



JUNE 1982

the MONITOR

NEWSLETTER of the FIRST URANTIA SOCIETY of LOS ANGELES



As members of FUSLA, we have committed ourselves to the protection of the book and the dissemination of its teachings. What are we doing with this "talent" that has been entrusted to us?

The JUNE 6th Meeting will be a guided discussion addressing pertinent issues facing us today. What is our responsibility? Will we bury our talent and return it as it was given, or will we be fruitful and "grow in grace and in a knowledge of the truth?" Martin Myers tells us in his paper, "Unity, Not Uniformity" (1973)*:

"The early members of the URANTIA Movement were told and you are now told:

"We are in association with a revelation of truth which is a part of the natural evolution of religion on this world. Over-rapid growth would be suicidal. The Book is being given to *those who are ready for it* long before its worldwide mission.

"In the meantime, thousands of study groups must be brought into existence. Thus will the Book be in readiness to comfort and enlighten the peoples of the world when the battle for man's liberty is finally won and the world is once more safe for the religion of Jesus and the freedom of mankind."

In terms of preparation, please think carefully about what your ideas and ideals are concerning these statements and our constructive use of this talent—*The URANTIA Book*. The optional prayer time will be from 1:00 to 1:30 with the program beginning at 2:00. The questions are many and the issues profound. Please join us for a time of reflection and inspiration.

Joanne Larson

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Truth is living; the Spirit of Truth is ever leading the children of light into new realms of spiritual reality and divine service. You are not given truth to crystallize into settled, safe, and honored forms. Your revelation of truth must be so enhanced by passing through your personal experience that new beauty and actual spiritual gains will be disclosed to all who behold your spiritual fruits and in consequence thereof are led to glorify the Father who is in heaven. Only those faithful servants who thus grow in the knowledge of the truth, and who thereby develop the capacity for divine appreciation of spiritual realities, can ever hope to 'enter fully into the joy of their Lord.' What a sorry sight for successive generations of the professed followers of Jesus to say, regarding their stewardship of divine truth: 'Here, Master, is the truth you committed to us a hundred or a thousand years ago. We have lost nothing; we have faithfully preserved all you gave us; we have allowed no changes to be made in that which you taught us; here is the truth you gave us.' But such a plea concerning spiritual indolence will not justify the barren steward of truth in the presence of the Master. In accordance with the truth committed to your hands will the Master of truth require a reckoning.

pg 1917:3

The MONITOR

711 Superba Avenue • Venice • California • 90291 • (213) 822-2498

The Monitor . . .

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A PERSONAL NOTE

The *URANTIA* Book found me ten years ago. While visiting friends in New York City they felt moved to tell me about a Book which might interest me. Strange to report, they had been listening to a radio program which aired late Saturday night. Two guests and the host were discussing a work titled *The URANTIA Book*. Both of my friends immediately thought "This sounds like something Vince would want." They carefully took notes and even the name and address of a bookstore where I could purchase the book. From their description, I pictured a large pictorial edition put out by Life magazine filled with the latest series of moon shots and nebulae. Apparently, those discussing the book mentioned nothing about Part IV, but chose to describe the work in terms of its Cosmology and History.

Well . . . the rest is history. I bought *The URANTIA Book* the very next day. Not only was I surprised to see that there were no pictures, but astonished to find mention of Jesus! My thought was literally "What is *He* doing *Here*?" And since most of my recent studies had been in Eastern Sciences, Philosophies, and Religions, I was intrigued by a whole new set of terminologies. By the time I finished reading the excerpts on the inside of the striking white dust jacket, with its three blue concentric circles, I knew the book was what it purported to be . . . The Fifth Epochal Revelation. "So 'They' finally did it! And it's here now!" were my thoughts as I closed the book and felt a strong sense of wonder and awe.

Ten years later . . . ten years of personal study; that initial period of insisting everyone read it; the 'quiet' time of calming down and trying a more subtle approach. Ten years of study groups, society activity, regional conferences, general conferences, and enough discussion, questioning, and listening to even boggle the three-brained peoples. Thank God for the constant balancing and relaxation derived from Prayer, Thanksgiving, Worship and Service!

