



Voices of Women

Newsletter of the UU Women's Connection

Spring 2010

Pushing the Edges Pat Goller

2010 UU Women's Connection Chair

"Pushing the Edges" is the name of a newly created blog on the UU Women's Connection website. uuwomensconnection.org This title is taken from the theme of a workshop I attended in Madison, Wisconsin. Starhawk, author, environmental activist and lecturer on earth based spirituality conducted the all-day workshop about "edges" -- places of great tension and chaos, creativity and passion, dynamism and growth. "The edge," she said, "is where the magic can happen."

The Connection and indeed so many non profits seem at such an edge place of uncertainty, of chaotic changes, of paradigm shift, yet, the Connection has assembled a fine council of bright and generous women who arm themselves with humor and curiosity to press that ever changing edge looking for the magic.

I am happy to chair the Connection with the hardworking women who share leadership and consensus work with me. Thank you to the councilors whose names you will find on page five. Welcome to two new councilors, Cathy and Debbie. And to another, Sage Hagey from Deerfield, Illinois, who will join us in July. Check the summer VOW.

2010 has been exciting and busy year already for the UU Women's Connection. Yet, so much is around the corner. Not the least is the **2010 Spring Conference** planned by the women of ALUUC. (Springfield, Illinois) **"SPA for the Soul,"** is **June 4-6 at Pilgrim Park near Princeton, Illinois.** Take advantage of our new payment plan or request a scholarship but, don't miss this opportunity to join your sisters for a weekend designed to pamper you. **The brochure and registration form can be found in this issue of VOW and on our website: uuwomensconnection.org**

Thank you to the "Women of the Castle"-as they are called at Beverly Unitarian Church--for their warm, hospitality, generosity and openness. The church's unusual castle-like structure makes it a landmark on the Chicago's south side. Beverly U women and other members opened the church doors and their homes to welcome Councilors at the Connection's first 2010 council meeting, February 6-8th. This photo of Councilors is taken on the historic building's stairway leading from the sanctuary to the second floor, where



Sunday's coffee hour and Saturday's luncheon and Margaret Fuller Conversation salon were held. The salon was first of many the Connection has organized for the 200th Anniversary year of the birth of UU foremother, Margaret Fuller. Shown in the photo from top of the stairs to the bottom are Councilors Pat Goller, Debbie Czarnopys-White, Tori Kilhoffer, Nicole Nichols, Cathy Kline and Diana DeWeese. Not shown: Janice Bailey.

Welcome to New Councilwomen Cathy and Debbie attended the 1st International UU Women's Convocation in Houston together and wondered what women in the district were doing. Together they agreed to join the UU Women's Connection Council last summer; their three year terms began in January. (Continued page five)

UU Women's Connection Presents

"S.P.A. for the Soul"

(spiritual path awakening)

-2010 Spring Conference, June 4th-6th

Pilgrim Park Retreat Center - Princeton, Illinois

Featuring Key Note Speaker, Healer, Toe Reader, Intuitive, Teri! Freesmeyer

Express YOURSELF! in the ways women have for centuries- through art, jewelry, card making and more.

Card Making! - This newly revived art makes its come back with gorgeous materials of all colors, textures, and designs.

Garden Stepping Stone - Make your own! Use a footprint, marbles, sticks, stones, coins- you name it....it's your creation.

Foot Beading "Sandals"- Adorn your feet with beaded creations while still enjoying the feeling of bare feet touching the around.

Love Your Body! Natural health practices brings forth the kind of glow that only comes from within.

Easy Alternative Health Practices- Come learn about the Neti Pot, Ear Candling, a Menstrual Cup and more...

How to Make Your Own Bath Salts, Lotions, Oils - share your tips for these as well as learn new recipes & techniques you can use at home to create unique and natural products.

The Gathering Instinct... for millennium women have "gathered" or shopped for their families, their villages, and for survival.

Silent Auction - Nothing is more fun than shopping through someone else's treasures! Bring a few of your own to donate & support the UU Women's Connections.

Book Sale - Your donation of used books, and then purchase of fresh ones, helps provide scholarships and cover costs as we gather each year for fellowship & renewal.

Increase your spiritual vibrancy by experiencing old and new methods of soul connection.

What can your toes tell you? - About your life, your potential, your path. Teri! gives a more in depth session on this new art.

Vibrations & Crystal Bowls - What's in it for you? Come and find out how understanding vibration can change your life.

Silent Meditation/ Pilgrimage - Walk the grounds, climb the highest hill to awaken your souls deepest voices.

Beauty School, Your Way! Learn from experts about make-up, color, and natural enhancements.

Lymphatic Massage Face Lift - naturally! Get that lift you've considered by learning techniques without chemicals or surgery.

Color Draping - What's the most flattering color scheme for you? Watch the dramatic difference as you are draped in different fabrics revealing your best & worst looks.

Make Up & Skin Experts - Available to give you personal advice & tips in a relaxing, non-threatening atmosphere.

Extravagant "Spa Stations" with do-it-yourself manicures, pedicures, facials and even sewing projects!

