



the monitor

NEWSLETTER OF THE FIRST URANTIA[®] SOCIETY OF LOS ANGELES



"... But long before reaching Havona, these ascendant children of time have learned to feast upon uncertainty, to fatten upon disappointment, to enthuse over apparent defeat, to invigorate in the presence of difficulties, to exhibit indomitable courage in the face of immensity, and to exercise unconquerable faith when confronted with the challenge of the inexplicable. Long since, the battle cry of these pilgrims became: "In liason with God, nothing — absolutely nothing — is impossible."

(pp 291)



Julia Fenderson

CLYDE BEDELL GRADUATES TO MANSONIA



Clyde Bedell, author of the Concordex to *The URANTIA Book*, died Tuesday, January 22, in Denver Colorado.

All members of FUSLA share in the sadness of losing such a trusted friend and rejoice in the certainty of Clyde's graduation to Mansonia. He was a devoted and lifelong student of *The URANTIA* teachings who bestowed a life of religious living on those of us who were fortunate to know him. He has left behind an important legacy for all *URANTIA* students. Our entire Society regards with respect the promotion of one of the pioneers of *The URANTIA movement*.

—Lee Armstrong

FEBRUARY FOCUSES ON FELLOWSHIP

February means fellowship for *URANTIA Book* readers on the West Coast, as FUSLA and the Valley Society host a festive potluck gathering at **Dorothy Elder's** home in West Los Angeles on February 17. That is the last meeting day of *The URANTIA Brotherhood's* International Fellowship Committee and those members from around the world who don't have to rush home will be honored guests.

Enhancing the fellowship will be a delicious potluck dinner. **Cathy Jones**, FUSLA hospitality chairman, asks that all those persons whose names begin with the letters A through G bring a main dish; H through M bring a vegetable dish; N through S, a salad; and T through Z, dessert. Musicians are urged to bring their instruments and everyone should be prepared to "lift their voices in song" or at least hum a few bars!

Anyone having extra card tables, please call Dorothy Elder, (213) 472-8722. Please see back page for map and directions to Dorothy's house.

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15872 Wicklow Lane, Huntington Beach, California 92647

The MONITOR is the bi-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 fourteen societies of *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 of \$8.00 for non-FUSLA members in the U.S., \$10.00 outside of the U.S. Make checks payable to FUSLA.

MONITOR SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE

All submissions to *The MONITOR* are due the first of each **odd-numbered** month. The *MONITOR* will be issued the first of each **even-numbered** month.

EDITOR - JACQUELYN ANDERSON

REPORTERS - LEE ARMSTRONG

ELLEN MONTGOMERY

PRINTING - A & B PRINTING

TYPESETTING - LORRAINE SEAL

CIRCULATION - RICHARD JOHN

MAILING - HUNTINGTON BEACH STUDY GROUP

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A JUBILANT 80th BIRTHDAY TO OUR JULIA!

On January 27, 1905 (80 years ago this month) **Julia Squires** was born in Ashley, Illinois, near East St. Louis. Her parents, in their mid-twenties, were both college graduates. Before Julia's birth, her father left his position as a university mathematics instructor and joined the Bureau of Indian Affairs under the auspices of the Department of the Interior.

Mr. Squires' primary responsibility was his administrative duties for the Bureau. In addition he was required to interview the Indians who had been involved in George Armstrong Custer's infamous "Last Battle" fought in 1876 and to write reports on his findings. In subsequent years his research extended to many different Indian tribes throughout the West. Julia continues to update his research, having returned to Crow Agency, Montana to interview grandsons of some of the Indians her father interviewed seven decades ago.

Julia's growing years were spent in a succession of fort houses in Montana, North Dakota and Idaho, most typically enclosed in white wooden fences and each house having 5 or 6 open fireplaces, even in the bedrooms. She laughs today when asked what it was like to "live with the Indians". The Indians lived in their wigwams at a distance from the fort. It was in these locations that she grew to love the mountains, the hills, trees and birds and looked forward to hunting and fishing trips with her father.

