



## Bay Area Urantians Form New Society

A new URANTIA Society has been born. On February 8, 1976 at the Family of God headquarters in Berkeley, the San Francisco Bay Area URANTIA Society was formally invested as the planet's twelfth chartered URANTIA Society.

Two of those twelve never acted officially as Societies, so SFBAUS is, for all practical purposes, the tenth. In this connection, Brotherhood President Paul Snider remarked in jest that SFBAUS must therefore be a "decimal" society and must have some experimental purpose. (It remains to be seen just what sort of mutations may evolve.)



SFBAUS Officers, David, Mary, Jo Ann, and Gard.

Presiding at the ceremony was Mary Lou Hales, Chairperson of the Brotherhood Charter Committee. Also participating in the proceedings were Julia Fenderson, Field Representative, and Herman Schell, member of the Charter Committee. Following the ceremony, about thirty-five persons enjoyed a sit-down fellowship luncheon.

The officers of the new Society are David Gray, President; Mary Echlin, Vice President; Jo Ann Eichmann, Secretary; and Gard Jameson, Treasurer.

SFBAUS set numbers records with eighteen Founders and five Charter Members at the time of its inception.

The Founders are: Connie Aller, Sara Blackstock, Mary Beth Brunner, Brian Cox, Mary Echlin, Jo Ann Eichmann, Bettina Gray, David Gray, Nancy Grimsley, Vern Grimsley, Gard Jameson, David Kantor, Sue Kantor, Terry McCade, Penny Poole, Fred Shupp, Susan Shupp, and Jeff Wattles.

The Charter Members are: Bob Blackstock, Marvin Gawryn, Marilyn Nelson, Francyl Streano, and Mark Turrin.

May we all, Urantians around the world, join in extending our best wishes for success, our love, and our prayers to each of the members of SFBAUS, our newest URANTIA Society.

## Dr. Prince Appointed Brotherhood Field Rep

In February, the URANTIA Brotherhood Executive Committee named a new Field Representative, Richard F. Prince, M.D. Dr. Prince thus joins a distinguished group of fewer than ten persons who bear that title throughout the world.

As a Field Representative, Dr. Prince will serve as liaison between Chicago and local groups in his own area, currently San Diego, and wherever he may chance to travel.

A primary aim of the Field Representative is to encourage the formation of study groups, to follow up on inquiries from interested new readers, and generally to coordinate the activities of Urantians on a local level.

Technically, Field Representatives are not assigned to any geographical area and have an international responsibility. In practice, however, Dick will probably concentrate his efforts in California.

Dick is 31 years old, received his B.A. in Psychology from the University of Virginia in 1966 and his M.D. from the Medical College of Virginia in 1970.

He is currently Staff Physician in the Emergency Department of Bay General Hospital in Chula Vista.

Dick lives in San Diego with his charming wife Cheryl, a former airline stewardess, and his daughter, Christine Ananda, born last year on August 21. The Princes conduct a URANTIA Book Study Group on Tuesday evenings in their home.

## FUSLA Adds 14 Members

Fourteen new members were formally accepted into the membership of the First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles, March 7, 1976.

In alphabetical order, the new members are:

Frances Basso  
Cale Brehio  
Marc Denton  
Carol Forsythe  
Gregory Harris  
Chris Heimer  
Charles Hicks  
Quentin James  
Johathan Johnson  
Karen Johnson  
Gladys Marquart  
Russ Marquart  
Andrew Remon  
Bill Sherwood

(See story and picture, p. 4)

### agondonter

The Agondonter is published quarterly by the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles, and is wholly supported by FUSLA.

Donations are appreciated and should be in the form of a check, payable to FUSLA.

Items of mutual interest are welcomed from Societies, study groups or individuals. Shorter items are given preference.

Write to: Agondonter, PO Box 563, Los Angeles, CA 90053

Editor: Charles Montgomery  
Production Manager: Bill Sherwood  
Editorial Consultant: Julia Fenderson

Editorial Board: Jeff Bedell  
Charles Montgomery  
Scott Forsythe

On Jerusalem, the ascenders from isolated worlds such as Urantia "are known as the agondonters, meaning evolutionary will creatures who can believe without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties even when alone."

\*page 579

\*Excerpt from The URANTIA Book. Copyright © 1955, Urantia Foundation--Used by permission.

# LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS

To the Editor:

Please accept my donation for your (our) newsletter. Been meaning to write since I first read one. I just read the Fall, 1975 issue and it really topped off a bountiful day. Reflections was far out and the cartoon I could relate to. Been reading The URANTIA Book about two years now and I surely thank God for it. How Father loves us!

Praise God in all his glory

Thank you Jesus

Maholo nui loa

The Miller Family

Kekaha, Kauai, Hawaii

To the Editor:

What a great experience reading the Agondonter, with its news, pictures, comment and interesting miscellany. I hope the enclosed check will keep me on the mailing list. Such a publication makes a community of us all and makes for a vicarious fellowship, drawing in those of us who are not able to attend meetings.

Sincerely,

Ken Knight

Aurora, Colorado

To the editor,

Our group here in Sacramento is coming along very nicely. We have a regular group of about eight to ten people and seem to be meeting new potential members all the time.

At present the format of our group is similar to that in Berkeley where I was a member for a year or two. One person takes responsibility for leading the group each time



and usually selects a topic which is pursued in depth with the help of the Concorde. Of course, everyone has his own style and so the meetings are always different.

By the way, the Agondonter is great. Thank you for your excellent publication.

Regards,

Ron Davis

Carmichael, California

Dear wonderful people who publish the Agondonter:

Put me on the mailing list—so thrilled to hear about it. I have been a Urantian for 40 years—just love it—in Chicago. Now live in St. Petersburg—8 years. Did meet Vern Grimsley—year ago—Julia Fenderson, Bill and Carol Brehio—Love them all—

Agatha D. Cook

St. Petersburg, Florida

Greetings URANTIA Friends,

1975 has been a happy and growing year for our "tadpole" Alaskan study group. In addition to our regular weekly meetings, we have had workshops, socials, dinners, mountain hikes, and weekend trips. Three of our members attended the General Conference in Chicago while others visited with study groups in Hawaii, California and Oklahoma. One of our greatest pleasures this year has been communicating and personally fellowshiping with you, our "outside" Urantian friends.

Some of our study group members have been absent at intervals this year while working on the Alaska Pipeline. We certainly see and feel the "boom" effects of the pipeline all around us in our pioneer state's accelerated material growth.

We are presently planning a program for discussion sessions to introduce the basic messages of The URANTIA Book to individuals who have expressed interest. This will provide us the opportunity to disseminate the teachings and to practice our abilities as student teachers. We hope the efforts will pave the way for the formation of new study groups here in the Northland.

Our thanks to all of you who help to keep us informed of our "family" activities: individuals, the Foundation, the Brotherhood, the Family of God, the Agondonter, and the Finaliter.

Patsy Hayes, Tucky Hayes, Ron Craig, Ed Harrigan, Alan Hanson, Alice Colman, Doug Fulton, Wayne Fulton, Deborah Foster, Barb Maier, Andrew Klein, Tom & Annie Choquette. [Anchorage, Alaska]

To the Editor:

Ron & Barbara Edwards shared their Agondonter with our study group and we really love it. My 8 and 10 year old sons really related to Vince's style when I read it to them (Reflections) as they rolled happily on a friend's water bed.

Our group and the Tampa/St. Petersburg group sponsored a state conference December 6th in Tampa. There were some fifty people attending and many fantastic repercussions. We plan to do it again next year, in October. Vern, Jim Mills & John Hales spoke.

Many of us plan to attend the National Conference next summer in Oklahoma. I hope to meet you there.

Ann Cole

Sarasota, Florida

Thanks

P.S. To those of you who have written to us and have received no personal replies, please accept our thanks at this time. We are unable to answer every letter, but we really appreciate hearing from you. Keep them coming.

CMM

## News from Chigago

In a November, 1975 letter to Friends of the URANTIA Revelation, Tom Kendall, President of the URANTIA Foundation, noted: "In just 20 years, approximately 55,000 URANTIA Books have quietly found their way into circulation. During that same period, our office work has grown in volume to embrace interests and activities in countries all over the world."


In an accompanying letter, Paul Snider, President of the URANTIA Brotherhood, reported: "The work at headquarters has been increasing rapidly. Within the past year our small staff (2-1/2 paid and 2 volunteer) has answered about 2400 letters, 1500 phone calls, and has met with 450 visitors in addition to processing orders and shipping URANTIA Books on a regular basis to almost 1000 bookstores and many hundreds of individuals who order the book directly from Chicago."

## A REMINDER:

We wish to bring to the attention of our Agondonter readers the financial needs of our busy parent organizations in Chicago. (See reports above.)

Did you know that a broad base of contributions will help them maintain their non-profit tax status?

That's so. So even if you have only a couple of dollars to spare, send them! (And if you have any extra, don't forget your local Society, and...oh yes, your friendly Agondonter.)



Scott M. Forsythe  
FUSLA President

## NEWSLETTERS

### URANTIA COMMUNICATIONS EXPAND

A number of newsletters published by Urantians have appeared in recent months. Most recent and foremost is The URANTIAN, published by the URANTIA Brotherhood in Chicago. This was sent to the some 1200 names on their list, and if you did not receive a copy, you might wish to write them. The subscription price is three dollars per year.

The Finaliter is published by and for east coast Urantians, but if you send him three dollars, Nick Scalzo will be glad to send it to you wherever you may live. Write him at 51 Ironworks Road, Clinton, CT 06413.

From Hawaii, Bill Lindsay recently sent out the first issue of the (would you believe) Humuhumunukunuaapuaa. This is a one-page mimeographed affair, much like our own Agondonter of five years ago. Bill has no set price but if you'd like to be on his list, I'm sure he'd accept a couple of dollars donation. Write him at 3649 Nihipali Place, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816.

Jock Griffis, in Alvin Texas is planning a newsletter which would take on a more reflective note--more like a journal, perhaps. He is at 1301 S. Hood, #9, Alvin, TX 77511.

Joe Pope, a journalist up in Canada, is keen on seeing a Canadian newsletter develop. He's at 50 Rosehill Ave. Apt. 2110, Toronto, Ontario M4T 1G6.

And there may be others that we don't know about. At any rate, good publishing to all of you. These are exciting times we are in. And in case you may benefit from it, you may be interested in knowing that our policy here at Agondonter includes (a) no advertising, (b) slow growth, and (c) a positive outlook.

--CMM

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

**MAY:** There will be a conference in Oregon beginning Friday evening, May 22, with a social around the campfire. On Saturday the program will include fellowship and worship at the edge of the Rogue River. Sunday, the conference will end with an expanded meeting of the regular Study Group. Contact David and Rose Clearwater. (Address on back page.)

**JUNE:** FUSLA plans a one day mini-conference, really a day of spiritual retreat, on either June 5 or 6, at Zuma Beach, near Malibu. The program will be exceedingly simple, with the emphasis on communion. FUSLans will receive notice. Others interested in attending contact Vince Ventola. (Address on back page.)

**JUNE:** The URANTIA International Forum, Oklahoma, will be on June 25, 26, and 27, with workshops on June 28, 29, and 30. Contact Berkeley Elliott. (See story this issue.)

**JULY:** Sometime in July, shortly after the Oklahoma Forum, there will be an East Coast Conference at Dan Massey's big stone house in New Hampshire. We don't know much about this, but you might try contacting Nick Scalzo, Finaliter Editor, for details.

**SEPTEMBER:** Urantians will meet at the beautiful Asilomar conference site in Monterey, California, on a weekend in mid-September. Keep it in mind. Further details in next issue.

**OCTOBER:** A Florida State conference is tentatively planned for October. No details as yet.

**ETERNITY:** Throughout all time, and in eternity, Urantians will be meeting somewhere, somehow, and exchanging their love.

## SOME BASIC DEFINITIONS...

**The URANTIA Book:** The fifth epochal revelation to the planet Earth (Urantia). The Book consists of a 2097-page collection of writings from super-human personalities dealing with God, man, earth, the Universe of Universes, and every conceivable branch of human science and thought, all in a uniquely brilliant, internally consistent, and spiritually uplifting manner. The style, organization and content are incomparable.

A portion of the Book portrays the life and teachings of Jesus in a single narrative so sublimely beautiful and profound that it could only be a revelation; it could not be the work of man.

**The URANTIA Foundation:** The group charged with the full and single responsibility of preserving the integrity of the URANTIA Revelation and making it available intact. In other words, the copyright holder and publisher of The URANTIA Book. Address: 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, Illinois 60614.

**The URANTIA Brotherhood:** We might say that this is the entire body of believers in the URANTIA Revelation. But specifically, the URANTIA Brotherhood is a fraternal organization with an educational purpose, headquartered in Chicago along with the Foundation, and composed of members-at-large and local URANTIA Societies around the world.

—CMM

# FUSLA News

## Fourteen Added

### FUSLA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Fourteen new members were formally accepted into the membership of the First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles on Sunday, March 7, 1976 at the regular monthly meeting.

The new members are: Frances Basso, Cale Brehio, Marc Denton, Carol Forsythe, Gregory Harris, Chris Heimer, Charles Hicks, Quentin James, Jonathan Johnson, Karen Johnson, Gladys Marquardt, Russ Marquardt, Andrew Remon, and Bill Sherwood.

Prerequisites to membership in our URANTIA Society include having read the entire URANTIA Book and stating a belief in its teachings, having completed a prescribed course of orientation meetings, having agreed to support the URANTIA organizations and to conform to the laws of this country, having been known by another Brotherhood member for at least one year, and being at least fourteen years of age.

A new group of seven candidate members recently began the six month orientation program pre-requisite to formal membership.

Any person is welcome to become a member of FUSLA while still retaining their membership in any church, religious organization, or fraternal society.

Membership in FUSLA automatically constitutes a person a member of the URANTIA Brotherhood.

We congratulate each of the fourteen new FUSLA members upon the occasion of their formal induction into the URANTIA Brotherhood; we welcome their energy, their commitment, and their personalities to our growing community of URANTIA believers and workers.

## Monthly Meetings

### FUSLA FEATURES VARIED PROGRAM

On the first Sunday of every month, FUSLA holds an area-wide meeting in Los Angeles. From thirty to fifty members and guests generally attend these gatherings. Our Education Chairman, Vince Ventola, sets up the program for these meetings, and for the past six months we have had the following:

November: Clyde Bedell gave a slide show talk on his Concordex, and was presented a plaque of appreciation.

December: Vince gave a talk on worship, a topic he has studied at length, illustrating his points with original art work.

January: After brief keynote presentations, the group broke into four seminars to grapple with the issue of "our highest loyalty," after which a person from each small group reported the findings to the reassembled whole.

February: Julia Fenderson reported on her trip to Australia, and showed slides of people at headquarters in Chicago.

March: FUSLA's fourteen new members were formally installed, and Vern Grimsley spoke on effective personal work. The FOG crew was down in force for this meeting, and we had over 100 people in attendance.

April: Polly Parke presented a slide show talk on symbols and the meaning of the new cult, followed by open discussion.

Following every meeting we have varied and interesting refreshments, thanks to our Hospitality Chairperson, Felice Long, and the many individuals who volunteer to bring food items. This is the time for meeting new persons and fellowshiping with old friends.

Agondonter, Spring 1976, page 4



New FUSLA members: Greg Harris, Francis Basso, Marc Denton, Carol Forsythe, Chris Heimer, Cale Brehio, Andy Remon, Charles Hicks, Gladys Marquardt, Russ Marquardt, Bill Sherwood. (Absent from picture: Jonathan and Karen Johnson and Quentin James.)

## Delegates and Officers

### FUSLA ASSEMBLY ACTS TO FILL POSTS

An assembly of the FUSLA membership voted on March 21 to elect Scott Forsythe as Delegate and Dorothy Hicks as Alternate Delegate to the Triennial Delegation in Chicago in June.

