



Tidings

FROM ASSOCIATIONS AROUND URANTIA

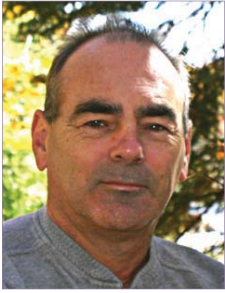
URANTIA ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL ■ [HTTP://URANTIA-UI.ORG](http://URANTIA-UI.ORG)

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"Whitewater – Mother Nature in Hydraulic Overdrive" photo by James Woodward



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President's message

Dear Friends of UAI,

SUMMER IS HERE AND VACATIONS will start being a part of our lives, especially for people living in the northern countries. With vacations come many opportunities, travels, family and friends reunions, leisure time and for some of us, conference time. It does not matter which kind of activities we are engaged; there are always opportunities to do good to others, to share our inner life, to rejoice with friends or family members or take a well deserved rest from our daily activities. It is also an opportunity to share those precious moments with our Indwelling Spirit.

Too often do we see people going on vacations and becoming someone totally different than their usual self, it is like they take a vacation from everything even from God. As Urantia Book readers and as members of this association, we are always ambassadors of this Revelation and we should always act accordingly even on vacation. Our goal, if it is to live according to the will of God, should manifest itself in every day of our life. It is the consecration of our will to do the will of the Father that will one day make us acquire the status of fusion.

If our goals are clear in our mind then there will be more opportunities and probabilities for us to reach those goals and for us the status of fusion should be one of our goals. Why such a goal? Not to fuse on earth, I would say, but to become more like the living truth. In becoming more and more like the living truth we are doing the purpose of *The Urantia Book* by bringing more light to this world. Isn't it what this world needs the most? Men and women, through their lives, can inspire others that are languishing in ignorance and despair.

During one weekend of June, a few people, twenty four to be exact, met at the Foundation in Chicago for two full days to

explore the subject of education in the Urantia movement. Many that attended that meeting were teachers by profession while others had major roles to play within the present and diverse Urantia associations. It was a very enlightening experience that concluded mostly on two aspects. One was the importance of study groups as training grounds for teachers and leaders and two, the necessity to develop different methods or programs of training that could be implemented in study groups to foster the emergence of leaders and teachers.

I am happy to say, that UAI is already one step ahead in that direction, in fact the strategic plan that will soon be presented to the RC is focused mainly around this idea of fostering leaders and teachers through a program using study groups as a first step. Carolyn Prentice has already, through a set of four articles in the UAI Journal, set the foundation for such a program. There are other teachers the Urantia movement that will work to develop programs which will focus on study groups. Those initiatives will surely help the whole community of study groups to take its full measure of potential and meanings.

UAI will continue and increase its support to study groups around the world whether their participants are members of UAI or not. As long as those study groups meet certain requirements such as the willingness to exclusively study *The Urantia Book*, do not engage in the practice of channeling and do not debate in the politics of the Urantia movement. There are at this time some individuals that are working hard to create a network of study groups that meet those requirements and UAI should do everything it can to help those individuals by any means available to its members.

Regarding regular business, the Representative Council has been requested to forward to the International Service Board any association-candidates for the 2009 international conference. At the end of the delay of June the 15th, two countries have submitted their willingness to host the next international conference, Spain and Canada. At this time the Conference Chair, Eddie King, with the help of his committee, is evaluating those proposals and should soon announce the result of their choice. The Representative Council has also received a proposal for modifying article six of the policies regulating the discussion-practices of their discussion list. The proposition had to be removed from the discussion because it did not meet the democratic process of decision. A new resolution will be formulated and be submitted in order to correct the precedent one. The

modification to article six had to do with the sharing of information from the RC list to other UAI lists, it does expand the scope of shared information to reflect more clarity and prevent misunderstanding.

The RC is also expecting to receive a possible resolution that would amend the guidelines concerning discussions on the UAI list. In the last month, certain discussions that took place, which treated matters concerning the affairs of the Foundation, ended with the removal of one of its members. Many concerns were voiced concerning the actual rules that regulate any discussions on the list and it was suggested by one of its members that the rules should be amended to give more liberty of expression to its members. That member is himself a member of the Representative Council and said he would submit such proposal to the RC.

