



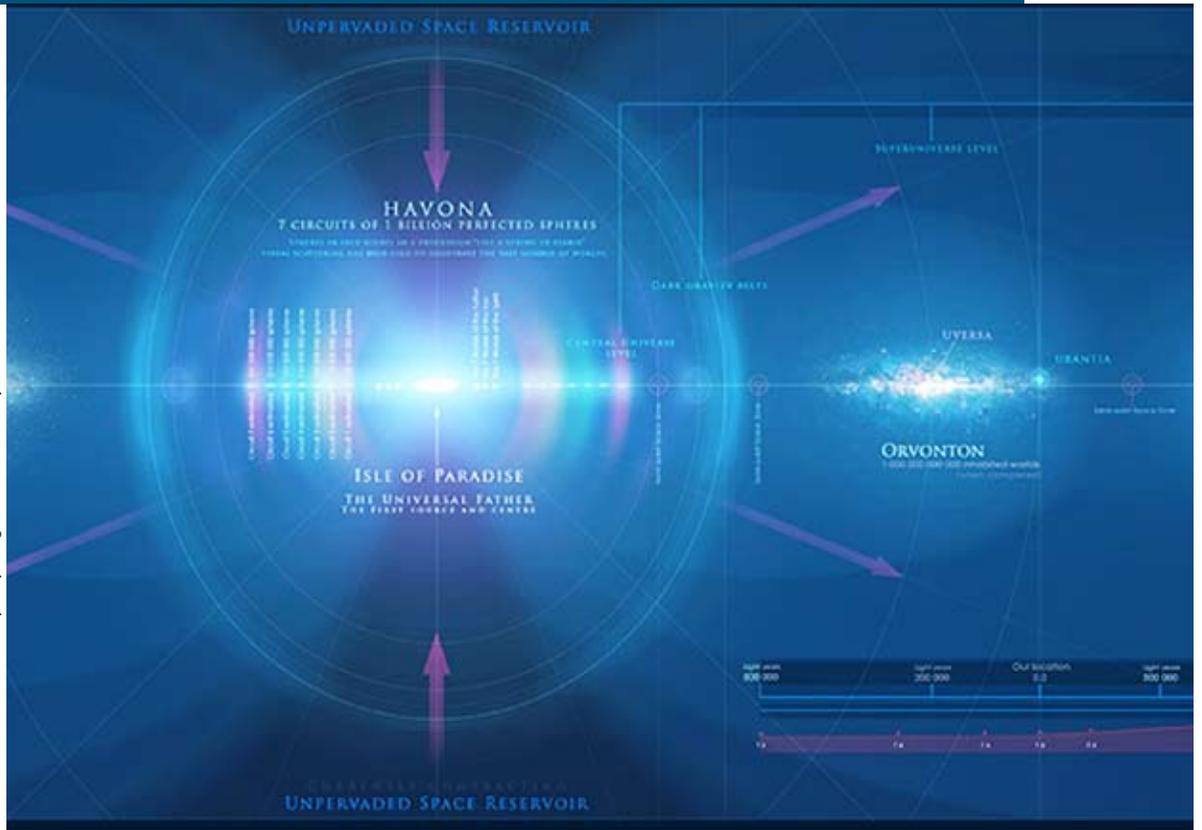
Tidings

from Associations around Urantia

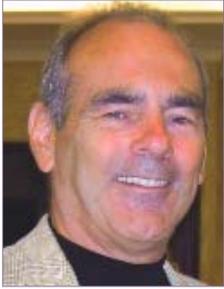
URANTIA ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL ■ [HTTP://URANTIA-UAI.ORG](http://urantia-uai.org)

Nº 45 ■ MAY—JUN 2010

Havona — detail of artwork by Gary Tonge commissioned by the Urantia Foundation in 2002



<i>Gaétan G. Charland</i>	2	President's Message
<i>Verner Verass</i>	3	About the cover
<i>Susan Grzeskowiak</i>	4	How I share <i>The Urantia Book</i>
<i>Rick Lyon</i>	5	Visiting readers in Peru
<i>Julian McGarry</i>	5	ANZURA annual conference—Tasmania
<i>Rick Lyon</i>	6	UAI Service Report
<i>Yuri Boyar</i>	6	Thanks from Ukraine
<i>Phil Taylor</i>	7	UAI Leadership 2011—Update
<i>James Woodward</i>	8	Affirmation of Interdependence
<i>Merindi Belarski</i>	8	International Study Day Report



President's message

Dear Friends of UAI and readers of Tidings,

IN THE LAST EDITION OF *TIDINGS* I told you I was going on a trip to visit some readers down in South America. Well, I am back home now. I did make that 40 days journey down South and I did meet a lot of readers. During that trip, I visited more countries than I had planned to do, I made a detour to Uruguay and I wish I had had more time to visit some readers in Bolivia. If you remember, the reason for my trip was to inform readers and members alike of the Leadership Symposium that will take place next year in Chicago. During my visit with those readers, I also took the opportunity to make a presentation on the importance of study groups and talk about our mission. I had brought along with me a copy of the Publication Mandate, which I had someone read at the beginning of my second presentation. The big surprise in all of this was that the majority of readers did not have a clear idea of our mission and practically no knowledge of the Publication Mandate.

