

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

July 2005 No.8; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

SUNDAY PROGRAMMING, August 2005

Sunday Services, 10:30-11:30am

August 7: “The Wife of Bath”. How much has the notion of a good marriage changed—or not—since Geoffrey Chaucer penned The Canterbury Tales? In this masterpiece, Chaucer represented the spectrum of Medieval society in his portrait of thirty pilgrims en route to the shrine at Canterbury. Marty Kendall will focus on four of his most engaging pilgrims and their tales, known as The Marriage Group. The professional Wife from Bath City demands and deserves the most attention. Does her bubble need to be burst?

Marty is a favorite guest speaker at our Fellowship and an author whose book about the Erie Canal will be released by National Geographic in the spring of 2006. It is her sixteenth published book. She is Chair of the English Department at San Jose City College. Marty was named Woman of Achievement in Education by the San Jose Mercury News and is listed in Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. She is Executive Editor of College Teaching, an international journal. As for marriage, she has been married for 23 years—all of them happy—to Joe Weed, a music producer and composer. Katie Rall is lay leader.

August 14: “Living and Working in Kabul, Afghanistan.” Rosemary Stasek will be speaking about the challenges she faced in the past 6 months working as the logistics manager of the Kabul Beauty School. She has shared her experiences with us twice before, illustrating her talk with memorable slides of the women and children she worked with during the last three years leading reconstruction projects which benefit their lives in prisons, maternity wards and vocational classes.

Rosemary served two terms on the Mountain View City Council beginning in 1996. She has a broad history of political involvement, especially in women’s issues activism. In 1989 she co-founded California Catholics for Free Choice and serves as state director. For more of her bio visit her web site at <http://stasek.com/bio.html>. J.J. Martin is lay leader.

August 21: Farewell Sermon I: ”The Necessity of Yes” by the Rev. Ben Kocs-Meyers. As we prepare to move into the future apart from one another, there are a few things I wish to say to you (and need to hear myself!) This sermon will aspire to be the beginning of a two-part message about the essential nature of living in a pluralistic society and being a vibrant and viable religious community amid ‘the religious right’ and many irrevocable wrongs. Bill Scarvie will be the lay leader worship associate.

August 28: Farewell Sermon II: “The Blessings of Imperfection and the Courage to Fail”, by the Rev. Ben Kocs-Meyers. The world is not a perfect place, and mistakes are inevitable. It was the great hockey player, Wayne Gretsky who said, “You miss 100% of the shots you don’t take.” And even if you are very, very good, you miss 70% of the shots you *do* take! But the most important lessons are those which come only from the blessings of imperfection and the grace of failure. This sermon is about what it takes to learn those lessons well. Come, also, and support Linda Krenicky as she makes her debut as worship lay-leader this morning.

Membership Committee News:

The Membership Committee will have its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 2, 2005 in the West Room of the Fellowship starting at 3:00 PM. All members are invited to attend.

We Welcome Two New Members:

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that two new members signed the membership book during June. Please make sure that you introduce yourself to **Karen Hyams** and **Phyllis Foxcroft**. We plan to post short biographies of new members on the Membership Committee bulletin board in the near future.

Member Photo Directory:

The Membership Committee is hard at work on the 2005-2006 Member Photo Directory. A photo session is planned for Sunday, August 14th and a second session is scheduled for Sunday, September 11th . Both sessions will start at noon in the Sanctuary. Priority during the session will be given to new members and to members who did not have their photo in the previous directory.

Don't be bashful since everyone would like to see your bright visage in our new directory, and if you don't like your photo from last year you can try again.

Ciao.
Harry

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY UPDATE

Our latest update is that we have officially changed our name to Chalice Circles. So the title of this column is now **CHALICE CIRCLE UPDATE**.

The Tuesday morning Chalice Circle sponsored a "Nurture the Spirit Dinner" on July 5. We each brought our own dinner and ate together, then took turns answering a two-part question. We had so much to say that we didn't have time to get to part #2. We had positive feedback from all that attended and have plans to continue meeting in this way once a month. Look for more details in this newsletter about the August "Nurture the Spirit Dinner". We hope to see YOU there!

