

## DOC LIVINGSTON TO SPEAK MAY 2! ON "THE MISSION OF MIRTH, THE MINISTRY OF MERRIMENT"

*"The higher the mortal species, the greater the stress and the greater the capacity for humor as well as the necessity for it. In the spirit world the opposite is true: The higher we ascend, the less the need for the diversions of reversion experiences. But proceeding down the scale of spirit life from Paradise to the seraphic hosts, there is an increasing need for the mission of mirth and the ministry of merriment. Those beings who most need the refreshment of periodic reversion to the intellectual status of previous experiences are the higher types of the human species, the morontians, angels, and the Material Sons, together with all similar types of personality."*

(The Urantia Book - Page 549)

Doc Livingston (Reversion Director In Training) will present a talk on "The Mission of Mirth, The Ministry of Merriment" at the 2PM, May 2 FSLA meeting.

Doc will discuss the source, function and application of humor both on Urantia and throughout most of our ascendent careers. Since Doc's favorite topic is humor, a few laughs are guaranteed.

During the talk, the Reversion Corps will be analyzed, in-depth, and the various techniques they utilize shall be covered with spe-

cial attention paid to their spiritual purpose.

The evolution of humor on Urantia will be covered along with its function in our overall progress towards personality perfection. Associative subjects which impact our sojourn here and on the Mansion Worlds will be included.

The differences in Urantian humor and true spiritual humor will be illustrated by those who attend the meeting. Bring some examples of humor (jokes, anecdotes, etc.) with you to the meet-

ing and during a special interactive period, the group as a whole will determine which category each bit of shared humor belongs in.

Don't miss this jocular joust and the chance to participate in a greater appreciation of the Father's plan for our perfection.

### BE THERE!

*Editors Note: Assorted ripe fruits and vegetables will be provided by the Hospitality Chair for audience expression of their collective opinion of the talk.*

## ONLY NOTICE!

### ANN GARNER TO PRESENT "THE MIND OF JESUS" ON JUNE 6th!

Ann Garner is making a special trip to FSLA from Texas on June 6th to share "The Mind of Jesus" with us. Ann is an exceptional person and so are her talks. Her life is dedicated to spreading the Urantia 'word' everywhere she goes... even LA!

Ann is a long time student of The Urantia Book and has integrated her awareness of its contents into a life dedicated to sharing the good news it represents. If you are unaware of Ann's talent as a voice for the Urantian gospel you are in for a real treat. Her special style of communication is well known to those who have been fortunate to hear her lectures and seminars. Ann has delivered talks in churches all over the country regardless of denomination or faith. Her Urantia Book inspired speeches transcend the many dissimilarities of the standard organized religions and all find her interpretations of the Book's teachings exciting and fulfilling.

Don't miss this extraordinary presentation from a truly knowledgeable scholar of the UB!

### FSLA MEETING LOCATION FOR MAY 2nd

Unitarian Community Church - (Forbes Hall Entrance) - 1721 Arizona, Santa Monica, CA!

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## "The Spirit of Change"



*"Let every man make sure that the intellectual and moral foundations of character are such as will adequately support the superstructure of the enlarging and ennobling spiritual nature, which is thus to transform the mortal mind and then, in association with that re-created mind, is to achieve the evolvement of the soul of immortal destiny. Your spirit nature--the jointly created soul--is a living growth, but the mind and morals of the individual are the soil from*

*which these higher manifestations of human development and divine destiny must spring. The soil of the evolving soul is human and material, but the destiny of this combined creature of mind and spirit is spiritual and divine."*

(Pg. 1738)

A spiritually mature person will always find creative values in even the hardest of life's trials. As readers of The Urantia Book our knowledge empowers each of us with the ability to bring those around us closer.

*"You have seen the way of service in my life among you, and blessed are you who will have the gracious courage so to serve."* (Pg. 1939)

Socially, informationally and spiritually we find our world in the state of excitement! It is the uplifting "Spirit of Change." Change which stimulates our curiosities, moves us forward and challenges each of us to experience all we can (and some we think we cannot) henceforth we "evolve." The Urantia Book is spreading throughout the

planet faster today than ever before.

The information learned from this revelation gives humans the ability to face the world's crises -- instead of giving up we are asking ourselves, "How best can I use this experience to deepen my own spiritual awareness and guide me to be more helpful to others in these situations?"

*"Having started out on the way of life everlasting, having accepted the assignment and received your orders to advance, do not fear the dangers of human forgetfulness and mortal inconstancy, do not be troubled with doubts of failure or by perplexing confusion, do not falter and question your status and standing, for in every dark hour, at every crossroad in the forward struggle, the Spirit of Truth will always speak, saying, "This is the way."* (Pg. 383)

These are most exciting times we are living through. Thank the Father for allowing us to be of service.

Marlene Chicoine

## IN RECOGNITION OF "MOTHER'S DAY" AND "FATHER'S DAY"

*"For more than an hour Jesus and John [Mark] continued this discussion of home life. The Master went on to explain to John how a child is wholly dependent on his parents and the associated home life for all his early concepts of everything intellectual, social, moral, and even spiritual since the family represents to the young child all that he can first know of either human or divine relationships. The child must derive his first impressions of the universe from the mother's care; he is wholly dependent on the earthly father for his first ideas of the heavenly Father. The child's subsequent life is made happy or unhappy, easy or difficult, in accordance with his early mental and emotional life, conditioned by these social and spiritual relationships of the home. A human being's entire afterlife is enormously influenced by what happens during the first few years of existence"* (Pg. 1922)

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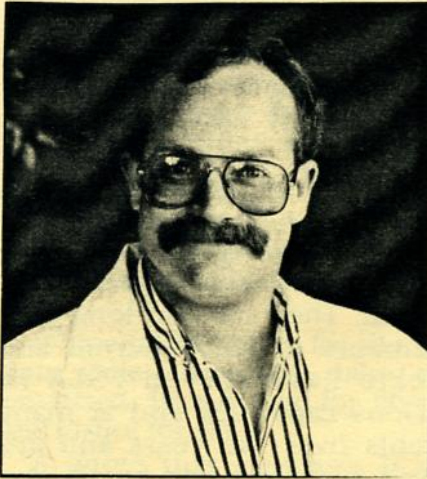
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## EDITOR'S CORNER

### "A College of the Spirit"



The future is upon us. The longing for unity within the Urantia Movement must be addressed by those who have the spirit and the desire to act. Our mutual need for a focus of effort and energy towards spreading the Jesusonian 'Good News' must be addressed, **now**.

For those who would hesitate because of the morass of error comprising the Foundation's actions, be assured... that will be taken care of and adjudicated by those whose mission it is to do so. These things are already in place and working. All other aspects of this problem will be handled by the Father and we should not stand by, in either fear or anxiety, over an outcome that is undeniably assured by Michael and the Father.

Don't you remember that nothing, absolutely nothing, can stand in the way of the Father's will and its realization on Urantia? Surely not a very small group of misguided mortals whose actions will assuredly be neutralized by the very error they endorse. How could we ever allow ourselves to doubt the eventual outcome of this matter? How could we use this unfounded doubt as an excuse for distraction and inaction over the last few years?

The noble and divine nature of our stewardship of the Truth on Urantia must be accounted for. We must refuse to wait or rationalize any longer. The path is clearly marked in the Urantia Book and the Bible. *It is the function of God-*

*knowing mortals to share the spirit of Jesus with all whom they come in contact with and strive to be like Him.* This is our spiritual mission as mortals and there is no other. While this endeavor must be carefully planned to insure flexibility and an inclusive nature, we need not worry of the results of our activities in these areas. That is strictly up to the Father. We must 'be about the Father's business' as there is a waiting world in which we live that requires it of all of us blessed by our awareness of the revelation.

I can hear your thoughts. "Well, that's a fine sentiment, but what exactly should we do? What would be our agenda to achieve our goals? Fair question. Perhaps a three phase program for the required steps necessary to achieve the above goals. The second and third phases will be discussed in the next two issues of the Monitor.

I think that phase one should be the planning for the creation of a 'College of the Spirit' established for those who wish to travel the path of a modern day apostle. A well-financed school with a systematic, high-level curriculum and the best educators in their respective fields (science, history, philosophy, theology, etc.) for the in-depth study of not only the teachings of the Urantia Book but *how to teach!* This will provide a unifying influence and could provide an effective ordination (?) procedure, when necessary, that would be a consistent starting point for all who attend and graduate. Of course, the unique differences in personality and interpretation would be encouraged and provided for, but the initial curriculum would be the same.

*"Sounds expensive. Where would we get that much money?"*

The sources for the funding of such an effort is as important as the money itself. This level of funding would have to come from those sincere readers (and other believers)

who would give substantial amounts freely with no power or political 'strings' attached to their contributions. In our present day world there are many opportunities for error in this regard. One needs merely look at the current proliferation of money-oriented religious organizations and their results to observe this. Urantia readers, on the other hand, have clear cut warnings of what to watch out for. If these 'Dangers of Organized Religion' were to be incorporated into the rules of conduct for this new endeavor and adhered to under penalty of dismissal from governing service, we might just be creating something very difficult to corrupt and fostering a religion our Father would be proud of. As for the money itself, if this concept is in alignment with the Father's will, nothing and no one could stop the funds from being made available.

*"Why do we need to 'ordinate' people or go about creating an 'organized' religion?"*

Although we live in a world that requires a certain level of pre-established 'forms' and 'conditions' for the institution of a religious group to have any 'recognized' validity in our present day culture, we can afford to be different. We all know, from The Urantia Book itself, the pitfalls and hazards to avoid and protect against when we go about the task of creating a 'new' religion on Urantia. We have the advantage of an excellent template and guidelines to follow to do this properly from our Book and its representation of Jesus' life. We need not fear the "O" word (organization) rather, by carefully constructing 'our' faith with built-in flexibility, room for evolution and a well-defined technique for all participants to contribute in a self-corrective system we can be well prepared for any eventuality.

Whenever there is any question of the route we are on we have the Jesusonian Ideal to compare our efforts with and democratic, self-cor-

recting techniques to incorporate them. I am sure that, when a problem surfaces, we can simply ask the question, "What would Jesus do?" we will be able to find a path through any conflict. Could anyone be foolish enough to believe that Michael's spirit would not be there to assist us in our efforts or ignore our pleas for guidance? In recognition of the diversity of opinion attending the goals, methodology and various techniques for designing 'our' kind of religious organization, we must perforce utilize a democratic system for problem resolution in this planning stage. Without an initial fair and equal distribution of authority underlying the infrastructure we create, the undertaking will undoubtedly fail. While the time for the actual creation of this "School of the Spirit" may not be yet, there is no reason to forestall a planning phase for those who wish to participate. Action always speaks louder than words. It is time to begin maturing our self-control, act on the gifts we have been given and foster an endeavor worthy of our desire for alignment to the Father's will. The future is upon us.