During the presentation on the Leadership Symposium, I noticed a strong interest and enthusiasm when I was explaining about the first day of the Symposium, which has to do with the history, origin and destiny of *The Urantia Book* movement. From the reactions and the questions that were asked concerning that first day, it was evident that there is a lot of enthusiasm for the Leadership Symposium but I also noticed a lot of misconceptions about the mission to disseminate the teachings of *The Urantia Book*. What I have observed in all those countries that I visited is very encouraging and I can say that the Urantia movement in South America is generally doing well and in better shape than we ever thought it was. In fact, it is striving and growing even if it doesn't know all the principles of managing an organization.

Another thing that I have observed is that most of the leadership in South America



has a strong spiritual orientation supported by a rich family life experience. This in itself is providing the *Urantia* movement in South America with a momentum that is rarely seen elsewhere in the world. While the different countries I visited are not all the same, they share many similarities. Some have many different cultures, many different ethnic groups, but the majority shared a Christian upbringing and were mostly raised as Catholics. We can also see that the books written by J. J. Benitez were instrumental in getting *The Urantia Book* known by many, but this is not the only influence that can explain the interest in *The Urantia Book* in these Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries.

One of the most significant things that could be said about those many associations is that they are progressing and willing to learn how to do better. The interest they showed about the Leadership Symposium and their desire to participate is a clear sign that this event is truly a needed activity to promote our mission and focus our leaders on the right vision. There is also a great need for organizational tools and know-how's and no doubt the improvement to our database and the creation of an Intranet should help fill some of those needs, but for the purpose of sharing successful organizational knowledge, we will need the help of leaders in successful associations.

One thing that I can understand better now, is the need for every member of the International Service Board to travel in different countries to meet the readers and members of the different associations on a regular basis. The conferences that are regularly organized by many of our associations are a good place to meet the leaders and share with them the vision so necessary to pursue our mission. Everywhere we went, people were very happy about our visit and all said, either when we left or after, that our stay

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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Tidings archives:

