

Elderberries

The Newsletter of the

Unitarian Universalist Retired Ministers and Partners Association

VOLUME XXIII

NOVEMBER 2007

NUMBER 1

EXECUTIVE BOARD 2007-2008

President:

Nancy Doughty –

nwdrev@charter.net

Secretary:

Jean Rowe

jrowe@uuma.org

Treasurer and Listmaster Pro Tem:

Andrew C. Backus

andrewbackus@msn.com

Caring Network Chair:

Makanah Morriss

revs2uu@aol.com

Newsletter Editor:

Eleanor Richardson

grandmoot@aol.com

At Large:

Barbara Prairie

bprairie@adelphia.net

Fia Scheyer

scheyer@peoplepc.com

Nominating Committee Chair:

Edwin A. Lane

lane.ed@comcast.net



Robbie Walsh treated the UURMAPA NE Conference to an evening of songs by Malvina Reynolds, and some interesting insights on her life and work on October 3.

Web Address: **www.uurmapa.org**

Elderberries is published quarterly in November, February, May, and August. Next deadline is January 15. Send contributions to Eleanor Richardson, editor, grandmoot@aol.com. Please be mindful of space limitations! Look at the previous Elderberries as a guideline for your article.



The UURMAPA Board met Sept. 30-Oct. 2 at Eliot Pickett House in Boston. From left: Andy Backus, Barbara Prairie, Nancy Doughty, Makaanah Morriss, Jean Rowe, and Eleanor Richardson.

President's Perspectives . . .

Colorful fall leaves continue to carpet the earth here in northern Michigan, a reminder of the transition of the seasons as well as transitions in our personal and family life.

In October your Board convened to continue our meetings with UUA staff. From **Beth Miller**, Director of Ministry and Professional Services, we learned about the expectations for UURMaPA as a new member of the Professional Leadership Coordinating Council (PLCC) that include developing guidelines for right relationships for our members. The Board appointed two Task Forces: **Andy Backus** will chair the Task Force to draft a statement for our clergy members to continue abiding by UUMA covenants and **Barbara Prairie** will chair the Task Force to begin developing guidelines for partners. The Board realizes that developing partner guidelines will require more time because this is new territory for our membership.

We heard the results of two major surveys:

1) **Ralph Mero** and **Marj Lynn**, (UURMaPA representative to the Council on Church Staff Finances) presented the results of the Financial Survey (see report below). Ralph continues to see that financial assistance is available to those in need. Contact Ralph (rmero@uua.org) if you are in need of a heating grant this winter.

2) **Eleanor Richardson** reported on the Ministerial Activities Survey that confirmed our clergy members are active in serving congregations and the community in varied and numerous ways.

On behalf of **Glen Snowden**, chair, **Barbara Prairie** reported for the Creative Sageing Committee about the Award that will be given in 2008. It comes with a \$500 prize. Deadline for entering is Feb. 15, 2008. (article below).

Makaanah Morriss was welcomed as new Board member and Caring Network Chair. She reported the transition is going well. She will administer the new practice of sending flowers to clergy when a partner dies.

We missed two Board members, **Fia Scheyer** and **Carl Thitchener**, due to health problems. It is with deep regret that the Board has accepted **Carl's** resignation. We thank him profoundly. He has been an attentive list manager, web instigator and thoughtful and wise contributor at meetings. As an example of his devotion and thoroughness he had our 2007- 08 Directory printed a few days before entering the hospital for surgery. When you receive it, think of him with abiding gratitude. I am grateful to **Andy Backus** who has volunteered to become temporary list manager. The Board charged him to find a web designer for an expanded UURMaPA website, setting aside up to \$1000 for that purpose.

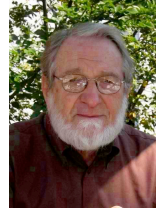
Which brings me to the topic of budget and finances. As our organization matures ---yes, even a retirees organization can mature---it is imperative we expand our website, provide caring networkers scholarships to regional conferences, and encourage more face to face gatherings among our scattered membership. I believe we will bring experience and wisdom to the Professional Leadership Coordinating Council (PLCC), but there will be a fee attached. You have been generous in the past when asked to support your organization. Thank you! And I trust you will continue.

I send Thanksgiving wishes that you may enjoy the occasion remembering and giving thanks for our religious ancestors with family and friends.

