



The ComUUnicator

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Lima
Website: <http://www.uulima.org> January 2006

Upstairs Upgrades!

The second floor of the Fellowship House has achieved something that has been missing for years—functionality. Except for the Children’s Religious Education Room, essentially all of the second floor has essentially filled the function of a storage facility. That is no longer the case.

The Nancy and Otto Austin Library is now essentially physically complete. This state of affairs was a very gradual effort, culminating recently with the donation of additional wooden shelving by Kerry Snyder. Our Librarian, Louise Daniels, is busy with the somewhat daunting task of categorizing the materials on hand and filling the shelves for the first time. Other members of the Library Committee will join her in this endeavor as the process continues.

The Board Room, known previously as the “square table room”, has been scraped and painted. Draping a couple of tablecloths completed the transformation of this space into a pleasant and usable space for meetings of all sorts. Additionally, the purchase of additional cabling and a power strip for the PFLAG/UU video equipment along the wall has created an area where tapes and DVDs from the Library may be viewed without bothering other occupants of the Library.

This remarkable and long overdue transformation was accomplished during a four

and a half hour work party held on a recent Saturday morning by Don Mack and Barbara and MD Wilson. While they were at it, the trio also finished off the Organic Buddies Room, which used to be the green room across the hall from the RE Room. Finishing up the effort was a general clean-up of the trash, parts and miscellaneous detritus that had littered most of the second floor.

Organic Buddies, the Food Buying Club that is a part of our Social Action efforts, now have their own space for storage and distribution of product. Hopefully, this will become a significant activity for the health and pocketbook of the surrounding community in the near future.

This leaves one small storage room on the second floor and the restroom facilities yet to be addressed. The latter will require considerably more effort and funds than that expended in the redecoration work to date. While not a critical item for consideration at this time, it might be noted that if RE activities grow to any great extent the need for these facilities will likely become more of an issue. For now, such might be considered only a convenience for the users of the Library and Board Room. Then again, for really lengthy and intense meetings...



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Jean Cinardo—January 5
Twyla Wells—February 15
Marilyn Frank—February 18
Chuck Thomas—February 19
Ellen Wright—February 19

Anniversaries

None on record for the period.

If I missed your birthday or anniversary it is because I was not aware of it. Please inform me of same and I will add your information to the list.

Event Schedule

January

- 01 -- New Year's Holiday - **No Service**
07 -- 6:30 pm - **Saturday Night Live**
[Rick & Mary Beth Siferd](#) - Theme: Holiday
08 -- [Rev. Richard Venus](#)
Building A Community of Hope and Justice - Special New Member **Welcoming Ceremony**
Note: Please turn in your "Guest at Your Table" boxes as soon as possible.
09 -- 7:30 pm - [Executive Committee](#) Meeting - [Liesl's](#)
11 -- 12 pm - Women's Lunch
Packard Grill - Hostess: Marilyn Bell
14 -- 8:00 am - **Work Party** - Paint Board Room & finish Organic Buddies room
15 -- [Barbara Wilson](#) - *Two Festivals of Light* - Music: Connie
After Service: **Un-decorating Party**
20 -- 7:30 pm - [PFLAG Meeting](#)
UU Newsletter Deadline!
22 -- [Don Mack](#) - *Extended Family*
29 -- Robert Waters - *African History*
2:00 pm - [Molly Galvin](#) - [Sacred Choices & Abortion](#)

February

- 05 -- [Don Mack](#) - *Theodore Parker: Outcast Hero*

- 11 -- 5:30 pm - [Kerry Snyder](#) - **Commitment Ceremony**
12 -- [Rev. Richard Venus](#) - TBA - Possible (Tentative) New Member **Welcoming Ceremony** Music: Connie
After Service: **Soup & Salad Brunch**
17 -- 7:30 pm - [PFLAG Meeting](#)
UU Newsletter Deadline!
19 -- [MD Wilson](#) - *Social Action in Our Little Group*
20 -- 7:30 pm - [Executive Committee](#) Meeting - [Liesl's](#) - **NOTE: Re-scheduled from Feb. 13!**
25 -- SNL **Feb. Birthdays & Valentines** @ church
26 -- [Kerry Snyder](#) - TBA

