

Elderberries

The Newsletter of the

Unitarian Universalist Retired Ministers and Partners Association

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News from Ed Peara:

"There was a Lane County, Oregon Veteran's Day Parade with 80 units. I marched with "The Army for Peace" or Vets for Peace. We had signs like "Torture is unAmerican, inhumane, immoral," and "The Geneva Convention is for us." etc. This being a blue city in a blue state as we went along the spectators applauded us.

"I was wearing my 63 year old WWII uniform. The picture was on the front page of our paper the next morning, simply saying "WWII veteran Edgar Peara of Eugene." along with 3 other vets from other Lane county towns.

*Love and caring,
Edgar"*

Elderberries is published quarterly in November, February, May, and August. Next deadline April 15. Send contributions to Eleanor Richardson, editor (e-mail if possible) grandmoot@aol.com 22 Mechanic St., Rockland, ME 04841; (207) 596-5502. Please be mindful of space limitations! If you don't edit, I will have to.

President's Perspectives . . . Nancy Doughty

Greetings in 2006! As our lives move into another calendar year, there will be continuation of the cycle of activities we bring with us from the past as well as unexpected events we have not imagined. For some it will be greeting a new grandchild, saying good-bye to a loved one, moving to a different place or learning about an illness. Our Caring Network members, under the guidance of Glen Snowden, continue to assist those who need support as well as rejoice when good fortune comes your way. I hope you and they stay in touch even as we are scattered around the country.



For those who have been shocked by heating bills---and who hasn't---and find themselves financially pinched, Ralph Mero reminds us that the \$300 winter heating supplements are available to retired ministers and surviving spouses who request the grant. Do not be shy if you are in need. Contact Ralph at rmero@uua.org or at 25 Beacon Street.

In November we were informed one of the founding "fathers" of UURMAPA, Horace Westwood, valued the mission of our organization enough to leave us a bequest of \$2800. We are grateful to Horace for his vision in helping to found UURMAPA, as well as his recent gift that the Board will place with other memorial funds (not in the operating budget) and use in a special way.

Treasurer Andy Backus reports encouraging news about the number of contributors to UURMAPA for this year---there has been a significant increase of responses from you. \$8,863 has been received from 172 units with gifts ranging from \$250 to \$5. I thank each of you! Whether large or small a gift from each member is a sign of a healthy organization.

Lastly, Board members were saddened to learn that Michael Boardman, husband of Board member, Barbara Prairie, died in early December. Our sympathy is extended to Barbara and the Boardman Family.

Personally, I will be attending the Pan South Conference in early Feb. where Sydney Wilde will be interviewing attendees about recollections of the 1961 AUA-UCA consolidation. That will be an exercise in retrieving memories!

GA events



GA dates are slightly different this year: Wednesday, June 21 - Sunday, June 25. The Service of the Living Tradition will be on Thursday evening and a major worship service on Sunday morning. The annual luncheon for retired ministers and partners will be Friday, June 23 and invitations will be mailed to all retired ministers and surviving partners in March.



During GA we will have a program in which Dick and Joyce Gilbert will share experiences of aging and retirement - an odyssey entitled "Forward Through the Aging". In addition, UURMAPA will sponsor a workshop during Professionals Day addressing issues, concerns and successes in situations where a retired minister (or ministers) or minister emerita/us is a member of a UU congregation. The speakers will be a current minister and retired minister from one of our congregations. -- Barbara Prairie and Gretchen Manker, coordinators

Regional Conferences

The Board has voted to give a \$200 grant to four **first-time** attendees at each of the 3 conferences. (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@uaa.org or at the UUA, 25 Beacon St, Boston MA 02108. Tel. (312) 945-3122.

Attend any conference, regardless of where you live!

PAN SOUTH – Come to sunny Florida in the winter! **Feb. 7-9, 2006, at the UU Church of Fort Myers, FL.** UU Bed & Breakfast will put us up (or a motel if you prefer), with gourmet food by Joy Purcell. WE are the keynote - helping Sydney Wilde produce a history of the 1961 merger and its effects on our denomination. We will tour the “Seed Project”, an agricultural station developing seeds for different climates and soils worldwide. In the evening we will enjoy a music program by Don Beaudreau, UU minister in Sarasota. Herb and Mary Adams will present their Odyssey. Contact Eleanor Richardson, (239) 263-7760, or Herb Adams, registrar, at (863) 465-1587.

