



Tidings

from Associations around Urantia

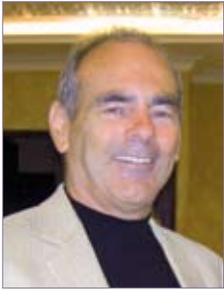
URANTIA ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL ■ [HTTP://URANTIA-UAI.ORG](http://URANTIA-UAI.ORG)

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"In the spirit of friendship" scenes from August 2007 Regional Conference, Seattle, Washington



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President's message

Dear Friends of UAI,

FOR US IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE the summer is nearly over and with it the period of conferences nears its end. It is interesting to note that the next international conference will be happening in Malaga Spain at the end of the month of April 2009. This, I believe, will be the first time in UAI history that an international conference will be happening in the Spring. To refresh your memory, the RC had submitted two possible locations for the next international conference, Spain and Canada. The conference committee of UAI had a tough choice to make in deciding which country would be more suitable for our next conference and many criteria were evaluated.

One of the main reasons why Spain was chosen is the fact that never before did we have an international conference organized by a Spanish speaking country and the conference committee believed that this choice would have a favorable impact on the Spanish speaking readers whether they are from Spain or the Americas. The second reason was that there are a lot of activities happening in Europe. During the last year alone, UAI chartered two new associations - one in Belgium and one in Sweden. *The Urantia Book* is also being published in Italian and what better opportunity than to make accessible to those readers a conference at their doorstep.

We are confident that the Urantia Association of Spain will provide us with a unique experience whether it is spiritual, social or intellectual. The leaders of this organization are the finest we can find and they have shown outstanding dedication to promote *The Urantia Book* and its teachings in their country while contributing largely to the international efforts of improving communications in the Spanish speaking community of readers. So I invite all of you to plan your 2009 vacations for the next international conference in Spain.

During the coming month, the ISB will be voting to approve UAI's participation in the Foxhall Endowment Fund, dedicated to



support Urantia related projects whether they are originating at the Foundation, the Fellowship, UAI or any other organizations devoted to the welfare and mission of the Revelation. This initiative was sponsored by Gard Jameson. The board members of that fund include individuals from three organizations, Urantia Foundation, the Fellowship and UAI. On the part of UAI, Cathy Jones and Toby Fox are board members of this fund. As we move along in this process more information will be made available through the RC and the diverse UAI lists.

Regarding the RC, Item 51 having to do with an amendment to article 6 of the RC policies on the RC discussion list, was voted positively. This amendment will greatly increase the transparency of the discussions happening on the RC list and forwarded to other UAI lists. Item 52, UAI strategic plan was presented to the RC for discussion and approval. The vote will be happening at the end of September in order to give ample time to the RC to evaluate the strategic plan. Item 53, election of members to the Judicial Commission, went well with the re-election of Nancy Shaffer as the Chief of the Commission and the election of David Linthicum as a regular member of that commission. We thank both of them for their willingness to serve in such a capacity.

During the coming month, the RC will also be busy evaluating and voting on a resolution that pertains to membership fees. This resolution which will be submitted to the RC by the ISB is consistent with the implementation of the Strategic Plan. It is also an attempt to regulate and stabilize the required operational funds necessary for any association to undertake Urantia related projects in their area of the world. It is vital for the welfare of our mission that we find adequate means of financing projects that foster the dissemination of *The Urantia Book* and its teachings.

I hope that the Fall period will bring increasing activities surrounding study groups and one day workshop conferences. There

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.

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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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is at this time an initiative involving three Urantia associations, the Florida Students of *The Urantia Book* (FSUB), the Fellowship and UAI through its study group committee, to work together in promoting, fostering and helping study groups. It is an initiative that has a lot of potential in focusing readers on the essential activities necessary to support the mission of the Revelation. The state of Florida will be the first region where this initiative will be tried. Let us pray that cooperation, not competition, will emerge as the positive ingredient of this project.