March

- 05 -- [Liesl Sondheimer](#) - *Guests in My House*
12 --
17 -- 7:30 pm - [PFLAG Meeting](#)
UU Newsletter Deadline!
19 -- [Rev. Richard Venus](#) - TBA Possible (Tentative) **Coming of Age Ceremony**
26 -- [Holly Norton, Ph.D.](#) - *Unitarian Writers*
* Full Schedule at <http://www.uulima.org> *

President's Pulpit

The next Executive Committee meeting was moved from the previously announced Feb. 13th at Marilyn's request and is now scheduled for Feb 20th (7:30 at Liesl's) and the project that I initiated, the Executive Committee Guidebook (new name) is in full swing. I am compiling what was originally called the "Executive Committee Member's Manual". The rationale for which is not to replace the committee descriptions that are in our Rules of Conduct (read as Bylaws in any other organization) but to provide additional job descriptions that are fleshed out with "how-to" and "when to" information. I am asking all officers and chairpersons from years past to jog their memories and jot down a short list of commentaries with the goal in mind of enabling a complete stranger to function in the position in question.

I have yet to receive all of the requested submissions from the current Executive Committee members. Those were due at the last meeting. Please send them as soon as you possibly can, or at the Feb 20 meeting for certain.

The rest of the congregation is also requested to submit any tips and hints they might have learned during their previous tenures in office or committee. I would ask that your submissions be sent to me, either in print or via email (preferred) before the next Annual Meeting, say **by April 15th**.

All submissions to date have been placed in the Guidebook and there are some glaring examples of entries still missing. Those are: Offices of Secretary and Treasurer, and the following Committees: Nominating, Religious Education, Public Relations, and House & Grounds.

Miscellaneous Announcements

Another New Member Installation and Welcoming service is tentatively scheduled for Feb 12th. We may, with modest ritual, welcome Adaline Bridges, Felicia Knuckles and Erica Harrison to our Congregation.

Speaking of Erica and Felicia, this couple will be having a Commitment Ceremony on Feb 11th, and you are all invited! Forced to relocate by the storms in Louisiana, they want the whole Congregation to attend because, as 'Licia puts it, "We have no friends here." (Oh, yes you do!) This is to be a (non-Tux) formal event, with an appetizer & cake reception in the Fellowship Room immediately afterward. 'Licia and Erica are planning a rather traditional ceremony. 'Licia will be wearing a long dress and veil, and Erica will be wearing a suit. 'Licia is getting a tiered wedding cake. We're decorating the church Friday evening, Feb. 10th. Please

come help decorate. Pizza and wine seems to be our usual thing when we decorate our church.

Some of 'Licia's family will attend the wedding, but not Erica's, and they have no friends attending, so everybody please come! Let 'Licia or Erica know if you're coming so they can have an idea of attendance. Also let them know if you're bringing sandwiches or an appetizer. They feel a little funny about asking guests to bring something to share, but being from Louisiana, they don't have much money, and weddings of any size are costly. Kerry Snyder will be officiating, but Richard Venus has said that he will try to attend, and he just might bring Chuck Thomas along too!

Shifting mental gears, John Bell has acquired additional audio tapes of the *UU World*, intended to assist the disabled and blind in their investigation of Unitarian Universalism. These tapes will join their like in the Library.

Contrary to previous indications on the website, the Rainbow Fellowship has not disbanded. Although they are no longer meeting at the Fellowship House, they are meeting in the homes of various members in an effort to alleviate the cost of traveling to the service.

Finally, a note about participation. I have gone over the Rules of Conduct (our bylaws) with a fine-toothed comb and can find **no** restriction on committee participants. The Chair of the committee probably should be a member—but regular visitors are not prohibited from participating on Fellowship committees. We have a number of regular visitors who have attended for years, and may have thought that they were restricted to only that activity. This is not the case, you are just as welcome in committee as church!