



# URANTIA® Brotherhood BULLETIN

Summer 1985

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## TDA ELECTS FOURTEEN TO GENERAL COUNCIL

The Triennial Delegate Assembly was held at 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, June 23-24, 1985. This meeting is made up of one Delegate and one Alternate Delegate elected and sent to the meeting by each URANTIA Society. This year there were fourteen Delegates and fourteen Alternates. The purpose of the meeting is to elect members of the General Council, twelve for a term of nine years, and additional Councilors to other vacancies. This year there were additional openings for single terms of six and three years, occurring as a result of the resignations of Henry Begemann and Meredith Sprunger.

The other routine business of the TDA is to prepare resolutions for presentation to the General Council. These resolutions address matters which the various URANTIA Societies feel should be acted upon by the Council or headquarters. The details of resolutions adopted by the TDA are addressed in a separate article in this issue of the *Bulletin*.

There were fifty candidates to be considered for the fourteen open positions on the Council. The qualifications of each candidate were discussed frankly and openly by the Delegates. At the conclusion of this discussion, a vote was taken and eleven candidates received a majority of the votes cast on the first ballot. The remaining three candidates were quickly chosen with the final result as follows:

### For a term of nine years:

Tom Allen, Oklahoma City, OK  
John Andrews, Juneau, AK  
Douglas Fraser, Kingwood, TX  
Polly Friedman, Calabasas, CA  
Bill Hazen, Dallas, TX  
Lynne B. Kulieke, Highland Park, IL  
Marilynn Kulieke, Lake Bluff, IL  
Dan Massey, Sherborn, MA  
Larry Mullins, Tulsa, OK  
Michael Painter, Oak Park, IL  
Philip Rolnick, El Cerrito, CA  
Mo Siegel, Boulder, CO

### For a term of six years:

Steve Law, Memphis, TN

### For a term of three years:

Marian Rowley, Chicago, IL

Of the fourteen elected, nine are new members of the Council, while five have served previously. Three of the new Councilors are members-at-large.

## APPRECIATING THE PAST ANTICIPATING THE FUTURE

Dear fellow readers of *The URANTIA Book*:

Sir Isaac Newton, in response to a question put to him by Robert Hook, commenting on his scientific vision said, "If I have seen further (than you and Descartes) it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." At this time in our work together on behalf of this fifth epochal revelation of truth to our planet, it seems especially appropriate to pause and reflect on the efforts of those who came before us and upon whose shoulders we now stand to begin the next 30 years of our work.

Over 135,000 copies of *The URANTIA Book* are in circulation, and we are in our eighth printing; we have 14 active URANTIA Societies in existence, and our first outside the contiguous 48 states is about to be chartered in Alaska; 23 of the 36 members of the General Council come from outside the Chicago area (where the organization was founded); eight of the 14 members of the Executive Committee are from outside the Chicago area; we have 954 members of URANTIA Brotherhood in societies and as members-at-large; we have a mailing list which has climbed to over 4,000 active names; over 80% of our budget, now in excess of \$150,000, comes as support of our work in the form of donations and interest income; the support of our work from sales of *The URANTIA Book* has declined to less than 20%; we have established through fundraising efforts a perpetual printing fund to insure continued availability of the book; we have just concluded a fund-raising effort to pay for the translation of the book into Spanish—it is now available in both English and French; many new readers have joined our work from all parts of our planet and have already broadened profoundly the perspective of our world mission; our initially fragile attempts to bring widespread readers together for educational, social, and fellowshiping experiences moved from the eggshell of headquarters to the inspiring shores of Lake Eufaula, and then on to many other places across the country with the certainty that one day the local conferences on other continents will attract an equally broad geographic diversity of readers. This is only a portion of the legacy of those who worked the fields before us, but it is a broad and secure footing on which we now may stand for the next 30 years. And, we are grateful.

As we now begin to consider where we will go during the next 30 years, it may be important to consider whether or not there was any pattern to the years before. While each of us may view this differently, thereby adding dimension to our consideration, it seems plain to me that there is a cycle of growth, consolidation, then new growth from an enlarged base which is an essential part of the dynamic of our work. Thus, not unlike the growth each of us experiences, or, on a more material level, the respiration of the universes themselves, there is a natural process which we must take into account as we evaluate our work. If this pattern is true, we must be careful not to misread consolidation as a failure, but rather as the stage necessary to renewed growth; similarly, the calls

