

## **1984 Report of the Domestic Extension Committee to the General Council of Urantia Brotherhood**

Harry McMullan

June 1, 1984

---

During the past year our committee's two main projects have been library book placement and study group organization. Tom Allen remains in charge of our library book project, and since last year's report has placed and additional 138 books, for a total of 425 books since the project began in early 1982. One change from last year's procedure has been that certain volunteers have been permitted to contact libraries using the mails, without the personal contact which all of us agree is the preferred method. This change was only made due to the fact that our "ready, willing and able" volunteers have already placed books in all of their local libraries, and despite notices in Urantia publications, exhortations at conferences, letters and phone calls, we haven't been able to stir up sufficient new volunteers to keep up the pace.

Naturally, wherever possible, we continue to encourage the personal placement procedure. Our committee appreciates the Brotherhood's support in this project, and by means of off-budget support we have been successful in keeping the overhead associated with getting the books out at virtually zero. In order to retain your support for the library placement project, we are engaged in a project to prioritize the types of libraries we should approach for maximum effect, and determine the best method of approaching them. David Kulieke is in charge of this project, and has designed a comprehensive questionnaire which he will use to help us improve our procedures.

The second major project has been with the Study Group Fellowship. Last fall we called the leaders of every known study group, first, to make personal contact with them, find out how their group was going, what their needs were, etc., and secondly, in the event they had not already joined the Study Group Fellowship of Urantia Brotherhood, to ask if they would care to be included in the upcoming Study Group Directory. Taking into account talking with baby-sitters, people who had moved, talking with uninvolved spouses, etc., this involved completing over 500 calls! I am pleased to report that Waldine Stump, who coordinated this project, not only survived sane, but thoroughly enjoyed it. As a result of making all those calls and hearing the gratitude of the more-isolated groups at the fact that someone paid some attention to them, she has become our foremost advocate of increased contact with study groups. The grand totals are now 192 groups, and with only three exceptions, every group we contacted wished to be included in the Directory.

By the time you read this, the Study Group Directory should be printed. It is the preliminary result of Waldine's work last fall. Our feeling is that we will discover quite a few errors in this first directory, and that the second directory will be substantially better. Our expectation is that other groups will surface and desire to be included, and that lots of individuals who are not listed as being members of their study group will write us to make sure that they are included in the next edition. Our hope is that this directory will stimulate interaction among Urantia study groups at the regional level, and thereby strengthen our movement all around.

Our committee made one proposal this year to the Executive Committee which was turned down, but with encouragement to resubmit more temperately. The proposal was for the Brotherhood to have a booth at the New Orleans World Trade Fair, which is being held from May 12th through November 12th of this year. The cost was budgeted at \$132,000, with outreach estimated at several million contacts. The Executive Committee's complaint was "too much, too soon." However, we were encouraged to find another fair on a smaller scale, and try that. The fact that the fair format involves personal contact by volunteers was thought to make such an outreach a promising means of making known the existence of the book. Many of you may have heard about the Rocky Mountain Urantia Society's second successful fair, held in Denver this May. This fair had approximately 150,000 in attendance, and the volunteers there gave away approximately 750 pamphlets, and held around 500 conversations with interested parties. They even discovered a Urantia study group in Denver that had been meeting for some time that had never contacted anyone in the movement! The First Urantia Society of Oklahoma is trying to get space at the Tulsa State Fair, which will be held September 28th through October 8th. The Oklahoma Society will be keeping good records of procedures, costs and results for use by Domestic Extension Committee and the Brotherhood in making their determination of whether this appears to be a promising type of outreach.

Our Committee is also privileged this year to be hosting two afternoon segments of the General Conference, one on the subject of book distribution and the other on study groups.

Domestic Extension committee's primary responsibilities have been assumed to be the fostering of study groups and increased distribution of The Urantia Book in the United States. Concerning the future, I believe that we have a vast amount of fertile ground that needs attention with respect to our study groups. That we have around 200 study groups gives us a marvelous base, but our more isolated groups, in particular, need attention and would appreciate advice. Their common problem is difficulty in getting new readers and irregularity of attendance by their existing members. In my opinion, an improved outreach program by the Brotherhood solves both problems, as it helps bring in new members, who inspire us all when we learn anew from them the life-changing impact of the Urantia Revelation.

