

## The Brotherhood Then...



Installation of Glenview Society, 1957

Urantia Brotherhood was launched Sunday, January 2, 1955, with high hopes—and not a few illusions—about the immediate acceptance of *The Urantia Book*. Members of the Forum had been coming to 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, to hear the papers read for many years, and a majority were impatient to see some results in their own lifetimes. Even the usually conservative Bill Sadler, first Brotherhood president, when asked how many Urantia Societies he envisioned ten years hence, predicted, "Oh, not less than 100,000." One Forum member planned to buy copies of major U.S. newspapers, expecting a sensational reaction to the advent of the fifth epochal revelation.

The committee that hit the ground running was Domestic Extension. Their proposal at the first Executive Committee meeting in February, 1955 was to urge the offering of serial rights of *The Urantia Book* to *Life* magazine. The vote was overwhelmingly negative. The advertising experts, former actors and salesmen who constituted the committee next

drew up a bookstore consignment plan consisting of four elements: token ads in book sections of leading publications (*New York Times*, *San Francisco Examiner*, etc.); an introductory folder describing the book; one mailing, plus follow-up mailing, to bookstores; and selling the book to libraries. The Executive Committee's response was a firm, "Nope," urging instead, quiet dissemination "where it would do the most good, so that gradually, without the usual 20th Century publicity campaigns, the world would become aware of its existence." Most of the features of the committee's plan were implemented eventually.

Committee spokesman Clyde Bedell endeavored to persuade otherwise, but it was futile. A compromise was accepted; books would be placed in libraries and a few copies sent to influential people around the world. Among those receiving unsolicited copies were Sholem Asche, Ralph Bunche, Arthur Compton, Norman Cousins, Aldous Huxley, Edward R. Morror, Eleanor Roosevelt and Edward Teller. Response

was negligible, and it was later recommended that books be proffered to famous people only when a personal acquaintanceship already existed.

The committee whose projects easily won the favor of the Executive Committee was the Committee on Education, chaired by William S. Sadler, Sr. Within one year of the book's publication, a teaching faculty was trained, textbooks developed, and the Urantia Brotherhood School opened with 71 students enrolled. By 1960, 17 students had received Certified Leader documents, and many of these same students eventually attained the status of Ordained Teacher. The school tested a student's knowledge of the book but not the ability to teach. It took Grace Stephens, a straight "A" student, 20 years to get up her courage to accept a teaching assignment at First Urantia Society. Each year fewer students enrolled—they were tough courses—and the growing emphasis upon science did not appeal to everyone. Eventually, the school ran out of students and disbanded.

The Charter Committee discovered that the basic nature of a Urantia Society was not clearly set forth in the Constitution. Everyone on the Executive Committee had a different opinion, but finally agreed upon an innocuous statement which said it was anticipated that three types of people would constitute a society: believers, seekers and the curious. First Urantia Society was installed in June, 1956, eventuated from the soil of the Forum. The committee was kept busy, chartering five more societies in the next five years: West Coast (FUSLA), Glenview, Oklahoma, Second Society of Chicago (now defunct) and Orvonton (Illinois).

Foreign Extension, now International Fellowship Committee, sent books to 100 libraries in Great Britain, South Africa and Australia. Many years passed

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## Unity-in-Diversity

Most *Urantia Book* readers exhibit a number of common characteristics. We are, of course, interested in the personal study and practice of the fifth epochal revelation. Usually, we desire to share *The Urantia Book* with others who are not aware of its existence. We also tend to be active and independent thinkers, unafraid to consider and embrace new and unorthodox concepts.

We frequently manifest a significant degree of idealism. *The Urantia Book* encourages the living of high personal and social ideals, and those attracted to these teachings are often interested in the active pursuit of such ideals. We seek personal growth in our experience of sonship with the Universal Father, and in the realization of our kinship relations to all other beings. We maintain high visions of the potentials of family life, social service, and spiritual fellowship.

The Fellowship was organized thirty-six years ago in response to the publication of *The Urantia Book*. Its members have all the characteristics listed above, and some additional ones as well. We believe there is a supreme benefit in associating with other like-minded in-

dividuals in the pursuit of these high ideals. We imagine a collective effort based in a mutual respect which values and encourages the active participation of each member. We understand the uniqueness of each personality, and we are attracted to the possibility of achieving a living manifestation of *unity-in-diversity*.

High ideals are never easy to achieve. Fellowship members are a diverse group, with diverse convictions and tastes. The achievement and maintenance of *unity-in-diversity* among such a group of independently thinking spiritual idealists requires intelligent and dedicated effort from all involved. Each person is equally responsible for helping it grow. In fact, I believe it is growing right before our eyes. We really are learning to love and value one another. We are learning to do useful things, and to do them in ways which have cosmic survival value.

The process is evolutionary, advancing through experiential trial and error. In comparison with other models, progress may seem relatively slow, but there is no rapid way to accomplish the supreme and freewill integration of so

many diverse viewpoints. If we were willing to adopt autocratic methods, we might move somewhat faster; but we have chosen the more complex and challenging democratic model, and that requires more time. Quality of means and ends is our goal, not speed. The only way to increase our rate of progress without sacrificing quality is a greater willingness and ability to manifest the fruits of the spirit in all that we do.

Together, as we continue to progress in this effort, we will achieve a living demonstration of a fundamental cosmic truth: Unique and highly active personalities with strongly held personal viewpoints can work cooperatively and productively in peace and brotherhood; *unity-in-diversity* is an achievable ideal, pregnant with supremely fascinating discoveries of cosmic citizenship.

Let us all continue to contribute our best to this undertaking. The child is born. Its successful development requires the intelligent and devoted concern of its parents—the members of the Fellowship.

—Steve Dreier

## From the Vice President

The majority of my work over the past year has been in the area of the Strategic Plan's "Supporting Goals." The supporting goals were established to help us build a solid base upon which to support a variety of social, outreach, and study efforts which would occur both centrally but, more importantly, as grass roots efforts. I feel it is important that each individual who believes in the validity of *The Urantia Book* work in his or her own way to share its teachings, study its teachings, and live its teachings. In turn, I hope that the Fellowship can provide you with the support you need as you engage in this worthwhile work.

Much of my time over the past year has been spent working with the office at 529 Wrightwood. Being the only officer who lives in Chicago, I have helped with a variety of tasks, including determining the kind of office space our organization needs, improving our filing system, and supporting office needs.

During the past year we have been working to create a central office which is not only cost-efficient to run but meets the needs of the Fellowship.

I helped organize the Fellowship's midyear meeting in Tampa, Florida last year where we further developed our strategic planning efforts. This year we are working on a midyear meeting in Los Angeles, California where the meeting theme will focus on outreach. I have also been a part of the editorial review process for some of our publications.

I continue to be very optimistic about the Fellowship's future. Over the past two years we have successfully negotiated our way through a major transition. We have made many changes in the way which we have operated. There are many opportunities ahead of us. I hope that as we work together we can accomplish some of the plans we have only been able to dream about in the past.

—Marilynn Kulieke

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with no evidence that these books were found by seekers. It was not library placements that eventually stimulated interest in the book, but rather the personal efforts of individuals who introduced it into those countries.

A quarterly newsletter was written by successive vice presidents (Warren Kulieke and Jim Mills) until Emma L. Christensen (Christy) assumed office. She didn't want the task, and it was turned over to the Publications Committee, where it became the *Bulletin*.

Several standing committees had little to do except satisfy the required number of meetings each year. This did not necessarily mean that the annual report of the chairman to the General Council was brief, however!

By 1961, almost 4300 books had been sold or given away—less than six years after publication, and with no advertising of the book. Over 400 book stores had sold *Urantia Books*, many of which

*Concluded on Back Cover.*



## ...and The Fellowship Today

The mission of the Fellowship is "...to increase and enhance the comfort, happiness, and well-being of Man, as an individual and as a member of society, by fostering a religion, a philosophy and a cosmology which are commensurate with Man's intellectual and cultural development, through the medium of fraternal association...."

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*Purpose I:* "...the study and dissemination of *The Urantia Book* and its teachings."

### Goals and Programs

1. Disseminate *The Urantia Book* throughout the world:
  - **Adopt-A-Bookstore Program**—D.E.C.
2. Facilitate the establishment and development of thousands of study groups:
  - **Area Coordinator Program**—D.E.C.
  - **Study Group Directory**—D.E.C.
  - **Study Group Herald**—D.E.C., Pub., Ed.
3. Facilitate and promote the emergence of dedicated individuals to present *The Urantia Book* and its teachings:
  - **Summer Seminars**—Ed.
  - **Wrightwood Series**—Ed.
4. Facilitate the awareness of supporting works to *The Urantia Book*:
  - **Resource Guide to secondary works**—Spec. Proj.
5. Promote awareness of the existence of *The Urantia Book*:
  - **Book Marker Program**—D.E.C.
  - **Telephone Message Program**—D.E.C.
  - **Adopt-A-Bookstore**—D.E.C.

