



Tidings

from Associations around Urantia

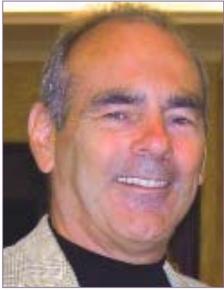
URANTIA ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL ■ [HTTP://URANTIA-UAI.ORG](http://urantia-uai.org)

Nº 44 ■ MAR—APR 2010

Worship — painting by Niska



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President's message

Dear Friends of UAI,

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE LAST edition of *Tidings* just left our computer to be mailed to our members and voila! Another edition is already under press. I will keep this one short for I am getting busier everyday, as my trip to South America is just a few days away. My wife and I will be gone for forty days to meet readers in five different countries and as many cities in some of those countries. It will be one of a lifetime trip to promote the mission of UAI and invite leaders and hosts of study groups to the UAI Leadership 2011 event that will take place next year in Chicago.

For this event and that trip, I have created my own Website which has for name "UAI president Web site" and which has a blog, pictures of readers taken before or during my travels, pictures of many associations around the world, a section devoted to leadership and what it takes to be a good leaders. There will also be a section devoted to the task of leaders within our association and how to manage a budding or growing association, a section on books on leadership and small review of them. It will also include a calendar of the ISB meetings and leadership activities



with a schedule of my destinations in South America.

On this site, I will also talk about my vision for UAI, our mission and its history, strategic planning, study groups, leaders and teachers, dissemination activities and projects and many more things that may come to mind. My goal is to inform leaders within our movement on why we do what we do and how to do them. When I refer to leaders, I am thinking about board members, hosts of study groups and any individuals with initiatives and a drive to accomplish any task. You can log in to the site at this address:

[UAI-president.org](http://uai-president.org)

As for the ISB, we did meet to organize the Leadership event the weekend of the 13th of March, exciting things are coming your way, stay tuned.

The RC voted on the use of the UAI logo and approved the minutes of the ongoing meeting for 2009.

I hope you enjoy your reading

Gaétan G. Charland
President UAI

gaetan.charland3721@videotron.ca □

TIDINGS

From Associations
Around Urantia

Tidings is a bi-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/en/urantia-book/read>

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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vern@designnd.com.au

Tidings archives:
<http://urantia-uai.org/tidings/>

Submissions limited to 700 words (one page) or 1400 words (1½ page) plus one or two photos. Deadline by the 15th of every 2nd month.



One-page-a-day (OPAD) Feel free to join the UAI Forum's Online Study Group

UAI FORUM <http://www.urantia-uai.org/forums/index.php?> was created by Urantia Association International <http://urantia-uai.org/> in 2005 as an international web-home for members to connect and study the book.

In 2006, when all was ready, the Forum opened to the public. Now guests may view any of thousands of posts on hundreds of Urantia Book related topics written by a diverse group of students and teachers. Guests can view all subforums, members may post questions, comments, insights, and use the Forum's many features. If you are not close to a study group, or simply want to supplement your study, the OPAD (one-page-a-day) online study session is open 24/7/365. OPAD is but one of the many subforums designed for study and dissemination of the revelation. Readers, students and teachers from around the world meet at UAI Forum daily to grow in understanding, to make or connect with new and old friends in the global reader community. Visit us! — <http://www.urantia-uai.org/forums/index.php?> □

Picturesque Portlock beckons

UAI — UK & Ireland - Summer meeting 2010.



www.porlock.co.uk



GARY RAWLINGS
President, Urantia Association
International UK & Ireland
Garyurantia@aol.com

WE ARE HOLDING OUR URANTIA summer meeting in the quaint town of Porlock in Somerset on the weekend of the 14th to 16th May 2010 at the New Place House in Porlock which is known for Lorna Doone and at Minehead the birth place of Sir Arthur C. Clarke.

If you come by train from London, you depart from Paddington Station and having arrived at Taunton station you then catch a bus to Minehead and then a taxi from there to Porlock. If you come by motorway, you turn off on the M5 at either junction 24 or 25 then follow the signs for Minehead and then Porlock. Porlock is situated on the B3225, west of Minehead and west of the junction of the A39 and A396.

All bookings to go through myself at Garyurantia@aol.com just confirm what type of room you want and I will endeavour to book this for you.

The charge will cover 2 nights, which includes 2 breakfast, 2 suppers, 2 lunches, and hot drinks will be £104 per person. Please note, meals are vegetarian

The charge to UAI for the use of a meeting room for the two days will be £150 and this cost will be divided amongst all who attend this wonderful event.

Availability

There are 3 twin bedded rooms, 3 double rooms and 2 single rooms. Limited space—so book early, there will be other accommodation available in Porlock and details of this will be available at the study group meeting held at Chris & Tina Moseley's on the 28th March 2010.

