

The Agondonter



Vol. II, No. 1

FIRST URANTIA SOCIETY OF LOS ANGELES

Nov.-Dec. 1971

THE F.U.S.L.A. SCHOOL OF MEANINGS AND VALUES 1971-1972

The First Urantia Society of Los Angeles sponsors the School of Meanings and Values, chaired by Polly Parke. Under her capable leadership, this committee presents programs at each of our monthly meetings.

This term our school is emphasizing Urantia teachings and participation-type sessions on the theme, The Development of the Unified Personality. The schedule of topics, beginning with September's presentation, is as follows:

Personality: Definition and chief purpose, by Nancy Hoag.

Character Growth: Benefits of and some guidelines for developing a strong character, by Jeff Bedell.

"Follow Me": Discussion on drug use; the difference between getting high and GOING high with insights from Jesus' life and Urantia teachings on the thought adjuster, personality, and spiritual growth; led by panelists Jo Ann Eichmann, Scott Forsythe, Mary Strahan, Kermit Anderson, and Bob Blackstock.

Cosmic Citizenship: How is the personality related to the total scheme of the Universe? By Georgia Gecht and Polly Parke.

The Personality and Change: How does modern man cope with rapid social change and adjustment? By Scott Forsythe.

Additional programs will be announced.

A SUMMARY OF THE SEPTEMBER LESSON

A NEW YEAR OF STUDY

(presented by Nancy Hoag)

The subject of how to develop a unified personality was chosen by the Urantia Society of Los Angeles for study for the coming year. The concept of personality runs like a thread through the entire Urantia Book so that we had to leave the Papers behind and plunge into the book as a whole in order to follow this thread.

We also decided to experiment with participation from the entire group at the lessons. If we all participate, we can learn to know each other better. We can learn to sense the strengths and difficulties that others have

in applying the principles of the book and so gain inspiration and help, not only from the book, but from each other as well. But only if the leader is able to help people express their own thoughts in their own way can we really get to know them. And only if the lesson is limited to a very few ideas will the leader have the freedom to draw out people and yet keep them on the subject under discussion.

On Sept. 12 the personality was likened to a structure which is able to place in position the differing parts of the self and to place this self in position to the outside world. By means of this structure, the personality is able to unify the self. The tools it uses in order to accomplish this unification are faith, will, and love.

HIGHLIGHTS OF F.U.S.L.A. GOVERNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF OCT. 31 AND NOV. 7, 1971

Scott Forsythe, chairman of the constitution revision committee, will write to other societies for copies of their constitutions for the purpose of comparison. Our revised constitution will be ready for vote by the Governing Committee and then the membership in Feb. 1972.

The book committee reported that two Urantia Books were placed in college libraries in the Fullerton area by Pat and James McNelly. Also, that one Urantia Book was placed in a Navy ship library by the father of Dick and Wally Ziglar.

It was agreed that the pros and cons of membership dues be discussed at the Dec. 5 meeting with the general membership.

It was decided that as a matter of policy books may be donated by this society to specific libraries, with a limit of five books being placed per quarter.

A committee of goals for this society was formed for the purpose of setting up specific short range and long range objectives for our society, and of going before the membership with these proposed goals. Committee members are Jeff Bedell, Scott Forsythe, and Julia Fenderson.

On Nov. 7 the Governing Committee met and voted to accept the application for member-

(Continued on page 2)

THE AGONDONTER

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Editor: Elizabeth Schiavo
Staff: Jeff Bedell, Ione Buie, Bill Fenderson.

Officers - July 1971 to July 1972

President: Jeffrey Bedell
Vice President: Scott Forsythe
Treasurer: Dick Ziglar
Secretary: Patricia Bedell
Education Chairman: Polly Parke
Membership Chairman: Julia Fenderson

On Jerusem, the ascenders from isolated worlds such as Urantia "are known as the agondonters, meaning evolutionary will creatures who can believe without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties even when alone."
(U.B.579)

THE AGONDONTER RESUMES PUBLICATION

The Agondonter, a quarterly publication resuming life with this issue after a period of silence, will be mailed to societies and study groups around the country. We ask for your comments and copies of your publications. It is our aim to foster more communication and interaction among the various Urantia Societies and study groups.

May we have the benefits of your thinking? Please write to either Elizabeth Schiavo, our editor, 285 Pleasant St., Apt. A, Pasadena, Calif. 91101, or to Jeff Bedell, 1653 Oahu Place, Costa Mesa, Calif. 92626.

--Jeff Bedell

ANNUAL FUND-RAISING SPAGHETTI DINNER

Our annual fund-raising gourmet spaghetti feed prepared by Ben and Helen Schiavo of Pasadena will be held Dec. 5 at Polly Parke's home, 18863 Muirkirk, Northridge.

Preceding the spaghetti dinner the School of Meanings and Values will present a program led by Polly Parke and Georgia Gecht on the topic, Cosmic Citizenship. Eight individuals will be received into membership at this meeting.

Agondonter readers from other states might be interested to know that great physical differences separate various groups of members

and friends; some will be travelling 70 or 80 miles one way for this program and dinner. The spaghetti feed annually enriches the F.U.S.L.A. treasury by some \$40 to \$70 after ingredient costs are paid.

(Editor's note: We would like very much to hear how other groups raise money for the accomplishing of their goals. Also, we would like to remind members and friends that donations are tax deductible. Make your check, big or small, payable to F.U.S.L.A.)

S T U D Y G R O U P S

Urantia Book study meetings are being held at the home of Julia and Bill Fenderson, 9980 Farragut Drive, Culver City, on Thursday evenings from 7 to 10 p.m. All are welcome to attend including young and beginning students who sincerely desire to know more about the book and to learn to live what it teaches.

The group usually picks a topic and individuals take turns reading, followed by a discussion and social period. Emphasis is on the spiritual rather than the intellectual.

--Bill Fenderson

Fullerton, Calif. is the site of a rather new study group and the home of six of our eight newest Urantia members. Spokesman Patrick McNelly says, "We want to find out where each one of us is in our conceptual understandings and then move in unity with a program of ideas and action." Meetings are held the third Friday of each month at 118 E. Glenwood Ave. (near the Fullerton Car Wash on Harbor Blvd.) Members describe their sessions as "low key," introductory type meetings. Phone Patrick McNelly, (714) 872-8563, for further details.

A group in the San Fernando Valley meets on an irregular basis. If you would care to attend, call Polly Parke, (213) 360-5048, or Ione Buie, (213) 894-6107, for the date of the next meeting.

HIGHLIGHTS (Continued from page 1)

ship of the following individuals: Robert Boden, Cheryl Ann Cappa, James English, Candace Johnson, Patrick McNelly, James McNelly, Kenneth Richardson, and Fred Shupp.

--Pat Bedell, Secretary