And at this writing and time of reflection, next to the Master's Life and Teachings, what impresses me most of all, is the amazing diversity of human beings (the two-brained type) that have been attracted to this Revelation. Never in any one religious or 'new age' movement, have I encountered so many different age groups, lifestyles, backgrounds, religious upbringing, and on and on. Truly, we are a living example of Unity without Uniformity. Imagine, an Epochal Revelation placed in the hands of total amateurs! Someone 'up there' certainly has Faith in us! I pray that we have such Faith in each other. It is my personal belief, that these are still the early days of this movement. This is our time of being 'silently rehearsed' to study, to train, and to teach. A great time of testing lies before us . . . will we learn to work together? Will we strengthen the lines of communication between study groups and societies, societies and other societies, societies and the General Council, Executive Committee, and Officers of the *URANTIA* Brotherhood? And above all, between the Brotherhood and the Foundation Trustees and Assistants? Are we trusting and utilizing the methodology whereby the Master planted seeds and prepared the world for the Fourth Epochal Revelation? Will we organize properly?

I urge all who may read this message to read and study in its entirety, Later Discussion At the Camp on pages 1916-1918, with special emphasis on The Parable of the Talents. If the Master were to appear to you in Person and hand you five *URANTIA* Books, what would you do with them?

In Friendship and Brotherhood



FUSLA BUSINESS

TRIENNIAL UPDATE

In early March I wrote to John Hales, President of URANTIA Brotherhood, and included questions regarding the upcoming Triennial Delegate Assembly. His response is so clear and enlightening, that I would like to share a portion of his letter with you as my report for May.

"Your membership has expressed interest in knowing who will be 'running' for the General Council. Historically, we have not asked people to "run" for the Council. Through society presidents we have asked Brotherhood members to submit names of individuals to be considered by the delegates. Whoever your society suggests will be placed on the list for the delegates to consider, provided they have given their permission. Our organization always has to struggle with the ideal versus the real, the office seeking the person versus the person seeking the office. Realistically, I know there is some "camping" activity to put forward a particular individual to be on the Council. The ideal would be for each society to elect a delegate whom they consider to be the wisest and clearest thinker in their group. They would then instruct the delegate to nominate individuals whom they recommend, most likely from the local area. Once the TDA is in session, the society should expect its delegate to exercise the best judgment possible concerning the qualification of other nominees who will be spoken for by other delegates who know them and not be overly bound by restrictions from the society. Ideally, this process would be devoid of politicking (using this word with its negative connotations). The ideal is what we are striving for.

"It is understandable that each society has concerns about being represented on the General Council. Therefore, each may have some 'favorite son' candidate they wish to see elected. This process can continue until we grow beyond 36 societies. Historically, we have also avoided the "where do you stand on the issues" approach to electing councilors. This too closely resembles current political practice. The leadership of the Brotherhood from its beginnings has always encouraged seeking the wisest and best thinkers to serve on the Council regardless of geographic location. The paper 'Desirable Qualities of a Candidate for URANTIA Brotherhood General Council' goes into greater detail. The General Council must respond to the needs of the whole Brotherhood, not just parochial concerns. Being tied to 'platforms' would hinder this process. Of course, in the process of discussing candidates some of their general attitudes concerning current issues are bound to become known."

Vince Ventola

FUSLA BUSINESS

APRIL BUSINESS MEETING

Although only 19 FUSLA members attended the April business meeting of our Society, four motions were passed and included into our constitution. The meeting which was lengthy, began with reports by Governing Committee members. The new policies drawn up by Vice President, Chick Montgomery, are:

1. **Article III Section 3-7** Members shall pay dues in such amounts and frequencies as may be proposed from time to time by the Governing Committee and approved by a majority vote of the Assembly of the Society. Dues may be waived in whole or in part by the Governing Committee upon receipt and favorable consideration of a member's written request for waiver of dues based upon financial hardship.
2. **Article I Section 1-2** (a) Active members of the Society are those who have been initiated into membership and who are current in their dues or who have had the payment of dues waived by the Governing Committee. A member who is inactive is a member of the Brotherhood and retains all Brotherhood rights including the right to transfer to another URANTIA Society.
3. **Article V Section 5-2 Formal Meetings.** Voting and participation at formal meetings of this URANTIA Society shall be restricted to active members, and such meetings shall constitute the Assembly of the Society. Inactive members and non-members may be seated in an observers' section. The assembly may at any time vote to go into executive session and require the observers to leave temporarily until the issue at hand is resolved. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority for formal meetings of this URANTIA Society in all matters not specifically covered by the provision of the constitution.
4. Membership dues were raised to \$24.00 per person per year effective January 1, 1983.