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*Purpose II:* "...the promotion, improvement, and expansion among the peoples of the world of the comprehension and understanding of Cosmology and the relation of the planet on which we live to the Universe, of the genesis and destiny of Man and his relation to God, and of the teachings of Jesus...."

### Goals and Programs

1. Promote awareness of the concepts, ideas, and the teachings of *The Urantia Book* among non-readers of the book:
  - **Book Marker Program**—D.E.C.
  - **Telephone Message Program**—D.E.C.
2. Improve and expand the comprehension and understanding of the concepts, ideas, and teachings of *The Urantia Book* among readers of the book:
  - **Summer Seminars**—Ed.
3. Stimulate the adoption of the universe pattern of "student-becoming-teacher" to convert the comprehension and understanding of the concepts, ideas, and teachings of *The Urantia Book* into a philosophy of living:
  - **Wrightwood Series**—Ed.

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*Purpose III:* "...the inculcation and encouragement of the realization and appreciation of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man...."

### Goals and Programs

1. Facilitate and encourage conferences, retreats, presentations and programs which facilitate spiritual receptivity and sensitivity:
  - **Summer Seminar Presentations**—Fr. Rel.
  - **International Conferences**—Ad Hoc Committees
2. Initiate interaction with other religious traditions:
  - **North American Interfaith Network**—Fr. Rel.
3. Encourage and support the practice of prayer and worship.
4. Encourage the development of a variety of materials which will enhance spiritual living:
  - **The Journal**—Pub.
5. Encourage the development of spiritual living.
6. Develop appropriate symbols which could be used by individuals and groups to convey an attitude of spiritual unity.

### Supporting Goals

1. Establish a communication network for *Urantia Book* readers throughout the world:
  - **Bulletin**—Pub.
  - **SGH**—D.E.C., Pub., Ed.
  - **The Journal**—Pub.
  - **Study Group Directory**—D.E.C.
  - **Resource Guide**—Spec. Proj.
  - **Pronunciation Guide**—Spec. Proj.
  - **Phone Referrals**—Staff
2. Foster input from readers throughout the world on organizational functioning:
  - **"Commentary," the Bulletin**—Pub.
  - **Comments, solicitation mailings**—Fin.
3. Foster the establishment of constituent societies and membership-at-large, and provide them with ongoing support, guidance, and project coordination.
4. Maintain an historical perspective for the organization:
  - **Archive Program**—Spec. Proj.
  - **Record of Decisions**—Spec. Proj.
  - **Oral History**—Spec. Proj.
5. Manage an orderly transition from status as a Urantia Foundation licensee:
  - **Principles Research**—Jud.
  - **Organizational Structure Research**—Jud.
6. Maintain a financially stable organization that will support the organization's purposes, goals and strategies:
  - **Fundraising**—Fin.



# The Fellowship Committees' Annual Reports

## CHARTER COMMITTEE

In addition to its constitutionally mandated functions related to the chartering of new societies, the Charter Committee has begun this year to serve as liaison between the existing societies and the General Council. The assumption of this added function by Charter, which requires no constitutional amendment, was approved by the Executive Committee in order to enhance communication between local societies and the central organization. It is consistent with the Fellowship's goal, stated in its strategic plan "to foster the establishment of constituent societies and membership-at-large, and provide them with ongoing support, guidance, and project coordination."

It would be useful for societies to think of Charter as the Fellowship committee whose responsibility is to protect and to promote their interests. If an information gap between any society and the central organization needs closing, if a misunderstanding occurs, if some service is required, a society representative needs only to contact the Charter Committee member assigned to that society, or the Charter Committee chairman, in order to start the ball rolling. Likewise, if a society would like to embark on a project that would require other societies' involvement or would like assistance in convening a forum for society representatives—such as a society conclave, for example—the Charter Committee would help to facilitate such an undertaking.

As always, the Charter Committee is eager to provide information and assistance to any group of readers, anywhere on Urantia, interested in forming a local society or in merely exploring the possibility of doing so.

—Avi Dogim, Chair

## DOMESTIC EXTENSION COMMITTEE

1990-91 was a good year for the Domestic Extension Committee (DEC). Even further, 1992 looks better. Through a dedicated effort between DEC, area coordinators, the Executive Committee, the General Council, and the office staff at the Fellowship, numerous projects were initiated and completed. Highlights of projects recently completed or in process are:

**1. The Study Group Herald™.** In a joint effort between the Education Com-

mittee, the Publications Committee, and DEC, the *Study Group Herald* launched its first issue in 1991. Thanks to the wonderful work of editor Marty Greenhut and his array of good people, the first magazine was terrific. We anticipate a second issue any day. The *Study Group Herald* is dedicated to the furtherance of study groups throughout the world.

