

*Unitarian
Universalist
Retired
Ministers
Association*

An association of retired Unitarian Universalist ministers, their spouses and the surviving spouses of deceased Unitarian Universalist ministers.

OCTOBER 1991

ELDER BERRIES

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.R.M.A.

VOLUME VII

NUMBER 1

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The new Editor is hopeful that he can continue the splendid work of his predecessor, **Al Perry**. What puzzles him is what the members of the U. U. Retired Ministers' Association might like to find on the pages of *Elderberries*. A considerable portion of the Association's not-too-extensive resources is spent on the publication. But it is not yet clear to the Editor what is either needed or wanted in these pages. Some ideas do occur to one. And we have had some submissions. The Editor does receive notification of the deaths of U. U. ministers. It is not clear that he gets notification of the death of spouses of ministers. But such notices as do come will not always coincide with publication dates of *Elderberries*. We plan to include the list in each regular publication. Some welcome news of colleagues and friends. Information regarding regional conferences and activities at the General Assembly will be included. **David Hubner** of the Office of Church Staff Finances has requested the privilege of space for a column directed specifically to the interests of retired ministers and spouses. Probably the U.U.R.M.A. President will want to write to the members about the affairs of our Association. Some want to know what others are reading, special vacation travel, spots, particular values in merchandise, and other hints about coping with the conditions of life for people who have retired. The Editor does want to know what other things would be useful. It'll cost you a telephone call or a 29 cent stamp to let him know what you'd like to be reading on these pages. Otherwise, what will appear is what he wants. That could be a real gamble.

Gordon B. McKeeman



MUNSON'S MUSINGS

There would seem to be no more appropriate tribute to present as I begin this column (which may appear periodically), than to extend accolades to retiring President **Harold Hadley**. A brief history of the birthing of the U.U.R.M.A. appeared in the last issue of the *Elderberries*. Harold played a vital role in the development of the *dream* and then accepted the mantle of leadership over the past six years.

At the recent Northeast Conference, on behalf of the Board, and, indeed all of us, I presented Harold and Shirley with Thomas Jefferson cups inscribed simply with their names. A letter of commendation from U.U.A. President Bill Schulz was read and handed to them and our words and applause echoed from every corner of the land as you were all with us in that simple celebrative moment.

During the same ceremony, appreciation was extended to **Irene** and **Al Perry** for their years of editorship and circulation of *Elderberries*. Bill Schulz's letter to them plus a scroll bearing all our signatures conveyed recognition and praise

With such love and devotion to the U.U.R.M.A., the future looks bright indeed.

Keith C. Munson

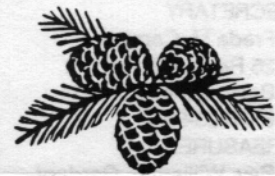
SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

The UURMA Board met in Boston at the Eliot-Pickett House on September 25. All Board members were present except **Phil Giles**, who was unable to come due to family illness. President **Keith Munson** led the Board through consideration of a number of items of concern. There were reports of regional conferences and information regarding upcoming conferences, including the possibility of one on the West Coast at Malibu. The contact program was reviewed and suggestions made as to additional regional contact people. **Bill Gardner** assured the Board of the solvency of the UURMA. Considerable time was devoted to a discussion as to whether the UURMA is appropriately a chapter of the UUMA. Further discussion on this will be held with the UUMA representatives. Bill Gardner is the UURMA representative on the Council on Church Staff Finances. Some attention was given to the plans of the new Editor of *Elderberries*. It was agreed that the Board would meet again on January 15, 1992.

SIDE

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The **Hadleys** wish to express their profound gratitude for the recognition of their leadership in the creation of the UURMA. As elsewhere reported, they were presented with engraved Thomas Jefferson cups as a token of UURMA appreciation of their contribution to the creation and early growth of the organization. They are our "grand parents."