WEST – Mon.-Thurs., March 27-30 (date change), at **Vallombrosa Center in Menlo Park, CA.**



Conversations with Huston Smith each morning. Meditations with Kendra Wieman Smith, an afternoon with Ric Masten, and an odyssey by Edgar Peera, who has led a very unusual and interesting life. Flyers were mailed to members in the Western Region. Although the regular registration date has passed, it may be possible to accommodate a limited number on a space-available basis.

Those interested can contact co-chairs Al & Mary Thelander, 530-432-4705 or thelandr@nccn.net.

NORTHEAST –October 3-5, 2006 at LaSalette Center in Attleboro, MA. Registrar is Med Anderson: 353 Fisher Road, Orwell, VT 05760; (802) 948-2508; email is undependable but the address is revmua@aol.com. Judy Mannheim is chair.

UU Ministerial Couple Honored Posthumously

In February 1939, the Rev. Waitstill Sharp, 37, a Unitarian minister, and his wife, Martha, 33, of Wellesley, MA, set aside personal concerns for a vastly more urgent cause. Leaving their two young children behind, they arrived in Czechoslovakia a month before the German occupation and began assisting Prague's growing refugee population. Over the next two years, the Sharps helped secure food, shelter, visas, and freedom for hundreds of Jews and non-Jews targeted by the Nazis. Now deceased, the couple seldom spoke publicly about their work. But last November, their rescue efforts spoke loudly for them. And an international honor previously bestowed upon only one American was added to their legacy. The Sharps were chosen Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust remembrance authority in Jerusalem. Among past honorees is Oskar Schindler, whose story inspired "Schindler's List."

Patton Books Sought

I met Ken Patton in Boston at May meetings to be accepted as a Unitarian minister in 1958. At the Annual Canadian Unitarian Council Conference to be held in Saint John, NB, this May 19-22, 2006, I will present a workshop "REVISE TO REVIVE" referring to the gender-obsolete phrases in Patton's works, as in *MAN is the Meaning*. For that, I would like to have on hand, say, 20 copies of *Man is the Meaning* and/or *Readings for the Celebration of Life* instead of just a printed hand-out. Please contact me if you are willing to part with a copy. -- Don Fraser drfras@gmail.com

Medicare D

From Dick Allen: What he's learned from navigating Medicare D: "I will save several thousands of dollars a year with the new plan," he writes. [I have also been researching this, and concur with Dick on the savings and the steps – EMR, editor]

1. **Are you in a medical plan right now that has provisions for prescription drugs?** If you are, there is a good chance that you will not save any money, although you should contact the plan and ask if the new Medicare D will reduce your costs.

2. **Are you covered by Medicare A or B?** If you are, you need advice and information and can get it.

Step one: call 1(800) 434-4227. That is the Medicare number. Tell them you need help in finding the best medicine provider. They can tell you how to contact a senior assistance organization in your area to do the computer work.

Step two: Contact that local senior organization. Have a list ready of your prescriptions, the dosage, and what you pay each month for them. Also tell them what pharmacy you use and if you are flexible. They will work up different options from the Medicare website and advise you about choosing a prescription insurance provider. They are wary about advising, but if you want to spend the lowest amount possible yearly, ask them that, and they will tell you. Get the phone number of that insurance company, or the lowest three.

Step three: Call the selected medical insurance company, confirm the information given, find out how to get the medicine, and sign up. --Dick Allen, 500 Hilltop Drive, #247, Redding, CA 96003 Fax: (928) 438-1876; Phone: (530) 247-7661

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

Little Notes with contributions: (from Andy Backus, treasurer)

This from **Rachel Hoagland**: Dear Andy, Enclosed is my check to help support UURMaPA. I enjoy getting Elderberries and keeping some ties to the UUA. There is no fellowship here in Trinidad. [Rachel is the surviving spouse of Robert Hoagland, who served Oneonta, NY, for one. She's an example of a spouse that we have track of but the UUA does not list her.] From **Donovan and Donna White**: "In grateful appreciation for all you accomplish. We so do enjoy Elderberries." And from **David Fisher**: "Post-Wilma costs prevent a higher number for my dues this year."