Special Notice

Sheila Keene Lund, the author of *Heaven is not the Last Stop*, the remarkable new book which sets out to interpret the teachings of *The Urantia Book* to the layman in the context of other human philosophies will be our special guest at this weekend meeting and her exciting workshop presentation must not be missed—(Cultivating Universal Intelligence.)

The programme is being arranged by Ade Awoyinka from *The Urantia Book* with the theme for the meeting: — **Out of this world.**

We look forward in seeing you all you there.

Best Regards
Gary Rawlings ☐

V ENALLUBRA—Fifth National Meeting of Readers of The Urantia Book in Brazil

João Pessoa – Paraíba State.
Brasília, March 11, 2010.



NEMIAS MOL
Urantia Association
Brazil UAB
contato@urantia.com.br

DEAR FRIENDS AND READERS OF *The Urantia Book*.

It is with great pleasure that we inform you about the Fifth National Meeting of readers of *The Urantia Book* to be held from July 2nd to 4th, 2010 in the city of João Pessoa, capital of Paraíba State in the Northeast of Brazil. See pictures of the place at www.aruanapousada.com.br.

UAB – Urantia Association Brazil initiated its activities in June 2003 and since then has been working to reach its objectives, mainly to promote the study of *The Urantia Book* and to disseminate its teachings through study groups.

It is within this thought that we periodically promote these meetings. Four national meetings have already been held in Brazil: in Vinhedo/SP (July 2004); in Brasília/DF (July 2005); in Gonçalves/MG (February 2008 and November 2008). Now is the time to organize a meeting at the Northeast region of Brazil and we are preparing it to be the greatest meeting held up to now in our country.

The success of this event will make it possible for us to host very soon an international

meeting. Therefore, we expect the participation of all . We know about the importance of this book for the world and for our country. We know that this book has the potential of transforming the world and that we are co-responsible for this to happen, as we are the “messengers of truth” as were the missionaries of Salem. Be part of history, participate in this movement and event!

Such events are marvellous moments of fraternization, to exchange ideas, and opportunities to learn; who has already participated of the other meetings knows what I am saying. For me they were very happy moments , certainly they are among the most happy moments of my life. It is the opportunity to meet and know other readers of various places, cultures, thoughts; to talk with people who think in similit ways; because in our day by day life we are solitary as to our profound concepts.

We still have enough time for the organization, but do not leave it for the last minute, because airtickets if bought timely have a much lower price than the normal price, therefore do not lose time!

The hotel options are as follows (values in Real):

- In double room — R\$ 220,00 per person
- In triple room — R\$ 200,00 per person
- In four bed room — R\$ 180,00 per person

These values include the 2 (TWO) overnights (Friday/Saturday and Saturday/Sunday), complete meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner). And you still get a T-shirt of the event!

Reservations should be made through UAB through following telephone numbers:

- Nemias: +55 (61) 8116-5010;
- Susana +55 (11) 2063-0188;
- Or email: contato@urantia.com.br

PLACE AVAILABILITY IS LIMITED

We are lookint forward to seeing you soon.

All are fraternally welcome.

Nemias Mol & Susana Hüttner
UAB President UAB Vice-President
UAB – Urantia Association Brazil
www.urantia.org.br ☐



“There is in the mind of God a plan which embraces every creature of all his vast domains, and this plan is an eternal purpose of boundless opportunity, unlimited progress, and endless life.”

The Urantia Book, page 365-3, paper 32-5



5 ENALLUBRA National Meeting of Readers of The Urantia Book in Brazil

The Urantia Association Brazil has the pleasure to invite you to the Fifth National Meeting of Readers of The Urantia Book in Brazil.

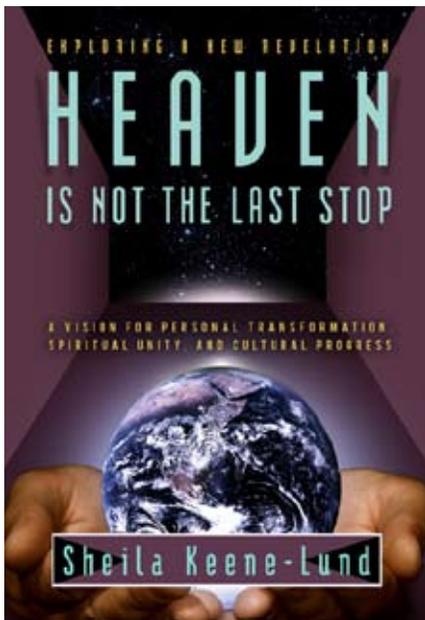
THEME: What does the Universe expect from us?
DATE: 02 to 04 July, 2010
PLACE: Pousada Aruanã
ADDRESS: Av. Beira-mar, 2006, Carapibus Conde/PB - a 23 Km de João Pessoa.
WEBSITE: www.aruanapousada.com.br

PACKAGES:
Double room: R\$ 220.00 per person
Triple room: R\$ 200.00 per person
Quadruple room: R\$ 180.00 per person

NOTE: The package includes 2 nights, meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) and participation at the event.

