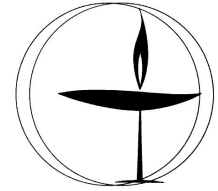


Elderberries



the newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist Retired Ministers and Partners Association

VOLUME XXVI

NUMBER 2

Spring 2011

Be Part of a Miracle

As many of you know, I underwent heart transplant surgery June 21, 2010. After a couple months of unrelenting hell, the recovery process turned good, and I have been getting stronger every day. The Ochsner Medical Center (New Orleans) transplant team accomplished this miracle.

My heart transplant cost something around \$650,000 total with a \$3,000 monthly drug bill hereafter. Not really sure I'm worth it, but now have more time to prove it!

Thankfully my wife, Pegs, has great family insurance coverage with BC/BS of Maryland through American Red Cross. But our ongoing out-of-pocket runs average of about \$1,600 a month. Life ain't cheap but now it is wonderful, really wonderful. I'm feeling the best I have in 20 years, maybe ever...remarkable!

Did you know there are nearly 3,000 living heart transplant survivors in USA? We have an average life expectancy of 11 years and that longevity prediction is growing! Did you know 58 people can be helped by just one donated body? That includes everything from heart valves to major organs!

If you aren't already a tissue and organ donor please, please become one. Encourage everyone to do this, no matter what their age or health. Add that request to correspondence, including e-mail. Speak of it when you preach or write, wherever and whenever.

It is a vital, vital, vital action. Some 18 people will die today in the US because they could not get a transplant. Their waiting ended. Tissue and organ donation is such an easy, thoughtful, powerful legacy to leave!

Thank you.

— Doak Mansfield



We Need *You*

If you're reading this, you are likely retired from serving in the UU ministry or from working alongside an active minister. We know some of you are ready for a change. And we know that others enjoy continuing to reach out to others in times of sorrow and celebration.

This is UURMaPA's 26th year of providing a caring presence to one another. If you can help reach out in your region please let me know. Much of our work is done by telephone, short notes and email.

We try to have occasional face-to-face meetings, which can be as simple as a luncheon for six at a local restaurant or at an assisted-living facility's dining room.

Best of all, you have collegial support in your work. Whether you have time to do a lot or just a little, your talents are needed. Let me know if you think you'd like to be part of this. Thank you.

Paul L'Herrou
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Send your news, views and photos to
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President's Perspectives by Makanah Morriss

The sounds of winter are playing their symphony here in the hills of Virginia – the groaning of the ice on our pond, the tapping of the woodpeckers clearing out insects from the bare trees, the squirrels chattering as they steal bird seed from the feeders and the quiet soaring of a red tail hawk. Nature's seasonal varieties offer so many moments that invite mindful watching and quiet listening.



Photo by Eleanor Richardson

Thanks to the wonders of technology, the connections between us human beings remain pretty constant, regardless of season. Your UURMaPA Board continues to pursue projects and initiatives to nurture links of friendship and support among our members.

We offer a warm welcome to Dick Gilbert to our UURMaPA Board. Dick brings to our work his 50 years of ministerial service, his wise voice and prophetic vision. He is filling Peter Haslund's At-Large position. Peter had to resign from the Board due to his recent election as chair of the Board of Trustees for Santa Barbara City College. We are grateful to Peter for his good work this past year on both the retirement handbook and on the re-creation of our UURMaPA website. Midge Skwire had to resign from the Board due to health challenges. Midge had offered expert editing help with the handbook and was beginning work on some small group mentoring projects. We send her our thoughts and wishes for her return to fuller health. We already miss both Peter and Midge.

The Pan South Conference is coming up the end of March and will be in a new location this year – Asheville, NC. Look for more info about it in this issue of Elderberries and *do* consider joining your UURMaPA friends for this enjoyable retreat.

I have taken over Midge's role, representing UURMaPA as a member of the UUMA Task Force on Mentoring. We are exploring a variety of models and modalities for offering coaching and mentoring to ministers for a whole range of professional challenges that are part of work in the parish and community. You will be hearing more about this in the coming months as we begin our search for colleagues who might like to be considered to help with this work.

Our website is getting more and more hits every month – and this is good, very good. You can access the most up-to-date UURMaPA Directory information via the website. You can learn about recent happenings and upcoming events. Do visit the website, www.uurmapa.org and appreciate Andy Backus' fine work as our webmaster.

