



Tidings

from Associations around Urantia

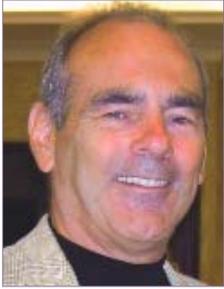
URANTIA ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL ■ [HTTP://URANTIA-UAI.ORG](http://urantia-uai.org)

№ 48 ■ NOV—DEC 2010



UAI ISB and Fellowship EC members gather on front steps of Urantia Foudation — Left to Right **front row**, James Woodward, Susan Owen, Gaetan Charland, Michelle Klimesh, Lila Dogim, Cristina Seaborn, Michael Challis, John Hales; **2nd row**, Merindi Belarski, Paula Thompson, Linda Buselli, Phil Taylor; **3rd row**, Travis Binion, Lenny Cowles, Marvin Gawryn, Vern Verass, Buck Weimer, Rick Lyon; **top row**, Mark Kurtz, Tom Choquette, Tim Hobs, Benet Rutenberg.

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President's message

Dear Friends of UAI and readers of Tidings,

IT SEEMS LIKE THE YEAR IS already at an end and we find out we did not have enough time to do everything we set ourselves to do for the present year. It is more and more a situation that the International Service Board (ISB) is facing as we move ahead with a deeper understanding of our mission and the work necessary to accomplish it. At the end of October ten members of the International Service Board and one member of the Judicial commission met face to face in Chicago for a period of five full days to assess and revise the ISB Strategic Plan and elaborate further on the organization of the Leadership Symposium which will take place next year in Chicago.

When we compared the results of the assessment of UAI's situation of three years ago with where we are now, UAI is positively moving ahead in the realization of its mission. The number of study groups supported by UAI has increased to more than two hundred and it is still growing. This in itself is very good news, but our goals to reach the first one thousand mark is still a long way ahead and a lot of work still needs to be done to accomplish this task. As for the summary of the many reports provided to us by the RC, it should soon be published on the RC list and in Tidings, for all to read.

We also met for one full day with the members of the Executive Committee of the Fellowship, and this experience will surely contribute to better cooperation in areas of duplication and pave the way for a greater unity of purpose between UAI and the Fellowship. The main goal of that meeting was to get to know each other, learn of our structures and decision process. No formal agreement was signed but we did agree to meet again in the future. What we did learn from that meeting is that the statement of purpose of the Fellowship and UAI are nearly identical, so we have more in common than we believed we had. You will find a full report of what has transpired during that meeting in the pages of this publication.



On the business side of the RC, the budget is still being discussed and should soon reach a vote. This matter of business is always strenuous for it concerns the monetary demands by which UAI can organize and provide the material means and tools to our members and worldwide associations to accomplish its spiritual mission. This year's budget is no exception to previous years; we are short on funds by roughly fifty percent, so many necessary projects will not be started and will have to wait for a greater expression of your generosity.

Regarding ISB business side, we did vote on a resolution that will be presented to the Representative Council pertaining to hiring a company to do some work on the UAI's website. This company is owned by a member of the ISB. Our By-Laws state that when we want to contract work to an outside company that belongs to a member of the International Service Board that we look for approval from the Representative Council to hire this company. In this case, it is more profitable to contract this company than any other company. Much work needs to be done on the the Internet — intranet project and the UAI database needs a major upgrade if we are to meet the growing demands for better communication with our members.

One major project we discussed while in Chicago was the organization of the Leadership Symposium. Things are going well and the website promoting this event should be online by the time you read this message. You should find information about the Symposium at this address: www.uailleadership.com You can also take advantage of this opportunity to fill in your registration and insure yourself a place at this unique and historical event. While some of you may think that the Leadership Symposium might not address itself to you, think again. There are more leadership skills in you than you might think. Do not let the word "leader" confuse you. Many people believe they have no leadership skills, while they do many things that would qualify them as leader.

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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COVER: *UAI service board meeting with office bearers of the Fellowship.* You may submit images for possible use on the cover to:

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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.



If you are the host of a study group, you have demonstrated some leadership skills, whether you admit it or not.

There are many types of leader, and while I do not claim to be an expert in the matter, I do know and recognize some basic qualities of leadership when I see them in people. Many readers of *The Urantia Book* have those qualities; they only need some nurturing for those to become a more dominant characteristic of their personality. This is why we believe strongly that the Leadership Symposium is for many of you. Anyone initiating a project, expressing initiatives, getting a few friends together even if it's only for a potluck or social gathering it is expressing leadership skills. Anyone serving as a board member in any type of organization is also expressing leadership qualities and anyone being led by the Spirit is by example leading others to the light.

The publication mandate says, "An early publication of the Book has been provided so that it may be in hand for the training of leaders and teachers." "The book is being

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UAI ISB and the Urantia Book Fellowship Meeting

October 23, 2010 — Chicago, Illinois USA at the Urantia Foundation



GAÉTAN CHARLAND
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MICHELLE KLIMESH
UBF President
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Michelle Klimesh and Gaétan Charland discuss the common goals of UAI and UBF.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE Board (ISB) of Urantia Association International (UAI) met with the Executive Committee (EC) of The Urantia Book Fellowship (UBF) at the Urantia Foundation in Chicago, Illinois USA on October 23, 2010 beginning at 9:00 am CDT US with UAI President Gaétan Charland and UBF President Michelle Klimesh as joint Chairs. Other ISB members present were: Merindi

given to those who are ready for it long before the day of its world-wide mission."