Continued on Page 2



Continued from Page 1

for outreach must not be misperceived as confrontation, but, rather, the initial breaking of the inertia of consolidation. If this cyclical pattern does underlie our organizational activity, it underscores the necessity for the presence in organizational leadership of a balance of those who want to go fast and those who want to go slow, thereby forging, through respectful interaction, a wise yet powerful consensus both for growth and consolidation—each at the appropriate time. If the pattern holds, it suggests the inescapable conclusion that no single vision of our work is correct in total, but, as in the face of Supremacy itself, each vision is mandatory for the successful actualization of the potential inherent in the revelation. We must somehow in these next few years find the balance which will provide a co-operative and willing context for the diversity of individual initiative which will enable us to weave this wonderful revelation into the very fabric of planetary thought, decisions, and living.

How are we to do this? In my opinion, we must each assume more responsibility for the part we are asked to play in this work. We need dialogue, not just communication. Dialogue leads to the building of lasting and perhaps eternal friendships, while communication may contribute only to the enhanced transmittal of information. Let's talk to one another, and better yet, listen. What a person thinks and how he or she tells us about it is important—whether or not we agree. Often, if we listen carefully, the person is telling us about those things which are of greatest value to that person, and that is worth all the attention we can offer. We must each commit ourselves to the continued and ever-deepening study of *The URANTIA Book* so that we can fairly and knowledgeably represent it to others. We must each commit ourselves to sharing with others what we know and are, through active and living study groups. "The Brotherhood" is not someone or somewhere else. When one asks what the Brotherhood is doing these days, that person is talking to you. And the answer you give has much to do with what you are doing. John Kennedy's oft-quoted thought on the assumption of responsibility is appropriate to paraphrase here: Ask not what the Brotherhood can do for you, but rather, ask what you can do on behalf of the work of this Brotherhood.

A sure sign that the Father has called us to this work together is our common, free-will choice to try to understand God's relationship with his creatures through the medium of *The URANTIA Book*. While our organization is a critical part of this work, it is only a skeleton waiting to be fleshed out by the dedicated men and women who willingly commit a portion of their personal and outward sovereignty to a common task. To the degree that we make our organization more important than the people whose relationships it was founded to foster, we seem to be wearing our skeleton on the outside. If we choose, however, to use the organizational structure as a means of facilitating the co-operative interaction of a diversity of individuals, it can become a mighty vehicle of service. Gloriously, the choice is ours to make and affirm in action.

The period of consolidation of the early gains of the work of those who went before us is over. We are on the edge of a new period of growth in our community of believers. While on the one hand we need to stimulate the assumption of personal responsibility on the part of each member to energize individual initiative, we need also to require of each other the willing commitment to the highest order of respectful interaction we are capable of achieving. In this way, the new reader, will be moved to say: God obviously lives in these people and I want to join them in the work they are doing together.

—Dave Elders

## COMMITTEE CHANGES PLANNED BY COUNCIL

At its triennial meeting, the General Council received a report, submitted by the chairmen of the Charter, International Fellowship, Domestic Extension, and Fraternal Relations Committees, recommending amendments to the charges to these committees presented in Article XI of the Constitution of URANTIA Brotherhood. The Council concurred in the general nature of these recommendations and referred the matter to the Executive Committee for presentation next year as a formally proposed constitutional amendment.

The stated goals of the reorganization are to: 1) make the work of all four committees fully global in scope, rather than specifically domestic (national) or international (non-domestic); 2) align the charge of each committee more closely with the basic values of the organization; 3) broaden the scope of each committee's responsibility to include both organizational and individual readership service, as appropriate.

Under the proposed changes, the Charter Committee will be renamed the Membership Committee, and will assume broader responsibilities for support of Society activities after chartering and for relations with members-at-large. The Domestic Extension Committee will be renamed the Extension Committee, and will focus its attentions on the worldwide dissemination of *The URANTIA Book*. The International Fellowship Committee will be renamed the Fellowship Committee, and will assume responsibility for worldwide study group formation, support, and liaison. The Fraternal Relations Committee will broaden its scope to include fraternal relations with religious individuals, as well as religious institutions.

At its June 30 meeting, the Executive Committee referred these recommendations to the Judicial Committee for further development.

## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

9th Midwest Conference for Students of *The URANTIA Book*—October 11-13

Wallen Place, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Theme: "Spiritual Perspectives for a New Age." Contact: Irene Sprunger, 4109 Plaza Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46806. Phone (219) 745-4363.

Oklahoma Forum—October 25-27

Theme: "The Foreword." Contact: Miss Berkeley Elliott, 14 S.W. 97th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73139. Phone (405) 794-2978.