One of our most exciting initiatives in the new year is a "Fireside Chat" with UUA President Peter Morales. At this writing it is slated to take place by conference call February 1. Peter will share news of changes and new developments at the UUA and respond to questions that are submitted by members prior to the call.

Peter wants to keep in touch with our membership and so this is an opportunity to have this happen. Details on future events and how you can participate will be publicized on UURMaPA Announce and on our website.

Your Board always loves to hear from you – and we invite you to share your news, updates on your local UURMaPA gatherings, your ideas and questions. Let Chris Lilly Backus, our *Elderberries* editor, know what you are up to by contacting her at chrisbackus@msn.com. She gleans ideas for newsletter articles from your messages.

As winter gives way to spring, stay warm and stay in touch,

Makanah

UUA Retirement Plan

As most of you know, our UUA retirement funds are now invested through TIAA-CREF. The transfer from Fidelity took place October 30, 2010.

Naturally, there were a few glitches, most of which have been corrected. You may want to take a moment to compare your bank statements showing the distributions from Fidelity for September and October with your November and December statements showing the distributions from TIAA-CREF.

For example, you may find that tax has been withheld from your distribution because TIAA-CREF's records may not show that you are an ordained minister.

You can call TIAA-CREF. Or, if you are not able to do this -- for any reason -- contact Joyce Stewart for assistance at (617) 948-6421 or jstewart@uua.org.

Also consider whom you wish to designate as your beneficiary or beneficiaries. Many people prefer to do this instead of having the remainder go to their estate. *Instructions you have given Fidelity did not transfer automatically to TIAA-CREF.*

To ensure that you get the result you want, call TIAA-CREF for a beneficiary form. It will be mailed to you for your signature. Return it promptly.



Remember all those old New England ministers who preached, "You know not the day nor the hour..."

If you are comfortable doing things online, log onto your TIAA-CREF account to designate your beneficiaries and ensure that your tax withholding is correct.

Kathleen Hunter
UURMaPA Treasurer

Stay Comfortable

The UUA provides heating and cooling grants to retired ministers, partners and surviving partners. For assistance contact Joyce Stewart (617) 948-6421 or jstewart@uua.org, or Richard Nugent at (617) 948-6456 or rnugent@uua.org.

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



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 the Unitarian Universalist movement, 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.

Directory Online!

Our 2011 *UURMaPA Directory*
is now on our website
www.uurmapa.org

To access it, or to
send updates please contact
Andy Backus
2746 Broadway
Bellingham, WA 98225
andrewbackus@msn.com

A Weaver's Yarn

By Carl V. Bretz

As a child, I helped my mother with her rug braiding by rolling fabric strips into balls. It was magical to see her make beautiful and useful rugs from worn fabric. She also did beautiful embroidery and crocheting. My father did chair caning after he retired.

In grade school I read *Silas Marner* by George Eliot, the classic story of little Eppy and the kind weaver of Ravelo. The story made a lasting impression. I worked in several hospitals where weaving was used as part of the Occupational Therapy Program for recovering patients. I was intrigued to see patients throwing shuttles.

In the 1970s I found myself under a lot of stress. I knew I needed a good hobby. Weaving



instruction was being offered in a nearby town. I found weaving became a great stress reliever and a part of my religious practice.

Solo weaving gave me a great deal of pleasure throughout the years. In 1994 I moved to Oak Ridge [TN] when Rosemary [Burns] and I were married. Rosemary knew of the nearby Appalachian Arts Craft Center and suggested I check it out. It was through the craft center that my involvement in weaving really took off. Show-and-tell, problem solving, occasional workshops and great friends enriched the weaving experience immensely. A workshop introduced me to the pleasures of tapestry weaving.



Recently I've downsized to fit everything into an apartment. I made room for my eight-harness Macomber and a 24" Shannock tapestry loom.

I have a great debt of gratitude to all of the people who have inspired and taught me along the way. I am especially thankful for the support and friendship of the Tuesday Weavers at the Appalachian Arts Craft Center.