**2. Area Coordinators.** The Area Coordinator program has come into its own. Since its inception in 1989, area coordinators have been serving throughout the world. Approximately 100 area coordinators work to further the teachings of this revelation through study groups. The area coordinator mission is to establish and maintain contact with local *Urantia Book* readers and study groups, and to encourage and support them in their *Urantia Book* activities.

**3. Book Markers for New Readers.** Book markers come on tear-pads with twenty-five individual markers per pad. The markers explain *The Urantia Book's* teachings on six subjects. Space is provided for area coordinators or study group leaders to write their name and phone number. Thus anyone taking a book marker from a bookstore will have someone in their local area to contact.

**4. 1992-1993 Study Group Directory.** The 1991-1992 Study Group Directory has become a valuable tool for readers to find study groups throughout the world. Immediate work has begun on the 1992-1993 Study Group Directory. Anyone wishing to include their study group in this directory should contact the Fellowship. Last year's directory contained 297 groups. We hope this year's directory is well over 300.

**5. Adopt-A-Bookstore.** Because of a major decline in book availability, DEC has designed a system where local readers can adopt a bookstore and make *The Urantia Book* available in their area. The test site for the program was Denver, Colorado where seventeen bookstores participated in this program. All of these stores were out of stock before we implemented the program. Today they all have books. Anyone interested in knowing more about the program should write the Fellowship for a free brochure on how they can adopt a bookstore in their local area.

**6. Telephone Message Program.** We have been testing a program where people read a message in a newspaper and call a listed phone number for a

taped inspirational message. Based on the success of this idea in San Diego, both Colorado and Arizona tested the program. The results have been dramatic. The Fellowship has allotted a \$5000 matching fund for local readers, study groups, and societies for the development of phone programs. If you are interested in installing a phone program, please contact the Fellowship.

**7. Finding and Keeping New Readers.** Currently Paula Thompson of the DEC is preparing a step-by-step procedure for finding and keeping new readers interested in *The Urantia Book*. This document, designed like the Adopt-A-Bookstore program pamphlet, will be available through the Fellowship in the early part of 1992.

If you have any ideas for spreading the revelation throughout the world and starting and keeping study groups, please send your thoughts to Domestic Extension Committee, c/o The Fellowship. If you would like to participate in any way, we are most interested and appreciative of your services. If you are interested in actually joining the committee, please also let us know.

—Mo Siegel, Chair

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee is charged by the Fellowship Constitution to "...find, prepare, and qualify teachers of *The Urantia Book*..." and to "...interest such...persons in preparing themselves to teach...and to prepare and qualify such persons to teach *The Urantia Book*." Over the years, the ideas implied by the words "to teach *The Urantia Book*" have been broadened in practice to mean "to help readers to understand the teachings of *The Urantia Book*."

To support this goal, the Education Committee organizes and sponsors two series of programs devoted to the study of the book and to the study of ways to study and teach the book. These are the Wrightwood Series of topical workshops (new this spring) and the continuing series of Intensive Summer Seminars.

Attendance at the Intensive Summer Seminars is open to all readers. Since 1982, seminars have been held during the last week of June on the tree-lined campus of Lake Forest College in suburban Chicago. Attendance averages about 150. A typical program has 30-50 distinct events in which readers from all

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geographic areas demonstrate their approaches to understanding, to explaining, and to correlating the teachings of *The Urantia Book*.

In a new initiative beginning this spring, the Education Committee is organizing the Wrightwood Series of topical workshops. This program will invite and sponsor small groups of readers to spend a full weekend at Fellowship headquarters studying critically important topics using *The Urantia Book* as the major text for in-depth research. The Education Committee hopes the Wrightwood Series will inspire papers, presentations, and conference programs that will stimulate broader discussion of these subjects throughout the movement.

Two workshops in the Wrightwood Series have been set for the spring to test the value of this approach. Because of the short time available for planning, personal study papers are not being requested from the readership for these two topics. We do, however, ask readers interested in these subjects to submit questions for consideration by the workshop teams.

The first workshop, to be held in April, has as its working title, "Community, Identity, and the Integration of Family Values: How to Build the Living Temple of Spiritual Fellowship." The second workshop, to be held in May, will consider the facts, meanings, and values of the presentation of race in *The Urantia Book*.

—Dan Massey, Chair

## FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1991 has been an important milestone for the Fraternal Relations Committee. With approval from the General Council, the committee has been allowed to apply for membership to the North American Interfaith Network (NAIN). The committee anticipates hearing from NAIN with respect to its application some time in April of 1992. This affiliation provides the committee with the opportunity to actually network with other faith communities, to participate in ongoing dialogues on major issues of religion and spirituality.