Jean Rowe writes: Happy New Year from the mountains of NC...it's wonderful here, or as our minister says, "It's great to be alive in Transylvania County!" From **Barbara Prairie** I am getting back into volunteer work, starting with coordinating a chili supper/art auction for the local Arts Council. Also trying to catch up on UUWF things and be more responsible than I've been during the last year. Travel plans on the horizon too - Portland, OR (to visit friends) and San Jose (for the religious meeting planners conference as a guest of Jan Sneegas, my successor at the UUA). And a week in Boston in March for UUWF board and playing around. We'll do a memorial service for Michael [Boardman] at Eliot Church while there, and that will be a very warm homecoming for me.

David Van Strien was one of 8 peace activists arrested in Concord, NH, Dec. 5, for reading the names of American soldiers who had been killed in Iraq while waiting for a face-to-face meeting from Republican Sen. Judd Gregg. Gregg never showed, and when it was time to lock up the office for the day, the eight were arrested. David also took part in the anti-war march on Washington in the fall. From **Peter and Eleanor Richardson**: we are presently typing up Peter's ancestors' journals. Peter is starting with his 4 greats grandfather, beginning in 1795, and Eleanor with 3 greats grandfather beginning 1852. It's fascinating. **Ward and Lucy Knights**, tired of hurricanes, have moved to Georgia. **Sue and Vernon Nichols**: Too bad we can't make [Pan South]--too much going on at the UN & WNYC for us to get away in Feb..... I guess we'll see you & the rest of the gang in Oct. in MA.

From Iska Cole: "Losing Joe Majeau as a Caring Network Contact, I especially feel his absence. Keith Munson and Maurice Cobb have generously taken some of Joe's names. Sue is with a loving family and copes with her loss bravely. We lost Herbert Weeks in October and send Evelyn and Sue our very best wishes. New retiree, J. "Brad" Mitchell & wife Chris of Brunswick, ME, joined us in June. Welcome! Virginia Leavitt moved to Vermont and we wish her well. We have nine "Surviving Spouses" in the NE District, to whom we sent a Questionnaire to let us know their living situation and where we can be of help. So far, only one has been returned. Please do send it back promptly."

Thanks to Jean Hartman

As of Nov. 21, Jean Hartman has retired from the UUA. We thank Jean for all her excellent work and help to UURMAPA. A'ashia Short will be keeping us informed of deaths from now on. Jean writes: "Thanks to you for all your help. I have very much enjoyed working with all the UURMAPA members, you are a wonderful group of people. It is never a pleasure to have to report the death of a minister, but working with the partners and family members has been very rewarding for me and is one of the many things I will miss about my experiences at the UUA." Jean

In Memoriam

Reverend Michael Edward Boardman, 68, died Dec. 9, of PSP (progressive supranuclear palsy). He had dreams of becoming a dairy farmer, but he soon realized one must have money to buy a farm. Instead, he entered Starr King School for the Ministry. He served in Whittier, CA, and later at First Parish of Sudbury, MA, First Parish in Brookline, Eliot Church of South Natick, and several interim ministries. Shortly after an incorrect diagnosis of Parkinson's, Michael retired in 2002 and moved with his wife, Barbara Prairie, to Berea, KY. Despite declining health, he participated in various organizations, converted to Catholicism and regularly attended mass at St. Clare. He is survived by Barbara; daughters Katherine Edwards and Sheila Boardman; stepdaughters Adrienne Cruise and Karen Ransom; and five grandchildren. A second service will be held in South Natick in March.

Yvonne Giles, 81, wife of Rev. Philip R. Giles of Harwich, MA, died Dec. 10, 2005. Among other churches, they had been together at Muncie, IN; and Denver, CO. While in Muncie, Yvonne was head of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) leading 1800 volunteers. Survivors include her husband Phil; a son, Rev. Stephen Rhoades of Sandyville, WV; and a daughter, Dauna Hawkins of Weston, WV. Letters may be sent to Phil Giles at 26 Pleasant Lake Ave., Harwich, MA 02654.