Turning of Our Lives

Rudi Gelsey has moved to the independent living section of a retirement complex, the address is 22 S. Adams Street, Apt. 715, Denver, CO 80209. He is wholeheartedly engaged in the writing of a book titled *Perpetual Peace, Pipe Dream or Possibility* which he hopes to finish in February and have published within a year or two. He is remarkably healthy, active and in good spirits, despite the loss of his eyesight, which is a considerable handicap for someone with his energy and desire to move about. He attends Jefferson Unitarian Church when he can get a ride and participates in two Buddhist sanghas in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh in the Denver area. He has been heavily involved in Sufism since the 1980's.

Kathleen Hunter reports that **Ruth Gnagey** is serving as an affiliated minister at the UU Church of Bloomington in Normal, IL. She also notes that **Judith Gillis, Catherine and Brad Greeley, Peg and Gerry Goddard, Esme Cahill, Neil Ferris, Alan Deale** and **Kathleen Hunter** enjoyed a catered lunch at the UU Church of Concord NH on Nov. 30. They were able to meet briefly with the new minister, the Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger. They then spent the rest of the time catching up on the various activities in which this busy group is involved.

Chris Schriener has published a book titled *Do Think Twice: Provocative Reflections on Age-Old Questions*. This series of essays offers creative approaches to topics such as mind and brain, the mystery of consciousness, selfhood, core values, moral relativism, free will, religious revelations, theism vs. atheism, dealing with fundamentalists, accepting mortality, the limits of our knowledge, and the mismatch between human nature and the modern world. It also offers strategies and techniques for personal and spiritual growth. Quotes and examples are well-documented, providing sermon fodder and ideas for further reading. For more information contact cschriener@uuma.org.

Gretchen Manker reports that she is having cataract removal on both eyes, during the next two months, first one eye and then the other. She and Ray plan to go to Rocky Point again with **Donna Lee** and **Sam Wright**, in the last week of Feb. The Mankers hope to have their daughter, Susan, join them.



Leon Hopper forwards this news from the Pacific Northwest./Western Canada Region. **Sue Ayer** says, "The Hillsboro [OR] congregation threw a fabulous 75th birthday party for me. I was completely overwhelmed with the scale of it... a high point in my life."

Phillip Hewett spent five weeks this past summer on the other side of the Atlantic, anchoring his travels between ministers' meetings in Oxford in June at the beginning and the ICUU meetings in the Netherlands in July at the end. He also visited the Hewett ancestral home, which dates back a couple of centuries. **Fred and Marge Keip** report that things are going well and they are enjoying working with the Grants Pass UU folk while trying to find an affordable Fellowship building. **Edgar Peara** wrote that **Phyllis** had a fall that fractured her right femur and was in the hospital for a week and is now living in an assisted living facility just 11 blocks from their home. Ed rides his bike to visit and be with Phyllis every day.

David and Ginger Rankin – David writes "We live only five minutes from the University of Idaho and are surrounded by the beauty of lakes, rivers and mountains.... We really enjoy these retirement years...(and) get to read extensively." They have a "great dog – a rescue Labrador/pitbull mix. David adds, "Cooper gets us out every day and is a real joy. He has a great sense of humor and is bright as hell."

Turning of Our Lives

Leon's report continues: **Bob Schaibly** says, "I'm doing fairly well. I had surgery on my vocal cords in order to get them closer together to strengthen my voice and that helped measurably." Bob's volunteer activity is as a CASA, a Court Appointed Special Advocate for children in DHS custody. "I tell the judge what I perceive to be in the best interest of the child."

Doug and Darlene Reisner moved from San Antonio to Yakima and are enjoying living there. Doug is with their 16-month old grandson about 30 hours a week and "we have become quite bonded." They have been able to get away for short trips of exploration in central Washington including circumnavigating the Olympic Peninsula. **Jane Boyajian** says, "Last year I arranged a special trip to Turkey for some of my cousins. We went to our grandparents' and (for some) great grandparents' home town and that of other relatives. Then I took them to eastern Turkey to regions especially important to Armenia...returned from my 60th high school reunion and we had two days of fun at the Cape."

Alice and Joe Wesley sold their Allentown, PA home, and now have their permanent residence in the Bellevue, WA area. They had quite a time finding homes for their libraries, as well as Joe's woodshop tools. They are now settling into their renovated condo and exploring their options and to consider *some time* moving into a retirement community in the vicinity.