The Assembly also voted to fill the vacancies soon to be created in the offices of Secretary and Treasurer. Secretary Leonard Kidd and his family will be moving to Pennsylvania. Treasurer Patricia Bedell will be taking her family and following husband Jeff to Saudi Arabia where Jeff has a two-year teaching appointment.

Carol Forsythe was elected to fill the office of Secretary and Lucile Faw was elected to the Treasurer position, both for the remainder of the present terms of office.

All votes were unanimous.

## Beverly Wold

### FUSLA MEMBER LISTED IN "WHO'S WHO"

Warm congratulations to FUSLA member Beverly Wold of Hemet, California, honored by a listing in the 1975-76 edition of "Who's Who of American Women" for her work in occupational therapy.

Beverly has been affiliated with the Sunshine School in Riverside, the Elks mobile therapy unit in Palm Springs, and was with the Riverside General Hospital's occupational therapy department for nine years. She is currently the therapist for Meadowbrook Convalescent Hospital in Hemet. She also teaches, conducting an evening class at Mt. San Jacinto College to train Activity Leaders for Convalescent Hospitals and related health-care facilities. She hopes to have twenty students receiving their Activity Leader's Certificate by the end of the semester.

In addition to her work, Beverly enjoys travel and photography, having combined both interests on tours to Russia, the Far East and Europe, as well as in Canada and the United States.

When she is not away on a trip, Beverly hosts a URANTIA study group in her home, Wednesday nights.

## Clyde Bedell Honored

At its November 2 meeting, FUSLA honored Clyde Bedell for his remarkable work in producing the ConcordeX.

This is the first, and, as yet, the only index to The URANTIA Book, and is an invaluable study aid.

The ConcordeX was Clyde's life work, (apart, that is, from his secular career as a business consultant,) and he produced it single-handedly. In doing so he performed a great service to us all.

Clyde's letter of acknowledgement →



If you are a reader of The URANTIA Book, you surely need a ConcordeX. You may be able to get one at the book store where you obtained your book, or you can write to headquarters in Chicago, or, if you prefer, write directly to Clyde at:

120 Camino Alto  
Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103

*Clyde Bedell*

120 CAMINO ALTO • SANTA BARBARA • CALIFORNIA • 93103

November 11, 1975

Scott Forsythe

President

First Urantia Society of Los Angeles

12815 Pacific Avenue #8

Los Angeles, California 90066

Dear Scott:

The award I was given last Sunday by FUSLA pleased me more than any other honor, award, or recognition I have ever received. It was a particularly notable and memorable Urantian surprise to me, for it is the first "official recognition" of any kind my labor of love has received. It is especially precious to me, therefore.

I want to say a great "thank you" too for the thoughtfulness shown in the lovely bouquet given Florence. She deserved it, for she was a "ConcordeX widow" for more long evenings and weekends than I would dare calculate.

Please let your membership know that this beautiful expression of appreciation touched me precisely where and as you all intended it to.

This "thank you" will always seem inadequate to me.

Sincerely yours,

*Clyde Bedell*  
Clyde Bedell



Photos taken at recent FUSLA meetings.

# A SALUTE TO FORMER FUSLANS

Urantians seem to move around a lot. (You'd know what we mean if you saw the revisions we have to make in our mailing list every three months!) Over the years, the First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles, FUSLA\*, has admitted over 100 members, but only about fifty are locally active at the present time.

Five of the twenty-three members of the newly formed Bay Area Society, SFBAUS\*, are former FUSLANS, who migrated northward to assist in the spiritual work at FOG\*.

Now, with the forming of SFBAUS, (see front page article) it seems a fitting time to present short sketches of these five former FUSLANS.

This is the story of five people who dared to seek God's will in their lives, found it, and actually did it!

\*A few definitions may be helpful for those not familiar with these California groups:

FUSLA: The First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles. For many years the only URANTIA Society in California. Publisher of this newsletter, the Agondonter.

SFBAUS: The San Francisco Bay Area URANTIA Society. California's second and only other URANTIA Society.

FOG: The Family of God Foundation, in Berkeley. Not an official URANTIA organization, but organized and staffed by Urantians. Produces the "On Campus" radio program. (Box 126, Berkeley, CA 94701)



*Mary*, 30, was introduced to The URANTIA Book in May of 1971. In October of that year, she came to Berkeley to visit the Family of God headquarters, along with Jo Ann Eichmann, Bob Blackstock, Kermit Anderson, and Scott Forsythe. (Kermit and Scott remain FUSLANS, the other three having become SFBAUSers.)

After serving for a time as FUSLA's Hospitality Chairman, she moved in August of 1972 to join FOG. She now teaches English as a second language at Armstrong College. At FOG she is in charge of mail-out of the radio tapes, a complicated and exacting process. She also helps edit the various FOG publications.

In 1974 she married Terry Echlin and the couple bought a house in Berkeley which they are refurbishing. An accomplished keyboard instrumentalist, Mary says she now has little time for hobbies, as her job, her commitments to home culture, and her work with the Family of God require her full attention.

*Jo Ann Eichmann*, 31, discovered The URANTIA Book in 1968, read the whole work over the next three years, met Julia Fenderson in 1971 and was installed into FUSLA on Jesus' birthday, August 21, 1971. She served FUSLA for a very short time before making an instant decision to move north to join FOG that same year. . . without a job. She quickly secured a good position with the Bay Area Rapid Transit, and is now a station agent.

Jo Ann has a degree from the University of California at Irvine, where she majored in Philosophy. She does correspondence counselling at FOG, and prepares FOG's quarterly report. Her interests include poetry, writing, and hot-air ballooning.

Jo Ann recently moved into an apartment building directly across the street from the FOG house, to be more convenient to her volunteer work there. (All "foggers" contribute their labor and talents on a strictly non-cash basis and quite a few live within a stone's throw of the old two-story house that is the FOG headquarters.)

*Bob Blackstock*, 41, has been reading The URANTIA Book since 1967. Of our five former FUSLANS he's been reading the Book the longest; he actually has a first printing, one of the first 10,000 Books printed. Yet, because he hasn't been in the Bay Area for a full year, he is the only one of the five who did not qualify to be a Founder of the new Society, SFBAUS. Ah, the tyranny of rules!

An aspiring barrister, Bob received his Juris Doctor from Loyola in September of 1974, and moved to Berkeley to join FOG in June of 1975. (He had been planning the move for three years.) In October he married Sara Lindorfer, another Urantian and "fogger," and is now negotiating to buy a home.

Bob works in the Solano County Children's Shelter. He is interested in photography, and does most of the photography work for the Family of God Foundation.

*Terry McCade*, 29, found The URANTIA Book in 1971 and was for a short time a FUSLAN before coming to Berkeley, where he found work as the customer relations manager for a glass manufacturer.

Terry was previously active in gymnastics and water-skiing. He studied physical therapy and a variety of other subjects for five years at California State University at Sacramento.

Now he concentrates on outreach. Each Saturday morning, with Fred Shupp, he engages in campus ministry, and he produces art and graphics work for FOG publications. Terry is single, (and, he emphasizes, available).

*Fred Shupp*, 24, found The URANTIA Book in 1969, and moved to FOG in 1974. He recently married Susan Halbert (see story) and is very interested in street work and public ministry (see his personal account).

Fred works as an insurance agent and is interested in guitar and horticulture. He assists at FOG in the mail-out department.

## "a day on campus"

—by Fred Shupp

Recently while on the Berkeley campus during one of our Saturday afternoon adventures\* I found myself in the middle of a group of people trying to explain that God is a God of love and that he has a plan for each and every one of us.

For the most part, people were listening, and it seemed as though some were even interested in what I was saying.

But as usual, there was a considerable amount of commotion coming from the crowd. It seems to me that some people actually come here every Saturday for the sheer enjoyment of disrupting our talks. I must admit that on this particular day they were in good form and the competition was tough.

Anyway I was right in the middle of a discourse so to speak when a loud voice from the crowd said, "Sit down, you are wasting your time; I don't believe God exists, nor will I ever believe it!"

He asked me to prove that God exists. I asked him to prove that he doesn't.

I began talking again, and after about three sentences this same person yelled, "I told you, I don't believe in God." To which I replied, "Would you please describe this God that you don't believe in."

---

\*It is customary for Fred Shupp, Terry McCade, and several others of the Berkeley crew to engage in personal ministry, or what some would call "street preaching", each Saturday near the University's Sather Gate, at the busy intersection of Telegraph Avenue and Bancroft Street.

---

After hearing this awful description of our heavenly Father being an angry king with a lake of fire, etc., etc., I said, "Well, I don't blame you. If God were like that, I don't think I would believe in him either."

I continued to talk about the love of God, and just as I was saying that we are all infinitely valuable, this same man approached me again and asked, "How can you prove what you are saying? You are talking about something that is unreal. God doesn't exist."

To this I replied, "I challenge you to go off by yourself, and with a sincere heart and an open mind, to ask God if he is there. Actually say, 'God, if you are there, I want to know about it, and if you aren't, I want to know that too.'"

Then suddenly he went away, and I continued talking with the other people.

About ten minutes after I finished talking, I saw this same man approaching me. He walked up to me and looked me straight in the eye and said, "You know, I just tried what you told me to do, and I had to come back and tell you that I really believe God does exist, and to thank you for helping me to discover that."

Then I said, "Don't thank me, thank the Father!"

Well, needless to say, I was so surprised that I nearly fell over. This man really was searching for God, and as we all know, the Father will never let us down. This experience was every bit as rewarding to me as it was to the other man, because I walked away with one of the greatest feelings I have ever experienced:

THE LOVE OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER.

### Penetrates Middle East--U.S. Blanketed

"On Campus", the radio program produced by the Berkeley-based Family of God Foundation, will now be heard on Radio Jordan, a 100,000 watt short-wave station broadcasting from Amman.

This transmitter is King Hussain's primary outlet to the entire Middle East, reaching Israel, of course, and as far as Egypt and into southern Europe.

In view of the fact that the station carries very little religious programming, and that "On Campus" was given a prime time spot (8:00 PM on Friday evenings) we can only conclude that it is God's will that the show's message now begin to reach the Arab world.

The program centers around taped spiritual encounters between Vern Grimsley, long time student of The URANTIA Book, and students on the University of California at Berkeley campus. The URANTIA Book is never mentioned or quoted, but its essential ideas of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man are emphasized.

On the home front, "On Campus" now broadcasts from stations in all fifty states, North Dakota having recently been added, completing the "fifty states" campaign, a two-year effort by the Family of God staff to obtain full nationwide coverage for the program.

*Fred Shupp & Susan Halbert  
exchange wedding vows*

In a lovely church on a lovely day in the hills above Berkeley, Fred Shupp and Susan Halbert exchanged wedding vows. The date was February 14, 1976. Susan wore a modest gown of traditional bridal white, and Fred's apparel included a shirt lovingly hand-embroidered by Susan.

Vern Grimsley officiated, quoting from Plato, the Bible, and The URANTIA Book.

Then Susan spoke these vows: "Fred, I choose you above all others to take as my husband. I pledge to share my life openly with you, to honor and tenderly care for you, to cherish and encourage your growth as an individual, to help you become all that God would have you be. I promise to honor this commitment as long as we both shall live." And Fred responded with similar vows.

Various friends provided original music, enhancing the mood of deep meaning and true love.

Following the ceremony all enjoyed a spread of various delicacies, and many joined in square dancing with blue grass music ably provided by all musicians who cared to join in.

# STUDY GROUPS

## ----- A SUGGESTED FORMAT

Experience with many study groups has shown that the following format is a common one, and one which seems to work well. Of course, each group should work out the variation that works best for them.

1. Assemble: (Have a set time and stick to it.)
2. Fellowship: (Until all members have arrived.)
3. Worship: (Silent or spontaneously aloud, to become centered and attuned preparatory to reading. Some groups join hands in a circle.)
4. Read: (See suggestions below.)
5. Worship: (Give thanks, again silently or aloud. Some groups have a remembrance supper at this time.)
6. Refreshments and Fellowship.
7. Disband: (Stick to the agreed upon time.)

The following are possible approaches to reading, depending upon the newness of the group, member preferences, etc. Generally every person should have a chance to read.

1. Read the next paper in the Book, if you are attempting to read the Book straight through.
2. Read the next paper in series, such as the Thought Adjuster papers, the Religion papers, the Marriage Papers.
3. Read a paper agreed upon at the previous meeting
4. Read a paper agreed upon that night.
5. Each person reads his favorite passage or passages.
6. The "shishkabob" approach: read passages throughout the Book relating to a particular agreed upon theme, e.g., "loyalty", "decisions", "faith", etc.
7. The rotating group leader method: Each week a leader is assigned to choose a topic for the following week. During the week he prepares. At the meeting he assigns appropriate passages for reading and leads discussion.

We hope these ideas will help you have study groups that are intellectually stimulating, religiously helpful, and filled with the spirit of brotherhood.

—CMM



Bob and Bonnie Hunt and their family.

Agondonter, Spring 1976, page 8

## EDITORIAL

### Correction

In the Fall issue cartoon I said that nobody I've ever shown The URANTIA Book to "has really dug it." Well the very day I mailed that issue, my first "convert" went out and bought her own book. See Ellens account, p. 10.

### Sponsoring Outreach

Many people send in contributions for "subscriptions" not knowing how much is expected. There is no set amount. The Agondonter is free, and is supported by voluntary donations. But as a guide, if you just want to cover your own costs, send three dollars a year. If you want to sponsor outreach, send more.

### Concentrated Energy

While we're on the subject of money, let us not forget the various other URANTIA activities that need our support. Stop and consider what a privilege it is to be giving our energy to the greatest movement on the planet. (It's been said that money is a form of concentrated energy.)

### Spreading the New Revelation

All our branches are solvent, but all need the continual support of loyal readers to keep them viable and effective. First there is the URANTIA Foundation. The fifth printing is underway and your contributions will help to keep the cost of the book down: within reach of everyone.

Next there is the URANTIA Brotherhood. Its communications and organizational efforts play a vital role in keeping us all in touch and active.

Next there is your local URANTIA Society, FUSLA, SFBAUS, etc., the vehicle for expanding brotherhood on a personal level.

Finally, there are the special projects of your choice, such as the Family of God radio broadcasts, the various URANTIA Society newsletters, and other worthy projects by Urantians that exist now or may spring up in the future.

Pray about it. Put your energy to work. The addresses of these various good causes are listed elsewhere in this issue.

God bless you. And may God bless the efforts of each of us in this great effort, the spreading of the new revelation, the gospel of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man.

Peace,  
Charles Montgomery

## Publications

The Agondonter is not presently handling any requests for publications. However, you can now receive the following items directly from the authors. Be sure to send along a couple of dollars to help cover printing and mailing costs.

The URANTIA Book, A Guide to the Future and Beyond, is a paper which Bob Hunt delivered to the World Future Society. Write Bob at 1425 Buttermilk Lane, Arcata, CA 95521. Bob is a math professor and expresses himself clearly and beautifully.

The URANTIA Cookbook, is a collection of interesting recipes, many organic, gathered from Urantians by Arlene Weimer. The book contains unusual graphic decorations too. Write Arlene at 419 W. 22nd St., Pueblo, Colorado 81003. By the way, congratulations to Buck and Arlene on their decision to create children for the Father. They are expecting their first child around August 21st, Jesus' birthday.

# Epistle from Australia

Greetings from the other side of the world!

This has been a tremendous experience and one of great joy--meeting all of these loving URANTIA Book readers who are sincerely trying to live the great teachings of the Book.

And prepare yourself--I have 14 study groups to report!

I landed in Sydney after a 21 hour flight. Christmas Eve our beloved young newlyweds, Jane and Phil Rolnick and I had a joyous fellowship and worship together. The next day they decided to drive to Adelaide and then fly from there to join me at Perth, clear across the country to the west coast on the Indian Ocean. We rented a car there as the Universal Brotherhood Inc. is 150 miles south of Perth in a place very difficult to get to.

The group at the Universal Brotherhood Inc. number about 100 young people--some married and with families who live in caravans around or above the main house.

The whole place is headed by Fred and Mary Robinson and a center core of about 8 people. They have 315 acres, with streams and a waterfall--sheep, goats, cows and gardens and orchards. They pay cash for everything and get their living from the land.

Really some bright people there reading the URANTIA Book, and we organized ten study groups under the regular organization they have, of rainbow colors. Each day Phil and Jane and I led study groups and Phil led music a lot, as they are all musically inclined with some really fine musicians among them. Two have been radio singers and I will get their tapes: Brian Peacock and Matt Taylor.

We stayed at a little hotel about ten miles away as there simply wasn't room for all of us at the farm, and we drove back and forth a couple of times a day, with a big musical after each evening meeting and a swim and picnic at the swimming hole on New Year's Day. This is midsummer--fresh vegetables and fresh fruit all sun-ripened.

These beautiful people extended every courtesy and kindness to us.



Julia Fenderson (right) visits with members of the Universal Brotherhood, Inc. in Western Australia.

After returning from Perth to Eastern Australia, we met with Diane and Keith Bacon's marvelous groups. They meet every Monday and Thursday and have about 40 readers listed in their two study groups. They, again, are all young people, about the age of the average study group member wherever I have travelled.

Tom Robinson, another ardent Urantian, has a study group which happened to be on vacation. He showed us so many courtesies and explained how they carry on Urantian activities.

I showed the slides I have now collected from all over and they are so eager to meet everyone they saw on the slides--which also show headquarters at Chicago with the Foundation members and Brotherhood officers. I also showed these at Balingup, (location of the Universal Brotherhood Inc.)

By the way, these people have a little school for primary children, and have a great need for teaching aids and school materials. They are a private school, not a public one, and most of their resources at this point must go toward basic necessities. So please do write to them and send them primary school materials.

c/o Stephen Carthew, Director  
Universal Brotherhood Inc.  
P.O. Balungup 6253  
Western Australia.

Much love and best wishes,

JULIA FENDERSON



Some of the children at Universal Brotherhood

Informal gathering at Universal Brotherhood

Fred and Mary Robinson, and Rosemary Wood

# Marriage and Family Life

"...it is the divine will that men and women should find their highest service and consequent joy in the establishment of homes for the reception and training of children, in the creation of whom these parents become copartners with the Makers of heaven and earth."

--URANTIA Book, p. 1839\*

\*All quotations within this publication, unless otherwise indicated, are from The URANTIA Book and are used with the permission of the URANTIA Foundation, the copyright owner.

## MARRIAGES

Lee Steward Smith and Chrissy Palatucci were married on October 31st.

Mary Brunner and Jim Blessing were married on April 2nd in the Memorial Church at Stanford.

## BABIES

Trinity Terry, to Phil & Cindy Calabrese, of Arcata, CA.  
Joshua David, to Don & Lynn Chapman, October 19, Colo.  
Michael Van, to Keith and Diane Bacon, Jan. 1, Australia  
Tara, to Steve and Elaine Nelson, on March 13, Napa, CA  
Zachary, to Larry and Marilyn Nelson, May 22, Napa, CA  
Jennifer Aubry, to Terry & Mary Echlin, June 4, Berkeley.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



The wedding of Dale Gilmore and Rose Wood

The wedding was a beautiful dream come true, a dream filled with purpose and love.

I could not help but feel how the beauty and personal love we felt come to fruition that day mixed with our destiny and purpose in the future plans of God on our planet.

Love, Dale



Dale & Rose under the auspicious rainbow

Our wedding was heavenly!  
We are still floating along at the wonder of it all.  
...a lovely rainbow over us.

...a blessing from "The Father".

In His Wonderful Service,  
Peace, blessings, and lots of love, Rose

EASTERN AUSTRALIA

Diane & Keith Bacon, Study Group leaders in Victoria, Australia, are new parents.



Keith



The Bacon's Study Group

Michael Van Bacon entered the world on New Year's Day in natural childbirth.



Diane

## EDITORIAL ---

A cartoon appeared in the Summer, 1976 issue of the *Agondonter* depicting three concentric circles passing through the bars of a prison cell window, used to illustrate a letter from a prisoner who is a reader of The URANTIA Book. Subsequently, a representative of URANTIA Foundation gently informed us that our cartoon was an improper use of the three concentric circle symbol, which is a registered mark of URANTIA Foundation.

The three concentric circle symbol must be reserved to identify official publications, activities and properties of URANTIA Foundation and its licensees.



### NEWS FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

--by Sue Kantor

February the 27th was the date of the SFBAUS annual meeting. New members installed were Eldon Warman and Cheryl Davis, associate member. New officers were elected: President, David Gray; Vice-President, David Kantor; Secretary, Joanne Eichmann; Treasurer, Gard Jameson; and Membership Chairman, Sue Kantor.

On March 27th the San Francisco Study Group on Brosnan Street hosted a gathering including fellowship, pot-luck, slides, poetry and workshops. Readers came from Cupertino, Santa Cruz, Berkeley, Bolinas, Castro Valley, and Reno.

On the weekend of May 21st, many Bay Area readers joined with URANTIA Book readers from throughout the West Coast in fellowship and worship at the Oregon Regional Conference. The event was a lovely gathering of families and friends in a superbly beautiful setting.

May the 28th, Lee and Chrissy Smith who are active in Santa Cruz study groups sponsored an evening of spiritual meditation called "Blossoms in the Sun". The evening included slides and music and was widely attended.

On June 26th Bay Area families gathered at the Kantor home ... twelve adults and eight children. While some folks hiked in the stream and caught crawdaddies and chased tadpoles, the rest enjoyed fellowship and refreshments in the sun. [The next family meeting will be September 18th. Anyone interested call Sue at (415) 582-7280.]

Agondonter: P.O. Box 563, Los Angeles, CA 90053

The *Agondonter* is the quarterly newsletter of FUSLA, The First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles, and is wholly supported by, and is the sole responsibility of that organization. FUSLA is a chartered URANTIA Society and pledges support to and cooperation with URANTIA Foundation in Chicago, copyright holder and sole publisher of The URANTIA Book.

While it is our editorial policy to seek to be consistent with the teachings and spirit of The URANTIA Book, the contents of this publication in no way represent the official views of URANTIA Foundation, URANTIA Brotherhood, or any URANTIA Society.

Items of mutual interest are welcomed from Societies, study groups or individuals. Short items and photographs are especially welcome. We reserve the right to edit all material submitted.

Editor:  
Chick Montgomery

Editorial Board:  
Julia Fenderson  
Scott Forsythe

Subscription \$5.00 per year; donations appreciated.

The reason the Foundation is so alert to prevent the use of the symbol on cars, buildings, homes, vans, store-fronts, published materials, and manufactured items is that the public might mistake such vehicles, places, and material as officially representing URANTIA Foundation. This could create confusion.

**Lesson.** We would therefore remind our readers not to use the concentric circle symbol unless you first obtain written permission (license) from URANTIA Foundation, and that, if you are granted permission to use the symbol, that you use it properly: that is, without modification, and for identification purposes only.

## Conferences

IN THE WEST

These events provide an opportunity for readers of The URANTIA Book to come and meet with other readers in their general geographic area.

### May 20 - May 22: THE THIRD OREGON CONFERENCE

Hosted by the Grant's Pass Study Group, led by Dave and Rose Clearwaters. Featured speakers at the gathering on the banks of the Rogue River: Bob Hunt, Janet Quinn, and Marvin Gawryn.

### July 15 - July 17: FIRST CANADIAN CONFERENCE

Hosted by the Study Group of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Bellamy and family, 533 Prince Robert Lane, Victoria, B.C., V9B1C7, Canada.

### September 3 - 5: THIRD WESTERN CONFERENCE

Hosted by FUSLA, with lots of help expected from SFBAUS, and the Arcata and San Diego Study Groups. Contact Carol Forsythe, 12815 Pacific Avenue #8, Los Angeles, CA 90066. Conference site: Orange County, U C Irvine Campus. Phone (213) 390-2573

### October 1 - 2: ANNUAL NORTHWEST GET-TOGETHER

Hosted by the First URANTIA Society of Wenatchee. Contact Lew and Alice Clark, 243 S. Georgia Avenue, East Wenatchee, Washington 98801. Ph. (509) 884-4655



John Hales, Resident Director of the URANTIA Brotherhood, Chicago, catching up on correspondence received from readers around the world

# Northern and Southern California Get Together

BY ELLEN BISHOP

On December 5th, visiting members of the San Francisco Bay Area URANTIA Society joined FUSLA in presenting the monthly meeting.

Meeting goers were welcomed by soothing music provided by Francyl Streano Gawryn, accompanied on the guitar by Vern Bennom Grimsley.

Following the opening songs, the gathering of over one hundred people was guided into a worshipful mood by Bill Sherwood's music/slide presentation "Creation," followed by Bill Brehio reading moving words from The URANTIA Book.

A talk by Vern Grimsley, always a treat, was this afternoon entitled "Indomitable Courage and Unconquerable Faith." He challenged us to devote our efforts to helping bring the spiritual renaissance to Urantia.

After a break for socializing and enjoyment of a tasty array of food contributions, coordinated by Michael and Felice Long, the program resumed with Jeff Wattles acting out a lively cast of personalities to dramatize the Thinking vs. Feeling aspects of Worship.

Next came "Unification: The Eternal Quest," a multimedia presentation produced by Cosmic Pilgrim Productions under the direction of David and Sue Kantor. This production beautifully illustrates the personality as a unifier, and its unification in the life of Jesus.

Nancy Grimsley formally introduced the Northern California folks in attendance, which led into helpful talks by Marvin Gawryn and Bettina Gray on doing personal ministry.

Marvin emphasized building on common ground and genuinely respecting the other person's beliefs. As to overcoming fears about starting such conversations, his advice is simply to "plunge in."

For Bettina, people are a delight and personal ministry gives her the opportunity to "look through someone else's eyes at the universe. We're all like prisms—the light of God reaches us and breaks into many colors." In ministering to our fellows, it is necessary to be alive, creative, and have a strong sense of spiritual brotherhood. But we should refrain from "prescriptions." Bettina finds that knowing how and when to minister often comes through prayer.

## Improving Communications

In response to your request for suggestions on how to improve communications, here are some ideas:

1. Offer a complete list of study groups' addresses throughout the world.
2. Send an Agondonter free of charge to interested persons. Get names through present subscribers, book stores, URANTIA Foundation, URANTIA Brotherhood, etc.
3. Write an article encouraging all study groups to intercommunicate, and all readers to pray for the new readers to be located.
4. Encourage more leadership within study groups. Many readers are much too passive. This revelation is snowballing and more leaders for new groups are absolutely essential. Remember the book indicates progress is indispensable. With the words of wisdom contained in the U. Book we can progress with subtle sagacity.
5. Bring your publication closer to your readers (and save money) by using lighter-weight inexpensive paper.

--Bob DeMatteis

Bob: Thanks for your ideas. Here is some feedback. We'd like to hear from other readers on these points too.

1. Good idea. But we are concerned about protecting people's privacy and preventing misuse of the list and possible detriment to the evolutionary spread of the revelation. Any ideas on safeguards? If we do make such a list, do you want to be included in it?
2. We already send a free copy to those who request it or are referred to us. But our mailing list grows, like the revelation itself, evolutionarily, by word of mouth.
3. OK, somebody, write an article and send it in!
4. Agreed. Very important.
5. We've been considering cheaper paper. Also a smaller page size, perhaps 7 x 8-1/2 to fit into your URANTIA Book. (That would be nice for maps and study aids we plan for future issues, and for Study Group listings.) We've also thought of going to one-color printing, that is, blue instead of blue-and-black. How about it, readers? What do you think? --ed.

**agondonter**

P.O. BOX 563  
LOS ANGELES, CA  
90053

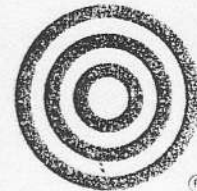
COPY

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID

Los Angeles, Calif  
Permit No. 33948

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Grace Walker  
620 E. Benton St.  
Naperville, IL 60540



## INFORMALITY IN A NATURAL SETTING

### Northwest Enjoys Two Small Conferences

Medium-sized regional conferences are becoming more frequent, and the Northwest States enjoyed two this year, one in southern Oregon, in May, and another in central Washington, in October. Both get-togethers were characterized by informality, the daytime portions being held in outdoor park settings, followed by an indoor evening program.

**OREGON:** This lovely mini-conference took place on the banks of the Rogue River on May 22, 1976. The day began with a session of spontaneous thanksgiving, followed by prepared talks, skits, and music. Luscious avocado sandwiches were provided by Joe Zabriel. Many enjoyed afternoon swimming or volleyball. In the evening session Julia Fenderson gave a slide-talk on "Study Groups around the World," Chick Montgomery explained his large mural of the "Master Universe," and Vern Grimsley gave a stirring talk on "Proclaiming the Kingdom." Credit goes to David and Rose Clearwaters for organizing this fine mini-conference.

**WASHINGTON:** The First URANTIA Society of Wenatchee sponsored "Another Northwest Get-Together" on Saturday, October 2, 1976 at River County Park up in Washington. Some came early and enjoyed a Friday night campfire, staying overnight in tents and campers.

URANTIA Foundation Trustee Art Born and Foundation President Tom Kendall came all the way from Chicago to attend the conference.

On Saturday people gathered for the main event, which included informal worship, music, readings, a question and answer session, discussions, play, and general fellowship. After the dinner break, the group reconvened at the Cascade Building in Wenatchee for the evening program. Strong feelings of love and a sense of spiritual power were in evidence at this get-together, as they are at all such gatherings of URANTIA Book readers, and, as usual, defy description. Many thanks to Lew and Alice Clark for their work in planning and organizing this event.

### What Are We to Tell Our Brothers?

When I view our complex and confused planet, the task of revealing our Father to it seems monumental.

The essence of Jesus' gospel was simple. At first appearance it seems powerless to transform a world. But the consequences of telling man that he is a son of God can hardly be overestimated. Hope surges, and one's own highest and richest ideals are stimulated to give the spirit's work at least a momentary advantage.

We must emphasize what it means to be a son or daughter of the Living God. Our Father, the perfect and willing parent sharing our every move in life, gives us an infinite future of traversing stars in meaningful service.

The words we use must take second place to our inspiration of knowing Him. We must have human appeal if we are to gain an essential measure of impact. A firm hold on life, a knowing conviction, a goodly and natural loving purpose, and a tolerance that has been seen very little on this planet is such a rare combination that it will be easy for us to show others a life more abundant, filled with eternal value and everlasting joy. And of course, as motivated by the spirit, the outcoming success of our Father's will is inevitable.

The stage is set, the curtain drawn, we have an inspirational script, so all that is needed is the players. We are free will ambassadors with the most fantastic mission this planet (Urantia) has seen since the apostles. And with the backing we have, it is a pleasure to serve our fellow man. A pleasure in deed!

--David Clearwaters, Grant's Pass, Oregon



Lew and Alice Clark

### 107 STUDY GROUPS IN THE WEST!

In the last issue of the *Agondonter* we listed all of the sixty-one known study groups in the west, including the Western United States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Australia. The list has now grown to 107, too many for us to print any more! For the study group nearest you please contact your nearest URANTIA Brotherhood Field Representative or write to John Hales, Resident Director, URANTIA Brotherhood, 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, Illinois 60614.

# Study Group News

## FIRST STUDY GROUP IN NEVADA

James F. George of Reno has organized the first group in the state of Nevada to study The URANTIA Book. He has agreed to serve as a communication liaison, and you can get in touch with him at 505 Modoc Avenue, Reno, Nevada 89509, Telephone (702)322-3158.

## NEW STUDY GROUP IN LOS ANGELES AREA

At the Brehio home in Sherman Oaks a new study group meets every Thursday evening from 7:30 to 10:30 PM. Cale, Carol and Bill Brehio will greet you at 5100 Noble Avenue, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403, Telephone (213)990-5431.

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA "POWERHOUSE"

Dick Prince, newest URANTIA Brotherhood Field Representative, reports that he recently visited with the Hunts, Calabreses, and Ventolas up in the Eureka area, where everyone is doing well. The Loleta study group is apparently turning into "a real powerhouse," often going to midnight and providing those in attendance with a lot of good experience.