Julia went to school in each place where the family lived. Reading was an especially pleasurable past-time and English and Social Studies were her favorite subjects. Julia and her younger brother, Richard, were left in the care of their mother when her father died after a long illness. She was graduated from high school at sixteen and received a General Arts Degree from the State School of Science in Wahpeton, North Dakota at eighteen in 1923, after which she obtained her first job, teaching fifth grade and music.

That year Julia married Merlin Early. Their son Tom was born in 1927, followed by Marty in 1929. Mr. Early became seriously ill with tuberculosis and their doctor advised Julia to move to a dryer climate with the boys, lest they succumb to the disease. Tom was only two and Marty was still an infant. Julia applied for teaching jobs throughout the Southwest, and received one offer — to teach third grade and music in Doña Ana, New Mexico, a town of 200 people. She was paid \$90.00 per month and was given the use of a teacherage in which to live with her small sons.

Julia sheepishly admits to going to bed the first night in Doña Ana with a butcher knife under her pillow. However, the townspeople came that night to serenade their new "maestra" with guitars and the knife was joyfully returned to the kitchen drawer. *"They were some of the best friends I've ever had. They would bring me fresh vegetables and when the boys were ill they'd drive me to the doctor in Las Cruces."*

Never one to let any grass poke up between her toes, Julia had ten promotions in the ten years she lived in New Mexico. She became principal of the grade school, got her B.S. degree and taught courses at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, where she also ran the Laboratory School.

In 1939 Julia left New Mexico and moved to Chicago to be reunited with her husband. However, the marriage didn't work out and she encountered the troublesome problem of being unable to find a teaching job in Chicago because she was married. One Sunday morning she attended services at a Methodist Church and heard Dr. William S. Sadler's name mentioned not only as a world-famous psychiatrist but as a counselor who had successfully guided a number of people. *"I was quite shy but I was also very poor and in despair, so even though it was Sunday, I went out to the church parking lot and called Dr. Sadler from a pay phone"*

continued on page 3

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Dr. Sadler agreed to see Julia the following day. He helped her find a job and gave her some books to read, including *The Mind At Mischief*, but did not mention anything to her about the *URANTIA* papers.

Julia read every word and when she went back to see Dr. Sadler (on the third floor of 533 Diversey Parkway) she questioned him about the case he referred to in the Appendix to *The Mind At Mischief*. Dr. Sadler was evasive but Julia was so persistent that, finally in near exasperation, he said "*Julia, sit down and I'll tell you the whole story.*" He told her about the *URANTIA* papers and she didn't sleep that night.

"I was skeptical. I'd been brought up in a scholarly home. I'd been raised in the Methodist Church and had always had utter faith but I'd also been taught not to believe that there was only one way to think." She remembered the old Sioux Indian saying: "*Don't judge anyone until you've walked ten miles in his moccasins.*"

This was nearly sixteen years before *The URANTIA Book* was published. Julia became an avid student of the papers and a member of the Forum, the group of 100 or so people who met at 533 to read and discuss. "*The more I examined them the more I came to believe.*"

The calibre of people who read with her also furthered her belief in the *URANTIA* papers. She describes Dr. Sadler as "*one of the brainiest men I ever met.*" There was also Sir Hubert Wilkins, an English authority on Arctic exploration. Julia frequently read with him in between the Sunday meetings and she asked him why he believed. "*It is their utter consistency from beginning to end,*" he said. "*No human being could have written these papers with so much consistency of detail . . . there would have been a crack someplace.*" Marian Rowley was appointed Julia's "*friendly helper*" — someone new readers could talk to about questions. To this day Marian, a close friend whom Julia considers an excellent scholar of *The URANTIA Book*, is the person Julia calls with questions.

