



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• August 2013 • Volume 57 • Issue 8 •

Sunday Services at 10 a.m.

August 4th

Cowboys and Coyote

Service Leaders: Erin Howseman and Linda Proulx

"Coyote" is the trickster and holy fool. This mythological being appears as a central character in Native American sacred stories throughout the West, showing the People how to balance the wild and the noble elements of their natures. Today, we will explore some Coyote stories and see why he endures as part of the human imagination and the human soul.

Cowboy ballads from the UUusual Suspects will put us out there in the hills and on the prairies along with Old Man Coyote.

August 18th

Diversity: One Earth Different People

Service leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, with Jeanie Bates, Cassandra Lista, Carol Weisker, Mary Lil Lee, Cathy Read, Dorris Lee, Linda Harlow, and Susan Panttaja

Last Fall, members of this congregation participated in the One Earth Different People workshop cosponsored by the Diversity Task Force and Associates for Social Justice. The workshop explored issues of race, class, age, and gender. Today's service will focus on the participants' experiences in this eye-opening, heart-opening workshop.

August 11th

Finding and Discovering Spiritual Identity

Service Leaders: Emily Fisher and Scott Miller

Given the richness of the Unitarian and Universalist traditions and the spectacular diversity of human spiritual experience, how do we find that one spiritual path that we can call our own? How do we become the spiritual people that we want to be or that we long to be? Emily Fisher, student at Starr King School for the Ministry, will encourage and support our questing, with help from special music from some of our younger UUs.

August 25th

Why Pray?

Service Leaders: The Rev. Sue Magidson, PhD, and Erin Howseman

Have you ever wondered if there's more to prayer than meets the eye? What if prayer isn't what you think it is? What if it were possible to pray without believing in anything in particular? What if prayer could transform your life?

The Rev. Sue Magidson, PhD, is the Spiritual Care Coordinator and Chaplain at San Leandro Hospital. She's also a Community Minister affiliated with the UU Church of Berkeley. Sue grew up in a prayer-less UU congregation and has been exploring prayer -- from a UU perspective -- ever since. Recently she's begun teaching prayer classes for UUs. Come hear what she's learned!

Sabbatical Committee Update

You may remember that we introduced ourselves in May's newsletter. We intend to keep you updated on our work. As you recall, we are the group charged with planning for the period of time that Chris will be away on sabbatical, from the first of January, 2014 until mid-July, 2014. We have had a number of meetings and we have outlined our work. At the top of the task list was securing a Sabbatical Minister who would provide Bryan with his weekly supervision, help with worship and be available for congregational support as need arises. We were fortunate to have several candidates to interview and,

DRUM ROLL, PLEASE

we have selected Kathy Huff, who has recently stepped out of her ministry of 11 years at the Oakland UU church. Kathy has helped her own congregation prepare for and thrive during her own sabbatical. She has supervised interns and she and Bryan feel good about their upcoming work together. Kathy has a

reputation as a dynamic leader and inspiring preacher. Some of you may remember Kathy from her preaching at Jamie's ordination. She has a commitment to social justice and led her Oakland congregation in becoming a more inclusive congregation. She is energetic and engaging. We liked her and she liked us! When we have a clearer idea of when she will visit with us we will let you know. We think this will be a rich relationship.

Look for more in upcoming months about the work of your Sabbatical Committee.

Jeanie

Sabbatical Committee Members: Lucia Milburn, (Chair), Linda Balabanian, Jeanie Bates, Chris Bell, Janis Brewster, John Chenoweth, Laura Jean Hageman, Deborah Mason, David Templeton, Gretchen Vap

Our Sabbatical Minister



The Reverend Kathy Huff is an accomplished minister with a deep commitment to transformative spiritual growth, religious pluralism, and social justice. Raised as a Roman Catholic in the South Pacific islands, Kathy has traveled and lived around the globe and is a life long student of

world cultures and religion. Prior to ordination Kathy was a founding member and producing artistic director of a New England touring theatre company based in Maine. She eventually left professional theatre to work with battered women and children. As the Director of the YWCA Family Violence Project in Cincinnati, she became recognized as an expert in the field of domestic violence for developing model protocols for community response.

