

Elderberries

The Newsletter of the

Unitarian Universalist Retired Ministers and Partners Association

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NUMBER 4

EXECUTIVE BOARD 2005-2006

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MORE IMPORTANT NEWS ON UUA MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE – SEE PAGE 12!



St. Lawrence University Theological School Alumni gathered June 1-4 to celebrate SLU's 150th Anniversary and to rededicate the Chapel, recently renovated to reveal the reredos of world religious symbols. Front row from left: Diane Doyle Parrish, David Weissbard, Nancy Doughty, Jan Bowering, Chaplain Kathleen Buckley, Jon Wheeler, whose family donated the renovation. Back row: Ken Mochel, Phyllis St. Louis Magnus, Al Ciarcia, Max Coots (hidden), Rolfe Gerhardt, Peter Scott, Dick Gilbert, Jan Knost, Gene Navias, Peter Richardson. The Theological School closed in 1965. Its class of five included Rolfe Gerhardt, Peter Richardson, and David Weissbard, the last graduate (due to being the end of the alphabet). Also attending were spouses Jane Ciarcia, Susan Gerhardt, Joyce Gilbert, Lorna Knost, Audrey Mochel, Gary Parrish, Eleanor Richardson, Faith Scott, and Dave Weissbard's sister, Judy. (SLU Photo)(More on St. Lawrence p. 4).

Elderberries is published quarterly in November, February, May, and August. Next deadline October 15. Send contributions to Eleanor Richardson, editor (e-mail if possible) grandmoot@aol.com. Please be mindful of space limitations! If you don't edit, I will have to.

President's Perspectives . . . Nancy Doughty



Board members, Barbara Prairie, Gretchen Manker and I, were “visible” at GA on your behalf at several events. At Ministry Days two or three of us were present for “Are You Taking Your Financial Future on Faith?” that we arranged with UUMPs, and “Fitting Into Church Life After Retirement” (see Brad Greeley’s report on p. 3). At the UUMA hearing with the newly appointed Guidelines Committee, Wayne Arnason chair, we voiced our concern that UURMAPA be involved with the Guidelines Committee, particularly when the section on relationship of former and settled ministers is considered and written. I will keep you posted on this issue.

After some years of little contact with UUMA leadership, I requested a time for our Board members at GA to sit down with its Exec. committee for a conversation about intersecting concerns. Our brief time with Exec. committee members was productive. We requested the UUMA appoint a liaison to UURMAPA and we were assured that our input into the revision of the Guidelines would be sought.

If you go to the UUA GA web site you will see a photo of Barbara Prairie lighting the chalice at the Service of the Living Tradition on behalf of the surviving families of ministers who died during the year. Only an hour before the service we learned of Helena Chapin’s sudden death. The names of 14 other colleagues were spoken by President Sinkford and 23 colleagues completed full-time ministries becoming UURMAPA members. UURMAPA’s sponsorship of Joyce and Dick Gilbert’s Odyssey at GA was a first and they were inspiring and informative. Check out our web site: www.uurmapa.org to read their words and imagine you were present!

In October the Board, meeting in Boston, will give us the opportunity to meet with Beth Miller, newly appointed Director of Ministry and Professional Leadership, to share information about our programs and explore ways UURMAPA members can be of service and connected with the larger UU movement. We also have on our agenda how “best practices” of relationships between former and settled ministers can be shared. From the GA workshop we learned there are many positive stories. Our challenge is to publicize these gems beyond a small group so others may benefit.

The year-end report by our treasurer, Andy Backus, demonstrates your generosity in supporting our organization. Thank you, thank you! It is your generosity plus memorial gifts and the yearly \$500 subsidy from the UUMA that make our programs possible. If you have concerns or just want to be in touch, please e-mail or phone me. May your summer and early fall days be all you hope they can be.

GA Workshop “Fitting into Church Life After Retirement”

– by Brad Greeley

Nancy Doughty, President of UUMAPA, did a quick survey of those present. Out of 30 people, the majority were retired ministers, some were currently serving, and several were preparing to retire. There were also several minister's partners. She noted that more than 25% of our total UUMA membership is retired. She then introduced Brad Greeley and Stephan Papa. Brad retired from Main Line Unitarian Church in Devon, PA, and was made Minister Emeritus. Stephan succeeded him a year later. The focus of the workshop was on how retired ministers and their settled colleagues are doing, focusing on retirees who stay in their most recent church.