At a Sunday Forum meeting during the winter of the early 1940's Dr. Sadler asked that "*all those who feel committed to the papers and really want to work with them, come up next Wednesday night.*" That Wednesday night was cold and snowy. Exactly seventy members arrived and signed their names in numerical order. Julia was number seventeen. The purpose of the meeting was to sign up for special training and courses of study to better prepare members for the future of the *URANTIA* movement. However, Julia feels it is necessary to be cautious about becoming too organized. Basically, "*The URANTIA Book is between the reader and God; it's an individual thing.*"

Julia eventually obtained a good position teaching junior high English at Highwood Park on the North Shore of Chicago. In 1945, she moved to Los Angeles to be near her ailing mother, securing a first grade teaching job in Culver City. By now her sons were in high school. In time she became Co-ordinator of Education for Culver City School District, responsible for eight schools.

When she left Chicago, Julia asked Dr. Sadler how she could exist in California without anyone to take to about the papers! She was given the names of other people who had studied the papers in Chicago and had since moved to Southern California. A group of ten readers, Julia among them, formed a study group in the Los Angeles area. As the papers were ten years away from publication, they studied "*Evolution of the Soul,*" from a lecture Dr. Sadler had given "straight from the papers" and also began an in-depth study of the world's religions. This group met faithfully once a month for ten years and became the nucleus of the *First*

URANTIA Society of Los Angeles, chartered in 1956 and installed in 1957. Julia cherishes the deep love and friendship among the members of that first group, "unique ties I just don't have with anybody else."

Julia married William Fenderson, a journalist, in 1948. She had first known Bill in junior high school in Idaho, then, amazingly, met him again in Los Angeles in 1947. They were married on the radio program "Bride and Groom." Dr. Sadler and the Chicago group listened to the ceremony on the radio, as did a group of readers in New York. Some old friends the couple had lost contact with in Idaho heard the wedding on their kitchen radio by accident, and excitedly drove to Carmel to surprise the newlyweds on their honeymoon!

The *URANTIA Book* was finally published in 1955 and by the time the first box of books reached Los Angeles at Christmas time, Julia was "so excited she was shaking." She could finally tell Bill about the papers, something she couldn't do until the book was published, and he loved it for the beauty of the writing.

Julia made frequent trips to Chicago after her move to California in 1945 and in the late 1950's she was appointed one of the early field representatives of *URANTIA Brotherhood*, along with Dr. Meredith Sprunger and Berkeley Elliott. She holds the position for life. She also spent many years as a member of the Brotherhood Council and has held numerous offices in the *First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles*. She is now President Emeritus of FUSLA, and a very active member of the International Fellowship Committee.

Julia's professional career is distinguished. She has taught courses from first grade through graduate levels, been an educational administrator and has numerous publications to her credit, including an operetta "Big Navajo Medicine" based on Navajo melodies, a delightful tape presentation on birds and birdsong for young people, graduated reading programs, and most recently on-going research on the Gabrielino Indians published in 1984.

Her work in the *URANTIA movement* has been both extensive and tireless. Those who know her are staggered by the sheer volume of hours she's spent working and counseling on the phone, entertaining in her home, speaking at meetings and conferences and travelling around the United States and abroad. She has travelled to nearly every country that has study groups and has the reputation of having visited more study groups than any other living person. "It's simply because I've travelled and I'm so old," she explains. "It won't be a distinction I'll hold long . . . the young people will catch up." Julia is committed to the furthering of study groups and hopes that the *URANTIA movement*, for awhile at least, concentrates itself in that form.

In April of 1980 Julia began a project which is very close to her heart — she instituted the first known series of classes on marriage and family specifically for students of *The URANTIA Book*. The first class "graduated" in March, 1981 and her book containing the materials for these classes is scheduled for publication this year.

Of all her life-long endeavors, it is Julia's family that means the most to her. She is the mother of two fine sons, (Tom is a physician and family specialist; Marty is president of Career Aids, a company that specializes in educational materials, computers and computer software.) She has two granddaughters and six grandsons and in 1984 she became a great grandmother.

We honor Julia Fenderson on the celebration of eighty years on this planet and return to her the love and peace she has so willingly extended to those around her. For many of us she is sunshine spilling over the mountain tops, bringing welcome warmth to the hills and valleys of our lives — enabling the hummingbird to find the reddest and sweetest flower.