The ad-hoc committee that will be put together to pilot this project will have to work with three basic criteria to foster and help study groups: 1- Study groups will stay completely independent of any political affiliation and any attempts on the part of any organization to politicize them will terminate its participation in the project. >>
2- Study groups will have to study

A Tribute to Our Leading Lady

Recounted by Judy Van Cleave

Secretary, International Service Board



Cathy Jones

RECENTLY, WHEN I MET DR. SADLER'S GRANDDAUGHTER Pat Mundelius, she shared with me, *with emphasis*, that she considers Cathy Jones to be, not only her dear friend and sister, but an angel on earth. It was a lovely affirmation, I thought. Perhaps though, *angel unaware* would be more descriptive of Cathy the morning of her formal tribute on July 28th.

The UAUS conference near Seattle had Gaetan Charland scheduled to talk about UAI in the Saturday morning plenary. He began with Central Administration introductions; those of us attending paraded on stage. Naturally, when he noted that UAI had been created many years before through the hard work of a few individuals, but especially through the tireless efforts of one *special lady*, he asked "Catherine Jones" to stand. He acknowledged her many years of service as UAI Administrative Director, our first. He mentioned her taking on the additional work of Membership Chair just a few years prior to her retirement. And he marveled at how *after* her retirement, to

what could have been a well-earned and much deserved rest, she had surprised us all, all the more, by putting together and leading the excellent team that compiles this monthly newsletter titled *Tidings*.

Then he astounded her by announcing the occasion as one of tribute to her. He had Marian Hughes come up to the podium as special friend to help with the honors, and the tribute formally began.

Marian placed Cathy upstage, presented her with a beautifully framed plaque, and with an earnest, "Cathy, this is for you," launched headlong into the humorous and extraordinary story of Cathy's introduction to the UB. It was, you see, while Cathy waited in line to pay a traffic fine for a U-turn which *literally* changed the course of her life that a man behind her asked if anyone had ever told her about the Urantia Book.

Well, of course they hadn't, yet. But, as Marian mused (quoting loosely), "Whether it was her radiant smile or her kind eyes that prompted this particular fellow to do so, we're so very glad he did!"

On a serious note, Marian spoke of Cathy's steadfast loyalty and stalwart responsiveness to the Foundation during its darkest hour when leaders of the former Brotherhood pulled the organization away; of her willingness when the need arose to many times make the northward trek, leaving her home and family in Arizona's land of fun and sun for the windy, wintry city of Chicago—and the ugliest office Marian had ever seen. From there, and with a few vital tools: phone, computer, reader lists, and perhaps most essential—her keen instincts and organizational skills, she set about identifying readers and leaders all around the world ready and willing to organize in *support* of Urantia Foundation; dedicated readers wanting to work in concert for the orderly dissemination of the Fifth Epochal Revelation.

It was, Marian continued, from a few small groups in the US together with "ever-

reliable Finland" that Cathy began to slowly build and expand our worldwide association. Eventually, she would facilitate and attend UAI chartering ceremonies as far away as Columbia, Mexico, Chili, Brazil, France, UK, Estonia, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Spain and Canada; as well as for many US local associations.

We roared at, "Her clothes were never wrinkled. Some tissue paper trick," Marian lamented, "that I have yet to master. But, *she* always looked beautiful and professional."

Marian's tribute was comprehensive, honest, eloquent, humorous and so very apropos. She concluded with, "Cathy, you were the best UAI Administrator we could ever have hoped for at that time in our evolution. You are a credit to this revelation. I am proud to call you my friend and my colleague; but mostly, I am proud to call you my sister."

Richard Keeler was evidence of the ensuing emotion in the auditorium then, as he slipped to the podium and declared passionately and with some sincerity, "Cathy Jones is a great human being because she is *good*, and *true*, and *beautiful*. She deserves our admiration, and I admire her." And with that, he hugged her.

