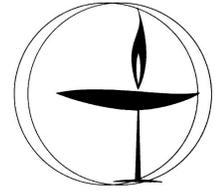


# Elderberries



the newsletter of the  
Unitarian Universalist Retired Ministers and Partners Association

VOLUME XXIV

NUMBER 4

August 2009

## Keeping in Touch

It is an honor for me to follow Makanah Morriss as coordinator of our Caring Network.

As many of you know, I retired in March 2008 from my post as Director of Church Staff Finances at the UUA. For 12 years I had the privilege of working with many of our retired UU clergy and their families. It is gratifying now, in my volunteer role, to be able to continue these relationships with a number of folks in this wonderful group of ours.

UURMaPA has a tremendous resource in the more than 40 Caring Network contacts who serve our members around the globe. Thanks to all our volunteers, our members can all count on having someone reach out to them, to see how they are doing. We all reap the benefits of the promise to receive support and information as we need it. We give a very warm welcome to **Barbara Cheatham**, our new Caring Network Contact for the Pacific Central Bay Area. She brings a lot of energy to the job and is already hard at work becoming better acquainted with the PCBA members she serves.



*Barbara Cheatham*

It is impressive that our all-volunteer organization now numbers nearly 900 individuals in more than 600 households. This means UURMaPA is now one of the larger UU entities, with a voice that can be very persuasive. Our newsletter editor likens UURMaPA's role, in relation to the UUA, to that of the AARP, in relation to the US federal government. We can be proud of the advocacy we provide for our most vulnerable members.

Looking back, I know that one of my most important duties at the UUA was arranging financial aid for retirees in financial hardship. I urge you to let your Caring Contact know right away if you are in distress. We will be more than happy to help you find the resources which can best meet your need. The Caring Network Contacts will take steps to expedite your receiving assistance.

As clergy and ministerial partners you have given the heartcut of your lives to service. You have earned the right to have a retirement that is as stress-free as possible.

— Ralph Mero

*A Big Thank You . . .  
to members who have given  
a total of \$6,000  
to UURMaPA from  
their June service gratuities.*

(See also Page 14)

## Executive Board

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**Next deadline is October 15.** Send your news,  
views and photos to your editor, Chris Lilly Backus,  
2746 Broadway, Bellingham, WA 98225  
or e-mail [chrisbackus@msn.com](mailto:chrisbackus@msn.com)

Save paper and get your  
newsletter faster by e-mail!  
Just notify the editor.



### In this issue . . .

Directory Updates	Page 4
Turning of Our Lives	Pages 5-6
Flunking Retirement	Page 7
NE Conference	Pages 8 & 16
Alice Wesley Honored	Page 9
<i>In Memoriam</i>	Pages 10-12
Survey Updates	Page 13
New Retirees	Page 14
Service Gratuity Update	Page 14
Bill Murry Honored	Page 15
Let's Get Together	Back Cover

# Presidential Reflections

by Makanah Morriss

Right after General Assembly my husband and I took a week's vacation in Wyoming. While in the Grand Tetons, I came upon the short reading below. It speaks to me now about this most interesting part of the life journey we are all sharing—retirement. I hope you enjoy it, too.

## *Advice from a River*

Go with the Flow  
Slow Down and Meander  
Go Around the Obstacles  
Stay Current  
The Beauty is in the Journey

—Ilan Shamir

As many of you know, July 1 is the start of UURMaPA's calendar year. After GA we bid a fond farewell to **Nancy Doughty**, our outgoing president. We have been truly blessed by her wisdom, eloquence and her vision for our association. Her gracious style and effective leadership have been gifts to us all. The good news is that we are not saying "good-bye," since Nancy will remain involved with UURMaPA in other roles this coming year.

We are most fortunate to have our committed, dynamic board working year 'round to advance UURMaPA's work. We keep in touch with monthly telephone meetings and now look forward to meeting again in person in Boston in October.

I extend a very warm welcome to our newest at-large board member, the Rev. **Midge Skwire**. How good it is to have Midge join us with her fresh perspective and good ideas.

As most of you know, **Ralph Mero** has taken over as Coordinator of the Caring Network. Having Ralph in this role is an incredible blessing. Our other board members and officers continuing on are: **David Johnson**, Vice-President; **Jean Rowe**, Secretary; **Kathleen Hunter**, Treasurer; **Chris Lilly Backus**, *Elderberries* Editor; **Peter Haslund**, at-large.

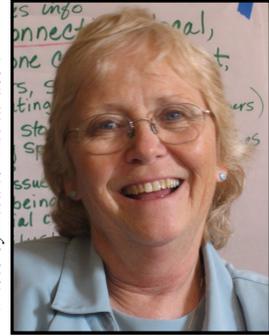


Photo by Eleanor Richardson

General Assembly in Salt Lake City was a bit smaller in numbers than some of our recent GA's but still filled with energy, enthusiasm, debates, dialogue, good times, and plenty to do.

Of course the UUA Presidential election, added to the interest and intensity of the proceedings. Laurel Hallman and Peter Morales each raised important concerns, issues and visions for our movement. We wish Peter all the best as he now begins his work as our new UUA President.