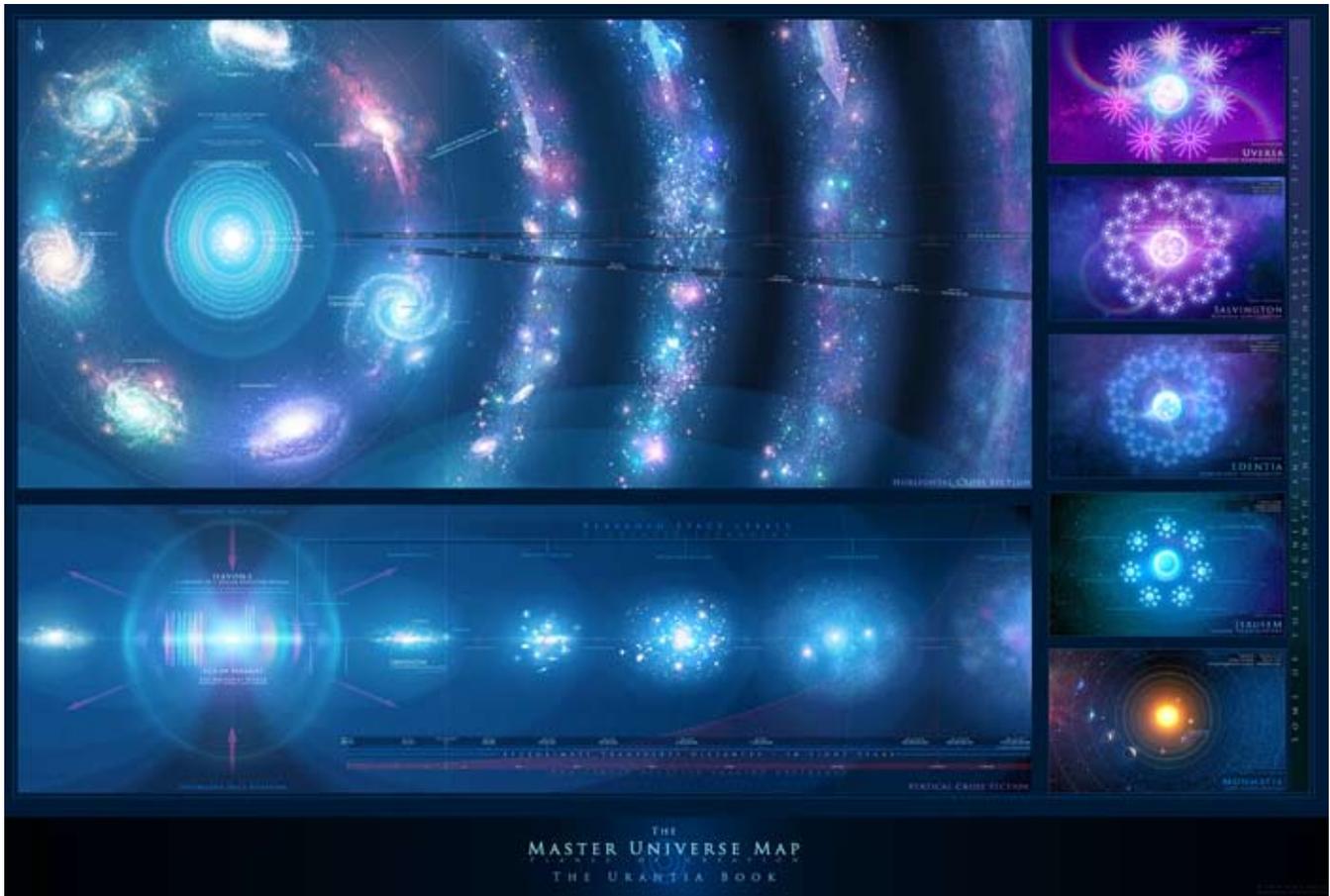
<http://urantia-uai.org/tidings/>

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.



among them had given them new enthusiasm for our mission. The fact also that most of the time we could stay in the home of our host in the towns or countries we visited, made quite a significant impact on them and on us, we truly enjoyed every minutes of those precious moments of companionship and new friendship.

From country to country, we went from surprise to surprise, nothing could have prepared us for such a rich experience with so many readers from so many different cultures. The biggest surprise for us was Peru where before we got there, we did not know much about the readers in that beautiful country. Our administrator, Rick Lyon, was accompanying us during that last part of our trip and like us, he was happily surprised by what we found — a thriving community of readers doing all kinds of important projects to disseminate the teachings of *The Urantia Book*, but as most other countries I visited, they were not fully aware of our mission >>



The Master Universe Map — a composite digital artwork by Gary Tonge.

President’s Message *continued from page 2*

and the Leadership Symposium brought much interest in that regard.

From what I have witnessed in that extensive trip, is that our mission is not well understood by the majority of our members and if this is happening in South America, it probably is happening elsewhere in the world in many of our affiliated associations. This fact in itself justifies the need for the Leadership Symposium and also the need to have a similar Leadership Symposium in Spanish for our members in South America in the coming years. I have seen strong and able leaders in all those countries. They need to come together to share their hopes, their achievements and learn together about our mission and its importance to the spiritual welfare of our planet.

I pray and hope that all of you who are leaders in some way and involved with this Revelation you will come to Chicago next year.

In spirit of brotherhood

Gaétan G. Charland
President UAI

Gaétan.charland3721@videotron.ca □

About the cover

VERNER VERASS

ANZURA—Australia and New Zealand
Urantia Association

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GARY TONGE IS A BRITISH ARTIST and futuristic concept illustrator who specializes in the space art, science fiction and fantasy.

Gary says: “For as long as I can remember I have been obsessed with space and my own recurring thoughts on what is out there. And the older I become the more vivid my thoughts are. Just looking at a Hubble Space Telescope picture is a mind opening experience. These pictures show so much, yet we are so far away. I want to try and purvey what is, or could be out there from another perspective, not the isolated position we hold in the universe. There could be any manner of sights in the far reaches of space and I long to bring my interpretation of them to life for others to share.

I worked on a portrayal of the master Universe for the Urantia Foundation back in 2002, the image is a much more detailed overview that combines all the info shown in

those four images into a map of the *Master Universe*.

Effectively this map illustrates how *The Urantia Book* describes the organisation of the entire creation in top and side profile, with some other information about worlds and celestial regions.

This piece took quite a long time to complete, not to mention the extended period of time where I intended to work on it—about 200 hours of organising, painting and research—using about 4GB of memory. I was a little unsure of the correct distances and geographical positions of things. I relied heavily on online resources to get these numbers and details right, so thank you to everybody who contributes to these!

The image itself is enormous:

Final dimensions 21000 pixels wide

All text is vector so it can be translated or amended

It is intended to be printed potentially very large to visualise some of the more complex concepts in the book.” □

How I share

THE URANTIA BOOK



SUSAN GRZESKOWIAK
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ALL UB READERS WOULD PROBABLY say that sharing our beloved book with others is number one on our list of important things to do. If not number one, it would certainly rank as a very high priority. Accordingly, when we experience a failed attempt, or some small degree of success, as soldiers of the circles, we generally share these “war stories” with a trusted friend or kindred spirit in the revelation.