-- **Nancy Doughty**

Report of the Nominating Committee

Carl Thitchener has resigned as UURMAPA Vice President due to illness. The Nominating Committee seeks your suggestions for nominations to replace him. Contact any member of the committee: Ellen Johnson-Fay, ellenjf@aldelphia.net; Leon Hopper, clhopperjr@aol.com; or Ed Lane, chair, lane.ed@comcast.net.



St. Lawrence Portrait Dedication

St. Lawrence Alumni, UUA Staff, and UURMAPA Board members joined St. Lawrence President Dr. Daniel F. Sullivan, Alumnus Jonathan Wheeler, and UUA President William Sinkford, to dedicate three portraits of Universalist Theological School leaders, expertly photographed from the St. Lawrence collection and given to the UUA to represent our Universalist heritage. Pictured is Jean Navias leading worship at the Oct. 2 chapel service at 25 Beacon. Portraits from left, Ebenezer Fisher, Isaac Morgan Atwood, and John Murray Atwood (with Samuel A. Eliot on the wall.) The portraits were rescued from obscurity by Jan Bowering.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment

The Board proposes two small changes in our mission statement so that it would read: *"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."*

Note that "UU congregations" has been added to better reflect what we actually do. And "ministers of Religious Education" has been omitted so that "Unitarian Universalist ministers" stands as the general term, which also covers interims and community ministers as well as MRE's.

Please email any feedback on this to Rev. Andrew Backus, at andrewbackus@msn.com.
Thanks



Makaanah Morriss

Caring Network News

It is with pleasure and appreciation that we welcome our three newest Caring Network Contacts: **Rev. Dr. C. Leon Hopper** is the contact for Pacific Northwest. Leon has served our movement for more than 50 years as a Parish Minister (Golden, CO and Bellevue, WA) and at the UUA as well as working tirelessly on an array of District and continental committees. **Rev. Margot Gross Campbell** is contact for Pacific Central – Bay area. Margot has served congregations in Plainfield, NJ and San Francisco, CA and is a past Chair of the Board of the Starr King School for the Ministry. Welcome to the **Rev. Paul**

L'Herrou who is our brand new Mass Bay "inland" contact. Paul has served congregations in Pennsylvania, Florida, Virginia, Massachusetts and Maine. Paul has recently retired and we are very appreciative of his joining our team.

-- Makaanah Morriss

Let's Get Together!

*There is a \$200 grant to four **first-time** attendees at each conference. (You must telephone the registrar to see if you are among the first four). Continuing education grants to attend conferences are available from Rev. Jory Agate at jagate@uua.org or 25 Beacon St, Boston MA 02108. Tel. (617) 742-2100. Attend any conference, regardless of where you live!*

NORTHEAST – Oct. 7-9, 2008 at LaSalette in Attleboro, MA. Chair is Dorothy Boroush, dboroush@netscape.com. Registrar is Med Anderson. The 2007 conference was attended by 53 people, 17 of them new, and we had a great time!



Northeast attendees, top, from left, Nannene Gowdy and Carl Schilling; odyssey by Nancy and Charles Eddis;

Cathe and Vic Carpenter; Kathleen Hunter with Fred and Judy Gillis. Below: Med Anderson and Charity Rowley; and Virginia Wheelwright, Gene Navias and Chris Wetzel write notes to absent members.



PAN SOUTH – Feb. 5 - 7, 2008, at the Ft Myers, FL, UU Church. Rev. Charles Eddis of Westmount, Quebec, Canada, will speak on his research on Stephen Fritchman, a controversial figure at the AUA in the 1940s, and editor of the Christian Register. In his editorship, Fritchman was accused of being a propagandist for the American Communist Party. His firing

by the AUA Board was very controversial at 1947 May Meetings. The Fort Myers Church has a lovely facility with outdoor screened fellowship area, a great caterer and is near many attractions. Chair, Kathleen Hunter, kdhagd@mac.com. Registrar, Herb Adams, herbadams32@hotmail.com.

