

# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



February 2013

## Introducing Bryan Jessup

Late last fall, Rev. Jeanelyse Doran Adams from PCD told our Ministerial Search Committee that a very noteworthy, experienced candidate was interested in our half-time position. Shortly thereafter, Bryan Jessup sent his Ministerial Record to our committee. To make a long story short, the Board has signed a contract with Bryan to be our half-time minister starting August 15, 2013; and we want to introduce Bryan and his wife Edie to you without delay. Here's a brief excerpt from Bryan's Ministerial Record.

*Born in 1947 in Tulare County, I went to Strathmore High School. I was an Eagle Scout. I was my high school student body president and a football player.*

*I graduated from Stanford University with a BA in English in 1969. I was active in the anti-war movement and declared myself a Conscientious Objector to war and as an alternate service, I taught English in Portuguese Macau with Volunteers in Asia.*

*After Macau, I returned home to Porterville, CA where I taught elementary school for 10 years. I married in 1969, and we had two daughters, Amy and Kate. I was active in community theater. In the mid 1970s, I was the program chair for the UU Fellowship in Porterville.*

*In fall 1980, I went to Starr King. My first wife and I divorced. I met Edie, and we married in June, 1984.*

*Foundational for my theological education were my internship at the Oakland, CA UU and my clinical pastoral training at Vacaville Prison.*

*I served UU churches in Delaware for 2½ years; in Sanford, Maine, for eleven; and in Fresno for fifteen. My wife Edie worked for a homeless shelter in Maine and helped establish a free medical clinic. In Fresno she worked with Fresno Metro Ministry and with the Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program.*

*I have been the minister at the UU Church of Fresno since August 1998. I was one of the co-chairs of the Interfaith Alliance in Fresno for eight years and I am one of the founders of the Fresno area interfaith TV program "Forum for a Better Understanding."*

*Edie and I are grandparents now! Daughter Amy and her husband Ofer have two girls, Zohar and Livneh. Stepson Josh and his wife, Michelle, have Avery Catherine, Millicent Edith, and Reed Clearman. Meanwhile, daughter Kate, recently married to Igor, is a free-lance food writer in the Bay Area.*

Bryan responds to the question, "What is your dominant theology, and how do you deal with other Unitarian Universalist theologies with which you may not be in sympathy?" by saying, *I do not sell my theology. I invite people to*

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## People

**Maya McKenzie** is recuperating from pneumonia.

Congratulations to grandparents **June and David Davis** on the birth of Spencer!

Welcome to our new members, **Bernie and Bill Hansell**.

Congrats to **Ursula Osborne** on the successful production of the play, *Requiem*. She will have her hip replacement very soon.

**Jan Rowen** is enjoying the warmth of Mexico by a poolside while recuperating from her knee replacement.

**Trevor Lynn** will perform in Eureka High School's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. It's running Thursday to Saturday at 7:30, from the 31<sup>st</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup>, with one matinee at 2 on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Rosemary Bridenbaugh** died in December. She was a long-time, very active member who joined HUUF in 1983 and moved away in 2005. A memorial service will be held for her on February 17 at 3:00 at the fellowship.

**Joy Thomas and Steve Sottong** were featured in a *Times Standard* front page article about beekeeping on January 20. Joy is on chemo again.

If you have news to share through the People column, please email me at [jessica@reninet.com](mailto:jessica@reninet.com).

*Karen Knapp*

## Sound system help

If someone who attends services has experience and knowledge about sound systems and microphones, we could sure use your help figuring ours out. Please call Shay in the fellowship office at 822-3793. Thank you!

*Ruchard Kossow*

## Local one-day women's retreat

### Women in community: together we are empowered

You know how employers sometimes send you on a "retreat," which sounds really inviting; but it's actually just a training day, a problem-solving pow-wow, or something like that, and isn't anything remotely like a "treat." Well this is NOT one of those. This is a real live, genuine re-TREAT!

