



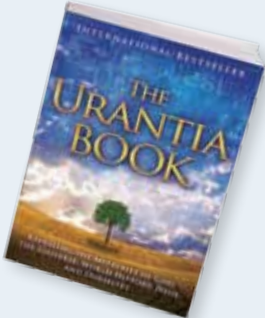
URANTIA ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONAL



Urantia Association International
Annual Report 2017



Contents



The Urantia Book — its study and dissemination is central to the Association's mission.

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Previous Annual Reports

Our Mission

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



Study Group California, USA



Liberian Readers, Africa



Chris Wood, President

President's Report

Bear in mind, all that God the Father and his Paradise Sons do for us, we in turn and in spirit have the opportunity to do for and in the emerging Supreme Being. The experience of love, joy, and service in the universe is mutual. [Paper 56:8.3, page 644 § 1]

Dear Friends,

That's the word I've been looking for: "Joy." As I think about the transformations and progress of 2017, I am filled with overwhelming joy. The promise of organizational unity is that by agreeing to unite our principles and our efforts toward achieving a common goal we will serve more people and achieve more goals. As more Urantia groups join us in organizational unity our reach and our capabilities expand exponentially.

The most noticeable change to the Association in 2017 has been the shift to continental work groups in Europe and Latin America. Latin American Coordinator Wilson León (Colombia) and his team of leaders achieved many milestones last year, including increasing the number of conferences and study groups, book fair participation, establishing a youth group, and webinar training sessions. The resulting unity of purpose stimulated several working groups to organize into Associations.

Antonio Schefer (Netherlands) served as European Coordinator in 2017 and traveled throughout Europe visiting Association meetings, conferences and study groups, helping to inspire the spirit of a united European community. Antonio organized a leadership conference in Barcelona in October where they drafted a strategic plan that includes a schedule

of Continental Conferences, multinational events, projects, and shared responsibility for the Urantia revelation in Europe.

With the European and Latin American communities becoming self-sufficient, the International Service Board (ISB) is turning its attention to collaboration with leaders, Associations and working groups in Africa and the Oceania countries.

The highlight of my year has been the extraordinary expansion of Urantia webinars in multiple languages with participation across the globe. Just five short years ago a traveling tour of study groups in other countries required weeks of time and substantial financial investment. Today the connection can be instant and relatively easy through technology and the internet. This technology has brought the world together in study and celebration. It has also increased our leadership pool, allowing volunteers from all over the world to experience international teamwork on one of our committees. It now feels like technology is finally working hand-in-hand with the Association to unite this global movement.

April 1, 2017 inaugurated another year of leadership transition for the ISB. Anton Miroshnichenko (Ukraine) turned the Membership Committee

over to Luis Garcia Bory (Switzerland, previously from the United Kingdom and Mexico). Sheila Keene-Lund (USA) handed the Education Committee over to Jeannie Vásquez (Uruguay). Chris Mosley (UK) turned the Translation Committee over to Gabriel Rymberg (Israel). The Association absorbs the character of each of its outgoing leaders and retains their best qualities, while also benefiting from the renewed energy, excitement and passions of new leadership styles. The current ISB has seven committee chairs from seven different countries on five different continents who collectively speak seven unique languages. This service team is truly a global working group.

It's easy to get excited about the work ahead in 2018 and beyond. Four continental conferences in the span of 16 months, a dozen international book fairs, a new three-year theme for study: "Living the Teachings," and new working groups uniting with us in our mission to spread the revelation. Let's take a few moments to appreciate where we have been, where we are headed, and be filled with Joy.

Chris Wood
President of Urantia Association
International



Ecuador Conference 2017



European Leaders Conference Sitges 2017



Peru Book Fair 2017



2017 Accomplishments

Intellectually, socially, and spiritually two moral creatures do not merely double their personal potentials of universe achievement by partnership technique; they more nearly quadruple their attainment and accomplishment possibilities. [Paper 43:8.11, page 494 § 10]

Another year, another long list of exciting activities and adventures to report! Every member of the International Service Board, members of the National and Local Associations, and teams of willing helpers have been devoting many hours of their free time to focus on the mission of Urantia Association International. Here are a few of the highlights for 2017:

Outreach & Book Dissemination

An impressive number of book fairs were held throughout Latin America in Bogotá, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Peru, Bolivia, Mexico, Managua, San José, and Miami. Over 1,500 books were disseminated. Association members also had a booth at book expos in Göteborg and Vasteras, Sweden. Books were shipped to Fiji where an enthusiastic team is distributing them. The Prisoner Inquiry Response Team (PIRT) answered hundreds of inquiries from inmates and provided over 100 books to hungry souls.