Reverend William D. Hammond, 89, died Nov. 17, 2005. He served in Asheville, NC, where he was later named Emeritus Minister. He also served at People's Liberal Church, Michigan – Ohio Valley District, UU Church of Minnetonka, and Grosse Point Unitarian Church. Surviving are his wife Grace Lindquist; two sons Donald & Thomas Hammond of Michigan and a daughter, Gail Hammond-Stone, of Arkansas. Messages of remembrance may be sent to Ms. Grace Lindquist, 230 Foster Street, Littleton, MA 01460. A service was held Dec. 17, at the First Parish of Groton, MA.

Dorothy MacPherson, 77, died Nov. 1, 2005. Refusing to accept the traditional role of the minister's wife, she pursued careers as a lab technician for Borden; a custom-decorating accountant at J.C. Penney, and a geriatric nurse's aide for Upjohn. She posed as a renter to uncover discrimination in housing. David tells that when she wanted time with her minister husband, she would write herself into his appointment book. Following him, she resided in Silver Spring, MD; Towson, MD; Richmond, VA; Laramie, WY; Brookfield, WI and State College, PA. They started two new churches. Surviving are her husband, Rev. David MacPherson, 103 Randolph Circle, Ashland, VA 23005; three children: Duncan and Douglas MacPherson of Maryland, and Dianna of Ashland.

Reverend Harold J. Quigley, 92, of Kent, OH, died Feb. 5, 2005. He was ordained in 1939, but fellowshiped in 1960. He had served in Meadville, PA, from 1960-62 and retired in 1983. At presstime, we know only that his widow, Wilma Quigley, moved in October to Indianapolis, IN, to be near her son, Harold Quigley Jr. (Jim), and we have no forwarding address. Anyone with further information is invited to send it to *Elderberries*.

Reverend Philip C. Schug, 91, died Nov. 18, 2005 after a long illness. He served congregations in San Antonio, TX; Urbana, IL; and Lincoln, NE, retiring in 1983. Surviving is his wife Mary Schug and two daughters, Mary Margaret Belk and Theeta Ann Paynter. Messages of remembrance may be sent

to Mrs. Schug at 222 King William, San Antonio, TX 78204-1300. There will be no service, his remains will be scattered in his daughter's vast field of bluebonnets in New Braumsuls, TX, near San Antonio.

Reverend Dr. Jacob Frank Schulman, 78, died Jan. 4 from cancer. He served at Arlington Street Church, Boston; and churches in Worcester, MA; Youngstown, OH; Emerson Unitarian Church in Houston, TX, where he was later Minister Emeritus; Horsham, England; and Huntsville, TX; and at Harris Manchester College, Oxford University. He was a prolific writer of books, pamphlets, and articles. He delivered the Berry Street Lecture, 1981; Minns Lectures, 1982; and the Billings Lecture, 1983. Mr. Schulman also served in the U.S. Navy, World War II and the Korean War. He is survived by his wife Alice Southworth Schulman, and four children. A service was held January 8 at Emerson Unitarian Church. Notes may be sent to Alice at 5 Marsh Millet Ct., The Woodlands, TX 77380.

Ottie Hardenstein Sonen, 83, a prominent psychotherapist, died Nov, 29, 2005. She maintained an active psychotherapy and counseling practice for over 40 years in Morristown/Oakridge, New Jersey, and later in Palm Beach, FL. Mrs. Sonen was a dance teacher, a movement therapist, and a founding member and president of the National Sacred Dance Guild. At 70, she won numerous ballroom dancing titles. The widow of the Rev. Robert W. Sonen, she is survived by a sister; children Linda Mathers Barton, J. Marc Mathers, Barbara Sonen Bollinger, Beverly Sonen Anderson, and Ralph Sonen; 5 grandchildren; and a great grandson. A service was held Dec. 3 at Unity Church in West Palm Beach.

Claora Styron The UURMAPA solicitation letter to Claora Styron was returned with a note written on it: "Postman -- please return to sender: gone to heaven." If anyone has further information, please forward it to *Elderberries*.

