

Voice Of Women

Vol. 13, No. 1

FALL, 1990

Central Midwest District
Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we report the death on August 29, 1990 of Hester Huff, member of CMD-UUWF for many years. As a member of the Association of Universalist Women, she was instrumental in establishing the annual meeting at Allerton Park almost thirty five years ago. The Hester Huff Roll of Recognition was so named in her honor in 1980.

Hester was an intelligent, dependable leader with a great sense of humor. She was available to advise or to point out a better way in a kindly manner at anytime. She was our mentor, our friend, and our guiding light. We shall miss her.



That woman is a success
who loves life
and lives it to the fullest;
who has discovered and shared
the strengths and talents
that are uniquely her own;
who puts her best into each task
and leaves each situation
better than she found it;
who seeks and finds
that which is beautiful
in all people—and all things;
whose heart is full of love
and warm with compassion;
who has found peace within herself.
- - - Barbara J. Burrow

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I begin this message on a beautiful fall October morning, I am filled with thoughts of sisters everywhere in our district whom I will not see at Lake Geneva. As you will read elsewhere in this Newsletter, or perhaps have heard through your church, the Central Midwest District Board of the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation voted to cancel the Lake Geneva Retreat. I am filled with sadness and loss and wish it could have been different.

Someone said to me "it is not fair" to expect our church women to do Lake Geneva. I feel anger, and wonder whose job it is. Often others say "they," meaning someone else, must do this. I have to conclude that "they" are "we" and we must all help with the work and the play that we experience at our district conferences and retreats.

Much has happened in our District in 1990, and many of us were fortunate enough to experience some of it. Although I retired two years ago, I teach part time and plan my finances so that I will have conference money, which enables me to participate in those things that are important to me. Being with other women throughout the District and the Continent are what nourishes and sustains me, so I sacrifice in a few other areas.

I attended Womanquest and felt privileged to be able

to do so. I found that our District was far ahead of most other Districts in the Continent as far as programming and communication were concerned. Of course we can always do better and we are trying, but we also need to pat ourselves on the back for what we have accomplished.

I volunteered at General Assembly and felt strong connection and pride in being with other UU women. We are truly a wonderful group of women. *We can change the world!* We will be hearing more from UUWF at the Continental level about blending with Women & Religion Committees and how we can best be heard, communicate, and support women at all levels.

I see two items as priority at this time. We need to be involved as women on our District level and also be willing to serve on UUWF boards. This year will see the election of a new president, secretary and two directors on the CMD/UUWF Board, and also those same offices on the CMD Board. This is where we can effect changes and contribute our many talents. Two women are running for UUA trustee from our District.

Think about women who are willing to make a commitment, serve with dedication and are conscious of women's issues. Then help get them elected.

Blessed Be, Joanne Fought, President

WOMANQUEST

In April of 1990, three hundred Unitarian Universalist women met at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin for five days of worship, spiritual practice, expressive arts, workshops, community building, and envisioning our future as UU women. In this process, issues of concern were prioritized, values clarified, and recommendations made for programming emphasis, and institutional structures that would address those issues and reflect those values. Statements which resulted from that process were adapted and adopted consensually by the whole gathering.

The Continental UUWF Administrative Board, meeting in Milwaukee in June, 1990, reviewed those statements and finding them to be in keeping with the vision and mission of UUWF, wholeheartedly embraced them

Initial actions taken by the Continental Administrative Board in June, 1990 include:

- sending a survey to Womanquest participants asking for their counsel and involvement in our next steps;
- meeting with the Continental Women and Religion Committee to begin collaboration on Womanquest follow up;
- forming a joint task force with W & R to gather information and recommendations from the various districts in regard to assisting them more effectively.

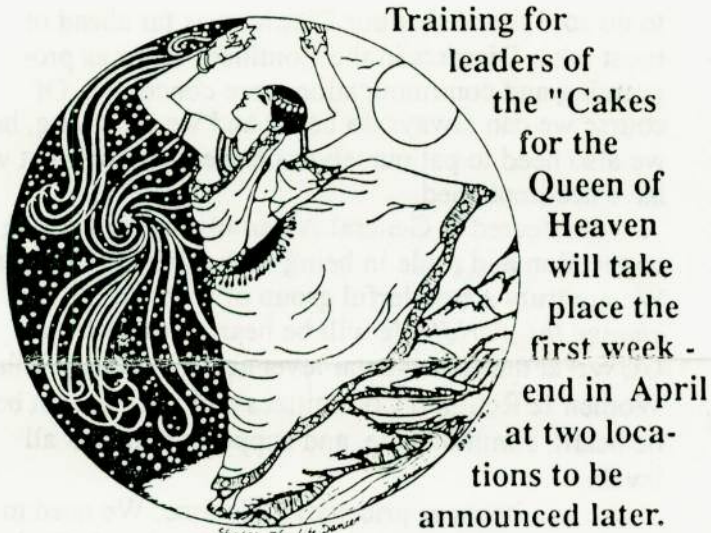
Plans are underway to meet with Liberal Religious Educators Association and Ministerial Sisterhood of UU representatives to call for samples of feminist and consensus-based bylaws.