Doak Mansfield just did a sermon: *On the Side of Love, Working for Justice* at the Tupelo UU Church in Mississippi. To see his recent publications please go to:

http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_ss_i_0_14?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=doak+mansfield&prefix=doak+mansfield for more information or contact him at: 183 Lonesome Pines Rd., Laurel, MS 39443 or at (601) 498-0906

Doak adds that he will be looking to take up part-time ministry again this summer, if anyone has any leads for him to follow. (See his personal story on Page 1.)

Carol Taylor, JPD North, reports that she sent all members holiday cards at Thanksgiving and Christmas. She says, "Several of us enjoy telephone conversations from time to time and email notes. Our ranks have risen from 17 to 24 over the course of this past year."

Carol continues, "**Bob and Peggy Doss** are holding their own with lots of trips to the rehab center and to doctors' offices. **Barbara Taylor** says that **Jack** is doing more sleeping these days but when he is awake he always has an agenda he is working on. Jack is living with pulmonary fibrosis which cannot be cured - only treated. In a recent conversation, Barbara sounded in good spirits. **John Morgan** continues to enjoy teaching.

"The group was invited to a luncheon hosted by **Art Hover** and his wife, **Ellen Dionna** in October. Seven of us enjoyed a delicious meal and good conversation (Art, Ellen, **Ralph Mero, John & Betsy Fordon, Richard Gross,** and **Carol Taylor**). We enjoyed ourselves so much that we set another date. We are looking forward to another luncheon gathering at Art and Ellen's in November. We will be focusing our conversation on the question, 'What needs to be part of your daily life for you to have a feeling of *wellness* within your person? Describe what a *feeling of wellness* is for you.'"

Turning of Our Lives continues on Page 12



In Memoriam

Dorothy Moore Clary, 82, wife of the Rev. Bruce Clary, died December 23, 2010. She has been a physical education teacher who had a passion for teaching. She enjoyed swimming. During Bruce's ministry at First Church, Dedham, MA,



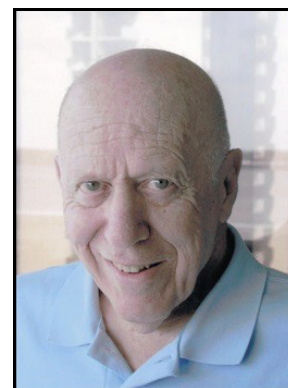
Dottie was an active member of the Women's Alliance. Her work on the Alliance board included serving as co-president. She is remembered for helping with mailing the newsletter, networking, greeting and working on the church's holly fair fundraiser. She supported the Dedham Food Pantry, volunteering many hours on behalf of the congregation. When she turned 80, Dottie was presented with the Clara Barton Award by the First Church (Dedham) Women's Alliance. She is survived by her brother Charles Moore of Greenfield, MA, by three grandchildren and by her husband of 33 years.



Rachel Thorpe Hoagland, 92, widow of the Rev. Robert S. Hoagland, died November 30, 2010. She was a lifelong Unitarian. Rachel attended the Rhode Island School of Design. She shared her talents by teaching art classes to neighborhood kids, by sewing her family's

clothes, running her business *Individuality* (custom-made clothes), and designing outfits for her beloved modern dance group. After Robert died, the adventurer in her came out. Her travels took her camping and canoeing throughout the US and Canada and cruising around the world. She lived vigorously and with immense curiosity and wonder. Rachel was a role model for her many friends and colleagues, young and old alike. She was preceded in death by her husband and their daughter, Martha Hoagland. She is survived by her other three children: Alice Erickson, Anna Hoagland and Evan Hoagland and their spouses; by five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

The Rev. Dr. Robert F. Kaufmann, 89, died December 21, 2010 of bone cancer. He joined our ministry in midlife having been a comic book writer, a school registrar, a motion picture promoter and a diamond cutter in his teen and early adult years. He also was a comedy writer. For thirty years he served UU congregations across the country and around the world as both a settled and interim minister. He was named minister emeritus by the Long Beach, CA church. Bob also worked tirelessly to support the Ethical Culture Charter School Foundation in New York City. He called the last year of his life his most productive. At the time of his death he had just completed a book entitled *I Love You, I Think, Or I Would If I Knew What It Meant: 27 Chapters of Wit & Wisdom on Life, Laughter, and Love* (www.whatifpublishing.com). He is survived by his wife Arlene Kaufmann, their children Richard and Susan Kaufmann, their daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.



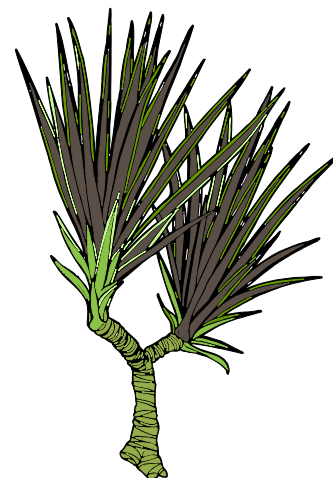
In Memoriam

Marilyn Shirley Ireland Steeves, 90, widow of the Rev. Addison Eliot Steeves, died June 6, 2010. For 25 years she taught in public and private schools in ME, CA and MA. She wrote the hymn "Heirs of One Faith Are We" when the Unitarian and Universalist women's organizations merged. She served on the Exterior Committee of the AUA and the General Alliance of Unitarians. She was active with other liberal Christian women leading training for the Sunday School Union of Greater Boston. She was president of the Family Service Association of Dedham, MA and served on the board of directors of the Family Services Association of Greater Boston. She was an accomplished pianist and alto soloist. She enjoyed Elderhostel, the Bowdoin June Seminar, and Bates noonday concerts. Marilyn was a prolific reader all her life and worked as a book reviewer. She loved to knit, to make bread and to collect pewter. She is survived by her three children: Sally, Ellen and Mark Steeves, a daughter-in-law and a son-in-law.



Mary Weston-Jones, 70, wife of the Rev. Dick Weston-Jones, died peacefully at home December 11, 2010, after fighting breast cancer for 13 years. She was an elementary school counselor in Illinois and Florida, and a high school vocational counselor in California. In 1968 she was expelled from her Southern Baptist Church in Starkville, MS for asking the pastor if black people could be invited to worship with them. That led to her becoming UU four years later in State College, PA, where she married Dick. She showed tremendous courage during her illness, which never went into remission; she outlived all predictions. She arranged for infusion therapy at various hospitals as she and Dick traveled widely during the past 12 years. Her last trip was in October to the ocean. She drove the Virginia Beach boardwalk in her power wheelchair and savored her favorite food, deep-fried oysters. She is survived by her husband, Dick, by six children, two foster children and 21 grandchildren.

Gary Thomas Murphy, 60, husband of the Rev. Suzanne Trappe Black, died Dec. 30, 2010, the day before his 61st birthday. He had had recurrent heart problems and finally succumbed to congestive heart failure. Gary and Suzanne were married August 12, 2000 by the Rev. Karen Stoyanoff, who also officiated at Gary's memorial service. Gary will be remembered for his love of the desert and his interest in growing plants. He also was good with animals and enjoyed his model train set. The couple called themselves "snowbirds" and enjoyed traveling. He is survived by his wife; his mother, June Murphy; his sisters, Pat Walker and Sue Hicks and by many beloved nieces and nephews and by a great-niece and great-nephew.



Time for a hearing test?

Gradual hearing loss is a common byproduct of aging. Since hearing damage is irreversible, prevention is critical. Wear hearing protection— such as ear plugs or earmuffs—if you know you will be exposed to continuous or excessively loud noise.

You *may* need a hearing test if:

- You feel like you're surrounded by mumblers.
- You frequently misunderstand what other people are saying.
- Friends and family members complain that you blast the volume on the radio or television.
- You have to strain to hear in a noisy background



If this sounds like you . . . try getting a free hearing test at a senior health fair or a walk-in clinic, then talk with your doctor. Find out what you are missing.

Adapted from a Group Health publication.

Develop your word power

Chronologically gifted: old

Horizontally challenged: fat

Follicularly challenged: bald

Vertically challenged: short

Motivationally dispossessed: lazy

Melanin impoverished: Caucasian

Adapted by your editor from a piece by author Pamela Brown

* * * * *
* * * * *
* i'm living so far beyond my income that *
* we may almost be said to be living apart *
* * * * *
* * * * *
* * * * *

— e.e. cummings

Thanks for Serving

In 2011 we elect a President, Vice-President, Caring Network Chair, one Member-at-Large, and a Nominating Committee Chair.