RESERVATIONS ONLY THROUGH:
Phone: +55 (61) 8116-5010 or (61) 3629-1303
Email: contato@urantia.com.br

LIMITED CAPACITY



A Vision for Personal and Epochal Transformation



SHEILA KEENE-LUND
Urantia Association
International
documentit@comcast.net

YEARS AGO, WHEN I WAS QUESTIONING the validity of my beliefs, little did I know that I would be embarking on an extraordinary journey of exploration that would forever change the way that I viewed and responded not only to the world, but to those around me! It has been three months since advance copies of *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop* have been available, and I am grateful that so many readers have already reported gaining deeper appreciation for the concepts and teachings in *The Urantia Book*.

Ever since I can remember I had an affinity to find gaps in teaching, and if the disconnect in the learning bothered me enough I would not stop searching for answers to close those gaps. Interestingly enough, my religious beliefs as a young adult coexisted happily in my mind even though they were fraught with mixed concepts. Such was the case until I heard a group of women talk about the afterlife in a new way that compelled me to investigate my beliefs. So began my journey of exploration into God and the afterlife.

When I started reconciling my beliefs with *The Urantia Book*, I only wanted to fill the gaps in my understanding and to prove the rest of the tome wrong. But my fascination with its coherence inspired new questions and I thrived in the continuous discoveries and associations I was making.

It was not until I had almost completed writing *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop* that I realized its true value. Yes, it answered all the questions I had about God, my relationship to God and the

universe, and totally expanded my perception in such a way that I easily integrated all of those mixed concepts into my personal perspective. I began to realize that even more important was that it offered a vision for personal and epochal transformation that could be used by this and all future generations to truly advance our civilization. The reconciliation of my beliefs with the advanced teachings in *The Urantia Book* had deepened my understanding of spiritual development, and this renewed understanding is chronicled in the fourth section of *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop* — “Living the Religion of the Spirit.” This last section became personally very meaningful, thinking back about how many people for so long have earnestly tried to advance peace in our troubled world, without measurable results. I realize now that to advance peace we must have a true passion for becoming the very best that we can be for the sake of others, arising when we develop a true passion and appreciation for God, and recognizing that we have only begun our journey to know God. Such recognition is very humbling—the fact that we have only just scratched the surface.

The challenge for every new generation is to further the progress of human civilization while maintaining the worthwhile values of the past. In our generation we are faced with an unprecedented cultural and spiritual stagnation which stands in the way of discovering the reality of our cosmic citizenship in a friendly and intelligently managed universe. Liberating ourselves from our intellectual and spiritual comfort zones and seeking new and higher spiritual meanings and values in what we know is a good beginning to this discovery. This applies even to all of us dedicated Urantia Book readers who know its concepts, but often struggle to discover its practical application.

A compelling invitation to cosmic citizenship

Heaven Is Not the Last Stop assembles its new, cosmic reality frame not only from traditional sources, but also from my study of *The Urantia Book*.

One of my aims was to offer an in-depth, critical investigation of this text—and to also provide a reconciliation of *The Urantia Book* with ancient and contemporary knowledge and wisdom. *Heaven Is the Last Stop* is the result of my 12 years of research, a narrative woven from my insights in philosophy, history, culture, science, and religion.

Some of the questions addressed in *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop* which I hope will answer the questions of many others include:

- What is the Divine Plan for the universe—its purpose, structure, and organization?
- What happened in humanity’s prehistory? What facts underlie the creation myths?
- What is “heaven?” What is its relationship to the material universe?
- Who was Jesus? How did he live, and what were his original teachings?
- What are the keys to spiritual living? How do we achieve God-consciousness?

The ultimate aim of *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop* is to dispel confusion and fuel the spiritual power of transformation.

One of the most unexpected but meaningful results of writing *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop* has been the response of my eldest sister Jane. Jane is a very devoted Catholic who enjoys the comforts of her long-held beliefs. She has always been my chief supporter; she listened attentively whenever I talked about concepts that I was writing, although she never expressed a desire to know more... until recently. One day she was helping me come up with questions I could ask a non-Urantia reader audience and I asked her what she thought of the following question: “What would you do different, if anything, if you knew that the soul is not immortal but has the capacity for immortality?” For weeks she reflected on that probing question. She is now one of nine people in my neighborhood who are gaining insight into some of *The Urantia Book* concepts through the study of *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop*. Each time they meet they report new experiences of expansion and gratitude for this knowledge. My heart was deeply moved when on one occasion, I heard my sister comfort a newcomer to the group who was expressing much confusion with the new teachings. My sister said, “Don’t worry; that is exactly how I felt when I started, but soon you will find how easy your mind will settle as it recognizes the truth in what you are learning.” The workings of the Thought Adjuster never cease to amaze me!

