



# URANTIA® Brotherhood BULLETIN

SUMMER 1989

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## First International Societies Chartered



Signing of membership book at Finnish URANTIA Society installation

As believers in the teachings of *The URANTIA Book*, we are supposed to be above any concern with what we know is to become the anachronistic manifestation of nationalism; yet it is still all too natural for us to feel a sense of historical importance as we witness what one might call the "internationalization" of URANTIA Brotherhood.

Until June of 1989, the Brotherhood was an American organization—in fact, if not in spirit. But with the near simultaneous installations in Finland and in Canada, the "American" Brotherhood has become worldwide.

Someday, society installations anywhere will be of equal importance regardless of the national borders within which they take place. Today, let us welcome the Finnish URANTIA Society r.y. Helsinki and the Couchiching URANTIA Society of Ontario as the first two societies outside the United States. But as we do so, let us hold in our minds the vision of a Brotherhood and, indeed, a world where nationality is of no

significance.

—Avi Dogim, Charter Committee

### Finnish URANTIA Society Installed

Said the Master: "...where two or three believers are gathered together, there am I in the midst of them." His presence was there when the efforts of more than twenty years of URANTIA activities in Finland were brought to a culmination at Piek-sämäki, a small inland town, on June 3, 1989, at the installation of Suomen URANTIA-seura/Finnish URANTIA Society, the first non-American URANTIA society in the world.

Apart from the 56 members of the newly chartered society, the function was officiated, witnessed and greeted by David Elders, President of URANTIA Brotherhood; Martin Myers, President of URANTIA Foundation; Berkeley Elliott, Chairman of the International Fellowship Committee, and Mary Lou Hales, representing the Charter Committee. Additionally, a great number of repre-

## NEWS FROM 533...

**Two society charterings outside U.S.** formally create an international URANTIA Brotherhood. (See cover story.)

**Summer Seminars** again successful with unusually high attendance and participation. (See page 3.)

**URANTIA Society reps** met to discuss ideas and common concerns at third society conclave. (See page 3.)

**General Council** met at Lake Forest. New committee members elected; plans set to review long-range purposes and goals. (See back page.)

**1990 International Conference** plans proceeding. Registration packet to be mailed in January. (See back page.)

**Scientific Symposium II** planned for Nashville in 1991. Planners are calling for papers. Presentations from first symposium, reprinted in *URANTIAN*, still available. (See back page.)

**Three language summaries** of *The Bulletin* now being made available for readers outside the U.S. Summaries are being sent in either French, Spanish, or Finnish, depending on the native language of the recipient. o

sentatives and members of existing URANTIA societies and other individuals from the USA and France attended. The new society was likewise presented with gifts and messages of welcome by numerous URANTIA societies and *URANTIA Book* readers from many parts of the world.

The first copy of *The URANTIA Book* arrived in Finland in the mid-1960s. It was well received by enthusiasts in the "Association of Interplanetarists." It was soon felt necessary to translate the book into the Finnish language. A financial support group for the Finnish translation was set up in the mid-1980s, and it was among this group that the idea of constituting a URANTIA society in Finland began to mature and take root. But many apprehensions and difficulties had to be  
See **International Societies** on page 2.



*"The call to the adventure of building a new and transformed human society by means of the spiritual rebirth of Jesus' brotherhood of the kingdom should thrill all who believe in him as men have not been stirred since the days when they walked about on earth as his companions in the flesh." (2034)*

### International Societies

overcome until the URANTIA flag of three concentric circles was unfolded at the memorable function of June 3, 1989. This flag, a gift from URANTIA Brotherhood, symbolizes our full participation in the activities of URANTIA Brotherhood and invites us to ever greater efforts in the service of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

—Seppo Kanerva,  
Finnish URANTIA Society

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A clownish delight for children  
at Canadian chartering

### Canadian URANTIA Society Installed

On the morning of Saturday, June 10th, 1989, the Couchiching URANTIA Society of Ontario received its charter and was officially welcomed into the growing international fellowship of URANTIA Brotherhood. A culmination of many years' work, the installation ceremony was a highlight of the ninth annual conference for readers of *The URANTIA Book* at the YMCA Geneva Park Conference Centre on Lake Couchiching in Ontario in Canada.

The formal intent to organize a society was made as a result of a meeting at a similar conference in 1987. The 1988 conference saw the adoption of a draft constitution and election of a protem executive. Since that time the executive worked to establish program activities and objectives while fine tuning the constitution to meet various URANTIA Brotherhood and URANTIA Foundation requirements.



Finnish URANTIA Society chartering in progress

International Fellowship Committee Chairman Berkeley Elliott, who was a source of great encouragement and advice at the 1987 conference, commented on how pleased she was to be attending her second international chartering in one week.

