

# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



March 2011

## Congregational Meeting March 13

Our once per year all-Congregation meeting will be held after the 11 a.m. service on **March 13** per our HUUF bylaws, which require such a meeting sometime within the first 15 days of March each year. We want all members to attend, as the nominating committee will present a slate of candidates to fill the expiring terms of Board of Trustee seats currently held by David Harris, Jeff Knapp, Greg Blomstrom and Beverly Morgan Lewis. The congregation will be asked for consent on the nominating committee's recommendations.

Equally important, the Board will present our strategy for hiring a half time minister. A ministerial search committee has been formed and has begun work. How can we afford a minister? You'll find out at the congregational meeting where the Board will present a draft of a two-year budget that uses a combination of reserve funds, improved fund raising, a modest increase in pledging and strategic reductions in certain HUUF program areas (compared to the current budget) to afford a minister. Debbie Coggins will update the members on "where we're at" in terms of income and expenses for this fiscal year (July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011). Childcare, light snacks and drinks will be provided.

*Greg Blomstrom, Vice President  
HUUF Board of Trustees*

## We're going for a minister!

The HUUF Board of Trustees has taken important steps toward hiring a half-time Consulting Minister for one year, to serve as our Minister and advise us toward eventually having a permanent called minister.

A Consulting Minister is not a "called" minister answerable to the congregation, but instead an employee hired by a congregation's governing Board for a limited time. This minister provides ministerial and consulting services while a congregation moves toward calling a permanent minister.

The Board has created a budget covering the next two years which, if pledging is adequate, lets us pay salary and benefits for two years of consulting ministry. The Board will present this budget for review at the March 13 congregational meeting, explain the ministerial search process and answer questions.

The Board recruited members for a search task force to prepare documentation for advertising our opportunity in the Unitarian Universalist Association's ministerial placement system. The task force will also review responses from ministers interested in our opportunity, answer their questions, research their backgrounds and references, and then recommend to the Board candidates the task force believes

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## Art on our walls

If you are interested in knowing more about the art exhibit in the main hall or about Ursula's family history, there is an information booklet near the main hall entrance or you may speak with Ursula.

How about an exhibit of art work by our members for the months of June and July? If you would like to participate, and I hope many do, please contact me so the planning can begin.

*Irith Shalmony  
Aesthetics Committee*

## People

Congratulations to **Chip Sharpe** who is the first recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Eureka Interfaith Fellowship. Chip was honored for his 25+ years of dedicated involvement with Humboldt Mediation Services as founder, as board member and as facilitator in the teaching and training of hundreds of community mediators and various local groups in the use of communications and conflict management as peaceful strategies for resolving conflict in our community.

Our condolences go to the family of **Len Swerdlow**. Len died in late December from complications of a long illness. In the 70s and 80s, Len was an active member of HUUF, sharing his gift of music with us for many years on Sundays and other times. Who can forget his beautiful Schubert piano renditions? After retiring as a speech therapist with local schools, Len moved to Reedsport, OR, in the early 90s. A gentle, loving and generous man, Len continued to be active with local groups there as well.

**Jenny Cranston** is trying her best to be patient while her injured knee and teeth are getting better.

**Kinara** is feeling the after-effects of her radiation treatment. She thanks everyone who helped her with transportation to her appointments.

**Ouida Cooper-Rodriguez** is our latest new member. She is new to Humboldt County, from Alameda, where she has a granddaughter, but no family here. She is an interfaith minister for the Wisdom of the Heart Church, which meets at a different time from our 9:00 service, so she cannot attend our 11:00 services. She joined HUUF for herself. Ouida is the executive director of Big Brothers and Big Sisters. She is also a jazz singer. Welcome!

*Karen Knapp*

## Viva fiesta de Mayo

A very special event is being planned for **May 14**, our Super Service Auction!

It's been three years since we last had this fun Fundraiser, and plans are in progress to revive the tradition. It is an event that offers bidding on unique services, good food, drink and entertainment. This year's auction will feature a Mexican theme in decor, entertainment and food. There will be a mercado (country store) with craft items and delicious desserts and goodies; a cantina, where beer and margaritas may be purchased; and a dinner of Mexican specialties for all to enjoy. Appetizers and free beverages will be available.