1985 Fall Northeast Regional Conference—November 15-17

Episcopal Camp and Conference Center, Ivoryton, Connecticut. Contact URANTIA Society of Central Connecticut, P.O. Box 88, Farmington, CT 06034.

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## SEVEN RESOLUTIONS APPROVED BY TDA

The Triennial Delegate Assembly approved seven resolutions for referral to the General Council. The Council took formal action on all seven resolutions at its annual meeting held June 29-30 at Lake Forest College. Subsequently the Executive Committee assigned responsibilities for action to the officers and appropriate standing committees.

The following paragraphs summarize the actions taken to date on these various resolutions. Members and readers having particular expertise or insight to offer on the subject of a resolution are invited to contact those responsible individuals or committees directly or by writing in care of Brotherhood headquarters.

### Uniform Citation

The TDA asked the Executive Committee to develop a uniform system of citation for the identification of quotations from *The URANTIA Book*.

This matter was referred by the Council to the Executive Committee, which assigned the project to the Publications Committee, Dan Massey (Sherborn, MA), Chairman.

In the immediate future the Publications Committee will be assembling an *ad hoc* subcommittee to address this issue and develop recommendations for submission to the Council at its next annual meeting.

### Study Aids

The TDA asked the General Council, by whatever means it feels most desirable, to start the process of creating and accumulating study aids which can assist readers in their individual study of *The URANTIA Book*.

The Council ratified this resolution and referred it to the Executive Committee, which assigned the project to the Special Projects Committee, Marilyn Kulieke (Lake Bluff, IL), Chairman.

The Special Projects Committee expects to assemble an *ad hoc* subcommittee to address the many issues involved in planning and carrying out this major new project.

### Book Pricing

The TDA asked the President of URANTIA Brotherhood to request URANTIA Foundation to lower the retail price of *The URANTIA Book* and to develop a plan during the next year in cooperation with the Foundation for accomplishing this. A target retail price of less than \$20 was suggested in the resolution.

The Council ratified this resolution and referred it to the Executive Committee, which assigned the project to the Vice-President, Frank Sgaraglino (Highland Park, IL).

### Retail Distribution

The TDA asked for action to be taken to increase the percentage of retail book stores that stock *The URANTIA Book*. A number of specific actions were informally suggested, such as employment of a service representative for book store accounts, shortened turnaround on shipment of book orders, and continuing review of distribution and pricing policies in relation to current book industry norms.

The Council ratified this resolution and referred it to the Executive Committee, which assigned the project to the Domestic Extension Committee, Harry McMullan (Oklahoma City, OK), Chairman.

### Improved Communication

The TDA asked for a number of actions designed to improve

## GENERAL COUNCIL ELECTS NEW OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS

The Triennial Meeting of the General Council was held at Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL on June 29-30, 1985. The Council meets yearly to review the work done by the officers and committees through the past year and to elect officers and committee people whose terms have expired or positions been vacated. Since this was a triennial meeting, following the meeting of the TDA, the Council also considered and disposed of the various resolutions which had been referred to it by the TDA. The disposition of these resolutions, and other policy related actions of the Council are discussed in separate articles in this issue of the *Bulletin*.

This year the terms of the five officers expired, and there were many vacancies on the departmental committees. The Council discussed alternative candidates for the various positions. After the voting the following results were announced:

President	David N. Elders
Vice President	Frank Sgaraglino
Secretary	Marian Rowley
Treasurer	Charles Burton
Secretary-General	John Hales

### JUDICIAL

Duane L. Faw, Chairman

**Term  
in Years**  
6

### CHARTER

Stephen Dreier, Chairman  
Mary Lou Hales

4  
6

### FRATERNAL RELATIONS

Peter Laurence, Chairman  
Carol S. Hay  
Michael A. Painter  
Philip Rolnick

3  
2  
4  
6

### DOMESTIC EXTENSION

Cecilia Forrester  
Mo Siegel

1  
6

### INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

James H. Johnson

6

### EDUCATION

John Andrews

6

### PUBLICATIONS

Dan Massey, Chairman  
Neal Waldrop, III  
Eileen Laurence

6  
2  
5

### FINANCE

John D. Hay, Chairman  
Gary Reedy  
James P. Jarnagin

3  
2  
6

### SPECIAL PROJECTS

Marilynn Kulieke, Chairman  
James McNelly

6  
3

The Executive Committee is made up of the five officers and nine departmental committee chairmen. Since four new chairmen were elected by the Council, the Executive Committee will have a distinctively new look in the future.