The Communication Chair of the ISB is looking to form a new board of moderators for the UAI list and any willingness on the part of the membership to submit their name as moderator is welcome. Please contact Vern Verass at: verass@designnd.com.au. Vern is also working to produce a logo for UAI that would include the three concentric circles and the name Urantia. Whenever the result of his



work is agreeable to the ISB, such logo would be submitted to the RC for approval. As president of UAI, I and Travis Binion, who is Chair of the Charter Committee, will be traveling on the last weekend in June to meet with readers in Colombia, and more specifically, from Bogota. This is a business trip that we hope will help the readers of Bogota find unity of purpose within UAI.

We also have received good news from Mark Bloomfield, placing Urantia Books in public libraries in South Africa. The Foundation has also received many letters of thanks for the books that Mark has placed in those libraries. The work of Mark was made possible through the generosity of an anonymous donor that supplied the necessary funds to make this project a success. In order for Mark to complete his work in South Africa, 1,000 more books need to be sent to him with enough money for him to travel. I take this opportunity to appeal to your generosity. Please send your contributions by contacting Jimmy Mitchell, the Dissemination Chair, at:

jmubreader@gmail.com or
by phone at: (425) 218-6740.

Enjoy your reading.

Gaétan G. Charland □
President UAI
gaetan.charland3721@videotron.ca

UAUS Strategic Planning committee meeting

BENET RUTENBERG, President,
Urantia Association of the United States

UAUS STRATEGIC PLANNING Committee met for its first session at Urantia Foundation in Chicago on June 23-24, 2007. Members present were: Chris Wood, UAUS Secretary; Daryl Berry, UAUS Treasurer; Benet Rutenberg, UAUS President and James Woodward, UAI Administrator. Members not present are Marian Hughes, UAUS V.P. and Rick Lyon, UAUS Publications Chair/ISB Study Group Chair. The first steps towards a Strategic Plan were taken at the National Level. We hope to stimulate all of our Local Associations to form their own plan based on the patterns established by UAI and UAUS. We are indebted



Chris Wood, Benet Rutenberg and Daryl Berry
on the second floor porch of 533 Diversey

to UAI ISB for their groundbreaking work at the International level and especially to our President, Gaetan Charland, for his vision, energy and leadership throughout the ongoing process. The whole idea of a strategic plan is to take what we, as an organization, have already elected to do based on our Charter and Bylaws, and reduce it down to manageable steps and tasks easily understood by all. The

UAUS Plan, once completed, will serve to guide the actions of the UAUS GB and Committees at the National Level. It will also help us provide guidance to our locals who wish to enact such a plan on their own. Presently the ISB Strategic Planning Committee will release templates to assist in this process. We encourage all Locals and Nationals to begin forming their own strategic plan. □

Getting to know the Trustees

When Neal found *The Urantia Book* in November 1973, he read it from cover to cover in four weeks. He served as a Trustee for three years (summer 1989 to summer 1992), then resigned because his transfer overseas did not permit him to remain as actively engaged as was necessary at that time. In September 2003, he was appointed as a Trustee Emeritus.

Professional & personal background. Neal spent five years as an officer in the U.S. Navy (1970-1975), then twenty-seven and one-half years as a Foreign Service Officer employed by the U.S. Department of State (1976-2003). Since his diplomatic career included full-time training in Mandarin Chinese (1978-1980) and three years in Hong Kong (1980-1983), he has a strong interest in the work of the four professors who are translating *The Urantia Book* into Chinese. He is currently employed as a translator himself (French to English and English to French). In February 1982 he married the former Vanessa Wong; they have a daughter named Charmaine (b. June 1984) and a son named Kirk (b. February 1988).

IAM DELIGHTED THAT A GREAT many readers of *The Urantia Book* have finally set aside the frictions that arose in North America in the 1980s and 1990s, so we can all love and respect each other and cooperate for common purposes. We will never have exactly the same viewpoints and should treasure pluralism and diversity. In effect this is what Jesus told the apostle James: "James, James, when did I teach you that you should all see alike? I have come into the world to proclaim spiritual liberty ..." [the Midwayer Commission, 1591:6 / 141:5.1].

Since January 2004, I have been working with a small committee to develop a plan for idealistic service to individuals and groups in society who wish to promote progressive growth and development in the fields they know and cherish. Our spiritual model is the twelve corps of master seraphim [1254-1256 / 114:6]. Readers who wish to serve their fellows from these perspectives will work modestly and quietly, staying well in the background. They will live the revelation, not preach it.