Marian then read the words that close friends and colleagues had sent. Of the many well-articulated thoughts were, "Cathy is a pillar in UAI;" and from Dorothy Elder: "There are two words that are synonymous with Cathy Jones, one is *friend* and the other is *gracious*. Cathy is a friend to all. When I think of Cathy, I think of a particular line in the Urantia Book that says, '...graciousness is the aroma of friendliness which emanates from a love-saturated soul.'"

With that, Cathy was presented a bouquet of red roses by Bernard of Eugene, OR. Gaetan followed with a lovely, custom-handcrafted brooch from Florida designed with silver angel wings surrounding the three concentric circles made of gold. It was given and meant as an expression of her long-standing service.

ISB members on stage took a few moments to share a memory or two of Cathy as well. The various comments went something like: *Cathy*, numerous people around the world appreciate you so much... *Your* call for leaders and teachers is the reason I'm here... *The warmth* of your loving smile is always the first and last thing I see when we meet... *You* are a lovely, gracious face for UAI, with core, inner beauty that'll be even more reflected in morontia form... And something from James Woodward that I particularly enjoyed: "I can think of no better description of love and respect [for Cathy] than the British have for their Queen Mum; so, *our Queen Mum*." >>

President's message

continued from page 2

exclusively the text of *The Urantia Book*. 3-No spiritualism activities such as channelling will be permitted in any of the study groups taking part in that project or being listed in the study group's database. There will be a set of policies that will be put in place to regulate the activities of such committee and I am confident that with goodwill everything is possible.

Good reading.

Gaëtan G. Charland □

President UAI

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A Tribute to Our Leading

Lady *continued from page 3*

Gaetan followed the ISB with a final tribute. He acknowledged Cathy as a real charmer with an immense love and dedication for the revelation. He attributed the growth of UAI around the world to evidence of that, adding that she's always been there when needed; in spite of whatever personal challenges she has faced. He spoke of the many people around the world who have come to love her, of how he is continually asked in his travels, "How is Cathy?"

Gaetan admitted to being completely amazed since their first meeting by her energy, and especially by her courage. Courage is the quality he admires in her most, and the one that's been most humbling for him. He added, "Courage, not just as a valorous attitude, but as her determination to act in the face of great challenges and adversity." He went on to say that in working with her through the years, he's found that she thinks of UAI as her child. That "every time her child was in trouble, she would react with love and respect toward everyone that was part of it or against it"

Still, it was Gaetan's closing statements that best portrayed his respect and admiration for Cathy: "For me the love, respect, courage, loyalty, and patience that Cathy has manifested all these years are the fruit of her dedication to the Father's will. ...We have to give it to her; she has all the qualities of a great leader and the devotion of an apostle.

Cathy, you are a hero of modern times and you stand as a strong and faithful example to all of us. May God give you a blessed long life."

And, finally, it was Cathy's turn at the microphone. I had watched her several times wipe a tear or two from the corner of one or the other of her eyes. I knew she was overcome. Nonetheless, she passed her gifts to Gaetan, and proceeded to the podium with true southern bell charm.

"I am overwhelmed," she announced nearly inaudibly...as Marian moved her closer to the microphone. She again expressed how unexpected the occasion had been for her, and that she was so very happy to be a part of UAI. Not surprisingly she added, "It has really, truly been my *pleasure* to be of service." She expressed thankfulness for the traffic ticket that stood her in line where she "heard the great news about the Urantia Book." She shared that it had been her strong desire to share the revelation. And she reminded us all that when people called Jesus great, he asked them why, and told them there was no one greater than the Father. She talked of how moved she'd been to think of the

Getting to know the Trustees

Patricia Sadler Mundelius

Trustee Emeritus

MY BROTHERS AND I GREW UP AT 533 DIVERSEY PARKWAY. We thought our childhood was pretty ordinary. We lived with our parents and grandfather along with our Aunt Christy. A few times a week, several dozen of the family's friends would come over to talk. It was all low-key and seemed quite normal to us. We children figured that every family had a revelation in its midst. It was only much later, when we were teenagers, that we realized that we were growing up with something of epoch proportions.