## SAN DIEGO "MIRACLE"

Dick also writes: "Not too much to report down this way. We had a picnic on the 21st and had about thirty to thirty-five people show up. That includes kids. I was surprised, but Cheryl, who planned the whole thing, was confident from the outset that the attendance would be good. Our remembrance supper that evening at our house was much smaller but, for me, much better. It is a real miracle each time one of those occurs. Michael's presence seems more powerful and palpable every time.



Cheryl Prince, left, and Dick Prince, right, visit with Bob and Cheryl Boden. Cheryl holds year-old daughter, Christine Ananda.

The Agondonter is the quarterly newsletter of FUSLA, The First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles, and is wholly supported by, and is the sole responsibility of that organization. FUSLA is a chartered URANTIA Society and pledges support to and cooperation with URANTIA Foundation in Chicago, copyright holder and sole publisher of The URANTIA Book.

While it is our editorial policy to seek to be consistent with the teachings and spirit of The URANTIA Book, the contents of this publication in no way represent the official views of URANTIA Foundation, URANTIA Brotherhood, or any URANTIA Society.

The entire content of this newsletter is copyright © 1976 by The First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles. Requests to reprint material contained herein should be made in writing to FUSLA, P.O. Box 566, Los Angeles, CA 90053.

Where no authorship is indicated, items in this issue are written by the editor.

Items of mutual interest are welcomed from Societies, study groups or individuals. Short items and photographs are especially welcome. We reserve the right to edit all material submitted.

Editor: Chick Montgomery  
Editorial Assistant: Ellen Bishop  
Production Manager: Bill Sherwood

Editorial Board:  
Julia Fenderson  
Scott Forsythe

# FUSLA Elects New Board

At its August 22nd meeting, the FUSLA membership elected its Governing Committee for the coming year, as follows:

President:	Scott Forsythe
Vice President:	Dorothy Hicks
Secretary:	Carol Forsythe
Treasurer:	Lucille Faw
Membership Chairman:	Julia Fenderson
Education Chairman:	Polly Friedman
Newsletter Chairman:	Chick Montgomery
Hospitality Co-Chairmen:	Michael & Felice Long

President Scott Forsythe has expressed his thanks to the retiring committee members who served so well during the previous term, including Leonard Kidd, who served as Secretary, Pat Bedell, our former Treasurer, and Vincent Ventola, former Education Chairman.



FUSLA's new Governing Board. Standing: Chick Montgomery, Michael and Felice Long, Kermit Anderson, Dorothy Hicks, Scott and Carol Forsythe. Seated: Lucille Faw, Julia Fenderson, and Polly Friedman.

## Where Have All the FUSLANS Gone?

Last issue we reported on five former FUSLANS who have departed to the Bay Area to join the Family of God organization there, and help found the new San Francisco Bay Area URANTIA Society. The most recent FUSLAN to join the Bay Area group is Cheryl Davis.

Earlier this year Bob and Bonnie Hunt relocated to the Eureka area, way up on the northern California coast, and that growing group was recently joined by Jan and Leonard Kidd and their family and by Cathy and Vince Ventola. Leonard served FUSLA as Secretary last year and Vince as Education Chairman.

Joining the growing Boulder, Colorado group are Jonathon & Karen Johnson. The people in Boulder are determined to become the next Chartered URANTIA Society, so we hear.

Finally, Pat and Jeff Bedell have moved with their family to Saudi Arabia. To our knowledge, no other readers exist there, but judging from the energetic service the Bedells gave to FUSLA over the years, we have every confidence that a study group will soon be formed.

We miss you all, but we know you are doing important work in your new locations. We wish you the best, every one of you.

--CMM

## Marriages

### GAWRYN-STREANO

Marvin Gawryn and Francyl Streano were married in May in a beautiful inter-faith ceremony jointly conducted by a very gracious rabbi and our own Vern Grimsley. We think the occasion was heightened, deepened, and broadened by the cooperative convergence of religious viewpoint involved. This was a truly beautiful wedding.

### ANDERSON-MONTALBANO

On a fine June day, Kermit Anderson and Jackie Montalbano were married among the oaks and flowers of the Latigo Canyon Retreat in the Malibu Mountains. Kermit is special to me because he introduced me to The URANTIA Book seven years ago. I love Kermit. Not for the Book. For that I thank him. I love him because he is Kermit. I wish Kermit and Jackie much happiness. --CMM

### STRIDER-FELDMAN

#### REJOICE WITH US IN HARMONY AND GRATITUDE

A unique harmony has emerged,  
A love blend at beginning of crescendo  
Funneling the divine into rhythm and space.

Two hands clasped, tilted upward  
Release melodious energy  
In a song sprung from new union.

Errol Strider and Rochelle Alicia Feldman  
Have consecrated their relationship to God  
By entering into the spiritual union of marriage

August 1, 1976

(Quoted from their wedding announcement)

### LINDEMANN-SALMO

August 21st dawned clear and was growing into one of those crystal sharp days when only a few castle-like clouds drift downwind. All four mountain tops were clearly visible on "Big Island", Hawaii, the largest island of the chain. The surf was breaking on the northwest shore; a "perfect" day was in store as we traveled a third of the way around the island, from Kona to Kalopa Park for a special celebration of Jesus' birthday.

For on this day Marion Salmo and Peter Lindemann exchanged marriage vows, dedicating themselves to family service and to unitedly attempting to do the Will of our Father together. The wedding service was truly new and original, one to be long remembered for its uniqueness and deep-felt sincerity. It was the kind of touchingly genuine experience that made most everyone want to get married or marry again like that. Amid the garden greenery and fragrant flowers of uncountable colors and contrasting beauty, they dedicated their lives to living Michael's message.

Prayers and music and dancing and joy filled the air as these two young Urantians entered marriage with a much fuller picture than usual of the responsibilities and difficulties, as well as the blessings which are to be a portion of their union.

It was a happy day, a day of good cheer, a day of "good fun" as the island people here say.

And for Peter and Marion, now husband and wife, we all pray that it will be the beginning of a fruitful, beauty-filled, and rewarding experience.

--David Saunders, Kaawaloa

## New Babies for the Father

Our love and joy to the parents of these new children:

Caroline Donnelly Ziglar born April 11, 1976 to Elizabeth and Dick Ziglar at Fresno, California.

Amy Michele Basso born to Frances and Frank Basso of Riverside, California on May 1, 1976. This little girl attended all the recent spring URANTIA Orientation classes with her mother, but "sight unseen."

Heather Christine Kantor born to Sue and David Kantor at 4:40 AM on May 12, 1976. Heather was born at the Kantor home in Castro Valley, California, with husband David and friends Vern & Nancy Grimsley attending the "natural" childbirth. She weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. and is doing beautifully.

Caroline St. Laurent born recently to Daniel and Denise St. Laurent, in their Quebec home.

Jonathon Weimer born August 25, 1976 to Arlene and Buck Weimer, in Pueblo, Colorado. Buck and Arlene were formerly very active in our Los Angeles group. Jonathon weighed 6 lbs. 11 oz. We hear Buck still hasn't come down from cloud nine.



FUSLA member Frances Basso restrains Amy Michele, eager to continue her Universe career, begun on May 1, 1976.

## Gus Walstrom Promotes to Next Stage

Our beloved friend, Gus Walstrom, of Atascadero, California recently passed on to the Mansion Worlds. He was such a highly developed spiritual soul that he may have skipped several Worlds because he had learned so many of their lessons.

He was beloved by all of us and attended our first Western Conference in Los Angeles in 1973. After that, a group of us spent a week-end with him in Atascadero. This delightful man, in his eighties, conducted a workshop there which was one of the highlights of the year for all of us. Our love and respect go with him and we know someday we will have another joyous visit with him. Gus willed his small estate to URANTIA Foundation. Another good lesson for all of us to consider. --JKF

## Study Groups Active in Eastern Australia



Diane & Keith Bacon



Study Group at Bacon home



Jane & Phil Rolnick



Neil Francey



Neil and Keith



Tom Reynolds with friend



A friend & Julia

### News from "Down Under"

In the last issue of the Agondonter, we reported on the remarkable doings at Universal Brotherhood, Inc. in Western Australia.

This time we want to share with you these pictures of some of the fine people in Eastern Australia, and tell you something about the expanding activity there.

Eastern Australia has been very active for several years in the study of The URANTIA Book, under the leadership of Diane and Keith Bacon, 270 Walsh St., South Yarra, Melbourne. A study group meets weekly at their home with up to thirty! members attending. They have also helped to organize other study groups in the Melbourne area.

During Julia Fenderson's recent visit to Australia, she visited Diane and Keith's study group, where she was wel-

comed graciously. She also visited with the study group of Irene and Wolfgang Borrutta, and viewed some of Wolfgang's outstanding paintings. The Borrutta's had previously attended study groups in the home of Henry Begemann, URANTIA Brotherhood Field Representative in the Netherlands.

Tom Reynolds, who conducts a study group in his home in Oakley, Melbourne, took Julia on some delightful excursions around the Melbourne area.

Another study group leader and avid student of The URANTIA Book is Neil Francey of Melbourne. He plans to visit the Los Angeles Society and study groups soon.

Phil and Jane Rolnick, formerly of California, now lead a weekly study group far north of Melbourne on the coast at Slade Point, Queensland, where Phil and Jane both teach.

It's a small world, and is rapidly becoming encircled with dedicated URANTIA Book students.

## FUSLA Doings over the Summer

The First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles (FUSLA) holds monthly meetings for members, friends, and newcomers. Our format has generally been to meet from about 2:00 until 4:00 o'clock on the first Sunday of the month. We usually have short presentations and announcements, group discussion, and a refreshment time with informal fellowship. Here's how it went over the summer:

**MAY:** During an excellent presentation entitled "All you Wanted to Know About Angels but were Afraid to Ask", by a panel composed of Vince & Cathy Ventola, Kermit Anderson, Toni Richy, and Dorothy Hicks, the audience was surprised by Michael and Felice Long wafting through the hall, appropriately attired in maroon tights and hand-batiked angel wings.

**JUNE:** This month we departed from custom and held our meeting outdoors, at the beautiful Escondido Retreat in the Malibu Mountains. This was a day of individual and group meditation, hill roaming, wildflower gathering, and a natural foods pot luck. A series of short and inspiring talks began with Vince Ventola urging "A Day Alone With God." Julia Fenderson and Cathie Ventola spoke on "Love" and "Faith" respectively. FUSLA President, Scott Forsythe discoursed on "Growing with the Supreme." The day ended with music and worship under the 'oak cathedral'.

**JULY:** No meeting was held this month because so many members were away attending the Oklahoma Forum.

**AUGUST:** This meeting featured a panel discussion by members of Felice & Michael Long's study group, entitled

"Concepts of Art and Creativity in The URANTIA Book," followed by small group discussions (four groups of about ten people each) on the same topic.

**SEPTEMBER:** Kermit Anderson and Pat McNelly gave a combined presentation on "The Spiritual Conspiracy." During the group participation period, members of the audience shared interesting experiences of spiritual experiences in their lives.

**OCTOBER:** Twelve would-be Thespians produced a rather droll five-minute skit dramatizing page 1098 of The URANTIA Book, the well-loved cave-man passage. The cast consisted of Narrator, Caveman, Sabre-toothed tiger, Woman, two Children, and six Curtain Bearers. Bill Sherwood gave a short talk, and Chick Montgomery led a group discussion on the general subject of Understanding, Overcoming Resentment, and Learning to Love.

**NOVEMBER:** Bill and Carol Brehio are scheduled to do an illustrated presentation on The Supreme Being.

**DECEMBER:** The Family of God crew from Berkeley plan to visit us and ... well, let that be a surprise!

**NEXT YEAR:** No programs are planned yet, but our Education Chairman, Polly Friedman, promises that we will have good things happening, including the addition of live music at all of our monthly meetings.

**ETERNITY:** The details are as yet unrevealed, but we have been told by several people who claim to be close, personal friends of God that it is going to be out-of-sight, our present sight, that is.

## How One Small Study Group Operates

Daniel St. Laurent has brought to our attention the letter "A Plea for More Small Study Groups"\* that we took time to analyze. We are extremely happy that you brought up the subject of small study groups vs. large conferences as alternate approaches to a better understanding of The URANTIA Book.

Our small group in Montreal, three to five members, has discussed this matter and following are our thoughts.

Firstly, let us testify to the fact that our group operates under a very simple process. We simply get together for two to two-and-a-half hours once a week in a downtown room to read between four and seven pages of The URANTIA Book in French, but with a cross reading in English. We have started at the top of the Book, with the introduction. We take turns at reading out loud, paragraph by paragraph. As one or more of us has a comment, explanation, thought or "soul wave" we simply express it. This usually spurs about two to five minutes of intercommunications.

Within a two-hour period we probably spend forty minutes reading and eighty minutes studying and helping each other better understand the reading.

We never or so seldom get into digression from our reading material that we virtually never exchange on anything but the Book's content.

We make it a point to read about five pages ahead of where we had stopped before the next session, so that we pre-read the material to be studied. We had all read most of the Book or all of it before joining the study group.

The experience has been on for six months so far, and we have all derived great pleasure, enthusiasm and spiritual comfort from it.

None of us attend these study group sessions either to go on an ego trip nor to teach the others. We merely help each other to better understand the Book.

In fact, we are gaining a much better understanding than when we read alone. We make new discoveries and we penetrate the Book and the "spirit" of the Book much better.

A very important additional dimension also occurs. We become totally involved, perfectly available, loving and helpful during the study sessions.

We clearly sense that we are not communicating with each other on an intellectual level only, but we are pene-

trated by a truly spiritual force and we often feel that it is our Thought Adjuster who is speaking to us and to each other.

We definitely think and know that this small study group approach is right.

According to us, The URANTIA Book is essentially a personal communication between the authors and individual man. The Book addresses the intellect, the material and the spiritual levels of man. But it must be read, in our opinion with a true desire to reach an increasingly higher level of spiritual thought.

Change, evolution, progression first happens or occurs within an individual, then automatically it will radiate within the individual's family, then friends, peer group, etc.

The URANTIA revelation and teachings are meant for individual communications and enlightenment. It will create evolution and change only if it is digested, if it becomes part of the reader's life and experience. It has to become an active process.

Large seminars, where you become a more or less passive listener, reacting only as part of a crowd, cannot produce as good results as small study groups, according to us.

Regional meetings and conferences can be helpful in:

1. Having small group participants exchange on their growth experience.
2. Helping to organize better means for dissemination of the Book and to make small study groups more efficient.
3. Allowing URANTIA readers to socialize.

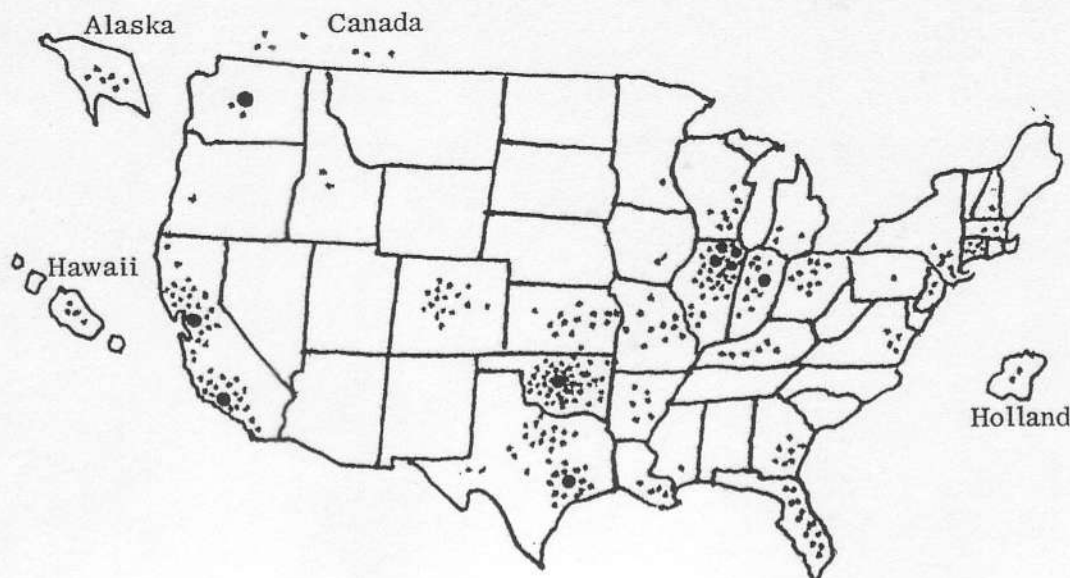
Whatever is done to complement small study groups can only be profitable to individual readers and small study groups should be essential and be multiplied and encouraged.