If this is not you, than who is it? You have certainly wondered many times why you found *The Urantia Book*. What is it you are supposed to do with it? Why it appealed to you and not your friends and family? If the world would be ready for *The Urantia Book* now, then mostly everyone would want to read it, but this is not the case. This is one reason it was put in your hands, because you have what it takes to fulfill its mission, you have those inherent leadership qualities in you that are necessary for the purpose of its mission. Will you harness your talents and become this shining light which will attract truth seekers? Join us next year at the leadership Symposium to uncover your potential.

As president of UAI, I will be traveling to Europe at the beginning of December to charter a new association in the Ukraine. I will use this opportunity to visit readers and members in Sweden, Finland, Estonia and Holland and should be back home in time for Christmas.

Have a wonderful Holiday Seasons and I'll see you next year in Chicago

In the spirit of brotherhood

Gaétan G. Charland

President UAI

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Belarski, Mark Kurtz, Susan Owen, Vern Verass, Phil Taylor, James Woodward and Travis Binion. Benet Rutenberg was present as UAI Judicial Council member. UAI Executive Administrator Rick Lyon was also in attendance. Other UBF EC members present were: John Hales, Michael Challis, Cristina Seaborn, Lila Dogim, Buck Weimer, Tim Hobs, Tom Choquette, Linda Buselli, Marvin Gawryn, Paula Thompson, and Lenny Cowles.

Gaétan Charland brought the meeting to order and made an opening statement. Gaétan reminded us we hold the future of this revelation in front of us. It is not about the organizations, but about preparing the readers who will follow us. Gaétan spoke on the importance of focusing on our respective organizational missions, and getting to know one another and building the personal relationships that will lead to understanding, appreciation and love.

Michelle Klimesh made an opening statement focused on being forward looking in our time together. Michelle asked us to consider that we can only grow our relationships forward from where we find ourselves today. She pledged that the Executive Committee will encourage the UAI in its work and pray for the success of their projects to further the revelation.

We then read Paper 140 Section 4, page 1572 together. Gaétan asked: "If we are not the light and the salt, then who?"

Each attendee introduced themselves and their respective organizational position along with personal information they wished to share. Many told the story of how they found the book and how they are serving the revelation.



Many fine conversations over dinner, Lenny Cowles and Phil Taylor chat in foreground.



At the meeting from left, Buck Weimer, Mark Kurtz, Cristina Seaborn, Phil Taylor and Merndi Belarski.

Rick Lyon narrated a PowerPoint presentation on the mission, structure and activities of UAI. Rick and Gaétan then fielded questions about UAI. John Hales, Vice President of UBF, and Michael Challis, Judicial Chair, presented a short history of their organization. The structure of UBF was explained and their purpose statement was read. There was a short question and answer session and we recessed for lunch prepared by Jennifer Siegel in the newly renovated second floor kitchen at Urantia Foundation.

A PowerPoint slide was presented showing the purpose statements of both organizations side by side. The similarity of purpose was noted and discussed by all attendees.

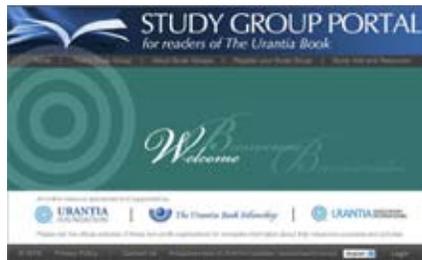
UAI Statement of Purpose

Mission: To foster study of *The Urantia Book* and to disseminate its teachings.

1.1 The Urantia Association International (UAI) is a nonprofit, service organization formed to disseminate the teachings of *The Urantia Book* in order to promote, improve, and expand comprehension and appreciation among the peoples of the world of cosmology, of the relationship of the planet on which we live to the universe, of the genesis and destiny of man and his relation to God, and of the true teachings of Jesus. In so doing, UAI shall endeavor to increase and enhance the comfort, happiness, and well-being of man, as an individual and as a member of society, through the fostering of a personal religion, a philosophy, and a cosmology commensurate with man's intellectual and cultural development.

The Urantia Book Fellowship Statement of Purpose

The purposes of The Fellowship are the study and dissemination of the teachings of *The Urantia Book*; the promotion, improvement, and expansion among the peoples of the world of the comprehension and understanding of Cosmology and the relation of the planet on which we live to the Universe, of the genesis and destiny of Man and his relation to God, of the life and teachings of Jesus, and the inculcation and encouragement of the realization and appreciation of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man — in order to increase and enhance the comfort, happiness, and well-being of Man, as an individual and as a member of society, by fostering a religion, a philosophy, and a cosmology which are commensurate with Man's intellectual and cultural development, through the medium of fraternal association, ever obedient and subservient to the laws of this country and of all countries wherein The Fellowship may extend.



Study Group Portal homepage.



Gaétan showing location of UAI Associations.

We read Paper 144 Section 6, page,1625:7-8 and Paper 100 section 4, page 1098:3.

If you could only fathom the motives of your associates, how much better you would understand them. If you could only know your fellows, you would eventually fall in love with them. [Paper 100:4, page 1098:3]

James Woodward and Vern Verass presented the prototype of the Study Group Portal. The idea for this independent web portal as a central location for self-registering all study groups worldwide arose from IT and Study Groups Appreciative Inquiry meetings hosted by Urantia Foundation. James Woodward as UAI Study Group Chair and UAI IT volunteers, including Scott Brooks, will continue to develop the prototype and when

it's complete, the Study Group Portal will be presented to all three organizations for review, input and approval. Questions were answered by James and Vern.

