



Tidings

from Associations around Urantia

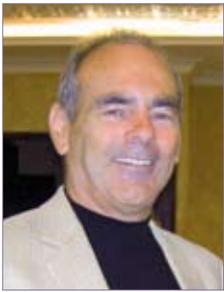
URANTIA ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL ■ [HTTP://URANTIA-UAI.ORG](http://URANTIA-UAI.ORG)

№ 28 ■ OCTOBER 2007

"Teamwork" collage



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President's message

Dear Friends of UAI,

HOPE YOUR SUMMER WAS FILLED with exciting experiences and that you are looking forward to the fall season with enthusiasm. Lately I participated in two courses, one of them was about the reality of religious experience and the other on supremacy, both taking their sources from different papers in *The Urantia Book*. This was quite an experience, to be with a few friends for five full days in a very spiritually conducive environment and study these two topics, while trying to comprehend and acquire their full spiritual meanings. Interestingly, we learned that all of us, who are experiencing our life with the Spirit of God within us as our guide, are actually and actively participating in the emancipation and the unfoldment of the Supreme.

What it comes down to is experiences, religious and spiritual experiences, these are vital and necessary to the growth of our soul. Everything we do in partnership with God becomes part of the Supreme and makes us grow spiritually. Viktor Frankl, in his book, *Man search for meanings*, testifies to this truth by encouraging us to grab every opportunity to serve that comes our way, for each one of us carries the potential for spiritual growth. We are forever like our Creator, infinite, potential, with the will to actualize our true divine nature. Without actions or experiences nothing happens, nothing grows and life withers, a simple illusion.

This brings me to the very interesting discussion that has been happening on the English UAI list about the publicity and *The Urantia Book*. Some participants explained their positions to boldly go and make *The Urantia Book* known to everyone who has ears to listen, to participate in radio talk shows or even television shows, to use the internet widely, while others proclaimed a more conservative approach of one-on-one, like Jesus. Let us make sure that those different positions do not separate us in two camps, like one of those participants wisely said. Let us meditate on the intent and the spirit in which it is done, if done in a spirit controlled way it might just bring the results that is expected by the participants themselves. It does not



have to be done in a national or international arena but can be done in an environment that is culturally acceptable to such means of dissemination.

Let us be wise and patient and see what kind of results will come from such actions that come from a spirit-led intent. While such means of publicity for *The Urantia Book* has caused in the past, and in some parts of the world, negative results, maybe the day has come for some culturally ready nations to benefit from such forms of advertising. There is one thing that we have to be prepared to do, it is to constantly work at being a better person in order for our actions to bear more fruits and light to the world. If the ones disseminating are revealing God by their fruits, no harm can be done and our unseen friends will support our efforts. More importantly, while doing this work, we are having and making experiences and actualizing our divine potential. While I might not agree with everything or every idea concerning the dissemination of *The Urantia Book*, I salute any sincere efforts on the part of any reader to act in the presence of indifference and laxity.

On the side of what is happening in UAI at the International Service Board and the Representative Council, The ISB is in the voting process to accept participation in the Foxall Endowment fund. Once approved, a resolution will be brought to the RC for discussion and approval. The ISB is also in the process to vote on the 2008 budget; again, once approved it will be submitted to the RC for discussion and approval. At this time and for the last month, The Representative Council has been enjoying a small vacation due to the many activities that have occupied many of its members and members of the International Service Board. Regular business should resume its course in October, with a resolution from the ISB to regulate membership fees. More information concerning these resolutions will be passed on to you by your national or local representatives in due time.

There have been new members joining the RC, Colombia has elected a new national president, Juan Fernando Petro for the first year and Tamila Ragimova for the

TIDINGS

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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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second year and a new vice-president Ramón Muñoz. I salute the efforts of the departing president, Jairo Franco Londono and vice-president, Oscar Morales; they have, in the last years, devoted many efforts to the welfare of their organization in Colombia. There has also been a new member from Estonia, new vice-president, Mrs. Ruth Kask, replacing Mauno Inkinen, former Vice-President for the last four years.

You might have noticed a small delay in the publishing of Tidings for the past issue and this issue; these are due mainly to the fact that the work of formatting the newsletter has been transferred from Mario Caoile to Vern Verass. Until Vern gets fully comfortable with this new task, every effort will be made to publish on time.

Enjoy your reading.