The Super Services Auction is one of HUUF's most popular fundraisers, an opportunity to both give and get — a chance to donate a service for silent and live auctions to help our treasury. It is a time to gather in fellowship, invite friends and neighbors and enjoy an afternoon fiesta.

To gather a good variety of services for the Auction Catalog, the committee urges donors to complete the donation form on page four and available in the foyer and return them to the office or the basket in the foyer. All donations are needed by **April 15** to be included in the catalog, to mailed on May 1.

Suggestions for services that might be donated include practical items like respite care, errand shopping and transportation; household maintenance help and creative endeavors such as workshops in arts and crafts, dance, yoga or Tai Chi and technology. For outdoor enthusiasts there could be guided hikes, campouts and the use of cabins and recreational vehicles. Among the most popular services offered for auction are gourmet dinners, special

desserts, commissioned art and professional services such as financial consulting, tax preparation, and medical exams.

Mark your calendar now and plan to join the fun at our Fiesta de Mayo on Saturday, May 14 from 2 to 7 p.m. If you would like to help in any way, or have questions, please contact me.

*JoAnn Thomas*



## Minister, cont. from first page

are qualified. If the Board believes a candidate meets our needs, it will negotiate a one year contract with that minister.

Volunteers for the search task force are Irith Shalmony (Chair), Pat McCutcheon, Beverly Morgan Lewis (Board liaison), Jack Munsee, Berti Welty, Steve Newman and Barbara Madaras. The task force is completing the Congregational Record, a UUA form with information candidates use to decide whether to investigate our opportunity.

Your Board is excited about getting ministerial support for our fellowship, and we urge all members to come to the March 13, 12:30 congregational meeting to learn more about this major step forward.

*Jeff Knapp*, for the  
HUUF Board of Trustees

## Dream workshop canceled

Due to a lack of support, Jeremy Taylor's dream workshop has been canceled this year. Plans for a workshop in 2012 are being considered.

*Katherine Almy*

## Budget request reminder

As our 2011-2012 HUUF budget cycle begins, remember that all HUUF budget requests need to be submitted in writing by Sunday, April 10. For additional information, contact a member of the HUUF Finance committee.

*Debbie Coggins*

## SAC brunch is going green

Not just because St. Pat's Day happens to be celebrated this month, but also because we support healthy environmental and ecological farming practices, this SAC Brunch will be delightfully green. We will serve green appetizers, entrées, side dishes, and deserts. Food will be locally produced and organic as much as possible. Please join us for this wonderfully creative, conscientious, tasty brunch on the third Sunday of the month.

*Eve Anderson*

## Board nominees

Your Nominating Committee is pleased to present three highly qualified candidates for Vice President, Treasurer, and Trustee at Large on the HUUF Board of Trustees. Each candidate submitted a brief biography in anticipation of the election to be held at the annual meeting on **March 13**. We are grateful to these candidates who are willing to serve.

**Greg Blomstrom** – Vice President (second term).

Debby and I have been members of The Fellowship since 2001 and enjoy the company of the many people at the Fellowship who share our values. I am a third generation Californian, born in the same hospital as my mother (Alta Bates in Oakland.) I moved to Arcata in 1969 to attend forestry school at Humboldt State College and never left. I am co-owner with six other people of a small consulting forestry business where we all practice sustainable forestry. Prior to that I worked for 20 years as a forester for the Hoopa Valley Tribe. Since arriving in Arcata I have developed a set of values that I would typify as liberal but not particularly religious. I realize that my belief system is similar to that of the Indians in the area, a reverence for nature and most things natural (except for deer, raccoons, and slugs.) I bring a liberal business orientation to the deliberations on your behalf. I will continue to operate on a belief system that has the interests of the entire Fellowship at heart.