Committee to order your copy of this book for \$38.00 plus postage from the URANTIA Foundation, Chicago, Illinois 60644 or call Polly Friedman (212) 675-1111. To order your copy of this book for \$38.00 plus postage from the URANTIA Foundation, Chicago, Illinois 60644 or call Polly Friedman (212) 675-1111. To order your copy of this book for \$38.00 plus postage from the URANTIA Foundation, Chicago, Illinois 60644 or call Polly Friedman (212) 675-1111.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUNE FORUM

We're really going to take the plunge in our June Friday Night Forum, entitled: *The URANTIA Book—An Epochal Guide Through The 'New Age'*. Our discussion will include a most unusual approach to re-examine a series of 'phenomena' which appears to be conspicuously absent from *The URANTIA Book* . . . or are they? Topics such as Reincarnation, Out of Body Experiences (Astral Projection), Unidentified Flying Objects, Recent 'Channeled' Writings, Psychic Healing, Apocalyptic Predictions, (and everything else you ever wanted to know about these subjects but were afraid to ask) will be explored in the Light of an Epochal Revelation. Surely we have all had the experience of being questioned by people who are deeply involved in the study of these topics . . . "What does *The URANTIA Book* say about . . . ???" How do we answer? What should we say? And can *The URANTIA Book* be used as a 'key' to understanding these phenomena which are receiving so much attention from so many New Age Movements?

Vince Ventola will moderate this forum at the home of Kermit and Jackie Anderson (714-894-5417) on Friday Night, **June 18 at 8 o'clock P.M.** Sparks will be flying in Orange County! Will you join us?

JULY FORUM

The topic of the July Friday Night Forum will be "The Color Races", hosted by Dorothy Elder. Don't miss her exciting, well-researched presentation held in Orange County on **July 23, 7:30 P.M.** at the home of Jackie and Kermit Anderson. Please call in advance as space is limited for this very thought-provoking evening of discussion. RSVP Jackie or Kermit—(714) 894-5417.

OOH LA LA - FRENCH BLUE BOOKS

The URANTIA Foundation has just finished the printing of 3,000 copies of *Le Livre d'URANTIA* in French. This is the first official translation of the Revelation to be published. Readers worldwide welcome this historic event! The French edition was translated by Jacques Weiss, a dedicated and sincere reader who lives in France. It is the culmination of many years of hard work and spiritual growth. We applaud everyone involved in this worthwhile and historic enterprise. Copies are available at \$38.00 plus postage, from the URANTIA Foundation, 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, Illinois 60614, or call Polly Friedman (213) 880-5943, of FUSLA's Book Committee, to order your copy.

AN INVITATION



You

are invited

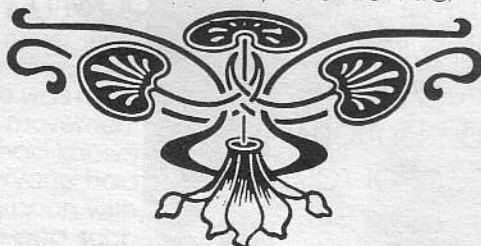
to attend a very special dinner party
to honor our beloved

JULIA FENDERSON

Friday, July 16, 1982

6:30 P.M.

The Castaway's Restaurant
1250 Harvard Road
Burbank Hills, California



Let's get together to thank the person who single-handedly introduced The URANTIA Book to the West Coast. This semi-formal affair will take place at the Castaway's Restaurant perched in the Burbank Hills overlooking the entire Valley and will include a wonderful buffet with a wide selection of delectables. The price is \$15.00 which includes dinner, tip, tax and a gift for Julia. Advance reservations are necessary and should be received no later than **June 25, 1982** (sooner the better). Please contact Lori Long for more information. A confirmation of your reservation and map will be sent to you upon receipt of your check.

TRIBUTE DINNER

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

No. of Persons _____ Amount Enclosed _____ Please make checks payable to: FUSLA

Mail to: Lori Long, 1202 Le Gray Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90042 (213) 255-1375

MOTHER SPIRIT

Space Goddess
Creator-daughter of our universe
Invisible . . .
Nameless . . .
We know you as Spirit.
Formless . . .
Infinite . . .
Mother of the Children of Light,
Gabriel, and all orders of Angels.
Mother to the children of time,
We who are earthbound, soar with you.
Lighter than wind . . .
You are everywhere,
Travelling on butterfly wings
and the scent of roses.
You nourish us . . .
Earth Mother,
Sky Spirit,
You envelope us . . .
The Universe is coated with the veil
Of your love mist . . .
Unseen endless threads,
Permeate space
And weave us together.
Space Goddess . . .