WEST – March 31 - April 3, 2008 at Vallombrosa Center, Menlo Park, CA. "Life Through Lenses" – what a camera can see blossoming in the desert and what a new mega-telescope will see in the far-off sky. Presented by Dr. John P. Schaefer, former president of the University of Arizona. He is president of the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope project. The LSST will provide digital imaging of faint astronomical objects across the entire sky. Dr. Schaefer enjoys a reputation as a skilled photographer, and serves as board member on the Ansel Adams Trust. He is an active UU. Barbara Cheatham will report on research concerning UUs' ambivalent attitudes toward those who serve in the military and law enforcement. She asks, "What role, if any, might retired ministers play in helping UUs to walk in covenant with those who choose to serve our country in peace and war?" – Roy Phillips, chair, rdp45@cox.net; Al Thelander, registrar.

New York gathering: A walking tour Sept. 13 was led by Wendy Moscow, Our Dec. 10 dinner will be at 7 pm at Old John's, 148 W. 67th St.(west of Broadway, near Amsterdam). Please RSVP to Sue & Vernon Nichols, Vcnsrn@aol.com.

Tufts Degrees

After months of struggle with the Tufts bureaucracy, I have succeeded in getting my degree listing in the on-line alumni directory corrected. As those of you who graduated from Tufts with either a BDs or STB will recall, these degrees were changed many years ago to MDiv, and new diplomas were issued to those who applied for them. The registrar's records reflect this, but the alumni on-line records did not. If you want your information corrected, contact Timothy Brooks (Director of Alumni Relations) (email: tim.brooks@tufts.edu) (telephone: 617-627-3399). -- Larry Hamby MDiv , Tufts 1962

Early UURMaPA History

This history of UURMaPA is taken from information gathered in an October 22, 2002, interview of Shirley Hadley, Arnold and Horace Westwood, Keith Munson and Ralph Mero moderated by Dorothy Hopper.

About 1982 Harold Hadley who was retired first began asking questions like....what are the resources for older and retired clergy. He and his wife Shirley hosted conversations with other retirees in the Amherst, MA area that included Harold and Arnold Westwood, Walter Kring, and later Keith Munson. From the beginning spouses were included in the circle.

There was no organization or money to support programs for retirees, so with the encouragement of UUA staff person, Ron Clark, Harold Hadley went to the Veatch Committee, receiving \$5,000. And then the UUA provided one or two thousand dollars to the fledgling organization. The New York State Universalist Convention gave money to UURMaPA until 2004.

With the funds, the first Conference was held October 1985 in Petersham, NH. By-laws were drawn up and adopted and officers were elected. Harold Hadley was president, Robert Holmes vice president, Walter Kring, secretary, William Gardner. treasurer and Al Perry, Elderberries editor. Harold served as president for 6-8 years, then Keith Munson was president for about 5 years. Gradually the Caring

Network was established with Freda Carnes and Peg Johnson spearheading the program.

Under Keith Munson's presidency, term limits were established for Board members to ensure new people would populate the Board. It was finally established that membership included retired clergy, partners of retired clergy and surviving spouses of retirees. After considerable conversation, it was agreed there would be no dues required for membership, but voluntary contributions would support the organization and its budget. And the practice of having a UURMaPA luncheon at GA for current members and new members was begun.

Gradually Conferences originated in other parts of the country, namely on the West Coast, in the South and Mid-West. Each Conference was self perpetuating, arranging for the leadership for carrying on the planning of subsequent Conferences.

From other written records the Unitarian Universalist Retired Ministers and Partners Association was incorporated with The Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1997 when Max Gaebler was president with Ralph Mero listed as resident agent of the corporation at 25 Beacon Street.

Under the leadership of treasurer, Fred Campbell, UURMaPA received 503 (c) status in 2004.

Compiled by Nancy Doughty, September 2007

Bequests, Memorials...

Our President announced to the Board that an UURMaPA member, who wishes to remain anonymous, had notified her that a gift has been made to UURMaPA in a charitable trust to be given after his/her death. With the notification there was a statement that the gift was made because of a strong conviction that this organization has a vital mission now and in the future and needs to build up its fiscal resources to fulfill that mission. On behalf of our membership, the Board thanks this devoted member for his/her generous planning and commitment. In the past bequest and memorial gifts have come to UURMaPA. There may be other members who have made bequests or are considering gifts to UURMaPA. We would appreciate knowing from you if this is the case. -- Nancy Doughty

Creative Sage-ing Award

The UURMaPA Creative Sage-ing Award committee seeks to recognize a UURMaPA member (minister, partner or surviving partner) or couple for outstanding service and creativity in recent years. Who will win the first Creative Sage-ing Award? You? Your partner? A friend or colleague? This could include such things as new ventures after retirement, community service, mentoring and initiation or participation in service projects. The winner will receive \$500. The deadline for nominations (of yourself or others) is February 15, and should be sent to Glen Snowden, gsnow3@juno.com. For complete information, visit <http://uurmapa.org> or contact Glen.