Our UURMaPA luncheon on Saturday at GA was a good time to welcome new retirees into UURMaPA. And we also heard from Beth Miller, Director of Ministry and Professional Leadership, and Richard Nugent, Acting Director of Church Staff Finances.

Nancy and I also had a chance to talk with Sarah Lammert and Fred Muir of the UUMA Exec about a variety of topics. In particular we are exploring some ideas on how to help ease tensions and misunderstandings that sometimes arise between retired ministers and currently settled colleagues.

We are very pleased that **Marj Lynn** and **Fred Campbell** have been appointed by Bill Sinkford (one of his last acts as UUA President) to the Compensation, Benefits and Pension Committee. This Committee plays a crucial role in overseeing some of the most complex aspects and questions related to benefits and pension and it is very good that Marj and Fred will be able to bring to that table the perspectives of those of us who are retired.

May these last days of the summer and the coming of fall bring you gentle joys. The beauty is, indeed, in the journey.

*Makanah*

Rev. Makenah Morriss

## Directory Updates

**Stan Aronson** *PCBB*  
(916) 409-0622

**Dorothy Boroush** *BC*  
45B Woodlawn Street  
East Taunton, MA 02718

**Carl Bretz** *TJNW*  
Greenfield of Oak Ridge  
360 Laboratory Rd., #427  
Oak Ridge, TN 38730

**Betty Brewer** *AZ-NV*  
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**Charles & Claudine Grady** *TJSE*  
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**Richard W. Kelley** *TJSE*  
**Mary Ann Kelley**  
29 Bittersweet Dr  
Hendersonville NC 28792

**John Morris** *H*  
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Clarkston, MI 48346

**Alice Schulman** *SW*  
5505 Panther Creek Drive, #4308  
The Woodlands, TX 77381  
(281) 362-8226

**Maureen Q. Thitchener** *STL*  
7161 County Road 12  
Naples, NY 14512

## Stay Comfortable

The UUA's Office of Church Staff Finances awards both heating and cooling grants to our retired ministers and their survivors.

For assistance contact Joyce Stewart at (617) 948-6421 or [jstewart@uua.org](mailto:jstewart@uua.org), or the Rev. Richard Nugent at (617) 948-6456 or [rnugent@uua.org](mailto:rnugent@uua.org).

Joyce and Richard welcome your calls and e-mails with other questions or concerns.



Please see  
page 14 for  
listing of  
newly retired  
ministers.



*Kindly send changes and updates to our  
Database Manager, Andy Backus, at  
[andrewbackus@msn.com](mailto:andrewbackus@msn.com)*

## UURMaPA Mission Statement

Acting in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association, the purposes of this organization shall be to serve Unitarian Universalist congregations and their Association, and to enhance the well-being of retired Unitarian Universalist ministers, their life partners and surviving life partners and to provide such programs and activities as may be feasible for their benefit.

## The Turning of Our Lives

### Barbara Murry

(Annapolis, MD) won a gold medal in April at the US Figure Skating Adult Championships for her freestyle program (in the group for ladies 61 and above). This group has printed a t-shirt with a skater doing an arabesque.



Barbara Murry

The legend reads:

**“Can your grandmother do this?”**

Congratulations Barbara, you’re an inspiration!

*Ed note: Thanks to **Doe Lockwood**, Caring Network for our Southwest Region, for forwarding the notes here and on Page 6.*

**John and Barbara Wolf** (Tulsa) say they are doing okay for their ages: John will soon be 84 and Barbara will be 80. They travel very little but John helps at All Souls off and on by doing readings and a short class now and then. Barbara participates in the Shawl Ministry, knitting shawls for people who are ill.

**Farley Wheelwright** (Laredo, TX) says, “At the tender age of 92<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, nothing very exciting happens. It might be of some interest to know that Virginia and I have experimented in a ten-injection series of Swiss sheep stem cell therapy which promises to rejuvenate us. I was interested in help for macular degeneration, but the doctor thinks the best that can be expected is a halt the progression of the disease. It damned well better, for if it gets any worse I will be totally blind. At best, the injections promise to rejuvenate our energies, particularly sagging memories. One memory I never will forget is the sum total of my UU ministry, as difficult as some of it was. I hope my colleagues can say the same.”

**Dwight Brown** reports that he has “had a pretty dull life recently.” He says he had one of those upper GI exams in which a tube is stuffed clear down your nose into your small intestine to check for internal problems. He says getting the tube down is like to swallowing a large water snake which has just eaten a horse. He notes that he then endured a colonoscopy, a corrugated garden hose with the impact watering device went into his nether entrance to what was left of his insides. He plans to ask his doctor, “Have *you* ever had one of these tests?”

Dwight also had auditory surgery for a cochlear implant to insert a strip of smart electrically charged plastic on the auditory nerve. The electrical impulse which feeds this artificial sound generator is fed into the skull through a little hole which requires the precise angle to make it connect with the plastic strip. Unlike most recipients of these implants; the day after the surgery he was “connected” and it was immediately successful, so he could. started having normal conversations with his wife. He says he is now a prized exhibit, since his doctor is married to the audiologist, so in that family he is *persona magna gratis*. He concludes his heroic saga saying, “Other than these events things have been pretty quiet.”