The UBF presented their new Dissemination Initiative — Grassroots Urantia Outreach, "Fellowship in the Field" and the corresponding website: www.fellowship-inthefield.com This initiative was the result of several visioning sessions over the past 2 ½ years. The Letter of Introduction on the website was read and states in part:

"The Urantia Book Fellowship has a vision for dissemination — to become the organization that will serve these mighty servants who will uplift the children of God and this planet by sharing the fact, truth, and teachings of this great revelation. The first step of our vision for dissemination is requesting proposals from all Urantia Book readers for a dissemination project that we can support as an organization."

Initial project proposals are due by December 1st with final proposals due by January 16, 2011.

James Woodward presented another independent project called The Urantia Book Study Group Development Project. It is a five-year strategic plan to foster, develop, expand, and nurture study groups through the collaborative efforts of individuals within Urantia Foundation, UAI and UBF. A project charter and purpose statement has been completed. This project will be presented to all three organizations for consideration in the near future.

The UBF presented their Pipeline of Light project which was started in 2002. Pipeline volunteers respond to reader needs for *The Urantia Book* and its available translations throughout the world, especially >>



In the spirit of fellowship in the Forum Room at the Urantia Foundation



Conversations around the table, Mark Kurtz and Linda Buselli in foreground.



URANTIA ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL



Why I Want to Attend the 2011 Urantia Leadership Symposium



CHERYL GLICKER
Urantia Association
International
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in countries where the book is unavailable or the cost is prohibitive. To date, Pipeline volunteers have secured donors for more than 2800 books in sixty-seven countries. Approximately 88% of all books placed are the Urantia Foundation Spanish translation, *El Libro de Urantia*.

Phil Taylor introduced the UAI Leadership 2011 symposium which will be held July 14–17, 2011 at Techny Towers in Chicago, Illinois USA. The purpose of this symposium is to bring together leaders from around the world so we can come to a common understanding of the origin, history and destiny of the revelation, a shared vision of what is possible, an understanding of what makes an effective leader, and how leaders can work effectively within an organization. The symposium program will be structured around group dynamics in order to foster personal relationships, sharing of knowledge and experience, and collaborative problem solving. The leaders of UBF were invited to the symposium. More information is on the leadership website at: www.uaileadership.com

Tom Choquette spoke about his independent Truth Seekers Initiative started in 2002 for young readers of the book aged 14-19. This is an event oriented initiative centered on healthy and adventurous outdoor activities during the days, sharing and preparing meals together, and bonding and learning the art of social discourse in the evenings. The goal is to facilitate close, lifelong friendships in an extended network of like minded young people dedicated to living lives of honesty and integrity. More information can be found at: www.mytruthseekers.org

All agreed we should meet again in the future, but no date was set.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM CDT USA.

From 5:30 pm to after 10:00 pm, the members of the ISB and the UBF EC enjoyed social fellowship with local readers and a sumptuous dinner prepared by Jennifer Siegel.

Respectfully Presented by Gaétan Charland and Michelle Klimesh

LEADERSHIP: THE POSITION OR OFFICE of a leader; a capacity or ability to lead. I submit that this is an extremely limited definition. The Master taught that “Whoever would be great among you, let him first become your servant....” Therefore, the definition of true leadership lies in the definition and the all encompassing meaning of service.

So, in order to lead, one must serve. In the Urantia community, we currently have many superb examples of servant/leaders, and their names are well known to you: Mo Siegel, Gaetan Charland, Line St. Pierre, Georges Michelson-Dupont, Dorothy Elder, Seppo Kanerva, Jay Peregrine, Gary Rawlings, to name just a few. Since I came to the Revelation in the mid ‘90’s, it has been my privilege to meet some of these people and to be inspired by their commitment to service. I especially remember the first time I attended a conference. It was in Nashville, and it was there that I met Gaetan and Line. It was Line who encouraged me to host a study group and started me on my own road of service. The odd thing about service is that the more you do, the more you see that needs

to be done and the more you want to do. The natural outgrowth of that service tends to be leadership, and it happens almost without you even knowing it. Ask most leaders, and they will tell you that they never intended to become leaders, it just sort of happened along the way.

Well, I make no bones about it. I want to be a leader. I want to serve the Revelation in that capacity. But, I know the only road to that goal is the road of service. So, when I read about the 2011 Leadership Symposium, first I said to myself: “I want to go to that!” And then I said, “I’d better see what I can do to help.” This article is the first step in “helping.” Its purpose is to encourage other readers/servants of the Revelation to do the same. So I hope you will join me next year (or even before) and learn to be a leader by serving your fellows and supporting those who are organizing the 2011 Urantia Leadership Symposium. Together we can see to it that the leaders of tomorrow are fostered today. I can’t wait to meet and serve with you all!

UAI Leadership, July 13 – 17th 2011, find out more at www.uaileadership.com

UAI LEADERSHIP 2011

Techny Towers Conference & Retreat Center
3001 Washington Road
Techny, Illinois 60062
13-17 July 2011
P: +1-773-672-1180
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E: webmaster@uai.org
or conferencetoffice@urantia-uai.org
W: www.urantia-uai.org

Please be aware this program begins on the evening of Wednesday, July 13th at 7PM and ends on Sunday, July 17th at 12 Noon. Make your travel arrangements accordingly.