Brad & Stephan illustrated some ways to make the ministerial transition better and also showed how a little conversation and good intentions are not enough to avoid all problems. Letting go of a beloved congregation is hard. They shared a covenant recently made between just the two of them (not including the congregation) that was more a description of their intended practice over the last 5 years than their intentions for the future.

Some wonderful ways that settled ministers have affirmed their predecessor colleagues include asking them to take part in Installation Services and to participate in appropriate Memorial Services. Retired ministers contribute in a wide range of ways from moving out of the state and rarely returning to being supportive of their colleagues, circumspect in their socializing, and helpful in the workings of the church. It seems appropriate that if the settled minister does not initiate conversation with a retired minister in the congregation that the retired minister take the initiative.

The most touching sharing was that offered by spouses speaking of their experiences of separation and loss and reconnection. Sympathy was felt by most and some conversation about the potential for a list of best practices for spouses/partners (with all the obvious caveats recognizing their independence) was voiced.

The increasing number of retirees about in our congregations suggests that the UUMA Guidelines Revision Committee be asked to consider further words on that particular “ministry.” Nancy Doughty agreed to pass on that interest.

Nominating Committee seeks 2007 suggestions

Ed Lane, Chair; Polly Leland-Mayer; Leon Hopper

Now is the time for you to have your input into choosing the UURMAPA Board. Note that unless there is a contested election the bylaws authorize the Board to elect the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee. In 2007 we must fill the following five positions:

President: Nancy Doughty is eligible for reelection.

Vice President: Carl Thitchener is eligible for reelection.

Caring Network: Glen Snowden is not eligible for reelection.

1 Member at Large: Gretchen Manker is eligible for reelection.

Nominating Committee Chair: Ed Lane is eligible for reelection.



On the present Board: there are 5 ministers and 3 partners. There are 5 women and 3 men. Geographically there are 3 east, 1 south, 2 midwest, and 2 west. Suggestions may be sent to any member of the Nominating Committee.

-- Ed Lane, lane.ed@comcast.net

Regional Conferences

Attend any conference, regardless of where you live!

The Board has extended the \$200 grant to four **first-time** attendees at each conference for another year. (You must telephone the registrar to see if you are among the first four). As previously, requests for continuing education grants to attend conferences should go to Rev Michelle Bentley at mbentley@uua.org or at the UUA, 25 Beacon St, Boston MA 02108. Tel. (773) 643-6988

PAN SOUTH – Feb. 6-8, 2007. Peter and Eleanor Richardson, chairs. We have been invited back to the lovely UU Church of Fort Myers. The program will be announced in a later newsletter. Registrar is Herb Adams. herbadams32@hotmail.com.

WEST - A Working Committee is considering options for 2007. Should we have our regular spring meeting at Menlo Park, CA or would members prefer a meeting near Portland, OR before or after the General Assembly in June? A questionnaire has been sent out to members in the Western Region. Your comments are very welcome. Please contact Ted Webb, Chair of the Committee, theodorewebb@sbcglobal.net.

NORTHEAST –October 3-5, 2006 Join us as the leaves begin to turn for the Northeast Conference, again at LaSalette Retreat Center in Attleboro, MA. Program will be "Engaging Our Theological Diversity," about the Commission on Appraisal Report. Earl Holt, who chaired the Commission, will give a presentation. A panel of colleagues will respond, and we will all have a chance for discussion. Reading the report before the conference will be a help. Keith Munson will present his Odyssey, and Peter Baldwin will liven an evening with folk songs and group singing. Nancy Doughty will bring us up to date on the work of the UURMAPA Board. A mailing will be sent in early summer with details and a registration form. For more information contact registrar Med Anderson: revmua@sover.net. - Judy Mannheim, Chair

Hale Chapel Rededication, St. Lawrence University – June 2, 2006

[Excerpts] The year was 1856. A few far-sighted Universalists and some enthusiastic Cantonites conspired to found a theological school in the face of those who doubted that such a small, centrally isolated community could sustain a seminary. And so, against opposition from Universalists suspicious of a learned ministry, overwhelming financial difficulties, and the antagonism of orthodox neighbors, they built a seminary and a university.