Recently, I was relating such a story to my friend Rick Lyon, and after our discussion, we both decided to share some of our thoughts by writing something for *Tidings*. We felt that it might benefit new readers who are coming in to serve the revelation, if not, hopefully for the edification and renewal of the older readers.

I should start by saying that when I began to believe in *The Urantia Book* back in 1978, I made a promise to myself that I would try to never miss an opportunity to share the truth with others. I have tried to keep that promise, but as I matured in the revelation, I also realized that sharing depends on many things. We all are familiar with Jesus’ advice to gauge the interest and receptivity of the listener. That can be a tricky assignment in and of itself. Many times our opportunities come along when people “pass by”, when our knowledge of their personality, experiences, or true interests is minimal, and their knowledge of us is equally limited.

I began to settle on a method of sharing that depends on the circumstances, but my goal has been to:

- 1.) **Create opportunities whenever possible.**
 - * in normal daily activities
 - * in planned events and activities
 - * through varied techniques and presentations
 - * always follow my heart and spirit leading
 - * continually seek new ways to appeal to others
- 2.) **Never miss an opportunity if it presents itself.**
 - * share wherever I may be
 - * share whenever it may happen
 - * share with steadfastness and loyalty
 - * use all of the resources at my disposal (gladly)

- * tailor the material I share by the unique situation
- 3.) **Be true to my own unique perspective.**
 - * understand and thoroughly know my message
 - * realize that the book may not always be mentioned
 - * share what I feel and believe
 - * share my vision for the revelation
 - * respect others’ dreams for the revelation
 - * trust in the team effort for good will
 - * reserve myself for the service that brings me joy
 - 4.) **Be candid, respectful, inclusive, and caring.**
 - * remember to learn, and listen as well as teach
 - * speak from the heart instead of the intellect
 - 5.) **Be careful to follow up as quickly as I can.**
 - * forgive myself for my own human failings
 - * remember to share and trust God to do His part
 - * remember to provide periods of activity and rest

This is my creed, but each person must develop his/her own creed to live by. I really believe that we will all be more successful if we share what we believe without diffusing our message or tempering it with the “group” consensus. Leaders must always have some trust in their own understanding. Most of us know when we are on the right path by the sense of inner peace and conviction of truth that we feel.

Some of you may know that I have entered upon a retraining program, after the business that I worked for consolidated to a facility in Oklahoma. I felt that this opened up a whole new world of possibility for me, especially since I had about exhausted all of my ideas for sharing with my old work associates. (although I still have a few tricks up my sleeve for them – I never give up!) Now I have a group of college associates who are a captive audience for my sharing of the revelation.

I have embarked upon a two year program for web design and development. As I learn and go along in my studies, I am discovering many ways to share the ideas of truth. For example, I realized some really fascinating correlations from our book to the lessons in an Art History class. The project papers that I wrote included quotes from *The Urantia Book* to substantiate my arguments. My final paper received a perfect mark, but more importantly, the instructor commented that he was surprised what an interesting subject I had chosen, and that he was going to check the book out online. This brilliant young instructor lectures by including a wide range of cultural influences on art. I have no way of knowing how my ideas may settle in his mind, but that is where I let God do His job. I have just planted the seed.

I also took an interactive media class last fall that was just exhilarating! I am thrilled because once I master this media, you will be

seeing more visuals on GLMUA website. I tried to carefully use each project to open a new area of potential interest for my classmates. Remembering that all projects are proposed, developed, and juried in front of the entire class, the program director, and other instructors.

I thought it was about time that Andon and Fonta were introduced to the folks at Ivy Tech State College. Picture eighteen people sitting at a table, asking me questions about the story, and trying to help me structure and stage the storytelling and illustrations for maximum effect. I proposed using Eskimos for the first basic human type... you should have heard that discussion. Everyone sat forward in their chair with keen attention for the final presentation, and my joy for the project was enough, but the icing on the cake was when one fellow asked where I came up with the idea of Andon and Fonta in front of everybody.

I mentioned the book, shared the GLMUA website address, and told them that the entire book was available to read there. The project needs a lot of tweaking before I want to put in on our website, but I hope to make it available sometime this year. I have no way of knowing the effect of sharing the idea. I approached it and explained it as a study on intelligent design, and promoted it as the original theory published in 1955.

I took a web design class, and when I was assigned a project that allowed me the freedom to choose my own theme, I chose a space theme and was able to use quotes from the book there too. That gave me the opportunity to include another entire class who were introduced to some of the cosmology in the book. (in this case

I provided two or three direct hyperlinks to the online book)

I have another year to complete my training, and I am already thinking about the ways I can make a difference within my circle of influence. I may continue to take a class each semester to continue my education, but also to be able to meet the new people, who are eager to learn, in each of my classes. It has been exhilarating and creative. It has also reaffirmed a lesson I have known for a long time. I must witness in my own personal way. The sharing that I do that brings me joy has to always be more effective. No matter if I am involved with active public volunteerism within Greater Lake Michigan Urantia Association, or retiring for a necessary renewal phase, (I will soon need to take a break from the governing board), my personal ministry will always continue.