In keeping with the biennial program theme of Right Relations, the focus of the 1991 Biennial Convention will be set specifically on living more diverse lives, personally and congregationally.

All UU women are invited to join the the Continental Administrative Board as the transformative work of "Eco-feminism, Spirituality, Commitment to Diversity and Economic Justice, Valuing All Children and Bridging Generations" continues. There will be collaboration with interested individuals and organizations to facilitate Womanquest II.

Let every dawn of morning be to you as the beginning of life and every setting sun be to you as its close; then let everyone of these short lives leave its sure record of some goodly strength or knowledge gained for yourself.

- - - John Ruskin



UUWF BIENNIAL

The UUWF Biennial, 1991, will be held in southern Florida in the Hollywood-Miami-Fort Lauderdale area, June 17-19. Those dates precede the UUA General Assembly.

In keeping with the UUWF focus on Right Relations., the Continental UUWF Administrative Board has chosen "Diversity and Inclusion" (personally and congregationally) as the theme for the 1991 Biennial Convention. As UUWF President Phyllis Richter points out: "We particularly want to reach out and connect with more women of color, women of varied ethnic and socioeconomic background, and to international women."

OLD FRIENDS

Marion and Woody Baker visited Dorothy "Pete" McKinney when they drove to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in September. Some members of CMD-UUWF will remember Dorothy as the organizer of the first conference of the Association of Universalist Women at Herrick House near Chicago. This meeting was the forerunner of the Allerton Conference as we know it today. Dorothy and her husband live in Gray, Maine



From Taoism:

Recompense injury with kindness. To those who are good, I am good, and to those who are not good, I am also good; thus all get to be good. To those who are sincere, I am sincere, and to those who are not sincere, I am also sincere; and thus all get to be sincere.

JOIN UUWF!

UUWF is the only continental membership organization for ALL Unitarian Universalist women. By joining UUWF, you speak to the UUA and beyond through :

- UUA Board meetings
- UU Peace Network
- Coalitions and Affiliations
- Women and Religion

UUWF honors women's achievements with:

- The Ministry to Women Award
- The Roll of Recognition
- The Clara Barton Sisterhood.

UUWF supports women's programs through:

- Feminist Theology Award
- The Circuit Rider Program (a network of women leaders)
- The Program Planners (explores women's issue)

Members of UUWF receive these publications:

- The Communicator*, a bi-monthly newsletter
- The Women's View*, a quarterly president's letter (Individual Members only)
- Voice of Women* (Central Midwest members only)



FEMINIST THEOLOGY AWARDS APPLICATIONS

The third round of UUWF Feminist Awards will be presented at the UUWF Biennial Convention in Florida in June, 1991.

Applications are available now from the UUWF office at 25 Beacon St. Boston, MA 02108. Deadline for submission is January 14, 1991. For further information contact the UUWF at the above address or telephone (617) 742-2100

FOOTNOTES

If you purchased wooden sconces at the Silent Auction at Allerton Last June, you will be pleased to know that there are chimneys to go with them. Contact Marion Baker by telephone (309) 465-3766 or see her at Allerton in June

November 9-11 - CMD annual meeting in Joliet. For information, contact the Universalist Unitarian Church of Joliet, 156 Chicago St. Joliet 60431

LAKE GENEVA CONFERENCE CANCELED

This has been an unusually active year for our Central Midwest District members. With Womanquest and General Assembly taking place in our district, women have been even more involved in all the scheduled activities. After careful consideration and great reluctance, the CMD-UUWF Board decided to cancel the Lake Geneva October Conference since this year we had no chairperson available by mid-September. We have reserved facilities at Lake Geneva for the last weekend in October, 1991. We hope one of our Units will offer to take the responsibility of planning this conference for next year. Call Pat Murray, vice-president, if you are interested and want to continue this conference at Lake Geneva in 1991.