Education & Study Groups

More and more students who were previously unable to participate in face-to-face study groups for various reasons are now able to participate in online (virtual) study groups. Zoom, an internet conferencing service, has allowed for an increase in study groups, workshops and seminars/webinars. It has also enabled the establishment of a virtual study group for Latin American youth. The Latin American Continental Coordinator, Wilson Leon (Colombia) hosts ongoing virtual leadership, study group hosting, and book fair participation training.

Several lively discussion forums are being held on the Association's website and Facebook groups and a series of webinars

in English and Spanish titled: "Teaching and Leading According to *The Urantia Book*," were hosted by the Education Committee. A new series of Educational topical brochures called "Lessons From A Revelation" was launched with two brochures titled "Teaching the Religion of Jesus" and "True Worship." (Available at: <https://urantia-association.org/2018/lessons-from-a-revelation>)

Groups Joining Our Mission

Through the work of the Latin American Continental Coordinator and his team, work groups in Costa Rica, Peru and Ecuador decided to join with the Association in our mission. Groups in Bolivia and Chile have formed and are growing toward uniting with the Association. The association in Argentina has revitalized, and the Urantia Association of Mexico has determined to become a National Association in 2018. In Europe, groups are forming in Portugal, Italy and Lithuania, with Portugal hosting their first national conference in 2018.

Conferences

In addition to the annual conferences held by the National and Local Associations, European leaders and members of Urantia Youth Association International (UYAI) gathered for a Leadership Conference in October. The result was a renewed sense of common purpose and a strategic plan of joint projects and common goals. (See full report at: <https://urantia-association.org/2018/european-urantia-leaders-meet>)

Members of the Urantia Association in The Netherlands worked hard in 2017 planning for the 2018 Urantia Association International Conference

in Amsterdam. Plans were also made for the 2018 conference in Ghana that will bring many readers together from all over the African continent, and for the second Latin American Conference November 2018 in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Building Organizational Infrastructure Support

The Central Administration continues to find ways to provide organizational infrastructure support for our associations so they can focus their resources on the mission. Organizational infrastructure—currently provided at no cost to our associations—includes website services, database software, and Office 365 which provides online services such as email, One Drive, Teams, SharePoint and more. Plans are also being developed to provide project management and project fundraising.

Website

The Home Page was redesigned and the website was upgraded to support multiple subsites for the National and Local Associations. (A subsite is a website that is joined to a main website, but functions as a stand-alone website.) These subsites are offered at no cost as part of our organizational infrastructure support that enables associations to focus their attention on the mission of spreading the revelation.

The Spanish and French translations of the main website were completed. Work continues on the Russian, Ukrainian and Portuguese website translations, and the Dutch website translation was launched. The website is at: <https://urantia-association.org>.



Bradly Tharp, CFO

2017 Chief Financial Officer Report

“The progress angels...labor incessantly to make things what they ought to be.” [Paper 114:6.6, page 1255 § 5]

Greetings to our members, donors, volunteers, and friends! Generous donations in 2017 supported Urantia Association’s progress in form, function, and results. The National and Local Associations worldwide are now benefitting from our investments in infrastructure development and systems integration. For example, our website, database, digital meeting and recording media, leadership and volunteer training libraries, translation services, and social media platforms, are all available to members, volunteers, committees, and constituent associations for their own needs. Every association can now create its own website, database, social media group, and educational resources—developed, managed, and provided by Urantia Association and its financial donors and volunteers.

The International Service Board and Representative Council are creating an infrastructure that supports the Association’s priorities and projects as determined by the Local and

National Associations, each with unique opportunities and challenges best determined and served locally. We best serve dissemination and growth of the Urantia revelation by providing organizational support, by sharing resources with our many regional, national, and local volunteers, servants and leaders.

Once again we spent less in 2017 than was budgeted and remain committed to the efficient and responsible management of the precious donations and volunteer hours we receive from our members, donors, and supporters. Our success is due to the generosity of these many donors and their financial gifts, and also to the hundreds of dedicated volunteers who are committed to this ministry of loving service to our world.

The opportunities are growing in number and in scale. Success results in more need and greater challenges every year. We need your help!

Urantia Association International spends money in two ways: to build

and maintain infrastructure for our National and Local Associations, committees, and members, and for resources delivered around the world to our constituent associations in support of local members, activities, and organizational priorities.