It might be that some of the best money we could spend would be to hire a full-time circuit rider to visit our outlying study groups and readers. The right person could encourage the present members to greater loyalty to their group, offer advice on how other study groups had solved certain problems, and show them how much the Brotherhood cares for them. This is not a recommendation, but think about it.

One matter of a constitutional nature which our committee discusses from time to time is a change of its name, which rings parochial. The problem is functional as well as aesthetic. "Domestic" Extension implies that the Brotherhood is a U.S. organization, which, while it may be the present reality, is not the image we wish to project. To change the name to "United States" Extension would be an improvement, but it still sets the US. in a special category, i.e., the U.S. rates a committee all its own, and the rest of the world gets one committee. The best solution I have heard is for a realignment of the functions of Domestic Extension and International Fellowship Committees, in which the first word in both titles would be dropped and we would have an "Extension" committee and a "Fellowship" committee, both of which would be international in scope. The Extension Committee would be involved with outreach matters -getting new readers -- and the Fellowship Committee would concern itself with the nurturing, comforting and encouraging existing readers and study groups. Another option would be to simply merge the two committees into one, or disband one of them; however, self-serving comments aside, I believe that would be a silly resolution of the problem due to the amount of work both committees are presently involved in, and the importance of outreach and fellowship in the Brotherhood's overall goals. This is not to be considered a recommendation, but merely something that you might want to be thinking about. Quite frankly, I like it just fine the way the committees are presently structured, but it may cause us embarrassment sometime in the future.

On a personal note, my term as chairman of the committee expires this year, and I would like to thank the General Council for having permitted me to serve. It's been an education and an honor. I would also like to thank my fellow committee members David Kulieke, CeCe Forrester, Mary Schlueter, Tom Allen and Waldine Stump for their labors during the past year.

Respectfully submitted, Harry McMullan, Chairman

---

**REPORT FOR YEAR JULY 2, 1983 TO AUGUST 11, 1984**  
**International Fellowship Committee**  
Berkeley Elliott

---

The International Fellowship Committee participated in the Summer Work Shop at Lake Forrest for the week of July 3-7, 1983. The customs and culture of many Countries were shared at evening meetings, including Africa; Saudi Arabia; The Netherlands; Fiji Islands; Colombia, South America; and British Columbia, Alberta and Quebec, Canada. Three members of our Committee met with people from other Countries, as well as anyone who desired to attend the last day, and discussed International issues.

May 9-11, 1984, Martin Myers and I flew to Montreal, Canada and met with a group of Urantia Book readers. Originally the entire IFC had planned to have their annual meeting in Montreal, but when only 2 members could attend we canceled the meeting. It seemed very important to make this trip to clarify some breakdown in communications. At the last minute Mary Snider was unable to go with Martin and me, but it was a profitable trip. After two business meetings in Bob Plomondon's office - Saturday and Sunday mornings - we returned home Sunday evening. Saturday evening Bob and Adele Plomondon served a dinner and afterwards we had two Study Groups - one in French and one in English. Their ideas and help have been invaluable.

The brochures have been translated and checked in Spanish and French. They have gone back to the Foundation for approval for publication.

The "Selection" Committee, Douglas Fraser, Richard Prince and Martin Myers, has selected a translator for the Spanish translation of The Urantia Book. The fund drive is just now getting under way and hopefully before the end of this year the actual translation will be in progress. Fantastic news!

The International Fellowship Committee is meeting in my home June 22-24, 1984. An International speaker has been selected for the General Conference in August at Green Lake, Wisconsin and the Committee will finalize plans for our 2-hour program on Thursday, August 16th, as well as discuss many other important issues.

A thought to keep in mind - if 1,000 persons gave \$1.00/day - each day - a translation could be made available each year.

My sincere thanks to each committee member, Martin Myers, former Chairman, and the entire staff at headquarters for all their help!

Sincerely,

International Fellowship Committee  
Berkeley Elliott, Chairman

---

## 1984 REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

Carolyn Kendall

July 20, 1984

---

Here is a list of projects and activities which have engaged my attention since last July 2:

1) Publicity Statement. The compilation of material for the paper, "The Dissemination of The Urantia Book and Statement on Publicity" was completed, and a 4-page abridged version was distributed to the mailing list in October 1983. The 25-page full statement was sent to General Councilors, Urantia Societies, field representatives, and other interested individuals soon after. The ideas and expressions of nearly 50 persons were incorporated into the statement. Its purpose is not to proscribe the spreading of the book, but rather to suggest the many ways in which the book and its teachings can wisely be shared individually and to the world at this time. Gloriann Harris, Scott Forsythe, and Michael Painter provided invaluable assistance in the final editing process.

