



July-1982

the MONITOR

NEWSLETTER of the FIRST URANTIA SOCIETY of LOS ANGELES



Urantia Brotherhood

The Charter Committee of Urantia Brotherhood,

having approved an Application to be Chartered as a Urantia Society dated the 25 th day of September 1956 from the individuals whose names appear below and who comply with the Standards of Admission for Urantia Societies and state their desire to associate themselves together to establish a society for the accomplishment of the purposes expressed in the Constitution of Urantia Brotherhood, does now grant this

CHARTER

to
F. H. Squires Julia K. Fenderson Arlie E. Riddleberger Elisabeth S. Tackett
Viola A. Squires Helen K. Steen Winona R. Jewell
Florence F. Thuerk Ethel Jane Jones Marvin T. Tackett

as the Founders of the
West Coast Urantia Society

and does empower them to organize such Urantia Society in accordance with, and subject to, the provisions of the Constitution and By-laws of Urantia Brotherhood.

Granted as Charter Number 2 this 1st day of October 1956 at Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A. by the Charter Committee of Urantia Brotherhood.



Anna A. Peterson
President, Charter Committee
Anna Peterson
Secretary, Charter Committee

Ruth F. Peterson
President, Charter Committee
William C. Anderson
Secretary, Charter Committee

There will be no regular FUSLA meeting this month, however, July is not without celebration. We are hosting a tribute dinner July 16 designed to honor our beloved Julia Fenderson and to mark the 25th anniversary of the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles. It promises to be a joyous evening of love, deep friendship, and plain old celebration. Please join us!

As a foretaste . . . the August 1st meeting will be a multimedia slide presentation by David and Sue Kantor on the Holy Land, taken from their recent trip to the Middle East. We are honored that they will travel this far south to present it to us. So mark your calendar! See you there.

Joanne Larson

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Association with one's fellows is essential to the renewal of the zest for life and is indispensable to the maintenance of the courage to fight those battles consequent upon the ascent to the higher levels of human living. Friendship enhances the joys and glorifies the triumphs of life. Loving and intimate human associations tend to rob suffering of its sorrow and hardship of much of its bitterness. The presence of a friend enhances all beauty and exalts every goodness. By intelligent symbols man is able to quicken and enlarge the appreciative capacities of his friends. One of the crowning glories of human friendship is this power and possibility of the mutual stimulation of the imagination. Great spiritual power is inherent in the consciousness of wholehearted devotion to a common cause, mutual loyalty to a cosmic deity."

*pg. 1776

The MONITOR

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

The MONITOR is the monthly newsletter of FUSLA, the First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles. FUSLA is an educational, fraternal and service organization for students of *The URANTIA Book*. It is one of the thirteen Societies in the URANTIA Brotherhood. There are no official interpretations of *The URANTIA Book*, and views expressed at FUSLA meetings and in *The MONITOR* are entirely individual.

Subscriptions to *The MONITOR* are available on a yearly basis for a minimum \$5.00 donation from non-FUSLA members. Make checks payable to FUSLA.

EDITORS - Roxy Alessandro & Bruce Fiero

CIRCULATION - Bryan Soderberg

TYPESETTING - Dianna Rolfe, Type Works

PHOTOGRAPHY - Charles Hicks & Dick
MacDonald

MAILING - Charles Hicks & Dick
MacDonald

LAYOUT & DESIGN - Lori & Michael Long

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

REFLECTIONS

Our June monthly meeting was a knockout. It was the kind of afternoon you wish everyone could have experienced. From time to time we gather and stop to take a look at ourselves. We began the group discussion with a reading of 'The Parable of The Talents' and asked, "What are we doing with the truth committed to us? What are we doing with *The URANTIA Book*?" The answers shared were as varied as the personalities in attendance. One thing was very clear, there is a great responsibility within our experience of the Fifth Epochal Revelation.