This local version of the annual Women's Retreat will be right here at the Fellowship on **February 16**, 8:00 am - 9:30 pm. This will be an entire day of relaxing and socializing with the women you know and love, and maybe some you don't know. You will not be expected to take care of your children (off-site child care will be provided from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm), pay very much (\$0 - \$25.00 sliding scale fee to help cover costs), or attend any workshop that does not interest you. In fact, we're not even calling them workshops because it includes the word "work." Instead, there will be several "Circles" on different themes, in which you can participate or not.

Some of the proposed Circle ideas (although we can't make any guarantees at press time) are: soul collage, family activism ideas, writing/poetry and tai-chi. Other activities may include walking meditations, dancing, singing and general frivolity. We will share a light breakfast, lunch and dinner (the first two will be provided, dinner will be potluck), and we will "dress up" for dinner. You can interpret "dress up" as you wish - anything from a formal prom dress to your best tie-dye - but have fun with it. Make it an excuse to get something new! Visit your favorite thrift store.

It all sounds like a lot of fun and games, and it will be, but it's also a wonderful, bond-strengthening event, and "together we are empowered." So kiss your family good-bye for a day and come join your friends for relaxing day of spiritual fun and healing laughter.

One important component of this event for many of us will be childcare. We want everyone to feel confident and stress-free about leaving their children in good hands, but we will need your help to coordinate this. Please let us know if you will need childcare by contacting registrar Debby Harrison at 839-9017 or [dharrison@bbwassociates.com](mailto:dharrison@bbwassociates.com) before **February 2** (note that that's a week earlier than the regular registration deadline).

Registration materials will be available on the website by the time you read this. You can also contact Debby if you are having trouble getting it from the internet. Please try to get your registration in by Sunday, **February 10**. Late registration will require special arrangements with Debby Harrison, or chair Berti Welty (476-0654 or [bertijo@humboldt1.com](mailto:bertijo@humboldt1.com)). Updated information will be made available on the website and on the Green Sheets; or you can talk to Berti or Debby when you see them.

*Katherine Almy*





## Guest-at-Your-Table report

The 30 Guest-at-Your-Table donations from our Fellowship this past holiday season totaled \$2175 (including three gifts mailed directly to UUSC). The gifts ranged from \$10 to \$200.

A heartfelt thank you for your generosity to these 42 contributors and their families: Beverly Allen; Scott and Susan Allen; Barbara Barratt; Anna Mae Botley; Gigi Collins; Nancy Cook; David and June Davis; Thea Gast; Ginger Gardner; Debra Harrison and Greg Blomstrom; Phyllis Helligas; Awana Kalal; Eric and Jana Kirk-Levine; Richard and Ginger Kossow; Kathy Layton; Raquel Lee; Darsty and John McAlinn; Sue and Archie Mossman; Ursula Osborne; Marianne Pennekamp; Pat McCutcheon and Cheryl Rau; Jan Rowen; Celestine Armenta and Chip Sharpe; JoAnn and Carl Thomas; Bill and June Thompson; Karen and Stephen Underwood; Aiko and Ed Uyeki; Berti Welty and Jo Weisgerber.

Jana told of placing several Guest-at-Your-Table boxes about the house. She was pleased with the increased awareness of others' needs and of her family's ability to contribute aid. She was also impressed by the abundance of coins! Jana said, "Next year, I'm putting one in the car."

*Chip Sharpe*

## Crew members wanted

As we prepare to set sail to Treasure Island, this year's Super Service Auction to be held on **May 11**, some very special "crew members" are needed.

Wanted: Talley-men or women, to "tally our bananas" to quote that wonderful refrain. Two types of positions are now open: 1) To work with Steve Sottong and the Microsoft Access data base he has developed to handle the nitty gritty details. His system is key to our smooth sailing with the auction and Steve will guide whoever chooses to work on this task. 2) A team of detail-oriented individuals to itemize purchases, total amounts and receive payments at the auction. The process has been developed and perfected over years of practice and is vital to the success of our fundraiser. If you have assisted previously, or would like to help this year, please contact me.