The needs in ten, twenty or thirty years may call for different means, but right now, at least here in Montreal, study groups are probably the most helpful means to readers of The URANTIA Book.

With continuous work, patience and love, all will come.

Jean Desjardins  
16 Fere, St-Eustache,  
Quebec, Canada

\* by Julia K. Fenderson, Winter, 1976 Agondonter.



**Attendance:** Each dot represents one person attending the Oklahoma Forum, June, 1976. Actually, there were more; this shows registrants only. Map is not to scale and locations are approximate. Large dots represent the ten presently organized URANTIA Societies.

## Personal Notes on the Forum

We really enjoyed the Forum! We were so fired up, it didn't seem to matter that we hardly slept for six days. Love: the fellowship of the faith-brotherhood! That was the glue that kept over three hundred diverse and individualistic people together... people from thirty-four states, (including Hawaii and Alaska,) Canada, and the Netherlands.

It is this fact of the diversity of people who are attracted to The URANTIA Book that continually amazes us and drives home our conviction that this book is indeed a mighty Revelation to all.

Only Truth can speak to all types of people, right where they are, no matter what their orientation, and command their attention and adherence.

These people had certain things in common though. They all seemed intelligent, willing to share themselves in a spirit of fraternal affection, and they were all "into" The URANTIA Book.

One of the most noticeable phenomena was this friendliness of people. Several attendees commented on how natural it seemed immediately to engage perfect strangers in very deep, personal and frank conversations. People trust others when they know without asking that their new acquaintances are fellow faith-sons of God, even followers of Jesus.

The program itself was enjoyable and thought-provoking. Max Lawrence did a fine job emcee-ing the various prepared and spontaneous talks.

While there were many memorable presentations, this writer was particularly impressed by the show on the history of religion, "Our Heritage of the Spirit." This was produced by Stephen Zendt, Chuck Thurston, Larry Geis, Jay Newbern, and the others at New Dimensions Foundation in San Francisco.

## Forum as a primary and essential

We heard more than one person say that the Forum had been one of the most profound experiences they had ever had, or even the most profound experience of their life.

There seemed to be a great sense of fellowship, purpose, and expectancy. There was an awareness of the fact that we, as individuals, are not alone in this Revelation—that we have literally hundreds of amazingly able and loyally loving brothers and sisters throughout the world who are sharing the burden and the joy of carrying this great truth to others.

## Loving God for All that He is...

Some powerful things happened. At one of the workshops, during a beautiful time of group prayer and worship, a number of people just broke up completely and began crying, tears of joy and gratitude and love streaming down.

We were becoming conscious of what it feels like to actually love God. Not just to believe in him, or just to know and feel that he loves us, but really to love him for all that he is. And that, after all, is our highest duty and greatest joy.

Many thanks to Berkeley Elliott, the Oklahoma Society, and their associates who planned and worked to make the Forum such a success. And to demonstrate the truth that the giver is even more blessed than the receiver, we include this excerpt from a note we received from Berkeley. She writes:

"We are still on cloud nine, and the nice letters we continue to receive seem to keep us there. Judging from some of the comments, it must really have been a great spiritual and intellectual experience for many, and I know our rewards for our small efforts have been ten-thousand fold! Our efforts were nothing compared to what we have received."

God bless you, Berkeley. And may the Father bless and guide each of us as we go through life, sharing His love with our brothers. --CMM

# 34 States Represented at Oklahoma Forum



Emma Christensen ("Christy"), Trustee Emeritus of URANTIA Foundation in Chicago, dines at the Forum with the Henry Begemans. Henry is URANTIA Brotherhood Field Representative in the Netherlands.

## Meredith Sprunger Succeeds Paul Snider as URANTIA Brotherhood President

At the Triennial Assembly in Chicago in June, 1976, the delegates elected Meredith J. Sprunger as the eighth president of URANTIA Brotherhood, replacing Paul Snider who has served for the past three years. Congratulations to Meredith, and many thanks to Paul for the active and able service he rendered to the Brotherhood during his term of office.

In January of this year, our URANTIA Brotherhood celebrated its 21st birthday. Therefore, it could be said to have "come of age." But in URANTIA circles we know that it is still an infant...but with a long life ahead.

During those twenty-one years the Brotherhood has had seven Presidents (see scroll). Each of these seven Presidents has served faithfully, in his own unique and devoted way, giving of his talents and time to this cause to which we are all dedicated. --JKF



l. to r.: Jim Allen, (FUSOK President,) Mary Snider, Paul Snider, (former Brotherhood President,) Berkeley Elliott (Forum Organizer,) and our own Lucille Faw, (FUSLA Treasurer.)

## Meet the New President

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger was elected to a three-year term as President of the URANTIA Brotherhood on June 23, 1976.

Dr. Sprunger became acquainted with The URANTIA Book in December of 1955, and has since been actively connected with organizational work related to the Book.

He organized the first Indiana study group about 1957, and helped initiate the Fort Wayne Society in 1969. He was one of the first persons to be appointed Field Representative for URANTIA Brotherhood.



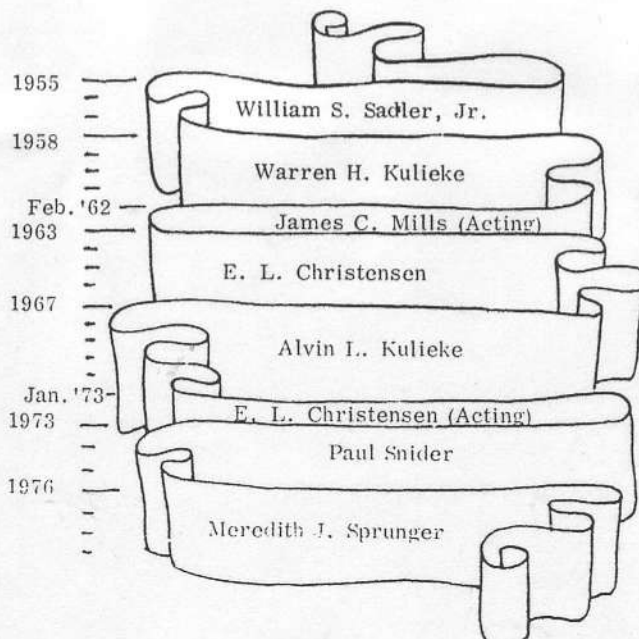
Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger

Dr. Sprunger is a full Professor at the Indiana Institute of Technology in Fort Wayne, where he is head of the Department of Psychology and Chairman of the Division of Liberal Arts.

He obtained his Ph. D. from Purdue University in the field of Psychology in 1947, and holds a Private Practice Certificate in Psychology in the State of Indiana. He is also an Ordained Minister in the United Church of Christ.

Next year, Dr. Sprunger expects to retire and devote full time to URANTIA activities. He begins this new role as President of the Brotherhood with its many and deep responsibilities, with our full and warm support and continued good wishes. --JKF

## The History of the Presidency of the Brotherhood



# As the Revelation Gathers Momentum ...

As The URANTIA Book enters its third decade of being abroad on the planet, what kinds of developments can we expect, and what should we do to prepare for them?

1. Many more books will be sold. We must be prepared for faster growth. During the first decade, fewer than ten thousand books were sold. During the second decade, just ended, fifty thousand more were sold (see chart). How many will be distributed during the next ten years? Even without any publicity, and assuming continued patient word-of-mouth expansion, it is entirely possible that half a million million or more books will be in circulation.

2. Many readers will be "coming out of the woodwork." We know of only one or two thousand people, world wide, who read The URANTIA Book. Where are those other 58,000 books? Are people reading them? It is quite common to have someone finally make contact with other readers after having read the book alone for a number of years. This will happen increasingly in the future as our communications improve.

3. There will be increasing unsolicited publicity. Despite our attempts to avoid publicity, there will be instances of unsolicited publicity in various forms, and these are likely to increase in number and in scope. Already several write-ups on the movement or its people have appeared in national magazines. (Notable examples include August, 1976 Oui, and August 20, 1976 New Times.)

4. There will be attempts to destroy the integrity of The URANTIA Book. We can expect increased instances of

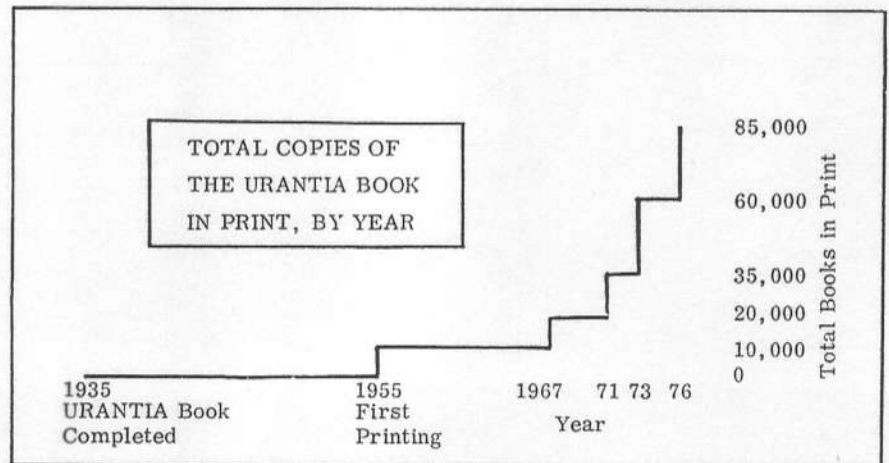
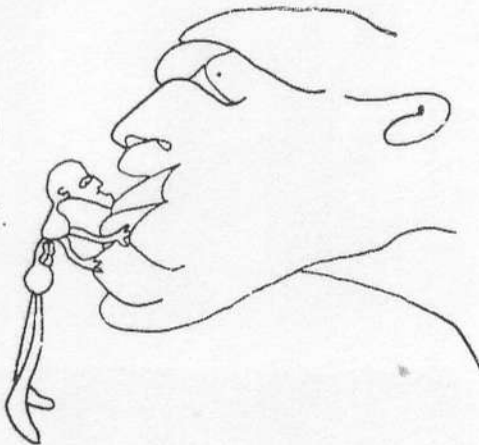
unauthorized publication of abridgements, excerpts, and translations of the book, by well-meaning people unaware of the danger and folly of such a course.

**Being ready.** Of course anything is possible with this revelation, but in view of present trends and developments it would appear that the fulfillment of the above predictions is inevitable. What should we do to prepare?

1. We can make sure plenty of books are on hand to supply the growing demand. We had best leave the details of this to the Foundation, which has done the job so well in the past. If and when they need our help, they will let us know. At that time we should be ready to provide concrete assistance.

2. We can improve our organizations and communications to provide a framework within which to accommodate and welcome the rising stream of new readers. Specific suggestions of ways to do this are invited.

3 and 4. To anyone who approaches us proposing to do an article on the movement, or a review of The URANTIA Book, or who proposes to publish an excerpt or abridgement of the Book, we can explain the Foundation's position and then make the following suggestion: "In all fairness, shouldn't you read the entire Book before deciding to do this? And knowing of the Foundation's policy prohibiting your intended action, shouldn't you at least talk with them first to find out their reasons?" --CMM



## Experiencing The Spirit of Truth

Jesus, functioning as and through the Spirit of Truth, is, in part, a social experience. The apostles along with a large group of faithfuls were gathered together when Jesus' circuit first functioned on Urantia, and they were so excited by this experience that they stayed up all night talking and planning. Jesus was trying to dramatize this for us when he chose a social supper as the material symbol of his desire that we remember him.

On the other hand, prayer and worship, the attempted communion with the Father/Adjuster is a deeply personal and individual experience in which Jesus, as and in the Spirit, also participates.

I infer from all this that the "Spirit of Truth" is at once both a social and a solitary spirit, one that serves us throughout the entire range of mortal experience, from the good times and friendly laughter of a social supper to the most sublime and solitary individual worship experience. It is at once both a Brotherly and a Fatherly experience.

Jim Rowlands, California

## Family of God Begins N.Y. Broadcast

Vern Grimsley's agent called him from New York City and asked if Saturday evening, August 21, 1976 would be all right to begin Family of God (FOG) programming there. Vern, who had been gunning for the New York City area for a long time, gulped and agreed that the particular date of August 21 (Jesus' birthday!) would be fine. The program airs at prime time, Saturday evenings at 6 PM, over WWDJ (970 on AM dial) and covers an area of twenty million potential listeners. Congratulations FOG and NYC!

In Southern California we hear FOG every Saturday evening at 10:30 PM over XEMO (860 on the AM dial.) This is a very powerful station in Mexico which can be heard in San Diego, throughout the entire Los Angeles Metropolitan Area, and in Arizona. Remember to listen every Saturday night. We can also hear Vern locally over KGBS (1020 on AM dial) at 7:00 AM on Sundays, and over KEZY (1190 on AM dial) at 4:00 AM on Mondays. --JKF

## Tips on Personal Work

We are the recipients of a new and great revelation. The import of the appearance of The URANTIA Book is awesome. Those days are about over when few people had heard of the Book; more and more people are dimly aware that it exists.

What should be the attitude and conduct of each of us who are already acquainted and familiar with this epochal revelation, in explaining it to those who are not? Here are some tips on personal work that will help you in the work ahead:

1. First, redouble your efforts to become thoroughly familiar with the Book and its teachings, so that you can be sure to keep one jump ahead of those whom you will be called upon to teach... and you will have to deal with both sincere seekers and potential detractors.
2. Employ prayer and seek to know and follow the Father's will in the matter of revealing the Book to others. If you have your eyes open to it, you will discern that divine agencies are guiding you into apparently chance meetings. Make the best of them.
3. Be sincere. Frankly admit your ignorance and reservations where appropriate. This will make your affirmations all the more convincing.
4. Make it clear that you yourself are not a superhuman being. Some people constantly fantasize about such things. Emphasize your humanness by being friendly, sharing experiences, telling how you found the Book, etc.
5. Be a worthy example of the Book. Avoid relating experiences or using language which you feel might be offensive to the inquirer.
6. Never attack the other person's beliefs. You will find that all belief systems contain at least a kernel of truth. Find that kernel, the essence of truth in the belief, acknowledge it, affirm it, and build on it, raising it to a higher truth, without ever attacking it. Always add something to a person's belief; never take anything away. If you simply can't handle what he is saying, tactfully change the subject to the God within him.

7. Be loving. Get to know a person before laying a URANTIA "trip" on him. Sometimes this happens quickly as immediate rapport sometimes develops. Still, it is best to know something about the person's background, beliefs, and aspirations. Think of him as a friend; not a project. He should be a friend. And your transmittal of truth to him should be the result of your seeing his need for truth, and your caring desire to fill that need because of the love you feel for him.

8. Avoid the more esoteric teachings of The URANTIA Book. Use judgement in this based on their person's background, interests, concerns and attitudes.

9. Give as much as can be received. Sometimes we know that God has sent a person to us who desperately needs to hear words of comfort and be encouraged to faith and we fail to speak up. We are too frightened, too busy, or too ashamed of the truth we bear. Be fearless!

10. Give no more than can be received. Sometimes, having mustered the courage to broach the spiritual subject, we press on too far. We go beyond the person's present ability to hear and understand, and we alienate him. For example, sometimes all a person needs to know is that God loves him and that he can follow Jesus for guidance. He may not need to know about The URANTIA Book.

11. Be prayerful. At these important moments of personal work you should immediately establish contact with the higher powers within and around you, praying that your words will be gracious and effective, and the person receptive. And you should check in with God each time you reach an impasse, sense difficulty, or need words.

12. Follow up. If you have a potential "convert" to the URANTIA Book, see that he actually gets the book, read to him from it, explore it together. Assume the responsibility for guiding the new reader into an existing study group, or, if none exists nearby, study with him yourself, even if it must be by correspondence over the miles.

---

## "How The URANTIA Book Found Me..."

Much of my life I had searched for a wholesome and non-contradictory form of truth which was both intellectually beautiful and spiritually invigorating. I couldn't find it. It had to find me.

About five years ago (I was 12) I made my break with standard Christian thought (Baptist). This was the beginning of a long struggle for truth. I began in ignorance, and of my own free will.

I still don't know exactly why I decided then to forge out on my own. I remember my first relationships with Jesus as being highly emotional and active.

Presently my thought evolved through: materialism, psychicism, witchcraft, spirit communication, satanism, polytheism, almost a year of nothingness, and then a period of 'free search' leading to my "discovery" of The URANTIA Book.

September, 1975 marked the end of my spiritual melancholy, and around the beginning of November my 'truth antennas' were extended almost one hundred percent. I was really receptive to all that seemed good to me.

About this time I met a new friend, Shirley Long, and she soon introduced me to her friends, Gail and Richard, and their son, Jeremiah.

One morning Gail, Richard, Shirley and I were sitting around the coffee table sing-singing some general chit-chat about possibilities, philosophically.

Gail was explaining that she was a Mormon, Rosicrucian, Astrologer and all-around Mystic. Richard had been rather quiet up until the end of Gail's dissertation when I said something to the effect that I still hadn't even loosely defined my religion. Suddenly, he made a statement and gesture which I believe I'll remember for eternity.

"Well, here's my Religion!" he said, and handed me that beautiful blue book.

As soon as I opened it and started reading I was amazed. Each word I read excited me more and more, and I decided then and there that that "book" was what I was searching for. "I have found it at last," I said to myself. I really felt good. On December 25, 1975 I was presented with my own copy of The URANTIA Book.

I started my second reading a few days ago, though I've read many papers two, three, or even four times over already. The inspiration I've acquired from the Papers is unparalleled by anything else I have ever come across. This Good Book is truly beautiful.

It is still exhilarating for me to reflect on those events of October-December of last year. My mind had been like the first century of Christ: cluttered with dozens of philosophies and smatterings of numerous religions, but extremely receptive to truth.

I believe that The Book came to me at that point in my life when I needed it most, was most receptive to it, and could use it best. There is little doubt in my mind that The URANTIA Book found me and not vice versa.

I have now decided to devote the whole of my earth life to the proclamation of the Brotherhood of Man, because of the Fatherhood of our Bountiful and Gracious Lord.

It would be disastrous for us not to activate in our lives those exquisite truths, the supreme good, that boundless beauty which the URANTIA Papers have revealed to us.

Norman S. Basye  
5353 Greenvalley Rd.  
Placerville, CA 95667

## editorial...

Last issue we sent you a form on which to indicate your desire to continue to receive the Agondonter. We included a place for your comments. The response was encouraging and heartwarming. We wish we could thank each person individually, but for the time being we'll just send this general great big THANK YOU to every one who returned the form, and to those who sent checks, and to those who included comments, and to those who sent letters. We have reproduced some of your comments here. Thank you and enjoy! --ed.

Thus far, a beautiful publication in which the beautiful ideas of beautiful people are beautifully expressed. A refreshing, clean stroke on the otherwise muddled canvas of contemporary spiritual expression. Keep on truckin'!  
--Lawrence Hildonen, Stellacoom, Wash.

Think you do a really professional job with the Agondonter. Was especially happy with your inclusion of an artist's conception of the Master Universe.  
--Preston & Kathy Thomas, Earlsyville, Va.

Please put me on your mailing list. I observe the Father's loving plan unfolding all around every day. I have great faith that in our lifetime we will observe our planet take a giant step towards the era of Light and Life. It all seems so easy. During my short life, (I am twenty-five,) I have felt the wonderful joy of Love and never forgotten it. What a wonderful thing Love is! In fact, I'm feeling so joyous now that I am stopping this letter!

Our house is made of Love,  
And what we're dreaming of.

--Gary Sanger, San Diego, California

The Agondonter gives me a feeling of warmth, belonging and happiness by knowing that one day the miles that keep us apart on this planet will be no more when we embrace each other on the Mansion Worlds.

--Jeanine Tarmond, San Luis Obispo, Calif.

I feel pretty isolated back here in Davenport, Iowa where there are no study groups. The Agondonter does an excellent job of keeping me informed of the activities of the Brotherhood, and also as a source of new insight and inspiration. I am so thankful to receive each issue of this "tether to reality."

--Mark Baxter, Davenport, Iowa

More - more - more. Need more unity and communication between members or interested people.

--Bill Martin, Torrance, California

Good work, keep it up, well balanced. I agree with Julia: more study groups, less publicity.

--Don Truman, Richmond, California

An excellent medium for bringing a variety of minds together in a single unity of purpose. Would like to see more editorial-type work and creative writing. The subjects that can be written about are plentiful, varied and fabulous!! We have a virtual gold-mine worth billions in that big blue book! Let's use our wits to mine it to the depths to retrieve precious revelations that we can project and offer our brothers and sisters through our own written words. We are a growing community of powerful, future orators, writers and creators.

--Terrell P. Watson, Rogue River, Oregon

Praise be to our Father, blessings to you beautiful reflections of his love. We are pleased to be a part of the ever expanding network of communications. We hope to send as well as receive. Bless you all.

--Doug and Lissa Parker, Corvallis, Oregon

In the last issue we mentioned the availability of a so-called "URANTIA Cookbook." Well, there is no such book, nor could there be legally, unless URANTIA Foundation endorsed it.

The error was due to my jumping to conclusions. It happened this way: A couple of years ago, while visiting Buck and Arlene Weimer I noticed some copies of a cookbook they had written and printed, entitled I believe the "Cosmic Cookbook." I was impressed but thought no more about it, and in fact had forgotten the name when, a few months ago, an Agondonter reader wrote asking for "the cookbook." I knew I wasn't handling it, and assumed it must be the one Buck and Arlene had done, so I printed the notice that anyone wanting the "URANTIA Cookbook" should write to them. How I came up with that name, I honestly don't know.

By the way, I saw Buck and Arlene at the Oklahoma Conference and they informed me that their cookbook is now sold out and they have no plans for reprinting it.

Now it turns out that some URANTIA Book readers are working on a different cookbook. However, if and when it becomes available, it will certainly not be called the "URANTIA Cookbook" since that name would imply publication or endorsement by URANTIA Foundation. It would in fact be illegal for an individual member or group of members (or non-members for that matter) to use that title, since the word URANTIA is a registered mark of URANTIA Foundation.

All this points up the necessity to double check facts before putting them in print, and underscores the wisdom of submitting all material to an Editorial Board prior to publication. We have such a policy at Agondonter, but I had slipped this notice in at the last minute, thinking it was of little consequence.

How wrong I was. It turned out that many people thought a precedent had been set permitting the unrestricted use of the word URANTIA. Such is not the case. The name URANTIA and the concentric circle symbol are registered marks used to identify official activities and publications of URANTIA Foundation.

The article you have just read (and everything else in this issue) has been approved by our editorial board, and if there are mistakes or misleading statements herein, blame group fallibility, but as for the cookbook error, I take full responsibility.

--Chick Montgomery

## (razz' (la%ifiEds

Ads such as might be seen in the year 2005:

Just Published: Ten-volume discourse on unpervaded space by noted Paradise-watcher, Randall Cloudbender. \$129.50 shipped postpaid.

For Sale:

URANTIA Book once owned by Vern Grimsley, marked up with various colors of ball point pen, peanut butter, and jelly. Slightly chewed. \$595 firm.

Snapshot of Mo Siegel reading The URANTIA Book and drinking Morning Thunder. 50¢ or best offer.

Complete set of early Agondonters. Trade for early issues of The Urantian, The Finaliter, or Playboy.

## "truth came in bursts..."

"I've been in and out of prison like a yo-yo on a string,  
But don' knock me, baby, I'm just doin' my thing!"  
(Excerpt from my poem, "Walla Walla Willie")

And that's literally true; at forty-six I have been imprisoned well over twenty years. Lack of direction, poor understanding of spiritual values, and subsequent negative orientation were the principle reagents in my personal pot of problems.

Several years ago, Norm Chamberlain "turned me on" to The URANTIA Book. I glanced through it and put it down as a super-intellectual, contemporized and esoteric Bible. However, my glimpse of the History of Urantia and the Life of Jesus was a hook that could not be denied; I received a gift-copy from Norm while incarcerated in the Washington State Penitentiary at Walla Walla, and I got into the book with a passion. I was still not ready for the truth, beauty, and goodness revealed in the papers, and, although I was enthralled with the mind-blowing concepts contained in nearly every page, I thought of the book as a masterpiece of science-fiction, and failed to internalize its many positive messages. I gave my book away upon release and went about my usual business of getting back into prison.

During my 1972-1974 federal confinement, I purchased a copy of The URANTIA Book and spent over a year pouring over its pages. Took the book out with me. Carried it with me for a few days, but it interfered with my drinking, so I left it at the Halfway House and commenced my "normal pattern" of irresponsible, wild and drunken behaviour with the usual results. Caught a new bank robbery beef and am currently doing a seven year jolt.

About six months ago, I purchased another URANTIA Book and have been making it a practice to read a few pages every morning. Slowly, finally, the direction became evident to me: Onward - inward - upward. Onward through natural evolution of mind-body-spirit, inward toward the Thought Adjuster, the Father Fragment, and upward toward Havona through transcendence. Dimly, at first, but increasing in brilliance, the Light of Truth came in bursts, more and more frequent and intense as I humbly set my "mortal ego" aside and let the Spirit of Truth minister to me. I've always known what is right and what is wrong, but I really didn't understand—because I wasn't ready to understand. I am beginning to understand, now; and as I become more and more willing to let the Father's will be done, it is very evident that it is the will of our Father that we allow our Greater Selves, our Thought Adjusters, access to our mortal faculties so that the love of our Universal Father may be expressed through us in service to our fellow Urantians. I see no further "reason" to self-destruct, socially or physically or mentally or spiritually. When, at last, we find that there is nothing to fear in death, we then begin to live.

Lawrence Hildonen  
Box 1000-35183  
Steilacoom, WA 98388

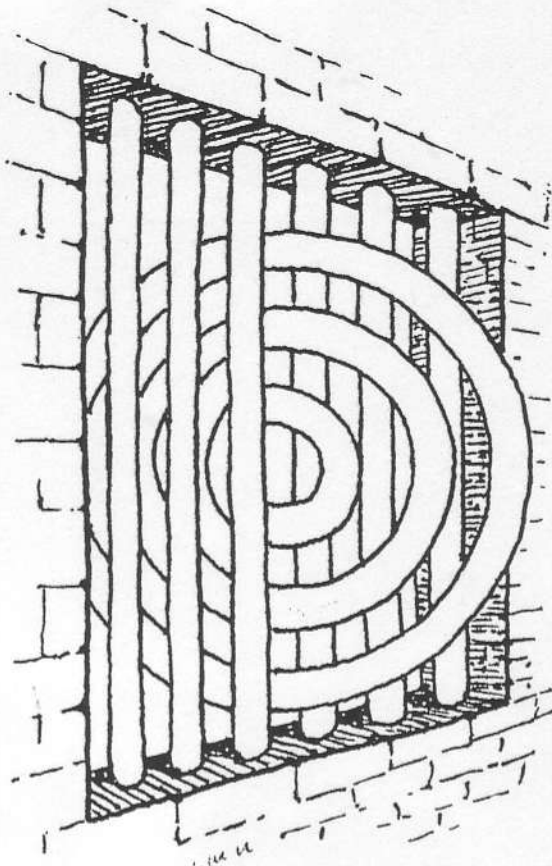
## GOD IS!

God is! That's it! That's the message! That's the gospel, the good news. There actually is a God. He actually is. He really exists. The Universal Father is actually existent...out there, in there, up there on Paradise, and right here in our hearts.

Know it. Believe it. Know it of a certainty. It is the truest truth in the Universe, the most actual fact.

God is. Contemplate that fact until you believe it. Believe it until you know it. Know it until it becomes the faith that motivates you to love him, to worship him, and to share him with others.

Know that God is.  
Worship Him.  
Share Him.



## GOOD WORKS TO BE DONE

We are Agondonters because we can see without seeing and it is truth that cosmic truth is more often hidden than not. Jesus said it only matters what comes out of you, not what goes in, which is to say it doesn't matter where you are or where you're at, it doesn't matter what kind of life-style you lead or whom you associate with, because wherever you are there are good works to be done.

Environment undeniably has a great effect upon our lives and beings but ultimately our relationship with the Father is the only thing that matters.

While true self-government is accorded only the highest spiritual beings, the most rudimentary beginnings of self-government are even now dawning upon man's consciousness as part of our world's advancement towards the new age. And we, as individuals in an advanced spiritual movement, must know that we can make great changes in our world in subtle and hidden ways not perceivable to those around us.

Knowledge of The URANTIA Book is soon to grow by leaps and bounds whether we like it or not, and while it pays to be prepared for that certainty, there are things we can do right now to bring deep spiritual illumination to our daily lives. It seems not the time to openly or directly promote the book, but we can promote and live the book's teachings by striving each one of us, wherever we may live, to make our neighborhoods and communities into pleasant and beautiful places that enrich and encourage people's higher aspirations.

As brothers, feeling brotherhood, there are ways, possible in today's American society, and to every style of individual, to design our lives around the aspirations of man's soul and spirit.

And beginnings are feasible wherever you are. I've been discovering in my personal experience that there are ways not directly related to The URANTIA Book that can help bring love to the fore.

We are one in the Father.

--Stan Kahn, Portland, Oregon

## In the Circles of the Universes

I can tell you of wonders!  
(Few there are who listen...)  
It is a tale of light:

It is a tale of glory;  
In all the grand universe,  
It is the grandest ever known.

All things material pass away,  
All things spiritual last eternal;  
(The lowest sons of God are we,)  
In the circles of the Universes.

Ahead lies the eternal adventure,  
Progressing inward to eternity,  
Through the cycles of time.

Eternally swinging through space,  
All the universes circling,  
Progressing to perfection.

Choose the way my brothers!  
The wonders of universes  
Are ours for the striving.

Throw off superstitions.  
Seek truth in all things.  
Give love to all brothers.

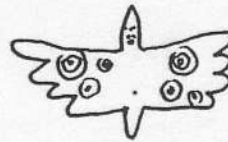
Myths and poorly written records,  
Tell of a God of anger and fear,  
Tell of a God of jealousy and wrath.

(The Father of universes,  
The Father of all things,  
Material and spiritual,  
Is above wrath and fear.)

Reach within and find peace;  
The spirit of the Father  
Lives inside your heart.

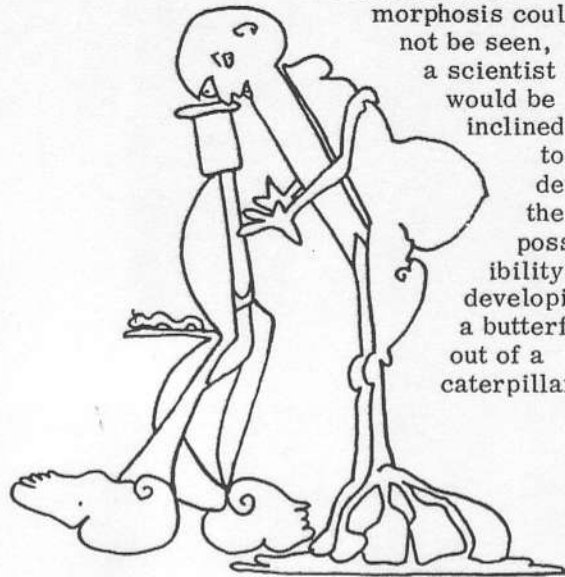
Choose the glorious way,  
And He will lead you  
Through the circles of the universes,  
To Paradise.

