

the monitor

NEWSLETTER OF THE FIRST URANTIA SOCIETY OF LOS ANGELES

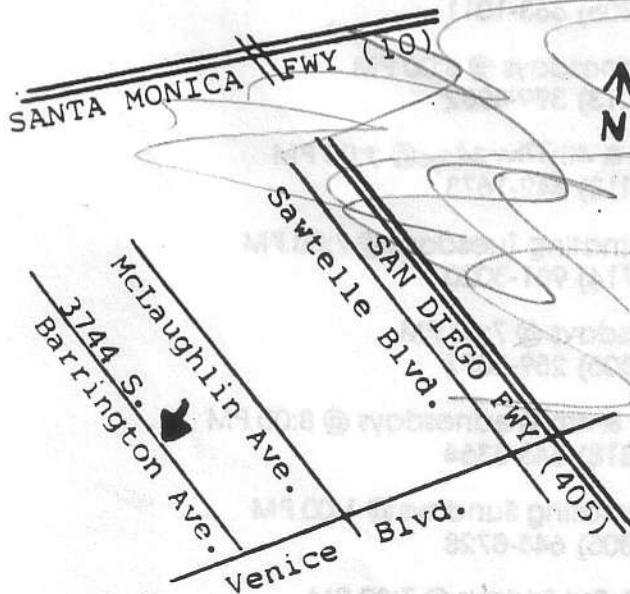
CALENDAR OF EVENTS JULY & AUGUST 1991

What/When: **FUSLA MEETING**, July 14, 2-4pm (Governing Committee 12:30pm)
Where: The Unitarian Society, 3744 S. Barrington Ave., WLA
Program: **"Religion & Education in the Schools"**, a video presentation by Norman Lear to the National Education Association. Listen for direct quotes from The Urantia Book, followed by a discussion about education led by R. Grant Ramey.
Also: **TDA Report** from Janelle Balnicke and Marlene Chicoine.
Bring: Snack food to share or donation.

What/When: **SCHOOL OF MEANINGS & VALUES WEEKEND SEMINAR** August 9-11
Where: The Holy Spirit Retreat Center, Encino, California
Program: **EVOLVING SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY**, 1. My Relationship to God, 2. My Relationship to Myself, 3. My Relationship to Community
Themes found in The Urantia Book and The Different Drum, Community Making and Peace, by M. Scott Peck presented to the whole assembly and then shared personally in small groups.
For more information call: (818) 880-5943.

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MAP TO FUSLA MEETING

FUSLA MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING June 2, 1991
by acting secretary Felice Hubbard, edited by R. Grant Ramey

The meeting was called to consider the following resolution:

Resolved that in accordance with principles of interpretation in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, the phrase "URANTIA Brotherhood" in the FUSLA Constitution be interpreted as applicable, to mean "URANTIA Brotherhood Association."

After discussion the vote was taken by secret ballot with the results:

YES: 8 NO: 28

A new motion was made:

Be it resolved that "URANTIA Brotherhood" as defined in our constitution is intended (not interpreted) to mean "Fifth Epochal Fellowship."

The motion PASSED by more than 2/3 of attendees standing.

The officers of the Governing Committee were asked whether they wanted to remain or resign under this new mandate from the members. Resignations were tendered by the following officers:

Lee Armstrong, Secretary, from previous notice (not in attendance)
Jeff Keys, President, verbal notice
Hoit Caston, Books, verbal notice
Shirley Pelland, Hospitality, verbal notice
Dick Ziglar, Education, verbal notice
Jim Wanless, Membership, assumed due to leaving meeting

The following officers chose to remain:

Chick Montgomery, Vice President, became acting President
Stella Religa, Treasurer
R. Grant Ramey, Publications

A motion was passed to adjourn the Special Meeting. A Regular Meeting of the FUSLA Fellowship was convened to hold elections for the TDA Delegate, alternate, and the vacated offices. Elected by acclamation were:

TDA Delegate: Janaelle Balnicke, Alternate: Marlene Chicoine.
Vice President: Lyn Lear
Secretary: Janelle Balnicke
Membership: Duane Faw
Education: Christine Docimo
Books: Pierre Chicoine
Hospitality: Paul Elofson

Editor's note: The basic spirit of the meeting was one of decisions and sincerity rather than fighting and animosity, a step toward community. "No man is at any time disturbed by his neighbor's attitude when he has perfect confidence in the truth of that which he wholeheartedly believes."
The Urantia Book, p. 1641

REPORT ON SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM II

Oklahoma City, May 17-19, 1991

by R. Grant Ramey

(All page numbers will be references to The Urantia Book.)

"Man's Increasing Control--The Ultimate Frontier"

Keynote Address by Larry Mullins

The Ultimate Frontier, according to Larry Mullins, is the control of our own self, our thoughts and actions. Scientists are continually looking for meaning in facts, but facts are not reality without values, they are just one aspect. Philosophers (not the ones Mullins used) have approached this differently: Ram Dass says "Be," Nike says "Do," and Frank Sinatra says "Shoo be, do, be, do!" Seriously, Mullins proposes the way to this control is by the continual cycles of **serenity** (of mind), **receptivity** (of spirit), and **action** (of body).