Dr. Jack Leo Ward, 78, retired psychiatrist and pioneer in treatment of schizophrenics died Oct. 25, 2005. He served in the Merchant Marines during World War II. He entered private practice in Trenton, NJ, developing expertise in orthomolecular psychiatry during its nascence in the 1960s. He contributed to two books, "Schizophrenia: Yours and Mine" and "Orthomolecular Psychiatry: Treatment of Schizophrenia." and numerous psychiatric journals. He was later Unit Chief for HIP, the Health Plan of NJ. He is survived by his wife, Rev. Cynthia Ward of Naples, FL, and five children: Rev. Mark of Asheville, NC; Keith of Tacoma, WA; Terry of Holyoke, MA; Rev. Lisa of Havre de Grace, MD; Scott of Wilmington, DE; and seven grandchildren. A service was held Nov. 5 at the UU Congregation of Greater Naples. Notes may be sent to Cynthia at 4677 Rio Poco Ct., Naples, FL 34109.

Reverend Herbert Gillespie Weeks, 87, died Oct. 17, 2005, in Auburn, ME. He served congregations in Guilford-Sangerville, Westbrook, Waterville, West Paris (where he was later Emeritus), and Bryant Pond, ME; and Milford and North Adams, MA. He served on the Boards of the Mass. Universalist Convention, the Connecticut Valley District, the Northeast District, as advisor to Liberal Religious Youth, and was on the faculty for Youth Weeks of Star Island and Ferry Beach. Surviving are his wife, Evelyn Gerrish Weeks and their children Arlyn H. Weeks of Portland, ME, and E. Jonathan Weeks of Waterville, ME. Messages of remembrance may be sent to Mrs. Weeks at 429 Turner Street Auburn, ME 04210. A service was held Oct. 21 at First Universalist Church in Auburn.

Directory additions and Corrections

our new Web Address: www.uurmapa.org

Address changes should be sent to Carl F. Thitchener –

3895 Green Road, Bloomfield, NY 14469-9725 Tel(585) 657-7526.

Email: carlt@rochester.rr.com. Thanks, Carl, for doing this endless job!



Both **Dwight Smith** and **Carol Hilton** are Revs.

New Listings:

Rev. Valerie Mapstone Ackerman: 18679 S. 221st E. Ave, Haskell, OK 74436;
(918) 482-3278; valmapack1@yahoo.com

Rev. Mike Adamek: 617 Mont Clair St. Apt, 1D, Springfield, MO 65807; (417) 886-1758

Rev. Carl and Paula Ulrich, 4712 143 Street, NW, Edmonton, AB T6H 4C8, Canada
e-mail: culrich@incentre.net .

Rev. Jane Mauldin: 204 W. 15th Ave., Covington, LA 70433; (504) 893-4229

Address Changes:

Caroline Adams: PO Box 151, Medford, MA 02155; (781) 391-5463

Rev. Sue Ayer: *street number correction:* 14963 SE Grant Ct., Portland, OR 97233-3026

Rev. Bruce and Dorothy Clary

Summer: 21 Vernal St., Wareham, MA 02571. (508) 295-3702 bmclary@aol.com

Winter: 3137 East 26th Place, Tulsa, OK 74114. Phone: (918) 743-0553

Rev. John M. Coffee - 1501 Beacon St., Apt. 1602 - Brookline, MA 02446; (617) 277-8111;
john_coffee@emerson.edu

Rev. Charles and Claudine Grady, 151-A Lake Club Circle, Hendersonville, NC 28792; (828) 697-7325;
charclaud@cytechcis.net

Rev. C. Arthur Hover and Ellen Dionna: 1700 Palomino Road, Dover, PA 17315;
(717) 781-3272; dionna.hover@suscom.net

Joyce Huff: *correct P.O. Box:* PO Box 92, Bedford, MA 01730

Rev. Larry and Nancy Hutchison: 144 Mary Street, Inglis, FL 34449;
hutchinson5955@bellsouth.net

Rev. Ward and Lucille Knights, 5338 Ashley Dr. SW, Lilburn, GA 30047; 770-806-0797.