The Association is organized for that purpose—local support. To that end we have been developing more regional, continental, and local support teams to increase the number of local events, including mini-conferences, and to support more local and regional book fairs. In partnership with Urantia Foundation we are increasing our efforts with local and national distribution for *The Urantia Book* in places where our members can help ensure availability of the book.

Please consider donating to this valuable work by so many dedicated servants working so hard and with such skill, producing such tangible results. Thank you!

Bradly Tharp
Chief Financial Officer



Subsite ANZURA



Subsite Argentina

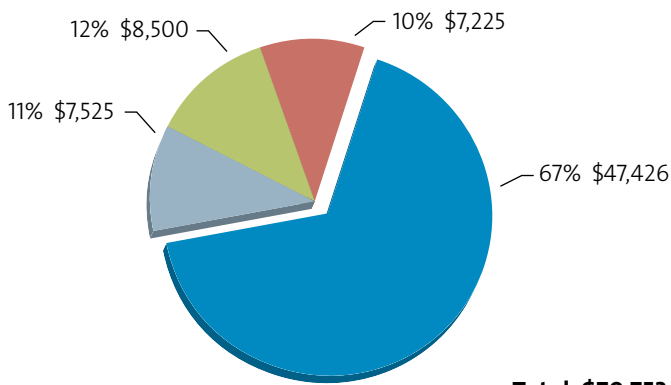
2017 Financial Report

Statement of Activities—Income and Expense For the Full Year 2017; January-December

Income (in United States dollars)	\$
Ordinary Un-Restricted Contributions	60,944
Earned income	70
Restricted fund contributions	9,809
Other income	1,276
Total Income	72,099
Expenses	\$
Program Services Costs	80,748
Administration Services Expenses	40,123
General Operations Expenses	7,879
Total Expenses	128,750
Change in Net Income Adjusted	(56,651)
The Balance Sheet	\$
Cash (USD)	107,920
Liabilities	none
Equity	\$
Year beginning Cash/Equity Balance	164,571
Net income (loss)	(56,651)
Total Equity (year end cash balance)	107,920
Comment	
Assets include the following Restricted Fund account balances:	\$
Conference Loan Fund	20,000
Future Event Support Fund	3,582
Conference Financial Aid Fund	100
Global Seeding Fund	3,573
Website Fund	8,323
Prisoner Inquiry Response Team (PIRT)	4,311
Total Restricted Funds Balance	39,889
Total Un-Restricted Fund Balance	68,031

2017 Financial Report Graphs

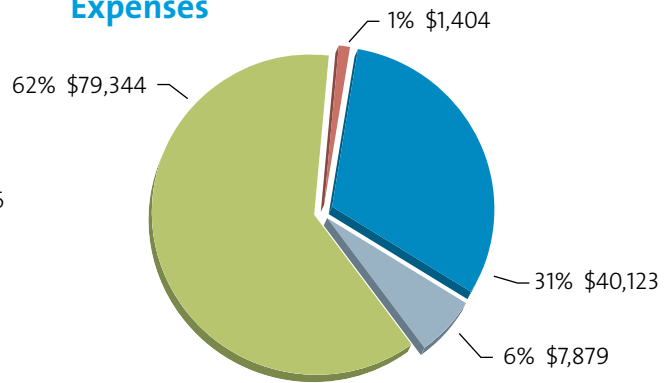
Contributor Support



Total: \$70,753

- Association Members
- Associations and Affiliates
- Non-members
- Corporations and Foundations