Roxy Alessandro

Christy

1890-1982

Dear Christy,

Like most of us, I never knew you well. Yet your name and face were as familiar to me as any old friend's might be. When my interest in *The URANTIA Book* exceeded my personal interest and expanded to my concern for "the movement," you became at first familiar, then inspirational. Your name was mentioned among devoted movement workers as if everyone had known you for years, as if everyone had just come from an afternoon with you. "Christy said such and such . . . Christy did this yesterday . . . Christy's birthday is tomorrow . . ." And, as easily as they spoke of you, you became a friend to me.



I met you once, though I'm sure you don't remember my face among the crowd, but I promise to re-introduce myself to you when I see you again and remind you that I, too, was a friend.

Julia showed me your picture. Christy in the red dress. How beautiful and clear you looked! And when I introduced myself to you in Vancouver, I felt the clarity in your eyes look past my self-consciousness and into my soul.

I have heard the stories of your life. How selflessly you devoted yourself to the movement of the 5th epochal revelation. I remember thinking that you were a 20th century apostle, and wondering, could I ever be?

Dear Christy, You carried the torch. You valiantly rallied the army of the "soldiers of the circles" and made me eager to enlist. And now that you've graduated to the service of greater worlds than this, I can't help but wonder . . . have you passed the torch to me?

With love,
A "Soldier of the Circles"

THE PERSON

Christy was born 92 years ago, on January 27, 1890, on a farm in South Dakota. She walked to school until the 8th grade, and then went on to attend high school and business college in South Dakota, and later Carlton College in Minnesota. After college, she taught school herself for a while. Her background was in business though, and she changed fields to become a stenographer for a Minnesota based company; while there, she enrolled in literature and writing courses at the University of Minnesota. Christy became very interested in religion during this time, and joined a Congregational Church. Her career then brought her to California, and finally to Chicago, when she became associated with the Federal Reserve Bank. After Christy had been in Chicago for some time, she was involved in a car accident. She was taken to the hospital, and woke up to face the doctor who was treating her. That doctor was William S. Sadler. Later that night Christy met his wife—Dr. Lena Sadler! This meeting, which took place in 1922, changed the course of Christy's life, and is perhaps one of the most important events in the history of the Urantia movement.

Christy met regularly with a small group of people, sponsored by Dr. Sadler; they discussed religion and philosophy. This group later expanded and became The Forum, with Christy a founding member. The Forum met to study the individual papers of *The URANTIA Book* before the Book itself was published in 1955. In 1950, Christy retired as manager of the National Bank Examiner's Office, after 30 years of career service. Christy made her place in the world first, and then dedicated her life to full-time service in the URANTIA movement.

Christy's URANTIA credits are impressive: she was one of the original Trustees and Secretary of URANTIA Foundation, and was made a Trustee Emeritus. She was a charter member of First Urantia Society in Chicago, and served the URANTIA Brotherhood as both a past President and a Vice President. Christy was given the Van award for her loyalty and unselfishness. She was working as the office manager of URANTIA Foundation right up until the evening she was admitted to the hospital. Christy served the URANTIA movement for 60 years. Her love for *The URANTIA Book* and selfless service are beyond words. Clyde Bedell's Concordex is dedicated to her. It reads: "To Emma L. Christensen, beloved by thousands of Urantians as 'Christy'."

And on May 2, 1982, at 3:19 A.M. our beloved Christy was promoted to the Mansion Worlds. She had been hospitalized in Chicago for six weeks prior to her death, with pneumonia and other complications. For six weeks nurses were employed each day, and close friends were with her each night. At her request, Martin Meyers, Dr. Bob Meyers (Martin's father), or Marvin Gawryn took turns being at her side on a cot in her hospital room. Christy herself asked to be taken off the machinery which drained her lungs periodically. She breathed her last with calm and assurance, and passed much as did Dr. Sadler 13 years ago, on April 26, 1969. A few moments before he died, Dr. Sadler spoke these words:

"The transition from this world to the next is very easy. There is no pain. It is easy to leave the pains of this world for the pleasures of the next. I'm going to enjoy every moment of those pleasures.

This world is very real but the next one is much more real. I'm very conscious of everything that is said tonight. I could go on visiting with you for hours but it would be no use. The chapter is closed. The last lines have been written—the book is finished. I'll tell them all "Hello" for you there.

And now Christy I pass the responsibility of Urantia on to you. I know you will do well for you have always been a good soldier. When you leave you will pass the torch to younger members."