APRIL "SPRING FLING" AT LAKE GENEVA?

With the cancellations of the Lake Geneva Fall Conference, the CMD-UUWF Board is faced with the very real possibility of losing our Lake Geneva deposit of \$1300.00. To avoid this situation, we must schedule a conference of similar size before June 30, 1991. Several weekends are open in April.

ARE YOU PREPARED TO SUPPORT YOUR CMD-UUWF BOARD IN THIS ENDEAVOR? Call or write Pat Murray and let her know if she can depend upon you to attend this Spring Conference and/or suggest possible workshops led by members of your Unit. Your decision to attend our "Spring Fling" is most important. Lake Geneva in April — what an opportunity! Let's tell Pat that we support her and other members of the Board. RUN, don't walk to the nearest telephone or Post Office at once.



The annual meeting of CMD-UUWF will be held at Allerton on June 11, 12, and 13, 1991. Lorraine Weber and Carol Wike Nudo are planning an exciting program. The theme is "Body and Soul." They will tell us more later.

If you have any slides of UUWF conference activities, Please contact Joanne Fought, (309) 676-6849

RCAR AWARDS RECEPTION

The Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights Committee is sponsoring an Awards Reception and Fundraiser at Oak Park Temple, 1235 N. Harlem on Sunday, October 21, 1990 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.

This is a celebration of the second presentation of the Rev. E. Spencer Parsons Religious Freedom Award. The honoree this year is Sr. Donna Quinn, O.P., Executive Director, Chicago Catholic Women. Recognition of Pro-choice Illinois legislators will take place also. Refreshments will be served.

The cost is \$15.00 for an individual, \$25.00 for a couple, and \$5.00 for students and low income persons. For additional information, contact Phyllis Peara, CMD-UUWF RCAR representative, (708) 481-5055 or call (312)924-1081.

RCAR. Our Illinois representative for the RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR ABORTION RIGHTS needs an alternate for that position. Please contact Phyllis Peara whose address is listed on the back page of this issue.

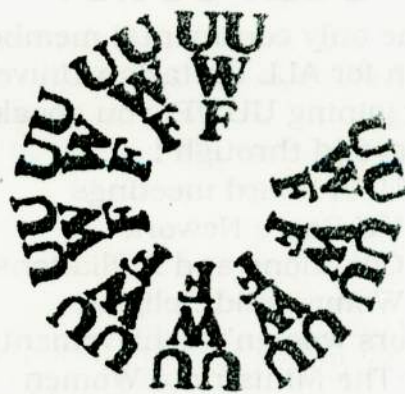


CONGRATULATIONS

Doris Jones, Principal of Carrie Busey School in Champaign, was notified in June that her school was included on the U.S. Dept. Of Education's list of the best schools in the country. The school was among only seven schools in Illinois and 202 nation wide to receive the annual award in 1989-90. Doris attended a ceremony in the White House Rose Garden in September where she was presented a commemorative flag reading "Excellence in Education" by President Bush. The school also will receive a banner and a plaque. Congratulations to Doris and to Carrie Busey School. The leadership skills of Doris Jones are well known to CMD-UUWF members.

Lorraine Weber was honored by the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District of Kiwanis International as Layperson of the Year 1990. According to the certificate which she received, the first objective of Kiwanis International is "To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than the material values of life." Lorraine certainly meets that criteria and we congratulate her. We also congratulate the Champaign-Urbana, Division 26, of Kiwanis International for recognizing Lorraine's sincere "devotion to the human and spiritual" aspects of life. We are fortunate to count her among our members.

If anybody misconduct himself with regard to thee, what is that to thee? The deed is his, and therefore let him look to it. Marcus Aurelius



Join the Circle

The UUWF needs you in the circle. Your gift of \$25, \$50 or \$100 keeps us headed toward our goal of \$75,000 in 1990. Please join in.

My support of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Name (first, middle, last)

Street Address

City,

State/Prov.

Zip/Post Code

Day Phone

Evening Phone

Send to UUWF, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108.



UUWF CIRCUIT RIDER PROGRAM

Several programs for UUWF Units are available through the UUWF office in Boston. Unitarian Universalist women leaders are prepared to present programs in :

Women's Spirituality
Feminist Theology/Theology & Ethics
Women's Life Transitions
UU Women's History
Intergenerational Issues
Women's Leadership Models and Leadership Training

Host groups are responsible for leader's expenses, honoraria, and any other costs associated with the program.