Perhaps the best example of this cycle idea can be found in THE YOUNG MAN WHO WAS AFRAID (p. 1437-8). Jesus completely changed Fortune's life in one conversation! What can we learn from this? Once Jesus got the boy's interest (mind) he was receptive to spirit: "My friend, arise! Stand up like a man!", physical action. Jesus continued: "... most valuable of all, your potential of real achievement is the spirit which lives within you, and which will stimulate and inspire your mind to control itself and activate the body if you will release it from the fetters of fear and thus enable your spiritual nature to begin your deliverance from the evils of inaction by the power-presence of living faith." (p. 1438)

THE SCIENCE CONTENT OF THE URANTIA BOOK

Booklet edited by: Richard Bain, Ken Glasziou, Matt Neibaur, Frank Wright

"While statements with reference to cosmology are never inspired, such revelations are of immense value in that they at least transiently clarify knowledge by:

1. The reduction of confusion by the authoritative elimination of error.
2. The co-ordination of known or about-to-be-known facts and observations.
3. The restoration of important bits of lost knowledge concerning epochal transactions in the distant past.
4. The supplying of information which will fill in vital missing gaps in otherwise earned knowledge.
5. Presenting cosmic data in such a manner as to illuminate the spiritual teachings contained in the accompanying revelation." p.1109-10

"In the mortal state, nothing can be absolutely proved; both science and religion are predicated on assumptions." p. 1139

The editors of the booklet say some of the prophetic statements of The Urantia Book can increase confidence in the revelatory validity but "our acceptance of its revelatory status and its ethical, moral, and religious teaching really is dependent upon our personal experience of the God-within-us."

THERE WAS MUCH FASCINATION IN THE SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATIONS, AVAILABLE IN AUDIO AND VIDEO TAPES, BUT I WOULD SAY THE SPIRITUAL JOY Poured FORTH IN THE SUNDAY MUSICAL EXULTATIONS IS WHAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO CARRY WITH US.

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THE URANTIAN DIET

presented by R. Grant Ramey at FUSLA March 3, 1991

The following quotes are from The Urantia Book:

Urantia mortals must obtain light-energy through the vegetative incarnation, but the angelic hosts are encircuited; they "have food that you know not." The Ministering Spirits p. 286,6:2

The practice of subsisting on a nonflesh diet dates from the times of the Caligastia one hundred, for this custom spread near and far to affect the eating habits of many surrounding tribes, groups of origin in the once exclusively meat-eating evolutionary races.

Planetary Prince of Urantia, p. 744,7

4. The agricultural stage. This era was brought about by the domestication of plants, and it represents the highest type of material civilization. Both Caligastia and Adam endeavored to teach horticulture and agriculture. Adam and Eve were gardeners, not shepherds, and gardening was an advanced culture in those days. The growing of plants exerts an ennobling influence on all races of mankind...Association with animals suggests struggle and force; association with plants instills patience, quiet, and peace. Dawn of Civilization, p. 769,2,4:3

It was these enforced changes in living conditions which caused such a large proportion of the human race to become omnivorous in dietetic practice. And the combination of the wheat, rice, and vegetable diet with the flesh of the herds marked a great forward step in the health and vigor of these ancient peoples. p.901,4

Someday man should learn how to enjoy liberty without license, nourishment without gluttony, and pleasure without debauchery. Self-control is a better human policy of behavior regulation than is extreme self-denial. Renunciation and Humiliation p. 977,3

It was the slaughter of these lambs in such enormous numbers that had so affected Jesus on his temple visit...Even at this early date, though he said nothing about such matters to his parents, Jesus had begun to turn over in his mind the propriety of celebrating the Passover without the slaughtered lamb. p.1379,3:2,4

"My brethren, hanker not after the meat which perishes but rather seek for the spiritual food that nourishes even to eternal life; and this is the bread of life which the Son gives to all who will take it and eat, for the Father has given the Son this life without measure.."

The Epochal Sermon

p. 1710,5

"Day by day they continued steadfastly and with one accord in the temple and breaking bread at home. They took their food with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people..." Beginnings of the Christian Church p. 2066,4

The following quotes are from two contemporary sources that speak about diet in relation to spiritual practice.

Quotes from THE EATING GORILLA COMES IN PEACE, Da Love-Ananda:

Food, sex and all the play of our ordinary relations and activities are only the first step, although a primary and necessary step, in the chain of attention and dissolution that moves to God, or Bliss. xxxvi

Food is unquestionably the most important matter of vital discipline for all who become involved in religious and spiritual practice. xliiii

The ultimate food is the internal chemistry of spiritual regeneration.

xliv

DIET IS NOT THE KEY TO SALVATION

There is an appropriate use of food, but, apart from that, diet does not deserve any attention whatsoever. You must be engaged in devotional practice at every level of life. You must discover what is appropriate at each of these levels and adapt to it simply, routinely, and happily, without looking for solutions. If you live in devotional Communion with God, then you do not need solutions! p. 76

Observe the effects of diet and all life-practices on body, emotions, and mind, and then intelligently adapt your practice to suit your needs--not your cravings--and to counter-balance your liabilities. p. 163

THE SECRET OF HOW TO CHANGE

Change is not a matter of not doing something. It is a matter of doing something else--something that is inherently right, free and pleasurable. p. 173

People do not commonly realize that the principle of health--and of all real or conscious life--is relationship. p. 263

Thus, we need not renounce anything in order to attain God. Having already attained God, we bring order to our lives. p. 526

Quotes from DIET by Edwin J. Dingle:

The Science of Mentalphysics teaches that there are Five Vital Foods, as follows: (a) SOLID FOODS, (b) LIQUID FOODS, (c) REST as a Food, (d) BREATH as a Food, (e) THOUGHT as a Food.

We are, of course, aware that this is as much a metaphysical as a distinctly physical interpretation, but anyone who has followed dieting in any form will readily recognize the fact that mere food substances, though correctly taken into the body, are not sufficient to, and do not systematically assure Health...we teach the importance of correct physical development as a necessity for all higher development. p. 2