Controversy surrounded Antioch College graduate Olympia Brown, who applied for admission to the Theological School. President Ebenezer Fisher, who did not favor the idea of women ministers, at last capitulated. She graduated and became the first woman minister ordained by a denominational body, the St. Lawrence Association, June 25, 1863, with Dr. Fisher participating.

In 1906 . . . the Theological School was advertised as follows: ‘The oldest theological school in the Universalist denomination . . . Free tuition. Free books. And from General Convention, aid of \$123 to approved students. Three and four years course. Degree, B.D.’ Ah, those were the days. In

1910 the University severed its denominational connections, the theological school maintaining its close association with the New York State Convention of Universalists.

Edson R. Miles, professor of homiletics and practical religion from 1917-1948, introduced drama into the curriculum. Hale Chapel's refurbished reredos of the world's religions was created in his memory. On the lighter side, bible professor Ellis Pierce taught fencing; Dean John Murray Atwood, whose career spanned the first half of the 20th century, coached baseball. I was a 14-year-old just deciding on the ministry when I heard him lecture on the bible at Unirondack camp in 1951. Angus MacLean, religious education pioneer, taught from 1928-1960, and was dean from 1951-1960.

There is a certain poignancy in this gathering. Many of us are part of a faithful but dwindling remnant of alumni. A small student body, inadequate finances and the decision of the UUA led to closing the school in 1965. There is a kind of tri-fold immortality, however: (1) the St. Lawrence Foundation for Theological Education, which allocates funds for ministerial students and religious education; (2) the immeasurable influence of the school on its graduates and the Unitarian Universalist movement and (3) the use of this reconsecrated space as an interfaith chapel – true to the spirit of Universalism. The theological school, then, is a community of memory and hope. Here we tried to learn to talk the talk and walk the walk. -- Richard S. Gilbert

Benediction excerpt from Gene Navias:

We do not know who will come here to worship, no narrow band, the broadest array of faiths. We cannot even imagine the varieties of worship, music, symbolism, rituals, languages, chants, prayers, silences. But we can imagine that hearts may come here feeling empty and go away full. We can imagine that constricted thoughts may be challenged with greater light and minds leave here enlarged. We can imagine that persons without thought of action to take, may leave here ready seize on something worthy to do.

So, now, we prepare to leave. We leave our blessings with those who shall provide leadership here. We leave our wishes with all who may come to worship here. -- Eugene B. Navias

Speakers Welcome

I am a third-generation Universalist who grew up in the Our Home Church in Ellisville, Mississippi, founded in 1906. Over the past few years, I have served the congregation as a lay minister. For two years, we have been in a yoked ministry with the UU Congregation of Jackson. Our contract ends in August when Rev. Jaqueline Luck enters full-time ministry with Jackson. Thus, we are seeking UU ministers/speakers to fill our pulpit. This is a warm and friendly congregation that welcomes a service from UURMAPA members traveling through the area. We are 30 miles north of Hattiesburg, 80 miles south of Jackson, approximately 100 miles from the Gulf Coast and 120 miles from New Orleans. You would be saddened to see the Gulf Coast following Katrina. It is totally devastated. It will take years to clean up the debris and rebuild.

--Linda Foshee, Email: lindafoshee@comcast.net.

Conniving Cleric Caboosed

In the interest of good taste, Elderberries forbears to reprint wire services' photographs of Unitarian Universalist Transitions (formerly Settlement) Director John Weston doing the "perp walk" in Federal Court in Boston (MA). Weston was indicted in June for manipulating the New York Stock Exchange and NASDAQ. These widely reported manipulations that have cost investors billions of dollars.

"It was for the churches I did it," Weston sniveled. "How else was I going to get retired ministers back to work?" Weston was referring to the widely bruited shortage of interim ministers to serve Unitarian Universalist congregations, a shortage that continues.

Weston is unrepentant to this day. Contacted by Elderberries on the eve of publication at the Danbury (CT) Federal Penal Institution, Weston said: "Interim ministry opportunities continue to abound nationwide. Retired ministers wishing to top up their retirement accounts should contact new Transitions Assistant Emily Schwab at the UUA. She'll get hold of me here.