About the Author

Born in Spain to an English father and Puerto Rican mother, Sheila Keene-Lund has served as a Transcendental Meditation teacher, a deaconess in the Liberal Catholic Church, and as a hospice worker who developed workshops on spiritual care for the living and dying. She is currently Education Committee Chair of Urantia Association International and vice president of the Urantia Association of Florida.

Heaven Is Not the Last Stop is Available from www.heavenisnotthelaststop.com or call 1-800-741-3502.

Testimonials

Awesome! Awesome! Awesome!

In *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop*, Sheila Keene-Lund bravely steps out of the box and draws information from science, philosophy, evolved religions, metaphysical sources and common knowledge, bringing it all together with the gift of Revelation. This valuable gem offers a balanced, intelligent and sensitive approach that will support all genuine Truth Seekers in achieving a deeper understanding of the universe and our role therein. I was pleasantly surprised and grasped many new concepts while reading this book. I believe it has the capacity to appeal to all people and create a new wave of advanced thought. I also believe that *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop* will assist both new and seasoned readers of *The Urantia Book* while we continue to strive for the ideals thus far unattained: the global recognition of One Universal Parent and the sincere loving service of all humanity

—Pato Banton, International recording artist and minister

My highest compliments on your book. It is a truly amazing work. This is what we have been waiting for—a high-level explication of the Urantia revelation.

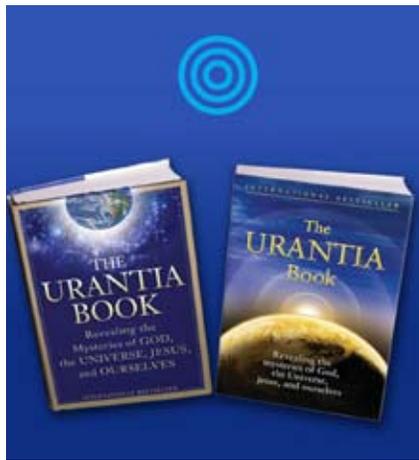
—Byron Belitsos, Origin Press

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The Urantia Book — The Book of All Times



KRISTINA STIOANOVA
Urantia Association of UK & Ireland
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GLMUA Annual Membership Meeting



SUSAN GRZESKOWIAK
Greater Lake Michigan Urantia Association GLMUA – US
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WE ALL READ BOOKS, MANY BOOKS, different books and we always want to know who wrote the book we are reading. And then some of us came across this book, which does not have the author listed and confuses many people.

One of the first questions people ask about *The Urantia Book* when they first see it or find out about it is “Who wrote the book?” It is given to us from highly advanced celestial minds, but many readers still question the authorship of the book.

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Sheila,

I want to tell you that I am very touched by your book and in awe of the volumes of information you have conveyed both from *The Urantia Book* and from human sources as well as your own personal experiences. I believe you really have something here that will be a significant “portal” to *The Urantia Book*. You have so eloquently harmonized the revelatory information with evolutionary subject matter and tactfully and comprehensively explained how and why the conflicts exist where they do. I am not easily impressed; but you have done so with this book Sheila. Bravo!!!

—Joe

Hi Sheila!

The book arrived today! It was well worth the wait. I am so very pleased with the overall look and content of *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop*. It’s the sort of volume that just makes you want to pick it up and read it from cover to cover. I have hoped SOMEONE would write a book that explains in less complex language the basic worldview of the Urantia Papers, and I believe your book, finally, is what I have long awaited.

— Sincere and deepest thanks to you, Rev. Charles *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop* is a must-have reference. If you’re looking for a book that focuses on the most important and most helpful concepts in *The Urantia Book*—you have found it. Sheila’s book also reconciles these new concepts with existing religious beliefs in a meaningful and practical way.”

—Dr. B. Dale Sams, D. Min. □

Since the book came 55 years ago, readers past and present have tried to understand the concepts within the book, and no one could grasp the whole meaning and explanation. It requires deep reading and study, mainly in groups, with lots of discussions. So, I ask myself: if a human wrote the book, how much of a genius should that person be, to write a book that the rest of us humans would not understand in his time, and even 55 years later?

If we look at the evolution of the human race, there have been, and still are, many brilliant people, some of them not really understood in their time, but understood eventually, because of the evolving human mind. The human mind always tries to question and explain facts and events; it is always looking for answers and trying to understand everything, it never stops evolving in all directions. A human author of *The Urantia Book* would not write “We simply don’t know,” as we find stated throughout the text.