We are also looking for people to work in the "Pirates Cove," our country store, selling handicraft items; cooking assistants to help prepare dinner; and crew members to work on the many additional tasks involved in a successful Super Service auction. Treasure Island promises to be a great fun(d)raiser and a lot of fun for everyone. But we do need your help and enthusiasm, so don't delay, call 442-5962 today and volunteer to join the crew.

*JoAnn Thomas*

## Art exhibits curator needed

Our Fellowship needs a curator if we want to continue our exhibits in the main hall. I have artists tentatively scheduled through fall of 2013. A curator would work with the artists to set up their shows and to get publicity in our newsletter. Several persons could take this position and work together.

Please contact me at [reatie@suddenlink.net](mailto:reatie@suddenlink.net) or 826-9492 if you can make it possible for our HUUF community to continue to enjoy the art on our walls.

*Irith Shalmony*

## Huzzah – dream workshop time again

Mark your calendar and book your space. The eighteenth Jeremy Taylor Projective Dream Workshop, **April 19**, Friday evening, and **April 20**, Saturday all day.

Newcomers and experienced dreamworkers are welcome.

If you have heard about Jeremy's workshops at our fellowship or are curious about the numerous ongoing dreamwork groups which grew out these workshops, this is your chance to check it out for yourself. Jeremy is a recognized leader and writer in the field of projective dream work and an expert in the rich informative language of our dreams. See <http://www.jeremytaylor.com>.

Workshop cost is \$80.00. To reserve, send your check for all or part of the fee, payable to HUUF Dream Workshop, to Richard Kossow, 1767 Blakeslee, Arcata.

For questions call Richard 826-1227, Anna Mae Botley 839-3341, Cheryl Rau 826-7107, Katherine O'Connell 502-7040, Dave Davis 826-1770 or Joe Breznau 360-821-8496.

## Bryan Jessup, continued

*join our UU covenant and join us in trying to embody our UU Principles. For me, the first question is: Do our Principles make sense to you and you want to join us in living out our Principles? Then I might ask, "How do you feed your own spirit? And how is your approach working for you?" Personally, I am a UU Transcendentalist, Christian Mystic - who practices Buddhist meditation, reads Thich Nhat Hanh, spends a lot of time in nature and is absolutely inspired by the Jewish prophets' call for justice to roll down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream. My personal prayer is the prayer of St. Francis: Lord (or Power of Life) make me an instrument of your peace.*

Bryan's contract specifies four areas of emphasis for 2013-14: Sunday Services, Membership Development, Adult RE, and (in Bryan's words) "vision, mission, and ends." We invite you to share, to explore, to learn, and to experience.

Of course, this introduction is not complete without the reminder that we have the continuing good fortune to have Rev. Joy Atkinson with us through June. The Reverends have already begun to match and coordinate their talents to our needs. We expect this to continue and, in addition, Rev. Jeanelyse has expressed her intent to help in what she refers to as our "ministerial transitions."

*Dave Harris,*  
Board President

## Board update

At the Board's January meeting, we did some planning with Rev. Joy to affirm the work we need her to do as our interim minister through the end of the fiscal year and discussed the coordination of her work with transitioning to the Rev. Bryan Jessup in the following fiscal year. Revs. Joy and Bryan both think that developing a Worship Associates program is very important for us now; Rev. Joy will begin work on this in early February.

The Board looks forward to consideration of the updated Personnel Manual at our February meeting. To prepare, we will have a special meeting before the service on January 20 to review the Personnel Manual. It is very important for the Fellowship to have updated protocols and procedures to effectively manage the current growth of the Fellowship.

The Board is actively seeking coordination for the Annual Pledge Drive. Board members will host tables for the annual canvas dinner, but we need other leaders within the Fellowship to work on coordinating our annual fundraising effort.

We continue to discuss developing a disruptive persons policy for the Fellowship and have reviewed sample policies from other congregations. This will be a discussion item at the Congregational Meeting in March.