Self Serve Facial Station - Use natural foods and other products to give yourself a healthy glow.

Goddess Gowns - Sew your own simple garment and feel like a goddess.

Foot soaks - The name says it all. Spend a few precious moments taking care of your tootsies.

Manicures - Paint your own nails in pretty colors or help a friend.

***The workshops above are confirmed at the time of print. Other offerings will be included some of which may have minimal fees for materials used at the time. Plan accordingly :) www.uuwomensconnection.org

New Councilwomen (from page one)

Cathy Kline is a member of the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship (CUF), serves as Board Trustee and Board Liaison to Membership Committee, Pastoral Friend, Arts and Aesthetics Committee member, Zambia sewing friend and hospice volunteer. Her other passions include: sewing, quilting, collecting fabric and old buttons, antiquing and gardening.

Debbie Czarnopys-White, is a member of the Mt. Vernon Illinois UU Fellowship with her husband, Bob, and also frequently works with the Carbondale Fellowship. A certified yoga instructor with the Yoga Alliance, she meditates and pursues studies in insight meditation. She is a Reiki Master, studies qigong, drumming and Dances of Universal Peace, as well as other forms of rhythmic healing.

Debbie and Cathy are both Southern Illinois hospice volunteers and involved with the Carbondale Fellowship's partnering with a Ranchod Hospice of Kabwe, Zambia. Now, Debbie's main volunteer focus, she visited Ranchod in 2006 and 2008; plans a visit in 2010.

LOVEMILY

Emily Meter, CMwD's shining star of a leader and long time UUWF and UU Women's Connection member, passed quietly in December with friends singing to her and holding her hands.



The spirit of her nurturing style has left its indelible mark on her congregation, North Shore Unitarian in Deerfield, Illinois and so many other friends in the CMwD. Certainly, the UU Women's Connection, and its predecessor, the CMwD-UUWF, have been blessed and nourished in so many ways by Emily's friendship and example. "Lovemily" was her e-mail sign-off.

Female friendships that work are relationships in which women help each other to belong to themselves.

--Louise Bernikow

2010 UU Women's Connection Councilors

Janice Bailey--Chicago, IL.	312-842-0182
Diana DeWeese, Springfield, IL.	217-546-5834
Pat Goller, Springfield, IL.	217-787-0687
Tori Kilhoffer, Danvers, IL.	309-963-6069
Cathy Kline, Makanda, IL.	618-457-7885
Nicole Nichols, St Louis, MO.	341-569-7103
Debbie Czarnopys-White, Dubois, IL.	615-787-2929

UU Women as Agents of Change

March 20th at Third Unitarian Church in Chicago eighteen female leaders were honored as "UU Agents of Change." These women were celebrated for their outstanding and innovative work in the leadership style of Margaret Fuller, UU foremother.

A lapel pin was presented; lunch and celebratory cake were served. Margaret Fuller conversation salons were facilitated for 18 honorees and 40 other women who conversed on the subjects of leadership, volunteerism, congregational life, team building and much more in seven salons.

Entertainment was provided by Anna Fermin, Chicago musician-songwriter who with Springfield friend, Becky Aud-Jennison created **MOMsthatROCK!—Concerts for a Cause** to raise awareness and funds for their favorite causes. [.momsthatrock.com](http://momsthatrock.com)

The Connection extends a special thank you to Rev. Brian Covell, Third Unitarian Church and TUC's Women's Alliance for hosting/helping and the Women and Religion committee for their committed work in co-planning and facilitation with the Women's Connection. Finally, our earnest gratitude goes to the **Chicago Area UU Council** for their financial support through award of a leadership grant which helped fund the project. Agent/Honoree stories may be viewed on [://womenandreligion.org/change/](http://womenandreligion.org/change/)



UU Women's Connection

1331 W. Glenn Avenue

Springfield, Illinois 62704

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Time to renew your membership? *It is if the date on you mailing label shows a date earlier than June 2010. Include recent update below, make check payable to "UU Women's Connection" and send to treasurer, Nicole Nichols, 1461 Meadowside Dr. St Louis, MO. 63146*

Individual memberships are \$10. Units of 10 women save on dues with the tenth membership free.

Membership/Mailing List

Have you moved? Let us know so you won't miss a thing.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

CHURCH/ORGANIZATION: _____

Clip and send.

2010 Connection Calendar

April 30- May 2 CMw District Assembly, Wheeling, Illinois

May 21-23 2nd Quarter Council Meeting, Prairie UU society Madison, Wisconsin

June 4-6 2010 Spring Conference, Pilgrim Park, Princeton, Illinois

June 23-27 2010 UUA General Assembly, Minneapolis, Minnesota

August 13-15 3rd Quarter Council Meeting, First Unitarian Church, Alton Illinois

TBA Yearly Council Vision quest and Retreat

November 5-7 Lake Geneva Fall Retreat, Williams Bay, Wisconsin

November 6th 4th Quarter Council and Connection Annual meeting, Williams Bay Wisconsin.