But let’s think just for a moment that *The Urantia Book* was written by a human author, and then ask ourselves: is that an accident or not? We know from the book that nothing in the Universe is chaotic and disorganised, and we also know that there are NO accidents. Then I think: OK, someone was given this brilliant brain to write a book like that, but then that contradicts the Father’s divine plan for each of us to find and love him by our free will. We also know that the Father loves us all equally, with no preferences.

The Universe is so logical, with no place for mistakes, accidents or preferences.

In my heart I don’t have any doubts about who wrote *The Urantia Book*; I am just trying to express my opinion for people who still have some. There was never in the past and present a book like *The Urantia Book* and probably never will be.

I’m a member of Urantia Association of UK & Ireland, originally from Bulgaria and have been reading *The Urantia Book* for four years.

Kristina □

ON MARCH 6, 2010, THE GREATER Lake Michigan Urantia Association held our 13th annual membership meeting.

The meeting was preceded by a study period that invited all Urantia Book readers in our area to join with us in the study of Paper 138, *Training the Kingdom’s Messengers*. Our business meeting was from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. followed by the conclusion of our study of Paper 138. We were pleased to have some members of First Society join with us during the study periods. I joined the meeting via online video conferencing.

The meeting began with a moment of silence to contemplate the real reasons for us being there. This worshipful moment was concluded by the playing of “How Great Thou Art” by Susan Boyle.

President Rick Lyon gave his report which is presented in part below:

As Administrator for UAI and President of GLMUA, I often contemplate our plan. What are we trying to accomplish and how will we accomplish it. Our mission is to foster study groups and promote in-depth study of the UB. One of the ways we do this is by producing teachers and leaders to go out and do these things and to teach and lead others to do these things.

I think our goal of producing teachers and leaders is similar to our Fathers divine plan of perfection. In our Fathers plan, we are ascending beings starting as imperfect mortals progressing to spiritual perfection while there are spiritual beings descending to gain experience with life as we know it. What a brilliant plan that is.

I think we can use our Fathers divine plan as a model for a UAI plan for producing teachers and leaders. For example, an individual reader one day decides that they want to do more for this revelation than they can do alone. So, they join UAI to be part of a group of readers who are doing things on a larger scale. That person joins a committee and learns teamwork by working with committee members to create study groups, >>



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host an event, produce a newsletter, or work with new members. After gaining this experience, the person becomes a committee chair or governing board member and learns to lead a team in accomplishing goals and objectives. After serving on a local governing board or serving as a committee leader, perhaps they run for a position with a national association. Following this maybe they run for a position on the International Service Board. This is the ascending part of training a teacher or leader.

After gaining experience, learning teamwork, problem solving, and how to get things done, they return to their local association to share what they learned with new ascending teachers and leaders. This may be seen as the descending part of the plan of producing teachers and leaders. Actually, we are probably ascenders and descenders at the same time because we are always either teaching or learning. Next year, here in Chicago, many of the leaders of UAI and of this revelation will be meeting here to learn from the descenders and teach the ascenders.

One of my favorite speakers is a man named Doug Wead. Doug was an advisor to the first President Bush. He tells a story about when in college they staged protests against world hunger by refusing to eat lunch at school. He admits that it wasn't that big of a sacrifice due to the quality of school cafeteria food but they said, "Look at us! We are not eating so that starving children in China can have food to eat." But when he got older and out in the real world he learned that empty plates don't feed hungry people. You have to do something. You have to dig the dirt. You have to plant the seeds. You have to harvest the grain. You have to get up and do somethingto feed hungry people.

Why are we here today? I think, I hope, it is because you do want to do something. You want to make a difference. You want to be part of something that IS making a difference. You want to change the world even if it is only the few city blocks of your own community. You want to make your world a better place.

We want to help our children and grandchildren, our families and our friends to find God, survive mortal death, and discover truth, beauty, and goodness in this life. We want to feed hungry people.

The food we offer is the bread of life. We are serving up truth and enlightenment and spiritual freedom. There are many people hungry for the food we have to offer. Many people are searching but don't know where to find these

spiritual delicacies. Do we sit on our baskets and hide our fruits from hungry people or do we walk around handing out our fruit to anyone wanting to eat?

It doesn't say this in our charter and bylaws but I think part of our mission is to teach and lead others to produce more fruit to feed even more hungry people?

There are many temptations in life. Temptation to over-eat. Temptation to spend too much money. Temptation to do things we shouldn't do. Actually there are two temptations in our lives; The temptation to do wrong and the temptation to do nothing. Don't let temptation keep you from serving your fellow man. Don't let fear keep you from doing what God needs you to do.

We read in The Urantia Book that God does not do anything that he can delegate. God could do everything Himself but then what would be our purpose for living? God needs you to do the things that God wants done. Most of the things that God needs done are very small simple things that anyone can do. These small things add up to large things which add up to be great things. Even the great wall of china is made up of small individual bricks. We don't need you to be the wall. We need you to be a brick.