ABOUT LEADERSHIP COMMUNITY RESOURCES SHOP CONTACT

Venue page information on the UAI Leadership website.

Service Trails

Part 3



SUSAN OWEN
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Association International
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University student reads to children in the Dominican Republic

“Sit down with me while I tell you of the service trails and happiness highways which lead from the sorrows of self to the joys of loving activities in the brotherhood of men and in the service of the God of heaven.” [*The Urantia Book* Paper 130:6, page 1437:2]

IF YOU RECALL, PART 1 AND 2 OF “SERVICE Trails” have done some exploring of what I call the ‘friendship’ service trail, the ‘ready and willing’ trail and how to prepare for better service assignments. As I have explored these trails and continued my study of service in *The Urantia Book*, I slowly began to notice some personal changes — an increased ability to love without judging, a new awareness of God’s presence in my life, and an undeniable urge to serve. I may have started out with some selfish motives to serve, but God has sure used them to fire me up to be a better servant.

So let’s continue on this journey and explore the ‘volunteer’ service trail. In the fall of 2009, my husband Ed and I were drawn to the following quote:

Mistake not! There is in the teachings of Jesus an eternal nature which will not permit them forever to remain unfruitful in the hearts of thinking men. The kingdom as Jesus conceived it has to a large extent failed on earth; for the time being, an outward church has taken its place; but you should comprehend that this church is only the larval stage of the thwarted spiritual kingdom, which will carry it through this material age and over into a more spiritual dispensation where the Master’s teachings may enjoy a fuller opportunity for development. Thus does the so-called Christian church become the cocoon in which the kingdom of Jesus’ concept now slumbers. The kingdom of the divine brotherhood is still alive and

will eventually and certainly come forth from this long submergence, just as surely as the butterfly eventually emerges as the beautiful unfolding of its less attractive creature of metamorphic development

[*The Urantia Book* Paper 170:5, page 1866:4]

About the same time Eva Myers, our study group member, told us about Phyllis Tickle and her new book, “The Great Emergence.” Thus began an exploration of the changes taking place in mainstream churches and our subsequent involvement with the Episcopal Church. The Episcopal Church is a very liberal group, both theologically and socially. Our particular Palm Desert, California church was in a state of change with an interim rector serving until a permanent rector could be found. The congregation was open minded, interested in learning more about the Bible, and curious about the theology taught in seminary. So there were plenty of opportunities through Bible study groups and adult formation classes to share the teachings of *The Urantia Book*, and they were educational and rewarding for us. The church also offered lots of volunteer opportunities. We discovered there was a desperate need for help in the church food pantry and thrift store so that’s where we both volunteered.

This ‘volunteer’ trail turned out to be a challenging experience because we soon discovered neither of these programs had a clear mission or purpose, organizational procedures, or effective leadership. The great lesson here was how important a clear mission or purpose statement is to an effective organization. It is the sign post clearly marking ‘this is the way’. Without it a project or organization is adrift without a rudder and can easily get off course. The good thing about being a volunteer is you don’t have to worry about getting fired if you make suggestions to the boss, or even the new boss. So we both had some wonderful

opportunities to share ideas from *The Urantia Book*. We also joined our voices with other voices to encourage change. The thrift store is now closed, the new rector has a clear set of principles to guide the whole organization, and the food pantry continues to be a work in progress.

This ‘volunteer’ trail got me to thinking about my life and if I had a clear mission that would keep me on track. I discovered I do and I don’t. I felt focused on pursuing my eternal career - aspiring to find God and to become like him, with all the spiritual growth that mission entails. But I often found myself sidetracked. I didn’t consistently spend time with God, getting to know how He thinks and who He is. I sometimes lacked the courage to share the gospel message. I was having challenges similar to those I saw in the church. The more I thought about it the more obvious it became, I too needed to formulate and write down my mission statement. So that is what I did and I hope you will too. It is changing my life.

While I was working on my mission statement, I continued to think about all the challenges I was encountering on the ‘volunteer’ service trail. After lots of thinking, meditating and trying out ideas, I have finally come to truly believe the secret to success on the ‘volunteer’ trail is based on four things:

1. Making sure the organization’s mission is aligned with your mission so you are spending your time wisely.
2. Staying focused on your mission during each volunteer activity so you are not distracted by interpersonal issues or organizational problems.
3. Staying alert for “friendship” and “ready and willing” service trail opportunities. [*The Urantia Book* Paper 130:2, page 1430:2]
4. Remembering to dialogue instead of debate, to strive for collaboration. >>

It took me awhile to discover number 4 above since our American culture seems to thrive on debate. Once I realized how dialogue leads to collaboration and how it honors the dignity and importance of everyone in a discussion, I added it to the list. I have found the following "Dialogue versus Debate" chart very helpful both in service activities and in study group.

Dialogue versus Debate

Dialogue	Debate
The goal of dialogue is increased understanding of myself and others	The goal of debate is the successful argument of my position over that of my opponent
I listen with a view toward understanding	I listen with a view of countering what I hear.
I listen for strengths so as to affirm and learn.	I listen for weaknesses so as to discount and devalue.
I speak for myself from my own understanding and experience.	I speak based on assumptions made about others' positions and motivations.
I ask questions to increase understanding	I ask questions to trip up or confuse.
I allow others to complete their communications.	I interrupt or change the subject.
I concentrate on others' words and feelings.	I focus on my own next point.
I accept others' experiences as real and valid for them.	I critique others' experiences as distorted or invalid.
I allow the expression of real feelings (in myself and others) for understanding and catharsis.	I express my feelings to manipulate others; I deny their feelings as legitimate.
I honor silence.	I use silence to gain advantage.