Several members of the committee have been very active with respect to interfaith activities in their area. Peter and Eileen Laurence recently attended an interfaith conference in India. Beth Bartley has been active with her local interfaith council in New York. Scott Forsythe has also been very active providing assistance to the planning of a large in-

terfaith gathering planned for Chicago in 1993. Gard Jameson continues to teach a world religions course at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and to speak locally to groups on interfaith subjects, recently speaking on the topic of "The Goddess" in world religious traditions.

The committee looks forward to assisting the Education Committee with the Intensive Summer Seminars in Lake Forest and to participating in the International Conference to be held in Montreal.

—Gard Jameson, Chair

## INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

The International Fellowship Committee underwent a change in leadership last summer. John Lange succeeded Berkeley Elliott as chairperson. Her level of selfless dedication and commitment to the international community has been a labor of love to the revelation one witnesses rarely over a lifetime. She has nurtured a network of readers worldwide, and we are fortunate she is staying on the committee as an active member.

Plans for the near future include a trip to visit our friends in Finland and to visit the new Russian Commonwealth this spring. A contingent of readers will also attend the conference in France this coming August along with a brief tour of Central and Southern Europe. If anyone is interested in either of these excursions, please contact Berkeley Elliott regarding reservations.

The leadership of our committee has changed, but the goal remains the same: to nurture a global spiritual community by shared experience through personal contact.

—John Lange, Chair

## JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

The Judicial Committee is currently engaged in a major project concerning the structure of our organization. This report will summarize our efforts thus far and our plans for the coming year.

The primary stimulus for initiating this work came from the substantial interest expressed over the last several years in making our organization more directly responsive to individuals and societies by changing our constituted structure.

A basic principle was agreed upon to guide the process: that any organizational document we develop for use by the Fellowship should be modeled on fifth epochal principles of representative community process as expressed in *The Urantia Book*. To accomplish this task in response to this principle, we established

two ad hoc committees which would operate in parallel and whose eventual work products would be integrated in a progress report to the General Council at its June, 1992 meeting. These two committees would be comprised of readers who have expressed an interest in such a project; the respective charges for each being as follows:

**The Fifth Epochal Principles Research Committee.** This committee would be charged with researching the teachings of *The Urantia Book* for the purpose of providing a comprehensive view of those principles, patterns, and structures which would seem appropriate to consider as the basis for an organization such as ours in the context of the planet's fifth epoch of evolutionary growth and development. David Elders would serve as Judicial Committee Liaison for this committee.

**The Organizational Structure Research Committee.** As its name implies, this committee would be charged with researching various models of organizational structure now operating on the planet for the purpose of identifying the very best evolutionary examples of a structure for an organization such as ours (this research would include our current constituted structure). Duane Faw would serve as Judicial Committee liaison for this committee.

This is the primary project now engaging the time and energies of the Judicial Committee. We invite any reader who has questions or who is interested in the work of our committee to contact any of the following Judicial Committee members: David Elders, Duane Faw, Thomas Kendall, Ellen Montgomery, and David Owen.

—David Elders, Chair

## PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Publications Committee was pleased to see the first issue of the *Study Group Herald* (SGH) emerge this year, under the able editorial management of Marty Greenhut. The SGH is jointly overseen by the chairs of the Publications, Education, and Domestic Extension Committees.

We published three issues of the *Bulletin* this year, rather than four, and will continue to publish three times per year (winter, spring, summer/fall).

*The Journal* will be published soon, in a new format, under the editorial supervision of David Kulieke. The new *Journal* will include poetry, essays, and artistic expression.

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I believe that *The Urantia Book* is a true revelation. It gives complete meaning and direction to my life. I have a wonderful relationship with my Heavenly Father and it is my will that I do his will for me at all times. I am 67 years old and seem to have developed an ability to know what it is he would like and where his path goes.

—Washington

Thank you for doing a great job under these most trying conditions.

—Nevada

As we have seen by what has happened over the last six months, the world is moving quickly into a more peaceful environment. I hope that we will be ready when the world asks, where do we go from here?

—California

If God's will is done, *The UB* will soon be in the public domain and the trademarks will be thrown in the trash can. But there is still a great need for some group, acting as a publisher, to maintain the integrity of the text and to distribute *The UB*. Is the Fellowship thinking about this, or is it waiting for the day when it can rejoin the Foundation?