**Chip Sharpe** – Treasurer.

Chip Sharpe has been a long-time mediator and peacemaker in our community since earning his MA Degree in Counseling, Psychology from HSU in 1980. He is the founder of Humboldt Mediation Services where he continues to serve in various capacities, and has done extensive work with youth in our community as a teacher, mentor, Boy Scout leader, and counselor. Recently Chip was awarded the first Lifetime Achievement Award as a Humboldt County Peacemaker by The Eureka Interfaith Partnership. Chip joined the UU fellowship of Greensboro, NC, in 1963 and The Humboldt Unitarian Universalist in 1973. He is married to Celestine Armenta and has four children and six grandchildren. His communication skills and ability to see situations from a variety of perspectives as well as his calm demeanor will serve us well as the Board negotiates choosing and hiring a consulting minister.

**Judy Rishel** – Trustee at Large.

My name is Judy Ann Rishel. I was born in Detroit, Michigan. I attended Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti and earned a teaching degree in Home Economics. I married Wesley Rishel in 1969 before I graduated in 1971. We had two children, Jennifer and Christopher, after we moved to New Jersey where we lived for seven years. We then moved to Rockville, MD for seven years where I got a Master's Degree in Special Education, joined the Unitarian Fellowship and taught in the RE Program. From there, we moved to Alameda, CA, and joined the Kensington Unitarian Church of Berkeley where I taught RE. After teaching special education for 22 years in the Bay Area, we followed our daughter who had come here to college and stayed. I am currently working with the third-fifth graders in The HUUF RE Department. I do not have any experience on a Board such as this but consider myself a good team player.

Note: If Chip Sharpe is elected to serve as Treasurer, he will replace David Harris who will become Co-President.

Nominating Committee

*Jean Munsee, Phyllis Helligas, Felicia Oldfather*

**DONATION AGREEMENT FOR THE  
FIESTA DE MAYO  
HUUF SUPER SERVICES AUCTION  
MAY 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2011**

1. Describe the service item or event that you plan to offer in as much detail as possible:

2. Please include these details:

- Date & time the service will be offered:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Number of times the service will be offered:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Number of participants or spaces available:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Starting bid for individual participant or group (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

*Sample Catalog Entry*

**CANDLELIGHT DINNER**

Want a night out with good food and drink?  
Join fellow UUs for a delicious dinner at  
the home of Julius Child.

Menu: appetizers, entrée, dessert, bread,  
wine and more!

❖ Julius Child, 567-8900

**Date offered:** January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012

**# of guests:** up to 18

**Minimum bid:** \$20 per guest

3. Limitations, restrictions or requirements for the services you plan to offer:

Special equipment: \_\_\_\_\_ Age requirement: \_\_\_\_\_

Skill level requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**AGREEMENT**

I, (print name) \_\_\_\_\_ am offering the service described above for purchase by members or friends of HUUF at the Super Service Auction Fiesta on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011. I agree that the proceeds raised by the sale will be given directly to HUUF.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Please submit this form as soon as possible, and no later than April 15<sup>th</sup> to be published in the catalog.*

## Deadline Sunday, March 20

Please e-mail articles to jthomas3@csulb.edu. Print and .pdf items cannot be accepted. If you need a copy of the newsletter guidelines, contact me.

*Joy Thomas*, editor

## SAC sponsorship

About a year ago the Social Action Committee (SAC) adopted a policy to co-sponsor events with non-profit groups that shared UU principles relating to social justice, peace and equal justice for all. The motivation was to save resources for these groups and to reach out to these groups in the community. So far we have co-sponsored two annual ACLU meetings during which elections were held and the Patriot Award was given out. These meetings were held at the Fellowship. We also co-sponsored with Veterans for Peace their Peace Poetry Contest held for local high school students. Awarding of prizes and the opportunity for the students to read their entries in public was held at the Fellowship. These events bring non-members as well as some members to our facilities. We will co-sponsor that event again in the near future.

If you know of a non-profit whose values are the same as those of HUUF which needs a place to hold an event, have a representative of that non-profit come to an SAC meeting (first Sunday of every month about 15 minutes after the close of the service) held in the main hall or contact a member of the SAC. After hearing a presentation about the event, members of SAC will decide whether we want to be a co-sponsor of the event. This will mean that there will be no charge for use of the facility for that event.

