

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



July 2013

Revised policy re: Dogs on fellowship property

At HUUF, we believe in the inherent worth of every person and their choices. We also feel very strongly about keeping everyone safe, both physically and emotionally. In the past, dogs at the Fellowship have occasionally caused concern and alarm. There were serious bites, requiring emergency medical care, when a dog (on a leash) was allowed near congregants. Some of our children were, and still are, quite scared by dogs, whether the dogs are loose on the grounds or confined in a nearby vehicle. As a result, our Board of Trustees created a strict “no dog” policy. Over time it became clear that the policy was viewed as unfair by many responsible dog owners, and so the congregation has had several discussions about a way to compromise and keep safety a priority.

This revised policy is the result of several months of dialogue, and ultimately serves as a reminder to the members and friends of HUUF of our covenant to one another: We respect the contribution of each person; we will be gentle with one another in disagreements and strive to learn from one another; and we strive to foster cooperation and openness in our community.

It is the policy of HUUF that owners are not allowed to bring dogs, other than certified service animals, onto HUUF property except:

1. On Sunday mornings and at Fellowship events, adult owners may:
 - a. Have their dog in the passenger section of a vehicle so long as it is parked in the small oval parking area in the NE corner of the property.
 - b. Walk their dog on a leash in that parking area ONLY.
2. When no events or services are taking place, owners may:
 - a. Park in the main parking area.
 - b. Allow their dog to explore the grounds on leash or by strict voice command.
 - c. Any person coming to the Fellowship, disturbed by an off-leash animal, has the right to require a dog owner to put their dog on a leash.

*All dog owners are responsible for immediately cleaning up after their dogs and disposing of refuse properly.

Persons not abiding by this policy will lose the privilege of bringing their dog(s) to the property.

The HUUF Board of Trustees has decided to implement this revised policy for a trial period, beginning August 1st, 2013. At the October Congregational Meeting, the Board will ask for feedback from the congregation and the policy will be re-evaluated at that time. Please feel free to contact any current Board members with your questions, concerns or comments.

People

Phyllis Stanewick died June 20. Information about a memorial service will be forthcoming.

An aunt of **Kathryn Almy**, who was like a second mother to her, died recently.

The godfather of **Julie Neander's** children died suddenly of a heart attack.

In early June, **Sylvia Shaw** had back surgery at St. Mary's Medical Center in San Francisco in early June. She expects to be there about two weeks.

Cathy Enis has a persistent leg infection.

Suzanne Moore celebrated her 78th birthday in the emergency room at St. Joseph.

Ginger Gardner will have cataract surgery on June 25.

Steve Sottong had his first book signing tour, making four stops from McKinleyville to Sacramento.

Dave and Ilene Harris celebrated their 45th anniversary on June 16.

Kathy Dillon is the new editor of *Senior News*.

Mayer Segal celebrated his 96th birthday on June 16.

Ursula Osborne is healing well from her hip replacement.

Scott Allen's Hawaii vacation in May was interrupted by an accident in which he badly sliced three fingers on a rusty, jagged post. Surgery successfully reattached the pinkie tendon in his right hand.

Congratulations to **Connor Alston** for completing his year of exchange in Finland. He will attend Tulane this fall.

Richard Kossow is on antibiotics to knock down an internal infection. He is disappointed not to be in Louisville at the General Assembly of the UUA.

Karen Knapp

Summer high notes

Summertime is here. That means time to regroup, reflect on the past year in music, and travel to the Unitarian Universalist Musicians Network annual conference, held in Dallas this year. It is always a treat to connect with UU musicians from across the country and exchange music and best practices. I look forward to sharing lots of new repertoire with all of you upon my return. I'm sure Fiona Siebert will have many stories to share about her experiences in the UU National Children's Choir, too.

If you have been thinking about singing with the choir, please come to the beginning of the year Potluck and First Rehearsal. All interested parties are invited to gather at Elisabeth's house in Arcata on Wednesday, **August 14** from 6:00-9:00 p.m. to sing through new repertoire (and some old favorites) and enjoy food and fellowship. More details to follow via e-mail later in the summer. If you would like to be added to the choir email list, please write to me at

elisabethharrington@yahoo.com

Until then, keep singing!

mUUsically yours,
Elisabeth Harrington

Poetry in action

Local poet and HUUF member Pat McCutcheon and Marin poet Claire Blotter will present a poetry reading and performance Friday, **July 12**, at 7:00 p.m. at Northtown Books, 957 H St. in Arcata. Claire has been a National Poetry Slam finalist and is a prize-winning performance poet whose latest chapbook is *Moment in the Moment House*. Pat taught poetry at College of the Redwoods, teaches creative writing for OLLI, and has published widely, including her chapbook *Recovering Perfectionist*.