Partner Guidelines

Several partners have asked the UURMaPA Board for guidelines about their relationship with UU congregations after the minister has retired. In particular, the first two years present a dilemma, especially if the minister and partner do not move. We are gathering input in the way of stories, questions and suggestions both from partners and ministers, in the hope of creating guidelines that will be useful to UURMaPA members and congregations. Please tell us your experiences and thoughts about this issue, so we can produce materials that may help you and partners of future retired ministers. Send to Barbara Prairie, bpairie@adelphia.net.

Consulting Minister Sought

Tarpon Springs, FL, just up the coast from Tampa, would like a minister to start January 1 on a yearly contract. Wes Stevens has so served for the past decade. The church is offering salary and housing of \$34,000, with benefits/expenses and service at 2/3 time. If interested, please bring your Ministerial Record current and let me know. Since this is a consulting ministry, there is no Congregational Record, however. -- Rev. Dr. John Weston, Transitions Director, UUA, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108; transitions@uua.org

Two Survey Reports

The numerical results of the **Ministerial Activities Survey** were in the August Elderberries. Thanks to the 179 people who filled it out! While there is not space to list all the interesting comments, I will give a few that especially caught my attention. For the full results, email me at Grandmoot@aol.com.

Counseling ministry - 47

contacted frequently by colleagues in search or conflict

Interim Ministry - 33

Adelaide, Aus., Cleveland, Vancouver

Active Role in UU Congregation - 113

Staying in the Congregation can be done honorably – I am

saddened by the need to prescribe and proscribe the role

Minister Emeritus involvement - 90

I was voted minister emeritus but it holds no meaning

would love an article on how various congregations do this!

“wear beige & keep your mouth shut” they’re happy with me

Teach in academic or hospital setting - 30

volunteered 7 yrs in after school prog. at UU Urban Ministry workshops on Death & Dying for workers who service people with developmental disabilities

Teach at Risho Kosei-Kai Seminary

Involvement in Community/Interfaith groups - 69

visit on Death Row/city library archives/free tax assistance

Social action events, programs and agencies - 101

"minister of Farmland Ecology"

Not if this means church policy under discussion or difficulty

Ordinations, Installations, Memorial services - 123

Mem. svcs only when asked by minister - don't encourage it often at Taunton State Hospital

UUA/CUC Board, UU Boards, Granting Agencies - 29

WCRP, Japan IARE, ICUU, World Parliament of Religions – you should have had a heading for international work

Write poetry/prose - 55

(books are listed by title)

Other Comments:

New emphasis on previous aspects of the job, - i.e. writing, international, social action

I hope to add to this list of activities as time goes on – after all, I’m only 80 years old

I love to read what I want without “reading for content”, to write short stories, freedom from board and committee meetings, gardening and canning, fishing with a fly rod, travel to see children and grandchildren.

Full time professional Luthier (he builds mandolins)

Wife has Alzheimer’s, 13 years, and totally dependent on me

– consumes most of my time but a great source of joy

I lead AMC paddling and wilderness trips

For me, ministerial/professional activity changes over time

-- Report by Eleanor Richardson

Last spring you received a **Financial Planning Survey** from the UUA Council on Church Staff Finances, addressing one of the Council’s objectives, “By the year 2010, 90 % of retired ministers, church staff and survivors will have income equivalent to at least 300% of the Federal poverty level.” We also solicited information to assist in current and future financial concerns of UURMAPA members. 80% of the surveys were returned to the Council. Ages ranged from 58-100. For more detail, contact Joyce Stewart, 617/948-6421 or jstewart@uua.org. The Council gained a great deal of valuable information from your responses. We learned:

- 76% meet or exceed the 300% guideline mentioned above, short of the goal of 90%.
- Income from all sources for a minister, partner or survivor individually ranged from under \$5,000 (3) to over 80,000 (35) with the greatest number between \$20,000 to \$40,000. For those living with partners, the income range is increased.
- 66% of you would take advantage of financial planning information if provided.
- 59 respondents were not aware of the UUA Service Gratuity.
- Many were not sure about the definition and terms of the ministers’ housing allowance.
- Too many were unaware of the help that is available through the charitable societies that are members of the Council.
- The first most pressing concern of those responding is “health/illness” (48 of 177) and the second is “outliving income/assets” (50). However, 36 felt they “were in good shape” or had no concern.”
- Respondents were effusive in their gratitude to Ralph Mero and Joyce Stewart

A sampling of answers to the question on your most pressing financial concerns in retirement:

“Long term illness. I have been rejected for long term care insurance.”

“We are running out of money...every day I pray to be relieved by death.”

“To simplify our life regarding managing assets and deciding how to maintain the income stream.”

“Money will not be sufficient.” / “Lack of long-term medical care.”

“No concerns.” / “I’m ok.” / “None at the moment.”

“I would have extreme difficulty with my finances without the aid from UU.” / “Rising medical costs, outliving assets.”

“Income to meet the rising costs of living, especially energy costs.” / “Inflation and medical costs.”

The comments showed that there are many serious concerns and thoughtful evaluation of how one’s situation may change. At future meetings, the Council will address our goals in light of concerns facing UURMAPA members. Thanks to all who took the time to return the survey, thereby helping us with that task.

– Report by Marjorie Lynn



A Letter Sent to the UUA Board of Trustees
Re: Independent Affiliates

“The members of the UURMaPa meeting at their North East Conference at Attleboro, Mass., on October 2,3,4 voted to ask the Board to reverse its decision to eliminate the status of most Independent Affiliates.

We, the members, do so because we think that decision will do long-term harm to the Association.

The Independent Affiliates have served the Association and its congregations and their members in many ways:

- Over the years it has stimulated the thinking and actions of our congregations on numerous issues, including gay rights and acceptance, women's equality, economic justice, racial equality, environmental concerns, and many others.
- It has allowed and encouraged, through voluntary free association - - - a backbone of our movement - - - individuals and congregations to coalesce and work together more effectively to advance the causes of peace, justice, religious liberty, and other issues.

The Independent Affiliates afford the opportunity for various approaches to religious traditions and thought, such as Christian, Jewish, Buddhist and Humanist, to meet others of like mind in our vital, vibrant religious movement.

The Independent Affiliates have helped to keep our congregations on the cutting edge of religious and social thought.

We strongly urge you to reconsider your decision made before reflection on the many contributions of the IAs to our congregations and the Association.

Yours in fellowship, Rev. Dorothy Boroush,
for the members of UURMaPa meeting in Conference at Attleboro, Mass., Oct 2-4, 2007”

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

Charles Stephen, has been co-host for 19 years of "All About Books", a weekly book review on public radio in Nebraska. He also is a regular reviewer for the Lincoln Journal Star. He is not paid for any of these labors, but he does receive a lot of free books. Go to netnebraska.org. (Click on radio, then on podcasts) to listen.

From Dick Boeke: I will be "Minister in Residence" at Meadville this spring. Thanks to daughter, Elinore, we now have two grandchildren in Virginia. My book, *GOD IS NO THING* is on sale by Amazon.com (\$11). “Boeke invites us to partake of the holy mysteries of fair trade bananas, ... and wonders, since the body is the temple of the spirit, if ministers shouldn’t have to pass regular physicals”

Hardcover copies of **Michael Dowd's** new book, *Thank God for Evolution!: How the Marriage of Science and Religion Will Transform Your Life and Our World* (endorsed by 5 Nobel prize-winners and 120 other scientific, religious, and cultural

luminaries), are now available at a discount. See: <http://www.thankgodforevolution.com/the-book.html>

Ev Morris: I have published *LIFE -- My Sense of the Holy*. It is poetry, Calls to Worship and responses to: Who are we? ... Where are we? ... and Whither are we going? \$10 plus P&H. e-mail: Joanandev@telus.net. Joan and I enjoyed Ministry Days at GA and went to the CUC mini-GA in Vancouver. It was excellent and showed Canadian separation from the UUA was not a mistake.

Liz McMaster - I spent a week in Mexico with UUSC's JUUST Journeys then 2 1/2 weeks in Nicaragua with a Sociology class from UNM. We studied the economics of NAFTA and US trade policies in Latin America (all bad!) We came back and raised \$16,500 to fund land for a group of women to build homes on. I preach in small fellowships in NM and CO, give workshops, and sing in the UNM Chorus. My joy, however, is in

weaving. And the best fun is in playing with my two grandsons, 1 1/2 and 5.



Rachel Hoagland: My main activities consist of my morning mile with my dog,

Milo, and constructing stone toadstool sculptures in my "lower forty". My dental technician was amazed when I said I was 89. I move rocks carefully with an electric wheelbarrow that will carry 200 pounds. The attached photo is my latest project-- stairs going from my driveway to my lower forty.

Herb Vetter: After five years of research and writing, our new book is available:

Notable American Unitarians, 1936-1961. Here, in print, are the illustrated stories of women and men who changed the world. Copies are available from UUA Bookstore and Amazon.com (\$18.95)

Ron Mazur: has extended his recent book *Christianity as Fairy Tale* with a new chapter, "Jesus Bones and Lost Tombs." This may be read or downloaded from his website FreeJesus.com. New material includes a revised Preface and an Afterword. Comments appreciated!

George Briggs: My 16 year old grandson is a member of the varsity football team at his high school. My grandson is Jewish. Unfortunately, the coach, an otherwise decent man, brings fundamentalist Christianity into his coaching. To his great

delight, my grandson discovered a teammate who is Muslim and these two boys have become friends. So there is at least one place in the world where a Jew and a Muslim are giving each other mutual support.

Dwight Brown's wife, **Marie**, requests surprise e-mails/cards/stories for a celebration of Dwight's return to health (after a not-so-good year), his 80th birthday and 50 years of service to Unitarianism/Universalism. These will be shared during the celebration Nov. 3rd at UU Church of the Hill Country in Kerrville, TX where Dwight is still preaching and also mowing the lawn. Send (even belatedly) to Marie Brown, 916 Barnett St., Kerrville, TX 78028. mbrownuu@ktc.com

Charles and Claudine Grady: We celebrated our 60th (!) anniversary last June, in Fort Bragg CA with our son, four grandchildren & their several spouses; it was a grand party. And we welcomed our first great-grandchild last November, while at the same time participating in the 50th anniv. at the White Bear UU Church, Mahtomedi, MN. (I was their first full-time minister, 1966-69.) Again, thanx for Elderberries; we could not keep in touch without it.

Cynthia Ward is out of nursing care and has moved to an assisted living facility: 100 Meadow Lakes, Hightstown, NJ 08520; 609/426-6762.

Jack Young: I'm fine here in Fairfax Station VA, getting my workshop put together and doing some fairly decent woodworking. I work a couple of days at Woodcraft over in Springfield VA (8 miles from here) and am also doing some contract work in home renovation.

PERU FOR LESS for UU's and Friends

Inspired by his recent visit to Peru, Rev. John Rex offers to accompany a group to Peru Aug. 5-14, 2008. We will focus on Andean history and spirituality, with carefully chosen tour guides in Lima, Cuzco, the Sacred Valley, and Machu Picchu, and a special program by an Andean Shaman. Reservation & deposit deadline Dec. 1, 2007. A minimum of 15 people are needed. Cost is \$1442 for all in-country travel, hotels, tours, and most meals. Round trip from Buffalo to Lima, will cost between \$600 and \$900 and can be arranged independently, or later with the larger group. Contact John at johnrex3@yahoo.com. (John will be in China from October 18-31, but available to talk through the month of November.) Get your passport now.

In Memoriam

(Addresses for messages are in the snail mail version)

Rev. Patricia McClellan Bowen, 73, died Sept. 14. She served congregations in West Paris, ME, South Bend, IN; Framingham, Sharon and Sherborn, MA; Virginia, Portsmouth, NH; and Las Vegas, NV; and was Assistant to the Director of Education and Social Concerns at the UUA, where she created and developed REACH, the Religious Education Clearing House. Surviving are her children Barbara Bowen of Newton and Jonathon Bowen of Spencer, MA. Messages of remembrance may be sent to: Barbara Bowen. At her request no services were held.