The preschool mom's and toddler's playgroup is changing it's meeting date from Mondays to Tuesdays.

"Monday Mums" are now going to be "**Tuesday Mums**". The Tuesday Mums will be meeting in the Fellowship preschool room from 10:30 to 12:30/1:00 on the second, the fourth (and fifth if there is a fifth) Tuesday of the month. The group currently is composed of toddlers ages one to three years old, along of course with their mothers. If you would like learn more about the playgroup, or are interested in joining in the fun, please feel free to call Kristina Strand at 395-5886.

Come welcome our new minister!

Rev. Nancy Roemheld, our new minister, will be at our Pancake Breakfast, September 4. She wants to get to know everybody in the Fellowship, so come meet with her as we share pancakes and sausages. The event will be a Welcoming Party for Nancy.

Irving Yabroff, for the Search Committee

Dear Los Gatos folks, I'm dropping you a line to let you know where I am with the planning/ packing/sorting/tossing out/schlepping activities that are all part of moving out your way. Two of my daughters will arrive here in a couple of weeks to help with all of the above and at the end of July we will drive to Wisconsin. I'll spend a few days there with all of my family, and on August 9th will fly to San Francisco. And so will begin our Interim Ministry adventure together.

August will be a time for us to get acquainted, and I understand that a "welcoming the new minister" party is in the works. Ask Walt or a member of the Search Committee when that will be. I'm looking forward with great anticipation to meeting y'all. All y'all.

Yours in the faith,
Nancy

Welcome John Omvik, the new UUFLG Treasurer

Bob Bixler has resigned his position as Treasurer effective June 30, 2005. Bob has been on the Board for intermittent periods throughout the history of the Fellowship. Among his accomplishments are being the chief architect of our financing of our Building. He has done an outstanding job of each position he has taken. Thank you, Bob, for your valuable service. You deserve to retire from the Board and take less demanding jobs with the Fellowship.

At the Board meeting on July 14, 2005 John Omvik was appointed to the position of UUFLG Treasurer to finish Bob Bixler's term of office, which ends June 30, 2006. The following is John's 'Acceptance Speech':

I would like to thank the Board for their trust in asking me to serve as the new Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair. I am honored by the request. I would also like to thank Bob Bixler & Cal Clauer for their past service and dedication in these positions.

I am very encouraged by the results of our last canvas and the strong show of financial support demonstrated by the fellowship. Thanks to the hard work of many that precede me, I am able to assume this position in very good times. I believe we are very well positioned to achieve our goals of full time professional ministry and DRE, and I look forward to working with all of you in moving forward.

John Omvik - Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair

News From The Social Justice Committee

The second meeting of the Social Justice Committee was held Sun. July 10 with ten people in attendance and the following actions were taken:

*Read and approved the Charter

*Made these decisions:

Continue UUSC Fair-trade Coffee Sale at Coffee Hour and post information re. the purpose and meaning of project. Coffee Sales will be on the first Sun. of the month beginning Aug. 7 with delivery two weeks later.

Will join the UUA in adopting global warming as a social justice global focus:

-- in a related area: Wanda Alexander's DVD about caribou migration in ANWR will be available to all UU's who would like to view it. Hudson Washburn is currently in possession of it and will create a sign up list. The film is highly regarded and informative. We hope to create interest in a group showing this fall.

We will begin collecting used printer ink cartridges as a fundraiser and an environmental project beginning Aug. 14.

The SJ Committee will choose a local social justice issue for which the Fellowship feels united. Members will research ideas and present them at the Aug. 14 meeting. We welcome all ideas!

Betty Feldheym will be our representative at the Interfaith Council and report back to our committee after monthly council meetings.

We will be creating a Social Justice table at Coffee Hour where we can disperse important social justice information. Look for it Aug. 7.

We encourage all members who want to get involved in current legislation to join UULM (Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry) which is based in Sacramento and Lindi Ramsden (former minister at the SJUU Church) is the UULM Exec. Director. This will be a sure way to respond to important measures in a timely way without your technologically challenged SJ chairperson to e-mail them to you. (Brochures are in the foyer)

Our next meeting will be: SUNDAY, AUG. 14 -- 12:15 - 1:30 pm **

** Note time change to allow more freedom for coffee and visiting before meeting.

INTERESTED IN WHAT THE BOARD IS UP TO? The Board minutes and agendas are listed under "Board Meetings" on the left hand side of the home page of our website www.UUFLG.org.

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO THE BOARD? There will be a guest commentary time for members at the beginning of each monthly Board of Trustees meeting. Contact Walt Main for more information and to schedule your 3 or 4 minute slot.

Walt: wmain@earthlink.net

Items for the monthly newsletter are to be submitted (by the **20th** of the month) to **Glen Marchant** at: UUFLGnews@att.net. Please submit articles and e-mail attachments as **single spaced MS Word documents, .rtf** (Rich Text format), or **plain text**, and limit to less than 200 words. The purpose of this newsletter is to foster communication and planning among friends and members. However, due to the size constraints of the printing, we regretfully cannot print opinion pieces.

TID BITS FROM THE UU DECK

Betty Feldheym is proud to announce that she is now a “great grandmother”!! And being a new grandmother she says he is the most beautiful baby boy ever born. Lars Larsen was born in July, and he and parents are living in Sacramento. Congratulations, Betty!!

We were sad to learn that Dr. George Gordon, a longtime member, died on July 15 in Saratoga.† George was a well known physician in our area. He will be missed. We send our sympathy and love to his wife Terry , his son and daughter, and their families.

Phyllis Foxcroft, a new member, and niece had a great time visiting family in Canada.

Barbara Kalmoutis is in a nursing home in San Jose. She is being treated for Osteoarthritis †in her back, and down the spine. We all send healing thoughts and warm wishes.

Dean Joy thought he had just turned his ankle. With x-rays, Dean learned he had broken a bone in his good foot, and now has a couple of pins in his foot. He is at home and healing nicely, wearing the “big boot” for comfort and support.

Lida Kluzek had a great time in Montana earlier this month. After being home a few days, she fell in her garage, and ended up in the ER with a cracked hip bone! During her days in re-hab, she had visits from her son and family from Florida, and her daughters who live locally. We took her the “Comfort Quilt” from the Fellowship to add to making her comfortable during healing time.

The Comfort Quilts were misplaced for awhile, but are now found. We’ll display them to the congregation when they are available.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 2—Hudson Washburn, Aug 3—Jane Lindgren, Aug 8—Harry Campbell, Aug 9—Kendra Dunham, Aug 12—Kassandra Omvik, Aug 15—Sharon Graham, Aug 22—Terry Gordon, Aug 23—JJ Martin, Aug 27—Quinn Leary, Aug 27—Linda Krenicky, Aug 28—Bill Scarvie, Aug 31—Connie Springer.

JERRY DOYLE APPOINTED TO STATE COMMISSION

According to the Los Gatos Weekly Times columnist Mary Ann Cook, Jerry Doyle, UUFLG member and president and CEO of Eastfield Ming Quong Children & Family Services has been appointed by the Governor to the state’s Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. The commission was established to carry out the directives of Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act, passed in November. The commission will advise on techniques to define and treat mental illness, to develop and expand services and to help overcome the stigma related to the condition.

Congratulations, Jerry! This should be good welcome home news as you and Julie return from your vacation in Montana.

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LIFE STORIES CLASSES BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER

Sheila Dunec's fall series of morning and afternoon classes begin at our Fellowship Monday, Sept. 12th. Please call her at (650) -324-9937 to find out about course goals, content and fee. A number of Fellowship members have enjoyed the class for years. The morning class has been with men and women and the afternoon is currently a women's class.

Every year, the UU Church of Palo Alto's members and friends and their friends and families enjoy a long, relaxing **UU weekend of family camp** at Bass Lake, located 45 minutes south of Yosemite near the town of Oakhurst.

This year our registration is a bit low, so we're inviting UUs from your congregation to join us for the weekend of September 15-18, 2005.