2) Revision of Dust Jacket. The suggested revisions of the dust jacket of The Urantia Book was completed and forwarded to Urantia Foundation November 17, 1983. A resolution adopted by the 1982 Triennial Delegate Assembly, accepted by the General Council which then referred it to the Executive Committee, asked that the jacket be revised to better

". . . convey the spiritual message of the heavenly Father's love for his earthly children with which The Urantia Book is primarily concerned."

An ad hoc committee began the review of the jacket in September 1982, but the work of finalizing the design and text selection was completed by Barbara Kulieke, Mo Siegel, and myself. Other considerations in redesigning the jacket were to depict the broad scope of the revelation; to downplay the phenomena of the transmission of the papers--the seemingly esoteric emphasis of the present jacket; and to change the typeface of the textual selections back to the classical Times Roman style of the book itself. Urantia Foundation has communicated the information that they will be unable to effect any changes in the dust jacket in time for the 8th printing.

3) 1984 General Conference. The General Conference will be held at American Baptist Assembly, Green Lake, Wisconsin, August 12-17. The Planning Committee, consisting of midwest Urantia Society representatives: David Kulieke, Gloriann Harris, Michael Painter, and Lillian Nicholas; Special Projects Chairman, Charles Burton; Education

Committee Chairman, Lynne Kulieke and John Hales, Brotherhood President (I am coordinator), have planned a diverse program which should excite the enthusiasm of attendees. The many segments are being coordinated by departmental committees and Urantia Societies. All programs will align with the conference theme: "Reaching Out: Studying, Living, and Sharing the Teachings." Special should go to June Moritz, secretary at the brotherhood offices for her tireless work in overseeing the details of conference expediting.

4) Bulletin Newsletter . In an effort to get the Urantia Brotherhood Bulletin Newsletter out in a timely manner, the officers undertook the writing of the text of the news portion of the Bulletin in early Winter 1984. I have written the first draft and the polishing has been completed by the officers and Barbara Kulieke. A publishing schedule for the news will be established: October, February, and June. The Publications Committee will continue to prepare the features and will add their material to the news portion at the mailing deadline.

5) Travel. During 1983-4 I have represented the Brotherhood at conferences in Tennessee, California (Los Angeles Media), Pennsylvania, and Missouri. I also accompanied John Hales and Marian Rowley to Clayton, California to attend a special meeting called by Vern Grimsley in October 1983.

What is perhaps most noteworthy about the trying events of the past year are the warm and loving friendships that have endured regardless of certain ideological differences. The continuing mutual trust is perhaps indicative of the maturity, stability, and spirituality of those individuals who have behaved so superbly. From a personal standpoint, things could have been a lot worse!

Carolyn B.Kendall, Vice President  
July 20, 1984

---

---

# 1984 REPORT OF THE CHARTER COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

David Elders

---

During this past year, the members of the Charter Committee have worked on the following projects:

1. Chartered the URANTIA Society of San Fernando Valley. On 9 October 1983 this Society was officially installed as the 14th active society of URANTIA Brotherhood(Charter number 16). The installation ceremony was conducted by David Elders and Lucile Faw as part of a warm, thoughtful program put together by the members of this new society. John Hales, also attending, welcomed this group into the family of Brotherhood Societies.

2. Pamphlet on the meaning of membership. This project is finally nearing completion. David Renn's original copy has now been reviewed by the Executive Committee and a final rewrite, incorporating all comments, is underway. Plans call for the printing of the pamphlet for distribution to any interested persons as a statement of the way in which our organization views membership. A quote from this pamphlet, which is representative of its tone and expression:

Membership confers no special privileges but rather increased responsibilities and opportunities for service within an organized framework. If one is interested in working toward the goals we have established for ourselves, if one can adjust to a long range view of this undertaking, and if one can work for the group and with the group, then further consideration of membership is appropriate.

3. Constitutional Amendment. We will be presenting for consideration and action by the General Council at this year's Council meeting a Constitutional Amendment which will require that all members of the Triennial Delegate Assembly and all members of the General Council shall have read The URANTIA Book in its entirety at least once.

4. Requests for information on Standards of Admissions. We have received requests during the year from the following areas: Santa Cruz, CA; Columbus, OH; Anchorage, AK.