Presented at a UUCB Right Relations presentation by John Rymers and Pat Washburn

I am sure there are many more lessons to be learned on the 'volunteer' trail and I intend to put myself in the path of each and every one of them. Part 4 of "Service Trails" will have more stories and insights so watch for it in the next issue of *Tidings*. □

The Silent Sermon



MO SIEGEL
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President
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A MEMBER OF A CERTAIN STUDY group, who previously had been attending study group regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the study group leader decided to visit him.

It was a chilly evening. The leader found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for his study group leader's visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace...and waited.

The leader made himself at home but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, the leader took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone, then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The leader glanced at his watch and realized it was time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow, once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the study group leader reached the door to leave, his host said with a tear running down his cheek, 'Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fire sermon. I will be back at study group next week.'

We live in a world today, which tries to say too much with too little. Consequently, few listen. Sometimes the best sermons are the ones left unspoken.

The Lord is my Shepherd — that's a Relationship!
I shall not want — that's Supply!

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures — that's Rest!

He leadeth me beside the still waters — that's Refreshment!

He restoreth my soul — that's Healing!

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness — that's Guidance!

For His name's sake — that's Purpose!

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the

shadow of death — that's Testing!

I will fear no evil — that's Protection!

For Thou art with me — that's Faithfulness!

Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me — that's Discipline!

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies — that's Hope!

Thou annointest my head with oil — that's Consecration!

My cup runneth over — that's Abundance!

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life — that's Blessing!

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord — that's Security!

Forever — that's Eternity!

Face it, God is crazy about you! □



VCR Mini-Conference



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THE VIRGINIA CAROLINA READERS Association, a local association of UAUS and UAI, held their annual mini-conference Saturday, October 9, 2010, at the home of David and Patricia Pearce in Raleigh, NC. The theme of this conference was *Progress of the Kingdom of Heaven on Urantia*. The annual business meeting was held from 9:30 AM until 10:00 AM. The conference began at 10:00AM and lasted until 4:00 PM.

During the business meeting it was decided to send 200 hundred dollars to the UAI for support of the 2011 Leadership Symposium to be held July 2011 and to pay the tuition of Sherry Layton for the leadership

conference as a representative of the Virginia Carolina Readers.

Highlights of the conference included:

Music with Flute: By Patricia Pearce
Sheep May Safely Graze by J. S. Bach
Meditation from Thais by Jules Massenet
Ave Maria by Franz Schubert
Under the umbrella of our theme: The *Progress of the Kingdom of Heaven on Urantia*,

presentations were made on the following subjects:

Faith: The Passport to the Kingdom of Heaven by Marion Perry

Social Indicators of Progress of the Kingdom of Heaven by Glenn Boyd

Some Obstacles to be Overcome in Making Progress in the Kingdom by Patricia Pearce

The Progress of the Kingdom of Heaven in the Individual by James Perry

Communion: Administered by Rev Voyette Perking Hunter Brown ☐



Front Row Center: Sherry Layton; 2nd Row: From Left to Right: Voyette Brown, David Pearce, James Perry; 3rd Row: From Left to Right: Patricia Pearce, Glenn Boyd, Marion Perry.

UAI Leadership 2011 July 13th–17th, Chicago, IL, USA



PHIL TAYLOR
UAI Conference Chair – USA
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WE ARE ENTRUSTED WITH THE privilege of serving an epochal revelation that has the potential to offer mankind a new spiritual perspective of God and His Universe. How do we fulfill this trust? How will this revelation be shared with present and future generations? What is our role as far-seeing religionists with the expanded cosmic consciousness and enhanced spiritual perception of *The Urantia Book* to uplift the minds and spirits of our brethren?



Leadership website homepage

Each local and national group of readers may have different answers to these questions. But one thing is certain, in every nation, city and village on Urantia, leaders are needed to come forth and serve this revelation in accordance with the purposes of fostering study and dissemination of the teachings.

What is needed most are spirit-led men and women who will function as servant

leaders to bring readers together in study, friendship, service and purpose to form thriving study group communities. These communities of readers also need strong local and national associations to support their activities through leadership, administration and coordination.

The revelation has been placed into many hands and it is through the coordinating influence of dedicated leadership that these many hands can begin to lift together. Through cooperation—teamwork and service—we will create a progressive foundation upon which the Urantia Revelation may grow.

If you are inspired to serve your fellows in the capacity of a leader or as an administrator, we ask you to join us on July 13th – 17, 2011 at UAI Leadership 2011 in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

For more information please go to www.uaileadership.com or email us at uaileadership@gmail.com ☐



Urantia Association

Argentina at Expo Natural Life

CARLOS RUBINSKY, LUIS MIGUEL MORALES AND NORA SARLO

Urantia Association Argentina
carlosrubinsky@gmail.com



From left to right: Claudio Canales, Julio Rodriguez, Luis Miguel Morales, María Ines Raimundo, Lila Rubinsky (Carlos' daughter), Nora Sarlo and Carlos Rubinsky.

IN BUENOS AIRES, ON SATURDAY, 25 September, a group of readers from the same study group and members of the Urantia Argentina Association participated in an event called Expo Vida Natural, which translates as Expo Natural Life. There were gathered many different sort of participants that might be termed as related to the New Age. This was the second time that we attended this same event although in a different venue. This time we rented a time space in the conference room where for 45 minutes *El libro de Urantia* was presented to the audience. The lecturer was Luis Miguel Morales and I shared with him the stage for “back up.” Everything came out very good and much applause was given to Luis Miguel at the end.