For those who read this, I encourage you to forget any fear you may have, give comfort and truth wherever you can, and trust that you are the best person to give your unique message, just be yourself. If you follow this simple rule, you will find joy.

God bless, peace and love. ☐



Visiting Readers in Peru



RICK LYON
UAI Executive Administrator
uaicentraloffice@urantia-uai.org

IN MAY OF THIS YEAR, I HAD THE opportunity to visit with readers in Peru, South America. Our UAI President, Gaétan Charland, and his wife Line visited readers and associations in several South American countries at his own personal expense. He has done the same in Africa and Europe previously. Gaétan gave a presentation at several places and to many readers in South America about the importance of study groups, our UAI Leadership 2011 symposium, and the Publication Mandate from the Revelators. I think it is important for us to stop and remember what the revelators instructed us to do. There are other important documents that you will find at www.michaelsplan.org in the Document Reference section that I think we should all be aware of.

In Lima, Peru, Ernesto Kohler and his wife Patty picked me up at the airport and took me to a magnificent coffee shop high above the coast overlooking Lima Bay. The view was breathtaking. We sat for over an hour talking about all things Urantia — UAI, the Foundation, and all the same issues that we see discussed on the UAI list and at our own meetings and events. Ernesto has retired and spends his time visiting readers around Peru. He provides an apartment with Urantia Books for people to come study at any time.

I met up with Gaétan and Line at the airport in Lima. They were on the last leg of their 40 day tour of South America so I expected to find two weary travelers anxious to get home. Instead, I met two energized and excited Urantians who were filled with the joy of spending time with brothers and sisters. I was able to sit with Gaétan on the plane from Lima to Arequipa and he told me of their visits and the people they had met and places they had seen. I was immediately aware that perhaps we underestimate the value of personal contact with readers far from Chicago.

Alfonso Luque and his wife Beatriz met us at the Arequipa airport holding signs saying “Gaétan Charland”. After a warm round of hugs, we drove to their home. We discussed the situation with this revelation and the readership in Peru. The readers there had not seen a representative from UAI (or IUA) or Urantia Foundation since 1993. The



ANZURA Annual conference in Tasmania

Hobart, Oct 1–4 2010



JULIAN MCGARRY
Australia and New Zealand
Urantia Association
ANZURA
jmccgarry7@gotalk.net.au

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO AN exciting and sacred event! This year’s ANZURA conference will explore the themes of Worship — *the highest privilege and the first duty of all created intelligences* [P.303:5], and Service — *the goal of time and the destination of space* [P.316:4], and how together they can lead us to ultimate self-realization. *The Urantia Book* has much to say about these dual major components of God’s will. They are inter-related and interdependent and they hold the key to our personal salvation and the future transformation of our world.

We will discover that worship supplies us with the energy and the motivating power that enables us to produce a service ministry to God and man *which is filled with mercy and motivated by love* [P.175:1]. We will explore how worship and service become progressively more critical aspects of the supernal adventure that lies before us.



Urantia flag presented to the Andes Urantia Association by Gaétan Charland, UAI President

association had formed but the readers were unsure of what they were supposed to do. They had never seen the Publication Mandate. Lines of communication had never been established.

You could feel a change taking place as the mission given to us came into focus. It was decided that the governing board of Andes Urantia Association should be reformed with volunteers who we would officially appoint to the board pending elections. This was in the

Worshiping and Serving our Father

Attaining the highest levels of self-realization

1–4
Oct 2010



The Australian and New Zealand Urantia Book Readers' Annual Conference
Hobart, TAS 1–4 October 2010

ANZURA CONFERENCE 2010

Regardless of our station in life, our temporal work, our innate potentials, or our state of health, we can offer to our Father the highest quality of worship and service. □

evening but within an hour or so there were ten readers sitting around the table discussing the way forward. Imagine trying to get six other readers to come to your home on a one hour notice. Does this not say something about the readers in Peru?

After the Publication Mandate was read to all the group, those willing to fill the governing board positions stepped forward. Plans were made for the following evening when these officers would be officially appointed, given Urantia pins, and a Urantia flag would be presented to the association.

Twenty four people attended our meeting and ceremony the next evening. After the new officers of AUA — Andes Urantia Association — were appointed, Gaétan gave presentations about the Publication Mandate and study groups. He followed this with a presentation about the 2011 Leadership symposium and the value of leadership. As people left the meeting, we made sure to shake the hand and thank each person for coming. We let them know that UAI is here to help them fulfill the Publication Mandate and the mission of UAI. We could see that >>



UAI SERVICE REPORT



RICK LYON
UAI Executive Administrator
uaicentraloffice@urantia-uai.org



YURI BOYAR
Ukraine
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Thanks from Ukraine



Librarian with Dimitry as she accepts the new book — March 2010.