5. Wenatchee Society Constitution. We have been working with Lew and Alice Clark in their evaluation of ways to broaden the active reach of their society to include more of the Pacific Northwest. This evaluation includes revising their constitution.

My deepest thanks to the members of the committee who accomplished much this year: Lucile Faw, Mary Lou Hales, Charles Olivea, David Renn, and Irene Sprunger.

## **THE REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD**

Lynne Kulieke  
AUGUST, 1984

---

The Education Committee is pleased to report, concerning its activities in the past year, the he following:

1 - Just subsequent to the last General Council meeting, the committee participated with other Brotherhood committees in the successful realization of a seminar on Prayer and Worship, held in Lake Forest, Illinois.

2 - The committee has engaged in assisting the General Conference Planning Committee to prepare for the 1984 Urantia Brotherhood Conference at Green Lake, Wisconsin. It has undertaken the task of organizing the small group sessions dedicated specifically to intensive study of the teachings of The Urantia Book related to the theme of the conference.

3 - As part of the afore-mentioned task, the committee has drawn from the wisdom and experience of interested teacher/ students of The Urantia Book in the formulation of guidelines for leaders of small group study sessions to use as they deem fit. Such guidelines will be available for all others who request them.

4 - The committee has begun planning for an intensive teaching practicum seminar to take place in the summer of 1985. The emphasis will be on methods of teaching/learning the content of The Urantia Book.

5 - The committee has roughed out a preliminary proposal for a scholarship program to be submitted for review to the Finance Committee and subsequently for approval to the Executive Committee and General Council.

6 - The committee has cooperated with the Publications Committee in recommending to the Foundation, with the approval of the Executive Committee, the reissue in microfiche of early text books related to study of The Urantia Book.

On behalf of all the members of the Education Committee--Helen Carlson, Stephen Dreier, Marilyn Hauck, Joyce Henrion, and Marjorie Reed--I thank you for the

opportunity to serve and urge the continued contribution of such thoughts and suggestions as you may have that will assist us in carrying out our constitutional charge.

Respectfully submitted, Lynne B. Kulieke, Chairman of the Education Committee

---

## **FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**August 10, 1984**

**The General Council of Urantia Brotherhood**

Meredith Sprunger

---

Dear Friends:

In the interest of establishing greater concentration on my outreach work with the Christian churches, I asked the Executive Committee last September to accept my resignation as chairman of our committee and suggested they elect Mo Siegel as our new chairman. The Executive Committee was not agreeable to making this change and persuaded me to continue as chairman.

I believe it is important that we involve the younger members of the Brotherhood who have leadership abilities in supervision responsibilities and experience. All of the current members of the Fraternal Relations Committee have significant leadership capabilities. To help actualize these potentials I sent the following directive on October 3, 1983 to our committee:

I should like to ask Vern and Bettina to be responsible for relationships and education regarding the various religions of the world. Literature, conference programs, and multi-media related to this broad area will be under their supervision. I would ask Cap and Jim to be in charge of directing our activities and relationships in interfacing with Christianity. Ecumenical activity among Christian churches, educational activities in colleges and universities related to the Christian culture, and other institutions of Christianity are a fertile field for interface functions. Finally, I am asking Mo to assume responsibility for integrating and directing our committee activities and initiating short and long range planning for the committee. I should like to have Mo take charge of communications within the committee and communications to the Executive Committee. I will act as a consultant to any of you in carrying out your committee responsibilities if you should need my involvement and I will cosign with Mo all committee communications directed to the Executive Committee. I trust this sharing of responsibilities will enable each of us to be creatively involved in doing the Father's will as we understand it in our lives.

During the year Mo has done an excellent job directing planning strategies, has issued a Planning Book, and has supervised the planning of our program at the General Conference. We look forward to some truly creative contact work with members of the various religions of the world. I believe we are at the beginning of a fruitful period of outreach ministry.

Cordially, Meredith J. Sprunger

6/1/84

---

**1984 PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE  
GENERAL COUNCIL OF  
URANTIA BROTHERHOOD**

John Hales  
August 11, 1984

---

"God's in His Heaven; all's right with the world!" Do you believe it? This well-known line from a Robert Browning poem seems to me a good thought to keep in mind as we review the past year's activity of Urantia Brotherhood. We have all participated to one degree or another, on both a personal and organizational level, in events that challenge many of us to closely examine our own long-held beliefs.

We all intellectually know that "life is change." But, I doubt that any of us were truly prepared for the actual impact of the changes of the past year.