LINES

Membership in the UURMA includes all retired Unitarian Universalist ministers, their spouses and the spouses of deceased U.U. ministers excepting only those who express a desire not to be considered members. We are concerned that our records, particularly as they relate to spouses of deceased ministers may be deficient. Any information regarding this matter would be appreciated. We also do not have complete information regarding the names of spouses of living retired ministers. Can you help us to complete our list?

ONCE AND...

CHICAGO.....A recent letter from Meadville/Lombard included a brief description of the UURMA gathering September 20-22: *beginning with a lively exchange at Vespers on Friday, luncheon with a tour of First Church, dinner Saturday with the Lavans, and a session with Dr. Helje Faber from the Netherlands, founder of Clinical Pastoral Education in that country and in Europe.* **Anne Louise Brigham** gave a splendid presentation, "Women on U. S. Postage Stamps," and the group visited the Oriental Institute. There were eighteen members present. Plans were discussed for the 1992 gathering.

HUDSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE.....The Oblate Retreat Center was again the scene of the Northeast UURMA gathering, with over fifty members present. The program included some well received musical programs planned and carried out by the **Lindquist/Hammond** duo, featuring *Turkeys in the Straw* by Grace Lindquist Hammond and a program of Big Band Jazz, 1922-47, emceed by Bill Hammond. **Jack Mendelsohn, Marta Flanagan, David Pohl, Carl Seaburg** presented views of varied aspects of ministry, and a small groups discussion of "Our Role in the Local Congregation," sparked a very lively discussion. **Mr. R. G. Lacasse** from the N. H. Department of Human Services proved to be of substantial help to the group with his presentation on supplemental health care insurance programs. There was brief meeting for business with President **Keith Munson** presiding. **Rev. Dr. Harry Meserve** conducted the closing worship.

...FUTURE

BROOKVILLE, FLORIDA.....The 1992 Southeast UURMA Convocation will be at UU in the Pines, February 19-21, from 5:00p.m. Wednesday, through luncheon on Friday. The cost will be \$60.00 per attendee, plus \$4.00 social charge to be paid on arrival. The detailed program will be mailed early in December to all prior attendees and Southeast UURMA members. Others may request a copy of the program and registration form from **Priscilla A. Brooks**, 1515 Forrest Nelson Boulevard, Unit 0-207, Port Charlotte, FL 33952. Telephone 813/625-2275. Financial assistance is available through David Hubner at the Office of Church Staff Finances, UUA. Committee in charge: George and Priscilla Brooks, Roy and Lucille Congdon and Todd and Carolyn Taylor.

MALIBU, CALIFORNIA.....Ted Webb reports that the West Coast Regional Conference Planning Committee (**the Webbs, Ford Lewises, the Aron Gilmartins, the Roy Ockerts**), plans a gathering at the Retreat Center in Malibu for February 10-12. Program includes the following: Centering and check-in; sharing of individual hopes, thoughts, problems and favorite writings; "Is there ministerial life after retirement?"; The Future of the UUA"; "Discussion of Core Values" with a consideration of "Death with Dignity." A visit to the Getty Museum and "Planning the Future of West Coast UURMA," are also on the agenda. Ted can be reached at 916/925-6034.

CONFERENCES

OF BOOKS FOR BOOKWORMS and others

Songs of Experience, an Anthology of Literature on Growing Old; edited by Margaret Fowler and Priscilla McCutcheon. Ballantine; first edition May 1, 1991; \$12.50

This is a book we all would find of great value to read, to own, to refer to and to lend to our friends, Don't be turned off by the sub-title. This collection was not edited by youngsters who feel they must tell us how to spend our "golden years." It is a volume of carefully selected literature and poetry written or spoken by some well-known people to us all, and some not so well-known such as Mona Van Dyan, Robert Coles and Mark Helprin. Also it includes those voices we've heard and heeded like Anne Morrow Lindbergh, Mark Van Doren, Helen Hayes and Albert Schweitzer.

The wisdom comes to us in the form of letters, excerpts from novels, entire short stories, straight talk, memoirs, humor, biography, plus a sensitive interview with Jessica Tandy and Hume Cronyn. Captured in these pages is a whole range of truths from those who have lived or are living and know what life is all about.

May Sarton says of the book, *If you begin this compendium of wisdom, you will not stop until you have devoured it in all its variety and splendor. What an exhilarating adventure.*

Hope Reamon

unsolicited advertising

Aren't you going to write a book when you retire? Well, some of us do.

THE TALLEST OF THE TALL is a selection of "Notes from the Chaplain's journal aboard Star Flyer's trans-atlantic maiden voyage." Written and published by our President **Keith Munson**.

THIS STRANGE AND WONDROUS JOURNEY is a selection of sermons written and preached by UURMA Board member **John Cummins**, and published by Rising Press, Minneapolis. Copies may be obtained by writing to the Press, c/o the First Universalist Church, 5000 Girard Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55419.

YES! A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST MINISTER'S RESPONSE TO NEED is the title of a forthcoming Keepsake volume, honoring the life and works of the late Rev. Richard Alan Langhinrichs. For further information contact Bobbi Kreicher, 3611 Cheviot, Fort Wayne, IN 46816. 219/447-0651



THE



OF LIFE



**GRACE
NOTES**

The Department of Ministry has reported the deaths of:

Albert F. Ziegler - May 21, 1991

surviving : Wife - Eunice Ziegler
6344 Skyline Ct.
Spring Hill, FL 33526

Lawrence van Heerden - June 10, 1991

surviving: Former wife and five children

Theodore Popp - June 11, 1991

surviving: Alice M. Popp
707 Larry Drive
DeLand FL 32724

Philip Mayer - June 16, 1991

surviving: four children

Eldridge Stoneham - July 13, 1991

surviving: daughter, Midge McConnell
Durham, NH

David Kibby - July 22, 1991

surviving: Wife, Jane Kibby
811 Park Ridge Rive
Media, PA 19063

Elinor Berke - August 21, 1991

surviving: two daughters

William Gold - September 23, 1991

surviving: Wife, Madlyn Gold
1940 Bishop Avenue
Petersburg, VA 23805

Anne Louise Brigham is making good progress in recovering from a stroke which occurred shortly after her attendance at the Midwest UURMA Conference. She is gradually regaining the use of her right arm, hand and leg which were affected by the stroke.

Charles Grady reports that **Claudine** has a new guide dog, Max, who succeeds Emily in that post. We are happy to know that the transition has gone well. We shall soon be making the acquaintance of Max.

Elmer Colcord writes, recalling his student days at Tufts. He thinks he may be the oldest living graduate of Crane. He still mourns what he calls the "murder" of the school, and remembers fondly the names of fellow students. He'd be glad to exchange reminiscences with others about the old days on the Hill

Word has been received from other sources of the deaths of:

Helene McGorrill, widow of Milton McGorrill. She lived in Deer Isle, ME, and was well-known in crafts and art circles for her ceramic tiles.

Margaret Johnston, widow of Don Johnston and a mainstay of the UURMA from its inception. Peg was head of the Contact Program of the UURMA and an enthusiastic member of the Board.

There is no single source of information regarding the deaths of spouses of ministers, so if you receive such information, share it with the Editor of *Elderberries*. regardless of its timeliness

The editorial office of Elderberries is located at 24 Lake Forest Dr., Charlottesville, VA 22901. Formatting is being done by VerCon Concepts (Vern Curry). Distribution is courtesy of the US Postal Service and mailing labels are processed by the UUA.

- Everything hurts. And what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
- You feel like the morning after, and you haven't been anywhere.
- Your little black book contains only names that end in M.D.
- You look forward to a dull evening.
- You join a health club and never go.
- You need your glasses to find your glasses.
- You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.
- Your knees buckle, but your belt won't.
- You have too much room in your house, and not enough in the medicine chest.



YOU WONDER WHY MORE PEOPLE DON'T USE THIS SIZE PRINT.

Unitarian Universalist
Retired Ministers' Association
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