Neal Waldrop
Trustee Emeritus

This new activity will be independent of Urantia Foundation and separate from the social organizations. It will grow slowly and will operate on a regional basis. The committee is currently sharing our ideas with individual readers, while seeking comments and suggestions. We hope to launch public discussion in spring 2008. □

—June 17, 2007

Sharing experiences with the Urantia movement in Colombia

VERONICA ALFONSO
Asociación Urantia de Bogotá

It was 1980 and I was anxiously in search of the truth. I asked questions and went around looking for answers. I visited many churches and schools. I investigated many different religions, creeds and philosophies. My head was full of information and confusion and my files were in disorder. In 1984, I found a special school that turned out to be crucial to finding *The Urantia Book*.

I took a course that focused on the discovery of the Spirit of God. Once finished, I kept visiting the school and asking questions. Finally my teacher told me: "you have to buy a book; it will help entertain you during the rest of your life." This book was *The Urantia Book* and it was in English. I started to take some Papers to a study group that some students of this school had set up. One of them did the translation. Soon after, there was a crisis and the group split up. Two years after, I came back with more courage and we formed some study groups about many different subjects. Our progress reading *The Urantia Book* was very slow but our work got bigger and it was very beautiful. We spent a long time sharing with many people and living in happiness, but also with sadness and difficulties. Conflicts were something natural and temporary, fruit of our lack of experience, with no "visible" masters, only the Spirit of Truth. We used to invoke him each time we started a meeting. When the first group had more than 10 members another group was created, but groups are not eternal and they disappear. However, some of us survived and met from time to time with the only purpose being to keep up a beautiful friendship (see photo 1)

From left to right: Gonzalo, Isabel, Benjamin, Benedicto, Veronica, Carolina and Jose (Guillermo, Camilo, Elizabeth, Jorge, Wildredo and Jairo don't appear). Maybe some people did not recognize me in this photo; it's natural, I hardly was brought to life after fighting a terminal disease. With the knowledge that I got from the book, I organized my files inside my head and

made a retraining, because there was much information that I didn't need anymore or had simply changed. ALL THE SURVIVORS FROM FORMER GROUPS OF THIS PHOTO AND THE ABSENT ONES GOT A BIG ACHIEVEMENT: TO BE INDEPENDENT AND KEEP LIVING OUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH GOD. We all share *The Urantia Book* teachings when having free time and that is a hobby for us. Today I share with many study groups and really enjoy these times. It makes me think that this is the best service that I have been giving for more than 20 years - cooperating and spreading the book in many ways. There is nothing better than a living group experience, the fact of being free and independent. To share like a little family is extraordinary, really it could be called a happy service.

I opened an e-mail account to be in touch with people that destiny put in my way; people that spread TUB today in different ways, for example WILSON LEON, a talented person who is willing to serve. Nowadays he coordinates three groups (see photo 2)

There are people in these groups who are spreading *The Urantia Book* seriously and enthusiastically (four people are absent in this photo).

CAROLINA NIÑO hosts a small study group where FERNANDO PETRO takes part as well. He is a very cultivated and Urantia Book inspired person, who has made several studies and investigations and disseminates *The Urantia Book* constantly.

UGO MATEUS, another student of TUB, works in a group in Puerto Inirida, a very distant region far from Bogota and the rest of the cities; WILMA ESTHER SANABRIA hosts a study group and is very dedicated to share in groups. She made a program based on TUB specifically about spiritual values, and she visits primary schools sharing the "game of values" with parents. MANUEL ANGEL APARICIO, a silent reader with a small study group. I can't forget the FACA group and its bonds with other



Group photo 1, top
Group photo 2, right



groups, thanks to the coordination efforts of MARICELA ARIZA and CESAR BLANCO. And, of course, BENEDICTO GARCIA, a charismatic and very dedicated person who lives in a village of the Valley of Cauca. And, last but not least, I have to mention LOS AMIGOS DE VALLEDUPAR (Friends of Valledupar), being Florentino his coordinator. They had the idea of creating an association three years ago, but then no one supports them. We expect to send photos of these groups very soon.