There never was a time that I didn't believe the message of the Urantia Papers. I always had the secure foundation of knowing where I fit into the big picture. At first I believed what my parents told me and later, when I was old enough, I believed because the Urantia Book made utter sense to me. This philosophical security was wonderful. However, the downside was that I never had the need to search for answers and I did not have the sublime joy of finding those answers after discovering The Urantia Book. I never tire of hearing how truth seekers feel when they first discover the Fifth Epochal Revelation. It is a great vicarious pleasure for me to hear these accounts from them.

reason for Jesus' life: to reveal the good news of the Father's great love for every human being and that he has given us all a part of himself so we need never feel alone. "It is," she stressed, "our duty to share this message with the world." She closed with, "Thank you and I love you all."

I will say Cathy Jones is a touchstone; not more than a phone call or an email away and ever-encouraging. She is an inspiration and a love; and a love-saturated soul...with unshakable faith, incredible commitment, and an *unassailable* spirit.

Pat, though, really said it all when she hailed her "an angel on earth." □



Patricia Sadler Mundelius

I've been around a long time. I started reading the Papers when they were galley proofs and had the great joy to taking the first edition of The Urantia Book t/o college. I watched the book sales ripple out from Chicago to its suburbs in 1955. And now, in 2007, there are Urantia Books all over the world in a dozen languages with more translations on the way.

With growth comes challenge. And, of course, from challenge can come wisdom. Every decade of the Foundation's life, from the 1950's to the present decade, has brought a new set of problems. I've known and loved all the Trustees of Urantia Foundation. Each one of them has told me that they did not have an easy time of it. All were/are sincere human beings who tried to do the right thing for the Revelation. Being a Trustee has always been hard work and I am sympathetic to them all.

Over the last five decades, the Foundation Board of Trustees has learned much by facing the challenges, solving the problems and correcting the mistakes made. I can speak from experience. Many of the issues the Foundation faced in the 1990's when I was President are not the ones I am aware of as Trustee Emerita in the 2000's. Granted there are new and interesting problems but the current board is well aware of its history and is balanced and wise, both prudent and patient.

At present, there is an outpouring of understanding, cooperation and love among the various reader groups. I believe we are entering an exciting new phase in the Urantia movement. Sales of the book will continue to grow. More translations will become available. Various groups will continue to realize the advantages and joys of working together on projects of mutual interest. Our understanding of different points of view will become more clear as our personal relationships among our fellows deepen and become more loving. We are a very fortunate group, indeed, to be at the beginning of the blossoming of the Fifth Epochal Revelation! Let the cry be, "Onward, together!" □

Companion

SUZANNE KELLY

If there are times in your life you feel quite alone

there is something wonderful you should know

Every child of time has a personal friend that shares your life and loves you so.

This friend I speak of is your Guardian Angel,

and a faithful friend indeed

For they share your emotions happy or sad

and comfort you in times of need.

A little known fact of these beautiful beings

is that they are God's children too

They also aspire to pass life's tests and find Paradise with me and you.

Though while on this earth they remain unseen

their beauty and love will soon be revealed

For beyond this world both our destinies expand

where Gods truth's are no longer concealed.

So don't despair, you are not un-loved and certainly never alone

For your faithful Angel holds your hand through this journey of life to our spiritual home.

And there you will meet this glorious friend

who shared your tears and laughter

All feelings of loneliness will pass away

and love of this companion will remain ever after.

Then many glorious friendships will begin to grow

between all the children of God's creation

And the adventure will begin as life extends beyond

all your earthly expectations.

