

A Newsletter of the Urantia Book Fellowship of Los Angeles (www.ubla.org)

The Agondonter

"... evolutionary will creatures who can believe without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties even when alone." The Urantia Book: Paper 50 Section 7: P579 - 81

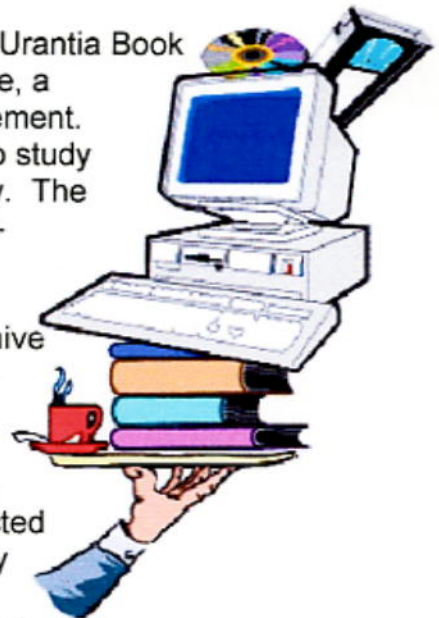


Spring 2006

Vol. 4, Issue 1

UBLA Member Takes On Archive Project

Someone is getting it all down, but not just on paper. A group of Urantia Book Readers have begun creating The Urantia Book Historical Archive, a collection of materials about the history of the Urantia Book movement. When the archive has a permanent home, scholars will be able to study materials in a special section of a building with enhanced security. The archive will be maintained in acid-free storage media in a climate-controlled environment.



UBLA member Victoria Clark, one of five catalogers with the Archive Project, admits that the undertaking is ambitious, with the goal to obtain, scan and organize a massive amount of data into several collections. "At present there are 2,636 documents in the main archives and a total of 37,124 pages of paper," she said recently. "This seems like a great deal but we estimate that we have collected only about one-fourth of the available material." Meanwhile, Larry Watkins has made some of the collection available on the Fellowship web site: http://urantia-book.org/Document_Archive/

The archive will have various collections consisting of an array of media types: conference talks, booklets, study aides, essays, graphic representation of concepts, audio and video tapes, PowerPoint presentations, topical and curricula. Other collections will include the historic work of the Urantia Foundation, the Urantia Brotherhood/Fellowship, the International Urantia Association, local and regional study groups and societies, and profit and nonprofit organizations. Journals and newspapers are being collected from all eras. Another interesting part of the archive will be the visual and performing arts collection. Included will be music, paintings and drawings, graphics, web design, poetry, and all the various expressions that gave — and continue to give — beauty and feeling to the movement.

Many wonderful UB readers have been true and faithful historians, keeping meticulous records of the past fifty years, knowing that someday people would *(continued on page 6)*

Cast Your Ballot for UBLA's Triennial Assembly Delegates!

Every three years, the *Urantia Book Fellowship* holds a Triennial Delegate Assembly (TDA) to elect members to the General Council. Each Local Society, including UBLA, sends a delegate to represent its members in this process. This year, the Triennial Delegate Assembly will take place in River Forest, IL, beginning July 5. Delegates will choose General Council members and advise the Fellowship on current issues.

The first Triennial Delegate Assembly was held in Chicago fifty-one years ago on August 20, 1964, nine years after the formation of the Urantia Brotherhood. The organization's second group of General Councilors was elected at that inaugural TDA in virtually the same way it is done today. The delegates sent to this assembly by their societies are charged with the responsibility of helping the Fellowship achieve its mission: the ideal of spiritual unity as embodied in the teachings of the Urantia Book.

The UBLA election to choose a delegate and an alternate will take place at the regularly scheduled program meeting on Saturday, May 20. Potluck begins at 5 PM; the TDA election and the program speaker will follow.

The UBLA Triennial Assembly delegate represents you to the General Council! Please make every effort to attend this crucial meeting and help UBLA decide the direction and goals we wish The Fellowship to pursue.



A Publication of the Urantia Book Fellowship Los Angeles Society (ubla.org)

Agondonter of the Month

Richard Buckminster "Bucky" Fuller
July 12, 1895 - July 1, 1983

*American visionary,
designer, architect
and inventor*

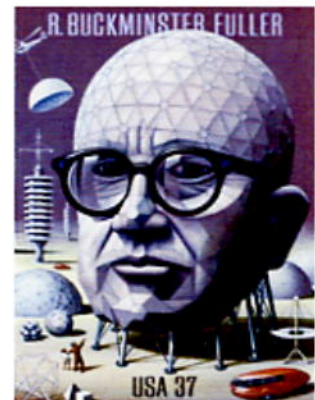
Throughout his life, Buckminster Fuller was concerned with the question of whether humanity has a chance to survive lastingly and successfully on

planet Earth, and if so, how. Considering himself an average individual without special monetary means or academic degree, he chose to devote his life to this question, trying to find out what an individual like him could do to improve humanity's condition that large organizations, governments, or private enterprises inherently could not do.

Pursuing this lifelong experiment, Fuller wrote twenty-eight books, coining terms such as spaceship earth, ephemeralization, and synergetics. He was also an inventor, mostly in the fields of design and architecture. The best known of his creations is the geodesic dome.

Fuller was ultimately to be awarded twenty-five US patents and many honorary doctorates. On January 16, 1970, Fuller received the Gold Medal award from the American Institute of Architects, a fitting recognition for one who dedicated himself to advancing the success and fulfillment of humanity

*Quoted from Wikipedia, the free online encyclopedia:
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buckminster_Fuller*



UB Readers Shine At Annual Conscious-Life Expo

By Larry Whelan, Chair, UBLA Book Committee

The UBLA booth at the 2006 Conscious-Life Expo was a great success! Four or more Urantia Book readers staffed the booth at the Los Angeles Airport Hilton on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, February 10-12, talking to people and handing out material on The Urantia Book. The drawing for a large hardback copy of the Urantia Book was won by Malcolm Jackson, 821¾ 20th Street, Santa Monica, CA 09403 (310) 927-6208. If any of you live in the Santa Monica area, you might want to follow up with Malcolm in a few weeks.

Over one thousand Spiritual Vitamins were given out (in both English and Spanish), they were very popular again this year. Visitors to the booth also snapped up thirteen copies of Chic Montgomery's poster, *The Living Universe*. