

Elderberries

The Newsletter of the

Unitarian Universalist Retired Ministers and Partners Association

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The Partners Task Force met March 28-29 before the Board meeting in San Jose to address issues specific to partners of retiring and retired ministers. Their progress report is inside. (Seated, from left) Barbara Prairie, chair, and Peter Haslund. (Standing) Chris Lilly Backus and Eleanor Richardson

Web Address: **www.uurmapa.org**. Visit our newly-renovated website!

Elderberries is published quarterly in November, February, May, and August. Next deadline is July 15. Send contributions to our new editor: Chris Backus, at chrisbackus@msn.com. Welcome Chris! Please be mindful of space limitations! Look at the previous *Elderberries* as a guideline for your article.

President's Perspectives . . .

Nancy Doughty



Since I last wrote, a UURMaPA Board meeting, two Conferences, Pan South & West, and the Professional Leadership Coordinating Council (PLCC) have been held. The two Conferences were blessed with excellent programs, nurturing worship and fellowship thanks to the devoted leadership for each event. First-timer scholarships were utilized by members at each Conference.

Attendance at the PLCC meeting afforded Makaanah Morriss, Eleanor Richardson and me the first opportunity to meet leaders of other UU professional organizations in our joint effort to promote healthy professional partnerships.



David Johnson and Peter Haslund were welcomed to the Board as vice president and member at large respectively. And we learned quickly what valuable contributions they make to our work together. The Board enthusiastically heard the report from Barbara Prairie for the Partners Guidelines Task Force. (See article elsewhere in Elderberries). The Board appointed Eleanor Richardson as "Webster." See her work at the newly designed website: www.uurmapa.org. Andy Backus was appointed to continue as List keeper. Please send all address and e-mail changes to him at: andrewbackus@msn.com.

David Johnson

Some Board suggestions as to ways we can use our website include: 1) publishing elders' writings, 2) linking to other UU websites

3) members reviewing retirement communities 4) a place for discussing retirement transition issues and 5) linking to UURMaPA personal websites. Send your comments & suggestions to: Eleanor at grandmoot@aol.com and Peter Haslund at haslund@cox.net.



Peter Haslund

Plans for GA events continue to develop with Jean Rowe arranging our UURMaPA luncheon where newly retired members are our guests. For Ministry Days, Makaanah Morriss and I will be convening a Collegial Conversation, *Planning For and Living Out Retirement*.



At its March meeting the Board recognized the deaths of Keith Munson, Helen Dick, Peter Weller and Carl Thitchener, all past Board leaders, and voiced our grateful appreciation to departing Board members Andy Backus, Eleanor Richardson and Barbara Prairie for bringing unique gifts of leadership to furthering the mission of UURMaPA. An e-mail to each of them expressing your appreciation would be a thoughtful tribute of their leadership to our organization.

Lastly, I want to celebrate and thank everyone for their generous financial support of UURMaPA. The goal of \$16,500 is about to be achieved! What a way to affirm Spring!

Andy Backus,

Outgoing treasurer

-- Nancy Doughty

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, 25 Beacon St, Boston MA 02108 (617) 742-2100. Attend any conference, regardless of where you live!



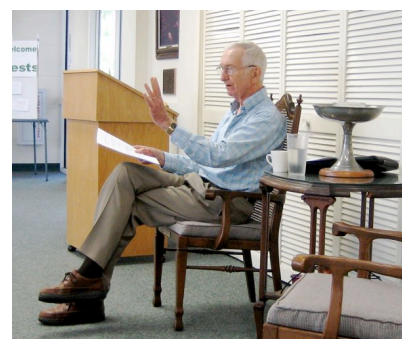
NORTHEAST – Oct. 7-9, 2008 at LaSalette in Attleboro, MA. Chairs are Pat Hoertdoerfer, (*left*) phoertdoerfer@metrocast.net, and Kathleen Hunter (*right*) kdhagd@mac.com. All UURMPA members are welcome whether retired in the area or not. The two candidates for the UUA Presidency, the Rev Laurel Hallman and the Rev Peter Morales will share their visions. Gene Navias and David Johnson will entertain with an evolved “Singing our History”. Odyssey by Kathe and Victor Carpenter. Afternoon program for partners. A registration form will be mailed to past participants in June. If you would like one, email registrar Med Anderson at revmua@sover.net.



*Constance Traycheff, Emily Morse-Palmer
Mary Weston-Jones, Joyce Smith*



PAN SOUTH – Feb. 3-5, 2009, at the Ft Myers, FL, UU Church. Kathleen and Alan ran an excellent 2008 conference. Charles Eddis' (*right*) account of Fritchman was clear and absorbing. Food was wonderful, and weather perfect. Some visited Corkscrew Swamp. Keith Munson signed up for the conference but did not appear. We learned he had taken a fall, gone to the hospital, and died of pneumonia!



We all held hands and thought of Keith and Peggy, who died soon afterward. The temper of the conference, though sobered, was not mournful, but warmly companionable. 2009 chairs will again be Kathleen Hunter and Alan Deale kdhagd@mac.com. Registrar is again Herb Adams, herbadams32@hotmail.com.

Dr. John Schaefer, keynote speaker



WEST – March 15-18, 2009, Vallombrosa Center in Menlo Park, CA. 2008 Participants enjoyed a spirited gathering with excellent presenters, including an Odyssey from Lex and Ginny Crane, and

Barbara Cheatham on our response to returning veterans. 2009 chair: Sue Ayer, sayer@uuma.org;

WEST conferees: Front: Chris Lilly Backus, Lois Allen, Barbara Cheatham, Mary Thelander, Ginny Crane. Back: Sue Ayer, Andy Backus, Roy Phillips, Dick Allen, Nancy Doughty, Al Thelander, Liz McMaster, Shirley Ranck, Lex Crane, Gretchen and Ray Manker.



Lex and Ginny Crane

NEW YORK GATHERING – January 2008: The UURMaPA Synagogue Museum visit was a resounding success. We had a brief walking tour on our way to the restaurant, passing Shearith Israel Graveyard, Mariner's Temple Baptist Church, and St. James Church (built during the LES "Irish Period"--supposedly over a brewery). Here, as a boy, NY Governor Al Smith served as an altar boy. We also walked by Confucius Square and Chatham Square and a still intact 1785 home. We had dinner at a Chinese restaurant--of course. Our next event will be in mid-March--date being negotiated. All are welcome--let us know if you can come. – With best wishes, Sue & Vernon Nichols

Challenges for Partners

Progress Report of the Partner Task Force

Active and retired ministers have "guidelines" to spell out their relationships with each other and with current and past parishioners. However, we ministers' partners are generally in less well-defined territory. What does it mean to us, as partners, when the minister retires (or dies)? Do we just go along "business as usual?" Or do we have to reconsider our role in a congregation?

Barbara Prairie (chair), Eleanor Richardson, Peter Haslund, and Chris Lilly Backus are a partners' guidelines task force for UURMAPA. We met in March to share experiences and to weave together insights shared by other partners who had written us. Here is our first list of "Challenges." We invite partner to share insights on what works (or doesn't work) for you. We will blend this wisdom into short essays, hopefully useful to all of us. Send to Barbara Prairie, bprairie@adelphia.net.

Discovering Unmet Needs: What would you do if you have more time? We all have unmet needs in our lives. When the minister retires we may ask ourselves what those needs are. For instance did you always want to teach belly dancing or go sky-diving, but (alas!) didn't because of the demands of your partner's ministry? How might you meet those needs after retiring? Where would you go to meet them?

What are you glad to get rid of? Many partner questionnaires (2006) returned indicated relief that the duties of ministry were behind the partner. Are you one of those? Embrace the freedom!

When the Minister Retires and the Partner Doesn't: A source of stress on any relationship, perhaps especially so given the level of engagement demanded of the minister during active service as contrasted with retirement. How does this impact the partner?

When the Retired Minister Dies and the Partner is left alone: What happens when the minister dies? How does this change the roles in their relationship? How does this affect the partner's relationship to the former and/or new congregation?

Post-Retirement Loneliness and How to Cope: The ministry can be a lonely occupation. We are amidst people to whom we are intimately connected, yet the constraints of the ministry separate us. When the minister retires we may lose the status automatically conferred upon the ministerial family. How do we find community where we are heard, cared for, and can care for others in a fulfilling way?

Being Displaced! Not all transitions result in a positive relationship between the incoming and retiring Minister. What are the consequences for the partner and for the congregation when this happens?

Financial Well-Being: Planning an Effective Retirement. Did you figure out what expenses you would have and how you were going to pay for them? Did you telephone the office of Church Staff Finance at 25 Beacon ?

Post-retirement connections with members of the congregation: UUMA guidelines urge limited contact

between the minister and members of the congregation. How might this affect partners who may have developed a strong social network that includes members of the congregation?

Separation from Church and Re-entry: What activities are appropriate for a partner? Are the options different after the minister retires? What sensitivities do the partner/minister and congregation need to keep in mind? How does one assess the perception of others and how much difference does this make?

Transition to John and Jane Q. Pew: Can we return to the pew as “just another parishioner?” Or do we simply know too much? Can we function only in roles we have had supporting our minister-partner -- or in our own spheres within the congregation? How do we participate in church life without threatening the settled minister (who may have less experience) or his or her partner?

Non-local UU Participation: Have you found meaningful participation outside the local congregation (e.g. cluster, district, national)? How do you find these opportunities?

Choosing Not to Attend Church: It works well for some to totally let go, not have to be anywhere on Sunday morning and to “just be”. One widowed partner shared her glee, upon remarrying, of staying home in bathrobes and enjoying their new life together. A divorced partner relished having a mimosa in bed on Sunday morning. Do these scenarios have any appeal for you?

Does Gender Matter? When the minister retires, is the experience different for male and female partners?

Doing It Together – facing the Minister’s Retirement as a Team: Are you included in the de-installation ceremony? Have you sat down face to face with your partner and talked about your future? Have you made space without distractions for these conversations in this transition?

Identity in Transition. A minister is a public figure, and the retired minister may lose that status. How may this affect the partner?

Separation from Congregation upon minister's retirement: UUMA guidelines say "stay away for 1 - 2 years." Does the partner join with the minister in observing this? Is there a “statute of limitations?” Is it different whether you move or stay?

Colleagues: Please Archive Your Papers

Nancy Doughty, asked me to remind all of us – now – to archive our papers at an appropriate library or repository. This includes sermons, articles, essays, book manuscripts, worship material and other related writings, correspondence, biographical data, clippings, and photographs. No thoughtful history and analysis of our liberal movement can be written without access to the archives of our organizations and religious and lay leaders. There are many excellent libraries where your material can be placed: our theological schools - Meadville/Lombard, Starr King, and Harvard - as well as state historical societies, colleges and universities. The important thing is that you donate your papers to a library with the resources and staff to process and preserve them.

Talk with their archivist. Most libraries have websites with guidelines on making a donation and what papers should be saved for future scholars. Do it now, or at least let those who survive you know where to deposit your ministerial records. As C. S. Lewis in William Nicholson’s drama *Shadowlands* observes: "You can't hold on to things. You have to let them go."
– Alan Seaburg

Do You Have a Website to Share?

Please check out our newly renovated website, UURMAPA.org. Peter and I bought a new Mac computer in January, and were able to purchase one, one-hour, one-on-one lesson at the Apple Store per week for a year for \$99. Taking advantage of this, I learned how to design a website on iWeb, which makes it fairly easy. Due to Carl Thitchener's untimely death, our website had expired. I was pleased to be able to carry forward his vision in this way. As I retire (sadly and gladly) from editing Elderberries, I will transition to being our "Webster." One new feature is a page of members' website links, for those of you promoting books and activities. Send the link to me at Grandmoot@aol.com, and include a headshot of yourself, if possible. – Eleanor Richardson

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

Maurice Cobb has been in the hospital, recovering from double pneumonia following flu. He was due to go home April 20. We hope the lure of his garden will get him out in the healing sunshine.

Glen Snowden: Around the end of January **Lorraine** completed her 35 radiation sessions, and her Doctor has discharged her into the care of her PCP. She continues to move ahead on her journey of recovery; not as fast as we would like, but her positive medical signs do encourage us. She is gaining more personal strength, and we are looking forward to our week of timeshare on Cape Cod this summer.

Scotty Meek: Nothing much new with us. My hearing doesn't match up very well with crowds, so I'm more reclusive than I care to be, but I've given up asking people to speak up.

Alan Seaburg: I live now in Billerica where both my daughters and my grandchildren live - although I have given up driving, I get to Cambridge and Harvard at least once a week. I am fortunate that my family lives so close and every day they grow more significant for me.

Fred Lipp writes: I started the Cambodian Arts and Scholarship Foundation (CASF) after cancer and writing THE CAGED BIRDS OF PHNOM PENH in 2001. After I learned of trafficking of girls and young women in Cambodia I had to do something. With my wife's help we began with \$50- and .25 cents I found in Portland's Congress Street in 2001. Now our annual budget is \$125,000, helping 130 young women, 30 in university. We pay no one in the US. See www.cambodianscholarship.org.

BOOKS:

Chris Raible: For some years I've been involved in researching Upper Canada (now Ontario). My most recent book, *The Power of the Press: The Story of Early Canadian Printers and Publishers*, narrates (with dozens of photographs) the development of letterpress printing in Canada, especially printer-editors and their political influence. Two earlier books deal with the life of William Lyon Mackenzie, a Scot who came to Canada in 1820. For more, email chrisraible@georgian.net.

Ron Knapp says: For most of my adult life, I have been a student of the poet Walt Whitman and have had an unpublished manuscript dealing with his religious ideas. I once presented my theses at a UURMAPA conference. I have now been able to get it published. "Of Life Immense: The Prophetic Vision of Walt Whitman." 260 pages, paperback, available from Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble at \$14.95.

Ron Mazur tells the exciting story and current controversy surrounding the accidental discovery of the Talpiot Tomb in Jerusalem. This is claimed to be the "Jesus Family Tomb." His book, entitled "The Scandal of the Jesus Tomb" is available from him for \$4.95. RevDrMazur@aol.com; website: www.FreeJesus.com. Holley Ulbrich, UU Fellowship of Clemson, SC, has written *The Fellowship Movement: A Growth Strategy*

and Its Legacy, published by Skinner House. It tells the 20-year history of the lay-led fellowship movement that gave birth to a third of today's UU congregations, and spotlights fellowships from Cape Cod to Honolulu.. \$14.00. Available from the UUA Bookstore at www.uua.org/bookstore.

Gertrude Lindener-Stawski hasn't been able to do UURMaPA activities, but appreciates the newsletter and keeping up with everything. She is retired and living in Columbia, MO, where she served. She seems quite happy with her place in the church.

In January 2008 the **Rev. Robert T. Dick** and his wife, **Helen Hersey Dick**, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary at the Doolittle Home in Foxboro, MA. Sadly, Helen died March 7.

Ed Peara, 87, still preaches sermons and is a trauma specialist with the Red Cross; he has planted trees for parks and organizations and writes a column for a newsletter. He was recently featured in the Plan USA newsletter, where he supports a needy child. Phyllis has been president of the League of Women voters in three communities and belongs to four book clubs.

(From **Ric Masten's** family) Dad's new book – *Going out Dancing Soon* – is to be published by Skinner House. He wants me to let you all know it will be available soon. The latest word is that Dad has little or no pain at this time. He is enjoying his days – as many as are granted – with no regrets and with hopes of seeing his 79th Birthday in June. We are dancing the best we can, and appreciate our friends and the good people who have come into our lives from Hospice. As always, we send our deep love and appreciation for all your good wishes and support. Please continue to dance with us! Our best regards – Jerri and the whole Masten Clan

Charles Reinhardt writes that late winter hung on fiercely in Maine this year. **Jean Gaffney** appreciates the good work our treasurer, Andy Backus, is doing. Andy also received supportive notes with contributions from **Dorle Gehrman, Inge Jack, Ben Kjelsus, Erleen Sparbel, Jan Evans-Tiller** and **Pat Raible**.

In Memoriam

(Addresses for letters of remembrance are in the snail mail version of Elderberries)

Evangeline Bachelder, 87, died Nov. 12, 2007, in Melrose, MA. She was the widow of Rev. Horace Bachelder. They served at Atkinson Church, Oregon City, OR, from 1946-1971, where Evangeline directed a 30-voice junior choir, and often composed music. She composed a hymn, "I Held the Planets in my Hand" which was pasted into the hymnal and sung often by the (then) 600-member church. Under their leadership, the church went from Congregational to Unitarian in 1959. They moved to Plymouth, MA, in 1971, where Horace ministered until his death in 1981. Evangeline again directed the Jr. Choir. Letters may be sent to Ed Bachelder.

Reverend Robert D. Botley, 84, died March 28. He served in the Army Air Corps in World War II, then served Congregational Churches in Sedgwick, CO; Pinedale, WY; and Rapid City, SD. In 1961, he joined the UUA and served the San Mateo Unitarian Church in San Mateo, CA. He marched with Dr. King in Selma. After a long bout with cancer, Rev. Botley retired early from formal ministry. As his health improved, he started a business, Specialized Yachting Services, then an accounting business. In 1999, the Botleys moved to McKinleyville, CA, joining the UU Fellowship. Botley loved wilderness, and won awards for his landscape photography. He built a boat and sailed to Mexico and back. He is survived by his wife of 59 years Anna Mae Botley; two children, Steve Botley of Cave Junction, OR, and Becky Blackshaw of New Zealand; and two grandchildren. A service will be held May 31 at 2 p.m. at Humboldt UU Fellowship in Bayside, CA. Messages may be sent to Anna Mae Botley.



Helen Hersey Dick, 89, died March 7 in Foxboro, MA. Her father was Universalist minister Harry Adams. She graduated from Jackson College (Tufts) and did graduate work at Crane. She gave leadership to the Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, League of Women Voters, the NAACP, Food Co-ops, and to local UU churches where her husband, the Rev. Robert T. Dick, was the minister - Bristol NY; Lyons OH; West Hartford CT; Belpre OH; South Acton MA; Springfield and Chester Depot VT; Elkhart IN. Helen was an officer of the UU Peace Fellowship, and edited its newsletter. She served on the UURMAPA Board in charge of the Caring Network. In 1975, she was named Vermont Mother of the Year. Helen marched in Selma in 1965.

In 1986 the UU Church of Springfield VT, named her Minister Emerita. She accompanied the Springfield Community Chorus and taught piano. She is survived by her husband of 65 years; two sons, Nathan Dick of Estes Park CO; and Jeffrey Taft-Dick of Niger, West Africa; a daughter, Noreen Redd of San Diego CA; and three grandchildren. Robert T. Dick continues to reside at Doolittle Home.

Reverend Thomas D. McMullen, 76, died Feb. 26 in Tallahassee, FL. He was a graduate of Florida State University School of Music. He served in the Air Force as instructor of music theory and conductor of the Strategic Air Command Chorus. In Bradenton/Sarasota he was conductor, teacher of brass instruments, music store owner, and publisher. In midlife, he earned a D Min. at Meadville and served UU Churches in Studio City, CA; Plandome, NY; and Orlando, FL. He recently worked at the Florida Dept. of Elder Affairs. Family include his wife, Barbara Stansell; two sons, Tom McMullen of Tallahassee and Nathan McMullen of Nantucket, MA; and two grandchildren. A service was held March 17 at Goodwood Museum and Gardens, Tallahassee.

Reverend Keith C. Munson, 85, died Feb. 5 in Bradenton, FL.

Marguerite (Peggy) Hanson Munson died Feb. 17 in Swampscott, MA, just 12 days after Keith, and a day before their 63rd wedding anniversary. Peggy had been suffering from Alzheimer's. Son Bruce writes, "We don't believe that she knew Dad had died. On the other hand, our Mom and Dad had been together for so long that perhaps somewhere deep inside Mom knew or felt that something drastic in their relationship had ended." Keith (and Peggy) served congregations in Annisquam, Palmer, Springfield, and Andover, MA; Cherry Hill, NJ; and Quincy, MA. Keith and Peggy hosted Gov. and Mrs. Michael Dukakis and the Adams family at the Bicentennial Celebration there in 1976. In 1983, Quincy awarded Keith a plaque for his services to the community. When he retired Keith was made an Honorary Citizen of Quincy and Minister Emeritus at the Quincy church. He was a Board member of UURMAPA for eight years, and President for four. Avid sailors, the Munsons sailed from Maine to Florida and back again on Keith's beloved Galatea, a 36-foot Pearson Pilothouse. They were members of the UU Church of Saco and Biddeford, ME, and owned a house at Ferry Beach. Survivors include Carolyn (Lynn) Cashman of Cork, Ireland; a son, Bruce Munson, of Beverly, MA, and six grandchildren. A service will be held to honor Keith and Peggy in the early afternoon of August 3 at Ferry Beach in Saco. Messages of remembrance may be sent to Bruce Munson.



Keith and Peggy's Odyssey, Oct. 2006



Reverend Dr. Frank E. Robertson, 76, died Feb. 6 in Plymouth, MA. Certified in Religious Education, he studied World Religions, specializing in East Indian studies. He studied and traveled in India in 1979, and Japan in 1984, then participated in the creation of a World Religions curriculum in 1987. After ordination by Grace Church in Lowell, MA, Mr. Robertson served in Barneveld and Shelter Rock, NY, and Paramus, NJ. He served as MRE in Washington, DC, Santa Barbara, CA, and Evanston, IL, where he was named Emeritus. Frank was a founding member of Interweave, to address Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender concerns. Through their efforts, General Assembly passed resolutions concerning GLBT rights and the UUA Office of Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Concerns was established. Frank was awarded an honorary D Div from Meadville Lombard. He received the Angus MacLean Award for religious education. He served on the Boards of the UUA and LREDA, St. Lawrence Foundation and IARF. He founded and chaired the UU Religious Education History Group. He was an Elder of the Mass. Society of Mayflower Descendants. He is survived by his partner of 36 years, Rick McDonald; two daughters, Lydia Robertson of Brooklyn, NY and Denene Ray of Charlotte, NC, and three granddaughters. His son, Joel, died in 1993. A service took place April 19.



Wallace Reid, 81, our UURMAPA Caring rep to the NJ-Metro District, died suddenly April 17. He served in the US Navy Medical Corps in World War II, and was a research chemist for Union Carbide from 1955-1985. He then served as a hospital addictions counselor until 1995. He was married to the Rev. Lee Reid, and a co-founder of the intentionally diverse UU Congregation of the Palisades in Englewood, NJ, in 1989. Eight years after they helped to found the church, Lee was hit by a car and killed in a tragic accident. After her death Wally remained on as an integral part of the congregation. He is survived by three daughters Martha, Kate and Sarah Reid. There will be more information on the website www.uucpalisades.org.

Reverend Martin Skewes-Cox, 80, died in Sonoma, CA on March 16. He is survived by his three children: Peter of San Francisco, Thomas of Thousand Oaks, and Edith of Montreal, Quebec; and 11 grandchildren. A service celebrating his life will be held at St. John Episcopal Church, Ross, May 7, at 11am. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Starr King School for the Ministry, Berkeley.

Reverend Carl F. Thitchener, 75, died Feb. 15 in Clifton Springs, NY. After a successful business career where he was a pioneer in the early microfilm information retrieval industry, he transitioned to ministry. He earned an M. Div. from Starr King in 1980 and was ordained at the First Unitarian Church in Rochester, NY, where he had been an active layperson for 20 years. He served the UU Church of Amherst in Williamsville, NY, starting in 1981. His wife, the Rev. Maureen Thitchener, joined him there as co-minister from 1991-2003, when they were honored as Ministers Emeriti. Carl also served congregations in Fairfax, VA; Rochester, NY; and Waterloo County, Ont. At the time of Carl's death, he and Maureen were co-ministers at the UU Church of Canandaigua, NY. Carl served as Secretary to the UUA Board of Trustees, and on the Boards of the Buffalo Area Metropolitan Ministries; Starr King; the the UUMA and as President of the St. Lawrence Foundation for Theological Education. He was Vice President on the UURMAPA Board, our diligent listkeeper and webmaster. Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Maureen Quinlan Thitchener; three daughters, Karyn Quinlan, Lynn Thitchener, and Susan Levine; a son, Michael Carl Thitchener, and two granddaughters. A service was held March 29 in Rochester. Messages may be sent to Maureen Thitchener.





Reverend Peter Weller, 81, died Jan. 22, in Fort Collins, CO. Peter received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1948. After serving in both the U.S. Navy and Army, he decided to become a Unitarian minister. He served in Laconia, NH; Seattle, WA; Hanska, MN; Muskegan, MI; and Pittsfield, MA, where he was named Minister Emeritus. He served as interim in Birmingham, AL, and Bloomington, IN. Peter marched in Selma with Dr. King. He was active with the Vietnam anti-war movement and served on the board of the United Nations Association in Fort Collins, where he was a member of the Foothills Unitarian Church. Peter was also active in the UUMA and was a former UURMAPA Board Member. Peter married first Carol Reed, who died in 1973. He married Jennie Parker in 1977.

Survivors include his wife, Jennie; three daughters, Cathleen Hamilton of Oakland, NJ; Julia Smith of Fairbanks, AK; and Gretchen Weller of Fort Collins; five stepchildren, Marian Ware, Carl Hildebrandt, Janet Hildebrandt, Jay Hilt, and Lisabeth Almgren; 17 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be held later at Foothills Unitarian Church. Please send messages care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 West Olive Street, Fort Collins, CO 80524.