Gaétan G. Charland
President UAI

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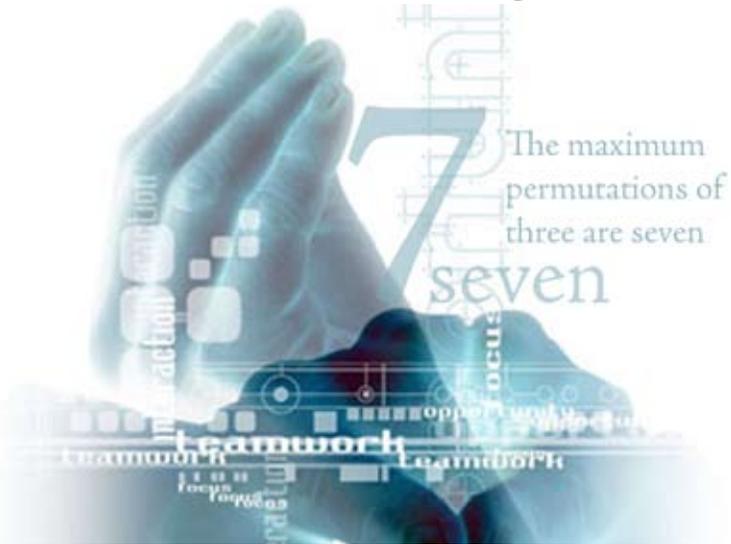
A Magnificent Synergy of the Heart

Benet Rutenberg

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President UAUS

"Synergy of Seven" collage



It is now just two weeks since the UAUS Conference concluded with joyous hearts and warm goodbyes...until the next time my dear friends. Like the experience of truth, the conference experience may be described, praised, discussed, analyzed and a host of other actions which all fall just short of capturing what it is that fulfills us. And like truth, our experience is what matters. There are many moments when I would think of those who were unable to attend or who chose not to and my heart and soul longs that so many more of us would be here having this experience. It is so very important to attend conferences. It is in being there that the experience is allowed to happen.

This conference was a labor of love for all of our hosts in WSUA. We know that it probably didn't always feel like love. From start to finish there was a growing sense of love and care. All of the little things that people sometimes become unhappy with were attended to with great care. All of the big things that we come to a conference for were done well because they were well considered. They were done with love because love is what came out of the experience. There was a good sense of pacing that was not demanding or too carefree for the participants. When there is love, humor, sincerity, joy, sharing and generosity, it means that the event was an overwhelming success. It is the reason why we come to conferences and why we plan to do so in the future. When sincere, caring and loving readers come together, there is something beyond description that comes with them. I believe it clearly foreshadows our future work and play together.

I bought my ticket and made plans to attend back in February of this year. I went about my business wondering, like a child, if the time would ever come. "Are we

there yet?" Finally, I was wrapped up in the frenzy of work, of packing, of planning the CLP meeting, of UAUS business and GLMUA business and feeling like I was getting nothing done. I had been in an accident a few months back and delays on repair were pushed back to these last few days complete with changing arrangements with rental cars and repair schedules. I knew if I just kept moving, all that could happen would and I would be with my expanded family presently. A hundred phone calls and last minute arrangements finally abated. I was parking the car at Indianapolis Airport and making sure it was locked this time, unlike last time. As I was boarding the bus, my traveling companion was calling me from the terminal to ask if I would check to see if he locked his car. Laughing all the way to the terminal it was time to go.

A little before noon in Seattle we exited the tram and made our way through to baggage claim. After several phone calls we met James and then saw Judy as Kevin was picking us up to go to Dumas. Hey, there is going to be a conference here. Reality. Exactly eight hours after boarding the plane, eight of us climbed out of the rental cars with a clear view of Mount Rainier at roads end and 6600 feet elevation. There was a little problem between navigator and driver which resulted in the most generous sharing of blame, "no you first, no you!!!" We stopped to stretch at a vista point. Some of the most beautiful scenery anywhere. After oooing and ahhhing it turned suddenly to owe owe oweeee complete with the sounds of backslapping as we not so willingly became the afternoon meal for a swarm of mosquitos invigorated by the mountain air. After our tour the return drive to Seattle gave view to the first sunset of a wonderful experience.

It is just sensational to wake up in a strange place, get cleaned up for the day and walk out to breakfast to meet so many

good friends. The expectation pales next to the experience. The CLP meeting went well and we are grateful to our guests, Gaetan and Mark, for their participation and continued support of UAUS activities. As we broke for dinner, many more of our friends had been arriving and were assembled to open the conference. The social time at the welcome reception brought everyone together and set the tone for the next few days.

Friday arrived and a full day of study and discussion ensued. Our conference planners did an excellent job of arranging and ordering the meetings. There was ample time for those special conversations while the facility was easy to navigate.

The grounds at Dumas Bay Center were just perfect. The view over Puget Sound is spectacular. Friday evening brought the auction and many thanks go to those who helped facilitate it. Richard was very hard to resist as he bounded about the room giving everyone a chance to help raise funds. Merindi demonstrated what a model should be and I provided the counterpoint.

With the arrival of Saturday the satisfying and motivating presentations and workshops continued. The sense of being involved in something special was building. The late afternoon saw our coach arrive for the drive into Seattle and our Ferry ride to Blake Island. The views of the city and the sound were enthralling. The traditional Salmon dinner and Native American experience was made that much more meaningful knowing what we are blessed to know. The sense of humor, the sense of respect and the reality of being together knowing what

Our conference planners did an excellent job of arranging and ordering the meetings. There was ample time for those special conversations while the facility was easy to navigate.

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Hula Shares *The Urantia Book*

Marian Hughes

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President, The Hawaii Urantia Local Association

I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT ON September 8th and 9th The Hawaii Urantia Local Association shared *The Urantia Book* with the public at the Annual Holistic Hawaii Wellness Expo held at the Outrigger Keauhou Beach Hotel. For two days, from 10 in the morning until 6 in the evening there was a consistent flow of people reading parts the book and asking questions.

We gathered up all the different translations and a number of pamphlets

A Magnificent Synergy of the Heart *continued from page 3*

we are all gathered to share added that much depth and clarity. The buzz on the bus was even more palpable on the return. It is such a pleasure to participate in this wonderful energy. I am grateful to all who shared their time and love with me during these few hours. It fulfills that longing for true friendship that continues to grow.

As I awoke Sunday morning and began to pack, it occurred to me that the conference would be closing in a few hours. It had happened so fast but yet it was so full. The presentations were again dedicated to and directed by the giving of love. The memorial and honor for Janiece's parents, so richly deserved and the Lifetime of Dedication award to Cathy Jones were so very touching. And yet we will all be working and playing with one another for so many more lifetimes. The promise of experience and exploration throughout our progressive evolution will be actualized in and through our friendship with each other as we convey the love of God through our decisions and willingness to work as a team. With gratitude and affection to the leadership of Washington State Urantia Association's Conference Team, we attained a magnificent synergy of the heart.

Offered with Love,
Benet Rutenberg □



Marian Hughes and Marian Fieldson sit behind the table while Harry Fieldson chats with an interested man originally from Lithuania

and headed off to Kona to be ready to set up by 9am. The booth with decorated with a banner of Urantia. I cut up a calendar that was produced by our local Keck Observatory with its amazing telescope pictures of deep space and attached a quote from the book Contact "If there isn't any other intelligent life out there, it seems like an incredible waste of space.". This was eye catching and got people thinking.

A number of people were quite interested and some deep conversations ensued. On Sunday morning there was a line four-people-deep wanting to discuss the book or ask questions. Sunday afternoon reinforcements from our study group showed up to help and it was easier to handle the crowd. In the future I will make sure there are always two willing, dedicated, and experienced readers to man the booth at all times. I noticed that people who had a European accent seemed to be the most interested in our booth.

One lovely woman who hails from Croatia, patiently waited to talk to me. She said some one had left the book in her home and that she had read some of it but felt she needed a group of experienced readers to study with. BINGO! I asked her is she would be willing to host a Kona study group. She said yes, she had a big living room and would like to do just that. She suggested we meet early and have a pot luck dinner. I told her that is how we always did our Waimea study group. After we set the date and time for the first study group, a number of people came by that recognized me from the past. They had attended study groups years ago, but were put off by the channeling movement the had taken over the



Kona study group. I told them about the new study group we were starting on Friday night and they were excited to attend.

The \$350 investment that HULA made to rent the booth space certainly paid off. It was an example of our dues in action. The whole weekend reinforced the lessons of the importance of teamwork that our beloved Urantia Book teaches us we are going to be learning for all eternity.

Post script: The new Kona Study group which formed as a result of the HULA Urantia Book booth at the Kona Wellness expo, met for the first time Friday evening September 14. A nice simple meal was shared on a large deck overlooking the Pacific ocean at sunset. The famous green flash was seen, which is a rare event. The group was very interested in learning more about angels. They couldn't believe how many different angel groups there are. The instructions for believers and teachers was also read. The group got off to a good start and are very enthusiastic to meet once a week. Eight people attend the first Kona Study group and the numbers may increase as the word spreads through the community. □



Dawn

GEORGE BILQUE
UBAA
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I looked at the dawn and knew God
was there

The glow of his grace was every-
where

You could hear his voice in the song
of the birds

And the wind whispered softly his
gentle words

Love one another and live in peace
Nurture the earth and take care of
each

of my flock, and be of good cheer
for joy and laughter are king in my
sphere.