Rev. Kathy holds a Masters of Divinity from Harvard University and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Syracuse University. She was ordained into Unitarian Universalist ministry in 1998. After serving the congregation in Arlington, MA for seven years she moved to the Bay area with her family and most recently completed 11 years of service as the senior minister of the First Unitarian Church of Oakland.

Rev. Kathy is passionate about building multi-cultural,

multiracial community. She has received numerous awards for her dynamic leadership, social justice work and visionary preaching. In 2007 she was named as *East Bay Express Readers Poll Favorite* for "Most Inspirational Sermons." As a recognized leader in our movement, Rev. Kathy was invited to address the delegates as part of the opening plenary at the General Assembly of the UUA in Boston. As a sought after public speaker and workshop leader her quotes and writings appear frequently in magazines and meditations manuals.

Rev. Kathy lives in San Leandro with her spouse of 23 years, their two daughters ages 11 and 16, a dog, parakeet and two fish. She enjoys keeping up with her kids active lives, gardening, yoga and the occasional outing to an art gallery or wine tasting. She hopes to become a better vegan and someday learn how to play the ukulele.

Rev. Kathy is delighted to be joining the Santa Rosa congregation as sabbatical minister. She looks forward to being part of what she calls our "thriving and spiritually alive community" with great enthusiasm.

Greetings from the Board President

It seems the custom, here at UUCSR, to take the month of July off ...cancel meetings, rest our busy selves. In keeping with this custom we did not hold a Board Meeting in July, HOWEVER, business has a way of showing up, needing attention, ignoring our custom. So-we did our business, admittedly lighter than usual, via email and phone. What did we do before email?

Here's what we did:

1. We approved the selection, by the Sabbatical Committee, of Kathy Huff to be our Sabbatical Minister. You will find more about Kathy in the Sabbatical Committee's article in this newsletter. We are all well pleased with this and think you will be as well.
2. Following congregational approval, at the June Congregational Meeting, of our proposal that UUCSR become a teaching site for ministers in training, we have put in place a committee to begin the work of searching for our 2014-2016 intern. This committee will continue to support and guide the new intern. You will hear more about this work as we go.

I am so appreciative of this board's responsiveness to what may have seemed like a flood of emails giving information and asking for votes. Again,

what did we do before email?

We are planning a board retreat August 23-25. We will be taking a look at UUCSR and our role as a board from a "what works, what doesn't work" perspective with a bit of dreaming thrown into the mix. We will come up with goals which we will share with you in the October newsletter (we will miss the deadline for the September newsletter) and at the fall Congregational Meeting, October 13. Here's where you come in. We each have our own perspective on UUCSR...what is working well, what needs work, what dream wants lifting up. I welcome hearing from you as we, on the Board, play with dreams and practicalities at our retreat. I wonder if often a great idea is floated out and it doesn't take hold because it gets lost. What if we held onto and nurtured those great ideas? I am carrying one of those ideas into this retreat, shared with me following a service. It was an enthusiastic response, an "I want to work on that" response, to an idea floated out by Chris during worship. I suspect that many of us have something we would like to put into the "wishes and why don't we try?" suggestion box. Please feel free to email or call me with your thoughts. We'll let you know what comes of your idea.

Jeanie Bates

Treasurer's Report

Since this is my first newsletter article as well as the first report of the new fiscal year, let's look at the year just ended. Although at this writing we have not yet closed the books on our 2012-2013 fiscal year, we have enough information to determine that we have ended our year with a budget surplus. Yippee!!! We don't have the exact amount but we know it's a surplus. Our actual revenue/income exceeded our budget revenue/income and our actual expenses were less than we had budgeted.

This is a fantastic result and is especially important now since we have several building repairs and issues that we will have to deal with sooner rather than later and they will likely utilize

the reserves we have set aside and then some. There will be more information about building issues in coming months as the Board reviews and prioritizes them. And our final proposed budget for this fiscal year will be presented at the congregational meeting in October.

The Financial Stewardship Team is always on the lookout for folks with financial and/or business acumen. I know many such folks would prefer to do something different from what they do all day at work and I can sure understand that. But in many cases a modest time commitment could provide invaluable service to the congregation so be sure to let me know if you can help.