In Colombia in 1996, with the help of Patricia Mundelius, we thought that, when creating an association, we could give the best service to readership and get together as a brotherhood. Later, Tonia Baney came and inaugurated our Association. We took part of this "organization" without realizing that we could share pleasantly in brotherhood. Not everybody had or has the required spiritual training to take part of a true

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Veronica Alfonso, the author



Dialogues with Sophia

A way of dissemination

OLGA LOPEZ

President, Urantia Association of Spain

ABOUT ONE YEAR AGO, and thanks to some suggestions made by my friend and Vice President of our Association, Eduardo Altuzarra, I considered the idea of writing a book where making the teachings of *The Urantia Book* (TUB) known, without mentioning it nor using specific terms -such as Havona, Supreme Being, and so on- in it. This book would be addressed to the truth-seekers that don't know about TUB and could become potential readers of it.

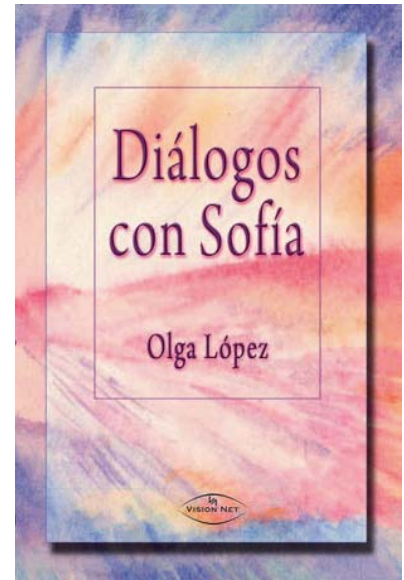
After a few months with this idea rolling into my head, I made a diagram with the most important topics –in my opinion– that I wanted to talk about, and last August I started writing. I titled my book *DIÁLOGOS CON SOFÍA* (*Dialogs with Sophia*), because the book consists basically in a series of dialogs between Sofia, an old woman, and Miguel (Michael), a young truth-seeker who has many questions and very few answers. Sophia, as many of you know, means “wisdom” in ancient Greek, and Michael...well, you know well what Michael means.

It was not easy because not ever I had enough free time and tranquility to sit and write, but little by little I was advancing the writing and, when I had written a few more than the half of the book, I knew that I will finish

it and then gave it the last impulse. I finished its writing at the end of last January.

After revising its text and sending to some fellow readers of TUB, who helped me to correct some inexactitudes and mistakes, in May I contacted a publisher that prints books on demand. I asked for permission to Philippe, a fellow reader who lives in Southern France, to use one of his pictures as the cover (with the suggesting title of “The Angel”) Surely this cover is familiar to you, because it appeared as a cover of *Tidings* – I don't remember which issue. So finally I paid a little print run of copies and, one month after, they were already at home.

Since the very beginning, it was clear in my mind that all revenues coming from the book sales will go to the Urantia Association of Spain. My book is not addressed to UB readers, but they can give it to family and friends as a first step to reach TUB, if they seem interested. I thought also that it could be a good idea to donate copies of my book to public libraries,



Diálogos con Sofía, new book by Olga

mainly in these from Barcelona where *The Urantia Book* was rejected – I wrote about it in an article published in *Tidings*, some time ago. As I told then, we must have a plan B if plan A fails!

I believe sincerely that it's necessary that many secondary works about TUB must be written, as well as other artistic performances inspired on its contents must be shown, because all they are a very important way of disseminating TUB teachings. With this little article I intend to encourage UB readers to write, draw, and compose music...in short, to do one's bit to make TUB teachings known. □

The price of my book is about 12 euros (about 16 USD), and it can be purchased at these links:

Vision Libros

http://www.visionneteditores.com:80/detalles.asp?id_Productos=5536

and La Casa del Libro

http://www.lacasadellibro.info/detalles.asp?id_Productos=5536

Sharing experiences with the Urantia movement in Colombia

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brotherhood. In addition, election system of board members by vote created some conflicts, because opposing strategies were used, such as nominating their own front man when they did not want to be president anymore. So they created two confronted factions that wanted to manipulate the ongoing President. This has been the main cause that does not allow harmonic relationships. It is said that “in politics there is no brotherhood,” and, of

course, in friendship either. Readers are also confused with the desired power that they intend to get when accepting a position. Some new readers are excited when they come to us, tired and hungry for truth, looking for our Association. They believe that they are going to find substitutes of Jesus or gurus, manipulating the energy and making shows of paranormal power. Instead, they find ordinary people, simple mortals with their faults and qualities who make mistakes as well. Then they started to claim without giving...Well, there are many difficulties in the process. As a former President, now I realize that this kind of orga-

nization might be good to get our character stronger and to overcome all confrontations and self-delusions, but not as nice and pleasant as the experience of helping freely, altruistically and unconditionally. I reached the conclusion that, each time an independent reader appears, sharing these teachings and serving unconditionally, he becomes a strong backbone who starts preparing the ground of a future brotherhood. But he must start learning the friendship in and with God. The Urantia movement in our planet will go on like this. Are you this reader? □

Imagine...