During his congratulatory remarks, John Hales, representing URANTIA Foundation and central office staff, read a letter from Foundation President Martin Myers which in part said, "We look forward to working with you all in the exciting days to come, as we labor in the Father's vineyard to bring to our tumultuous world the inspiring message of love, hope and faith contained in the pages of *The URANTIA Book*."

Representing URANTIA Brotherhood, Lynne Kulieke referred to a letter from Brotherhood President David Elders

which in part read, "If one of the real goals of our life experience on this planet is to learn how to cooperate with others based not upon any perceived need but rather on the joys of unselfishly giving a measure of personal sovereignty to the service of our fellows, then working together in a society format offers a real opportunity to do just that."

Avi Dogim, Chairman of the Charter Committee, presented the official charter document to Society President Scott McDougall. Scott said that all present would treasure this long-awaited moment and that "now the real work begins." On behalf of URANTIA Brotherhood, Avi then presented the society with a white flag containing the three concentric circles.

—Scott McDougall, Couchiching  
URANTIA Society of Ontario



Participants in the chartering of Couchiching URANTIA Society of Ontario



# Report on 1989 Summer Seminar at Lake Forest College



Hoite ("Oprah") Caston conducts mock television interview with *URANTIA* Book representatives Mary Daly, Marvin Garwyn, and David Kulieke.

About 150 *URANTIA* Book readers from the U.S., Canada, Finland and Spain attended the 1989 Summer Seminar presented at Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois, in late June. Themed "Foundations for the Jesusonian Gospel," the gathering was sponsored by the Education and Fraternal Relations Committees of *URANTIA* Brotherhood. The adult attendance was up by two-thirds from the previous year's 90. (More than twenty children also attended.)

The seminars featured a variety of presentations organized by the Education Committee, encompassing papers 93-119 in *The URANTIA Book*. Intro-

ductory talks each morning included "Foundations of the Jesusonian Gospel" by Ralph Zehr, "The New 'New Kingdom'—Brotherhood" by Carolyn Kendall, "Perspectives on Sonship" by Gloriann Harris, and "Responsibilities of Ascending Citizenship" by Dave Elders. The closing plenary session on the last day was a worship service conducted by Bill and Kaye Cooper.

Morning and afternoon sessions included overview workshops on groups of papers, as well as themed presentations and workshops ranging from "Development of the God Concept in Ancient Egyptian Religion" to "The New Thought Movement." According to Dan Massey, Education Committee chair, the expanded format was well received. Dan commented that the intent was to "broaden the appeal" of the seminars.

A further aim of the committee, Dan added, was to broaden the base of presenter participation. "Around 25% of those who attended did something on the program, and there were nearly 40 different presenters to choose from. It is important, in preparing teachers and leaders, to give more people an oppor-

tunity to develop and conduct topical workshops and lectures."

Events presented by the Fraternal Relations Committee during the evenings and on Wednesday dealt with interfaith activities and public presentations of *The URANTIA Book*, and featured an experimental worship service. Fraternal Relations Committee Chairman, Peter Laurence, said, "We have opened up new avenues for a relationship between the study of *The URANTIA Book* and existing mainline churches." While the committee has not yet discussed its plans for future seminars, such seminars will be "consistent with our basic mission of educating *URANTIA* Book students about the current status of religion, so they can better understand how the book's teachings might be accepted on the planet," said Peter.



Youthful seminar goer much impressed with the week's activities.

## Society Conclave Idea Again Proves Successful

By David Kulieke  
Conclave Coordinator

*URANTIA* societies met for a conclave on the weekend just before the Summer Seminars on June 24 and 25. Fourteen of the current twenty societies sent representatives, including the newly chartered societies from Ontario and Finland, as well as two presociety groups from Arizona and Florida. This was the third *URANTIA* Society Conclave.

Conclaves are intended to encourage sharing and cooperation among societies. The societies have an opportunity to compare notes, share wisdom, and get new ideas from hearing how other groups conduct the business of *URANTIA* Brotherhood in their areas. The conclaves are characterized by harmony and an almost complete lack of competition since each group represents only its own area and profits by the success of others in their areas. In this way a conclave is somewhat analogous

to a governors' conference while the Triennial Delegate Assembly, which meets for the purpose of electing general councilors and proposing resolutions, would be more comparable to a congress or parliament.

The 1988 conclave had ended with an enthusiastic call from its attenders for a longer version in 1989 to be held just before the Seminars, with the meetings concentrating on societal cooperation. This became the theme for the 1989 Society Conclave.