While setting up the booth at the beginning of the event, during a certain moment of distraction, the bag with the laptop and the projector was stolen by highly skilled professional thieves. So the PowerPoint presentation that we planned to show couldn't happen. Nevertheless Luis Miguel gave an excellent speech and the nearly 50 people in the room became much interested in the Revelation. Luis Miguel has indeed great skills and he is a very charismatic individual.

Now we are discussing with the organizers of the event to see if they will accept their part of responsibility for the presence of thieves in the venue and if they will reimburse part of the loss (so far they have declined responsibility...) The bad thing is that the projector was lent to Luis Miguel by a friend of him, and now he /we will have to pay back for the projector. The laptop belonged to the company where Luis Miguel works and he believes that he will not have much problem and they will provide a new one, although all his working information is lost.

So it was a mixed experience, a bad thing happened and also a good one...

Even though we felt that we were doing a service in the dissemination of the Revelation, and that the angels were helping and protecting us, the forces of evil have been more powerful and hurt us badly. Nevertheless, same as in the Lucifer Rebellion, the good that might come out from this bad experience might turn into 1000 times more than all the bad. We'll see.

Carlos Rubinsky

Comments of Luis Miguel Morales (Dipti Bhakti) about this event:

We had feel it already... The times that we have been serving in the dissemination of El libro de Urantia, we had the sensation of being beyond good and evil, like if nothing bad could ever happen to us, as the fact of being “in mission” for, and to the Father would spread above us a blanket of divine protection.

After a quick analysis and a market research, and after some debate as if it was a right venue to disseminate the UB, Carlos Rubinsky, Jorge Wilczyk, and me, decided to participate in Expovida Natural, a temporary fair which brings together diverse kind of subjects, from natural healing to metaphysics and astrology. We had observed, and arrived to the conclusion that most of the people participating in this kind of events are “searchers”, looking for answers beyond the known and normal parameters of present day civilization.

This is how on past September 25th, this year, we happily arrived to our appointment without any clue as how it was going to unfold the events of this fantastic experience of Service.

At 1:00 PM we arrived to the place. This was the second time that we participated in this Fair but this time we were well equipped, we brought all the technology we had at hand: a Plasma TV with a DVD to show an audiovisual presentation that I have done before to show

at the Buenos Aires Book Fair. In it you could see images combined with quotes about Love from *The Urantia Book* and music of my own creation. We also carried a Laptop computer from my office work and a projector that a friend had lent to me for this occasion, as we were going to give a presentation scheduled to 7:00PM

Once we had the booth ready and everything in place, two of us left to have a snack, remaining the other one in the stand. When we gathered together again, with a big surprise we realized that we have been robbed by a couple of thieves that were prowling around. Before the opening to the public and upon a distraction produced by a clever manoeuvre of the thieves, the Laptop and the projector that we were going to use in the presentation was gone.

Disconsolate and devastated by this hard kick even before the opening, we realized that the “blanket of divine protection” that prevented us against evil and human iniquity that we believed was impassable was actually just a feeling of illusion and desires.

The first moments were those that naturally correspond with the normal cycle of changes that every human being goes through in face of an unwanted change: Confusion, negation, depression, but very soon, even faster than we could think, the acceptance of facts arrived, and with it, adaptation and recovery to the situation. Without any doubt we could have never achieved such a state of mind without the fruits of revealed truth that spring from our dear Urantia Book.

At 2:30pm, already with the doors open, the Fair brought its public and with them our willingness and readiness to focus in our task in the service of dissemination. Although all the confusion of what had just happened remained in the air, our goal, and even our mood was never hindered, allowing us to fulfil our objective upright.

I remember that after knowing about the facts, a woman from a neighbouring booth look at me and said: "I want to read that book! ... I can't believe that after what happened to you, you keep going forward with so much energy and devotion"... "Well Yes!"—I answered—"this is what the book gives, and much more."

And so, as the day kept going by, I tried to rebuild in a piece of paper, as far as possible, the tips of the arguments of the presentation, those that I had well studied but were storage in the stolen equipment.

I was becoming quite uneasy as we became surprisingly aware that many of the people among the public knew about the book and even many said that they have come to the Fair specially to listen the advertised presentation on *El libro de Urantia*.

Before the beginning of the conference, I received the encouragement of my associates in this adventure, together with the support from other readers that had come to help in the service, and with their strength I devoted myself to the Celestial Father and prayed that His Will be done and that I could make *The Urantia Book* be known to all those that wanted to open their hearts.

With more than 50 people in the conference room, I jumped to the stage charged with an energy that lasted until the end of my performance. I begun my speech by telling the audience about the happenings of the day, and how thanks to the many teachings that *The Urantia Book* reveals, we have been able to keep on going forward despite adversity and inevitability.

Then I talked a little bit about my life, trying to link my personal experience with the transformations that *The Urantia Book* made upon myself, and so step-by-step I presented the purpose and scope of the Revelation.

They were 45 minutes full of vitality where I felt the Father's energy with me and great happiness to see how all the audience followed my account with emotion and expectation.

Nothing could have been more satisfying than to come out from that conference room and receive words of appreciation not only from my friends, but from many of the assistants who showed a sincere interest in knowing more about the book.