QUOTES



Christy was both a prolific writer and an inspirational speaker, the two traits needed to create a charismatic leader. And everything she wrote or said was infused with a highly evolved spirituality, and reflects a deep love and intimate knowledge of *The URANTIA Book*. Here are some excerpts:

"You are not conscious of the mighty and loving work being wrought within all of you who permit these efforts by your consecrated decisions. You of sincere heart should not be dismayed over apparent failures or by perplexing confusions—by the difficulties between the mortal and immortal natures. Our Father in heaven knows all of your struggles and your longings. He loves you with an inexhaustible love. Open your hearts and let his affection speak to your mortal self and feed the immortal soul.

"From each of us he asks all that we have. But this 'all' is always in proportion to our capacity to give. . . . Always is the challenge personalized and individualized; not a challenge to all men but a challenge to *each* man. And it is always made in terms of the capabilities of the particular individual whom God is personally challenging.

"God has enriched us beyond compare. He is challenging us to invest our 'talents' with profit to ourselves and to his creation. But above all, he is challenging us with love, with an infinite love that is all but blinding in the intensity of its manifestation. And the question that confronts us and every other being in this universe age is a very simple one: What are we doing with this love, this love that we can feel even without understanding it? What are we doing about it here and now? THE ACT IS OURS! And may you all become valiant soldiers of the circles—whole-heartedly enlisted in the solid ranks of those mortals who shall go forth in this coming battle for truth against error under the unfaltering leadership of the mighty seraphim of progress."

Christy, May, 1970

"And we who have this message are the men and women who have been called to take the first steps in offering the new light to a frustrated church and a distracted world. We are the first light to illuminate the path of deliverance from chaos, confusion, and darkness of the present planetary dilemma. The URANTIA Revelation is regarded as a feature of the progressive evolution of human society, and ours is the transcendent privilege of presenting this revelation to the peoples of a strife-torn world.

"It is literally true: The human race has folded its tents of traditional passivity; mankind is on the march to an unknown destiny. The clarion call has sounded; the trumpet blasts of the call to service are beginning to be heard throughout the land.

"*We are the pioneer group; we are the trailblazers.* I am sure that we little realize the import of our great mission to the world. We will, no doubt, live and die without fully realizing that we have participated in the birth of a new age of religion on this planet.

"Urantia, 606 of Satania, has been graced with a new revelation of truth, the fifth major revelation to be given to us. In Jesus' time the *Word* was made flesh; today, the *Word* is made book.

"None of us seeks honors in the kingdom of heaven, but each of us craves the honor of *serving* in the kingdom of heaven."

Christy, 1969

"It is our burden to bring life on this planet up to a new level, which we can and will do when we sincerely become imbued with the idea that we are ambassadors of a heavenly kingdom just as surely as were the twelve apostles who followed Jesus. Those twelve men were so inspired by Jesus' life and teachings that they went forth and turned the whole world upside down. I pray we will do likewise.

"I am not too much interested in the number of *URANTIA Books* you dispense, but I am tremendously interested in the souls you will lead into the kingdom by your own proclamation of the dynamic truths about God and his universe which Jesus has revealed to you; in how you are feeding the hungry souls that you meet 'as you pass by'.

"My dear friends, please bear in mind that good humor and the smile of happiness are among the most powerful and influential of the human assets of religious propagation.

"Let us, therefore, be happy and valiant soldiers of the circles."

Christy, August, 1964

NUGGETS OF WISDOM

BY CHRISTY

"We must diligently study the order, plan, and methods of progression as they were enacted in the earth life of Michael when the *Word* was made flesh. We are becoming actors in an ensuing episode when the *Word* is made Book."

"We must continue to study the earth life of Jesus. Many are the lessons which can be learned."

"Thousands of study groups must be brought into existence and the Book must be translated into many tongues. Thus will the Book be in readiness to comfort and enlighten the peoples of many languages when the battle for man's liberty is finally won and the world is made safe for the religion of Jesus and the freedom of mankind."

"An early publication of the Book has been provided so that it may be on hand for the training of leaders and teachers. Its presence is also required to engage the attention of persons of means who may thus be led to provide funds for the translations into other languages."

TO CHRISTY

A small spark
within each of us
is rekindled now.

It burns just a little brighter
and fills the empty space
left by your loss.

The brightness of our burning Light
attracts others,
and our radiating warmth
will someday set the world on fire . . .

And so the torch is passed.



MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CHRISTY

A memorial service for Christy will be held Saturday, May 22, 1982 at the Union League Club in Chicago at 10 A.M. Meredith Sprunger and Vern Grimsley will speak at this service which will be hosted by the Foundation. Please call the URANTIA Foundation for details. Donations in Christy's honor may be mailed to:

533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, Illinois 60614

All monies will be divided equally between the Foundation and the Brotherhood unless otherwise specified.

This special tribute to Christy was made possible through donations from the Governing Committee and friends of the First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles.

"Jesus taught that *service* to one's fellows is the highest concept of the brotherhood of spirit believers." (p. 2017) And *service* seems to be a dominant theme throughout *The URANTIA Book*. It is important during our earth careers, as well as in our universe ascension careers. "Service—more service, increased service, difficult service, adventurous service, and at last divine and perfect service—is the goal of time and the destination of space." (p. 316) And as serious students of *The URANTIA Book* and God-seeking people, we all try our best to serve whenever the opportunity arises. But **The URANTIA Book** also points out that we as readers, are called upon to do an additional type of service: "As faith-enlightened and spirit-liberated sons of the Kingdom of heaven, you face a double responsibility of duty to man and duty to God while you voluntarily assume a third and sacred obligation: service to the brotherhood of God-knowing believers." (p. 1930)

Right now, only a handful of people are actively serving in FUSLA. The work to be done far outweighs the people willing to do it. Many of you may feel reluctant to get involved in organizations, or what you may perceive as 'politically-oriented' work. You may feel that you serve well by introducing new people to *The URANTIA Book*, or by hosting a study group. But much of the work to be done in FUSLA is *spiritually* oriented, such as placing books in libraries, writing inspiring articles, attracting new members or simply becoming active in FUSLA so that your voice may be heard.

Please read page 1930 again, and pray about how *you* may help the "brotherhood of believers" *right now!* Then *act* on this. Every edition of *The Monitor* is filled with pleas for help in all areas of service available in FUSLA. Won't you make that phone call or write that donation? Please. "The harvest is indeed plenteous, but the laborers are few; therefore I exhort all of you to pray that the Lord of the harvest will send still other laborers into his harvest." (p. 1800)

In Brotherhood and Love,
Roxy and Bruce

FUSLA SERVITALS

IDEAS?

The Monitor is in need of someone with good ideas for fundraising and the time and energy to carry them out. Please contact Bruce or Roxy (213) 822-2498, if you wish to volunteer.

IN TOUCH

The Hospitality Committee, headed by Lori Long, (213) 255-1375 is the liason for readers who plan to visit the Los Angeles area. If you are planning to visit, please contact her in advance and she will put you in touch with study groups, arrange meetings with FUSLA members or let you know if there is lodging available at member's homes. If you would like to help in this service, please contact Lori.

SPREADING THE WORD

Polly Friedman, (213) 880-5943, of the Book Committee, can help you find out where to purchase *The URANTIA Book* in your area. She also knows of some new outlets where *The URANTIA Book* may be purchased at discounted prices. Whether or not you live in the Los Angeles area, call Polly if you need help finding books.

LET'S GET COOKIN'

A FUSLA cookbook has been compiled to be sold as a fundraising aid for our Society. An Editor, Typist, and Illustrator are needed to help with production. Please call Roselyn Van Benschoten (213) 841-6286, who is in charge of FUSLA fundraising, to volunteer your services.

I FOUND IT!

How I Found The URANTIA Book is an exciting review of first-hand accounts of how some well known *URANTIA Book* readers found theirs. Julia Fenderson has compiled and published these accounts that are now available. She is asking for a small donation to help cover the cost of paper, printing, and mailing. Call (213) 836-2432 or write: Julia K. Fenderson, 9980 Farragut Drive, Culver City, CA 90230.

THE ART OF GROWING OLD GRACEFULLY

In these past decades much has been written under the title, "The Art of Growing Old Gracefully." But until such time as one begins to experience that inevitability, it remains somewhat an academic subject.

It would seem the word "Gracefully" implies a new dimension entering our nature which unconsciously becomes reflected outwardly; and the extent to which this Grace is present, is the degree to which we are gracefully adjusting to our advancing years.

There are two phases to the mortal experience that, in a manner of speaking, are the warp and the woof of our fabric of life; these are often referred to as the quantitative and qualitative aspects of one's nature.

The quantitative circuit to which we are attracted necessarily deals with the responsibilities of adjusting to and maintaining ourselves in an off-time hostile environment.

The qualitative aspect of our nature has to do with the acceptance of the Grace so generously and continuously offered us by our Heavenly Father.