The year's activity of Urantia Brotherhood is reviewed in the reports of the officers and committee chairmen. I do not feel it necessary to go over these details since you have already read them and will have the opportunity to raise specific questions later in this meeting.

I will highlight some events and activities I believe are important. What concerns me most at this time is the mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being of all of us involved in the work of Urantia Brotherhood, be we members or friends. There is no way to avoid the repercussions on the Brotherhood of events which took place last fall as a result of an individual's personal religious experience. I must single out this event as the most potentially divisive incident facing the Brotherhood in my memory. I have witnessed the impact this has had on individuals and groups and in turn upon our activities. I am aware that I am probably so close to this situation it is hard to maintain as objective a view as possible.

I do know this event has challenged many, if not all, of us to rethink long-held assumptions about interpersonal relationships. For many, Camelot is no more. Long-term relationships have been strained or broken, leaving both parties puzzled as to why it happened. I have observed the sincerity with which friends support different sides of the issue. Most discouraging is the rekindling of old grievances and past prejudices that, when voiced, can only poison the waters of personal relationships. To combat some of the negative consequences of actions taken based on hurt or angry feelings, let each of us

counsel patience, be it in ourselves or in others. We must remember that men and women will be transformed by personal experience. The Urantia teachings will be a catalyst for many activities. We have a great opportunity to gain in wisdom by this recent experience. The fact that Urantia Brotherhood does not pass judgment on an individual's personal experience should not cloud the fact that the Brotherhood must wisely choose actions that will further its goals and purposes. While these events have taken up an inordinate amount of time, as people put forth written and verbal communication, ongoing dissemination of the Urantia teachings did continue.

One of the most promising areas of work is that of encouraging and strengthening study group activity. The Domestic Extension Committee has worked with great persistence to publish the first "Urantia Brotherhood Study Group Directory." The fact of its existence will be a practical reference as well as a material symbol for many reader groups who feel isolated from other students. Although some still question the directory's true value, I believe time will help determine its worth.

Another project which has had good reception and success is that of library book placement. Not only has this provided a service outlet for enthusiastic "doers," it has been noted in letters received at the Brotherhood office that the correspondent came across the book at his local library, sometimes when looking for some other reference. It seems such a small thing. It may even seem insignificant to non-library users. This project will never end since experience has shown that books "disappear" from the shelves with regularity. Volunteers will be needed to periodically check the book's availability at their local library.

The international spread of The Urantia Book still remains a top priority for our energies and resources. In cooperation with Urantia Foundation, the Brotherhood has begun the fund-raising campaign for the Spanish translation. We are optimistic of reaching our goal, and already there is talk of what the next language for translation should be. French book sales continue at an even level with increased sales to Europe through several retail bookstores which have become regular customers. We are also aware of a weekend meeting of French readers in Paris which for the first time drew students from outside the city area. Our friends in Province Quebec, Canada, continue their expansion of study group activity. We are not as well informed of activity in non-western cultures. As we continue our activity within the United States, we must be ever sensitive to those activities that will truly internationalize the spread of the Urantia teachings.

I wish to report on receiving a request from the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles asking that societies be informed when vacancies occur on the General Council due to death or resignation of a member. This was in response to the action at last year's Council meeting when two vacancies were filled with temporary appointments until the next meeting of the Triennial Delegate Assembly. While realizing that societies do not directly elect Councilors, the Los Angeles Society believes societies should have the opportunity to inform the Council of candidates to be considered. The Executive Committee discussed

this request and were in agreement. They did not feel there is a need to make a constitutional change since this request involves more of a procedural matter than one of substance. Societies will be contacted when vacancies occur.

Long-range planning has not progressed on the schedule I had planned for. In assessing the various forces at work since last September, I decided we were not ready to undertake this project until some time passed, allowing each of us to become again focused on the work of Urantia Brotherhood. Our time together this weekend, I believe, will help us move forward in this task.

Let us pray to God for wisdom in our group deliberations. We should keep in mind that we will learn "to feast upon uncertainty, to fatten upon disappointment, to enthuse over apparent defeat, to invigorate in the presence of difficulties, to exhibit indomitable courage in the face of immensity, and to exercise unconquerable faith when confronted with the challenge of the inexplicable. Long since, the battle cry of these pilgrims became: 'In liaison with God, nothing--absolutely nothing--is impossible.'"

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Hales, President

---