**Cathy Cohen** (New Orleans) writes, “I am the widow of the Rev. Dr. Albert D’Orlando, who served the First UU Church here for 31 years. We were married from 1987 to 1998, when he died of a stroke. He is still sadly missed by me and many others. I am a gynecologist; and at 66, I’ve cut my working hours to about half-time. I hope to work at least another four years. I am active in our local Planned Parenthood, and sing in the choir here and try to keep the D’Orlando Lecture on Social Justice alive. This year we had NOW’s Kim Gandy as our lecturer—a great success. I am grateful to still be included in the UURMaPA newsletters and e-mails. My best to all of you wonderful

## Turning of Our Lives

**Leonora Montgomery** (Houston, TX) writes: "I'm at that state of retirement where I'm 'busier than I was before,' but the second stage where I know it and am trying to simplify my life. At 86, I had hoped to be to be a little more collected and gracious. But those 12 grandchildren, and as of this spring two great grandchildren, keep me hopping. My kids are all thriving and that gives me great satisfaction. I still do Pilates, take 12 supplements, eat lots of fruit and vegetables and fight my craving for chocolate. I stay up late reading (tracking the economic and political challenges) and sleep late in the morning. I'm on First Church's Stewardship Committee, do an occasional Sunday service around Houston, serve on a committee dispensing funds for a local Foundation. I had a lovely summer in (rainy) Maine and a week



on Prince Edward Island with my niece and friends and am home digging out of mail, e-mail, and phone messages. And playing with my purring cat. Life is very good and I wouldn't go back a step."

**Marjorie Montgomery** (Fort Worth, TX) writes, "Duane and I moved into a retirement community called Trinity Terrace half-way between downtown Fort Worth and the Cultural District. We love having no yard or pool to care for, and are making wonderful new friends. Duane still works at his company, which has not felt the recession. (He makes commercial cleaning products and ships to ten countries.) I just finished my second term as president of the League of Women Voters of Tarrant County. Am now doing smaller jobs for them and have five volunteer jobs at our new home. I swim or work out nearly every day. Have to 'cuz the food is so good here. Am practicing the piano, getting years of rust out of my muscles and musical brain. Still active at First Jefferson UUC as a volunteer. I will greatly miss Craig [Roshaven] because he was so kind to me as the former minister there. Warm regards to all."

**Dick Fewkes** (Cape Cod) sent this touching update, "My wife, **Ellie Fewkes**, has been bedridden one year this August. She recently had a couple of seizures. This is the next, and possibly last, stage of Alzheimer's dementia. Eating and swallowing are affected. We do not know how long this last stage will last. I pray for her release and will stand by her 'til the end.

"I think of Ellie's beloved parents, Duke and Edna Potter, whom I never met, but feel they are near her in spirit waiting for here to cross over. I say to them in my heart of hearts: I love your daughter dearly, and always will, but I give her back to you who gave her to us. She is ready to make her transition from love of family on this side, to love of family on the other side. As it is written, 'there is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.'

"Her journey, our journey, is a journey from imperfection to the wholeness of life and love and being. Every once in a while a gem and a gift crosses Ellie's lips. Months ago she said to me one lovely morning, 'I am very happy.' Knowing she was well loved and cared for made this utterance possible. Just yesterday she gave us another gem, she seemed to be mumbling and trying to speak, and then spoke clearly to the health aide who was assisting her: 'I've had a wonderful life,' she said.

"It was of course a great comfort to know that in the midst of her declining days and loss of her physical powers she still had enough awareness to put a near final thought into words: 'I've had a wonderful life.' And we have all been blessed to have been a part of that wonderful life. Blessed be.

"Thanks to all our friends and family for your love and support over the years."



# Flunking Retirement

by C. Arthur Hover

Back in 1992—at age 56—I retired early from my ministry at First Congregational Society Unitarian in Chelmsford, MA. My wife, Ellen, and I had owned 82 wilderness acres in Vermont for many years. A number of UU colleagues had told us that they needed a place to ‘get away from it all’ and benefit from spending time in solitude. Since Ellen was a psychotherapist and I was a UU minister, we reasoned we could pool our talents and develop our wilderness land into a spiritual retreat. We developed the place over the next thirteen years. During that time I did some consulting with the UU congregation in Washington, VT (a summer-only church.)

Our retreat idea did not develop as fast as we had expected. Perhaps it was our lack of business sense or not enough publicity. Only two UU congregations took advantage of our wilderness opportunities, as did a number of individuals (both UU and non-UU). Our biggest treat, I think, was the vision quest where individuals went out in solitude for four days and four nights without seeing another human being and eating very little. We provided five gallons of water. We did this ourselves several times and found it to be a very profound experience.

In any case, Ellen and I had a great thirteen years in the wilderness. We produced our own solar electricity, had a gravity feed spring for our plumbing, propane for our refrigeration and cut more than twelve cords of wood for heat each year.

After thirteen years we had used up my pension, and so we both went back to work: Ellen at a psychotherapy clinic, and I at a summer camp in the area. I was getting older and the New England winters were getting longer.

Ellen's family was mainly in Maryland. A brother-in-law and her mother were both terminally ill, so we decided on the spur-of-the-moment to move closer to them and the rest of the family.