If the Fellowship *Bulletin* is a true reflection of the state of the organization, and I have no reason to doubt that it is, then I can only conclude that the Fellowship is in a state of severe denial of reality. The Fellowship makes the proverbial ostrich with its head in the sand look like a paragon of sanity.

—California

I'd like to see more opportunities for members at large. For example, I had no voice in the decision to end the Brotherhood. In fact, why aren't all members, members-at-large??

—California

You people are doing a good job and I don't know how I could assist except to say that please continue to keep us informed with what is going on in the center of the action.

—New Hampshire

As an individual completely committed to the teachings of Urantia, it concerns me greatly that human politics has driven a wedge between organizations which would otherwise be pursuing the same goal. Please call me to tell me how I might help with other projects.

—California

Thank you for your continued work in spreading this gospel. It has given me an enlightened hope that causes joy and strength in my life. I also desire to shed this light through my life.

—California

Thank you for giving me a way to be of service. The book, which I have been reading

159 days, has changed my life in innumerable ways.

—New York

Greetings from the Midtown Memphis group. We appreciate your work in the dissemination of *The Urantia Book* and pray that 1992 sees greater unity among all readers and children of God.

—Tennessee

Continue your good work with the Fellowship, but I feel that efforts should continue to re-establish our connection to the U. Foundation. A house divided against itself...etc. May we serve him unto eternity!

—California

When something is really right it has a ring to it, like the way the *UB* speaks or *A Course in Miracles*. I look forward to the coming day when the readers of the *UB* vibrate and ring. Our vision is still a bit muddy, it seems.

—Missouri

When I opened my book store in 1988 it was with the intention that I would be in a position to disseminate *The Urantia Book* whenever possible. This has happened. I've sold many of these books to individuals who were sincerely seeking for truth. Now I'd like to give back a little of my blessings to you.

—Wisconsin

May the coming year provide freedom for our revelation to proceed according to God's will.

—Texas

I believe that members of the Fellowship can best serve the purposes of the fifth epochal revelation by being first and foremost "well-versed" in all aspects of the blue book. Outreach, important as it is, must originate from a foundation of properly prepared and qualified spokespersons. Internal training, secondary resources, and efforts to promote cohesively balanced representation is critical.

—New York

*The Urantia Book*, for me, is progressively more and more relevant. Heard at Overeaters Anonymous: "Religion is for people who fear going to hell. Spirituality is for those who have been there."

—Pennsylvania

I still wish the Urantia (oops, can I say that word?) hassle of the past few years had never happened. But I guess it's a fact that politics/greed permeates even the best of places and ideas. However, the timeless beauty of *The U. Book* and Jesus' teachings will prevail despite our foolishness.

—Oklahoma

Bless you. *The Urantia Book* processes

change on our planet. The word gets out even as we few read the pages. Keep it lite and all shall see [sic].

—California

Please don't churchify, or creedalize. Please encourage study, dissemination and brotherhood. Please encourage spirituality vs. religion and discussion vs. instruction.

—Canada

I hope you continue the efforts to run the Fellowship as an open democracy.

—Missouri

## THE BULLETIN WELCOMES YOUR LETTERS

Your thoughts, ideas, and opinions are most welcome. The editors invite you to avail yourselves of this outlet to share your ideas, large or small.

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We are currently working on publishing presentations from the last Scientific Symposium, held in Oklahoma. The publication will exceed 100 pages in length and will contain all of the presentations from that conference.

The committee also oversaw the publication of the new Fellowship pamphlet which is now available from headquarters. It offers a brief introduction to *The Urantia Book* and an overview of Fellowship activities.

—Jim Johnston, Chair

## SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

The Special Projects Committee is planning an update to the *Resource Guide for Secondary Works of The Urantia Book*. The *Resource Guide* lists materials that are based on or are intended to supplement *The Urantia Book*, and it tells readers how to obtain the works. In order to add new listings and to update previous listing information, the committee is currently evaluating two different approaches—publish a supplement or publish a completely revised edition.

The committee is just beginning to work on a comprehensive Pronunciation Guide of words found in *The Urantia Book*. The goal is to try to obtain original pronunciation usage from Forum participants and then to use standardized dictionary pronunciation keys for the phonetic spelling.

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## HARRY ROWLEY



On January 19, 1992 some friends of Harry Rowley gathered at 529 Wrightwood to celebrate his life among us and to wish him well as he journeys ahead on the great voyage of discovery of the Universal Father. Harry passed away on October 7, 1991 due to complications from heart disease. Harry was less well known among readers of *The Urantia Book* than his sister, Marian, but those who came together in his memory all felt privileged to have had his presence within their lives and wished to reflect on the joys of their friendship with him.