Linda Balabanian, Treasurer



North Bay Organizing Project/UUCAN

Did you know that Santa Rosa secondary schools rank 4th in the state in student suspensions? It is true. Santa Rosa middle and high schools suspend students at an annual rate of 40 of every 100 students. In the 2010-11 school year, 4,587 students were suspended. Of these suspensions only 1,479 (32%) were due to drugs or violence on campus. High rates of suspension and expulsion lead to higher student absences, higher rates of misconduct, and lower graduation rates. Evidence shows that when a student is suspended or expelled from school they are more likely to drop out of school and enter the criminal justice system. This is known as the "pipeline to prison." This connection between traditional methods of school discipline and eventual criminal convictions poses a more significant social problem than it would seem on the surface. One that needs to be addressed!

Restorative Discipline in schools is an approach that addresses student misbehavior, the effects of such behavior, and the prevention of further rules violations. The restorative justice process operates from a belief that the path to justice lies in problem solving and healing rather than in punitive isolation. Its methods include the offender and the affected parties in a process of making amends rather than exiling the offender with no means for taking meaningful responsibility for his/her actions. The process brings the parties together at a "restorative conference" facilitated by a trained leader and community volunteers. Through deep and honest discussion, parties work to reach reconciliation and determine what the offender must do to make amends.

The North Bay Organizing Project (NBOP) Education Task Force is working to bring about change in local schools. Over the past several

months, Education Task Force members have met with the Santa Rosa City School District Superintendent and School Board Members to discuss our interest in having Restorative Discipline implemented in the schools. The NBOP Ed. Task Force is seeking approval for an adequately staffed and funded restorative school discipline pilot program to begin in the fall semester of 2013 for all expulsions and suspensions at one high school and one of its feeder middle schools, which schools have a history of high rates of expulsions and suspensions. While we are hearing support from school officials, there are still obstacles ahead. There is Measure "O" funding that could be used for this pilot program in the local schools. It will require City Council approval to allocate the funds, and it will take a vote of the Santa Rosa City School Board to approve implementation of the program and to provide the necessary matching funds.

There are ways that the UUCSR community can help. We will have actions at both the City Council meeting where the Measure "O" funding decision will be made and at the Santa Rosa City Schools School Board meeting where they will decide whether or not to implement the pilot program. The dates for the SRCS Board meeting is Wednesday, August 7. Exact time and location TBA. We would like to have a good showing of supportive citizens at the meeting. NBOP members appear wearing white shirts and black pants (or skirts) so that we can be identified. The date and time that the City Council will decide on this is not yet known. Look for announcements on the Focus List and in the Sunday Order of Service for the specific details. If you would like more information please contact Deborah Mason (debmasonuu@gmail.com) or Sibyl Day (sibylday@comcast.net).

Religious Education for Children and Youth

As the summer winds down and we look forward to a new congregational year, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteer teachers who have dedicated their time, energy and heart to the RE program this past year.

I have been so grateful to those who have taken on the commitment to teaching an 8 week session of RE classes. These are the teachers who really had the opportunity to get to know the children, and teach them lessons about living in peace. In the K-2 class Millie Tripp, Lois Nagle, Robyn Hidas and Janet Barrows taught. (Janet even taught two sessions!). In the grades 3-5 class our teachers were Susan Dickey, Jean Smith, Alan Proulx, Kitty Wells and Tom Bond. Traditionally it has been up to parents to staff RE classes. I love the fact that all but one of these teachers does not have an elementary aged child in the program. Family life is very hectic in this day and age and I think it is a meaningful gift to our families that they can have a quiet moment in worship while others in the community teach their children.

Children's Chapel is a gathering of all children grades K-8 on the first Sunday of every month for worship, stories and activities. This year I asked Board of Trustees members to join me in leading Children's Chapel. It was a great opportunity for leadership to meet and interact with the children of the congregation. Many thanks go to Laura Jean Hageman, Jeanie Bates, Lois Bell, Mary Louise Jaffray, Joe Como, Peter Wilson, Susan Bartholome and Cathie Wiese.

This summer I was able to take a few Sundays off in a row because of the wonderful volunteers who lead Children's Chapel. Blessings to Elise Sullivan, Robyn Hidas, Linda Farison, Chloe Farison, Jennifer Freese, Cathie Wiese, Denielle Medynski, Susan Dickey and Kendra Rossing for teaching the children and giving me a needed rest.

RE teachers are unsung heroes in our congregation. Please thank these folks when you see them. Without them our RE program would not exist!