Oh, stand in the sunshine and know
in your heart

That resurrection is life and death
plays its part

Love is the flow of life everlasting
and hope is the current that carries
its blessing

Remember that faith is joy in action
That sorrow and fear have no holy
sanction

That the sun always rises in the
souls of delight

So look for the dawning all of your
life.

What *THE URANTIA BOOK* has given me

JOHN PLOETZ
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Southwest Urantia Readers Family (SURF)

MY GRANDMOTHER MINNIE (CHRISTY'S SISTER) died in 1956 but made sure she bought a copy for both me and my sister before she passed away. So I had my own book when I was 6 years old --- not that I read it with understanding! And of course when we would visit Christy at 533, or her sister Olga, or Olga's good friend Marge O'Brien, there was the UB on the coffee table. So it was just a natural part of my world growing up.

As far as what it has meant to me...or to you...what to say? For me it explains pretty much everything. The origins, history, and destiny of the human race, the life and true teachings of Jesus, and above all that we are the children of a loving Father who watches over all things. The fact that ours is a rebel world in a spiritual war, an experiment gone awry, explains a lot that we see around us today. □



John and Jane Ploetz, 2005

Congratulations to New and Outgoing National Leaders

JUDY VAN CLEAVE
jrvanclv@aol.com
UAI Secretary

THESE ARE THE RECENT CHANGES IN LEADERSHIP in the National Associations:

Columbia:

Outgoing President: Jairo Franco

Outgoing VP: Oscar Morales

Incoming President Aug 18/07 – Aug 18/08:
Juan Fernando Petra.fudel78@hotmail.com

To-Be-Incoming President Aug
18/08 – Aug 18/09: Tamila Ragimova
urantiamedellincolombia@yahoo.es

Incoming VP: Ramón Muñoz
ramonliberty@gmail.com



Estonia:

Outgoing VP: Mauno Inkinen

Incoming VP: Ruth Kask ruthkask@hot.ee

France:

Past President: Michel Rouanet

Temporary President: Pascal Coulombe
spcou@club-internet.fr

Many thanks for a good well done for the outgoing officers and all good wishes for a successful term to the new officers. □

News from Chile

RENE ROMAN

fedalezi@yahoo.es

President, the Urantia Association of Chile

WE HAVE SEVERAL NEW FEATURES AND recent activities to announce this month:

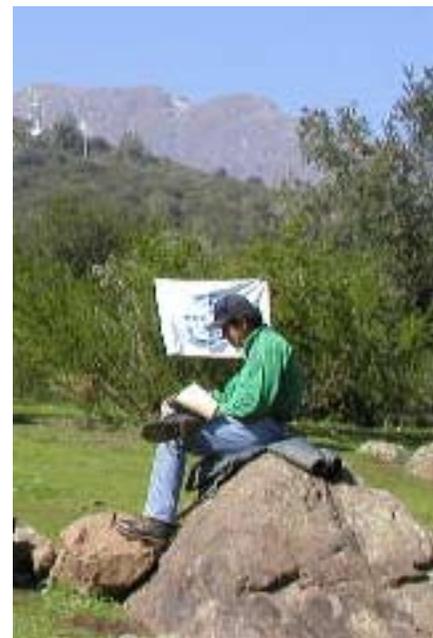
1. The AUCH has own Web site just created: www.urantiachile.org
2. Reporte of the birthday of Jesus of this year.
3. Photo of the birthday of Jesus.
4. Convocatoria to the Annual Conference of the AUCH, days 26, 27 and 28 of October 2007.

That our Universal Father continues blessing and giving forces to you to continue with the beautiful work that you make with as much love.

With an affectionate greeting of all the members of the Urantia Association of Chile:
René Roman
President of the AUCH ☐



Chile Study Group



National Congress of Urantia, Colombia

TAMILA RAGIMOVA
President Medellín Association

IN COLOMBIA EVERY TWO YEARS IN THE MONTH OF August we realize the National Congress of Urantia. This year the IV National Congress took place in the city of Medellín on 18, 19 and 20 of August. The Congress was a success and participated people from several cities of Colombia, like Bogota, Barranquilla, Pereira, Calda, Medellín. Altogether participated 70 people.

As the main lecturer the writer Yolanda Silva was invited from Chile. The theme of the Congress was "Urantia, an evolution way". Two days were dedicated to conferences, questions, answers and the discussions on different subjects from Book of Urantia. At the night of integration relized on Saturday 18 we celebrated the birthdays of Miguel of Nebadon. The third day we went to see the city of Medellín, outside the city and visited a beautiful called park "Tutucan".

