committee: Fellowship Bylaws provide for a Nominating Committee elected by the congregation, with the Committee's members serving one year terms. Their task is to recruit candidates to replace outgoing members of our Board of Trustees or those leaving other elected positions. The Bylaws also provide that each year in October the outgoing Nominating Committee recruits its own replacements and presents a slate of candidates for congregational election. This year the outgoing Nominating Committee recommended members elect Phyllis Helligas, Felicia Oldfather and Jean Munsee as our new Nominating Committee. Members reached consensus to accept this recommendation.

Annual Budget: Our Bylaws provide that each year the budget drafted by the Board of Trustees in June be presented in October to the congregation for approval. The budget presented at this meeting was approved by the congregation, provided two conditions were met: The first condition was to have the budget allocate \$2,000 for the teens to use in attending conferences and other teen activities. The second was to remove \$150 from the Aesthetics Committee's budget to count toward the \$2,000 allocated to the

continued on page 8

Religious Education



November 7: Remember the time changes!

Preschool: We will talk about the UU principle of Be Kind In All You Do. How are you kind?

K-2nd: We will discuss listening, talking and sharing. Come practice all three of these.

3rd-5th: We will learn about the history of our chalice and make one. Where did we get this symbol?

Intermediate: We will attend St. Albans Episcopal Church. The service starts at 10:30, so we will meet at HUUF at 10:00. We'll go to Wildberries afterwards for treats and discussion.

November 14: All Worship – Autumn Art. All ages will gather in the CARE building to express their spirituality through art. Cheryl Rau, one of HUUF's local artists, and assistants will create together.

November 21

Preschool: We will continue our discussion on kindness and role-play with puppets we made.

K-2nd: We will talk about fair and unfair experiences. Have you ever had one of these? Come share!

3rd-5th: We will work on our chalices. What does our chalice mean to you?

Intermediate: We will continue our discussion about our beliefs, and the churches we've visited.

November 28: Friendship Sunday. Childcare available while we play, read books and share time with our friends.

Thanks to the Teen group who made bag lunches to help us make it through the Congregational meeting without our stomachs growling. Thanks to all of those who bought them. Teens have \$131 more in their conference fund!

Jillian Mooney



Next year's Halloween Festival

We're just about to wrap up the Halloween Festival, but it's not too early to start thinking about next year. The Halloween Festival is a special event – much loved by the community and by our own youth who help to put it on. It's a service to parents of young children and a way for our congregation to show by example our values and beliefs. It's always been successful in the past; and although as of press time, it still hasn't happened this year, we anticipate that by the time you read this, we will again be glowing from another wonderful Festival.

For the past two years, planning has been coordinated by Jenn Tarlton and Katherine Almy; and it has been a wonderful experience. It's a lot of work, but we can both say we've benefited from spearheading this event and working with all people who help. But you must be able to see where this is leading: We are ready to pass on the torch.

We are looking for a couple of good organizers for next year. We have found that it's best if planning starts in May, and youth groups are contacted regarding skits before they disperse for the summer. We'd like to identify two people in the next month or so to pass on information and files for next years planning.

If you are interested in this job, please contact one of us. Jenn and I will certainly be involved in next year's event and will be available to advise the new coordinators. There is lots of printed information at your disposal. But we won't kid you – it's not light work. You will have to be able to commit some time to it. It is, however, a job you will feel really good about when you see all those happy kids and their families lining up for the most magical event in Humboldt County.

*Jenn Tarlton (443-4100, jennaig@hotmail.com)
Katherine Almy (839-3406, kathrich@arcatanet.com)*

Newsletter on HUUF website

Each month the HUUF office sends you a message that the most recent newsletter has been posted to the HUUF website. This notice is done as a courtesy, because in actuality the newsletter was posted days before you receive that announcement, sometimes as early as the 23rd of the month. If you are eager to see if the latest newsletter has been posted, just go to <http://huuf.org/> and click on the newsletter link in the lower left.

Joy Thomas, editor

SAC coffee sale

On the second and fourth Sunday in the Fellowship Lobby between the 9 and 11 o'clock services and after the second service, the Social Action Committee will hold its regular sale of Equal Exchange coffees, cocoa, chocolate bars and organic dried cranberries. Help us support the small farmers who grow the raw products; the partnership of liberal congregations who market them to us and others; and the SAC's own commitment to support the education of our Nicaraguan student. Ruth Needham and I are the sales coordinators. We need your patronage of our excellent products, which make great hostess gifts.

Marianne Pennekamp

Newsletter guidelines

Occasionally I distribute the newsletter guidelines to regular contributors, but below are the main points. If you would like to have the complete newsletter guidelines, just contact me.

Writing your article

Include the journalistic five Ws: What? Who? Where? When? Why? And sometimes How? Please keep committee articles to 300 words or fewer. Announcements should be no more than 150 words. Nonessential parts of articles will be edited to make room for additional articles. Since people other than committee members may read your article, find a way to tell readers how the info applies to them. Since headlines are set in a larger font, the longer your headline, the shorter your article.