Here's What's Happening in RE Classes

Here's What's Happening In RE Classes this Month:

August is the last month of our summer program. We have religious education every Sunday.

Grades K-8 will gather together for Children's Chapel every Sunday at 10:00 am during our Summer Program through August 25th.

We provide loving childcare for children from infancy through age 4 in our preschool room during both the 10:00 service. Fiona Mackenzie, Shawna Hoxsie and Maddie Elizondo are our child care providers.

Sr. High Youth Group meets on Thursday from 4-6pm. Deborah Mason, Rev Chris and Eric Fischer serve as Youth Advisors. Contact Deborah (debmasonuu@gmail.com) for more information.

June 2013 R.E. Children's Chapel Schedule: Deborah Mason will teach this month.

8/4/13	Circles of Light - the story of the flaming chalice
8/11/13	Today is the last day of the UUCSR All Congregation retreat. We will have childcare during the worship service
8/18/13	Walking with Waldo - Emerson and nature.
8/25/13	Keep Hope Alive - our morning will be based on this modern parable. Making ice cream will be part of the lesson!



UU Circle Dinners—Re-forming in September!

Sign-Ups Sunday August 25, September 1 and September 8 in Social Hall.

Look for the table with Kitty Wells and Lynn Riepenhoff to join in the fun!!!

Already on the Circle Dinner List? PLEASE drop a line to Lynn or Kitty letting them know you'd like to continue. This is to avoid confusion and dinner groups with members who would rather not participate any longer.

What are Circle Dinners, you might ask??? Circle Dinners are informal social gatherings over a pot-luck meal. They are opportunities to enjoy getting to know folks you might never have met otherwise. As participants, we have had some wonderful times visiting other members' homes (large and small---it doesn't matter!) and always look forward to great food and conversation. Some of our groups have even kept on meeting after the official Circle Dinners period has ended over the summer just because we enjoyed getting together so much!

How do they work??? Members and Friends (interested in membership) of UUCSR let the Circle Dinner organizers know they want to be on the list.

We then take all the names and shuffle them into groups of 7 or 8 (singles and couples) which becomes a "Circle Dinner Group" for the 4 months of the Circle Dinner period. In the October Newsletter we will post the Fall Circle Dinner Lists. The groups then contact each other, decide on a date, time and place to gather and who will bring what. The rest takes care of itself! Before the fun is over, the group decides the who, what, where and when for the next month's gathering. You don't need dinner service for 8, a family sized dining room, linen napkins, or even a room with a view! All you need is an enjoyment of meeting new friends, connecting with old friends, and the love of a good meal and conversation (maybe even playing games or music... 'cause that can happen, too).

Sign me up! Look for the sign up table in the social hall or Contact Kitty Wells at [953-0620](tel:953-0620) or bewells@sonic.net or Lynn Riepenhoff at [525-8424](tel:525-8424) or lynnsplc@sonic.net. They will need your name, phone number and email info. Don't miss out!

Worship Associates

I would like to announce that Lucia Milburn has stepped down as co-chair of the Worship Associates after serving in this role with grace and dedication for several years. We are grateful for all the wisdom and humor she brought to guiding our group through its transitions. Lucia will continue as a worship associate to help lead services. I would also like to warmly welcome Frances Corman as our new co-chair. Frances brings

many gifts to this job, including wisdom, humor and organization. We are all excited that she has agreed to share her gifts with the congregation in this way. If you have any questions or concerns for the Worship Associates Committee, please email me at erin.howseman@att.net, or call me at 707-328-6096.

Erin Howseman
Worship Associates Co-chair

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2013
Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

E-mail Submissions
Greatly Appreciated!
Newsletter Assembly
10 a.m.— August 28, 2013

All Congregation Retreat



Get Ready for our
**ALL CONGREGATION
 RETREAT**

Friday, August 9th through
 Sunday, August 11th, 2013!

Mark your calendars and plan ahead for the event of the summer. We are very excited to announce that this year's All Congregation Summer Retreat will be held at beautiful and nearby (1/2 hour drive from Santa Rosa) Westminster Woods Retreat Center. Registration for this weekend full of fun and fellowship for all ages will begin Sunday, June 30th, in the Social Hall after service and end on Sunday, July 21st. You won't want to miss out! Opportunities for adventure and relaxation abound this year. Enjoy the lovely shaded canopy of redwoods and the unspoiled creek running through our camp. Join in the Saturday Softball Game, a game of Frisbee Golf, or take a hike into the forest. Walk the creek side labyrinth or join the kids at the amazing adventure playground. Challenge yourself and Rev. Chris with the Ropes Course...YES! A Ropes Course will be offered (it will be an extra charge, but, hey! How often do you get to try death defying feats of daring do with complete assurance of your own personal safety?) Get your talent together for our annual Talent Spectacular on Saturday night in our spacious meeting room. Comfortable, clean cabins...yes! Good food...yes! Quiet spaces...yes! Kid's crafts...yes! Teen cabin and fun...yes! Campfire...yes! Sunday Service under the redwoods...yes! Questions...call Leslie Norinsky at 373-7944 or Carol Kraemer at 838-3738.

DON'T FORGET!!!!

OUR ANNUAL SERVICE AUCTION
 IS ON NOVEMBER 2, 2013

HAVE YOU DECIDED WHAT YOU'D LIKE TO OFFER?

SET ASIDE THE DATE NOW!!!

Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group is on summer vacation for July and August. We resume meeting in September. Meetings are held on the second Thursdays of the Month from 7 to 9 p.m. at 547 Mendocino. We welcome new members as well as visitors.

Here are the selection for the next year.

Month Book Author

September: In the Garden of Beasts by Eric Larson

October: The Aviator's Wife by Melanie Benjamin

November: The Housekeeper and the Professor by Yoko Ogawa

December: When Women Were Birds by Terry

Tempest Williams

January: The Language of Flowers by Vanessa Diffenbaugh

February: The Art Forger by B.A. Shapiro

March: A Constellation of Vital Phenomena by Anthony Marra

April: The Round House or Life after Life by Louise Erdich or Kate Atkinson

May: The Orphan Master's Son by Adam Johnson

June: Potluck

Questions? Call or email Linda Lampson



Photographs and Memories

On Jim Croce, the rhythm of Flamenco, and returning to 'Wretch Like Me'

I was thirteen years old when Jim Croce died, in September of 1973. His song 'Bad, Bad Leroy Brown' was the tune I knew the best, but 'Operator' and 'Time in a Bottle' were also on the radio a lot when he died. Many forget that the album those songs appeared on was only released two months before the plane crash that killed him at the age of 30. His posthumous single 'I Got a Name'—also the title of the album he completed not long before his death—was released the day after he died. From then on, as his legend grew and more songs from 'I Got a Name' hit the airwaves (including the gorgeous and painful 'I Had to Say I Love You in a Song'), the music of Jim Croce became a part of the soundtrack of my adolescence. As a young fundamentalist Christian, struggling to make sense of the world through my faith, the melancholy in some of Croce's best songs was a perfect match for what I was going through as I wrestled with the dual problems of being told (by my church) that all humans, including myself, were essentially worthless without Jesus—empty clay jars, wretched beyond measure—and at the same time, that I was personally worth so much to God that he sent his only son to die for me. As a young man, it was hard to wrap my head around that paradoxical little irony.

Somehow, the aching heart Jim Croce revealed in his songs gave me a sense that the world was full of people like me, lost souls searching for meaning, for love, for a reason to believe.

On Saturday, August 24, 7:30 p.m., as part of the Singer-Songwriter Showcase I have been producing with Robert Lunceford, the music of Jim Croce—along with that of another legend of the 70s, Joni Mitchell—will come to life through the masterful playing and singing of musicians Craig Corona and Amy Wigton. Individually, Corona and Wigton will pay tribute to these two essential and unforgettable songwriters. I suspect that, whatever Jim Croce and Joni Mitchell mean to you, and regardless of what memories you associate with them, this is going to be an unforgettable evening.

It's amazing how much power music has on us.

Though much of the magic worked by the above artists was in the words they wrote and sang, some genres of music transcend language by going straight to soul of music itself: the rhythm of the heart. There is just something about the guitar that, when played by a skilled musician, speaks volumes about the passions, regrets and triumphs we all experience. Flamenco guitarist Mark Taylor—who

will be joined by wunderkind classical guitarist Aaron Haas for another showcase concert this month (Sunday, August 4, 7:00 p.m.)—knows a thing or two about the power of rhythm. In his hands, his guitar—and the majestic rhythms of Flamenco—has a way of reaching out and guiding listeners through a wide range of human emotions.