*Editor*

*"The purpose of all education should be to foster and further the supreme purpose of life, the development of a majestic and well-balanced personality. There is great need for the teaching of moral discipline in the place of so much self-gratification. Upon such a foundation religion may contribute its spiritual incentive to the enlargement and enrichment of mortal life, even to the security and enhancement of life eternal."*

(Pg. 2086)

Huntington Beach Study Group meets on Thursday nights at 7:30 PM, hosted by Kermit and Jackie Anderson. We have been studying The Urantia Book for over 17 years. Our format usually consists of reading a single paper in one evening. We have read the book from cover to cover once and are engaged currently in our second such reading.

We have also introduced activity of a more spiritual nature. We share personal spiritual events, themes and struggles from our daily lives. We share prayer requests for ourselves and others in need. We then hold these spoken concerns as well as silent petitions, thanksgivings and praise in group worship. It is

important to actually do something of a spiritual nature instead of just talking about them.

We usually have between six and twelve readers in attendance. Kermit has been reading the book for 25 years and Jackie has been reading the book for 18 years and was introduced to it by Kermit. They are also long time members of FSLA. Kermit and Jackie have served FSLA in various capacities and at many events over the years and are loved and respected by all who know them.

Their group also is active in picnics and socials and generally breaks for the summer vacation period. All are welcome; we are at Paper 23 as of March 4, 1993. Call in advance, (714) 894-5417.

## THANKS TO PHIL & ROXY FOR THEIR TALKS

### "THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND COSMOLOGY OF THE URANTIA BOOK"

Philip Calabrese, FSLA's March 7th speaker, had a full house in attendance for his exceptional "Kingdom of God and Cosmology of The Urantia Book" talk. Many guests from out of town and readers from Los Angeles and Orange counties all shared great enthusiasm about the information Phil presented.

It was fantastic to hear about the "inside" scoop on Paradise, light, ultimatons and shadows of realities. We all enjoyed the talk and the fellowship.

Thank you again Phil for your time and knowledge.

### "THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT"

Roxy Alessandro Ventola enlightened our minds and hearts with her talk, "Fruits of the Spirit."

"I'm sure that everyone of us who seeks God wants to become more Godlike in our daily lives" with this Roxy began her talk and thus for the day transformed everyone to realize their role in doing the Father's will; as she is so gifted at bringing us into the true spirit of fellowship.

To reap the fruits of the spirit -- what an inspiration and challenge for all of us!

Thank you again Roxy from all of us for sharing your love and time with readers at FSLA.

## FREEDOM OR FILTH?

I consider myself a liberal and not of the religious Right, but to me, liberalism does not mean a tolerance for the filth, obscenity and violence that spews forth from the airwaves, recording industry and movie industry. Under the cloak of the First Amendment protection, our nation has steadily tolerated the degradation of women, children, and the threatened killing of our police.

Where is the liberty for the victims while victimizers' rights are protected. Isn't it time for liberty and justice for all?

A quote that expresses it all: "Liberty is suicidal when divorced from material justice, intellectual fairness, social forbearance, moral duty and spiritual values. Unbridled self-will and unregulated self-expression equal unmitigated selfishness, the acme of ungodliness. Liberty without the associated and ever-increasing conquest of self is a

figment of egoistic mortal imagination. Self-motivated liberty is a conceptual illusion, a cruel deception. License masquerading in the garments is the forerunner of abject bondage." --The Urantia Book.

How do we protect our rights under the First Amendment? Perhaps the answer lies in Canada's recent Supreme Court ruling. The court ruled that obscenity is defined by the harm it does to women's pursuit of equality. This could well extend to the harm done by a perpetual exposure to violence. Surely, there are enough good minds in this great country who can distinguish between true and false liberty while not jeopardizing our rights under the First Amendment.

It's time we seriously re-examine our notions of freedom of expression in view of the real threats to the moral integrity of our nation. Where is truth, beauty and goodness? Sacrificed on the altars of greed and corruption.

Let's stop glorifying violence as the way to solve social interactions. Stop the increasing the capitulation to pornography and obscenity which only degrades our children as well as women and men.

Free speech is not free. The cost is too great.

Free speech under the guise of artistic expression is a fallacy when the result is the destruction of all that's decent and good.

*Stella Religa*

Letters to the Editor Reprint from  
The Daily News - January 1993

*Editor's Note: Stella a long-time Urantia Book reader has sponsored and helped support homes for battered women and children in Whittier for many years. She has been in a position to see the end result of the breakdown of our country's moral values and is deeply concerned.*



PHIL & FAMILY



ROXY (having fruit?)

# YOUR GOVERNING BOARD

*In the coming months, we will be including brief biography's of the First Society of Los Angeles' governing board members in order that you can get to know us. Inquiring minds want to know!*



**HAL & LUCILLE KETTEL**  
*(Book Chairman)*

Hal was born in Grand Junction, Colorado, raised in Pomona, California area, graduated Chaffey High (when it was a lower division of Chaffey College on the 6-4-4 graduation plan); then on to UCB followed by dentistry training at UC San Francisco.

He interned at UCSF Hospital, and taught there one year before going on what he thought was a one year tour of active Army duty.

It wound up to be five years, two of them in the South Pacific. He was on four beachhead landings including the initial one at Leyte in the Philippines. He held the rank of Major upon discharge.

Hal met future wife Lucille on a tennis court in San Francisco. "She sure looked good in a tennis outfit," he says. She still looks good. They married before Hal's military duty. Their three children are Rob, an architect; Dorene, a mother; and Steve, a

physicist. They have three granddaughters.