To keep articles concise, please organize your thoughts. What's most important? How much of what you're saying is your mind processing your ideas, and how much is important to the article? Remember that this is a newsletter, not a magazine. Not many people are going to be interested in the innermost workings of your committee. Make an outline and write from it. Put the most important information first, then supporting thoughts.

Editing

An editor edits. Please do not think that your article will necessarily go in as written. The usual reasons to edit are punctuation and length, but sometimes cohesion and logic require fine-tuning. Edited articles will not be returned for comment because I have only a few days between the deadline and the time I must get the newsletter onto the webpage. I edit everybody, so please try not to take it personally.

Joy Thomas, editor

Video projector

HUUF has a projector that can be hooked to a DVD player or a computer. The projector is provided with a cart that contains the DVD player, an audio amplifier and a pair of speakers. The cart also has a cable for hooking computer audio into the amplifier. The projector, however, is not stored on the cart but is locked away for security reasons; only Shay can get it for you. You need to plan ahead if you intend to use the projector for a service or event. Shay requires a week's notice; she will place the projector where you can get it. Last-minute requests cannot be accommodated. Neither the members of the Program and Worship Committee nor the Board have access to the projector, only Shay, so make your arrangements during office hours.

In addition to placing the projector where it is accessible, Shay will also show you how to use the projector. Count on spending an hour or so with Shay before your presentation.

A few members know how to use the projector and can sometimes be talked into helping with setup and use. This, too, needs to be arranged in advance. Frantic phone calls on Sunday morning may not elicit the needed help, so again, plan ahead.

On the subject of projector helpers, Program and Worship would like to train a few people who could be called on in case someone needs assistance setting up or using the projector. The projector is not often used; and if we get half a dozen volunteers, you won't be called upon excessively. You will also not be expected to rush to the Fellowship at the last minute if someone has failed to plan ahead. If you are willing to volunteer as a projector helper, please contact either me or Katherine Almy.

Stephen Sottong



Have you seen this cat?

Our neighbor, Redwood Roots, is missing one of its cats. Apparently a member of HUUF inquired about Barley two days before he disappeared. Redwood Roots' cats are not strays but are beloved family members. Please contact Janet Czarnecki at 826-0261 if you have seen Barley.

Joy Thomas

More cats

Inge Leonardos, who has moved out of state, has two neutered male cats that she would like someone to adopt. Abu is six years old; Two Toes is three. The cats are in Eureka. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact her at ingeleonardos@gmail.com.

Blue Lake Cemetery

Many congregants don't know that HUUF has a plot in the Blue Lake Cemetery. The cemetery belongs to the Yuroks, and many years ago they let white settlers use it along with themselves. Ocean View Cemetery administers the site; the city of Blue Lake maintains the grounds. The two-day old daughter of the Leigh Manleys, who died in 1957, is the only tiny casket buried in our plot. Cremains of several HUUF members are there such as: Anita Harris, Horton Colbert, Frederick Malloy, Hazel Moon, Bob Gibbs, Ruth Parrish, Clyde Osborne, Maraquite Jenks, Henry Maust, Oona Powers, Bill Young, André Wagner, Porter Chaffee, Florence Chaffee, Harmony Moreland, Molly Young, Everett Thomas, Mickey Maloy, Aaron Friedly, Lynette Colbert and Colette Van Fleet.

Blue Lake Cemetery is on a hill east of town, with our plot being almost at the top. We have a gracious sign for which Clyde Osborne was largely responsible. A map in the office shows the designated plot, and you are invited to visit. Although the cemetery grounds as a whole are maintained by others, we are responsible for maintenance of our site. This would be an excellent project for a committee or young people's group to adopt. All it takes is a weed-whacker and some weeding tools, probably three or four times a year. I have visited the cemetery several times and find it a spiritual experience each time — it is beautiful and contains memorial stones and tokens placed by loving hands. Anyone interested in spearheading maintenance of our plot should contact Shay at the office, 822-3793; and she'll pass the message along to our Board.

Nancy Cook



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 Shay McKay
Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Board of Directors:

Co-Presidents	Jeff Knapp JoAnn Thomas
Trustees	Greg Blomstrom Wendy Rowan Beverly Morgan Lewis Kim Moor
Treasurer	David Harris
Newsletter Editor	Joy Thomas
Calendar Editor	Shay McKay



Congregational meeting report, continued from page 5

teen activities budget. The Board was given discretion to adjust downward any budget item they felt could best bear a reduction to produce the \$1,850 needed to fund the \$2,000 for the teen budget, so as to have a balanced budget without dipping into reserves. The Board will now review the budget, make the necessary cuts, and communicate these cuts to the committees or groups affected.

Social Action Committee Proposed Resolution: The Social Action Committee proposed that the congregation adopt a resolution that included recommending actions citizens here and across the country could take to encourage changes to the State of Arizona's recent illegal immigration legislation. Several members expressed concerns with some of the resolution's provisions, and felt strongly enough to not agree to consensus on the resolution. The Social Action representative who presented the resolution agreed to withdraw the resolution and to report the concerns members expressed to the Social Action Committee for consideration.

Jeff Knapp, for HUUF Board of Trustees