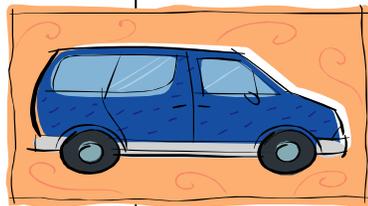
We were happy to know we had sold our place in Vermont (with only a verbal agreement and a down payment of earnest money). So, we bought a nice place near York, PA, with the idea that we would have it ‘free and clear’ once the sale of the place in Vermont was complete.

We settled the sale in Pennsylvania and went back to Vermont to find a message on our phone that the would-be buyers had backed out of the Vermont deal. This meant we carried two mortgages for 18 months until we could sell our Vermont place — for \$50,000 less than we had planned a year-and-a-half before.

Part of the reason for moving was so that Ellen could set up a private practice in psychotherapy. She had taken a two-year course in spiritual direction, which she wanted to include in her new practice. She fell into the perfect private practice situation here in York. She really likes her office setting and loves the work she is doing.

I worked for a year with Youth Advocates—an organization which counsels and aids youth and families at risk. It was an okay job but there was a lot of paperwork. I found it hard to leave the work at the office.

Now, at 73, I work with a Lutheran retirement village driving residents to appointments with doctors, dentists, or to enjoy other activities such as shopping. It is a great group of people to work with and for.



I enjoy the work a great deal and I think of it as a ministry of sorts. For although the residents have a full-time chaplain, I find I often can talk seriously with people as I transport them to their various functions.

We are doing well in our “failed retirement.” We are now trying to sell our house in order to downsize. But, in this market, that is very difficult. So now we are getting along with a little help from a lot of good people.



## Cash for Clunkers



If my body were a car, this is the time I would be thinking about trading it in for a newer model.

- I've got bumps and dents and scratches in my finish, and my paint job is getting a little dull.
- But that's not the worst of it. My headlights are out of focus, and it's especially hard to see things up close.
- My traction is not as graceful as it once was. I slip and slide and skid and bump into things even in the best of weather.
- My whitewalls are stained with varicose veins.
- It takes me hours to reach my maximum speed and my fuel now burns at an inefficient rate.
- But here's the worst of it . . . almost every time I sneeze, cough or laugh . . . either my radiator leaks or my exhaust backfires.

Cash for Clunkers? I qualify . . . How about You?

*Ed. Note: This piece has been circulating on the internet.  
Perhaps we will have to petition Mr. Obama to extend the program.*

## Plan ahead for Pan South 2011

A number of UURMaPA members have expressed a strong interest in having our 2011 Pan South Conference in Asheville, NC. What do you think?

Contact Eleanor Richardson  
(grandmoot@aol.com) to give  
your opinion.

*Thanks!*



## Don't miss UURMaPA's NE Conference — Oct. 6-8

LaSalette Center, Attleboro MA *(See program overview on back cover of this issue)*

Registrar: Med Anderson, 353 Fisher Rd., Orwell, VT 05760, revmua@sover.net or (802) 948-2508

*Early registration is greatly appreciated*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to 'UURMaPA Conference NE.' Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

*\$170 per person covers: conference programs, meals, refreshments, single room with shared bath.*

## Alice Wesley wins 2009 UUA Distinguished Service Award

The Rev. Alice Blair Wesley is this year's recipient of the UUA's Award for Distinguished Service to the Cause of Unitarian Universalism.

The award was presented June 27th at the Salt Lake City GA; it is one of the most prestigious awards given by the UUA. It recognizes individuals who have strengthened the institutions of UUism or clarified our message in an extraordinary way. Alice has been an influential author, perhaps best known for her exploration of covenantal theology in Unitarian Universalism. As the selected



Alice Blair Wesley

speaker for The Minns Lectures, she delivered six lectures on covenant in 2000-2001. The series was published in 2002 by Meadville Press as *Our Covenant*. The selection committee writes in Alice's award citation, "She has constantly called attention to the wisdom of the people in the pews and reminded us how we are gathered so that we might grow in love." They go on to say, "Her candor, insight, and scholarship have blessed our congregations. Our movement is stronger due to her unfailing persistence." Congratulations Alice!

## Minister's family leaves legacy to UURMaPA

The family of the Rev. Jean Gilpatrick has asked that donations in her memory be made to UURMaPA. If you would like to honor Jean, or someone else important in your life, please use the form below.

We thank the Gilpatrick family for naming UURMaPA to receive bequests.

Jean's 'In Memoriam' notice appears on Page 11 in this issue of *Elderberries*.