--Laura Mabery



"The philosophy of the  
universe cannot be  
predicated on the  
observations of  
so-called science.

If such a meta-  
morphosis could  
not be seen,  
a scientist  
would be  
inclined  
to  
deny  
the  
poss-  
ibility of  
developing  
a butterfly  
out of a  
caterpillar."



\*Quotation from page 480 of The URANTIA Book,  
Copyright © 1955, URANTIA Foundation, Used  
by permission. (Cartoon by Felice Long.)

## The Gravity Engine of Plate Tectonics

Primordial skies of steam, condensing,  
Rain a vast ocean upon a crusted molten sphere,  
Pressing up a bulge of land:  
The ancient mother continent.

A hundred-million-year moment later,  
The miles-thick faces of the mammoth island  
Separate,  
And begin their sluggish seaward slide.

--CMM



P.O. Box 563  
Los Angeles, CA  
90053

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
AND FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED  
(Deliver to addressee. Return to sender only if  
undeliverable. Notify sender of address change.)

COPY



## SPECIAL READERS' ISSUE

Featuring Letters, Poems, Puzzles and Drawings by our Readers

### New Orleans

The growth of the revelation in New Orleans and the surrounding area is proceeding substantially. We held a workshop with members of the Foundation Faith of the Millenium recently and were pleased by their receptivity to the personal message of religious illumination and liberation which we attempted to convey. We have also been successful in persuading a book-store in the French Quarter to stock the Book and display it in the window. And our study group continues to grow in the light of spiritual development and the warmth of fellowship. We await the times of the spread of the revelation to all peoples of the planet, but in the meantime we are busy building a firm foundation for the future development of spiritual consciousness here in New Orleans.

With love and wishes for a great eternity,

—JOHN LINCOLN

### Monterey

Our Monterey Peninsula study group is bursting at the seams. There are almost twenty of us and we are about to form (split) two groups. One will be mid-week and one on the weekend to better accommodate all. Soon we will send you a photo of us.

Barbara and George Thornbury, Josh, Jackson, Tim, Sharon and Mike, Martha, Jan, Thecka, Bill, Cindy, Larry and Carol, Ray and myself send greetings.

We meet, by the way, once a week on Saturdays and invite visitors when they are here on the peninsula. It is not uncommon for us to have a six hour meeting on a Saturday night. You would be amazed at the accomplishments of social, personal and spiritual value at these meetings.

Enclosed is a check for a year's subscription. Also addresses of some enthusiastic new readers. Please send them a copy.

In closing, I would like to tell you who I am. I recently moved from Southern California to the Monterey Peninsula. I am a self-employed manufacturer's representative in the polyethylene packaging industry. I have a background in Psychology and I like people and get along with them well. I am so interested in truth in relation to personality that I found I was evaluating these truths years before I picked up a URANTIA Book. Can you imagine my surprise when I read the Book and had confirmed numerous truths that I had long believed? It was beautiful, exciting, profound and the real beginning of my eternal existence. I'm thirty years old and it seems incredible that in such a short period of time a revelation of such wisdom was (or can be) revealed.

—BOB DEMATTEIS

### Reno



James and Rebecca George, study group leaders in Reno, Nevada. Their son, Kailyn inspects the Concordex as sister Jedo looks on. Jim has been reading The URANTIA Book for almost seven years.

### Oregon

I'm happy to tell you that Urantians are alive and well in Eugene and Marcola, and that since we are, it would be nice to write and tell you so!

It's taken a while to get stabilized, but we've been meeting fairly regularly, usually Mondays. We started with the Foreward and have been progressing slowly through the Central Universe. We have a way to go, but we've made a good start!

We all have read the Book for two or more years, but reading it together, from the beginning, has brought new insight that we've all noted, and it seems to be a group consensus that we all desire more to get our lives right and to study harder so that we may be trustworthy bearers of this information.

Here in Marcola, my neighbor and I have been reading regularly together and there are several others nearby that are reading the Book too. But getting them in one place isn't always easy. Happily though, another friend said, "It's time to stop saying Wow! and really get to know that Book!"

I agree completely, and the idea that the best way to study is together seems to be taking root in one or two other minds as well. A study group in Marcola is in the process of hatching!

—JANET QUINN



Here are excerpts from a few of the wonderful letters we have received in recent months. We wish we had space to print them all, and we wish we had time to answer them all...but we don't. So to those of you who have sent letters and have received no answers, we now say Thank You!

To the Editor,

I've been locked down in our local sneezer [solitary confinement cell] for over three weeks and will remain locked down until my transfer to Leavenworth sometime in January. 'Pears that my "ministry" here is completed and Father wants me to introduce The URANTIA Book to a tougher nucleus of convicted felons.

It may be that when the men of Leavenworth have learned of the U.B., I'll then proceed to Marion, Illinois, where exist the hardest, baddest men in the land.

McNeil Island is a medium security prison and the general population is comprised of young first offenders who just aren't ready for the U.B. (That's a gross generalization. I've reached about fifteen people here, some of whom are ordering their own copies.)



Give my love to all your lovely constituents right after skimming off your abundant ration.

Yours in brotherhood,  
Lawrence Hildonen

I attended the "Northwest Get-Together" in October, [Washington] and it was one of the best experiences of my life. There was so much love and fellowship.

Steve Johnson

Greetings from Utah! There are no "known" readers here so we are in ultra-isolation. We spent this past summer up in Anchorage, Alaska with Pat & Tuckey Hayes and had a wonderful experience of learning and growing. The Alaska study group has so many great folks. Hopefully a study group will evolve here.

John & Jane Roper  
Salt Lake City

DEAR URANTIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

I want to take this time to express my love for all of you, no matter where you may be located on this planet of ours. I want to express a few thoughts that I have been thinking on for the last few weeks.

To do the Father's Will

First, many people that I have come into contact with have expressed that they don't really know what it means to do the Father's will. Let's examine the reality of the Father. The Universal Father has been described as a God of Love. God is Love. To simply put it, to do the Father's will is to put Love into every action we make throughout our lives. Then to do God's will is to imitate God who is Love, and Love is the desire to do good unto others.

Worship the Father in world-wide unity

On another point that I feel needs attention: the act of Worship. I feel at this time it would be very beneficial if we would set aside a five-minute period each day in which all of us, at a set time, could join together Spiritually and Worship the Father in world-wide unity. It could be any five-minute period at any hour, so that all the participants could in their own way express themselves as a part of a whole body functioning throughout the world, all at the same time. I feel that much good can and will come from this type of worship. All that is needed is an agreement as to the time to be set for such an activity, so that anyone throughout the world could coordinate the time in that locality to unite with all others in group Worship.

Translating the book into other languages

Also, on translating The URANTIA Book into other languages: Did not the the Universal Personalities upstep the English language to such a degree that it literally takes on a new phase of communication? Also, English being a major international language on this planet, it may be that the Universal Personalities are trying to show us that English might just be that one World Language that the planet needs. If one looks at the problems of translating the book into other languages, one begins to ask: "are we meant to translate The URANTIA Book, or is it meant to be read in the versatile English language in which the authors gave it to us?"

These are a few thoughts that have been on my mind, and I felt it time to share them with others to get some feedback on them.

Your brother in time and space,  
J. Zabriel, 822 'B' Street  
Ashland, Oregon 97520

The Agondonter is published quarterly by the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles.

Donations are appreciated and should be in the form of a check, payable to FUSLA.

Items of mutual interest are welcomed from Societies, study groups or individuals. Shorter items are given preference.

Editor:	Charles Montgomery
Editorial Board:	Julia Fenderson Charles Montgomery Scott Forsythe

Have we misspelled your name?  
Is your address correct?  
Please let us know.

It is very worthwhile our having and your producing the Agondonter. Thank you for all your efforts. I like to hear of what is going on in the movement, and I like to hear the thoughts of others who love the Book. I have been reading it for over twenty-five years and always find spiritual and mental food, enlightenment and inspiration. It never disappoints when one seeks help—perhaps because it is Truth and Wisdom.

Grace L. Walker  
Naperville, Illinois

Reading the Agondonter gives you the intensive feeling of closeness to all the URANTIANs around, and that you do not stand alone in your love of and devotedness to the wonderful messages of The URANTIA Book, especially when one lives in an isolated space...

Olga Unverzagt  
Palm Bay, Florida

I appreciate the Agondonter, to keep those of us who are off the beaten track informed as to what's happening throughout Urantia land. And I hope the editor will always strive to present many different views on issues concerning all of us.

Deborah Foster  
Talkeetna, Alaska

Note: Debbie is a member of Pat and Tucky Hayes' great group in Anchorage. Recently she took a special course (as did another U.B. reader, Ruth Flanders) to become an air traffic control officer, and works way out in the Talkeetna Mountains of Alaska where she is having her own cabin built. This fine young woman is an avid scholar of the U.B. —ed.

Your well-written little journal is a worthy effort on the part of a group of fairly young URANTIANs! We are glad to see the active members of the organization are not "oldsters" such as we, for it insures continuity into the future!

Gregory Vincent  
Windsor, California

The spirit of David Zebedee lives on in the Agondonter! Bring us together! (I am constantly amazed at how many different kinds of people read The URANTIA Book.)

Lee Armstrong  
Iowa City, Iowa

I am writing for a small but steadily growing study group in southern Vermont. We have been meeting weekly for over two years and are growing in size and solidity. We hope to charter someday. We would like to receive the Agondonter. It makes such a difference to see and read about God's unfolding in so many different places.

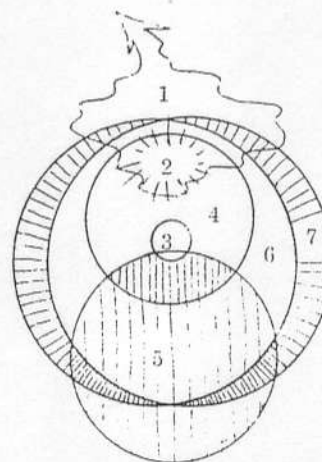
Donald R. MacLean  
Putney, Vermont

Our best regards to all of you wonderful URANTIANs. Our Atlanta study group numbers close to twenty members but only about 6 or 8 show up for any given Monday night meeting. Last spring we began meeting in different members' homes and this has worked out real well. We had a group "project" through last spring (helping an elderly widow) but since doing all we could and a changed environment, we've really not been involved in an "outreach" type project for several months. Soon we hope to resume this type of activity of serving our brothers as well as learning more of the Father through our study group. We would welcome any and all of you to visit our group if ever in the "sunny south". Warmest regards,

Cap Van Valkenburgh  
495 River Valley Rd.  
Atlanta, GA 30328

#### ANALYZING THE SELF: AN INTERPRETATION

Virginia Ryken has submitted the following diagram and accompanying notes on the personality dynamics of the self, based on her reading of The URANTIA Book. She would be interested in seeing similar interpretations by other readers.



#### KEY

1. Soul
2. Spirit
3. Ego—temporary identity
4. Mind systems
5. Physical systems
6. Room for growth
7. Personality

#### DYNAMICS

- Interaction of mind and spirit causes growth of soul.
- Area between personality and spirit in soul constantly changes if soul is progressing. (See U.B.1226)
- Ego—seat of temporal identity—transfers to soul for survival. (See U.B.1229)
- Soul—grows to include spiritual aspects of mind.
- Mind—may become more spiritual for survival or more material if survival rejected.
- Physical systems—eventually turn to energy.
- Personality, spirit, soul—are eventually reconstituted in a new body on another world, if personality so chooses.

Virginia Ryken  
W. Amherst, N.Y.

Dear Reader,  
 Faith is a very personal thing.  
 There are so many ways to say  
 "I believe."

Here are two  
 examples --  
 statements that  
 are URANTIA  
 inspired, but  
 which could be  
 read in any  
 local church  
 group.

How about  
 sending us  
 your "I believe  
 statement"?

## I BELIEVE

I believe that we are sons and daughters of a loving Father who cares for us.  
 I believe that our Father gave me free will so that I can personally choose to follow the Father's way.

I believe that Jesus came to show me the way, to do the Father's will.

I believe that I must continually try to choose that way, or the Father's will, in each act of my daily life.

I believe the Father's spirit indwells me, to help me day by day.

I believe that all men are my brothers and sisters and that I am to love and serve them.

I believe that unselfish love and service are the greatest things in this world.

I believe that I show my love for the Father by loving and serving my fellows.

I believe that love implies forgiveness and prevents holding grudges.

I believe that life on this world is the "testing time", the "shakedown cruise" to see if I am ready to start on the long, eternal adventure.

I believe that anyone who sincerely desires to do so may take this voyage.

I believe in the progressive evolution of my soul Godward if I so choose.

I believe in the joyous wonder of it all—the truth, beauty and goodness which equal love.

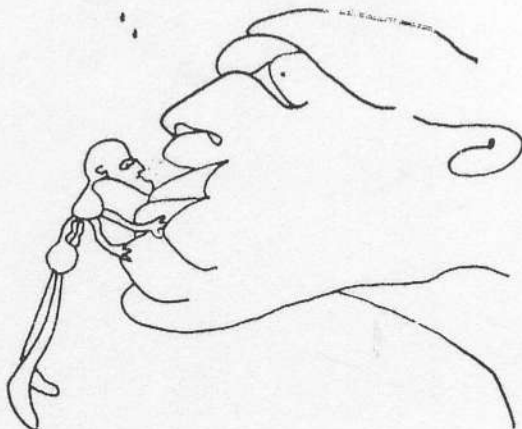
I believe that someday I will attain Paradise and stand face to face with my heavenly Father.

I believe that all of this training through eons of ages will enable me to sometime love and serve with joy on other, greater worlds.

--Julia K. Fenderson

## DRAWINGS by Felice Long

FUSLA member, Felice Long, has created a leather-bound collection of drawings which she whimsically calls "URANTIA Triviata." The collection contains several dozen cartoons depicting her conception of some of the ideas presented in The URANTIA Book. Four of her creations are shown on these pages. Keep in mind that these are one person's interpretations; you undoubtedly see things somewhat differently.



"... You can depend upon being translated from sphere to sphere, from the outer circuits ever nearer the inner center, and some day, doubt not, you shall stand in the divine and central presence and see him, figuratively speaking, face to face. ..." (U.B. 63-4)\*



"We, the Life Carriers on Urantia, had passed through the long vigil of watchful waiting since the day we first planted the life plasm in the planetary waters, and naturally the appearance of the first really intelligent and volitional beings brought to us great joy and supreme satisfaction." (U.B. 709)\*

I believe in God, the Father of all universes, almighty, all-loving, ever-present and omniscient, eternal and everlasting, the Creator of all that is, from the greatest galaxy to the smallest atomic particle, from the mightiest angel to the lowest form of life.

I believe that the vast creation has been made for a divine purpose of magnificent proportions.

I believe that by aligning myself with the divine purpose I can achieve enduring significance in the universe, become an eternal entity, a living, knowing, loving, growing, learning, revealing, dynamic, creative and everlasting personality.

I believe that it may not get easier, but it sure gets better.

I believe that love is the key to growing. I believe in the manner of living taught and revealed by the Master: adherence to the Will of the Father, and all-encompassing love for our neighbor, be he friend or enemy.

I believe that I determine the quality of my life moment by moment by the choices I make. I can choose to move Godward, or I can choose otherwise.

I believe that evil is a necessary by-product of free-will operating in a choice-rich environment. I believe that fear is the root of all selfishness, the seed of all evil. I believe that faith is the antidote to fear, and love is the well-spring of goodness.