Misplaced Persons

If you have information, please send it to Andy Backus, listmaster (address on masthead)

Preston Hall? Caroline Adams? Elizabeth Geertz? Charles Howe <revcahowe@earthlink.net> writes: I'm writing to ask if you have found an address and last name for **Iggy Nagy's daughter Vera**. I'm trying to get started on a biographical article on Ibbey and her husband Zoltan and thought that you might possibly have found this. Attempts to reach her as Vera Lassua at Shawnee Rise SW, Calgary AB T2M 2R8 have failed.

Directory Additions and Corrections

Please send address changes to **Andrew Backus, andrewbackus@msn.com**.
(Addresses and phone numbers are in the snail mail version, for security reasons)

New Retirees

Rev. James Bank and Cathy Miller
Rev. Sylvia Howe and Rev. Paul L'Herrou]
Rev. Dorothy and Stan Kimble]
Rev. David Leonard and Linda Wiltz]
Rev. Ralph (retiree) & Rev. Deborah Mero]
Rev. Sonya Montana]
Rev. Lansing Moran]
Rev. Marcia E. Olsen]
Rev. Elena & Dave Rigg]
Rev. Wyman A. Rousseau and Jane Williams]
Rev. David & Jan Sammons]
Rev. R. Christan and Jo Ann Schriner]
]Email: hellojoann@aol.com
Rev. Weston & Barbara Stevens]
Rev. Karin & Stanley Tanenholtz]

New Snail Mail Addresses:

Rev. Ellen and George Brandenburg - As of July 1.

Jane Boyajian has moved
Mary Beth Grim
Rev. Mitch and Gladys Howard

New or corrected Email Addresses:

Rachel Hoagland - raethorpe@wildblue.net
Dorothy Boroush - dboroush@netscape.com
Jace Kahn: eyotaucc@earthlink.net
Scotty Meek: a.meek@att.net
Ted Webb: theodorewebb@surewest.net

New Phone Number: Gertrude Lindener-Stawski area code had changed.

Volunteering at GA

Ministers, spouses, and surviving partners are eligible for reduced registration rates at GA. Those who volunteer need only put in 14 hours to qualify for free registration. Regular volunteers need to put in 24 hours. Volunteers can attend programs during their off-time AND enjoy being of help while meeting new and old friends during volunteer hours. – David Fisher, District GA Coordinator

UURMAPA Annual Luncheon at GA

honoring recently retired ministers and their partners

Going to General Assembly in Ft. Lauderdale? Mark your calendar now for lunch with other retired ministers and partners on Friday, June 27. **Please come welcome our guests, the retiring ministers and their partners, for whom the lunch is free.** This is a wonderful opportunity to see friends in a relaxed atmosphere and enjoy a break from the general noise and organized chaos of GA. It will be near the Convention Center at Ft. Lauderdale Grande Hotel and Yacht Club, Atlantic II Room, on Friday, June 27, 12:30 – 2 p.m. **(Keep this info, as it won't be in the GA program.)** Please send reservation by **May 31** to Jean Rowe, 1165 N. Country Club Rd, Brevard NC 28712. Cost is \$30. Make the check to Jean. For more info, uurevjeanR@aol.com or (828) 279-1586.

✂ ----- ✂ ----- ✂ ----- ✂ -----

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____ Email _____

Please select: Chicken (#) _____ Vegetarian (#) _____

Special dietary needs _____

Meals at \$30 each _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____ *(Checks payable to Jean Rowe)*

My One and Only Editorial

My grandchildren are taught to say, "I feel two ways about this."

Ahhh – Going off the Board. No more travel when I'm trying to do the taxes.

No more in-depth time with dear friends.

No more week-long newsletter marathons.

No more comments on how people are reading every word. No more hearing the news first!

No more UURMAPA emails to wade through in the mornings.

Guess I'll have to eat breakfast by myself.

Now that I'm connected, it's hard to disconnect, like leaving a church.

Guess I'll have to find another job, like the website.

Like a church, a bottomless pit.

But a chocolate pit.

Consider what I've learned. You don't learn new skills until you need them:

A whole raft of new friends and connections.

Moving to digital photography. How to build a website. How to do bulk mailing.

Retire and grow...

Keep the light alive. Fix the links.

Thanks to those who have welcomed me into their homes, their thoughts, their worlds.

For hugs, wine, perspective, and for the REAL story of G.A.s past!

For being friends when I'd just left all mine behind.



Thank you for giving me a good place to put my energy,

And in advance for letting me know how I can be useful still.

– Eleanor M. Richardson