Such feelings, of course, are always more powerful when shared, so we hope you will let your friends and other music-lovers know about both of these hand-crafted concert experiences.

And speaking of experiences . . . there is nothing like revisiting the formative experiences of our past, something we can certainly do through music (as I described in regards to my memories of Jim Croce), but we can also accomplish through the medium of story. Two years ago, when I stopped performing my autobiographical one-man-show 'Wretch Like Me'—about my teenage years as a born-again Christian in Southern California—I knew that I would be returning to it again in the future. Ever since I premiered a rough-cut version of the show (many of you were there for that initial maiden voyage!), I have had a vision of taking the show to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, in Scotland. I have set 2014 as the year I will finally do that.

This month—on Saturday, August 31, 7:00 p.m.—I will officially kick off that effort with a 'Wretch Like Me' party and fundraising kick-off extravaganza, which will begin a year of trying to raise the money needed to take the show to the UK. At the party, there will be a live dance band (the Cajun-fueled Wild Catahoulas), a whimsical 'Wretch'-themed raffle, games involving sheep, and plenty of appropriately-themed food and drink. And of course, for the first time in nearly two years, I will perform 'Wretch Like Me,' unveiling a new, stripped-down, rewritten, even more entertaining version. Call it Wretch Like Me 2.0.

Though there is no charge for this event, there will be opportunities to contribute to the effort. I feel very good about kicking off this project at the Glaser Center (It's fun to be a renter for a change!), as this is where it all began four years ago. As I learned all those years ago upon hearing of the death of Jim Croce, we need to make every moment matter, to tell our stories and sing our songs any way we can. I hope many of you will come celebrate with me as I prepare to take my own story out into the world.

David Templeton,
Glaser Center Manager and Artistic Director

Hot Topics

HOT TOPIC – How Shall We Be a Good Neighbor?

We all want to be good neighbors but are there limits on folks who drop by just to enjoy our coffee hour, use our bathrooms, partake of the refresh-

ments at Hot Topics, charge their cell-phones at our outside outlets? Help us sort this out with Reverend Chris on Sunday, August 18th from 11:30 to 1 in the RE Common Room. A light lunch will be available for a donation.

Advocates for Social Justice

SHARE THE OFFERING

On Sunday, August 11th, one half of the collection will go to Roseland University Prep, a charter high school committed to preparing its students for a 4 year college or university. The majority of its students are minorities and poor, and their record of college admissions and success in college is

outstanding. We hope you'll agree that this is the kind of program that deserves our generous support! On Sunday, August 25th, half the collection will again support our Saturday Breakfast Program. The need is still great and the appreciation is truly gratifying!

Women Together

Women Together – End of Summer Party

Can you believe that school is starting in a couple of weeks? To say good-bye to vacation, all UUCSR women and their friends are invited to enjoy a lovely afternoon at Linda Balabanian's home in rural Santa Rosa on Saturday, August 17th from

noon to 3pm. This is a great opportunity to make new friends and reconnect with old ones. Newer members are especially welcome! It will be a pot-luck so bring a dish to share. Linda's address is 3980 West Olivet Road, Santa Rosa. If you need directions, call her at 707/889-5514.

Breath—Mobility—Balance

On ***Sunday, August 18th***

Monica Anderson will resume leading us in a fun and useful session.
We will meet in the Board Room at 9 am.

UUCSR Writers

The UUCSR Writers requests the pleasure of your company at one or all of our monthly meetings. Please see date, time, and place of gathering in the "Schedule" below.

N.B. Conflict in dates? No problem. Writers, Screenwriters, etc. are welcome to present a "work in progress" at Poets meetings and Poets at Writers, Screenwriters meetings. **The Film meeting is for anyone who likes to watch movies.** First, we show a DVD full feature film on TV. Then, we have a group discussion about it.

Schedule

Writers, Screenwriters • meet on the First Monday of the month from 4 -6 pm. Free

Aug 5, Oct 7, Nov 4.

No Meetings in Sept, Dec and Jan.

Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa.

4 - 6 pm, "Work in Progress" Presentations.

Note: Please see "Agreements" in our Brochure.