GAÉTAN G. CHARLAND
President UAI

IMAGINE IF FIRST, WE WOULD devote most of our energies by putting in practice the teachings of *The Urantia Book*. Second: imagine if all of us would host or attend a study group. Third: imagine if we would engage ourselves in the pursuit of becoming better disseminators of *The Urantia Book* and its teachings. Fourth: imagine if we would support and/or participate in any number of programs to help train ourselves or others as leaders and teachers. Fifth: imagine if we would only engage in debates or actions that would help bring man closer to God. Six: imagine if we would involve ourselves in a religious or social organization in our local area and seven: Imagine what you can do with God as your partner.

Let's start by the first one, putting in practice the teachings of *The Urantia Book*. This is probably the hardest part because it means we have to change ourselves, we have to accept the fact that the UB was given first to us to improve our lives and only through our examples can we hope to achieve any little influence of changes in others. Let's remember progress is slow but very effective. The first people that will witness those changes are members of our family, our friends, our co-workers or any other number of people we come in contact with. What do they see when they look at us? What kind of impression do we make on them? What is our body language? Do we bear the fruits of the spirit? Do we express love, friendliness, patience, tolerance? Imagine if we could all do this part religiously day after day, then the Revelation would have a very good chance of succeeding. The waves that hit the cliff day after day will eventually destroy that cliff. This is how evolution works, one step at a time.

Number two: imagine if there would be thousands of study groups in every country, what would happen? Imagine if every members of UAI would host or participate in a study group in their area, would not that make a difference in how we understand *The Urantia Book* and each others? Wouldn't



that help create the spiritual brotherhood we are all dreaming about? Imagine if study groups would become a place where we could train ourselves in becoming better leaders and teachers, where we could learn from one another how to improve our ways of integrating the teachings of *The Urantia Book* in our lives? Imagine the positive influence we could have on our family and friends when they would come in contact with such groups? Imagine all you could learn and how much you could grow? *The Urantia Book* was given to us in advance as a gift for our yearning for truth and changes, are we going to wait five, ten, fifty or a hundred years to start doing something? It is today that we need to do those actions; the longer we wait the more probability there is for us to fail the mission of *The Urantia Book*.

Number three: imagine if we did the first two activities, how good we would be at disseminating *The Urantia Book* and its teachings? Imagine how effective we would be at putting books in libraries or in the hands of newly acquired friends? How much time and energy we would save by not having to convince by arguments or long dissertations, hungry souls to read just a few pages of *The Urantia Book*. Imagine how good we could be at disseminating if we would be like our Master, a living example of the truth? It is only a decision away...

Number four: Train ourselves or others as leaders and teachers. Imagine how hard it is for us right now just to address this issue, do we think that tomorrow it will be any easier? Do we think that we have to wait another one or five hundred years for this to happen? If we start now there is a very good possibility for *The Urantia Book* to reach that era in better shape, for it is when we use something that it is better preserved. The truth, to be effective, has to be alive in each of us, if we rely solely on *The Urantia Book* as a book to save the world then this Revelation is doomed whether the

text is inviolate or not. Imagine if today we would start by participating in a program to train teachers? Imagine if we would actively participate in organizing workshops and conferences to train us as better leaders. Imagine if the majority of us would participate more positively in the affairs of our association and show the way to new readers and new members. Imagine if the world would be filled with hundreds and thousands of leaders and teachers trained in the teachings of *The Urantia Book*. This would surely save the Revelation by planting the seeds necessary for the next era when mankind will be hungry for truth and be ready for *The Urantia Book*.

Number five: if we would only engage in debates or actions that would bring men closer to God. Imagine if we would only debate or have discussion on how we could improve ourselves, how we could improve dissemination techniques, how we could help poor countries organize activities to promote *The Urantia Book* and its teachings, how we could make better study groups, workshops and conferences, how we could find better ways to train leaders and teachers and lastly, how we could improve everything we do as a group to bring men closer to God. This would surely give quite a push to the Revelation as when we work as a group we increase our strength by a factor of the square of the root.