This mortal life and this revelation provides us with many opportunities to serve, many opportunities to do great things if we will only hasten off to where great things are waiting to be done. Go into partnership with God and great things can and will happen – if we have enough bricks.

UAI and GLMUA can provide you with many opportunities to serve but you have to act. We encourage you to take one small step forward in your ascending career of learning to be a teacher or a leader. Find a project that appeals to you and then with the help and guidance of our local association leaders – do it.

I can personally attest to how serving in UAI and GLMUA benefits us in our personal lives too. I am a better employee at the steel mill because of all the things I have learned to do while serving this revelation. I am a better father and husband because of the people skills I have developed by working with a team of readers on many projects. I am a better and happier person because of the friendships I have found along this path. So we are not only giving you an opportunity to serve, we are giving you the opportunity to be served.

During the past year, we hosted our annual Jesus birthday picnic and a very successful Fall Study Session. During our mini-conference we hosted the annual business meeting of our national association, Urantia Association United States UAUS. Last spring we launched our Reader Support Team that has placed books in several libraries and reached out to readers in our areas offering our assistance with local individual projects to share the teachings of The Urantia

Book. Our membership has increased and we are financially sound.

For the coming year, we have been invited to join our friends at Ohio Students of the Urantia Book for an event they are planning for August 21st of this year.

We need to get the planning started for our Fall Study Session. The date for this event is October 1-3 at the same location: in Chesterton, Indiana. Our fall study has established itself as an important event for readers in this area and beyond.

Urantia Foundation is no longer able to host an annual Christmas party or holiday celebration. Do we want to do that?

We need to discuss our participation in the UAI 2011 Leadership Seminar that will take place here in Chicago. And we need to fill two vacancies on our governing board and some committee positions.

Several of us have taken on multiple responsibilities. So, what we need most is people. GLMUA is blessed with many members with many talents and we need our members who are not currently serving in some capacity to step up and help us continue those things that we have done in the past and the new things that our Father is calling us to do.

If you are not currently serving in some formal capacity with GLMUA, we are inviting you to do so today. Please take the time after this meeting or during the meeting to find out how you can serve our Father and our Brothers and Sisters of Urantia.

Thank you.

This report was followed by reports from our other officers and committee chairs discussing our financial status, our website www.urantiausa-glmua.org, and the planning for our events during the coming year.

We encourage our members and friends to attend the OSUB event in August. GLMUA members passed a resolution to support the UAI 2011 Leadership Seminar that will take place in Chicago next year. GLMUA will offer to provide assistance with the local logistics for this event. Tamara Strumfeld will be checking into a venue and format for a holiday party in December. GLMUA added five new members this year: Robert Sharp, Bill Lindemann, Andre Traversa, Jimmer Prieto, and Roxy Felger.

We are very pleased to announce that Bill Lindemann accepted the position of Study Group Committee Chairperson for GLMUA. Study groups are the top priority of UAI so we are glad that Bill has accepted this responsibility.

Our annual Fall Study Session will once again be at the **Hilton Garden Inn in Chesterton, Indiana, with the date being October 1-3**. The Fall Study team will be meeting later in March to choose a topic, which will be announced soon after that. Please make plans to join us for this exciting event. □



URANTIA ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONAL

UAI SERVICE REPORT



RICK LYON

UAI Executive Administrator
uaicentraloffice@urantia-uai.org

OUR UAI LEADERSHIP 2011 SYMPOSIUM is moving ahead at an increasing rate. The format will be like nothing we have ever done before. I personally am really excited by what Phil Taylor and his team have put together. We need to begin collecting contributions to fund this event. This is a major and historic opportunity to train leaders for this revelation and we need your support in many ways. We are asking all our local and national associations to begin raising funds to send your leaders to Chicago in 2011. We are seeking major contributors to help us raise some of the money to bring leaders from around the world to benefit from this training. We cannot provide all the travel funds necessary but we hope to provide as much assistance as our financial contributors provide. We have received a \$20,000 matching fund pledge to support this leadership symposium. Therefore, every dollar, Euro, Peso, or whatever currency you use will be doubled by this generous contributor. Obviously this person sees the importance of this event for producing teachers and leaders for the Urantia revelation — now and into the future. We encourage you to take advantage of this matching fund opportunity by sending your contribution to UAI at the address below or by calling our office in the USA at 773-572-1180.

We have created a reporting form for our associations to report the results of their efforts to contact readers and complete membership applications. If you wish to be contacted by one of our local associations for help with study groups or have a question that only another reader can help you with, give us a call and we will do our best to help you.