To support UURMaPA, I am (we are) contributing:

\_\_\_\$25                      \_\_\_\$50                      \_\_\_\$100                      other\_\_\_\_\_

Please make check/cheque payable to UURMaPA (US \$ please) and send to:  
Kathleen Hunter, 55 Crystal Ave., PMB 248, Derry, NH 03028, USA

*Thank you!*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

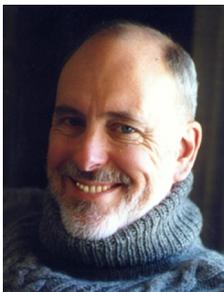
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_ In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

## *In Memoriam*

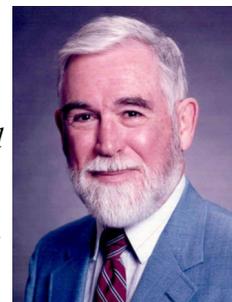
**The Reverend James Marshall Bank**, 65, died July 23, 2009, after three years of living with cancer. A native of Michigan, he was educated at Baldwin Wallace College, Berea, OH, and Boston University. Ordained at King's Chapel, he served in the US Navy, as chaplain on Okinawa and then aboard the aircraft carrier Constellation. He next served congregations in MA, MD, and interim ministries in



*Jim Bank*

VT, NC, NH and PA. An active voice for social justice — especially for gay rights and AIDS ministry — he advocated strongly for local interdenominational cooperation. He was in our Minister on Loan Program and a member of the Religious Education Futures Committee, and the AIDS Community Review Panel of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. He saw his ten years as a member— and later as president—of the National Cancer Institute's Institutional Review Board as one of the most significant lifetime contributions. He was truly a Renaissance man, who loved history, books, films, music, gadgets, animals, telling stories, and being a good Dad. He is survived by his wife and their daughters Julia, Sarah, and Sasha Bank. Notes of remembrance may go to his wife Cathy Miller, 29170 Woodridge Dr., Easton, MD 21601.

**The Reverend James C. Brewer**, 82, died April 28, 2009. A native of Illinois, he served in the US Navy Air Corp, then earned degrees at University of Toledo and Harvard Divinity School. Ordained in Melrose (MA), he was an intern minister with Dr. Howard Thurman at the Church of the Fellowship of All People. He served churches in MA and VA.. At the 1959 GA, Jim received the *Holmes-Weatherly Award* for his social justice work.



*Jim Brewer*

He was an outspoken advocate for fair housing and integration. He 'walked his talk' to end racial injustice and the hardships of poverty at home and overseas. After working abroad, Jim returned to parish ministry in serving interims in Chicago, IL; Toronto, ON; Portsmouth, NH; and Westport, CT. He served the Asheville (NC) church until his retirement in 1990, when he was named their minister emeritus. He leaves his wife, and children Montie and Amy Brewer and two grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Barbara; his children Jimmy and Betsy. Send messages of condolence to his widow, Betty Brewer, 4524 N Trocha Alegre, Tucson, AZ 85750 or to Amy Brewer, 255 S. Whittlesey Ave., Wallingford, CT 06492.

**Rosemary Morris Burns**, 86, died July 6, 2009 due to complications from Alzheimer's disease. A native of Oklahoma she earned degrees at University of Oklahoma, Wellesley College and Augusta College (GA). She also served in the Women's Army Corps. She was married to David Markland (Mark) Morris and the couple had three sons. Mark died in 1975, soon after the death of their eldest son, David. She then married John H. Burns. That marriage ended in divorce. Rosemary was a psychotherapist until her retirement in the mid 1990's. A devoted UU for 65 years, she served in many capacities in local churches, wherever she lived, and was a leader in the Thomas Jefferson District of the UUA. She represented TJD as a UUA Trustee briefly in the mid-1970's. In her leisure time she enjoyed swimming and playing tennis and golf. In 1994, Rosemary married the Rev. Carl V. Bretz, whom she had met the year before at SUUSI and with whom she lived happily for the rest of her life.



*Rosemary Burns*

Rosemary is survived by Carl and her sons, Bruce and Charlie Morris, by two grandsons, a daughter-in-law and two stepchildren, a brother-in-law, and two nieces and a nephew. Condolences may be sent to Carl Bretz, Greenfield of Oak Ridge, 360 Laboratory Rd., Apt. 427, Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

## In Memoriam

**The Rev. Dr. Jean Lois Witman Gilpatrick**, 84, died June 4, 2009, after a 10-year struggle with Alzheimer's disease. She was born in East Orange, NJ. She was educated at Connecticut Valley College for Women and Meadville Lombard. She won a Danforth Graduate Fellowship to do interdenominational work at University of Illinois. There she met and married Thomas Vance Gilpatrick. They worked as a team on programs empowering people to improve their lives. In the 1960's the Gilpatricks worked tirelessly for civil rights in Lynchburg, VA. Black leaders said their efforts were the first tangible sign of support from area whites for local struggles for justice. Jean taught at Virginia Theological Seminary and College, an historically black college, and at Central Virginia Community College. After her ordination in 1981, she served congregations in CT, IL and VA. She advocated for women's rights and attended the International Women's Conference in Nairobi, Kenya in 1985. She was a poet and a painter, who enjoyed singing in the choir. Jean is survived by two daughters, three grandchildren, a brother and many nieces and nephews. Notes may go to Jean's daughters Morgan Gilpatrick, 12417 Skylark Lane, Bowie, MD 20715 or Diana Gilpatrick, 11204 Old Post Road, Potomac, MD 20854.