—Ellen Montgomery

NEWS BRIEFS

A public speaking training course is being formulated by FUSLA and Valley Society members **Polly Friedman, Will Sherwood, and Gary Reedy**. It is designed to train interested persons who wish to further the teachings of *The URANTIA Book* and will use video tape as a tool with which to evaluate individual performance. Length of class, dates and locations will be determined by participants, so please call Polly Friedman, **(818) 880-5943**, to indicate your interest.



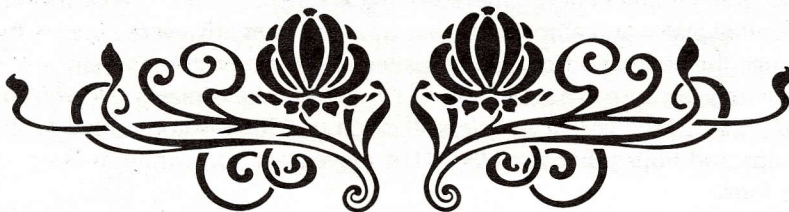
Goals are the focus of a new FUSLA subcommittee. Members **Lee Armstrong, Cori Bishop, Lori Long, Don Guest and Will Sherwood** will be looking at the 1977 FUSLA goals and seeking to update them. The committee welcomes any suggestions from FUSLA members concerning the Society's future direction.



Dianne Bishop is interested in starting a South Bay Area study group. She is open to the most convenient meeting time for all interested persons. Please call Dianne's home, **(213) 542-1673**, and leave a message if she is not in. She will return your call promptly.



Ernest Barbosa has combined his study group with **Irving Townsend's** Brentwood group on Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Those interested in attending please call Irving at **(213) 207-3187**.



HEAVEN KNOWS WE NEED THE MONEY!

Kermit Anderson, FUSLA treasurer, is reminding all FUSLA members that their dues are now payable. The FUSLA coffers are indeed low and payment of dues is a major way of contributing to the dissemination of the teachings of *The URANTIA Book*. FUSLA plans to vigorously pursue its goals of book placement and the fostering of new study groups in Los Angeles and Orange counties. There is very little "overhead" as members of the Governing Committee usually donate their out-of-pocket expenses. Send you checks payable to *First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles, c/o Kermit Anderson, 15872 Wicklow Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647*.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

1985 promises to be an excellent year for FUSLA and *The URANTIA movement* in Southern California. The goals workshop which Will and Corlin Sherwood presented in January was an excellent way to start the year! The presentation gave a wonderful emphasis on balance in goal setting by focusing on the importance of every area of life — mental, family, spiritual, financial, career, physical and social goals in association with the Heavenly Father.

At this time, it is good for us to consider our goals as a society. The major importance for us is to further the dissemination of *The URANTIA Book* and the study of its teachings. As our exemplary President Emeritus, Julia Fenderson, has often said, this is the first time that the word, an epocal revelation, has been made into a book! The logical place for a book is in libraries and bookstores. We must devote our energies to achieving this distribution. Pierre Chicoine, our book chairman, has brought excellent energy and organization to this effort. All that is lacking is the womanpower and manpower to get the job done. I hope all who read this article and all who attend our monthly meetings will join in this effort. If we do all that is humanly possible to achieve this task, our angelic associates will certainly cooperate by bringing those hungry souls to the Book who are ready for it. For those who have already volunteered to help in this important work, thanks are not enough. For those who are hanging back, please help us to help our angels in achieving this vital task.

Our other important goal must be to foster the study of the teachings by strengthening the study group network. There are many areas of Southern California which have no groups to which new readers can be referred. If you live in one of these areas, consider forming a study group. The rewards of hosting one are truly morontial. If you are one of *The URANTIA Book* readers who are too busy to host or attend a group regularly, consider setting a goal of visiting existing groups. Your support helps to keep them going. In April, Kermit and Jackie Anderson will host a Saturday Night Forum on "*Study Group: the Personal Rewards of the Small Group Experience*". Come and share your wisdom and ideas.