Books to the Ukraine

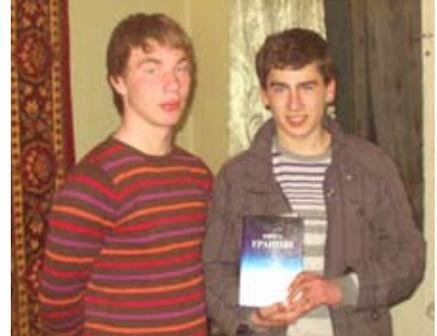
THE UAI DISSEMINATION COMMITTEE, chaired by Michael MacIsaac of Sweden, has been strengthening ties and seeking to serve the needs of readers in the Ukraine. As a result, Urantia Association International purchased ten Russian language books and had them sent to our Urantia family there in February. The books were shipped for us from Urantia Foundation. The Foundation staff makes it easy for us to do things like this and your contributions to UAI make it possible. The membership committee has also been working with the Ukrainian readers for some time in order to assist their ongoing preparations to charter an association. Below is the email, edited for clarity, which we received from Yuri Boyar after he received the books. Yuri's email address is: parasound55@gmail.com. I am sure that he would love to hear from you. □

DEAR FRIENDS!
I'm happy to inform you that both the parcels with Urantia Books sent from Chicago, arrived three days ago safely. There were 10 copies of the 3rd Russian Edition. This is wonderful! I would like to personally thank those people in Chicago who provided and sponsored this action. Thank you, my brothers for this invaluable help!

I know well, [Urantia Association International] has very limited funds to donate books in such scales. My task is only to tell you more details on how your books are being distributed here and their destiny after. And so, I should tell you our plans. Firstly, one copy was placed in our city's central library. I have attached two photos of this ceremony. In one photo is my assistant and 20-years-old reader, Dmitry.

For this poor library, judging on the reaction of personnel, it looked like a God's Gift. What relates to the future of this chosen copy, — I'm tracking personally what happens next with every donated book, believe me.

As an example I would like to tell you on my last visiting of our local Children's House, where *The Urantia Book* was donated 3 years ago. It was very impressive to know that many



Alexander and Pavel from the Ukraine in the home of Alexander Vladimirovich Sukhikh on March 26, 2010.

teachers and tutors are reading *The Urantia Book*, including their director. This Children's House for orphans is located very nearby, and if you visit my city, we should find a time to meet with them too. They would be very glad.

Moreover, I'm a proud to inform you of two new young readers from the House, 17-years-old boys who are going to become students this summer in Kiev's Politechnical Institute. Both of them know the Spanish language very well — they were living in Spain every summer in local families by Chernobyl's Programme. I'm a Godfather for a one of them, Alexander. You'll meet them here too.

Your friend Yuri. □

Peru Visit *continued from page 5*

this message was eagerly received and appreciated as was our visit with the readers there.

The governing board of AUA is made up of four women which is great to see. We do not know of this ever happening before but it is a grand development in UAI. *The Urantia Book* talks about the spiritual leadership and loyalty of women. I encourage all associations to contact the new board members of AUA and offer your support and wisdom as they begin this journey of dissemination and study group creation. You can contact their new President, Beatriz Valderrama, at: alfonsoluque@hotmail.com. I know they will be pleased to hear from you.

We left our hosts in Arequipa not with regrets for leaving but with new excitement for what is happening there and with love and appreciation for those who shine the light of revelation in Peru. Reforming the association

is important to the people in Peru and I think the tasks we have been given are in very good hands.

We had two days until we could meet with readers in Lima. We took some personal time to explore and learn about the history and culture there. We flew from Arequipa to Cusco to visit Machu Pichu. Cusco and Machu Pichu are the beginning and the center of the Incan empire. Understanding this origin and history of the Incans tells a lot about today's people of Peru. Many are descendants of the Incans mixed with Europeans.

Saturday we returned to Lima for a few days visiting readers there. We met Ernesto and Patti for dinner. They took us to a beautiful outdoor mall with many modern restaurants and shops. This mall had a walkway that overlooked the Pacific Ocean. From there you could see that

Lima is a city of 8 million people that stretches for miles along the coast. This is a clean modern city that just makes you feel welcome and comfortable. We sat for about two hours talking about the things that the readers of Lima are doing with this revelation. They have a Urantia board game they created called Momentum. Many readers and study groups play this game. They have role playing games that they use to teach their children about the book. For example, they act out the story of Adam and Eve with the children so they learn the true story of Eden. A lady named Yolanda sends out 5000 emails per day with a different quote from *The Urantia Book* each day. That is 5000 people reading quotes from *The Urantia Book* each day in South America. They created a 12 step program of how to change your life based on *The Urantia Book*. They use this to introduce people to the teachings >>



Rick Lyon, Alfonso Luque, Gaétan Charland, Patricia LLos, Raquel Perez Albela, Elena Copello, and Line St-Pierre

Peru Visit *continued from page 6*

before introducing them to the book itself and apparently it is very affective. After spending only a few minutes with the readers in Peru, we could see their dedication to the teachings and their commitment to serving others. I found the people of Peru to be very family oriented and spiritual. They take this revelation seriously.