Natalie Gulbrandsen, 88, fourth Moderator of the UUA, died October 17. Bill Schulz's tribute is available at UUA.org. She served as President of the UU Women's Federation; as a member of Committees on Ministerial Finance, Commission on Appraisal and UU Peace Network. She was president of International Association for Religious Freedom; Church of the Larger Fellowship; and UU Women's Heritage Society. In 2002 she received the Distinguished Service Award. She and her husband of 48 years, Dr. Melvin Gulbrandsen, received Wellesley, MA's Community Award for Distinguished Service. She is survived by her children, Karen, Linda, Eric, Ellen and Kristin, and 12 grandchildren. A celebration of her life will be held at the UU Society of Wellesley Hills, 309 Washington St., Sat., Nov. 10, at 10:30 a.m., followed by a luncheon reception at the Wellesley College Club. Letters may be addressed c/o Ms. Karen Bean.

Jane Knapp Walling, daughter of Rev. Calvin Knapp and **Ruth Knapp** writes: It is with great sorrow I inform you that Ruth died in an Accidental Death on June 8, 2007. Several members of the family were traveling together toward the Grand Canyon. Near the east gate entrance a semi-truck hit our van. Mother was killed. (We gently remark that she died quickly, with family while traveling.)

I was driving and lost my left leg. One brother had a serious concussion, his wife a broken leg and her mother major lacerations. I have taken off from teaching until Thanksgiving to adjust, to take care of myself, and to attend to mother's simple estate. Jane Knapp Walling, janewallingis@comcast.net

Reverend Martha Scott Newman, 84, died August 14. She served congregations in Alton, IL; Clinton, IA; Ellisville, MO; and the Unitarian Society of Houlton, ME, which named her Minister Emerita. She is survived by two children, Amy Rouse of Skowhegan, and J Mark Newman of Surprise, Arizona; and two foster daughters, Kay Keaton of St. Charles, Missouri and Ruth Eltinge of St. Louis; 14 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. Messages may be sent to: Amy Rouse. A service was held Sept. 8 at the Unitarian Society of Houlton.

Mitzi Anderson, 69, of Las Vegas, widow of Rev. Kenneth L. Patton, died Sept. 29. She worked for the Government in contract relations. She and Ken were married around 1960, while Ken was minister at the Charles St. Meetinghouse in Boston, then they went to Ridgewood, NJ. Ken died on Christmas Day, 1994. Mitzi is survived by her sons, Channing and Dag Patton. Services will be private.

Reverend Carolyn F. B. Podulka, 74, died August 17. She served the Unitarian Church of Evanston as a Minister of Religious Education. She was a Pastoral Counselor at the Hospice of the Northshore in Wilmette, IL. Surviving are her husband, Gene Podulka, and her children W. David Buss of Los Angeles, CA; Dennis F. Buss of Lake Forest, IL; Timothy D. Buss of Bay City, MI; and Heidi Ann Buss of St. Paul, MN; 15 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Messages may be sent to Gene Podulka. A service was held Sept. 22 at the Northshore Unitarian Church, Deerfield, IL

Directory additions and Corrections

Web Address: **www.uurmapa.org**. (Newsletter photos are in COLOR on the web!)
Please send address changes to **Andrew Backus, andrewbackus@msn.com**. There are not many changes to report this time, as new UURMAPA Directories are just being mailed.

We are looking for a new **webmaster** – do YOU have this skill? Please let Andy know.

NOTE: If you would rather receive **Elderberries via email**, please let Andy know. We are developing a list. This would be a big cost saving especially for those mailed outside the U.S.

New Snail Mail Addresses:

Evelyn G. Weeks

Ralph and Deborah Mero

Rev. Russell and Trish Savage - savage403@comcast.net

New Phone Number

Rev. James E. Grant

Revs. Paul L'Herrou and Sylvia Howe

New Email Address:

Rev. Nancy Roemheld:

nroemheld@wi.rr.com

Returned to Sender: If you have any information on any of these please let Andy know:

Beverly Butterworth

Esther Cameron

Connie Curry

Carole Green

Rev. Robert L. Hadley

Rev. Diana M. Heath

Ibby Nagy

Rev. Donald Northcutt

Elizabeth Schmidt

Diene Scholefield

Carol Shelley

Lydia Slater

Aniko Szantho-Harrington

Elizabeth Whitney

Marjorie Williams

Eleanor Williams