Hal had been quite an athlete, playing tennis and baseball, and scuba diving. His athletic career was brought to a close by an ailment that went undiagnosed for five years although he visited medical clinics throughout the United States and Europe.

Finally, a doctor at Loma Linda University Medical School, comparing symptoms with medical data from Japan, diagnosed the problem as spinal cord damage resulting from excess exposure to mercury in the dental laboratory exacerbated by temporary medication Hal was taking.

Hal has used an electric cart since 1978 and gets around spryly. He does not let the problem hold him down as he and Lucille have traveled extensively throughout the world, including a 5,000 mile auto tour of Canada.

In his community Hal has given extensive service as or-

ganizer and chairman of the dental Health program in the Arcadia schools, as chairman of local dentists working with the Child Health Council, as chairman of the Dental Hygiene program at Pasadena City College, and as elder and trustee at Arcadia Presbyterian Church. Hal has been a member of Rotary Club for 37 years and has served as editor of HIGH GEAR their weekly newsletter, as secretary, as Director for Vocational Service, as Community Service, as Club Service, as President, and as Foundation Chairman.

After all his previous successes Hal is now doing a spectacular job as our Book Committee Chairman. He is providing many articles of interest to readers and has created a great display visible every month at the FSLA meetings. He is also in contact with local libraries to insure availability of the book to everyone.

He is a long-time reader and a 29 year member of our Society. Hal and Lucille cohost a Urantia study group on Monday evenings in their home in Arcadia.

Lucille grows the beautiful cymbidium orchids we've been enjoying and appreciating as decorations at our meetings.

We appreciate all your efforts, Hal, thank you from all of us.

*Editor's Note: In case you didn't know, being Book Chairman for any Society is a tough and demanding job. It is also one of the most important in that it is in primary charge of disseminating The Urantia Book and related materials throughout that Society's area.*

Janelle has served FSLA for many years. She is known by most Urantia Book readers for her unending personal service wherever she is needed. She is a devoted friend and reader.

Janelle has worked in the entertainment industry for 15 years. Credits include: coproducer/ director/cowriter, A HERO'S JOURNEY: THE WORLD OF JOSEPH CAMPBELL (Landmark Theaters and PBS); producer/director/cowriter, OF ENDURING DREAMS (PBS from the 6-hour series, THE WEST OF THE IMAGINATION which she also line produced; producer/director, GEMS AND MINERALS: THE ULTIMATE ROCK VIDEO and THE FLYING MACHINES (Smithsonian Video Collection).

She also completed the creative "bible" for THE BATTLE OF THE SEXES, a 4-part "MTV for the mind" on issues of gender commissioned by KCET-TV with a PBS Challenge Grant; cowrote RUSSIA TODAY: A PEOPLE'S JOURNEY TO DEMOCRACY with Alexey Denisov from REN-TV Ostankino, Moscow (narrated by Sharon Gless); wrote narration for VISIONS OF A NEW WORLD (narrated by Marsha Mason) both one-hour documentaries (Earthlight Productions).

When Janelle began writing and directing, she worked in production holding various positions of responsibility (Unit Production Manager, Associate



## JANELLE BALNICKE

(Membership Chairperson)

Producer, Production Coordinator) on film projects including IMAX wide screen, HIDDEN SECRETS OF THE GRAND CANYON; worked with British host James Burke on THE NEURON SUITE; and early in her career with Adrian Malone and David Kennard both formerly with BBC. She spent 3 years with Malone on production team of COSMOS, the international astronomy series hosted by Dr. Carl Sagan, giving her large scale, complex production skills.

She was feature film Assistant Director on Anson Williams' ALL AMERICAN MURDER starring Christopher Walken; and as story analyst for Los Angeles literary agent Evarts Ziegler and feature producer Peter Guber.

Janelle holds a B. A. in Photographic Arts, Film Program from Polytechnic of Central London. She was an Honors candidate in English Literature at University of Colorado her home state. She has been a guest lecturer at USC, Graduate School of Cinema; Directors Guild of America member. She was recipient of first grant given by newly formed Joseph Campbell Foundation to support her work in development of new series on world mythology.

Janelle currently lives and works in Los Angeles. We're very fortunate to have such talent serving on the FSLA Governing Board. We thank you Janelle for the many unselfish hours spent on the behalf of our Society.

The following is a quote from Cody Long (Age 4) on the topic of God:

*"God wears gold you know. He has a golden robe and He wears golden sandals. He also has a golden sword and its name is 'LOVE'!"*

This is a quote from Sierra Long (Age 6) on the topic of God & Angels:

*"Angels love people and they are special. My self has God in it... and I am God. I love Angels. I like to play with my brothers and they are nice to me. You should care about other people and take care of other people because I take care of my brothers... then they will take care of you. It only takes one day to do it... then you did it!"*

# MORENO VALLEY STUDY GROUP LEADER'S CONFERENCE REPORT

On Saturday, March 20, 1993 history was made as Southern California study group leaders met for the first time in Moreno Valley to share their personal experiences since making their commitment to become a study group host or hostess.

The conference theme was "Making A Difference" and it opened with prayer. We learned about each person's personal decision to dedicate part of their life to the study of this book with others on a regular basis; and when and how they started their study groups. The diversity and uniqueness of our backgrounds led to a very informative and en-

lightening interpretation of common experiences among long-time leaders.