For information, contact: Mairi Maeks

Program Director/Executive Director
Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation
25 Beacon St. Boston MA 02108

For information via telephone, call Mairi or Dorothy Rogers at (617) 742-2100

WOMEN AND RELIGION

Sacred Dimensions of Radical Change:

Eco-feminism will be the theme of the third annual **Womanspirit** Conference in Bloomington January 25-27, 1991. It is planned and presented by the CMD W & R Committee. Keynote speaker will be Carol P. Christ, author of *Weaving the Vision*. Brochures will be in the mail soon.

CORN HUT TALK

In the faces marching in the
firelog flickers,

In the fire music of wood
singing to winter

Make my face march through the
purple and ashes,

Make me one of the fire singers
in winter.

---Carl Sandburg

CENTRAL MIDWEST DISTRICT

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S FEDERATION BUDGET 1990-1991

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Dues	1200.00	Board Meetings	500.00
Conference		Board Biennial	100.00
Refunds		V.O. W.	500.00
Geneva	1300.00	Seed Money	
Allerton	1000.00	Geneva	1300.00
Interest	200.00	Allerton	1000.00
Memorials & Gifts	25.00	* Gifts/Donations	775.00
Reserve Funds	550.00	Misc.	100.00
	<u>\$4275.00</u>		<u>\$4275.00</u>

* Gifts/Donations	
RCAR	50.00
Conference Grants	350.00
Matching FTS	200.00
Clara Barton Camp	50.00
Meadville Lombard student to attend	
Allerton fund	125.00
	<u>\$775.00</u>



Prepared 9-15-90
Budget Committee

\$ \$ \$ DUES \$ \$ \$

A bargain is in store for you! Pay your CMD-UUWF dues by December 31 at the yearly rate of \$2.00 per person. By membership decision, yearly dues will be \$5.00 after that date.

Make checks payable to CMD-UUWF and send to Pat Baker, treasurer, as soon as possible.

CALENDAR

1990	
October 20	CMD-UUA Annual Leadership Conference at Countryside UU Church Palatine, IL
October 21	RCAR, Bloomington, IL
November 3	Avon Quilt Show and Luncheon, Avon, IL
November 3, 4	T'ai Chi Workshop with Chunliang Al Huang North Shore Unitarian Church, 2100 Half Day Rd. Deerfield, IL
November 9, 11	CMD-UUA Annual Meeting The Universalist Unitarian Church of Joliet, 156 N. Chicago St. Joliet, IL
1991	
January 28	RCAR
June 11, 12 & 13	Allerton Conference

JUNE ELECTIONS

Four new members of the CMD-UUWF Board will be elected at the Annual Meeting in June. Offices open include that of president, secretary, and two directors. If you are contacted by a member of the Nominating Committee, please consider that request carefully and favorably. Dedicated women are needed to serve on the Board in order that the work of our organization can continue to expand and develop.

1990-1991
CENTRAL MIDWEST DISTRICT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S FEDERATION

President

Joanne Fought
 501 No. Glenwood
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 (309) 676-6849

Vice President

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CMD - UUWF
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Executive Director

Mairi Macks
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 (617) 742-2100

CMD - UUA

CMD President

Joe Gano
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 Naperville, IL 60540
 (708) 961-9528

District Executive

Rev. Denise Tracy
 114 S. Marion St.
 Oak Park, IL 60302
 (708) 383-4344

CONFERENCES
& RETREATS

Allerton Co-Chairs

Lorraine Weber
 Address above
 Carol Wike Nudo
 Address below

Allerton Registrar

Carol Wike Nudo
 401 George Street
 Alton, IL 62002
 (618) 462-3160

Women & Religion
Committee

Chair

Peg Carlson
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 Salem, WI 53168
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 (414) 843-4221

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Marilla Thurston Missback
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CIAUUC

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SEWUUC

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 (414) 964-3764

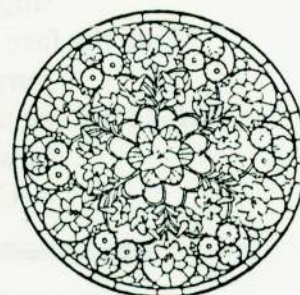
NCAUUC

Nancy Vedder-Shults
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 (608) 231-3362

Chair, 1991 Womanspirit
Conference

Joan Netzbandt
 See above

Ex-Officio
CMD District Executive
 Denise Tracy



UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN
CHURCH

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