As the years go by we begin to withdraw from the quantitative and more and more do we live in retrospect. In a sense we hold court with ourselves and tend to become very judgmental. The good things we have done we recognize with a great warmth in our heart. But from a review of the misdeeds we may have done, oftentimes come problems.

All too frequently we may continue to live in regret and with a strong sense of guilt only because we have failed to recognize the truth that the surest indication of spiritual growth is when we feel the emotional sting of shame and remorse for an unkind act we may have done.

When this recognition sinks deeply into our nature and we feel truly repentant and know we would never again knowingly repeat such an error, it is then we receive the Father's Grace and forgiveness — for we have at that very moment forgiven ourselves. Then do our guilts fall away from us for this is spiritual progress recognized, and as such our greatest reward.

Thus we behold the unfolding of "The Art of Growing Old Gracefully."

— Dick MacDonald

PORTRAITS

CHRISTY REMEMBERED

Perhaps the closest friend of Christy's was Martin Meyers, who lived with her on the third floor of 533 Diversey Parkway in Chicago for the last 14 years. Martin originally moved in to help Christy care for Dr. William Sadler, who was quite ill and died a year later. He then stayed on to care for Christy, and has remained by her side until the night she died on May 2, 1982.

Martin's selfless service to the movement and to Christy is well known and we all send our prayers to him now. Martin said he "loved her very much; she was a great lady in many ways and I was lucky



to be able to give her support. Our relationship was a two-way street. She gave me more than I gave her." Martin remembers Christy as "a great leader, yet a feminine person who had a wonderful way with people and loved having the people around her. Christy also was a superb organizer and her sense of fairness and dignity added much to the movement." Martin said that Christy had a great faith in her fellows and in the future of the movement and she continually advised: a) we should try to love one another more b) we should keep the movement together c) we should possess our souls in patience and d) we should do service. Her final weeks were spent reading the papers on the Mansion Worlds with Martin more for his benefit than her own. She had no fear of death and was anxious to go on.

Julia Fenderson knew Christy well for 43 years, and she remembers Christy as "a lady, first and foremost." Julia was impressed by Christy's high intelligence and her kindness to others; Christy consistently helped readers who were in dire need. The more social side of Christy was also discussed: she was a well-dressed woman who loved to entertain friends and cook. She loved music and singing, too. Christy had a great sense of humor and loved to have fun and laugh. But as a worker, she was a perfectionist, and her loyalty to all instructions given her was exceptional. Christy's personality drew people to her like a magnet, and her friends spanned all age barriers. Whenever a problem arose, Christy would say, "Let's examine what Jesus did." She used His life as her guide in every situation. Julia says that Christy's favorite theme was love, and the last talk of Christy's that Julia ever heard ended when Christy quoted the Book by saying, "Love is the greatest thing in the universe. My little children, love one another."

Christy believed in translating the URANTIA Book into many languages so that average people all over the world would have the Book to comfort them. And personally, Christy stressed the importance of family life, even though she had never married. Julia feels that, "With Christy's passing, we are entering a new era but we must never forget those who laid the foundations so well for us. We must be conservative and careful and remember that overrapid growth would be suicidal for the movement."

Ed. note: This letter is really a "Study Group Scoop" from outside of our area. We really enjoy hearing from other readers from around the world.

Dear Roxy and Bruce,

We meet every Friday at 7:30PM and have been doing so for about a year now. Of the fourteen, there are at least nine at every study session. We start by reading aloud (clockwise) the next paper. We will read paper 47, *The Seven Mansions Worlds*, next Friday 4/16. We then discuss the paper over coffee. Six of our folks have read the whole book at least once. We are building a book fund. Our current big plan is for seven of us to attend the first Southeastern conference in Atlanta, Ga. (a 750 mile round trip). This will be the first conference for all but the Busellis. They have been with the book for some time. I believe they started with the Orvonton Society in Chicago. We are also trying to plan an outdoor barbecue here in Raleigh for URANTIA Book readers from other North Carolina cities like Charlotte, Asheville, Greensboro, and our special friends in Sail City, two of whom are in the photo. We're shooting for July 4th, though nothing is finalized. I hope this has told you a little something about us. We'd like to hear about your 'goings on' too.

Wishing you fellowship and joy in our Father,

Carol Byron, CONCUR

Corps of North Carolina URANTIA Readers, Raleigh, NC

(for the address of this study group, please call the Monitor. Carol also mentioned she may come to visit this summer.)