New leaders felt that this one day conference had given them a whole new aspect and many new ideas on how to have a more successful study group. Group wisdom was utilized, especially, on circumstances that arise when sharing the reading of the book with so many different personalities.

As everyone went their separate ways there were exclamations about how great and meaningful the day had been and it was voted to do it again yearly, inviting the entire state with the

possibility of it being over a three day period. We experienced such an enthusiastic support for this conference that many leaders requested to attend from Northern California and surrounding states but we were unable to accommodate them. The event was more than successful sometimes there are no real words to describe something as successful as this conference was.

*Marlene Chicoine*

Domestic Extension Committee\*

(\*DEC for So. California Study Group Support)

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## IN MEMORY OF HOWARD CHRISTENSEN

*(Graduated 3/7/93)*

If you knew Howard, even as a mere acquaintance, there was something that compelled you to like this man. This was not just due to his sharp intellect, unselfish kindness or overt friendliness toward others. Nor was it the quality of the wit and humor he possessed in great abundance and freely shared with those he knew.

Howard had a gentle spirit that surrounded him that was unpretentious, compassionate and quickly apparent in all he said and did. It is said that acts are far stronger than words and a man is truly known by his acts. This is undeniably true of Howard who, by his actions, was known by many as a loyal supporter of humanity, generous in both spirit and substance and unselfishly sympathetic to those less fortunate than himself.

In my 43 years, outside of personal family, I have known only two others whose altruistic example of living was even close to Howard's. These days it is more than difficult to find living instances of such consistent high standards of conduct. I am shamed to honestly admit that my own standards are left wanting when compared to his. But, by the simple occurrence of meeting Howard and getting to know him over the last few years, I have at the very least, the experience of knowing that such fine persons actually exist. This was Howard's greatest gift to me.

I only wish that I could have had the time to know him better. I leave him now in God's care and share with those who knew him better than I, this small poem that, to me, exemplifies my all too brief relationship with Howard.

*A friend is not a fellow,  
Who is taken in by sham,  
A friend is one who knows our faults,  
And doesn't give a damn.*

We love you Howard, and we will never forget you. God keep you in the hollow of His hand.

*Editor*



# Mac & Me

(A fictional account con't from Jan-Feb issue)

## DAY 5

The fifth day began with the racket of street-cleaners and lawnmowers. I had beaten Mac to the punch and prepared some tea for him and coffee for me. As he walked into the kitchen, I asked him if he had slept well.

"I don't actually sleep, Doc, as there's no real need to. I engage in meditation, prayer and worship to recharge my energy stores rather than sleep. I feel refreshed and rested enough to answer your questions though." he said.

"Could I ask a personal question, Mac?" I inquired.

"Certainly."

"Is your present body fully material... I mean is it like mine. You know... electro-chemical?"

"Close, but not exactly the same." he answered. "The differences are subtle though. Technically, it is categorized as 'supermortal modifications' but I still ingest and defecate. Not really that different." he explained.

"You mean I could do without sleep if I practiced." I asked.

"Doc, you can do most anything with 'practice', but I think it would take changes you might not wish to make at this time." he stated.

"Changes like..." I prompted.

"Stopping your ingestion of meat products, radical adjustments to your current diet, no caffeine and certainly the cessation of your smoking of cigarettes to name a few of the merely 'material' requirements." he explained.

"Ummm, you're right. I'll stick with sleep for awhile. Besides my Thought Adjuster needs me occasionally unconscious to better work with me, right?" I asked. Mac paused for a moment.

"Doc, how would you like your Thought Adjuster to answer that question?" he casually inquired while sipping his tea.

"I... er... well, I'm not sure I..." I stammered. I was taken considerably aback and somewhat fearful of the powerful privilege he seemed willing to grant me. "I don't require proof of my Thought Adjuster's presence to validate..." Mac interrupted me.

"This has nothing to do with that, Doc. I simply asked if you wished to talk it over directly or not, that's all. From the 'horse's mouth' as is crudely said on Urantia."

"I guess... well, if you think it's OK." I said after a few moments, realizing that

the opportunity might not present itself again in this life. Mac nodded approvingly and smiled.

I perceived a queer sensation, as though a switch had been thrown. A vast ambiance seemed to make its presence felt in my mind. A brief period of silence ensued. I suppose this was done to allow me to prepare for what was to come.

"Greetings to you, my beloved mortal counterpart. It is at your sincere request and with the approval of the chief of my kind on Divinington that I converse with you at this time. I am fully prepared to respond to the question at hand, however, I must inform you that I am limited by an injunction not to stray from the topic which I have been given permission to discuss. In all other matters not revelant to this issue, I am forbidden to respond in any manner. You may take all the time you wish to organize your thoughts and questions before we begin."

Regardless of what I had anticipated, the reality of what was occurring hit me like a sledgehammer. The 'voice' was omnipresent and everywhere without coming from any specific direction. It was clear and of such a extraordinary quality and timbre I found myself quite surprised that it didn't seem to be coming from my 'mind' like a thought. It was as if I was surrounded by an elaborate PA system with speakers placed 360 degrees around me. It wasn't loud, just indescribably there and its character was unimaginably gentle. After I regained my composure, I spoke hesitantly.

"Why is this the first time we have been able to talk directly?" There was a brief pause.