--The Rev. Dr. John H. Weston, Transitions (formerly Settlement) Director, UUA, 25 Beacon St., Boston MA 02108. Email: transitions@uua.org Phone: (617) 948-6408

From Our Treasurer

We are in good financial health, owing to your generosity. We received this year 15% more from you than we have in the last year or two. Donations have been coming at a regular rate throughout the year, which tells us we are in your hearts and minds in all seasons. Thank you for doing your part, helping to make your UURMAPA what it can be for all of us. -- Andrew C. Backus

How are you? ... What are you doing? ... Any new publications?

From **Sue & Vernon Nichols** - As usual, the new Elderberries was terrific. We especially enjoyed Doe's article--she is truly "Mrs. Caring Network"--always a special inspiration to us. All good wishes. From **Iska and David Cole** in May: Just returned from Green Valley, AZ, after being away from home 4 long months! Catching up on bills and responsibilities – repairing broken pipes of harsh winter; getting "Forty Oaks" ready for the MARKET. (Edgecomb, Maine).



From **Joyce Smith**: I hope I will get the newsletter here in Lee's Summit Missouri. I am fine. The move went pretty smoothly thanks to my daughter and her husband who did all of the work. I have located doctors etc. so I am in pretty good shape. Thought I would have to have a cataract operation but the doctor here says not until it interferes with my life. Take care and say hi to everyone.

*At left: Nancy Doughty visited **Rev. Max Coots** in his workshop in Canton, NY, during the SLU 150th. Max was minister at the Canton congregation while many were students there. He is sculpting the frog on commission.*

From **Frank Robertson**: Dear Andy, It was nice to receive the letter from UURMAPA, thanks to Nancy Doughty. As you probably know, I have cancer in several parts of my body and go to treatments on Fridays at Dana Farber Hosp. This year, I will not be able to attend GA and some other gatherings. Please extend my greetings to our mutual friends. Fondest regards. (May 19)

From **Monica Sharp**: Dear Andy Backus, I am the widow of (deceased) Waitstill H. Sharp (Unitarian Minister) who started the Unitarian Service Committee overseas about 1940.

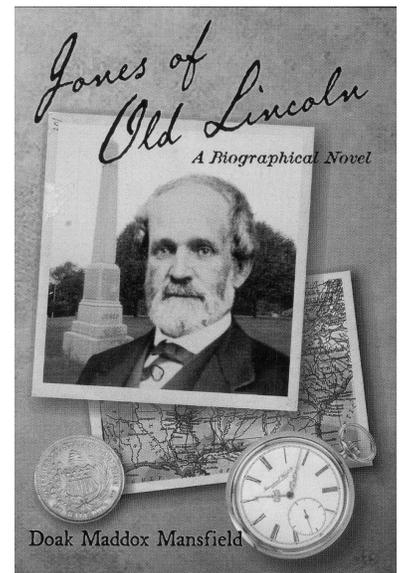
From **Jacqueline Collins**, Mt. Pleasant, SC: Dear Andy, I was glad to hear from the UURMAPA group. I retired in July 2005 and had announced officially in 2004, but I guess since the UUA did not acknowledge it until this past G.A., I got Elderberries for the first time only a few weeks ago, and Nancy's welcome letter a few days ago. I am looking forward to being part of this group.

From **Shirley Ranck**: I had a very exciting GA. The curriculum I wrote, *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven*, had its 20th anniversary. Women & Religion held a "Tea and Cakes" party at the First Unitarian Church in St. Louis; the South West UU Women along with Women & Religion and NPR correspondent Margot Adler created a special ritual Friday night; Margot also did a workshop in which she interviewed me and Rev. Leslie Westbrook, original editor of *Cakes*; Saturday the UU Women's Federation gave me its Ministry to Women Award at a beautiful reception. And I had a book-signing for my re-published book (not the course) *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven*. Women & Religion has received grant money from the UUWF and the Fund for Unitarian Universalism to revise and re-publish the curriculum. Wow! I'll be doing a one-year interim ministry at the North Shore Unitarian Church in West Vancouver.