The consulting minister contract with Bryan Jessup was approved as negotiated. A big thanks to Jeff Knapp, Beverly Allen and JoAnn Thomas for serving on the transition team to assist Rev. Joy. As the Fellowship comes to embrace and thrive upon ministerial leadership, the Board is very grateful for the opportunities that have arisen to assist with making the transition to having ministerial support. We hope it is evident to HUUF members and the community that Unitarian Universalism is flourishing in Humboldt.

*Wendy Rowan,*  
Board Secretary



## Photography display

Sylvie Leppig's photography will be displayed in the main hall for the months of February and March.

Sylvie Leppig artists statement: "These photographs are an arrangement of film and digital photos that I have taken over a two-year period of time. Nature, color and texture inspire me. While very few of my photographs are Photoshopped, some have been in order to create effects I could not have gotten otherwise. My photos were mostly taken in Humboldt County, Portland, Oregon, San Francisco and London, England. Many photos were taken as assignments for my photography class at school. I love photography because it gives me the opportunity to capture the parts of life that are sometimes so easily passed by."

*Irith Shalmony*

## Social Action brunch

Since February is the month in which we celebrate Valentine's Day, your Social Action Committee will serve foods that are good for the heart. We will try to have a variety of low cholesterol, low-fat, healthy, wholesome and nutritious foods. And, better yet, we guarantee they will taste delicious. And since chocolate is not only good for us, but also enhances our sense of well-being, there will be a nice selection of (hopefully relatively low-cal) chocolate desserts.

Brunch will be the third Sunday, **February 17**, following the service. Please allow about 15-minutes for food to be put out on the table. Recommended donation is \$5 per adult and \$1 per child.

*Eve Anderson*

## Deadline info

Deadline for the next issue of the newsletter is **Wednesday, February 20, 5:00 p.m.**

Send your committee reports and articles to me at joythomas3828@gmail.com. Neither PDF files nor late submissions can be accepted.

*Joy Thomas, editor*

## Got eggs?

Harris family farm-fresh fertile eggs. \$5 dozen. All proceeds go towards HUUF's coffee fund. We have Ameraucana, Barred Rock and Rhode Island Red chickens. Ameraucana eggs are blue; the others are brown. See either Dave or Ilene at Sunday services.

## Religious Education



### February 3: Curriculum Sunday

Preschool: Spring is on the way. We will learn about Bridgid/Bridgid-a saint, woman and legend. Where did Bridgid and the eternal fire come from? How do groundhogs fit in? Come find out.

K-2: We are starting a new curriculum. What is a hero? Bring a picture of one to share. How do heroes fit into being a UU?

3-4: What does it mean to love? We will learn about the Buddhist loving kindness practice.

Intermediate: All through the history of Unitarian Universalism, some UUs have done exciting and wonderful things. In February, we will learn about several outstanding UUs, decide which ones we want to learn more about and start our exploration.

### February 10: All Worship

Can Valentine's Day mean more than candy and parties? How can we act in a loving way all year? We will sing, read a litany and pass our basket, so remember you money for our spirit of generosity basket.

### February 17: Curriculum Sunday

Preschool: We will talk about being helpful at home, in school and in our community. We will read *Uncle Willy and the Soup Kitchen* and make mobiles of how we can help.

K-2: We will look at UU heroes and talk about what it means to be one. What's the difference between real and pretend ones?

3-4: We will talk about how to love in the midst of conflict.

Intermediate: We will continue to explore famous UUs in our history and in our congregation.

### February 24: Friendship Sunday

Childcare will be provided for children to play games, make crafts and spend time together.

Reminder the RE Committee will meet on **February 10** this month rather than our usual third Sunday meeting.

*Jillian Mooney*



## Turning “he said, she said” into Right Relationship

Men and women really do see things differently – scientific research confirms it. But what do we do with the constructs that make one right and the other wrong or even ‘inferior?’ Seeing these differences as both cultural lenses and gender competencies opens up the potential for honoring the diversity. Once the gender effects are unmasked we can respond to each other’s needs and join our strengths to build new futures beyond what we have ever known.

Join Fellowship and community members in an interactive, multi-media workshop to discover your gender lens and ability to manage different gender and cultural competencies to increase innovation, collaboration, and your leadership effectiveness.