Rev. Kenneth and Audrey Mochel: *new street:* 13 Wood Street, Auburn, NY 13021

Marion Nachlas: 44852 Rivermont Ter Apt 102; Ashburn, VA 20147

Rev. Mary and Bill Nelson: 8024 Gleason Dr. Apt 116; Knoxville, TN 37919; (423) 927-1802

Libbie Stoddard: 101 E. 9th Street, #4, Oswego, NY 13126-1615; (315) 343-4352

Rev. Doddie L. Stone: 1101 E. Royse Dr.; Terre Haute, IN 47802; (812) 242-9541

Mary Anne Sutherland: *New* PO Box 205; Brooksville, ME 04617

Farley and Virginia Wheelwright's street number is: 202 N. Zippata Highway, #11, Laredo, TX 78043.

Rev. David and Joyce K. Williams: 11 Park Haven Dr.; North Little Rock, AR 72205;
(865) 481-3319; davidnashw@aol.com

Rev. Bob and Mary Wolf: 35 Aquamarine Court, Auburn, ME 04210; (207) 783-2067

Jean Zoerheide: *new apt. no:* 830 West 40th St. #112; Baltimore, MD 21211-2121

New Email addresses:

Rev. Alan Deale and Kathleen Hunter: change email to only: kdhagd@mac.com

Rev. Elium Gault: Elium@att.net

Rev. Richard and Joyce Gilbert: RSGilbert@uuma.org and jtgilbert@frontiernet.net

Rev. John and Judith Gilbert: jjgilbert@alltel.net

Rev. Kenneth and Anne Helms: ken_helms@comcast.net

Revs. Thomas and Carolyn Owen-Towle: uutom@cox.net and uucarolyn@cox.net

Rev. David and Martha Pohl: dcpmlp@comcast.net

Rev. Douglas and Darlene Reisner: dougreisner@earthlink.net

Rev. Jean and Lackey Rowe: rowe@uuma.org ; lackeyrowe@citcom.net

New Phone number:

Rev. Keith and Peggy Munson phone in Florida: (941) 755-3694

Gerald Schatz and Barbara Conley: 517-337-2577

Zip code corrections:

Rev. Charles and Ann Howe: Raleigh, NC 27605-1612

Rev. Edgar and Phyllis Peara: 97405



From Ralph Mero

Retired ministers who have **assets in IRAs** funded in connection with work in ministry may still roll these dollars over into the UUA Retirement Plan managed by Fidelity Investments. This simplifies record-keeping, may save on management fees, and can make more dollars exempt from income tax if used to maintain a residence. Contact Fidelity's Ben Donner at 800/248-4213, ext. 3131. The Fidelity Inflation Protected Bond Fund may worth considering as an investment if you feel inflation lies ahead.

People continue to ask about a **UUA health insurance program**. We have learned from other denominations with self-funded health plans, and are encouraged that a UUA plan could be viable. The UCC, Presbyterians, Methodists, Episcopalians, Southern Baptists and many others all operate self-funded plans for the clergy and staff, and headquarters staffs. As of January 2006, we are still unsure if there will be enough UU congregations willing to use an Association plan for their ministers and staff, but we hope to roll out a model plan for consideration this spring. If there is enough enrollment and the rates are affordable, such a plan might be effective January 2007.

The **Ryder Fund** is a resource that stems from the Illinois Universalist Convention. The proceeds provide financial aid grants for retired ministers who reside in the Central Midwest District, some of whom are in situations of financial hardship. The contact person is Rev Ruppert Lovely in Wisconsin at ruppertlovely@sbcglobal.net or 414/963-9833.

Information about other retired UU ministers and surviving family members in financial need should go to Ralph Mero, UUA Office of Church Staff Finances, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108. 617/948-6404 rmero@uua.org,

prayer poem by Elizabeth Searle Lamb:

Dear friend, I pray you well!
 Into the inner silence
 I carry your name, your need.
 In that secret inner place
 I see you, vibrant and alive,
 radiant in the glowing Light.
 I feel the warmth of Love
 that is a cloak of protection
 wrapping you about with safety
 wherever you may be.
 There in that center of stillness,
 I speak your name and I hear
 the echoes of assurance.
 Dear friend, I pray you well!
 ..And who is not my friend?

Sent via *Speakup* by Dick Fewkes to friends who are confronting serious disease.
 To sign up for *Speakup*, our UURMAPA chat line, contact larryhamby@mac.com

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 Ministers and Partners Association
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