Suzanne M Kelly

How *THE URANTIA BOOK* found me

OLGA LOPEZ

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President, Urantia Association of Spain

SINCE I WAS A CHILD, I WAS VERY INTERESTED IN KNOWING THE TRUTH about everything. Maybe this is the reason why I love reading so much. I was 13 years old or so when my father bought "Johnatan Livingston Seagull", by Richard Bach. This little novel was all a revelation to me. It showed life as a long road to perfection and perfection as a life goal. Since then I took the determination of not being part of the flock anymore, of flying high, no matter how. I wanted to know the answers to the great questions of life: who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going?

By then I was very interested in paranormal phenomena and UFOs, and these interests led me to Benitez' books. He is a very famous UFO investigator of my country. Curiously, when his most famous novel, "Caballo de Troya" (Trojan Horse), was published (1984), I was not interested in what he had to say about Jesus. I always believed in Him and his divine nature, but in a very informal way, far from the catholic dogma. In fact, Jesus was always like an old friend to me. But I kept reading and reading about channelling, parapsychology, oriental philosophy, and so on. Nothing satisfied me completely, though.

In 1992 I read "Sue—os" (Dreams), a little novel written by Benitez, because I felt curiosity about its content. This book consists on a series of short independent chapters where he talks about Paradise, Havona and many concepts of *The Urantia Book*. In this book I saw the name "Urantia" for the first time. This book caught my interest and I wanted to learn more, so I read another books from Benitez such as "La rebelion de Lucifer" (Lucifer's rebellion) and "El testamento de san Juan" (Saint John's last will), where he explained a bit more about the most important UB concepts.

In 1995 I was definitely interested in all that. One year after I saw in a bookstore the first "Caballo de Troya" and suddenly I felt interested in reading it. It was a shocking experience to me. This was the Jesus that I felt



Olga Lopez, 2007

as the "real" Jesus! I bought the following parts of this saga (until the 4th) and read them one after another in very little time. I felt almost desperate when I knew that there were no more parts published by then, and I wanted to learn more about the "real" Jesus!

In 1996 I got Internet access at work, and when I was testing the Internet searcher I put the word "Urantia" in it (I don't know why yet) This search led me to the Urantia Foundation website and many other pages that opened a new world to me. From the very beginning it was clear in my mind that I wanted to share all the book teachings with other readers and I did, not only from Spain but from North and South America as well. I bought my own copy few months later, and since then I am a committed reader, attend all the conferences that I can, and dedicate a big part of my free time to serve the 5th epochal revelation.

Like Groucho Marx, I always said that I won't belong to any organization that would have me as a member. But since the very moment that TUB found me I knew that there was a group that I really wanted to belong - the Urantia readers' family, to serve a wider family: all my fellow human beings. □

National Study Day to promote Regional Gatherings

RITA SCHAAD

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Secretary, ANZURA

EVERY YEAR ANZURA ARRANGES A NATIONAL STUDY DAY to provide an opportunity for readers to participate in a study group where they can discuss the same topic on the same day in regions throughout Australia and New Zealand. This gives readers, who are old or new to the community of Urantia Book readers, an opportunity to experience the value of meeting with other readers to study and socialise. Various readers around the two countries volunteer to be study group hosts. These hosts act independently in organising a venue (mostly their home) and the structure of the day. If readers wish to take part in the event to meet, study, share, and fraternize with other readers in their region, they simply contact the host closest to them to get further details for their local region.

In this way ANZURA fosters a sense of belonging and cohesion amongst Urantia Book readers in our vast countries, and very importantly, also encourages leadership and outreach, believing that active and practical involvement strengthens the resolve and dedication to fulfil the mandate of disseminating the Revelation with a personal approach. □

Successful Sydney Study Group Meet on the National Study Day ó June 2007

BY RITA SCHAAD

ON A VERY WET SATURDAY and in stormy East Coast conditions, a dedicated group of eight readers met at the Swadling's home in Narrabeen to read and ponder the teachings of Paper 151ó Tarrying and Teaching by the Seaside.

It was the parables that captured our interest. It was intriguing to read how the Master employed the telling of simple stories to convey powerful spiritual truths. One of the attendees spoke of the recognition of the value of 'narrative therapy' in psychology.

Questions such as: 'when is a story an allegory and when is it a parable?' and 'what kind of comparisons can we use in our daily interactions?' stimulated much lively



Sydney Study Group – Daniel, Kathleen holding Isobel, Robyn, Valerie, Trevor in front, Rita, Frances and Kirstin

conversation and debate. We recognised that art, music and even games we employ with children '.....favor the making of impartial moral decisions' (1692.8). But to what extend do stories '.....introduce the spiritual and the supermaterial'? [1692.7]

We can learn from the Master that it is good to use nature parables when trying to teach about truths because of the value the analogy provides between the natural and the spiritual world.

One particular paragraph really challenged our understanding;

'To reject the truth contained in parabolical analogy requires conscious intellectual action which is directly in contempt of one's honest judgment and fair decision. The parable conduces to the forcing of thought through the sense of hearing. [1692.9]

Then we read that pertinent story about the Good Samaritan and were awed by Jesus' skill in the way he handled a sticky situation with his enemies.

Many of Jesus' parables began with the phrase: *The kingdom of heaven is.....* which made us search out paper 170 to read about the concept of 'The Kingdom of Heaven'. It was

interesting to compare the existing attitudes of that day on 'The Kingdom of Heaven' with Jesus' concept.

And somehow we ended up on that marvellous exclamation in the last paragraph:

Mistake not! There is in the teachings of Jesus an eternal nature which will not permit them forever to remain unfruitful in the hearts of thinking men. [1866]

It was like a parting gift — a sign of hope — when hearing these words and it was something we could take with us 'on the road'.

We had a very special visitor many of you might remember from the Sydney study group and former conferences — Frances Potter, who used to live in Sydney but moved to her native New Zealand four years ago. She brought with her a friend from New Zealand who is new to the book and she contributed much to the lively discussion. Also there were a couple of readers who are unable to attend the regular study group but had made a special effort to be part of the day. As you can imagine, this made a perfect meeting of old friends.

We are grateful for the opportunity to meet and share our thoughts. Many thanks to our hosts Kathleen and Trevor Swadling.

I hope that some of you who have not been able to meet with other readers this time will take comfort and inspiration from our experience — in spirit we are bound together.

Till next year's National Study Day — Rita Schaad. . □

Towamba, Southern NSW Study Day Report

BY WILLIAM WENTWORTH

THE TOWAMBA STUDY GROUP, FOUR STRONG including one new reader, met in the evening at Pam and Dave Bradford's house to study the designated paper, number 151, 'Tarrying and Teaching by the Seaside'.

We read in turn, and discussed the Parable of the Sower, all agreeing that, though their interpretations were incorrect, both Peter and Nathaniel showed considerable ingenuity in constructing their allegories.

Thomas having discerned the correct interpretation, we moved on to the general discussion of parables, and then attempted to interpret the addition to the Parable of the Sower put forward by Jesus. We were not able to agree about the meaning of the final harvest.

We did better in achieving agreement in interpreting the other parables Jesus taught, as they did seem more straightforward than the previous one.

The storm on the lake during the passage to Kheresa provoked some comment, as the Midwayers themselves seem a little uncertain about the apparent co-incidence involved in Jesus rebuke of Peter and the simultaneous calming of the waves.

But we passed on to the story of Amos and the herd of pigs, simply noting that the delusion that evil spirits had been transferred from him to the pigs was a factor in ensuring that Amos' cure was made permanent.