Bonita Banducci, daughter of long-time HUUF member Elva Banducci, will give a workshop on Right Relationship—What’s Gender Got to Do With It, on **February 23**, to benefit the Humboldt Fellowship. Banducci teaches Gender and Engineering for Santa Clara University’s School of Engineering Graduate Program. Her original research in “What is the Contribution Women Make that Could be the Strategic Advantage in the Global Marketplace?” launched her specialization in *Unmasking the Gender Effect and Gender Competence*. Gender Competence introduces into peoples’ work and lives a new framework for understanding gender differences as competencies. Participants will develop a greater capacity to “mine the gold” of diversity both of gender and culture to increase innovative collaboration, productivity and promotion of men and women who are effective at managing differences. “I have graduate students from all over the world who remove impediments to productivity and innovation in their workplaces while enriching their relationships at home. I would like my mother to have the full experience of her daughter at work, transforming the future of humanity. She can read papers on what I do, but there is nothing like being in workshop alive with conversation, stories and discoveries, to get to know who I am and what my contribution is to the world. I want to give her the gift of that experience and to have the wonderful people of the HUU Fellowship participate, benefit and create new futures, as a thank you for all the Fellowship gives to Mom and our family.”

Saturday, **February 23**, from noon to 5:00 p.m. at HUUF. Bring preferred beverages and snacks—coffee, tea and some snacks provided. Sliding scale \$35 to \$55 which can be paid at the door. Learning is exponential when you bring spouses, partners, friends, colleagues, etc.

All proceeds benefit HUUF.

To register contact Shay Mackay at the HUUF office: (707) 822-3793 or [office@huuf.org](mailto:office@huuf.org).

Suggested (but not required) pre-workshop reading and video will be sent to those registered.



## In love with the muse

Annette Gurnée Hull and Nancy Correll will present “In Love with the Muse,” piano duets about love and art in the last century, on **February 24** at 3:00 p.m. in the Trinidad Town Hall. Suggested donation is \$10.00. The concert will benefit the Trinidad Library Building Fund.

The first half of the program will include Leonard Bernstein’s newly published “Bridal Suite,” Rachmaninoff’s “Vocalise,” and a piece written in 2012, “Variations for Helen” which is based on George Cable’s jazz piece, “Lullaby.” After intermission, Debussy’s duet “Epigraphes antiques” will be accompanied by Richard Duning’s reading of “The Songs of Bilitis.” Poulenc’s robust “Sonata for Piano Four-Hands” will lead to the finale, Joseph Fennimore’s “Crystal Stairs” which was inspired by Langston Hughes’ poem “Mother to Son.”

*Annette Gurnée Hull*



## Nominations are in

The Nominating Committee has now completed its job of getting a slate of new officers for the Board. They are:

Richard Kossow – Co-president  
Edie Wolterbeek - Treasurer  
Cynthia Chason - Trustee

A brief bio for each candidate follows.

*Ilene Harris,*  
for the Nominating Committee

**Richard Kossow:** Thanks to the nominating committee for proposing me to share the presidency of this congregation next year. It is exciting to be on the team that welcomes Bryan Jessup as our minister and begins to create a working relationship with him. I have had a long involvement with Unitarian Universalism, joining the First Universalist Church of Minneapolis in 1959 while a law student. From 1967-69, I worked for the UUA as the paid adviser to the high school youth movement, Liberal Religious Youth. Many of the young people I worked with then have remained close friends and have developed into some of the leaders of our denomination. I am able to draw on these relationships when it is useful to the Fellowship.

My wife Ginger and I joined this Fellowship when we first moved into our home in Kneeland in 1986. We were part-time Humboldters until a few years ago because of the nature of my profession of traveling assigned judge throughout California. I still work several weeks a year, but much closer to home, mostly in Eureka. We now live in Arcata.