"Although that subject realm is marginally restricted, I may answer that I have been in constant contact with you for almost 37 of your years in the normal manner of my kind. Although it is true that this occasion is the first direct dialogue we have undertaken, there have been numerous times during my sojourn here in which we have effectively exchanged views and conversed without your conscious 'verbal' awareness of the occurrence. The time surrounding the period of your former wife's brain surgery for instance. I wish to express my pleasure in the prose you wrote to me at that time. Although it was a transient, mortal expression of dedication to my leadings which has been somewhat sublimated over time, your presentation and the intent it proclaimed was relatively pure in content and appreciated by myself and I may

also say several associates of mine as well." he said.

"Thank you for acknowledging my meager effort of gratitude to you. I apologize for my mortal inertia that must be so exasperating for you in the pursuit of your mission with me. I shall always endeavor to make your efforts and your task easier though I fear I must be a constant disappointment to you." I responded humbly, sensing such a powerful and abiding love seemingly just beyond the edge of my comprehension emanating from the event that was occurring. "Will we now be able to speak directly to one another in the future?" I continued. There was another brief pause.

"While there is no need apologize for your mortal disposition or nature, the thought is welcomed. The levels of patience which my kind enjoy is somewhat greater than yours." he chided.

I couldn't restrain a burst of laughter at his understatement on patience. He allowed for my reaction and then continued.

"Regarding your question, I do not perceive that a necessity for continual contact during the remainder of our sojourn here will become manifest. This event is unique for many reasons I may not disclose at this time and I am certain that, in spite of this contact, you would agree that your spiritual level of accomplishment has not attained first level status."

"I would most definitely agree." I smiled and noticed that Mac was smiling as well.

"Is it true that my sleep periods are helpful for your function here." I queried.

"That is true. For a variety of reasons your sleep provides me with a medium that encompasses both the subconscious and the superconscious areas I require for the accomplishment of my task while you reside in the mortal state. I further state that I am also pleased that you do not overmuch emphasize the symbolic technique I utilize during these periods. However, you should be cognizant of the fact that your animal nature, especially in the libido areas, often forces the 'dream' content I transmit into much lower level patterns than I would prefer. It is my hope that this will improve that I may more effectively fulfill my mandates."

I must admit I became quite redfaced as my comprehension of his words sunk in. I glanced at Mac and noticed that he was covering his mouth with his hand in a failed attempt to hide his mirth at my

evident dismay. I gave him a pleading look and he quickly removed his hand and became instantly straightfaced.

"I shall try to improve, I promise." I stammered. "It might be due to my lack of a wife at this time in my life." I rationalized.

"I am permitted to disclose to you that to the extent that you become self-forgetful regarding this need, so to an equal extent the time will draw closer to the end of such longings and the partner you seek will appear in your life. Even presently, you have much to offer a companion so, never doubt that when the time comes, you will be ever more prepared for the attendant responsibilities required for the relationship you seek." he stated.

"Any hints on how soon that might be?" I asked hopefully.

"That would be beyond the parameters of our current contact. Have patience. Have I answered the limited topic's questions to your satisfaction?" he asked.

"Yes, and I thank you." I responded.

"Then I will now take my leave of you. Know that I love you and will abide with you forever. Farewell." And, with that he was gone.

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I remained silent for an interminable period as Mac watched me closely. Finally, I spoke. "That was, ah... I mean, really... what an incredible experience!" I muttered quietly. Mac's scrutiny ceased with an ever-widening smile.

"You have received a distinct gift from the Father. Are there any observations you feel like sharing with me?" Mac asked.

"Just a few million Mac. First and foremost though, I'm having great difficulty understanding why you are orchestrating all these events for me." His silent smile seemed to encourage further reflection from me.

"I not talking about 'special' stuff now, Mac. I really hope the time has come to level with me on all that's happening to me here." I stated, waving my arm in an arc around the room.

Mac stifled his grin and attempted, not very well I might add, to appear serious.

"Doc, if you would exercise a bit more patience and indulge my judgment for the proper sequence and timing, the answers to all the questions you have concerning my visit, along with the purpose and events surrounding it, will clearly manifest I assure you." He replied smiling once again.

Once again, my intense curiosity was

subdued with disappointment and I inquired further.

"As you would have it, Mac. Can you tell me anything about my Thought Adjuster's history or background regarding my potential career." I inquired.

"The Adjuster appointed to you has had training no more unique, or 'special' for lack of a better term, than any other Adjuster on Urantia assignment. Of course, your free will ability to align your will to the Father's will is somewhat dependent on your proficiency to discern and develop a fuller understanding of your function as a mortal on Urantia. The quality and quantity of that perception is ably assisted by your Adjuster just as it is in all other mortals that reside here. I will tell you that, due to some intuitive 'leaps of faith' that you have experienced during your sojourn here, my visit with you was 'required' for want of a better term." He replied.

"Required? I don't understand what you mean by that." I puzzled over his statement for a time then, Mac spoke again with that penetrating gaze of his.

"It is extremely difficult to explain timeless, eternal elements to a time-based mortal personality. My point of view is unlike yours in that it is not restricted by the 'habit' of linear thought patterns so prevalent in mortal existence. Doc, I see your 'potentials' as realized realities simultaneous with the perception of your present level of progress. Yet, by mandate I, nor your Adjuster, are able to share all these personal revelations directly with you as it would unduly affect the many appropriate free will choices that you must make to actualize your potential."

"Mac, I'm afraid you lost me there." I said thoroughly confused.

"I said it was difficult." Mac replied with a wry grin.

"Difficult or not, Mac, 'Mongo feel like pawn in game of life.'" He looked at me curiously.

"You know, somewhat manipulated by all this." I explained somewhat testily.