Harry was one of those persons who quietly become a part of other people's lives. When such persons make the transition to the next stage of the universe journey, those who knew them come to realize that a significant presence has receded from their lives. Harry was a friendly, unassuming, unobtrusive, gentle man. Whenever you met Harry, he always greeted you with a broad, warm smile and a firm, friendly handshake, which was often followed by a gentle pat on the shoulder or back. When he asked how you were doing,

you knew that he was really interested in you and wanted to know how your life was progressing.

Harry and his wife, Donna, were introduced to the Urantia Papers in the early 1940's by his sister Marian, and both became members of the Forum. He was elected to the General Council in 1961 and served on that body until 1982. He also served as Treasurer of the Brotherhood and was a member at various times of the Judicial, Publications, Fraternal Relations and Finance Committees.

Those who served with him in his various capacities within the Brotherhood/Fellowship held him in respect. He often presented a perspective on a matter that others had not thought to express. When Harry spoke, people listened, because they respected his integrity, judgment and wisdom.

The Rowleys were charter members of the First Urantia Society and were founders of the Urantia Society of Glenview. The members of the Glenview Society recall Harry and Donna with particular fondness. During their years of involvement with the society, Harry and Donna displayed a steadfast commitment toward maintenance of the group. In fact, Harry was vice-president of the society at the time of his death. During times when only a handful of people participated in the study group of the society, Harry and Donna could always be counted among that group. Their

faithful determination is an abiding legacy to the Glenview Society.

When Harry retired from the Union Tank Car Company after a forty-year career, he and Donna decided to pursue a love a travel. As a consequence, they spent their summers in Minoqua, Wisconsin and wintered in Phoenix, Arizona. When living in Phoenix, they actively participated in and supported the study group in that area. The action of the students in Arizona to form a society was in part a consequence of Harry and Donna's encouragement and nurturing of the activities of the reader community in that area.

In 1987, Harry and Donna moved to a retirement home in Frankfort, Indiana. Donna contracted Alzheimer's disease and died on April 5, 1989. Up to the time of his death Harry remained an active server.

At the celebration on January 19, members of the Glenview Society expressed that Harry and Donna "each had a quiet, understated strength. Their plain, straightforward manner and gentle tolerance contributed greatly to molding the society they helped found. We in the Glenview Society today cherish their personal contributions, value their down-to-earth common sense, and salute their heritage." We were graced to have them in our midst.

—By Scott Forsythe and Carolyn Kendall

*Continued from page 6.*

The idea of establishing an Archival Library of organizational information at the central office was approved in 1991 and is now being expanded to include the idea of developing a Resource Library as well. The Resource Library would probably be aimed at gathering information on a wide variety of topics that have a special relevance or significance to *The Urantia Book* and its teachings. During the coming year, the committee will be discussing issues of storage space, criteria for inclusion, categorization, and access.

The Record of Decisions project has emphasized access to and use of orga-

nizational information. Phase II got a big boost during the past year with donations earmarked for an optical scanner and computer equipment. This equipment will allow the staff to develop a computerized text file of all previous General Council and Executive Committee minutes. The organization can then have immediate access to records of previous decisions and actions. Some consider this to be just a first step in making a wide variety of information more available to members using electronic media.

The Oral History project has been expanded and modified during 1991. The plan for videotaping personal interviews with early readers who participated in

the Forum and the Seventy has been put on hold. Implementation awaits solving logistical problems of finding, training, and sending interviewers throughout the country to arrange and conduct the interviews. In its place there has been an increased awareness of a need for having an accurate written historical record. A History Task Group has been established which will actually undertake the project of gathering the necessary information, writing the manuscript, and publishing the work.

The committee looks forward to another busy year of service to the community of readers of *The Urantia Book*.

—Bob Bruyn, Chair



*"But Jesus well knew he could never build an enduring spiritual movement upon the foundation of purely material wonders." (\*1632)*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar. 27-29, Arkansas Readers Conference; Eureka Springs, AR. Contact John Lange, (501) 782-3263.

Apr. 17-19, Grand Canyon Society Conference; Lake Powell, AZ. Theme: "Moving the Camp to Powell." Contact Crystal Harris, (602) 934-7906.

May 8-10, 1992, Adventures in Spiritual Living Retreat; Pioneer Chehalis Camp near Vancouver, BC, Canada. Contact Gwen/Norm Knighton, (604) 534-1178, or Alice/Eef Hoedemaker, (604) 856-8323.