I believe that we must take the time to step aside from the endless demands of our daily existence and get to know each other. To share the experiences of our own personal ministry "as we pass by" in a world which offers a constant challenge . . . Reveal God To Me! There is much inspiration and dynamism in the shared adventure of a brother or sister who went out into Urantia 1982 and dared to spread the good news. Our communication is vital! Our education and study of *The URANTIA Book* is imperative. I feel the need for us to form a "student teacher training corps." A dedicated group of men and women who feel ready to go the 'second mile.' Those who feel the call to a more dynamic and active involvement than weekly study group attendance. Perhaps a goal would be for each member to start a new study group. Mark my words, if you give our Unseen Friends a home to nest a study group in, They will help you hatch it! Another goal would be regular attendance at special 'in-depth' study sessions. By sending out questionnaires to our known list of readers we could determine areas of interest and develop the resources of those in our own back yards. But the most important, would be commitment from each member to go 'out into the world' with another member . . . is this beginning to sound familiar?

Five years ago this idea was considered . . . and considered . . . and nothing much happened. Has its time come? Are there people out there who feel ready for it? Or are you too busy? Or do you prefer to read alone? Or do you think you live too far away? . . .

The Education Committee of the First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles is dedicated to providing you with an opportunity to gather, study, worship, and meet other readers and students of *The URANTIA Book* on the first Sunday of each month. The stage and setting is provided . . . the possibilities are endless. If you have the attitude that you've been there before and were bored, or didn't get anything out of it, we invite you to drop in and pay us a visit. Times have changed and so have we. There are many new and stimulating projects in the works. Our newsletter is continually expanding in its outreach and desire to communicate and listen to what you have to say. Our recent series of Friday Night Forums continues to 'tour' Southern California and bring together groups of readers to study and discuss in depth, some of the more controversial or misunderstood aspects of *The URANTIA Book*. And just for the sheer joy of celebration, on July 16th we will gather together to formally acknowledge our twenty-fifth year on the west coast. And this is just the beginning! There is a new energy in the air. A new call to Service. New friends to meet. Thoughts to express and share. An Epochal Revelation has been handed to us! Wake up, people. Time here is precious. Do something with it!

In Friendship and Brotherhood
Vince Ventola

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS INSTALLED

On Sunday, June 7th, 1982, four new members were initiated into the First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles, and URANTIA Brotherhood. Jeff Culler, Gerald D'Arcy, Dianna Rolfe, and Betsey Slavik added their names to FUSLA's roster during a simple ceremony following our monthly program. This 'symbolic' gesture marks a turning point in the life of each individual and a rededication of Love and Service to the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. We welcome you, Jeff, Gerald, Dianna, and Betsey as 'soldiers of the circles' and celebrate with you the decision/action you have taken. We pray for your guidance and wisdom and look forward to getting to know you and to the opportunity of working together.

VALLEY FORUM CELEBRATES

On Sunday, May 23, the Valley Forum group of *URANTIA Book* readers signed their formal application for a Society Charter from the URANTIA Brotherhood, marking the end of many months of preparation.

Polly Friedman, president of the Forum, led the meeting and introduced the guest speakers Lucile and Duane Faw. Twenty-six people were in attendance, seventeen of whom signed this historic letter.

Following the charter application signing by Founding members and Charter members, the assembly adjourned and went to O'Melveny park in Granada Hills for a family picnic and enjoyed a period of unified fellowship.

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.

PERSONALITY FORUM HELD

Six *UB* students attended the June Friday Night Forum at Roxy and Bruce's home in Venice. Roxy led the discussion with exhaustive research she had done on quotes from *The URANTIA Book* with the aid of Clyde Bedell's *Concordex*. Topics of birth control and abortion were discussed, with the group arriving at the consensus that these issues must be dealt with responsibly, by those facing them, on an individual basis. Laws cannot deal with all of the circumstances the individual must take into consideration when making a moral decision. Lawmakers would do better to promote education in these areas rather than rigid control.