Poets • meet on the Second Monday of Monday of the month from 4 -6 pm. Free

Aug 12, Sep 9, Oct 14.

No Meetings in Nov, Dec and Jan.

Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa..

4 - 4:25 pm, "A Poet's Style" Group Discussion.

4:30 - 6 pm, "Poetry Readings" Read a poem you've written or one from a favorite author. Time may vary depending on number of Readings.

Film • meet on the Third Monday of the month from 3 -6 pm. Free

Aug 19, Sep 16, and Oct 21.

No meetings in Nov, Dec and Jan.

Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa.

3 - 5 pm, "Afternoon at the Movies" Watch a full feature DVD movie.

5 - 6 pm, "Group Discussion"

Authors/Film Titles/Collections may include: Agatha Christie, Jane Austen, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, William Faulkner, Woody Allen's *Midnight in Paris*, *Masterpiece Classics*, *Criterion Collection*, *Acorn Media*, *Cartoons*, etc.

Thursday Morning Coffee, 10 am - 12 noon • at Whole Foods in Coddington, Santa Rosa. Buy the beverage/food of your choice. We meet once a week for lighthearted conversation about who's doing what in our literary community. Table is not reserved. Look for us.

Parking is free.

Join our UUCSR Writers E-mail list. Always In Progress...

Information: UUCSR Writers • Glaser Center • 707-568-5381 Unitarian Universalist Congregation •

547 Mendocino Ave • Santa Rosa

<http://www.uusantarosa.org> Georgette G. deBlois •

ggdeb@sonic.net

Tom J. Mariani • southforkboots@gmail.com

UUCSR Writers • A Stimulating Environment

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa 20 JUNE 2013

Opening Words and Chalice Lighting: Jeanie Bates

Meeting Called to order: 6:34 p.m.

Members Present: Susan Bartholome, Jeanie Bates (Vice President), Lois Bell, Joe Como, Laura Jean Hageman (President), Mary Louise Jaffray, Lois Nagle, John Farison

Members Not Present: Alan Proulx, Cathie Wiese, Peter Wilson, (Rev Chris away at General Assembly in Kentucky)

Non-members Present: Linda Balabanian, Jan Prater (Recording Secretary)

Minutes from May Meeting: Approved as corrected:
Under - Approval of Preliminary Budget, correct to "UUA and PCD dues have each gone up \$2.00..." Under - Appointment of UU Delegates, note that Rita Butterfield was later added in Peter Wilson's place. Under - Sabbatical, insert "as soon" [as possible.]

Under - Report from Infrastructure, correct to add Linda Balabanian "said" and Lois Bell "said."

Assessment of Spring Congregational Meeting: (Laura Jean) Overall the Meeting went well, and it is recognized that people don't always feel exactly the same way about the way the money should be spent.

Treasurer's Report: (Linda Balabanian) We balanced our budget from surplus of \$16,000 from last year. This year we have added to that up to \$30,000. However, until we get to the Final Budget we won't know what we really have. Lois B. asked if we might put some back into the Endowment Fund. We could also revisit some of the smaller projects around the property such as the stained carpeting. John asked if the Building and Maintenance Committee has spent their budget; Laura Jean observed that they may feel they should get the work done by volunteers rather than hire people.

Cont. on Page 11

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Cont.

Cont. from page 10

Financial Stewardship Request: Approval requested of continuing Financial Stewardship members: Kirsten Olney, Mary Louise Jaffray, Linda Balabanian, as well as new members: Jennifer Murray, Amy Young, Laura Jean Hageman, Robin Rogers. Lois Bell made the motion to approve, (2nd) Jeanie - motion passed, with thanks to Linda for putting together this great team!

A motion was put forth (Mary Louise) to give Financial Stewardship authorization to spend up to 3% of the Operating Fund (around \$15,000) for "unbudgeted repairs and replacements." Fine Stew would work with Building and Maintenance re: projects, and with input from David Templeton re: concerns related to rentals. (2nd) Susan, motion passed.

Proposed Islamic Society Lease: (Laura Jean) David Templeton has presented a lease renewal proposal to the Glaser Center Committee and they approved it. We are trying to formalize the process and give David a tool to use in negotiations. This lease could go into effect Aug 1 - we need to give 30 days notice. It asks for an 8% increase but we will take over the HVAC maintenance. Also, they are requesting use of the Board Room for occasional use (up to 65 hours a year) which would be included. John moved that the Board give David approval for this, (2nd) Joe - motion passed.