May 22-24, 1992, Grailville Center, Loveland, OH. Theme: *The Urantia Book/A Course in Miracles*. Contact John Burdick, 7945 Indian Hill Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45243, (513) 561-4476.

June 5-7, Dallas Society Conference, Cedar Hill, TX. Theme: "Live in My Love." Contact: Nancy Johnson, c/o 910 Glen Cove, Richardson, TX 75180; (214) 235-1724.

June 28-July 2, 1992, Summer Seminar, Lake Forest, IL (registration form enclosed).

July 17-19, Weekend Retreat for Spiritual Rest & Renewal, Canaan Valley, WV. Theme: "Practicing the Presence." Contact Buddy Roogow, (301) 461-9063.

Aug. 1-8, Third International Meeting of Urantia Book Readers in France; Maison Saint Gérard, Haguenau, France. Theme: "To Have-To Be-To Do." Contact Georges or Marlène Dupont, 3 bis Grande Rue, 77940 Blennes, France, ph. 64.31 02 21.

Aug. 7-9, 1992, Midwest Conference. St. Benedict Center, Madison, WI. Contact Susan Brodsky, (715) 824-3103.

Aug. 20-23, NW Family Retreat, near Mt. Rainier, WA. Theme: Jesus' Birthday. Contact Tony Finstad, (206) 485-8266.

### What was that word?

**PROVIDENCE**—The care exercised by the guidance of a God over the universe with wise benevolence.

*The Urantia Book* devotes an entire section to this word (pp. 1304-7). It states that "providence" doesn't mean that God determines everything good for us in advance, for this would be counter to our free will, but it doesn't rule out the possibility that providence is a function of the Trinity in the overcontrol of the evolving Supreme. We, however, are warned that what we call providence is sometimes just our own fantasy. Nevertheless, there is a providence in the evolving universes, and it can be discovered by creatures to just the extent that they have attained capacity to perceive the purpose of the evolving universes. (\*1305)

## "TOUCH THE WORLD" An Update on the 1993 International Conference

Planning for the Fellowship's International Conference which will take place July 31 through August 5, 1993 in St-Hyacinthe, Montreal, Canada is progressing well. Another fruitful meeting of the Planning Committee was held on Sunday, November 10. The ten committees and co-chairs working within the planning executive are:

- Communication & Publicity—Guy de Celles; Lucie Toutant
- Entertainment—Michel Charpentier; Diane Labrecque
- Family Experience & Activities/Child Care—Julie Dubuc; Gilles Laverdure
- Finance & Administration—Elizabeth Bartley
- Language & Culture—Leonard Glen; Lise Champagne
- Program—Sue Tennant
- Site & Logistics—Pierre Routhier; Jacques LaFrance
- Special Projects—Kathy Norenberg; Cindy Hopper
- Volunteer Coordination—Matthew Block
- Worship—Louise Sauvé

All the committees will need more volunteers, so if you are interested contact the Planning Committee as soon as possible.

A competition to find a logo for the conference has been held, and the results will be announced as soon as a final decision is made.

Agreement was reached on sub-themes for the conference which will reflect the theme, "Touch the World" (*Un Monde à Rejoindre*). In summary, these sub-themes are: The Personal Way; The Social Way; The Supernatural Way; and The Way of Supremacy.

Based on early indications, the organizers are looking forward to a very successful conference. If you want more information or want to help, please contact Brent or Guy at the following addresses: (1) Brent St. Denis, Conference Chair & Coordinator, 1088 Barwell Ave., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K2B 8H5, (613) 828-1685; (2) Guy de Celles, Conference Co-chair, 209 Belmont, Stoneham, Quebec, Canada G0A 4P0, (418) 848-3492.

### Conclusion of Cover Story.

were carrying the book as a stock item.

This has been an overview of the work of a bunch of amateurs who had the unique experience of establishing an organization associated with an epochal revelation. Fortunately, they were not faced with any major controversies during this early period; these would occur much later. It is remarkable that the majority of people involved were selfless and tirelessly dedicated to their tasks, and were amazingly effective.

—By Carolyn Kendall and Scott Forsythe

### SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM II

Video and audio tapes of Scientific Symposium II are available. The entire Symposium can be ordered on two 6-hour video tapes for \$75; 14 audio tapes are available for \$50. They may be ordered by contacting First Society of Oklahoma, 14 SW 97th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73139. Shipping and handling costs are included in the price.

### JESUS' 2000TH BIRTHDAY

There is still time to make your reservations for Jesus' 2000 birthday celebration in Israel, August 21, 1994. Contact First Society of Oklahoma, 14 SW 97th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73139 for more information.

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