Ken MacLean was conducting a wedding in May, at the home of Cathedral City, CA, members, when he stepped backward off a raised portion of the living room, and fell seriously, injuring his upper spine and breaking his nose. He broke his top two vertebrae and was confined to a rigid neck brace 24 hours a day. He was in the hospital in Palm Springs, then a rehabilitation center, then in the home of parishoners, and then at home taken care of by his son, Derry. Peter Richardson reports that Ken was at G.A. in June wearing a neck brace.

Dick Norsworthy reports that **Glenna** has been doing well in her fight against lung cancer. In June, they planned to leave for their home in Dexter, ME. There a good friend, Dr. Bob Lodato, will watch over her, looking for any signal that they should return to Tucson. "As long as nothing eventful shows up, we'll remain in Maine until after the leaves change to their Fall garb." Very happily yours, Dick Norsworthy

Doak Mansfield tries to wrest the truth from the ghost of a 19th century politician in *Jones of Old Lincoln – A Biographical Novel*, available at email sales@counterbalancebooks.com, or at bookstores ISBN: 0-9774906-3-7. Doak lives in Laurel, MS, (601-729-2932) with his wife, Peggy Owens-Mansfield, writing, drawing, occasionally preaching, and consulting Unitarian Universalist congregations.



Walter Moulton writes that his mesothelioma has reemerged and he has begun chemotherapy. Peter and Eleanor Richardson visited him at Maine Medical Center July 21. He is hoping to go home. Walt taught for 22 years before entering the ministry, and he has received many letters from former students. His email address is waltpaula@gwi.net. Paula recently had cataract surgery.

Jean Zoerheide wrote from Maryland in May. She was expecting to go to Maine in August to stay in the cabin that she and Bob turned over to the UUA in return for lifetime use. She reports: I learned that the **Ed Redman** family shared their Ann Arbor parsonage briefly, as WWII was ending, with **Andrew and Julia Kuroda** and their two small sons. This was part of our UU Service Committee project for helping relocate Japanese Americans as they were released from the internment camps. Annie says her boys learned a few Japanese words from the Kuroda kids.

Sylvia Lewis is helping raise money to provide grants for the Greenbelt Community Services foundation. **Mary Rose Curtis** will be attending General Assembly where she will have a booth advertising the project on the plight of the children of migratory farm workers. Some archaic laws still allow them to work in the fields, where they are exposed to pesticides. **Barbara Murry** has won a gold medal in a figure skating contest and **Bill's** new book will be published in October or November by Skinner House Books. **Jack and Diane Young** spent December 2005 in Antarctica. Jack will be performing a June wedding for his stepdaughter. **Margaret Odell** says she is still "fussing about."

From **Herb Vetter** - A new online offering is an abridged version of the Mid-Twentieth Century Renaissance of Liberal Religion in America with color portraits of Universalist and Unitarian leaders since 1936. Also our online publication of Poets of Cambridge - 50 poets from Anne Bradstreet through Anne Sexton. Among our coming attractions is the astonishing illustrated story of Harvard's Unitarian Presidents. We celebrate the 123 years of leadership of the world esteemed University from 1810 to 1933 by Unitarians. HarvardSquareLibrary.org is viewed in over 100 nations.

Sylvia A Falconer writes: I just returned from a trip to Bolivia where I sponsor two Oruro children through Save The Children. Spending time with both Bryan and Yessenia and getting extensive tours through their schools and projects, I am convinced that supporting a child in a third world country (or our own impoverished areas) is the best future investment a person can make. And what friendships we have built. I also write a monthly liberal Faith column for the Greeley Tribune. Except for Colorado Springs (think Focus on the Family), Greeley is the most conservative buckle on Colorado's Bible belt.

Jack Mendelsohn was recovering from a knee replacement, when he and Judith went to GA in St. Louis. Upon his arrival, he sustained a broken hip, and had to have a hip replacement. So now he is recovering from both.

In Memoriam

Laile E. Bartlett, Ph.D., 90, wife of Rev. Josiah R. Bartlett, died May 11 in Ft. Bragg, CA. Laile received her sociology Ph.D. at the University of California at Berkeley, followed by a social settlement post in the east end of London, a government internship with the National Institute of Public Affairs in Washington, D.C, and a lectureship with the League of Nations in Geneva. For the first half of her career she taught on college campuses and the second half was research and writing: *Bright Galaxy*, an analysis of the Unitarian fellowship movement (Beacon Press), *The Vanishing Parson*, on the clergy exodus (Beacon Press), *New Work/New Life* (Harper and Row), on career change, and *Psi Trek*, (McGraw-Hill). This book, in which she explores psychics and psychic phenomenon resulted in more than 90 invitations to appear on TV and radio programs. Most distinctive was her long and extensive collaboration with her husband, President of Starr King School for the Ministry for nearly 20 years. Her radio program, “The Family Reads”, co-hosted with her husband, was nominated for a Peabody Award. In Berkeley, they raised four children in the Starr King President’s residence. In 1968, Rev. Bartlett stepped down from the Presidency and he and Laile created an interim ministry program for the UU denomination. They served as interim ministers in more than 25 churches throughout the US. She is survived by four children, Joel Emerson Bartlett of Phonenixville, PA, Joselyn Kingsley Bartlett Miksak of Caspar, CA, Loel Starr Bartlett Miller of Walnut Creek, CA, and Noel Channing Bartlett, of Lafayette, CA; and three grandchildren.

Reverend Helena P. Chapin, 68, died June 21, in Rochester, NY, of pneumonia. She earned a BA at the University of Michigan, and received an M.Ed at the University of Maryland. She completed her Minister of Religious Education in the Independent Study Program. She was ordained in 1985 by the North Shore Unitarian of Deerfield, IL, and then served the First Parish of Framingham, MA. She also served Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church in Adelphi, MD, the First Unitarian Society of Schenectady, NY and the First Church in Belmont, MA. Rev. Chapin later served the North Shore Unitarian Church in Deerfield, and First Unitarian Church in Rochester, NY, from which she retired. She volunteered for Planned Parenthood, The Susan B. Anthony House, and was an advocate for Seniors and animals. Survivors include her children Edwin, Todd and Leila Chapin. A memorial service was scheduled for July 1 at the UU Church of Canandaigua, with Rev. Carl Thitchener officiating.

Margret Taylor died January 11, 2006, according to Vernon and Sue Nichols (note corrected spelling of Margret’s first name). She was the surviving partner of Floyd Taylor, ordained 1933, who served churches in Plymouth, and Lexington, MA. [If anyone has further information, please send it to Elderberries. – Eleanor]

Elizabeth Spafford Schmidt, 90, died February 23 in Walnut Creek, CA. She outlived her first husband of 54 years, Ernest Clifford Spafford and her second husband of 13 years, Rev. Harold E. Schmidt. Harold was minister at the First Unitarian Society of Stockton, CA, from 1958-74. Elizabeth held a B.A. in Biology and an M.A. in education, and taught at the secondary level for the Stockton Unified School District. Lovers of travel, Elizabeth and Ernest once took their family to Europe for six months, each taking a leave of absence from teaching. She is survived by a daughter, Edith Gladstone of Berkeley, and a son, Alden Spafford of Oakland, and one granddaughter.

Directory additions and Corrections!

Web Address: www.uurmapa.org

Address changes should be sent to Carl F. Thitchener –Email: revcarlt@gmail.com

Due to privacy issues, street addresses and phone numbers are omitted in the web version.

Full corrections will arrive via snail mail to those on our list.

Additions –

Hawley, James P. South Pasadena, CA jhawley@ita.lacity.org



New Retirees!

Rev. Richard E. and Sue Benner Plattsmouth, NE - rbennerusa@netscape.net

Rev. Barbara Carlson Bloomington, IN - barbarac1700@aol.com

Rev. Marguerite C. and Donald Clason Mentor, OH - reverendpeggy@comcast.net

Rev. Jacqueline A. Collins Mt Pleasant SC - jvcuu@bellsouth.net

Rev. Elizabeth Kay Ellis Chester, PA - reveen@comcast.net

Rev. Gordon D. and Judith Gibson Elkhart, IN until October 2006, then Knoxville, TN
gjgibson@juno.com

Rev. Fred and Judith Gillis Concord, NH - fegillis@comcast.net

Rev. Nannene Gowdy Pepperell, MA - Ngowdy@aol.com

Rev. Margot Campbell Gross & Peter Gross San Francisco, CA

Rev. Catharine W. and Richard Harris, Boulder, CO - charris@indra.com

Rev. David P. and Ms. Michael Hubner, Wellesley, MA - dphubner@aol.com

Rev. Cynthia B. and Albert Johnson, Baileys Harbor, WI - cbjohnson@itol.com

Dr. Ellen and Barry Johnson-Fay, Colorado Springs, CO - ellenjf@adelphia.net;
barryjf@adelphia.net

Rev. Elizabeth M. Kerman, Charlotte, NC

Rev. Katherine Lehman, Stony Brook, NY - klehman1@optonline.net.