Also we had the election of new national board of the Urantia Association. As national President were chosen two persons, for the first year, August 2007 - 2008 will be Juan Fernando Petro from Bogota and for the second year, August 2008 - 2009 will be Tamila Ragimova from Medellín. Ramon Muñoz from Medellín was chosen as the Vice-president during both years.

One of the participants, Jairo Mosquera, expressed his opinion about the Congress, in these words: "I do not have the words to express all my gratefulness for such a special experience that they have made possible through this Congress. Everything, absolutely everything, was wonderful. The human heat of all participants, quality and height of the conferences, the same organization of the event, and all the attentions, the lunches, the celebration, the musical group, everything, I do not know how they did in order to offer as much



in exchange for so little. Thanks, Tamila. By above of everything my recognition to you and to the organizers and participant companions. I declare myself in spiritual debt by everything that they have enriched me."

Committee Organizer
IV National Congress of Urantia
Medellín – Colombia □

African Urantian Wedding

GREVET MOYO
grevetmoyo@yahoo.com
Leader of Urantia Study Group in Malawi, Africa



The happy couple, Grevet and Linda, 2006

Dear UAI Family,

I WOULD LIKE TO LET YOU KNOW THAT last year on the 07th October 2006 I got married to my long time fiance Linda who is also an active Urantia Book reader and member. It was a colourful African wedding attended by different people including all brothers and sisters of urantia study group of Malawi.

It's now one year after that wonderful and great day. Everything went well on that day, the Universal Father has protected us up to this day, we are very grateful for that.

The most important thing is that our wedding was attended by all members of Urantia study group of Malawi.

I would also like to report here that, my wife Linda has tried her best to spread the teachings of *The Urantia Book* to Malawians.

We have been working hand in hand to spread the teachings of Urantia.

Lastly, wish everyone all the best and my the Amighty God bless you all.

Best Wishes,
Grevet Moyo,
Leader of Urantia Study Group in Malawi, Africa □





Attendees from Australia, New Zealand and USA gather in the centre of the labyrinth at the Edmund Rice Centre in Melbourne, Australia

Melbourne ANZURA Conference Report

September 28 – October 1, 2007
Edmund Rice Centre, Amberley

Theme: "The Book and I"

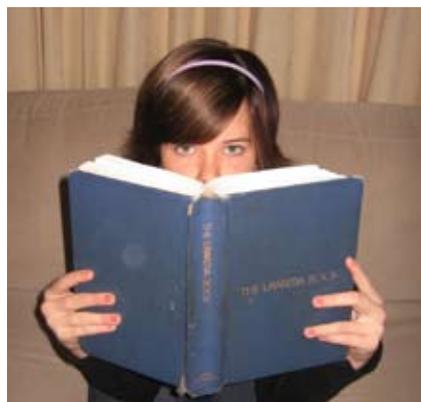
THE THEME EXPLORED THE JOURNEY of discovery and resultant growth from personal association with *The Urantia Book*.

Each Presenter expanded on their favourite part in *The Urantia Book*, one which had a deep meaning for them or of which they never tire of exploring.

In addition to the keynote sessions, workshops were held in four breakout groups where each person had the opportunity to recount their own personal journey with the book. How they found the book, how the expanded truth changed their lives and what parts of the book have significant meaning.

Saturday night was fancy dress night where attendees dressed as a person, a time or thing from *The Urantia Book*. Our roving reporter was able to interview the following celestials: Trinity Teacher Son, Melchizedek, Moses, Ratta, Life Carrier, Lanonandek and Rodan of Alexandria, to name a few.

Sunday began with a moving worship service conducted by Rita Schaad. The small chapel had a full window overlooking the tree lined Yarra River complete with a morning chorus of crimson rosellas and magpies. The



worshippers sang 'The Believers Song' written by Michael Hanin, a plea from our Adjuster to stay true to his divine call. As each person partook of the communion wine and bread a new vow of consecration was taken to heed the still small voice within that ever says, "this is the way".

Sunday afternoon was spent enjoyably at a nearby art centre, 'Monsalvat', based on a 17 century French village where local artists, jewellers, instrument makers, potters, weavers display and sell their craft work to the public. □



ANNOUNCING 2009 INTERNATIONAL UAI CONFERENCE

OLGA LOPEZ,
olopez65@gmail.com
President, Urantia Association of Spain

Dear friends,

Now we can give you the dates for the 2009 International Conference. Finally we have set the dates from the **17th to the 21st April of 2009**. So you can mark them in your agenda.

Please spread the word! There will be more information in the weeks to come.

See you in Spain in April 2009!

Olga Lopez

Urantia Association of Spain □

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. □