Number six: imagine if instead of quitting our church we would all participate actively in its renewal. Imagine if we would devote some of our time by involving ourselves in our community through social work, then we could influence many people positively and give ourselves the opportunity to practice our teachings and leadership skills. Imagine the many seeds that could be planted to facilitate the work of the teachers and leaders of the next generation. Imagine the opportunity we would have to better ourselves while engaging ourselves in loving service to our fellow men. What an example we could be, what an inspiration we would become for future generation of readers. The people of tomorrow will build on what we do now; we are laying the foundation for future generations of leaders and teachers, what will we leave them?

Number seven: let's imagine ourselves when we leave this world, what will be our legacy? In partnership with God we can accomplish the impossible; will we at least give it a try?

The success of this Revelation depends on the positive actions of today, there are things that we have no control over, let's not lose our time and energy on futile talks or

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Idaho Memorial Day weekend

It's not about the monastery

BERT COBB
Idaho Urantia Association

ST. GERTRUDE'S MONASTERY is situated on the side of a mountain a few miles from the sleepy little town of Cottonwood, Idaho. It overlooks the expansive Camus Prairie and commands a panoramic view of patchwork fields of brilliant yellow canola flowers as far as you can see.

The massive structure of the monastery with its early European architecture is a work of art with its twin red towers high atop the grey stone building. This is so typical of the Catholic quality of construction and excellence in detail prevalent back in the nineteen twenties when it was built. It is listed in the National Register of Historical Places in Washington, D.C.

It's a Monastery of Benedictine Sisters, and many of the nuns return to the quiet and peaceful embrace of St. Gertrude's to live out their final days.

Down the hill, about a stone's throw and across the country road from the Monastery is an old farm house that the Sisters have remodeled into a small conference center. There's a half dozen bathrooms, sleeps around twenty people, and has a large living room

Monastery of St. Gertrude, Cottonwood, Idaho



Group picture. More photos at <http://www.urantia-uai.org/photos/index.html>

and a functional kitchen. This quaint old farm house with its awe inspiring view of the prairie below has been home to Idaho Urantia Association gatherings for eleven consecutive Memorial Day Weekends.

But enough about the setting. What I really want to tell you about is the people who come to our Urantia Gatherings. This year, for example, we had an overflow crowd of twenty-five of the most diverse personalities you could imagine. One thing we had in common was the sincere love of The Urantia Papers which makes it all so possible to keep a focus on the celebration of the revelation.

Our main speaker and workshop leader was Carrie Prentice, Professor of Communication Studies at the University of South Dakota. She shared with us the subject matter for which she is so well known: "Teaching, with, or without a classroom." Carrie and her husband, Jerry, are members of the Idaho Urantia Association.

This year's gathering hosted a good many out-of-state readers as well as our Idaho regulars. James Woodward, from Chicago, teamed up with Rich Keeler, from Wyoming on Saturday night to provide us with foot-stomping homegrown music. Kevin Goodman, a bus driver from Seattle, drove over for the three-day weekend. Bernie Belarsky came from Oregon, brought a bunch of ribeye steaks, and proved to be a master of the bar-b-que on Sunday afternoon. Rita Gum came over from Salt Lake City and helped to keep things light with her good sense of humor. Peggy McMahan from Caldwell, Idaho was a hard worker in the kitchen, and whipped us up a delicious spaghetti dinner on Saturday evening. Virginia Kelly from Pocatello, Idaho

came to St. Gertrude's for the first time and we were honored to have her join the Idaho Urantia Association.

We were thankful to have a good contingency of young people this year. Noah Wood came all the way from Kansas, Treb Cobb drove over from Montana, Gabe MacIsaac from Eugene, Oregon, Amy Majors from Idaho, and Steena Marigold from San Francisco. Steena brought us all together when she rigged up her slack line between two pine trees and walked on it, demonstrating her balance and gymnastic ability. Then she invited everyone to give it a try.

These long weekend gatherings provide an intimate living room atmosphere where we are able to study together, eat together, cook, clean, play, and serve one another. We never make up a program or adhere to a rigid schedule. Most of us prefer spontaneous Urantia related discussions and social occasions.