"If by manipulation you mean the unfair taking advantage of someone by devious and insidious means, the unscrupulous depriving of a human being of something precious or valuable for my own self-indulgent, inconsiderate purposes, then I deny and deplore the term. But, if by manipulation you mean the skillful use of communicative and persuasive arts, the dextrous employment of language and diction, the judicious maneuvering of your prejudices

and predilections so that the outcome of my dealings with you is mutually rewarding and productive, the use of my talent to cause you to live and work even more productively and harmoniously with others, then I must answer in the affirmative and thank you for the complement." Mac stated with a straight face.

"Uncle! I give." I said throwing my hands up in surrender. We both began to laugh.

"I must admit to you, Mac... I'm proud and happy to be your 'pawn' as I'm sure many don't even make it to the chessboard." I confided as Mac's grin widened.

"Doc, although you have many gifts, your sense of humor balanced with your humility is the one I most admire. You speak of the 'miracles' you have experienced during my visit with you, but I assure you, that the humor and modesty you possess, comes the closest to a true miracle in your mortal existence. Again, I am proud of you." He stated with genuine admiration.

"Shucks, Mac. You'll turn my head." I said somewhat embarrassed yet unable to control a certain amount of joy at his approval.

"Even though it's still very primitive." He added in afterthought as he began to look for the sports section in the local paper.

"Aggggh! Dashed again on the shores of mortal ineptitude!" I quipped pantomiming the act of Hari Kiri hoping to evoke another laugh from Mac. Mac, however, was engrossed in the paper when I looked up.

"I'll never understand what happened to the Raiders. They used to be so forceful." Mac murmured from behind the newspaper.

"Caligastia's handiwork no doubt." I said flatly, disappointed in his response to my joke. Mac dropped the paper and began to laugh heartily.

"Primitive, huh!" I murmured under my breath as Mac's laughter continued.

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*Editor's Note: As should be obvious this is a work of fiction and provided for your entertainment only. Had this not been a fictional account, it surely would never have been published! For those who feel that this work has no place in a FSLA publication, I would point out that amidst the humor and wild speculation contained herein there are many teachings of The Urantia Book utilized in a conversational manner towards the goal of better understanding on a more personal level.*

# Southern California Study Group Listing

AREA	MEETING INFO	CONTACT	PHONE
ANAHEIM	Mondays @ 8:00PM	Pierre & Marlene Chicoine	(714) 761-1565
ARCADIA	Mondays @ 7:30PM	Hal & Lucille Kettell	(818) 447-1403
BAKERSFIELD	Sundays @ 7:30PM	Debra Goaldman	(805) 322-1135
BURBANK	Wednesdays @ 7:00PM	Jean Painter	(818) 841-3282
ENCINITAS	Call for current schedule.	Paulette Suzanne	(619) 634-0840
HUNTINGTON BEACH	Thursdays @ 7:30PM	Kermit & Jackie Anderson	(714) 894-5417
IRVINE	Tuesdays @ 8:00PM	Robert & Cindy Burns	(714) 724-1050
LOMPOC	Wednesdays @ 7:00PM	George Fledge	(805) 736-0320
MALIBU	Tuesdays @ 7:30PM	Duane & Lucile Faw	(310) 456-9708
MARINA DEL REY (Intro group)	Thursdays @ 7:30PM	Richard Omura	(310) 306-8789
NORTHRIDGE	2nd & 4th Weds. @ 7:30PM	Don Morton/Polly Friedman	(818) 769-2400
OJAI	Mondays @ 7:30PM	Catherine Hart/Richard Niles	(805) 649-2448
PALM DESERT	Mondays @ 7:00PM	Ed Owen	(619) 346-5384
POWAY	Mondays @ 8:00PM	Bob & Mara Gallo	(619) 679-7160
SAN DIEGO	Tuesdays @ 7:30PM	Dick & Cheryl Prince	(619) 270-6558
SANTA BARBARA (Potluck) (New Readers)	1st Sundays @ 6:00PM	Phil Calabrese	(619) 483-0135
	2nd Sundays @ 7:00PM	Samsara Duex	(805) 967-0975
	3rd & 4th Sundays @ 7PM	Barrie Bedell	(805) 969-1565
	Wednesdays @ 5:00PM	Don Briglia	(805) 962-0558
	Tuesdays @ 8:00PM	Stacey Hart	(805) 569-9370
SANTA MONICA	Wednesdays @ 8:00PM	Brendi Poppel	(805) 967-9788
TORRANCE	2nd & 4th Thurs. @ 7PM	John Mahaffey	(310) 829-2592
VISTA	Wednesdays @ 7:30PM	Dianne Bishop	(310) 542-1673
WHITTIER	1st & 3rd Fri. @ 7:30PM	John & Jane Ploetz	(619) 727-5268
		Stella Religa	(310) 698-2122

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACTIVITIES

**HELP!! HELP!!** Our computers were stolen along with our back up records for our GOOD CHEER PRESS mail list and the INTERNATIONAL STUDY GROUP DIRECTORY. If you would like to be on our new lists please send your name and address to: JESUSONIAN FOUNDATION, P. O. BOX 18764, BOULDER, CO 80308.

**April-May - Membership Orientation** please send in form from last Monitor or write Membership Chairperson Janelle Balnicke 9903 Santa Monica Blvd. #515, Beverly Hills, CA 90212.

**July 4, 1993 - FSLA's FRIENDS & FAMILY POTLUCK PICNIC & FELLOWSHIP** at TAPIA PARK on Malibu Canyon Road across from PIUMA ROAD (Las Virgenes Road (from 101) becomes Malibu Canyon Road from 101/PCH). We will have circles signs directing you to the picnic location in the park this year.