We had two meetings with readers on Sunday and three on Monday. During our meetings we talked in great length about study groups and what UAI is about. Everyone got a UAI brochure and contact information. We gave training on how to use the database and talked about how important it is to our service to all readers. In response to their questions, we discussed our relationship with the Foundation. A young lady, who had attended our Urantia 2004 conference in Chicago, asked about the “split” between the Foundation and the Fellowship. The readers asked about how the book came to be and Gaétan explained that to them. He also talked about how they conduct study group in Quebec and we reviewed the Study Group Starter Kit. Patricia read the Study Group Kit during our time in the city with Ernesto. She found it to be a very good practical guide to study groups. We told our guests about the other resources and tools that UAI provides and the importance of their financial contributions to our spiritual mission — which they now understand. We brought our message to the readers of Peru but we spent a larger portion of our time listening to their accomplishments and concerns and stories of readers in South America. I am inspired by how alive this revelation is in Peru. These people do more than just talk about what should be done; they are doing it. We encouraged them to contribute articles about their accomplishments to Tidings so that everyone can see and be inspired by what they are doing. I hope we see that.

Sunday evening, we had time to ourselves after a very long but warm and exciting day. We ate dinner overlooking the Pacific, which in Lima nearly everything overlooks the Pacific. We ate at a restaurant in the most beautiful shopping mall I have ever been in. Since it rarely

UAI Leadership 2011

Chicago, July 13TH–17TH next year
 Techny Towers Conference Center

www.uaileadership.com



PHIL TAYLOR
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 International
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WHAT CAN WE TEACH ABOUT leadership? It is a good question. Truly what do we know about leadership? Who is a leader? What kind of leadership will help us build a foundation of study group communities upon which this revelation will grow?

We are a new organization, with a new revelation to share with the world. How much have we learned about leadership? In truth, we are not experts in leadership—we are students. We, who are planning this event, are doing so because we have recognized that leadership is imperative to the progress and growth of our mission: to foster study and share the truths and teachings of *The Urantia Book*.

We are passionate students with the desire to know more about leadership and we have created **Leadership 2011** with a great idea in mind — that the UAI can bring readers from around the globe, leaders and servants of the revelation, who will join with us in this exploration of leadership.

This symposium is a gathering of the minds to explore this subject but you, who are out in your Urantia communities, possess valuable insights and experiences which can illuminate our study of leadership.

- Can you write articles to tell us about your leaders and the growth of your local community?

rains in Lima, this is an outdoor mall with many shops that are familiar to all of us. As we ate and the adrenaline from the day wore off, we slowly realized this was our last night in Peru; Gaétan and Line’s last night of their 42 days adventure to encourage, support, and inspire the readers of South America. We can see from Gaétan’s blog on the UAI website, www.urantia-uai.org, the great work they have done and what their dedication and love for the readers of South America have accomplished. Let me also say how important Line is to this revelation. Her sincere love for each person is immediately recognized by all who come near her. I do not want us to overlook or underestimate her contribution to this revelation and the mission



- Would you be willing to be a group facilitator at Leadership 2011?
- Do you have leadership experience to share?
- Can you help coordinate participation in leadership 2011 in your local area?
- Can you help translate for Leadership 2011?
- Do you just want to help?

We need your voice and presence so please contact us at uaileadership@gmail.com

While we may not know all there is to know about leadership—we know one thing: We want to work for this revelation. We want to serve God and our fellows. It is in this service that we find our leadership abilities. You, who labor with us, have leadership abilities too. Come and let’s share what we have come to know and want to know about leadership.

This leadership is vital to the progress of our revelation.

Please be sure to visit our website at www.uaileadership.com □

of UAI just because she has no official title or works quietly as partner to our President. Gaétan and Line, thank you so very much for all the time, money, and energy that you spent serving the people of South America, this revelation, and our Father.

The Urantia revelation is alive and well and growing in all of South America. I sincerely hope that we can find the funding to help bring leaders from there, and all the world, to the UAI Leadership 2011 symposium in Chicago next year. I hope that we can send our ambassadors on more visits like this to teach and encourage readers around the world.