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate:

- President—**Dick Gilbert** — two-year term
- Vice-President — **Jim Eller**— two-year term
- Caring Network Chair—**Paul L’Herrou**—two-year term
- Member-at Large—**Dick Fewkes**—two-year term
- Chair of Nominating Committee—**Ellen Brandenburg** —two-year term

The bylaws read: “If only one person is nominated for each position the persons shall be declared elected.” This is the case for the list of nominees above. We thank them for their commitment to serve. And thanks to those continuing in office:

- Secretary— **Jan Sammons**
- Treasurer—**Kathleen Hunter**
- Newsletter Editor—**Chris Lilly Backus**
- Nominating Committee Member—**Nancy Doughty**
- Nominating Committee Member—**Ellen Johnson-Fay**

The Nominating Committee
Ellen Brandenburg (Chair), Ellen Johnson-Fay, Nancy Doughty

Help keep UURMaPA strong. Donate today!



I am (we are) contributing:

___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 other _____

Please make check payable to UURMaPA (US funds please) and send to:
Kathleen Hunter, 55 Crystal Ave., PMB 248, Derry, NH 03038, USA *Thank you!*

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

In honor of _____ In memory of _____

Please contact me about:

UURMaPA’s Endowment Fund ___ Charitable Gift Annuity ___ Deferred Giving ___

Turning of Our Lives

Doe Lockwood and her daughter have moved in together in an old house they have been restoring for two years. It's 98% finished on the inside—but they've done nothing on the outside *yet* but it Doe says it's very livable in every way. It has a huge garage with an apartment over it for her daughter. It's connected to the main house via a stairwell so they both have private space and share the rest of the house. Does says "When one gets involved in these endeavors, they become so all-consuming and that, plus a couple of months in New Mexico this summer, is about all I have done this year."

Alan Deal and **Kathleen Hunter** had lunch with **Martha** and **David Pohl** in mid-January. Martha has recovered from some difficult health problems and so they are enjoying life again. For example, they had a Christmas tree for the first time in three years. David is working on the celebrations for the UUA's 50th Anniversary at the GA in Charlotte. Kathleen took this picture in the Pohls' side yard after a recent storm, which dropped 20 inches of snow.



Margi Nasemann wrote a paper on Fred Wilson, an African-American artist, for a course called, "Mining the Museum," which she is taking at SUNY Purchase.

David Parke spent three weeks in Germany in mid-fall. After visits to Berlin and Munich, he spent eleven days with **Orloff Miller** in Ludwigshafen (southwestern Germany), enjoying day trips in the Rhine Valley, including an EUU assembly in Alsace and a visit to the Albert Schweitzer homestead and museum in Gunsbach.

Bob Dick's son, Jeff Taft-Dick, reports that Bob turned 94 in December. He remains physically active but is having trouble with his memory and now has great difficulty expressing himself. Bob still enjoys getting mail, especially with photos or pictures. Email his son, Nate Dick, at npdick@gmail.com if you'd like the family to send you updates.



Photo by Eleanor Richardson

Jeff & Bob at Fall 2009 NE Conference

Eleanor Motley Richardson notes that in December her family celebrated its 150th Annual Christmas Party (black tie), at the Country Club in Brookline, MA. Eleanor published a special Motley genealogy for the occasion, and enjoyed getting in touch with a lot of long-lost cousins.

Turning of Our Lives news also appears on Pages 6-7

Just One More Reminder

by Wana Perry

My name all by itself
on the envelope
stares up at me
in all its loneliness
Then welcomes the tears
that fall in the space
where his name is no longer
a part of today's mail



Editor's Note: Wana's poem also appeared in the UU Ministers Partners newsletter in 2005



“Ask your child what he wants
for dinner,
only if he's buying.”

— Fran Liebowitz

Directory Updates

Directory updates for these individuals are available in the hard copy of the newsletter.

Herb & Mary Adams *Maine*
Suzanne Trappe Black *AZ/NV*
Carolyn Colbert *Bay Area Costal*
Rudolph C. Gelsey *CO/MO/WY*
Charles & Claudine Grady *Prairie Star*
Barbara Gudmundson *Prairie Star*
Ted Webb *Bay Area Inland*
Allen Wells *Metro NY/NJ*

Save paper and get your
newsletter in full color!