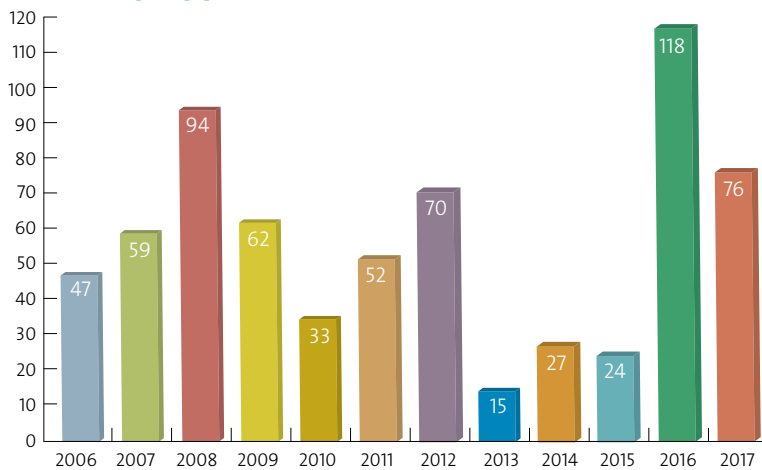
Expenses



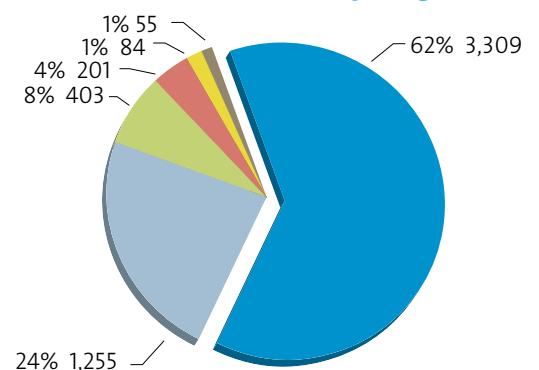
Total: \$128,750

- Administration
- ISB Programs and Projects
- ISB General Operations
- Fund Raising

Membership Applications



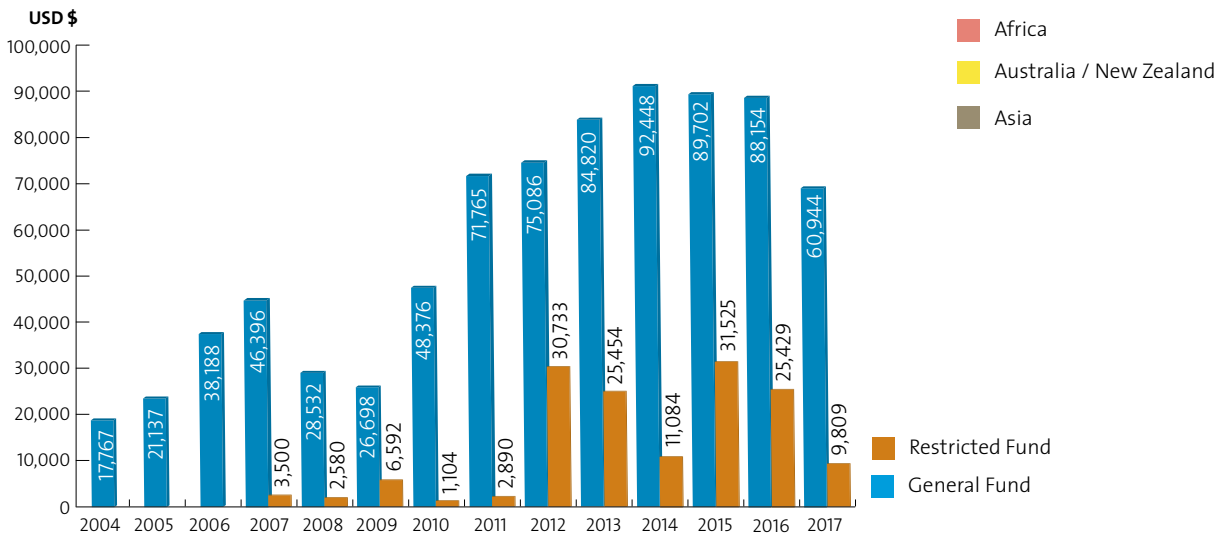
Members and Friends by Region



Total: 5,307

- North America
- South America
- Europe
- Africa
- Australia / New Zealand
- Asia

Contributions to Annual Fund



- Restricted Fund
- General Fund

Your Help Brings a New Revelation to the World

It is a daunting mission to bring a revelation to the world. We only have to read Part IV of *The Urantia Book* to appreciate our challenges and what it takes to accomplish our mission. For the apostles of Jesus, it took training and practice sharing the message and serving the people, working together, discussing their successes and failures, and repeating the process for new followers. Jesus also began his ministry by helping the apostles establish themselves as an effective organization—such efficient administrations as are found throughout the universes. Organizations are simply personalities working together to achieve goals more effectively.

And that's why Urantia Association International exists. To serve devoted students of *The Urantia Book* who want to share its uplifting message by working together on bringing

a new revelation to the world. The Association provides the organizational infrastructure that allows these working groups and volunteers to accomplish this work.