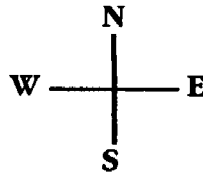
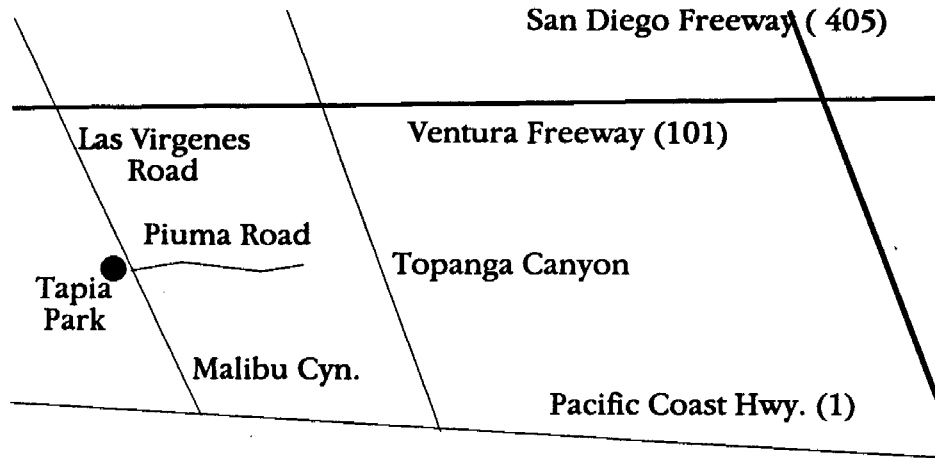
**July 10 -11, 1993 - Whittier Book Fair** Volunteers needed! Call Stella (310) 698-2122.

**MONTREAL NEWS** - June 30, 1993 is deadline for 3'w X 5'h CLOTH BANNERS DESIGNED for FSLA and EACH STUDY GROUP for display at Montreal. Volunteers needed call Marlene (714) 229-9658.

**RAIL/AIR TO MONTREAL -- AMTRAK:** Call 1-800-USA-RAIL to set up reservations; approximately 4 days each way plus meals. Conference dates: July 31- August 5. Shuttle service is being arranged at a nominal fee. **AIRLINES --** Call Mary Jo Schmidt 1-800-472-9014 file name: The Fellowship, to set up reservations. Conference dates: July 31- August 5. Shuttle service has been arranged at a nominal fee. The Fellowship is sending updated conference packet.

**THE MONITOR NEEDS YOUR \$UPPORT!** Send \$\$\$ to the Monitor (10 Latina Dr., Irvine, CA 92714). Make checks payable to: FSLA and write "for Monitor" in the check memo section.

# MAP TO ANNUAL JULY 4th FSLA POT-LUCK PICNIC



## MAP TO FSLA POTLUCK PICNIC

This is what we wait all Winter for! The July FSLA Picnics have always provided attendees with great food, great fellowship and great fun. As always, this is the event to meet all those friends of the circles whom you haven't seen for at least a year. With all that spirit and energy in one place, anything can happen... and usually does!

Bring your favorite dish for a potluck to share and a bag of chips or snacks for your own group. Also bring any music, instruments or other sources of entertainment to share.

Tapia Park is off Malibu Canyon Road across from Piuma Canyon Road. (Las Virgenes Road becomes Malibu Canyon Road if you're coming from the 101 highway) Tapia is located in one of the most beautiful natural settings available in Southern California. A perfect place for fun, frolic and festivities. There will be 'circles' signs from the entrance of the park to the actual FSLA Picnic location to guide you. Let's celebrate our 'independence' and BE THERE!

## the MONITOR

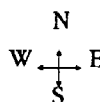
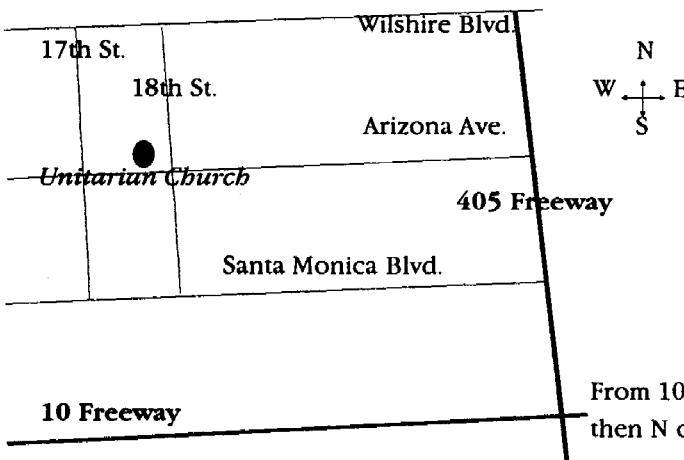
Editor: Doc Livingston  
2860 East Jackson Avenue Suite C  
Anaheim, California 92806

### FSLA MEETING

May. 2th, 1992 @ 2:00PM  
Topic: "The Mission of Mirth,  
The Ministry of Merriment"

BULK RATE  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
NEWPORT BEACH, CA  
PERMIT 177

## MAP TO MAR. FSLA MEETING



Stella Religa  
8316 S. Comstock Ave.  
Whittier, CA 90602

From 10 Freeway: W-bound, take Cloverfield N to W on Santa Monica then N on 18th. E-bound, take 20th N to W on Santa Monica, N on 18th