

Golden Gate Circle
for students of
THE URANTIA BOOK

"Of all human knowledge, that which is of greatest value is to know the religious life of Jesus and how he lived it" 19:1.3 (2090)

Minutes-11/14/99

The meeting began at 12:45 p.m. at Larry Geis's home, 409 Page Street, San Francisco, CA.

In attendance were; Larry Watkins, Bob Fontana, Kim Terry, Larry Geis, Beth Pando, Claudia Ayers, Sara Blackstock, Michele Klimish, Donna Painter, Steven Zendt, Pat Feary, Sal Turano, Colyer Dupont, Dennis Newman, Susan Kimsey, Jacques Courtlier, Dennis Baker, Brian Belistos and Nora Moakher.

Sara Blackstock reads a letter from Francyl. Larry Watkins welcomes all in attendance. Nora Moakher reads Paper 99 in Croatian.

Standing Committee and Ad Hoc Programs, Officers Reports:

Kim Terry read the minutes from the last meeting. They were accepted. She also reported that the Castro Valley study group had come up with some ideas for name recognition for the Urantia Book. They were thinking about putting together bookmarks with favorite Urantia Book quotes. Their idea would be to place them in bookstores to be given away free with the purchase of a book, however it was conceivable that they could be upgraded to a plastic coating and perhaps sold in the future. We are also having Lawrence Brown look at the technical aspects of the possibility of having an audio version of the Urantia Book on the website.

Larry Watkins reported about the offer for new members. He summarized what benefits they receive when they become new members. Larry Watkins noted that our three concentric circle flag is with Norm Ingraham. It was taken on his trip to Africa.

Bob Fontana gave a Historical Committee report. He noted that one of the Historical Committee projects was the memorial quilt that was made for Chrissy. The committee is also looking at some film to help study groups train new members. Bob Fontana is looking at various ways to help raise money for the Historical Committee and welcomes suggestions.

Ad Hoc Programs Susan Kimsey said that she was hoping that she could convince Steven Zendt to narrate for a digital film project regarding Urantia events and traditions. Susan Kimsey would like to be the producer of the project. She would like to offer this finished product to the Good Cheer Press and perhaps make some money for the Society.

Larry Geis read a list of people that had paid dues, but didn't make it to the actual member roster. We need to get them a mailing and then Beth Pando needs to find out when they would like to be inducted. According to Larry Geis's list, approximately 92 people have paid dues. There was no formal Treasurers report. He will submit his Treasurers report to the GGC website within the month.

Membership Chair Beth Pando reports no new members. Brian Belistos had forgotten to sign the

book years ago, he will sign today. She will formally induct Robert Jackson and Robert Julian today, the have been members since 1997.

Translation Committee Claudia Ayers reports that the Serbo-Croatian translation service project is continuing. She reports that the GGC has no interest in publishing the translation because we are only the facilitator for the project. Nora Moakher, the translator will still receive \$500.00 per paper, and money is currently due her as she has completed many papers since the project was on temporary hiatus. A formal letter from the GGC will be sent notifying the contributors that the project is once again underway.

Communications committee, no report.

A lengthy discussion ensued after Susan Kimsey requested GGC address and phone number list for her Christmas card list. Steven Zendt commented that historically we have been sensitive to peoples need for privacy and have not made any list available. Claudia Ayers asked Beth Pando to help her put a directory together. Kim Terry suggested that we revamp the membership form, asking for permission to use address and EMAIL information in our directory of members. We should make a spot for their signature indicating permission is granted. We of course, would have to mail this out to all of the members, which could be accomplished in our next mailing.

New Business: TDA election for delegate and alternate, Membership induction, Retreat Network, Brian Belistos presentation.

Discussion: Discussion ensued concerning what the duties and responsibilities are for the Triennial Delegate Association. The main duty is to elect the twelve new seats on the General Council. Our Society is represented by our delegate that we elect every three years. There will be a February meeting in Dallas, then the official TDA in Chicago.

Election: Delegate Larry Geis and Alternate Brian Belistos.

Induction: Colyer Dupont was inducted into the membership before the group. Group reading of the Mission Statement.

Retreat Network: Larry Geis reported that a Retreat Network has formed. Several people in other areas are looking into their own retreat centers. He believes it is the most exciting thing going on in the movement in the last thirty years. A Retreat EMAIL list has formed. Anyone wishing more information should EMAIL Russ Gustafson if you want to be included in the list. Larry reports that the property he is attempting to buy in Sebastapool has all the makings of a wonderful retreat center.

Brian Belistos: Presented his ideas on how to get the Urantia Book into more bookstores. He is having some success with Borders bookstores. He gave handouts of his

upcoming presentations and asked for support. He also will be giving a talk in the Barnes and Noble bookstore in San Mateo. He is looking for panelists to help answer some questions during one of his presentations. He will be contacting study group leaders to see if he can get addresses of the study group participants. He would like to do a mailing to them of upcoming Urantia Book bookstore events.

Discussion: Nora Moakher is also looking to set up a talk with an astronomy teacher who has read the Urantia Book's ideas in relation to how the cosmos was formed. It was felt that Program Committee Chair Dolores Nice needed to interface with this to get it on the calendar.

Larry Geis brought up the fact that Paula Thompson needs financial support for her expo booth. It is currently the only official public outreach that is being done. We need to ask study groups to become involved and learn how to be future booth workers. The fellowship has cut back funds and she needs a contribution of \$600.00 to go to one Expo.

Claudia Ayers pledged to raise \$300.00 towards the booth in Sacramento. She said that the Sacramento study group will put up the booth themselves. She requested that we ask Paula Thompson not to come to the Sacramento Expo, that the local study group can man the booth themselves. She requested that we ask Michele to post to everyone that Paula Thompson needs donations and to respond directly to her.

Announcement: A contemporary religious studies film containing Urantian concepts woven in will be shown directly after the potluck. The a talk on UFO's will be given directly afterwards by Jacques Courtlier.

Next meeting scheduled for May 7th, 2000 at Larry Geis's house in San Francisco, CA.

Meeting ends at 3:23 PM.

Kim Terry GGC Secretary