Come and experience a wonderful long weekend in a cabin at a mountain camp at the edge of Bass Lake, where delicious and healthy meals are cooked for you, where there are no chores, no workshops, no meetings, and no instructions except to have fun! You can hike, swim, kayak, canoe, water ski, horseback ride, read, play tennis and basketball, do archery, and otherwise lounge with new and old friends and their families! Other optional activities are happy hour before dinner and campfire circle after dinner.

The weather is usually mild, the lake water is warm for swimming, the fir trees sway in the mountain breezes, and once you attend, you'll be hooked.

For more information about accommodations, fees, and driving directions, go to http://www.uucpa.org/bass_lake/about_bass_lake.html.

For the registration form, print the Bass Lake Gazette (in PDF) on the web site.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

-Gloria Geller

Bass Lake addict from the UU Church of Palo Alto

(650)947-9426

ggellerg@yahoo.com

CALENDAR ITEMS

- Aug 2** 10:00a -12:00p SGM meet – Lounge. By Invitation. Contact Katie Rall or Lynn O’Keefe.
3:00p -4:30p Membership Committee Meeting. Contact Harry Campbell (Secretary) for information at 408-374-8844.
- Aug 3** 5:30p -7:00p Bylaw Task Force – Lounge. All are Welcome. Contact Walt Main
7:00p -9:00p SGM meeting – Lounge. By Invitation. Contact Julie Doyle or Doug Doughty
- Aug 4** 12:00p -1:00p RUMS Lunch on the deck. Brown bag lunch on the deck (or inside if it is cold or rainy) for men with flexible time. Come and enjoy an hour or so of sociability. Contact Bob Bixler 356-5697, rbixler@jps.net for information.
- Aug 6** 10:00a -4:00p Board Retreat, Place to be decided. For information contact Walt Main.
- Aug 7** 12:30p -2:30p SGM Sunday Meeting-East
- Aug 8** 7:15p -9:00p Women’s Spirituality Group. Craft drop-in evening
- Aug 9** 10:30a -1:00p Tuesday Mums, East. See Kristina Strand for information
- Aug 11** 4:30p -6:30p Committee on Ministry – Lounge. By Invitation. Contact Bill Scarvie or Julie Doyle
6:30p -9:00p Board Meeting – West. Contact Margo Smith 408-674-8933 ricepaper@sbcglobal.net
All are welcome
- Aug 14** 9:00a -10:15a Finance Committee Meeting – Lounge. All are welcome. Contact John Omvik for more information
12:15p -1:30p Social Justice Comm-West. Anyone interested welcome. Pam English
- Aug 16** 10:00a -12:00p SGM Meeting – Lounge. By Invitation. Contact Katie Rall or Lynn O’Keefe.
- Aug 17** 5:30p -7:00p Bylaw Task Force – Lounge. All are Welcome. Contact Walt Main
7:00p -9:00p SGM meeting – Lounge. By Invitation. Contact Julie Doyle or Doug Doughty
- Aug 22** 7:15p -9:00p Women’s Spirituality Group. Craft drop-in
- Aug 23** 10:30a -1:00p Tuesday Mums. See Kristina Strand for Information
- Aug 28** 12:30p -2:30p SGM Sunday Meeting-East
- Aug 30** 10:30a -1:00p Tuesday Mums. See Kristina Strand for Information
- Aug 31** 5:30p -7:00p Bylaw Task Force – Lounge. All are Welcome. Contact Walt Main

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos
15980 Blossom Hill Road
Los Gatos, 95032
(408) 358-1212



*“Affirming the Inherent Worth and
Dignity of Every Person”*



Fellowship News

August 2005

The Newsletter is published monthly by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos (UUFLG). The Newsletter is available to everyone on the web at www.uuflg.org. Members may elect to receive a printed copy. Individual friends and visitors may receive the printed Newsletter free for three months. After three months, the suggested subscription rate for non-members is \$10 per year. (Send to: Newsletter, c/o Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos, 15980 Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos, CA 95032.) The subscription expiration date appears on the name line of the mailing label.