*Jean Gilpatrick*

*(See also Page 9)*



*Kenneth Hawkes*

At 96, **the Rev. Kenneth C. Hawkes**, was our oldest living Universalist minister. He died July 26, 2009, having served at the parish, district and national level throughout his long career. He was a graduate of Gorham Normal School (now U of Maine) and Colby College. A board member of the Maine Council of Churches, he also was president of Massachusetts Universalist Convention, and a trustee of the UCA. He was the first executive minister of the Northeast District of the UUA, which encompassed Maine and the Maritime Provinces. He was proud that he was one of a very few State of Mainers who marched in Selma with the Rev. Martin Luther King.

June Wheeler, his wife of 53 years, died in 1987. In 1989 he married Janet Hall Beiling, who survives. He is also survived by his children: Roland K. Hawkes, Carolyn Gaines and Margaret St. Pierre; a sister; two step-daughters, and 33 grandchildren, step grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Condolences may be sent to Janet Hawkes, 229 Flaggy Meadow Rd., Gorham, ME 04038 or to Carolyn Hawkes Gaines, 430 E. Strada Patania, Oro Valley, AZ 85737.

**The Reverend Stephen Davies Howard**, 78, died July 15, 2009, in hospice care, following a brief illness. Born in western Massachusetts, he was educated at American International College and Harvard Divinity School. He served churches in MA, then worked as an interim consultant for more than 18 UU churches. He was recently honored by the UUA for his 50 years of service. Stephen delivered his last sermon to his congregation in Palmer, MA on June 21, Father's Day. His family says he was an avid reader, writer and outdoor enthusiast. He enjoyed local libraries, bookstores, and loved the beauty of the local countryside. Throughout his years, he enjoyed hiking with his dogs at Highland Pond, Notch Mountain, and the Warwick Swamp. He was inspired by reading the writings of Thoreau, Robert Frost, and Emily Dickinson. An ardent football fan, he followed Greenfield High School, local college and Patriots games. More than anything else, he said he loved having time with his grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Ann, to whom he was married for 50 years, their three children, Catherine Howard Nicholas, Elisabeth Davies Howard, Matthew Anson Howard and his wife, by five grandchildren, and his brother and sister-in-law, and a nephew and a niece. Please send sympathy notes to his widow, Ann Jolly Howard, 68 McClellan St., Amherst, MA 01002.

## In Memoriam

**The Reverend Judith Brown Osgood**, 66, died June 4, 2009 at Milford Region Medical Center, Milford, MA. Born in Connecticut, she earned degrees at the University of Hartford, St. Joseph College and Starr King. An inner city, outpatient drug and alcohol treatment program director, she was called to the UU ministry.



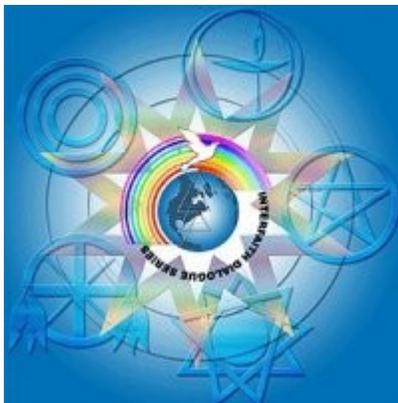
She was honored with the UUWF's *Feminist Theology Award* for researching and collecting sermons of Pacific Coast lay and clergywomen. She served congregations in WY, MA, and CT, while still doing counseling. She found her true calling as a hospice chaplain. At the time of her death she was employed by Jewish Health Services in Worcester, MA. Judith trained with her yellow Lab, Thompson, to work in a reading education program (teams encourage children to read by having the dogs present as non-judgmental listeners). She was a life member of the United States Tennis Association, who loved spending time with her grandchildren and her Lab. She also made time to enjoy gardening, fishing, and was a Red Sox fan. Survivors include her life partner Wendy Innis; her children, Daphne Lynn Sanford and Benjamin Ward Dunning; her brother and four grandchildren. Notes may be sent to Wendy Innis at 52 Taft Hill Lane, Uxbridge, MA 01569.



*Arnold Westwood*

**The Reverend Arnold Farrow Westwood**, 88, of Windsor, MA, died August 16, 2009 from injuries sustained in a fall. Educated at the University of California, Berkeley, and Tufts, Arnold served churches in IL, CT and OH. In Cleveland he worked with colleagues to

ease racial tensions of the late 1960's. Arnold vigorously opposed the Vietnam War and served as a clergy abortion counselor. After his retirement in 1984, Arnold and his wife, Carolyn, operated a small B & B in their Berkshire (MA) farm home. They made maple syrup and blueberry pancakes for family and visitors. And he continued his long, active association with Rowe Camp & Conference Center. His daughter recalls Arnold reading *Charlotte's Web* to his own children, to grandchildren and school children. A very social person, his favorite church auction donation was hosting dinner parties. He relished desserts — especially chocolate — and made peach ice cream the week before he died. And he was a fine carpenter. Survivors include his children John, Hal and Jefferson Westwood, Phoebe Bushway; seven grandchildren and his dear friend of recent years, Mary Hale. Notes may be sent to the family in care of Jefferson Westwood, 53 Maple Ave., Fredonia NY 14063.