AN INSPIRATION

What happens to a *URANTIA Book* reader when a spark ignites in their heads? ACTION—that's what! And if you're Russel Hauck of Aurora, Colorado, it's a lot of action. Russ began a library survey in central Colorado to see if *The URANTIA Book* was available in libraries, and in just a few months, he has placed more than 40 *URANTIA Books* and visited at least 50 librarians. Our congratulations, Russ! If anyone else would like to pursue this worthy enterprise, please write to Marian Rowley, URANTIA Foundation, 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, Illinois 60614, or call FUSLA's Book Chairman, Polly Friedman (213) 880-5943.

TRANSLATIONS

BY JULIA FENDERSON

"The hour is striking for presenting to Buddhism, to Christianity, to Hinduism, even to all peoples of all faiths, not the gospel about Jesus, but the living spiritual reality of the gospel of Jesus." *P. 1041. Jesus said: "Go, then, into all the world telling this good news to all creatures of every race, tribe and nation." *P. 2054. This good news concerns the love of the heavenly Father for his children on earth and that it is your faith that saves your souls, "Salvation is the gift of God to all who believe that they are his sons . . . and there follows the experience of bearing the fruits of the spirit life as it is lived in the flesh." *P. 2053.

In order to present this "good news" it must be in a language each one can comprehend and can read easily. Thus there is a great need to translate *The URANTIA Book* into the main language of each country. In our experience *The URANTIA Book* is the most eloquent bearer of the good news though it can be taken to hungry searchers with or without this Book. However, the Book is meant to be a bearer of good news, so that it can be interpreted individually—there are to be no intermediaries—no priesthoods, no hierarchies. "The Word was made Book." The Book stands alone on its own merits for the individual. To insure this it must be translated to each individual's language.

The URANTIA Book should be translated to various languages of the world and translated soon. We cannot wait until the study groups and organizations surrounding it become so strongly westernized they would influence the future. Each culture should have the opportunity to discover the Book and to develop its own social customs and study groups around the Book. They will differ from ours and should.

When we travel to other countries we note that English is spoken in the airports and in certain places in metropolitan areas—at least enough for us to communicate in a rudimentary fashion. However, as soon as we get into other areas of those countries we find that the majority of the people converse only in their own native tongue. Certainly the great *URANTIA Book* needs to be translated accurately for full appreciation of the great truths presented there.

The following tables give some idea of the numbers of people possible to be reached by various translations. This is not intended to be comprehensive.

CERTAIN LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD

The World Almanac-1982

Newspaper Enterprises

	Population		Population
CHINESE	713,000,000	SPANISH	251,000,000
Mandarin only		INDIAN	245,000,000
ENGLISH	391,000,000	Hindustani only (15 languages)	
RUSSIAN	270,000,000	FRENCH	105,000,000 - Translated
Great Russian only		FINNISH	5,000,000 - Translated

"URANTIA is now quivering on the very brink of one of its most amazing and enthralling epochs of social readjustment, moral quickening, and spiritual enlightenment." *P. 2082. Translations will help precipitate this "enthralling epoch."

FUSLA SERVITALS

SINGLE HELPING

SINGLE? Then you'll want to subscribe to *PERSON-TO-PERSON*, The new publication that puts like-minded, single adult *URANTIA* Book Readers in touch.

The *URANTIA* Book and a division of Angels, not to mention other folks, seem to think real highly of bringing spiritually-progressive, like-minded men and women together to make for solid families.

PERSON-TO-PERSON is dedicated to making that possibility more possible—for you.

Drop us a line for more information.

PERSON-TO-PERSON
30 Domingo, No. 2
Berkeley, CA 94705

MAILING LIST MANIA

We are in need of people who can type to help Bryan Soderberg with the monthly updating of our ever-expanding mailing lists for *The MONITOR* and this year's edition of *The Agondonter*. If you are willing to donate 2 or 3 hours of your time to our computer, please give Bryan a call at (213) 838-3215.

UB IN LIBRARIES

If you are interested in helping with FUSLA's library placement program, please call Polly Friedman (213) 880-5943, or Janelle Balnicke (213) 799-3592 *before* contacting area libraries, as their book order may already be waiting for delivery.