SOS

Although support for a Silver Anniversary revival of *The AGONDONTER* has been limited, we refuse to give up hope. We still intend to publish a beautiful magazine that will cover FUSLA's colorful 25 year history and speculate on our future. But we really need HELP! You can help in two ways (Yes, TWO ways)

1. Subscribe NOW to reserve your copy. The cost is \$10. for advance subscriptions, but will cost \$15. after publication. Your money will be refunded to you if *The AGONDONTER* is not published. Please subscribe *before* July 1, 1982.
2. The *AGONDONTER* needs some 'seed' money in addition to the subscriptions to get started. Even a few dollars will help and everyone making a contribution will be thanked as a patron in print in *The AGONDONTER*.

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STUDY GROUP SCOOP

BY LORRIE SHAPIRO

Winding my way up the Malibu mountains as the sun was setting over the ocean, I felt I had already begun "centering" myself for the study group I was about to attend. Every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, at 7:30PM, Duane and Lucile Faw host a study group in their beautiful Malibu home overlooking the Pacific and the city . . . and the drive to their home at that hour is, in itself, a prayer of thanksgiving.

This group started about two years ago and is currently reading "The Jesus Papers" with a core of about 8 to ten readers.

Most of the readers are new to *The URANTIA Book*, and were introduced to the teachings through the church where Duane and Lucile carry out an active service life with their friends of the Christian faith.

Duane is the perfect study leader for this particular group. He and Lucile are brilliant students of both the Bible and the "UB," and they can tackle all questions and thoughts pertaining to the parallels and differences in both books. Of course, older readers are most welcome, and because the Faws so often open their homes to travelling readers, it isn't unusual to find seasoned students from other parts of the country and the world reading along.

The night I attended, the group was reading Paper 146. Lucile feels that the group will continue reading paper by paper until they finish the book.

The atmosphere at the Faws' home is very warm and comfortable. There is a short break for refreshments in the middle of the study session (a practice I haven't seen anywhere else) . . . and it is truly refreshing to pause in the middle of study and collect one's thoughts before continuing on.

The study session finishes by around 9:30PM (for those of us who are early risers and can't take those late evenings), and I experienced a deep personal feeling of satisfaction from the energy, sincerity and intelligence of this study group.

I urge you to try to make it out to Malibu for an evening with a wonderful group of URANTIA Book students. Call Duane or Lucile for directions at 456-9708.



STUDY GROUPS

AREA/CONTACT

MEETING INFO

Camarillo
Gary Reedy

1st & 3rd Mondays @ **7:30 PM**
(805) 484-2991

Culver City
Julia Fenderson
"Marriage & Family"

Wednesdays @ **7:30 PM**
(213) 456-9708

Malibu
Duane & Lucile Faw

2nd & 4th Mondays @ **7:30 PM**
(213) 456-9708

Anaheim
Pierre Chicoine

Mondays @ **7:00 PM**
(714) 761-1565

Orange County
Harley Eakins

Mondays @ **10:00 PM**
(714) 636-3371 / 636-1190

Anaheim
Marlene Chicoine

Mondays @ **10:00 AM**
(714) 761-1565

North Hollywood
C. & E. Montgomery
Temporarily: Silverlake
Dianna Rolfe

Mondays @ **8:00 PM**
(213) 763-6650

(213) 667-0618 / 384-6115

Orange City
Jerry Lyle

Wednesdays @ **7:00 PM**
(714) 637-3065 / 633-2293

Santa Monica
Vince Ventola

Thursdays @ **8:00 PM**
(213) 396-9180

Huntington Beach
K. & J. Anderson

Fridays @ **8:00 PM**
(714) 894-5417

Van Nuys
Dick MacDonald

2nd & 4th Thursdays @ **8:00 PM**
(213) 343-3364

Hemet, CA
Beverly J. Wold

Thursdays @ **7:30 PM**
(714) 927-1015

Redondo Beach
Jonathon Johnson
& **Betsy Slavik**

Tuesdays @ **8:30 PM**
(213) 374-2720

Orange City
Janice Gallegos

Saturdays @ **7:30 PM**
(714) 639-0690



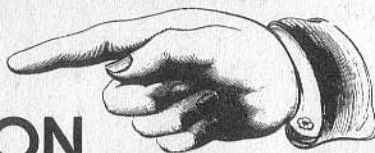
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JUNE MEETING INFORMATION



DATE: JUNE 6, 1982

TIME: 1:00-1:30 Group Worship
2:00-Program

PLACE: Central Federal Savings
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Sherman Oaks, CA
Enter—So. Side of Bldg.

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7151 STANTON AVE
BUENA PARK, CA 90621
M I