### UUA President Marks Knoxville Shooting Anniversary

On July 27 the Rev. Peter Morales marked the first anniversary of the tragic shootings in Knoxville. He commended church members for responding with love, instead of fear. He noted that the care and support of their neighbors from other faith communities reaffirms our shared humanity and the power of love to overcome differences. He asked us all to commit ourselves to spreading a message of compassion, hope, understanding, community and joy to a world hurt by isolation and conflict.

## Detectives needed . .

*UURMaPA has  
lost touch with  
members listed  
below . . .*



Beverly Butterworth  
13781 Eastpointe Way  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

Bobby Fricks  
7000 May Lake Road  
Clemmons, NC 27012

Elizabeth Geertz  
639 Terri Ann Drive  
W. Covina, CA 91790

Elizabeth Lawson  
1601 SE 24th Road  
Ocala, FL 34471-6003

Mary Ann Petersen  
2107 Caulfield Lane  
Petaluma, CA 94954

Lydia Slater  
383 Jessie Lane  
North Windham, CT 06256

Rev. Roberta Wood  
17 Spring Place  
Morristown, NJ 07960

*If you have updated contact information or news of any of these folks, please contact our Database Manager, Andy Backus. E-mail [andrew-backus@msn.com](mailto:andrew-backus@msn.com) or call him at (360) 715-1984.*

*Thank you!*

## UURMaPA Members

### Speak Up on Finances

During April, UURMaPA board member **Ralph Mero** surveyed our members to ask how we are faring in this challenging economic climate. Our choices were:

- A. We expect to be okay
- B. We can reduce expenses
- C. Our resources will not be adequate
- D. Consider us for financial assistance

At this writing, we have a response rate of 55%.

- 33% said they expect to be okay
- 53% said they can reduce expenses
- 10% said their resources are inadequate
- 5% requested assistance

The results, detailed with specific examples, are sobering. The information gathered has started a useful dialog among our UURMaPA board members and the leadership at the UUA.

### UUA Retirement Plan Survey

We thank our many members who took time to complete the survey from the UUA on fund management for the UUA Retirement Plan. We hope to have more to report in the November *Elderberries*.

### Chime in Please!

UURMaPA is unique in that it is comprised of *both* ministers *and* partners. In our next issue of *Elderberries* we will consider the partner's role in her or his church, if any.

*What works well for you?*

*What doesn't work?*

*How would you advise a newly retired partner?*

Kindly send your reflections by Oct. 15 to the editor ([chrisbackus@msn.com](mailto:chrisbackus@msn.com)).



# Retirements Announced

**Rev. Lauralyn Bellamy** *MS*  
**James Emig**  
 656 Clear Lake Terrace  
 Roswell, GA 30076  
 (770) 642-9773  
 yourchaplain@aol.com

**Rev. Jean Brown** *CV*  
**James Brown**  
 94 Avery Heights  
 Hartford, CT 06106  
 (860) 953-5005  
 jeanuu@aol.com

**Rev. Roderick Brown** *TJSE*  
**Karen Brown**  
 3908 Ardincaple Drive  
 Columbia, SC 29203  
 (803) 799-9174  
 revrodbrown@earthlink.net

**Rev. Thomas M. Cabezas** *BC*  
 218 Winthrop Street  
 Taunton, MA 02780  
 (508) 824-0378  
 thomascorazon@yahoo.com

**Rev. Vivienne Chapman** *BC*  
 138 Baker's Path, #57  
 S. Yarmouth, MA 02664  
 (508) 384-3533  
 gaiavc@comcast.net

**Rev. Sarah E. Clark** *BC*  
 19 Town Square  
 Plymouth, MA 02360  
 (508) 746-4620  
 revsarahclark@yahoo.com

**Rev. John Corrado** *H*  
**Barbara Corrado**  
 23533 Myrtle Street  
 Clinton Township, MI 48230  
 (586) 463-2845

**Rev. Jim Eller** *SW*  
**Jeannie Himes**  
 215 S. Margene Dr.  
 Midwest City, OK 73130  
 (405) 582 2387  
 revjimjean@aol.com

**Rev. Douglas W. Gallagher** *H*  
 32170 Lahser Road  
 Beverly Hills, MI 48025  
 (248) 547-1912  
 douglas.gallagher@bucmi.org

**Rev. Katherine Greenleaf** *MNY*  
**Pat Sullivan**  
 3 Lilling Road  
 Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-5212  
 (845) 452-5221  
 revkayg@aol.com  
 kgreenleaf@aol.com

**Rev. Penny Hackett-Evans** *H*  
**Tom Evans**  
 855 Dahlia Lane  
 Rochester Hills, MI 48307  
 (248) 652-7960

**Rev. Dale Emerson Lantz** *JPS*  
 1202 W. 41st Street  
 Baltimore, MD 21211  
 (410) 366-0493  
 delawarefocusing@yahoo.com

**Rev. Marguerite D. Lovett** *SCA*  
 1509 E. Luray Street  
 Long Beach, CA 90807  
 (562) 422-8302

**Rev. Anne Marsh** *STL*  
 3½ Main Street  
 Canton, NY 13617  
 (315) 386-2809  
 yajur@verizon.net

**Rev. Marjorie Rebmann** *VT*  
**Richard Rebmann**  
 188 County Road  
 Montpelier, VT 05602  
 (802) 229-5875  
 mrebmman@sover.net