HOST OR BE HOSTED

If you have space in your home for or are expecting to be an out-of-town guest for a day or two, please contact Lori Long, FUSLA Hospitality (213) 255-1375. We are expecting visitors for Julia's dinner July 16, and for the August FUSLA meeting, August 1.

MINUTE BY MINUTE

Governing Committee minutes are available for your study and review. These minutes provide an excellent opportunity for you to keep in touch with our society's direction. For more information please call Grace Sims at (213) 459-3284.

OUR PURPOSE ON EARTH

"We are but the instruments through which the good of the Father reaches the world, and we were born for the purpose of showing forth the beauty, the grace and the love of God—not our own virtues."

The Altitude of Prayer by
Joel Goldsmith

Submitted by Grace A. Sims

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. **If you cannot attend but wish to have your greetings shared, please send a telegram to the Castaways or letter to Lori Long, FUSLA hospitality, before July 16.**

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

PORTRAITS

Dick MacDonald



Charles M. Montgomery—better known to many of us by the nickname 'Chick'.

As a man of letters and quality, he strongly reflects a balance between the quantitative and the qualitative aspects of his nature.

Chick is a native Californian, having made his mortal debut in the Glendale-Tujunga area. His formal education carried him, with honors, through the usual grade school-high school programming later emerging from college as a well rounded student in possession of a BA in Architectural Sciences, cum laude, from Harvard; and an MA in Public Administration from the University of Southern California.

He has travelled extensively, having been in 38 States of the Union, parts of Canada and Mexico; Europe, Asia, and Russia.

His administrative expertise placed him in a segment of city government where he has worked as a City Planner for 15 years.

In looking at the qualitative side of Chick's nature, we see him as a student, writer, musician, composer, public speaker and an accomplished graphic artist. He was introduced to *The URANTIA Book* in 1969, and his subsequent devotion to its teachings has doubtlessly enhanced all of his talents and creativity.

One of Chick's best contributions to students of *The URANTIA Book* is his graphic representation of the Master Universe with its descriptive text. Many readers saw this large mural-style painting at Snowmass last year. A prolific writer, he was for years Chairman of the Publications Committee and his creativity was reflected in much of the work appearing in *The AGONDONTER*.

As a dedicated member of FUSLA, Chick has attended numerous URANTIA conferences. He is a many-time participant, having spoken knowledgeably in many presentations on URANTIA Book topics.

he and his wife, Ellen, have hosted a study group in their home where 6-10 students have met for the past 3 years.

Chick plays guitar quite well and has led many song-fests. He has written many URANTIA songs; one of his favorites being the "Tadpole Song."

To those who come to know Chick well, it becomes evident his love of wife and children, his ability to provide for them, coupled with his home interests of games, music, puzzles, hiking, gardening and such, all blend into one large arena of interest and activity—the family.

Whether the words are actually spoken or unspoken, Chick says simply, "I love my family."

SPOTLIGHT ON SPIRIT

BY LEE ARMSTRONG

Have you ever been in the position of wanting to share some spiritual truths with a friend without mentioning the *U Book* or coming off as too pushy? Maybe you can talk about movies which have spiritual levels! The most successful of the 1981 films was *Chariots of Fire*. This British-made film won the Oscar for best picture and has instant name recognition. It tells the story of two athletes who run in the 1924 Paris Olympics. One runner is Jewish and must deal with aristocratic anti-Semitism while the other is a Christian torn between missionary work or running. The high spiritual point of the film comes during the racing, with the brilliant soundtrack soaring, the runner tells us that he feels God's pleasure when he runs. It is his moment of unity and oneness. Through running, he feels that he fulfills God's plan for his life. The movie is not terribly deep with reference to it's spiritual insights, but the fact that it has them, combined with its visibility, make it important.