Rick Lyon
 UAI Executive Administrator □

Affirmation of Interdependence

Re-dedication to Mission



JAMES WOODWARD
UAI Study Group, Chair
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URANTIA ASSOCIATION International (UAI) and Urantia Foundation are separate organizations with unique purposes, and both have long enjoyed a relationship described as interdependent.

This relationship has been mutually beneficial to both organizations in achieving their respective purposes.

Urantia Foundation has clearly stated – and modeled – a progressive philosophy that the rivalries and political tactics occasioned by disagreements of the past are no longer useful in its mission.

UAI has the desire to maintain philosophical and fraternal harmony with Urantia Foundation as its service partner.

Therefore, UAI affirms its true mission: “To foster study of *The Urantia Book* and to disseminate its teachings.”

And therefore, in alignment with our Statement of Purpose (see UAI Charter), we reaffirm

the importance of creating and supporting study groups – our primary dissemination service. In doing so we remind ourselves that study groups are independent spiritual growth environments which are not subject to organizational affiliation.

And furthermore, we rededicate our hearts, minds, and resources to this defining statement of our Charter: “All activities of UAI and its constituent Associations shall be guided by the teachings of *The Urantia Book*.” This provision clearly prohibits any actions that are contrary to our noble purpose of fraternal service to all humankind.

Our rededication also reaffirms that we are individuals committed to the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. When we cooperate in service and teamwork activities we see positive developments in our communities, the fruits of readers devoted to common goals. In all this we recommit ourselves to universal spiritual ideals, knowing that service, love, and wisdom are fostered in the sacred space of Urantia Book study. We proceed, therefore, with renewed vigor to create and sustain a worldwide brotherhood of dynamic study groups, working with our interdependent service partner, Urantia Foundation, and all others who wish to share in this mission with a spirit of courageous devotion to the revelations of *The Urantia Book*. □

International Study Day Report

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ACROSS THE WORLD WE GOT together and read Paper 5, following is a sample of responses we’ve received.

Sydney, Australia

A rainy day, but who is disturbed by such natural events when a cosy place and dear friends are waiting...? Not everyone of our usual Study Group was able to attend but in their place two longtime readers were attracted for the first time by this opportunity to join other readers in study. We were very conscious that Urantia Book readers around the globe were meeting as well — a uniting thought! There were nine of us — actually ten — since little Rose was all eyes and ears when we shared our ideas about personality and spend some time discussing each chapter. Nearly everyone had a go at reading.

Halfway through we shared a pot-luck lunch and we even grabbed the moment when the sun made an appearance and walked to the headlands overlooking the Pacific ocean.

We parted from each other with the impression that we were so tenderly loved by our universe Father to have high beings like Divine Counselors explain to us great concepts as True Worship and God’s presence and consciousness in such detail. Our life becomes more thrilling and meaningful each time we grasp a little more of these truths and integrate them into our daily lives. Rita.

Canberra, Australia

Our Study Group met and finished the whole paper. Very good to hear the ringing words that our Father has already bridged the enormous gulf that separates us from him in his Paradise abode. To learn in ways we are intimately closer to him than those High personalities who at times, venture there to meet him. How encouraging to learn the absolute rock-solid bond between God and man once that man or woman decides to cooperate with the Adjuster’s plan.

We even managed to include many incidental side discussions on the way. Vern.

UAI Forum, USA

When ANZURA sent out a global invitation to join them in a two day study session on Paper 5



Sydney—Kathleen Swadling, Pre McGee, Draudi Odewahn, Merindi Belarski, Rose Belarski, Jim Neal, Rita Schaad, Trevor Swadling, Daniel Swadling and Bernie Belarski

the fourth weekend in May, UAI Forum definitely decided to accept! It was also decided that one of the six Sections of this amazing Paper would be posted to the Forum about every 8 hours and in sequence, beginning on Friday May 21. During the study presentation, several thoughtful responses came in from Forum members, and by Monday the 24th, over 300 views had been registered on the topic. It will remain in the Forum’s archives for review and continued study. This link will take you to it (Forum membership not required): <http://www.urantia-uai.org/forums/index.php?showtopic=827>

It was a great idea, and Paper 5 was great choice. Thanks for the invitation ANZURA!! Rick.

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Five of us that could come to this encounter enjoyed a very uplifting moment.

We read the whole of Paper 5 and had a very good chat on what we read. I can’t tell if we had some extraordinary experience because of this world synergy, but we were specially inspired to recount our own personal religious experiences that have made a difference in our lives forever. We felt motivated to relate the experience of our first personal encounter with God and with Jesus. It was a very touching moment, with few emotional tears as well...

We will certainly come together next year again to keep on celebrating this inspiring initiative. Carlos. □



Canberra—Graham Crookham, Nigel Nunn and Verner Verass



Buenos Aires—Nora Sarlo, Carlos Rubinsky, Jorge Wilczyk, María Inés Raimundo and Ildilda Mendive