Rev. Ellen D. and Nick Livingston, Rancho Cucamonga, CA - Rev.Ellen@verizon.net

Rev. Dr. Thomas J.S. Mikelson and Hon. Patricia Shepard, North Adams, MA
tjmikelson@gmail.com

Rev. Makanah E and Rev. Robert L. Morriss, Forest, VA - REVS2UU@aol.com

Rev. Charlotte Justice Saleska, Hales Corner, WI

Rev. David R. Weissbard and Karen Wells, Canton, NY Rockbard@aol.com

Rev. Anne Treadwell and Rev. John O'Connor (Lutheran), Middle West Pubnico, Canada.
treadwell@ns.sympatico.ca

Rev. Dr. James Zacharias, Albuquerque, NM - zach1@swcp.com

New Addresses –

Caroline Adams - Topsham, ME

William H. Balkan - Mauldin, SC

Rev. Gaston & Mary Carrier - S. Burlington, VT

Carole Green - Portland, OR

Joyce Huff - c/o Sara Huff Dodd, Acton, MA

Rev. Joan & Charles Kahn-Schneider - Savannah, GA joanks@mchsi.com

Polly Leland-Mayer - Sherborn,MA - uumum68@aol.com

Rev. Roberta M. & Chris Nelson - Sedgwick,ME

Shirley Ranck - West Vancouver, BC

John Rex - Buffalo, NY - johnrex3@Yahoo.com

Donald Rowley - Arlington,MA

Clarke Wells - Sarasota, FL

Harriet Wyman - Torrance,CA

New Telephone Number

Bill and Barbara Murry

New Email Addresses

Ginny Crane: ginnycrane@cox.net

Sylvia Falconer: safalconer1@msn.com

Ken and Anne Helms: ken_helms@comcast.net

Richard and Mary Ann Kelley: markelley8226@earthlink.net

Other Corrections

Johanna Boeke and Madelyn Barber – add Rev.

The correct spelling is **Dorle Gehrman**; **Catherine Sterling** is spelt with a C

Cora Ison is listed in the directory as Elien Ison ; **Rev. David Johnson** – add **Julie Coulter**

Harold Quigley - Returned to Sender: Kent,OH.

anyone have info? – please let Carl Thitchener know.

UUA Health Plan

Rates for the 65+ Medicare Supplement Plan Lowered, Benefits Clarified

The new UUA Health Plan is well on the way to meeting its enrollment target for October 15th. The plan needs 500 subscribers before it can go live on January 1, 2007. For people 65 and over who are enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B, the UUA plan functions as a Medicare Supplement, filling in the payment gaps in Original Medicare. It is not an option for people in Medicare Advantage plans.

If you are purchasing a Medicare Supplement plan, compare benefits and costs. The UUA plan benefits can be found at www.uua.org/leaders/insurance. Based on input from retirees and plan actuaries, we have revised our rates, lowering them in most cases by about 20%. We expect the plan to be competitive with individual Medicare Supplement plans offering the same benefits.

The UUA Medicare Supplement plan does *not* include coverage for prescription drugs. Why? The rate of increase in prescription costs is currently nearly *four times* the rate of inflation. This leads us to conclude that it would not be prudent for the new UUA self-insured health plan to attempt to cover prescription drugs for age 65 or over. Seniors will need to enroll in one of the new Medicare Part D plans for medications. You are probably already enrolled in a Medicare Part D plan. If so, you may simply continue. If you have not enrolled in Part D, one of the most popular Medicare drug plans is that sponsored by AARP. Go to www.AARPMedicareRx.com or call 888/556-6641. If you are an AARP member, ask for Dept. Code GA2H3.

-- Ralph Mero , UUA Office of Church Staff Finances,
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