Equally brilliant, less spectacular, and philosophically more intriguing is the small-budgeted film *My Dinner With Andre*. This film, made for a paltry \$450,000, is a conversation between two friends at dinner. The main character is theatre director Andre Gregory who comes to the realization that he can live in his art but not in his life. This leads him to construct theatrical workshops in which the participants try to answer the questions, "Who am I?" and "Why am I here?" for themselves rather than in preparation for a role they will play. Rebellious against a mechanical existence where people are too busy performing life instead of living it, Gregory talks about many experiences including one at Findhorn, Scotland where "they live with a sort of wild enthusiasm—you know, the word enthusiasm refers to the god within, and they do somehow seem to see the god within everything." Gregory feels that people concentrate on their goals to such a degree that living becomes habitual instead of filled with discovery and growth. In a world that seems to tremble on the brink of darkness, he sees settlements springing up which are pockets of light that will illuminate civilization. "We need a new language, a language of the heart in which you have that sense of being united to all things." In the end, Gregory feels that it is fear of dying that keeps us from truly being alive.

(Editor's Note: To submit an article to "Spotlight on Spirit," please follow these guidelines: (1) We will not accept an article on the works of any URANTIA Book reader whose material is not available commercially or is in national distribution. Publicizing any other works in this column could inadvertently be interpreted as a FUSLA endorsement which is not the intent of this column. (2) All articles will omit any form of commercialization, that is, record catalog numbers, publishing houses, production studios, etc. will be left out of this column. Mail submissions to The Monitor for consideration.)

LETTERS

Dear Roxy and Bruce,

I want to thank you for the excellent job you are doing in putting out *The Monitor*. Over the last few months I have come to the understanding and the realization that the URANTIA movement is not just the people back in Chicago but we are the URANTIA Brotherhood out here in the trenches. And it is time for all of us to get moving in the work of *The URANTIA Book*. I believe communications is one of the most important jobs to be done. So please keep up the good work in *The Monitor*. I would be pleased if you would include me in your study group list.

Thank you,
Larry Whelan

Thank you, Larry!—Eas.

STUDY GROUP SCOOP

BY LEE ARMSTRONG

Tuesday nights are special in Redondo Beach because Jonathon Johnson and Betsey Slavik host a study group of *URANTIA* Book readers there at 8:30 p.m. The group has been meeting for two months and has an average attendance of seven. It fills a void that was left in the area when John and Jane Roper moved and their study group disbanded. Betsey says that the group is small and growing. "It's diverse. Each person has a different background and viewpoint. Everyone is pretty accepting and tolerant of others' viewpoints."



The group has just finished an in-depth study of "Government on a Neighboring Neighboring Planet" and is preparing to study the papers on the Garden of Eden. A study evening usually starts with socialization as people arrive. The meeting begins with prayer and meditation. There is usually a quiet time of about five minutes during which prayers or worshipful thoughts can be shared. This allows everyone to relax and center themselves. Betsey says, "It helps focus them on why they came. We center on our purpose and are more ready to study." "It's like a family," Jonathon says. "Sometimes we have heated discussions on topics like being more public with the book and when will Christ come back."

Growth seems to be the keyword for this group. While the smallest meeting had three people, as many as eleven have been coming recently. Owen and Quentin James, Paul Motta and Martha Simpson, Diane Bishop from Hemet, and Ed Fregin have been core members recently. Jonathon says it is a joy to feel the growth in the personalities in the group. "People are growing from it," he says. If you are looking for study of *The URANTIA* Book combined with humor and discussion, call Betsey or Jonathon at 374-2720 in Redondo Beach!

THOUGHTS

love is the primal chord
everything that comes before or after that is a variation,
like music

from silence,
or emotions in relationship to Love.

Lee Armstrong

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) 838-3215
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
Burbank Lee Armstrong & Roselynn Van Benschoten	Mondays @ 8:00 PM (213) 841-6286
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 and 4th @ 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
Ventura Larry Whelan	Weekly @ 7:00 PM (call for day) (805) 643-8728
Santa Barbara Barrie Bedell	Thursdays @ 7:30 PM (805) 969-1565
Downey Gerald D'Arcy	Tuesdays @ 7:30 PM (713) 630-8778



the **MONITOR**

the FIRST
URANTIA. SOCIETY
of LOS ANGELES

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in next
Month's
Monitor*

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