Our Fellowship is my spiritual and social home. I have enjoyed seeing to its health by working with friends on a variety of committees: RE, P&W, Membership, Green Sanctuary, Building Design and Canvass. I am happy to try my hand at

helping lead the congregation as we continue to clarify our religious mission and fashion the ways that we make it manifest in our community.

**Cynthia Chason:** I live in McKinleyville with my spouse Bonnie MacGregor. We have been members of HUUF since 1998. I have lived in Humboldt County since 1978. Bonnie moved here in 1988 when we began our journey together as life partners. Highlights of my working career include Peace Corps service in Tunisia (1966-68), pre-school and first grade teacher (4 years), counselor to at-risk teens (6 years), Director of Food for People/Food Bank (20 years) and administrative analyst with the County Environmental Health Division (10 years). These jobs were instrumental to developing work skills in line with my values, humanitarian philosophy and joy for helping others to

improve their lives. I retired in April, 2012. My leisure time is spent singing in the Arcata Interfaith Gospel Choir, as a reading tutor for first graders and watercolor painting. I have served on the Membership Committee, Canvas Committee and enjoy working in the Memorial Gardens.

**Edie Wolterbeek:** We joined the Fellowship in the early 1970s, I think about 1973, to raise the kids in a community we liked. I held various offices, including treasurer, was a member of the choir we started, and was generally very active in everything going on at the Fellowship for several years. We drifted away for several years; but got back into attendance in San Francisco 2000 through 2009 where I was active in the choir. It's nice to be back at HUUF, reconnecting with old friends, and getting to know all the new folks too.

## Searching yellow brick road for Canvass theme, coordinator for Canvass Dinner

“Arrrgh,” said jolly old Captain Spock to the white rabbit, “if HAL doesn’t ‘open the pod bay doors,’ we’ll never get down the yellow brick road to Captain Nemo’s where he’ll ‘show me the money’ at the end of that damn rainbow so that we can ‘live long and prosper.’” OK, I mixed a few classics to make the point that we’re looking for someone to pick a theme and coordinate this year’s Canvass dinner which will be held **April 6** at the Fellowship. Coordination does not mean a ton of work. Last year, Joann Thomas put together a written recipe for how to conduct the Canvass dinner, which will vastly help this year’s coordinator. We’re thinking the format is going to be approximately the same, a group of HUUF congregants, led by the Board, will be phoning you all to gather at a Congregation-wide “circle dinner” in the sanctuary at the Fellowship, just like last year. The Canvass dinner is the kick off to the pledge drive which starts at the Canvass dinner, is followed by Rev. Joy’s Sermon on The Amount the next day on April 7, and continues with pledge volunteers who will contact you to seek out your pledges. Last year we had an incredible evening of costumes, theater, talk, laughter, good food, good fellowship and yes, a great response from all of you who stepped up and pledged in a timely manner with generous giving. We’re looking for a similar experience, and given that we will have a new half-time minister, we the Board, are looking to kick off his ministerial year with a great and successful pledge drive. Don’t be bashful, give me a call at 839-9017 and sign up as the Canvass dinner coordinator.

*Greg Blomstrom,* vice president, Board of Trustees



# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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## Board of Directors:

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Vice-President	Greg Blomstrom
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## Future events

Events take place at the Fellowship unless otherwise noted. If you have HUUF events that should be listed, contact Berti Welty at [bertijo@humboldt1.com](mailto:bertijo@humboldt1.com).

January 26	5:30 p.m.	Family soup and bread night
January 27	1:30 - 2:30	Climate change workshop with Brad Carrier
February 16	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.	Women's in-town one day retreat
February 23	12-5	Right relationship workshop
March 1-3	wk/end	District women and religion retreat at Enchanted Hills Camp
March 3	12:30	HUUF congregational meeting
April 6		Canvass dinner
April 19-21 Fri/Sat		Jeremy Taylor dream workshop
April 26-28 wk/end		Western UUA Regional / PCD Conference, San Jose
May 3-5 wk/end		HUUF women's retreat at Mattole Camp and Retreat Center
May 11		Super service auction
June 19-23 wk/end+		UUA General Assembly in Louisville, KY