To receive
Elderberries by email
contact your editor
Chris Lilly Backus
chrisbackus@msn.com

Last Call for Creative Sage-ing Award

UURMaPA's Annual Creative Sage-ing Award recognizes UURMaPA members for outstanding service and creativity in pursuing new ventures *after retirement*. This might include community service, mentoring and/or initiation of (or participation in) service projects. The Creative Sage-ing Award Committee (**Dick Fewkes, Helen Lane and Judy Mannheim**) will be meeting very soon to select a member of UURMaPA (minister, partner or surviving partner or couple) for our 2011 award. Our winners have been **Lex Crane** (2008), **Bill Murry** (2009) and **Eleanor and Peter Richardson** (2010). The 2011 winner will be announced at General Assembly and will receive a \$500 honorarium. Don't be shy. Let us know what you're up to or nominate another member. Send nominations by **February 28, 2011** to:

Dick Fewkes
41 Cygnet Drive
West Dennis, MA 02670
dick_ellie@aol.com



UURMaPA's Pan-South Conference in Asheville, NC



Come enjoy the “Paris, or the Santa Fe of the Southeast” and catch up with old friends and meet new ones. We will be hosted by the UU Church of Asheville, 1 Edwin Place, near downtown.

Keynote program “Whose Are We?” led by Carol Taylor

Stay at the Ramada Inn (River Ridge) or choose home hospitality through the Asheville UU Church B&B program. For Ramada Inn reservations at the special reduced rate of \$69 + tax per night, double occupancy, contact the Inn before March 1, 2011 and ask for “Unitarian Universalist” room block. Hot breakfast is included. Go to www.ramadariverridge.com or call (828) 298-9141. For home hospitality through the church, cost is \$55 a night, as a donation to the church. Contact Clark Olsen for home hospitality and scholarship inquiries. Registration fee includes Wednesday & Thursday dinners and two social hours, plus program. Please mail \$58/person (payable to UURMAPA) to:

Clark Olsen, Registrar
4 Mountain Meadow Circle
Weaverville, NC 28787
clarkolsen@charter.net Phone: (828) 484-9239

UURMaPA PAN-SOUTH CONFERENCE March 30-April 1, 2011

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ No. of People: _____

Special Needs: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Lodging:

- Have made reservation at Ramada River Ridge Inn
- Would like home hospitality through UU Church of Asheville
- Will take care of own accommodations
- Check for Registration fee enclosed (\$58 per person, payable to UURMaPA)
- Would like scholarship assistance

Program starts at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 30 and runs through Thursday evening, Mar. 31. Friday, April 1 will offer time to see the area and go out to lunch in small groups in the nearby downtown area.

(See more detailed program description on our website: www.urmapa.org, “Activities” tab)

Let's Get Together!

PAN SOUTH CONFERENCE — UU Church of Asheville, NC, Mar. 30-Apr. 1, 2011. Clark Olsen, Registrar, clarkolsen@charter.net or (828) 484-9239. Carol Taylor will lead Keynote Program: "Whose Are We?" Motel and home hospitality options available. Details on our website at www.uurmapa.org and on Page 15 of this newsletter.

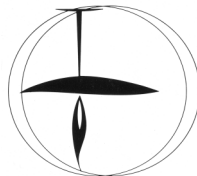
STAR ISLAND GATHERING — Labor Day week, 2011. If you enjoy being with colleagues in a rustic setting, with little structured time, this could be for you! UURMaPA members register as "personal retreatants." Thanks to Kathleen Hunter and Alan Deale for agreeing to organize this time together for the third year.

NORTHEAST CONFERENCE — Attleboro, MA, LaSalette Retreat Center, October 4-6, 2011. Kathleen Hunter is registrar. Watch for details in next *Elderberries*.

REGIONAL GATHERINGS are also gaining popularity with our members. If you would like to be involved with hosting or helping let your Caring Network Contact know (see the website or the back of the *2011 UURMaPA Directory* for details.)

There are now more \$200 grants for each regional conference. Contact registrar about eligibility. Continuing education grants to attend conferences are also available from the Rev. Richard Nugent (rnugent@uua.org), 25 Beacon St, Boston MA 02108 or call him at (617) 948-6456.

Address Service Requested



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