Achieving our mission depends on introducing people to the teachings, encouraging them to form study groups and begin living the teachings, helping to develop leaders, and assisting them in forming working groups. Then supporting and encouraging them in their efforts to foster study groups, establish book distribution outside regular channels, share their best results, and further disseminate the teachings. And when a working group wants to organize, the Association provides the necessary tools and a team to join that has a proven success record.

But lest we forget, the apostles could not have done their work

without the charity of generous donors. And so it is today, the Association needs financial support to do all this important work.

Tireless, dedicated volunteers make all of this possible, and donors like you. The Association truly would not exist, but for our generous donors. This year Africa will be the focus of our efforts and your donation is needed now more than ever to help develop leaders and working groups. Please consider increasing your giving by 20% to help us provide the services, organizational infrastructure and support to spread the revelation throughout Africa and then to Oceania.

You can donate online at the Donation section of our website or by clicking here: [Donate now](#)

Clip and send with your support donation:

Yes, count me in!

Name

I authorize regular monthly charges of US \$ to my credit/debit card (Visa / MC / AmEx)

A/C # Exp. date

CVV2 (3 digit number on back of Visa/MC, 4 digits on front of AMEX)

Name appearing on card

Signature Date

I choose to send a check \$

Please help us maintain up-to-date records:

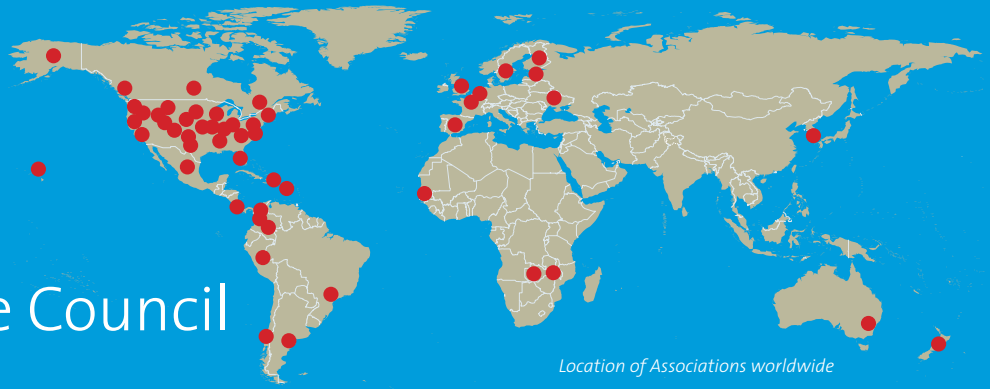
Mail this form with payment to:
Urantia Association International
P.O. Box 409174
CHICAGO, IL, 60640-0025, USA

Address

City State/Prov. Postal Code

Phone Email

Representative Council



Location of Associations worldwide

This legislative branch of Urantia Association International is comprised of the Presidents and Vice Presidents of the National Associations and the Local Associations in regions where no National Association exists.

National Associations

Australia & New Zealand

William Wentworth, *President*

Neville Twist, *Vice President*

Brazil

Enrique Traver, *President*

Sella Leonardi, *Vice President*

Canada

Nathen Jansen, *President*

Alain Cyr, *Vice President*

Colombia

Isabel Reinoso, *President*

Wilson Leòn, *Vice President*

Finland

Risto Mäntynen, *President*

Eija Seppanen-Bolotinski, *Vice President*

France

Ivan Stol, *President*

Lucas Perier, *Vice President*

Malawi

Grevet Moyo, *President*

Linda Mtambo, *Vice President*

The Netherlands

Jaap Terra, *President*

Samantha Nior, *Vice President*

Senegal

Moussa Ndiaye, *President*

Spain

Carmelo Martinez, *President*

Jaime Garcia Marco, *Vice President*

United States

Pio Park, *President*

Rick Lyon, *Vice President*

Local Associations

Argentina

Federico Folchi, *President*

Luis Miguel Morales, *Vice President*

Belguim

Jean Annet, *President*

Chili

Horacio Gamboa Verdugo, *President*

Lisette Mancilla Asenjo, *Vice President*

DACH (German Speaking Association)