Attenders took a look at some of the conclaves that meet regularly throughout the universe. They include conclaves of personalities from morontia creatures to Creator Sons to Master Spirits, all meeting to deliberate the better administrations of their domains in a spirit of cooperation.

The Saturday morning session was

devoted to sharing ideas and projects that had been effective. One attender said, "It was a wonderful opportunity for sharing experiences and other aspects of society functions."

Part of Saturday afternoon was spent giving "expert" societies with experience in certain areas a chance to help other societies. Discussion centered on conferences, training, library book placement, and booths at book fairs.

Saturday concluded with a discussion, led by Waldine Stump, on how to maintain intersocietal cooperation between conclaves.

Sunday focused on issues affecting the societies and the Brotherhood as a whole. Issues included area coordinators and their relationship to societies, and Triennial Delegate Assembly concerns. Planning is under way for another conclave next year. □



*"If you love your fellows as I have loved you, then shall all men know that you are my disciples." (1:125)*

## CONFERENCES

**October 5-8, Noosa Heads, Queensland, Australia.** Contact Ann Bendall, P.O. Box #839, Nambour 4560, Qld., Australia.

**October 12-15, MO Ranch Conference Center, Kerrville, Texas.** Theme: "Techniques for Spiritual Growth." Contact *The Circles*, c/o Carol Weatherford, 215 Woodway Court, Spring, Texas 77386, (713) 363-1652.

**May 24-27, 1991, Scientific Symposium II, Nashville, TN.** Theme: "Man's Increasing Control: A Shift in Understanding." Planners are calling for papers on topics for presentations related to the natural and social sciences, with an emphasis on how progress in scientific discovery is assisting mankind in mastering the laws of nature and assuming control of the environment. Abstracts should be 500 to 1,000 words in length. Send to: Scientific Symposium II, 14607 Pine Glen Circle, Lutz, FL 33549.

**August, 1994, Jesus' 2000th birthday celebration in Jerusalem.** Contact First URANTIA Society of Oklahoma, c/o Berkeley Elliott, 14 SW 97th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73139, (405) 794-2978. Spaces are limited, so get your name on the list now to receive more information. This will be a 10-day trip.



**1990 International Conference of URANTIA Brotherhood, Snowmass/Aspen, June 30-July 5.** The "Walking with God" theme is based on the habits that favor religious growth (page 1095 in *The URANTIA Book*). Each religious habit will be explored in depth by stimulating workshops and creative arts presentations.

Reversion will include whitewater rafting, horseback riding, swimming, fishing, mountain bike rides, a gondola ride to the top of Aspen Mountain, and guided hikes through beautiful forests.

A registration packet with more information will be arriving in your mailbox in January. □

## General Council Meets at Lake Forest

**T**he General Council of URANTIA Brotherhood met June 24-25, 1989, at Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, Illinois, prior to the startup of the Summer Seminar sessions.

The General Council elected eleven new committee members.

John Hay reported on the progress of preparations for the General Conference, which is scheduled for July, 1990, at Snowmass, Colorado. To date over 600 individuals have returned the preregistration form that was sent earlier in the year. An attendance of 1,000 to 1,200 readers from all over the world is now expected by conference planners.

An ad hoc committee was established to present to the General Council a code of ethics statement pertinent to General Councilors during their terms of service. The committee, led by Brent St. Denis of Ontario, will present the statement at the next General Council meeting.

The General Council charged the Finance Committee to research the feasibility

of establishing a membership fee in URANTIA Brotherhood in order to broaden the base of financial support. The Committee will report its findings to the General Council at its next meeting.

A resolution was placed on the floor of the meeting which recommended that a quarterly publication, entitled "The Study Group Herald," be prepared by URANTIA Brotherhood for fostering the growth and nurturing of study groups. The resolution passed with a unanimous vote of the General Council.

Paul Snider presented a model of suggested long-range goals for URANTIA Brotherhood. The General Council has placed this model as a topic for discussion on the agenda of its next regular meeting, with each member preparing to contribute to the process through study, prayer, and a written statement brought to the meeting.

The next General Council meeting is set for January 27-28, 1990, in Phoenix, Arizona. □

### What was that word?

**VICISSITUDE**—Change, accompanied by a difficulty or hardship incident to life and usually beyond one's control; implies a change great enough to constitute a reversal of what has been.

**INEVITABILITIES**—Situations incapable of being avoided or evaded. (See pg. 51.)

*The URANTIAN, Journal of URANTIA Brotherhood*, is available by subscription. Annual subscription price is \$5. Write "Journal," URANTIA Brotherhood, 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, IL 60614.

Copies of the special 66-page issue devoted to Scientific Symposium I are still available. The issue includes the full text of every presentation made at the symposium. Copies are \$5 each.

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A URANTIA® Publication

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