Our dissemination efforts have sent books to Russia, Nigeria, Ghana, United States, and Indonesia. We are working with the association in Mexico to get books to readers there too. We have purchased another 850 books from Urantia Foundation at a substantial discount. These books are available for your local association and readers and study groups in your area. Please contact the UAI office to find out more about these books. We also need your support to help us with the expense of purchasing these books and the

shipping costs. We work with the Foundation to find the most reasonable way to ship books but sending books outside the USA from Chicago is expensive — but usually this is the only way to get books to readers in some areas or to those unable to afford them. If you would like to contribute to UAI to help us cover these expenses and in turn help us to provide more books to readers asking for them, please call the UAI office.

The ISB is currently collecting information for the 2009 UAI Annual Report. We would like to have any information from your association that should be included in this report. This Annual Report is important to communicate to our members and friends what we have accomplished in the previous year. This is not only important for our members to know but it encourages financial contributions needed to support our activities.

We have received the annual title from some of our associations and we greatly appreciate that. Let me also take this opportunity to remind all our associations of the need for your support UAI activities so that we in turn can support your association with information, tools, discounted books, and in many other ways. Never hesitate to contact the UAI office if we can assist your association with the mission we have been given.

In closing let me invite you to serve our mission by becoming part of the UAI office staff. We need people to help with mailing materials, responding to emails, contacting contributors, contacting associations, and most importantly acting as a contact source for reader inquiries. We can use help with fund raising too.

To contribute financially or with your time and energy, please contact me at: uaicentraloffice@urantia-uai.org or by phone in the USA at 773-572-1180. You may mail contributions to us at:

UAI
559 West Diversey Parkway #351
Chicago, IL 60614-7640 ☐

UAI Leadership 2011

Chicago, July 13th–17th next year
progress report, website is up



PHIL TAYLOR

Urantia Association
Internationa
philtaylor@mindspring.com

UAI LEADERSHIP 2011 IS AN EVENT for those will labor with the UAI. We want those men and women who desire service for the revelation — servants who hold fast to our mission of fostering study and dissemination of *The Urantia Book*. To those servants, we want



you to come and join us in an exploration of leadership and an experience of community.

When we speak of community we mean groups not places; groups of men and women gathered together for a common purpose. We speak of spiritual brotherhood, the joy of fellowship, and the might of cooperative service.

We find this community in our family, in organizations, and in the company of friends but we can also find community in our study groups, in our study group communities and in our local and national associations.

It is in these successful groups that we find the power of cooperation and the focus in unity of purpose. It is in community that we find “enthusiastic and effective load-pulling”, “teamwork—social cooperation” and all of this “is dependent on leadership.” [911:2]

What better foundation upon which this revelation can rest—a foundation that is not a building, not a religious authority, nor a doctrine that commands acceptance, but men and women, who love one another and desire to live and learn the higher realms of cosmic consciousness and spiritual perception. This is what our mission call upon us to achieve—a foundation of community, grounded by study groups.

Can you imagine the power and force behind a community of readers and study groups working together in cooperation? What a powerful force for teaching, ministry, and service all for the revelation.

This event is not a conference—we require your participation, your service experiences and your willingness to labor. This symposium depends on your insights and experiences to be shared with all as we are only leaders among equals and it is the purpose of **UAI Leadership 2011** to facilitate an exploration of the leadership needs for the mission of the UAI.

UAI Leadership 2011 will be held on July 13th to the 17th outside Chicago, Illinois, at the beautiful Techny Towers Retreat and Conference center. If you would like to know more about this coming event, our website is www.uaileadership.com and this site will be receiving new updates in the coming weeks so be sure to visit. ☐

UAUS CLP 2009: Chesterton, Indiana



PATTI SNYDER
UAUS Secretary
PSnyder@manatt.com

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE URANTIA Association of the United States Council of Local Presidents (CLP) is usually held in conjunction with a national, regional or local conference to promote interaction with members and study of *The Urantia Book*. This year's meeting was in keeping with this developing tradition, and was indeed a motivating experience that seemed to have left all with a sense of communal and spiritual accomplishment. The annual meeting of the CLP was held on September 24th, in Chesterton, Indiana, hosted by the Great Lakes Michigan Urantia Association (GLMUA) at its annual Fall Study Conference.

After calling the roll and establishing quorum, the CLP meeting opened with a report from our new president, David Linthicum. David, a long-time reader who hails from Oklahoma, has served *The Urantia Book* community in various positions in the past. In his report, he graciously commended the UAUS Governing Board (GB) and the CLP for their considerable contributions of time and work on projects and initiatives that keep our overall organization responsive to the needs of Local Associations.

Following the President's report, we heard from each of the officers on the GB including our Vice President, Marian Hughes, who was in Hawaii but present via the Skype computer network. Marian's presence was greatly appreciated, not only because of her contributions and insight as VP, but also as an indication of successful new technology that may lead to a greater number of people being present at our meetings. There is no substitute for in-person communication, however, in light of the economic hardship experienced by so many in today's environment, virtual meetings (via computer) may be a desirable alternative for attendance. Travel from Hawaii is comparable to travel from Europe in terms of cost, so we were very happy to experience this new interaction, which could lead the way for greater national and international involvement within UAUS.