The most amazing experience we can share with each other is that joy in realizing our mental devotion to the Universal Deity, our Heavenly Father. As we view the religious living in our brothers and sisters, our own spiritual lives are enhanced. I'd like to share with you what a joy it was to work on preparations for the "Funky Junk Sale". I am one of those people who hates to do yard work. But as I pitched in and helped in clearing the brush out of the sale site with my spirit brothers, Kermit Anderson, Michael Long and Chick Montgomery, miracle of miracles, I realized that I was truly enjoying doing yard work! It was the fellowship between us and the mutual loyalty that made what I considered an unenjoyable task a transcendent experience! If brotherhood can make a person like me enjoy yard work, the possibilities for our planet as we approach light and life are unlimited!

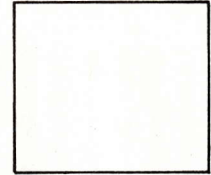
Each of us who have been touched by the *URANTIA* revelation must contribute to its success on our planet. There are many different ways to help. Our Society needs your financial support to accomplish our aims. For some, time and personal effort will be major contributions. Remember that by contributing, your capacity to receive is enlarged! No worthy cause advances without effort. When we consider that there are less than 1,000 members of *The URANTIA Brotherhood* and only an estimated 3,000 people actively studying the Book, we must be industrious and labor tirelessly for the advancement of this revelation. I believe that this is the Father's will. With so few of us aware of the revelation, we cannot leave this for someone else to do. It is up to us. Remember the joy which *The URANTIA Book* has brought to you and resolve that you will contribute to its success in 1985.



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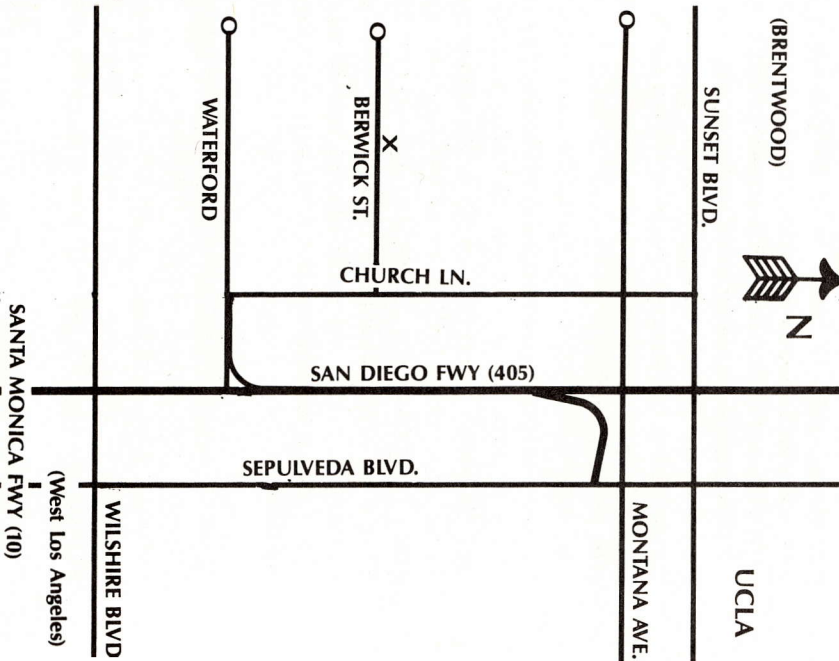


15872 Wicklow Lane
Huntington Beach, California 92647

FEBRUARY MEETING INFORMATION

"Fellowship Gala" Potluck

Co-sponsored by FUSLA and Valley Society
Sunday, February 17, 1985 at 5:00 p.m.
Dorothy Elder's home, 11357 Berwick Street
Los Angeles, (213) 472-8722



Going North on the 405 Freeway —
take Montana offramp, turn left
at signal (Sepulveda), left at signal
(Montana), left at Church Lane,
(stop), right on Berwick Street to
11357 in the first block.

Going South on the 405 Freeway —
take the Waterford offramp, turn
right on Church Lane, left on
Berwick. 11357 in the first block.