**Rev. James Shumacker** *H*  
**Jean Shumacker**  
 2336 Glebe Street  
 Carmel, IN 46032-7272  
 (410) 781-6747  
 jnshumacker@gmail.com

**Rev. Celia S. Thurston** *H*  
 32170 Lahser Road  
 Beverly Hills, MI 48025  
 (248) 547-1912  
 celiathurston@comcast.net

**Rev. Wade Wheelock** *STL*  
 3½ Main Street  
 Canton, NY 13617  
 (315) 386-2809  
 yajur@verizon.net

**Rev. Virginia Wolf** *CMW*  
**Carol M. Schumacher**  
 1529 Highland Avenue  
 Eau Claire, WI 54701-4340  
 715-832-4906  
 wolfv@uwstout.edu  
 cms9953@sbcglobal.net

## Special Appeal a Success

At this writing, more than 30 members have donated a portion of their June service gratuity checks to UURMaPA for a total donation of more than \$6,000. Our thanks to **Ralph Mero** for organizing this special appeal.

*In these difficult times, this level of giving is most cheering.* Thanks to all of you who responded so generously. You are an inspiration to us all, as you make this extra contribution to support the work of our association.

Kathleen Hunter  
 UURMaPA Treasurer



# Bill Murry Wins Creative Sage-ing Award

During UURMaPA's Annual Luncheon General Assembly – in Salt Lake City this year President **Nancy Doughty** announced that **The Rev. William R. Murry** has been chosen to receive UURMaPA's Creative Sage-ing Award for 2009. The award was established to recognize a member of UURMaPA (minister, partner or surviving partner) or a couple for outstanding service and creativity in recent years. The award is presented annually at GA and includes an honorarium of \$500. This year's Creative Sage-ing Committee consisted of **Dave Johnson** (chair), **Helen Lane** and **Dick Fewkes**.



*Bill Murry*

Later Bill wrote to Nancy to say, "I received the certificate today — it's *very nice* — thank you! I also received the check and that, of course, is also *very nice*. I am most honored and deeply grateful to be the recipient of this award. I hope UURMaPA will be able to continue to make the Creative Sage-ing award annually since I know it will mean a lot to each person who receives it — as it does to me."

Dave Johnson noted, "Bill Murry was our runaway first choice. Since 'retiring' five years ago he has completed his landmark book on Humanism, taught at Meadville Lombard, has spoken at GAs and in countless churches – literally coast to coast – and has consulted with UU folks on creative programming. The list is literally breath taking. I know few colleagues at any point in their lives who have devoted so much time, energy and love on reaching out, encouraging and empowering UUs everywhere."

Congratulations Bill!



... few colleagues have devoted so much time, energy and love reaching out, encouraging & empowering UUs everywhere

Since Bill was not able to attend GA in person this year, Nancy Doughty called him immediately after the event to share the good news. **Russ Savage**, former interim minister at River Road in Bethesda MD, was also on the call with Nancy, since he and **David Bumbaugh**, had nominated Bill for the award. Bill, who is minister emeritus of River Road, said he was surprised.

How does one keep from 'growing old inside?' Surely only in community. The only way to make friends with time is to make friends with people . . . Taking community seriously not only gives us the companionship we need, it also relieves us of the notion that we are indispensable.

— Robert McAfee Brown

(submitted by Peter Haslund )



## Let's Get Together!



STAR ISLAND — September 8-10, 2009. Gathering of retired UU ministers and partners at Star Island Conference Center, Isles of Shoals, Rye, NH. Program is very low-key so there's time to rock on the porch, visit with friends or row over to Smuttynose. *Three scholarships available for partners of deceased ministers.* For more information contact Kathleen Hunter at [kdhagd@mac.com](mailto:kdhagd@mac.com) or at (603) 526-2941 or (613) 924-0154.

NORTHEAST — October 6-8, 2009, LaSalette Center, Attleboro MA. Odyssey by Peter and Carolyn Baldwin. Dramatic presentation on Theodore Parker by Dick Fewkes. Preview of 'A Helpful Guide to Retirement for UU Ministers' with UURMaPA President Makannah Morriss and Caring Network Coordinator Ralph Mero. Joyce and Dick Gilbert, program chairs. Med Anderson, Registrar 353 Fisher Rd., Orwell, VT 05760, (802) 948-2508, [revmua@sover.net](mailto:revmua@sover.net).

PAN SOUTH — Feb. 9-11, 2010, UU Church of Fort Myers. Keynote is workshop by Dick Fewkes on 'Dreams and the Spiritual Life.' Field trip to the Naples UU Church, then a tour of the Naples Art Museum. Odyssey by Emily Morse Palmer on entering ministry at midlife. Registration details will appear in November *Elderberries*.

*There are four \$200 grants to first-time attendees. Contact registrar re eligibility. Continuing education grants to attend conferences available from Rev. Jory Agate at [jagate@uua.org](mailto:jagate@uua.org), 25 Beacon St, Boston MA 02108 or call her at (617) 742-2100. Attend any conference, regardless of where you live!*

Address Service Requested



Unitarian Universalist Retired  
Ministers & Partners Association  
2746 Broadway  
Bellingham, WA 98225-2503