Marian was commended for her initiative in reconciling the cost and UAUS support of ANZURA's, our Australian fellows, participation in the Parliament of the World's Religions conference. As you may recall, the discussion commenced in a seemingly contentious tone, but it actually led to wide participation, as members voiced their opinion, and bonding. All of which appeared to bring out the best of our cooperative and interactive skills.

Upon completion of the officer and committee reports, which included Daryl Berry's Treasury report, the Membership Committee

report and the Secretary report, we discussed various outstanding issues and matters. All in all, it was a very productive meeting from which emerged ideas—such as, leadership training and education projects, a CLP Handbook, and sister associations—that will continue to develop closer and more effective interactions between the Urantia Association International (UAI), UAUS and our Local Associations.

Among other prospective activities envisioned for the coming year, David voiced an interest in continuing the "Town Hall" meetings via telephone with Local Associations. The Town Hall meetings were initiated by past UAUS President Benet Rutenberg and commended for establishing contacts between the UAUS GB and the Local Associations. In the past the meetings were spoken of as being rewarding, informative, interactions that alleviated feelings of isolation for individual readers and Associations. We look forward to David's continuance of this personal strengthening of our group's interrelations and hope that each of you will take the opportunity to join your Local Town Hall meeting when it is scheduled. Make your presence felt and contribute ideas to improve our group. Together, we enhance our study of *The Urantia Book* and better reflect its teaching, as our service—the way we live our lives becomes the best tool to disseminate *The Urantia Book* to the wider community.

The CLP meeting established that there are numerous openings in Local Associations for officers that want to be involved, especially secretaries.¹ The Education Committee Chair position, which coordinates with the UAUS Secretary, was also discussed, as it remains unfilled. Hopefully, a creative person will come forward, so that he or she will plan other events and present projects that are as refreshing as the CLP meeting at GLMUA.

Our meeting was very successful in that it kicked off our new presidency with a *bang!* As a group, you could see we were all very pleased with our President and the tone he set for the meeting: relaxed, progressive, enjoyed. Thank you, David.

It was an ideal weekend for *Urantia Book* study and GLMUA did not disappoint us. The topic, *The Personal, Private, and Living Revelation of Jesus to the Individual*, included presentations that were stimulating and that produced lively interactions and interruptions, all welcomed and entertained. It was great! We shared deep personal experiences and asked sincere questions, for example, "How do you approach people?" One reply, reflecting how Jesus approached people, advised us to "Ask sincere questions of simple inquiry, 'how are you, how is your', or 'do you know...'" The group intimacy was poignant, open in its frankness and heartwarming. The food was excellent and plentiful, including all the snacks you could ever imagine just sitting there for your consumption, anytime day or night *munch!* One could say, all the comforts of home, for that was the feeling at the Conference and at the hotel in general. The service, like the Conference, was special. Thank you GLMUA for

all the special service members put in to create a smashing success;² you sure did it well!

The last day, Sunday, was also a study day, but strange airline reservations permitted me to attend only a small part of the Sunday event. I gathered my things from the table near the door where I sat and quietly tipped to the exit. I turned for one last look before going out the door and waved goodbye to my friends. My heart nearly burst with emotion as everyone in the large meeting room smiled and waved back!

Hugs, Patti Snyder, UAUS Secretary.

¹ And, please remember how important is the role of the secretary; Christ Michael was a secretary on one of his bestowals. It is the secretary's responsibility to know the way.

² There was one minor glitch, about which glitch lovers can speculate or ask Rick Lyon, hint: schedule. ☐

US Pacific Northwest URANTIA Weekend

August 20, 21, 22 — 2010

"Camp Brotherhood" near Arlington WA

ELLEN GAYNOR

Washington State Urantia Association US

ellen.gaynor@gmail.com

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO attend this regional gathering. \$150/bunk or \$200/cabin includes fee & meals, (Urantia Weekend Reservations accepted with \$100 down).

Cameras expected / WiFi Internet available

Please share this news with good URANTIA students who may be in our vicinity for this event, with thanks!

EllenRG ☐

International Study Day

May 22–23 — 2010

Paper 5: Gods relation to the Individual

MERINDI BELARSKI

Australia and New Zealand Urantia Association

belarski@bigpond.com

ACROSS THE WORLD LET'S GET together and read the same paper.

We would like to invite you to study with us wherever you are in the world. If you would like to be a part of this international Study Day simply get your local study group together for one day during this weekend, and study Paper 5 together. Or alternatively, study the paper on your own over this weekend.

If your local group plans to meet this weekend, please let Rita Schaad marital@optusnet.com.au know. In loving friendship

Merindi Belarski ☐