Review Intern Timeline: (Laura Jean) Bryan's stay with us ends June 2014, so Sept. 2014 would be the time for a new intern. We need to form an Internship Search Committee who would process the applications and make recommendations. Rev Chris would then interview the potential candidate. We need to come up with a suggested list of names for this committee soon. We also need to create a site profile and internship web page, and apply for an Intern Stipend Grant renewal.

Goal Groups' Contributions to Board's Annual Report due Sept 1: (Laura Jean)

Board Retreat Planning: (Jeanie) Each person on the Board is asked to pay \$155 towards food and lodging (over and above the \$1,000 that's in the Budget.) Jeanie will receive the checks - made out to UUCSR - and then get them to Janis. Jeanie distributed an outline of the Board Retreat Plan which lists who will be part of what aspects of the retreat - if anyone wants to participate in any other ways they can contact the person listed for that item.

Proposal to do a Social for new Board members, Treasurer and Corp Secty: (Jeanie) Is this something the group would like to do? Discussion followed with the final decision not to do it in part because of crowded schedule due to Aug Board Meeting plus Aug Retreat.

Infrastructure Goal Group Report: (John) Banner Inc. will do the HVAC job (\$9,885) starting Mon eve - the crane will be here very early Tuesday and then all day. We also have bids for the HVAC maintenance check: IES \$2,392 yr/\$140 hr as compared to Banner \$1,800 yr/\$95 hr; we'll probably switch to Banner if the project goes well. We're also looking into an HVAC issue in the RE area - will ask Banner to assess. Joy Lonnes brought up taking another look at creating a "green" sanctuary re: the 7th principle - John is looking into it. Reminder that all graffiti needs to be dealt with promptly.

Community Outreach Team: (Lois Nagle) The committee has met and is looking at: "How does our congregation serve each person and how can we get people more involved?" They recognize that different people will respond to different approaches. Gretchen Vap and Phyllis Clement are leading this.

Adult RE Committee: (Lois Bell) The group has been meeting every two weeks. First offering will be a class of seven sessions on the Principles which will cost \$30, including a book; Shirley Ranck will teach it. Two other offerings for winter and spring are being looked at. The Congregational Survey is the base of all this. They are looking for more members.

Final Reflections and Appreciations: Appreciations to Laura Jean, Lois Nagle, and Mary Louise for their great work - you will be missed. Thanks to Jeanie for taking on the new Board presidency. Mary Louise said she has enjoyed being a part of this and appreciates Laura Jean for all that has been accomplished. Laura Jean said she has felt well supported and that it has been a joy - and that she is looking forward to not having as much responsibility but that it has been good for her! (The Board presented Laura Jean with a lovely gift of a Singing Bowl and a card signed by all.)

Closing words: (Laura Jean)

Meeting adjourned: 9:20 p.m.

submitted by: Jan Prater



Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

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August 2013

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**Newsletter deadline follows the 3rd Sunday. All
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Please place any hard copy submissions in the Newsletter
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Glaser Center Director: David Templeton, Ext.103, glasermanager@uusantarosa.org
Sexton: Phil Butterfield

**Sunday Religious
Education Staff**

Glaser Center Events

Sunday, August 4, 7:00 pm

Master Musician Showcase

Mark Taylor & Aaron Haas

Flamenco and Classical Guitar

Admission \$15

Saturday, August 24, 7:30 pm

Showcase Concert Series

A tribute to the music of

Joni Mitchell

Performed by

Amy Wigton

Jim Croce

Performed by

Craig Corona

Admission \$15

Saturday, August 31, 7:00 pm

Fundraiser launch party

**David Templeton's refashioned one-man-show,
reshaped for the Edinburgh Film Festival**

Wretch Like Me

**Full performance followed by live dance music
from The Wild Catahoulas, a Wretch-themed raffle + more!**

No Admission Charge

(Though there will be opportunities to donate to the cause!)

Saturday, September 28, 7:30 pm

Showcase Concert Series

Art of the Protest Song

**Featuring Bill Vallenti, Moss Henry, Steve Meckfessel, Michael
Capella, Lisa Iskin, Al Haas + special guest Christiane Lelaure**

Admission \$15