*Jack Munsee*

## Religious Education



### March 6

**Preschool:** We will talk about caring for our Earth, plant things to grow, sings songs and dance.

**K-2<sup>nd</sup>:** We will talk about Working Together to Make a Fair and Free World, a UU Principle. What does this mean to you? We will continue discussing working out problems/differences on and off the playground.

**3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>:** Cathy Morin will be back as a guest teacher. Come find out what she has planned; it's always fun. We will talk about last month's guest speaker Kai Neander and all that he shared with us.

**Intermediate:** We will have a discussion about "4-Square" Churches in our ongoing exploration of different faiths.

**March 13:** All Worship. Remember Daylight Savings; set your clock one hour ahead. All ages will gather together in the CARE building to create art as a spiritual practice with resident artist Cheryl Rau. Have fun with different mediums and create something for our upcoming art show in the main hall. We will need four art helpers.

### March 20

**Preschool:** We will take a walk to enjoy nature around our Fellowship, weather permitting. Come dressed for a walk in wet fields.

**K-2<sup>nd</sup>:** We will continue our discussion of making a fair and free world. We can do it.

**3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>:** Judy will be back. We will catch up and work on our projects and special folders. Come have fun and finish up our art projects.

**Intermediate:** We will visit the Faith Center Church. Sandy will call for ride connections and times.

### March 27

Social Action Sunday. We will make dog biscuits for the local animal shelter. Please bring donations of pet food, old blankets or towels and cat litter to add to our gifts for animals without homes. We need helpers today, please let Jillian know if you can assist.

Many thanks to the Gazinski/Carr family and the Leppig/Neander family for co-hosting the fabulous Dance Party Night. Lili Carr and friends demonstrated wonderful dances and Julianna taught us how to dance. Food, fun and of course, Mark Smelser's disco ball, made a great night for all. If you are interested in making more of these fun social events happen, come be a part of the Religious Education Committee, we need more folks to help us provide more fun and outreach.

Thank you to Kai Neander for sharing his experiences working with Roots and Shoots and meeting Jane Goodall with our RE classes last month. What a wonderful role model for our younger UUs! Thank you, Kai.

Calling all parents. During the Congregational Meeting on **March 13**, RE will provide childcare and lunch for all children whose parents are staying for the meeting. Let Jillian know so we can have enough. Come give your input, it's important for families to be represented.

*Jillian Mooney*



# 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
Vice-President	Greg Blomstrom
Secretary	Wendy Rowan
Trustees	Beverly Morgan Lewis Kim Moor
Treasurer	David Harris
Newsletter Editor	Joy Thomas
Calendar Editor	Shay MacKay

## PianoVoce presents Death Concert

From our culture's music for piano, voice and oboe, PianoVoce has chosen pieces that explore various aspects of death: Sorrow, fear and transcendence are some of the feelings expressed in the piano duets, songs and oboe music of Bach, Saint-Saens, Brahms, Poulenc, Strauss, Menotti, Copland and many others. Composers and poets from our own musical heritage can help those who have struggled with the experience of death, the most universal human experience.

Pianists are Annette Gurnée Hull and Nancy Correll, singers Kamala Stroup Calderoni and Kevin Sharkey, and oboist Virginia Ryder with Richard Duning as narrator.

March 6, 3:00 pm ~ Rogue Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Ashland

March 11, 7:30 pm ~ Old City Hall, Redding

**March 12**, 7:00 pm ~ HSU, Fulkerson Recital Hall.

*Annette Gurnée Hull*

### Classified ad

#### Mobile Home in Lazy J senior park

2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Large master bedroom with walk-in closet. Bathrooms have low-flow, ADA height toilets.

- >Living room has vaulted ceiling, skylight, new double-pane vinyl windows.
  - >Built-in access ramp to front door.
  - >Attractive 8 x 12 storage shed with electricity.
  - >Park offers community garden plots with free well water.
  - >One pet is allowed (nice dog walk area in the park).
  - >Space rent is currently \$331 and includes yard maintenance and well water for lawns.
- 1978 model is 24'x52'.

\$59,900

Carman Gentile and Martha Hunkins, (707)826-0453