Alexander H, *President*

Sandra Burga-Cisneros, *Vice President*

Dominican Republic

Julio Cesar de la Cruz, *President*

Jafet Diaz, *Vice President*

Estonia

Peep Sober, *President*

Karmo Kalda, *Vice President*

South Korea

Kim Jinwoog (David Kim), *President*

Park Gahyang, *Vice President*

Park Pansoo, *Vice President*

Mexico

Alfredo Esquivel, *President*

Rogelio Ángel Rosas Mata., *Vice President*

Sweden

Michael MacIssac, *President*

Jacob D, *Vice President*

Ukraine

Anton Miroshnichenko, *President*

Alexander Alyuev, *Vice President*

United Kingdom

Gary Rawlings, *President*

Costas Diamantopoulos, *Vice President*

Zambia

Joel Chongo Mvula, *President*

Evans Mwale, *Vice President*

International Service Board

The executive branch of Urantia Association International that conducts the daily business of the Association

Chris Wood

USA

President

Luis Garcia Bory

Switzerland

Membership Chair

Libardo Antonio Schefer

Netherlands

Conference Chair

Andrés Ramirez

Colombia

Vice-President

Kathleen Swadling

Australia

Communications Chair

Gabriel Rymberg

Israel

Translation Chair

Susan Owen

USA

Secretary

Jeannie Vásquez

Uruguay

Education Chair

David Linthicum

USA

Dissemination Chair

Bradly Tharp

USA

Chief Financial Officer

Gaetan Charland

Canada

Study Group Chair

Margaret Slater Thompson

USA

Executive Administrator

Judicial Commission

The judicial branch of Urantia Association International



Travis Binion

USA

Chief Judicial Commissioner

Benet Rutenberg

USA

Judicial Commissioner

Joyce Anderson

USA

Judicial Commissioner

Financial Contributors to The Association

In appreciation of their support for Urantia Association and our activities in 2017, we wish to thank all of the following contributors: *Names posted with permission. Not all contributors are listed*

Name	Country	Name	Country
Association Francophone des Lecteurs du Le Livre d'Urantia	France	Arnold Krohnert	USA
Association Urantia du Quebec	Canada	Marylin Kulieke	USA
Australia and New Zealand Urantia Association (ANZURA)	Australia/ New Zealand	Mark & Karen Kurtz	USA
Holly Arvanites	USA	Jean Claude LaFreniere	Canada
Anne Barnaby	USA	Robert Lamock	Belgium
W. L. Beard	USA	Giles Lapierre	Canada
Bill & Share Beasley	USA	David & Cheri Linthicum	USA
Terry Sue Beuret	Canada	Olga Lopez	Spain
Travis Binion	USA	Rick Lyon	USA
Zailyn Prada Blackburn	USA	Patricia Martin	USA
Chris Bohler	USA	Julian McGarry	Australia
Boutique Videotron Le Carrefour de Nord	Canada	Timothy S. Minasian	USA
Teresa Bradley	USA	Robert Oliver	USA
Scott Brooks	USA	Lino Olivetta	Switzerland
Bruce Brown	USA	Ed & Susan Owen	USA
Sandra Burga-Cisneros	USA	Patti Page Perdue	USA
Bob & Linda Buselli	USA	James Perry	USA
Robert Cadieux	Canada	Rebecca Picou	USA
Deanna Carr	Australia	Nick Scalzo	USA
Ga�etan Charland	Canada	Rita Schaad	Australia
David & Trish Chilton	USA	Jeanette Schafer	USA
Konstantino Diamantopoulos	Monaco	Charles (Chuck) Smith	USA
Jimette England	USA	Patricia Snyder	USA
Robert Ezri	Canada	Michael Stafford	USA
John Farrington	USA	Line St-Pierre	Canada
Finland Urantia Association	Finland	Joanne Strobel	USA
Joe Foreman	USA	SuperClub Videotron St-Javier	Canada
Clermont Fortier	Canada	Trevor & Kathleen Swadling	Australia
Alfonso Garcia	USA	Jake & Margaret Thompson	USA
Ellen Gaynor	USA	Karen L. Thornton	USA
Daniel Love Glazer	USA	Erline Betty Towner	USA
Georgia Gleaves	USA	Urantia Foundation	USA
Alan & Cheryl Glicker	USA	Judy Van Cleave	USA
Greater Lake Michigan Urantia Association	USA	Meredith Van Woert	USA
Thomas Hansen	USA	Virginia-Carolina Readers Association	USA
Robert Hersey	USA	Neal Waldrop	USA
Gard Jameson	USA	Rick Warren	USA
Nathen Jansen	Canada	Jeffrey Wattles	USA
Richard Jernigan	USA	William Wentworth	Australia
Bruce Johnson	USA	Dr. Wendall Wilson	USA
Richard Keeler	USA	Jose Winum	France
Benjamin King	USA	Chris & Alice Wood	USA
		James Woodward	USA