Today I'm not sure that we will be able to recover even some of the cost of the equipment that we lost to the evil actions of others, but my certainty reach to the point to blindly trust in the truth-fact that the strength and will with which we faced the circumstances of that day, will have a consequence far more influent, strong and positive than the evil that was made to us.

It was then when my mind happily recalled the beautiful story of Amadon and his 143 comrades as revealed in *El libro de Urantia*.

Peace and Love to all
Dipti Bhakti

Comments from Nora Sarlo:

I have discovered that extraordinary events produce stimulating growth. In a world full of inevitabilities there happens memorable things. The speech given by Luis Miguel Morales at EXPOVIDA 2010 was extraordinary for many reasons:

1. Even the unfortunate event of the stealing of the equipments which the speaker was going to use in his presentation, he overcame himself, captivating the audience by showing out his charm and sober histrionics, together with a deep knowledge of *El libro de Urantia*.
2. It is not always easy to explain to a large audience about something so deep as *The Urantia Book*: only the clarity of concepts that the speaker showed made it possible, awakening the interest of many of the listeners.

3. Unexpectedly I witnessed an auditorium not only respectful but interested in the Fifth Epochal Revelation. More than 50 people eagerly followed one of the most attended presentations in Argentina.

These events stimulate us to work removing apparent mental obstacles, they promote the desire to disseminate *The Urantia Book* and they build the feeling of belonging to a peer group, a brotherhood in the faith, but most of all they help to reveal our personal mission.

This event, together with this year's visit of the President of the UAI, and in spite of the economic difficulties we have in Argentina, they show that we can fulfil our mission without casting our pearls before swine.

On the contrary, seeds have been sown in fertile earth, some will germinate others not... never the less the work has been done... but I feel in my insides that this is JUST THE BEGINNING (you know what I'm talking about).

Nora Sarlo ☐



To love is to serve

Thematic, in St-Jerome, Quebec, Canada,
November 14th 2010

NORMAND LAPERLE

Urantia Association of Quebec

nlap@videotron.ca

Thanks to the support of the entire team of Urantia Association of Quebec (UAQ) this one day workshop was a success. It was facilitated by Guy Laporte, vice president of the association. The speakers were: Luciano Camellini: *Myself, God and the others*; Murielle Guerrero: *The love of God*; Isabelle Lefebvre: *The divine service*; Stephane Boucher: *My daily service*; Guy Breton: *Serving, the expression of love*. In the afternoon, we had a discussion period and an account of our thoughts in the late afternoon. A total of 32 people attended this meeting.

There's always a plus that adds up after these meetings. The contact with others is always rewarding. We had people from the Montreal area, Ottawa, Quebec city and elsewhere in the province of Quebec. We also had a surprise guest who came from Seattle USA. We are French speaking in the province of Quebec, so a group of bilingual people naturally formed around her to accompany

her in all our activities during the day. She came here on her own. She felt drawn to Montreal and she didn't hesitate to let herself driven by this internal momentum.

Man is not made to be alone. Personalities are naturally drawn to each other and join together in a circuit of communication. Thus, individuals form groups. Groups are intertwined and universal brotherhood is established. Welcome to this great brotherhood! Of course, all of this depends "if the 'I' wants." That's the beauty of the thing. Everything is voluntary. It's the 'I' who decides.

As it is me writing this text, the privilege returns to me in making a selection of ideas that emerged from this one day workshop. Here is my selection of key phrases that I retained during this thematic: *The essence of Jesus's message was: 'love and serve'; Serving is an expression of love; Tune up and Listen; Make yourself available; Ask God for guidance;* "When serving man, in fact I am serving God. >>



URANTIA ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL

UAI Service Opportunities



Many hands lighten the load

To Love is to Serve *continued from page 10*

When someone asks for help, God will put someone else in his way to help him. Maybe it's you that God will call to serve that person. At this point, who helps? Who answered the prayer? You or God? We must also agree to receive help, to thank God ...and his messenger, for the service received. **In giving I receive.** Do not overlook the simplicity of a gesture of support, it becomes almost invisible. It is dangerous to feel invested with a divine mission. It could easily slip to the mental level "there is no mission" put your trust in God. Listen not only to the other, but also to God within you.

We must not denigrate the person who is not in the stance of helping others. The person is simply in a period of introspection where he or she is accumulating strength from his or her experiences. It is expected that this person will emerge stronger than ever. It could take days, weeks, years, or even a lifetime. These are strength gathering periods. We must be able to love an adult the same way we love a child. We need to share and redistribute the love received from God.

To be someone we must do something. The soul cannot grow when stored away — only in action can it grow — serving is a way of growing. Serving is voluntary. To Serve is to do the will of the father — love and service, one cannot go without the other — To love is to serve. **To serve is to love.**

Normand Laperle

A reader among many others.