Following our reading, Pam served a delicious meal, and the rest of the evening was spent in general discussion. □

South Australian Report

BY JULIA ELISHER

STEPHEN, MY FRIEND JILLIAN AND I GATHERED IN MY HOME ON Sunday evening, shared dinner, had lots of interesting discussions, read paper 151 and then had some more interesting discussions, particularly the differences

between the biblical account of these stories and *The Urantia Book* account and finally concluded that it was a really lovely thing to get together to share ideas and indulge in religious/philosophical discussions!

Looking forward to the next one! □

Tasmanian Report

BY JULIAN MCGARRY

JUST WANTED TO GIVE YOU A LITTLE FEEDBACK from the two of us meeting regularly here in little old Tassie.

We recently said a sad goodbye to three of our group members, Paul Cooper, Nicci Light, and Erica Light, who have moved to sunny Queensland. My mother (Betty Lyon) and I met on Friday evening 15th of June to read Paper 151.

We both found it really inspirational and also surprising. It made us appreciate even more how *The Urantia Book* promotes individual, personal experience with God, even allowing personal speculation, but warns us about imposing our understanding on

others. The Paper also challenged us to tailor our teaching of the gospel message to the spiritual status of our audience, using parables to appeal to individuals of diverse intellects and temperaments.

I would be interested in the ideas of others as to how we could use parables in bringing the message of the Urantia Book to our community. Hope everyone else also enjoyed the reading.

Look forward to seeing you at the National conference.

Brotherly Love from Julian McGarry

"...Let me tell you that nothing is hid in the kingdom of heaven which shall not be made manifest; neither are there any secrets which shall not ultimately be made known. Eventually, all these things shall come to light. Think not only of the multitudes and how they hear the truth; take heed also to yourselves how you hear. Remember that I have many times told you: To him who has shall be given more, while from him who has not shall be taken away even that which he thinks he has." [1692] □

Michael's Picnic

Line St.Pierre

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ON AUGUST 18, ABOUT THIRTY PEOPLE met at Angrignon Park in Montreal, near the Metro Station which bears the same name.

Two readers were on the spot before 9h to reserve an area near the free parking lot on La Vérendrye Street, install tablecloths on the tables and put up the three concentric circle signs to indicate our gathering site.

Many had brought food in abundance, various drinks and even wine for a great sharing in a festive mood. What a joy it was to meet again on this occasion and make the most out of this day to fraternize under the sun and fresh air.

Many had come from afar, old timers as well as new comers. We shared news while moving here and there to the tables, tasting a little bit of everything as we fraternized together. And finally, when our tummies were about filled, it came time to savour the big celebration cake made for Michael, he who



Cutting the cake

surely enjoyed this lovely get together as much as we did.

Afterwards, Johanne Séguin, President of Association Urantia du Québec, led us to reflect on our Michael Creator Son's character in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. This son of man and God had fully satisfied the ideal of mortal creatures of our local universe. Each of us, while producing the fruits of the Spirit, can express the character traits which the master has manifested.

Subsequently, we pondered on the qualities in Jesus that each apostle appreciated most and many among us shared what they mostly admired about Jesus. Amongst others, one person pointed out the fact that while observing the Revelation he had discovered that we very often admire on another person what we already possess or what we would wish to have as a quality.

We could not let this intimate moment, which draws us closer to our Father-Creator, pass without notice. □

Urantian Manifesto

BY RAMON JACOBO ORTIZ
Asociacion Urantia de Bogota



Ramon Jacobo Ortiz

IT'S APPROPRIATE TO INVITE ALL THE READERS of *The Urantia Book*, being associated or not, to participate in a fundamental task, which is the study and dissemination of *The Urantia Book* teachings.

More than donations, what is required is the direct work of associated and no associated readers, applied to the dissemination of *The Urantia Book* teachings. So human resources are vital and we have to channel all our efforts and energies in this direction.

Ignorant and indifferent people must be "urantianized". This is our mission and we have to be truly missionaries. Dissemination must be oriented to new contents and disseminators will do surely the same in the future to obtain a multiplying effect.