On Monday morning we managed to work in an UAI business meeting, conducted by our experienced and efficient president, Judy Van Cleave, Jerry Prentice was elected as our new vice president. David Perdue continued as our trustworthy treasurer, and Bill Spaulding was voted in to his second term as secretary.

Spending these three-day weekends together each year is somewhat like short term communal living with a socio-religious Urantia flavor. A true group experience.

Although our space is limited and our numbers are small, we do hope you can join us sometime at the farm house below the Monastery. What we lack in quantity we have in quality, and quality is felt in the soul. □



Shirley and Warren's Wiki Wiki Wedding

MARIAN HUGHES
Hawaii Urantia Local Association

On Thursday night May 17 I received a call from Shirley Pelland inquiring if I would be available to perform a wedding on Sunday May 20th. She knew that I am an ordained minister specializing in "Urantia Weddings." When I asked her who was getting married she just giggled and immediately I guessed it was her and Warren Wolfe that were about to join their lives together. They had both just attended a study group in my home the previous Sunday. We decided to meet in Kona the next day to discuss their plans.

Shirley and Warren met many years back on the Foundation Forum, continued on the

Urantia T-list and later on the Gentle Urantia list and they had been email buddies ever since. When she moved to Hawaii and was out of the loop while getting set up with a new server, Warren missed her presence and it was then he realized they had soul mate potential, so he requested an invitation to visit her. He also said "I want to have your baby. <Grin> To which Shirley replied "Now, I am too old for babies but I tell you what! Maybe we can get together and trinitize some great new concept into a new being some time in the future! How about that? I could sure do it with you!"

And thus began their romantic relationship.

The first time they met in the flesh was delightfully comfortable and pleasingly obvious that they belonged together so Warren wasted no time proposing. On a beautiful day in mid May, after a strenuous hike through the volcano's crater, they realized how fragile and awesome life is on our blue planet and they decided they wanted to spend their remaining years here together. So they called me to put a wedding together in 2 days time. Luckily my calendar was clear so with my husband's help and the gals from H.U.L.A who volunteered to help, we were able to pull off a wiki wiki (fast) wedding and reception. The day was lovely with lots of good food and great energy. It was a spiritual feast on all levels.

Afterwards Shirley said to me "Now I know why people get married. You don't marry someone you think you can live with, you marry someone you can't live without."

A true Urantian romance.

Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Warren Wolfe! ☐

even an Ellanora then join the battle of this era by being loyal to the teachings of *The Urantia Book*. The best way I can imagine of doing this, is by imagining the best we could be as a person, as a disseminator, as a teachers, as a leader, as the best host or participant of a study group and by being involved in our community or our association. Can we not imagine by doing all of this not only would we succeed in our mission but we would also bring the world at the threshold of the next era with as a gift, many living *The Urantia Book*. The Revelators tells us that we rarely live to the level of our faith, they did not say we could not. It is now our turn to reveal ourselves to God, so what are we going to do?

All this we could do by simply teaching friendship with God. ☐

Editor's Note:

Please note that this is the July-August issue of Tidings. Since August has historically been a busy month, it was decided to give the staff a breather. There will be many conferences, meetings and Jesus' birthday celebrations and we expect the September issue to be full of great stories and pictures.

We will expect to hear from all of you. Hope you're having a great summer!

–Cathy Jones

TIDINGS

From Associations
Around Urantia

Tidings is a monthly publication of Urantia Association International, whose mission is to foster study of *The Urantia Book* and to disseminate its teachings.

The Urantia Book online:

<http://www.urantia.org/papers/>

You may submit articles about *The Urantia Book*, news about your association, stories, photos and poems to the editor. All articles are subject to revision.

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Submissions limited to 700 words (one page) or 1400 words (1½ page) plus one or two photos. Deadline by the 15th of every month.



Imagine...

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unproductive debates that in the end will only destroy the many possibilities that are available to us to win this battle against unbelief, ignorance and fear. The world needs us; this Revelation needs us to succeed in bringing men out of this materialistic age. The team for the strategic plan has worked very hard to imagine a bright future for this Revelation, we believed sincerely that we can succeed in the accomplishment of our mission but to do this, we need all of us to be focused on what can be done.

This is our time; *The Urantia Book* was given to us to be put in practice now so it can survive the test of time and evolution. If you want to be the Van or Amadon of this time or