I love you. ☐

UAI LEADERSHIP 2011 SYMPOSIUM NEEDS YOUR HELP. UAI DEPENDS ON VOLUNTEERS from our membership to help us accomplish our goals. Below is a list of specific opportunities for you to serve. Each service opportunity is listed in a category to make it easy for you to choose according to your skills and interests. Each task has the approximate number of hours needed to complete the task and a due date. Due dates are flexible. Articles in any language are encouraged. Please email the task numbers you wish to volunteer for to: www.uaileadership@gmail.com

Website Content Managers

- W1. UAI Leadership website content manager for English language content; skills at researching, analyzing and organizing website content with keen sense of what is relevant, no IT experience needed, Jan – Feb, 3 hrs/mo. Ongoing task.
- W2. UAI Leadership website content manager for French language content; skills at researching, analyzing and organizing website content with keen sense of what is relevant, no IT experience needed, Jan – Feb, 3 hrs/mo. Ongoing task.
- W3. UAI Leadership website content manager for Spanish language content; skills at researching, analyzing and organizing website content with keen sense of what is relevant, no IT experience needed, Jan – Feb, 3 hrs/mo. Ongoing task.
- W4. UAI Leadership website content manager for Portuguese language content; skills at researching, analyzing and organizing website content with keen sense of what is relevant, no IT experience needed, Jan – Feb, 3 hrs/mo thereafter. Ongoing task.

Leadership Symposium Committee Chairs

- C1. **Communications/Promotions Chair:** Oversee execution of the Leadership Symposium communications plan and promotional activities, 4-5 hr/mo, Dec 2010 – Jun 2011.
- C2. **Day 1 Programming Co-Chair:** Work with Barb Newsom to fine tune the programming and complete the planning tasks for the symposium Day 3 program, the Origin, History & Destiny of a Revelation, including prepping speakers, 4-5 hrs/mo, Dec 2010 — Jun 2011.

- C3. **Day 3 Programming Chair:** Fine tune the programming and complete the planning tasks for the symposium Day 3 program, Leadership Models for Groups and Organizations, including prepping speakers 4-6 hrs/mo, Dec 2010 – Jun 2011.

Written Topical Studies and Articles For Publication on UAI Leadership Website

- A1. Leadership techniques and methods in *The Urantia Book*, due Feb 10, 2011.
- A2. Jesus' leadership techniques and methods per the UB, due Jan 10, 2011. Dec – Jun, develop facilitator preparation training and conduct approx. 4 hours of facilitator preparation online. Dec – Jun 2011.
- A3. The order, plan, and methods of progression for the 4th epochal revelation as they were enacted in the earth life of Michael and how they relate to the progression of the current revelation, due Feb 10, 2011.
- A4. Effective leadership and organizational techniques for non-profit, all volunteer organizations, due Jan 31, 2011.
- A5. Reader reviews of books on leadership, 1st due Dec 31, 2010. Multiple reviews/volunteers needed.
- A6. Studies and articles on the spiritual qualities of a leader and the spiritual challenges of diminishing group friction and facilitating cooperation, 1st article due Feb 1, 2011.
- A7. Article on administrative leadership within a UAI association including how to effectively delegate, due Apr 1, 2011.
- A8. Article on effective leadership and communication, due Feb 1, 2011.



Children at play, sculpture, Navy Pier Park, Chicago USA.

- A9. Article on leadership techniques for building groups and facilitating the group discovery and insights that build teams, due Apr 1, 2011.
- A10. Article on strategic planning for a UAI association, due Feb 1, 2011.
- A11. Article on importance of public speaking skills to leadership and resources to acquire, due Feb 1, 2011.
- A12. Article on Servant Leadership, leaders who serve in a spiritual capacity in their communities, jobs, churches to disseminate patterns, truths, concepts and ideas found in *The Urantia Book*, due Feb 1, 2011.
- A13. Article on personal spiritual growth as it relates to the dissemination of the teachings of *The Urantia Book* and the Life and Teachings of Jesus, due Feb 1, 2011.
- A14. Article on study group leadership, due Dec 31, 2011.
- A15. Articles on dissemination leadership--readers sharing the truths and teachings of *The Urantia Book*, through interfaith work, outreach projects, study group projects, etc., 15 hrs/article, 1st article due Dec. 31, 2010.
- A16. Blog writers on service, leadership themes for Leadership website. 3 hrs/mo, ongoing.

Facilitation

- F1. Twelve (12) experienced group facilitators are needed to facilitate during the Leadership symposium. You will be with the same group throughout the four days. 4 hours min. preparation will be done online before the symposium, July 13 – 17, 2011.
- F2. Experienced facilitation trainer to assist with training and orientation of group

dynamic facilitators. Will need to attend 1 online Leadership Committee meeting per month (90 minutes)

Translators

- T1. English to Spanish verbal translation from live video feed of speakers during each morning session Thursday through Sunday 9:00 am – noon, plus live translation of Wednesday evening opening session 7:00 – 9:00 pm. July 13-17, 2011
- T2. English to French verbal translation from live video feed of speakers during each morning session Thursday through Sunday 9:00 am – noon, plus live translation of Wednesday evening opening session 7:00 – 9:00 pm. July 13-17, 2011.
- T3. English to Portuguese verbal translation from live video feed of speakers during each morning session Thursday through Sunday 9:00 am – noon, plus live translation of Wednesday evening opening session 7:00 – 9:00 pm. July 13-17, 2011

Hosts for International Visitors

- H1. Reader households willing to open their homes for our international members to come visit before or after the Leadership Symposium. Provide dates you can house visitors, city, and state information.

Photographer

- P1. Photographer to take photos at symposium and to create a simple photo album to put online and another to send to attendees without internet access. July 13-17, 2011 and post symposium album production. ☐

TIDINGS EDITOR WANTED

A wonderful opportunity for service

If you enjoy the content of *Tidings* and would like to work with a small team gathering, editing and proofing articles from our local and International associations please contact UAI Communications Chair, Verner Verass at vern@designnd.com.au

CONTRIBUTE TO UAI

To support the work of UAI please send your contribution to:

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