Past experiences made us reflect on all this. Indeed, sometimes it was thought that the most important thing was to become a scholar of the book, getting to look down on other people because they had not read the book in its entirety or they had assimilated its contents badly. The goal seemed to point at specialization and we forgot new readers. There were extreme positions to discriminate, without taking into account that there are many circumstances and reasons far from what is ideal. The in-depth study of *The Urantia Book* contents must not lead to an intellectual and academic competence and much less to foster some personality cult, which sometimes generates delusions of enlightenment and uncontrolled growth of our ego.

We used to organize periodic meetings to do exhibitions, some of them related with *The Urantia Book* contents and with other subjects such as healing, meditation, esoteric, music performance, astronomy and others. The thing is that people attended almost for obligation, because they were always the same, but there were declared objections to this kind of conferences because they were not appropriated to discuss different subjects than the fundamental one: the study and dissemination of *The Urantia Book* teachings.

If we want to do an effective task, we have to focus on study groups and "urantianization", that is, the dissemination of the teachings, which has to do with new readers.

In short, study of *The Urantia Book* must be a private task of study groups, whose creation must be recommended and fostered

by the Associations. Dissemination of *The Urantia Book* teachings must be done using all available means and human resources from associated and not associated people. To achieve these goals, we have to hope that many volunteer readers appear and they assume, with dedication and love, this noble task of being missionaries in the "urantianization" of our fellows.

In addition, some training schools of missionaries must be created and associations must be legalized to give funds. We must get into the communities and teaching at all levels. We have to disseminate *The Urantia Book* teachings with no dogmas, no fanaticism, no fundamentalism, praising free will but with a truly and sincere commitment, enthusiasm and dedication. Associations must coordinate these activities and verify the outcomes.

Thus, activities such as periodic and permanent integration, birthdays, remembrance suppers of directive boards and profane celebrations must be of secondary importance. These activities have to be held within families, clubs and other social organizations. We have to land and walk in the right direction to obtain results. We have to commit ourselves to serve and not to stand out.

Jesus and his disciples did their work in the dissemination of the 4th revelation. They dedicated themselves to this activity fully and unconditionally. So Jesus had two study groups, masculine and feminine, and these masters did their missionary work to disseminate the teachings of the 4th revelation. Ganid did the same as missionary, bringing to India the teachings of the 4th revelation.

We should dare to do something similar with the 5th revelation. □



Urantia Association of New York 5th Annual Conference

September 8 – 9, 2007

At the home of Ralph and Betty Zehr

Theme: Synergy

THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE THEME IS SYNERGY, the remarkable quality of two or more personalities working together to produce far more than the sum total of the individuals. rbzehr@stny.rr.com

Presentation/Workshop Leaders All presenters must be UAUS/UAI members. It is our desire to support the cultivation of leaders and teachers by encouraging each group to support their own members to provide a presentation from their local association. We will support the UAI guidelines if you keep in mind the theme of synergy, use your group to choose one of the many aspects of seven, and develop a study group type of presentation for the workshops. You must be preregistered, whether or not you are staying at Dumas Bay Centre. There is no accommodations for anyone who has not preregistered and been confirmed.

German conference

AT THE WEEKEND 10TH/11TH NOVEMBER 2007, the first conference for German speaking UB readers will take place in Frankfurt, Germany. So if you know readers who like to meet other German speaking UB readers please tell them to contact me at nebadon@gmx.ch or give me their address for further information.

Thanks and best wishes to you all from,
Christian

Argentina conferences

CELINA MAURA NANTES ANNOUNCES TWO conferences on the same theme, one in Tres Arroyos, and one in Mar Del Plata, **What is the meaning of "The doing of the will of God"? The Divine Truth**, Argentina on Sept 26th and 29th respectively.

For more info on both: visit the UAI Forum ~ Events, Conferences & Meetings www.urantia-uai.org/forums