Pat McCutcheon

Independence day gala

Somewhat belatedly, Independence Day will be celebrated by the Caring Circle on Tuesday, **July 9**, from 2 – 3 p.m. Shay will accompany us on the piano while we sing some of the more entertaining patriotic songs. Conversation is encouraged while we eat apple pie and ice cream. If you need a ride, contact Shay in the office at 822-3793.

Joy Thomas,
for the Caring Circle



Peace Poetry

The 2013 Peace Poetry competition for high school students, sponsored by the Veterans for Peace, was held on May 19. Out of 54 poems submitted and six presentations at the event, Casey Lynn was awarded second place for her poem and first place for her presentation. Both were cash prizes which went toward her Germany trip fund. Her family is very proud of her.

Sandy Lynn

Board update

The annual Board Retreat was held beginning the evening of June 7 with a lovely dinner at Anna Mae Botley's home leading to a full day of activity on June 8 at the Humboldt Area Foundation. The first half of our working day was devoted to the finances of the Fellowship, including:

- 1) Review of the 2012-2013 Budget
- 2) Update on the work of the Finance Committee and the implementation of improved fiscal management practices.
- 3) Pledge Drive update
- 4) Finalizing the Working Budget for 2013-2014
- 5) Fundraising Plan for 2013-2014

The budget for 2013-2014 will be presented in October for approval by the Congregation.

The Board continued discussion on the revised Dog Policy and agreed to have it take effect on August 1, and to give the Congregation the opportunity for feedback at the Congregational meeting in October. All interests will have the opportunity to practice and experience implementation in our efforts to assure all those who come to Fellowship on Sunday mornings feel safe and comfortable.

Rev. Joy participated in the retreat; Board members were grateful for her contributions to our process. The Fellowship will be alive with activity over the summer, and we look forward to welcoming the Reverend Bryan Jessup in the fall.

Wendy Rowan, Board Secretary

Introduction to meditation Taught by Swami Girijananda

“Meditation is the experience of ourselves as our essence – what we really are. We usually identify with the more superficial aspects of our being - our personality, a variety of masks, our outer persona. In meditation we gradually come to know our deeper nature which might be described as an expanded awareness, a space of radiance, authenticity and peace. Great benefit, including healing on all levels, arises from touching this space of higher consciousness and awareness.”

Many Fellowship members expressed interest in knowing more after the April 13 service where Girija spoke about “Living in Conscious Awareness and Compassion.” This is an invitation to explore more with her in our familiar HUUF setting.

This introductory meditation course is for:

- ◆ Beginners or those who have dabbled/experimented with meditation
- ◆ Those who meditate sporadically or who used to meditate
- ◆ Those who would like to deepen or strengthen their meditation practice
- ◆ Those who like group practice
- ◆ Anyone interested in meditation

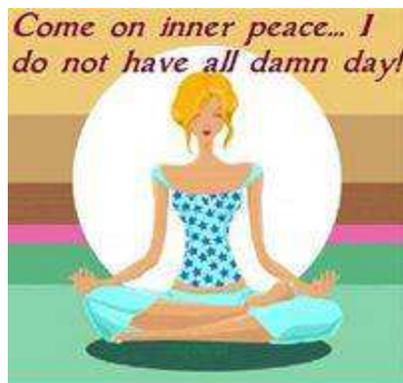
Topics include: what is meditation and its goal; posture/breath; mantra/taming the mind; awareness/expanding the mind; Tonglen/compassion practice; the spiritual path, and spiritual awakening. Each of the four classes will include instruction and practice.

This class meets from 6-7:30 p.m. on the four consecutive Wednesdays in August at the Fellowship.

To register, send check for \$50 to L. Bazemore, P.O. Box 4747, Arcata, CA 95521.

For more information, you can call Girijananda at 707-633-5072 or email girijamoran@hotmail.com.

Bonnie MacGregor





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 MacKay
Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Board of Directors:

Co-Presidents Richard Kossow
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Newsletter Editor Joy Thomas
Calendar Editor Shay Mackay

Gallery news for the summer

Helen Vatcher's oil paintings are on display for July and August. In this exhibit she has boldly diverged from her usual landscapes. Helen says, "These paintings attempt to demonstrate my metaphysical journey of the last one and one-half years as I traveled through darkness into more and more light. The painting series begins and ends with realism. The middle of the journey is completely abstract."

New Coordinators

Debi Cooper and I are now co-coordinators of the rotating exhibits that grace the walls of the Fellowship. We welcome suggestions for shows and artists. It is not practical to do pieces that require stands, but three-dimensional pieces that hang on the wall will work. The May and June exhibit will continue to be the children and youth of HUUF.

Cheryl Rau

Deadline info

Deadline for the September issue of the newsletter is Thursday, August 20, 5:00 p.m.

Please send your committee reports and articles to me at joythomas3828@gmail.com. Neither PDF files nor late submissions can be accepted. The newsletter is not published in August.

Joy Thomas, editor

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads are 10 cents a word. Send text of your ad to joythomas3828@gmail.com and your check to the HUUF office.