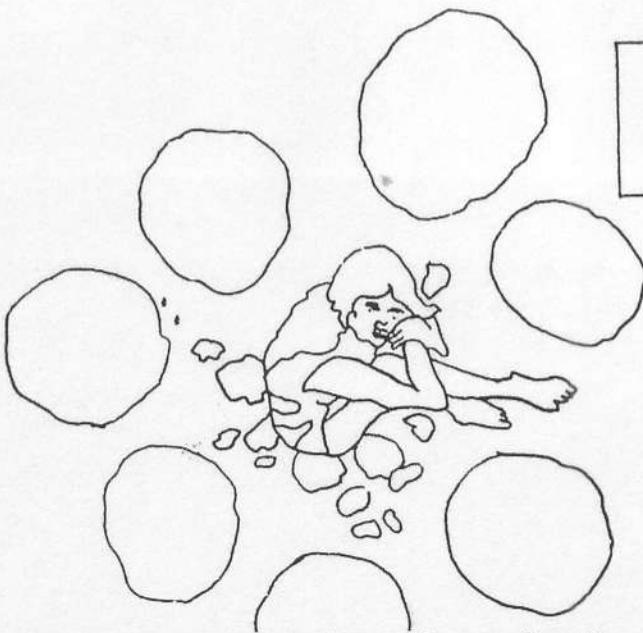
I believe that God loves me a thousand times more than I can know, that he is a God of salvation, mercy, forgiveness, understanding, tenderness and infinite love, as well as a God of righteousness and power.

I believe that death, like birth, is a door, an emergence into light and new freedom. My spirit welcomes the birth of new life that is death.

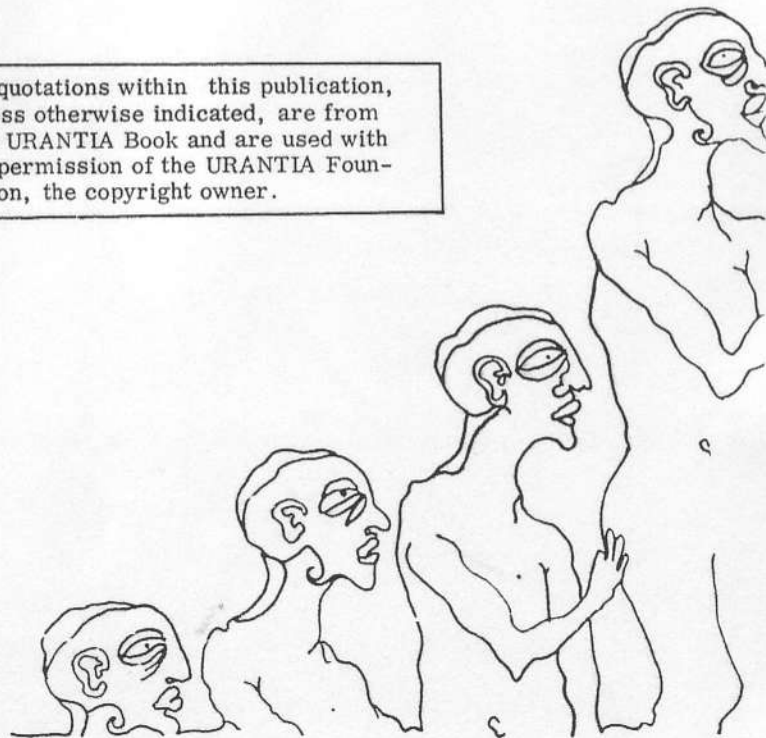
I believe that I have unimaginable adventures of joy, service, discovery, and love ahead of me in an unending future, that God is expressing a fraction of his infinite nature through the eternally exploding reality that is me.

--Charles M. Montgomery

\*All quotations within this publication, unless otherwise indicated, are from The URANTIA Book and are used with the permission of the URANTIA Foundation, the copyright owner.



"Mortal death is a technique of escape from the material life in the flesh; and the mansonia experience of progressive life through seven worlds of corrective training and cultural education represents the introduction of mortal survivors to the morontia career, the transition life which intervenes between the evolutionary material existence and the higher spirit attainment of the ascenders of time who are destined to achieve the portals of eternity." (U.B.540)\*



"... Loyal persons are growing persons, and growth is an impressive and inspiring reality. Live loyally today—grow—and tomorrow will attend to itself. The quickest way for a tadpole to become a frog is to live loyally each moment as a tadpole." (U.B.540)\*

# For all our Little Brothers and Sisters

Some day all men and women will LOVE each other!  
The world will be transformed into one vast Family of God!  
And even though you may now live in a world of confusion,  
DON'T WORRY! Just like the first rays of light on a new  
morning, the dawn of a new age has come to our world,  
URANTIA. Some day all people will learn about truth,  
beauty, goodness, faith and LOVE.

If you "tune in" to the positive "vibes" and if you learn  
to LOVE with all your heart, wonderful things begin to  
happen. And get this: If you rap with God, our Universal  
Father, and ask Him to Guide you, teach you, and Show  
you the way—He will! (Listen, this is no comic book  
story, man, this is the Cosmic Book Story, and it is Real!

The Spiritual Age has begun to shed the Light of Truth  
on the hearts and minds of all truth seeking men and  
women! What a wonderful time to be alive! You will live  
to see some incredible and amazing things. But most of  
all you will DISCOVER for yourself—you will learn what  
Jesus really taught almost two thousand years ago—

because TODAY people are Growing and Realizing that  
all churches and temples and all the world's religions  
WORSHIP the SAME GOD (Hooray!)

And God LOVES us more than we can imagine. He  
craves to commune with us but He never forces us to  
LOVE Him in return. This must be of our own choosing  
because God has given us a Free Will.

Perhaps when all people find God in their own Hearts  
they will be able to see Him in EVERYONE! And on that  
blessed day all church bells will ring and all voices will  
sing one glorious song in praise of the greatest teaching  
of all time: The Fatherhood of God and The Brotherhood  
of Man! ...and that's just the beginning!...

P.S. And keep on smiling; you look so nice when you do!

—Vince Ventola

J O Y T I N U S  
M R T I R I P S  
Y T I N R E T E  
T U N H P R R N  
U E I T E E U D  
A V F I A W T O  
E O N A C O H O  
B L I F E P N G

OH JOY! Can you find twelve  
joyous words, each at least four  
letters long, in straight lines,  
(vertical or horizontal, backward  
or forward) in this joyous matrix?  
--cmm



Pueblo Colorado study group: Buck Weimer took the picture.  
His wife, Arlene, holds little Jonathon, center. In the fore-  
ground George Samarus and his wife Lucy with baby Loriel.

At the birth of a soul,  
The universes gently sparkle  
And the Creators smile  
While a new life begins its race  
With time and space.  
The interception has begun,  
At the birth of a soul.

Eva Sepp  
Kailua, Hawaii

It's so good to hear from fellow URANTIANS and share  
in their growing awareness of knowing God and doing his  
will. Much love,

Janet Volpe  
Toluca, Illinois

Three years ago on Kauai we didn't know if others  
knew of the U.B. Our prayers were answered and now we  
are able to hear of other readers everywhere. I pray for  
the success of the Book, and for spiritual freedom world-  
wide.

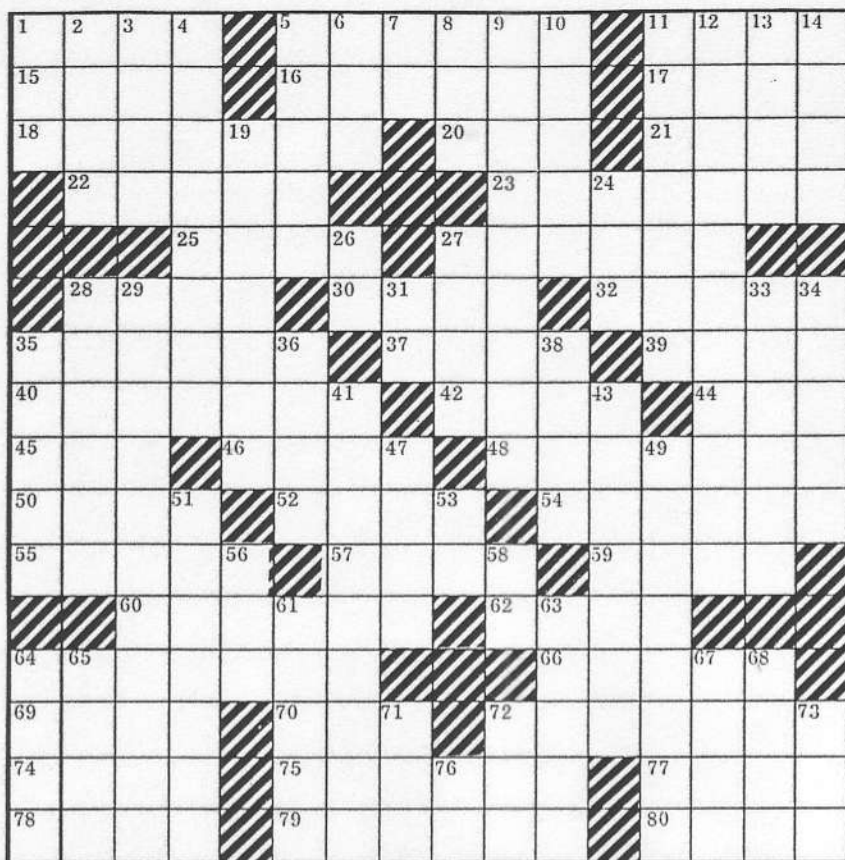
Cam Gardner  
Kekaha, Kauai, Hawaii

## READERS' FORUM

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS...

On page 2049 of The URANTIA Book we read that Jesus,  
in a post-resurrection appearance, says to Philip: "There  
is but one law to obey—that is the command to go forth  
proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom."

What insights or experiences can you share with our  
readers to assist them in carrying out this commandment.



## DOWN

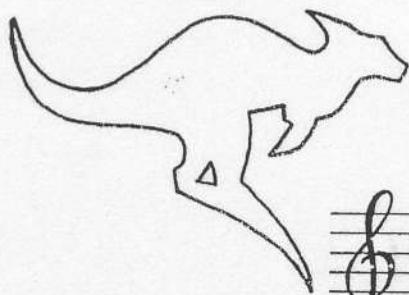
1. Approximate (abbr.)
2. Bursar (abbr.)
3. Dies \_\_\_\_\_
4. -a-, odds and ends
5. "\_\_\_\_\_ the little children"
6. Fifth letters
7. Jesus' third year: \_\_\_\_\_ B. C. (Roman)
8. Mr. Van Winkle
9. Statement
10. Irritable
11. Bedecked
12. Spiritual regeneration (2 wds.)
13. Mr. Lugosi
14. Isomer of C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>
19. Kind of acid
24. Kind of "stein"
26. Indwelling guide, synonym (abbr.)
27. Celestial Seasonings makes these
28. \_\_\_\_\_ fortune (2 wds.)

29. Third epochal revelator
31. Boat or camper (abbr.)
33. Egyptian goddess
34. Porticos
35. Piece
36. Certain
38. "You are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth"
41. Chunk of arriving space matter
43. Followers of Lao-tze
47. Negative contraction
49. Fate of survival rejectors
51. Resident of the Garden
53. U.S. state adjacent to Canada (abbr.)
56. \_\_\_\_\_ sack
58. Supreme Ultimate (abbr.)
61. Healed by Jesus in first intentionally performed miracle (UB 1644)
63. Can (archaic)
64. Cole \_\_\_\_\_
65. Wolf (Sp.)

67. Askew
68. Wife of Cronus
71. Article (gr.)
72. Here, in Marseilles
73. Trader, (abbr.)
76. Supposed seat of instincts (psych.)

## ACROSS

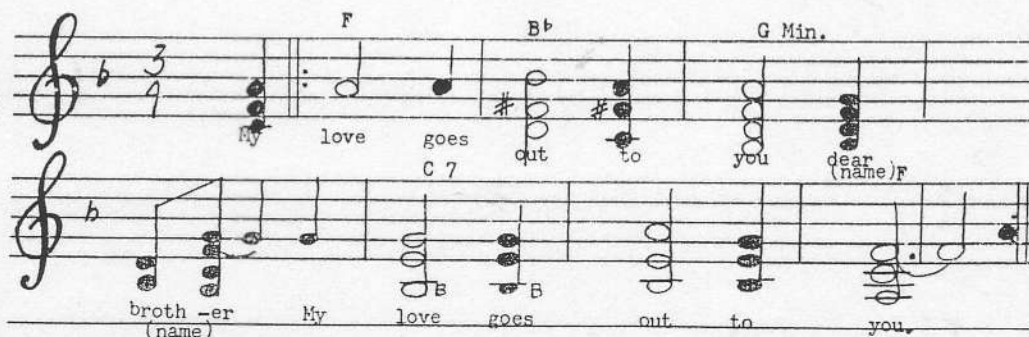
1. What an infant might wear (2 wds.)
5. Where Jesus visited Malach (UB 1737)
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Father
15. Sound of a contented cat
16. Preceded Good Samaritan (UB 1810)
17. Consider, adjudge
18. "Sing the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord!"
20. Points, abbr.
21. What the apostles hands often were
22. Dissenting religious bodies
23. \_\_\_\_\_ Son
25. "always a \_\_\_\_\_ and a right way" (UB 230)
27. Testing
28. W. Ind. hog plum
30. Zone
32. Belonging to a famous Roman fiddler
35. Smudges
37. Belonging to Mr. Steadfast
39. Opposite of origin (abbr.)
40. \_\_\_\_\_, the wanderer of space
42. Shoo!
44. Prefix for -sphere or -logy
45. Rantulan Service Corps (abbr.)
46. Boathands
48. Panopticon leader (var. sp.)
50. U.S. Tennis pro
52. \_\_\_\_\_ College, English public school
54. \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_ not to be that \_\_\_\_\_ the ?
55. Certain bills
57. Means and \_\_\_\_\_
59. Places for weary travelers
60. Jesus' brother Jude was one
62. College in Santa Barbara (abbr.)
64. Thin
66. You might have this in your eye or in your coat (2 wds.)
69. "Stuck in \_\_\_\_\_ again" (Calif. sm. town)
70. The \_\_\_\_\_ falls of progress
72. Precedes foresight (UB 1228)
74. Aid and \_\_\_\_\_
75. Interpreters of \_\_\_\_\_ (UB 300)
77. Important to distinguish from want
78. What Jesus did most mornings
79. What some have done to Bible
80. In high \_\_\_\_\_



## from Western Australia...

## THE UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD THEME SONG

Arranged by Peter Carthew



# Peaceful Kingdom

Words and music by Francyl Streano Gawryn  
© 1975

1. I am wor-king to build a king-dom  
in my heart Lord in my heart  
brick by brick stone by stone  
in my heart Lord in my heart  
I can see there's a lot of people lost  
Some are look-ing for di-rec-tion  
and I'd like to say I know there's a bet-ter way  
that's gon-na lead you on to per-fec-tion

Chords: D, A, G, D, A, G, D, Amin, Emin, F, G, D, A, G, D

2. I am working to build a kingdom  
In my heart, Lord in my heart  
With the tools, that I've been given,  
In my heart, Lord in my heart.

There's peaceful patience, loving my brothers  
Strength and courage, through the night,  
Watchful waiting, endless giving,  
Faithful striving, for what's right.

3. I am working to build a kingdom  
In my heart, Lord in my heart  
Brick by brick, stone by stone,  
In my heart, Lord in my heart.

Look to the light and see the shining  
Of the goodness that comes through you  
And stay by it, peaceful and quiet,  
Knowing that it's going to be good to you.

4. I am working to build a kingdom  
In my heart, Lord in my heart,  
And it's nowhere to be found  
But in my heart and in your heart.

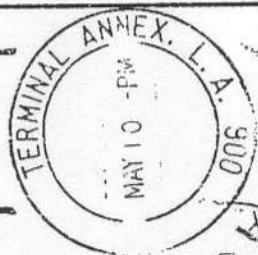
You won't find it in the city  
Or in the country, or deep down in the sea,  
'Cause it's only something living,  
And it's living in you and in me.

5. I am working to build a kingdom  
In my heart, Lord in my heart,  
Brick by brick, stone by stone,  
In my heart, Lord in my heart.



agondonter

P.O. BOX 563  
LOS ANGELES, CA  
90053



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
AND FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED

MAILED CLASS