## BY-LAWS AMENDED

The General Council approved an amendment to the By-Laws of URANTIA Brotherhood at its triennial meeting held June 29-30, 1985 at Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, Illinois. This amendment, which deals with specific procedures to be followed by the Council, was proposed by the Judicial Committee and recommended by the Executive Committee.

The new amendment replaces Paragraph 4 of the By-Laws with entirely new material which provides for: 1) the formal development, presentation, adoption, and use of an agenda for each meeting of the General Council; 2) the use of Roberts' Rules of Order in all Council meetings; 3) the establishment of a policy with respect to petitions to the Council; and 4) the revision of procedures for removal of a Councilor.

In his explanation of the need for the amendment concerning petitions, Judicial Committee Chairman Duane Faw (Malibu, CA) stated in part:

"there needs to be a way that the substance of each petition is made known to the General Council at the appropriate time in order that the Council may determine an appropriate response. (The) proposed paragraph...represents...an appropriate balance between the valid rights of Societies and members to petition the General Council and the valid interests of the General Council in maintaining an orderly consideration of such petitions."

Under the new procedures, any petition which has been formally adopted by majority vote of a URANTIA Society, or which is signed by twelve or more members in good standing of URANTIA Brotherhood will be considered by the General Council. The Executive Committee is responsible for the submission, authentication, and form of presentation of all valid petitions. The manner in which the substance of each petition will be acted on is determined solely by the General Council.

In his explanation of the new procedure for removal of Councilors, Mr. Faw wrote:

"The present procedures for removing a General Councilor are too cumbersome. No provision is made for a hearing on the merits prior to the Executive Committee's recommendation for removal. When removal is recommended, a...form of trial is held before the General Council in which the Councilors sit as a jury of 35 persons... (The) proposed paragraph... provides for a full and fair hearing on the merits by the Judicial Committee before the Executive Committee recommends removal. A record is made of the hearing. The record, together with the findings of fact, opinions and recommendations of the hearing body, are considered by the Executive Committee before they vote upon any recommendation to remove a Councilor. The same information is available to the General Council before it acts upon the recommendation. Both the Executive Committee and the General Council may require additional information if they so desire. The rights of the challenged Councilor are spelled out..."

In thirty years, it has never been necessary for the General Council to act to remove one of its members, nor is such an eventuality anticipated at this time. A majority of the Council agreed with the Judicial and Executive Committees that it would be best to adopt improved procedures in this area before any problem arises.

*Continued from page 3*

communications between the official organization and Societies, members, and readers worldwide. Requested actions included: 1) distribution of a President's Letter within two weeks after every Executive Committee meeting to General Councilor, Society Presidents, Field Representatives, and Trustees of URANTIA Foundation, covering progress and decisions made at the meeting; 2) quarterly publication of the *URANTIA Brotherhood Bulletin* to the entire mailing list; and, 3) enhanced communications between committee chairmen and their respective committees.

After considerable discussion, the General Council referred this resolution to the Executive Committee, which will seek to implement these requests to the extent feasible, given available resources.

The Executive Committee approved the first request and added Society Secretaries to the planned distribution list. The second request has been placed at the discretion of the Publications Committee, which will attempt to regularize and accelerate publication of the *Bulletin* as additional resources become available. In the area of internal committee communications, it was recommended that individual committee members feel free to take the initiative in establishing contact with committee chairmen.

### Organizational History

The TDA asked the General Council to establish a procedure to preserve for the edification of future generations of the members and functionaries of URANTIA Brotherhood a factual history of its evolution from its inception in 1955 to the present day; to be compiled as a narrative chronology of events, people, and places, without prejudice.

The Council referred this resolution to the Executive Committee, which referred it to the Special Projects Committee for further study.

### Biographies of Council Candidates

The TDA requested the General Council to develop a mechanical standard for the biographies of candidates for election to the Council which are submitted to TDA delegates for their information.

The Council referred this matter to the Executive Committee, which asked the Secretary, Marian Rowley (Chicago, IL), and the Secretary-General, John Hales (Kenilworth, IL), to develop an appropriate standard for future use, based on forms in use in similar voluntary organizations.

## STUDY GROUP DIRECTORY

Domestic Extension Committee of URANTIA Brotherhood requests that anyone whose study group does not appear in the *Study Group Directory* but would like it to appear there should send his name, address, and telephone number to:

Study Group Directory  
URANTIA Brotherhood  
533 Diversey Parkway  
Chicago, Illinois 60614

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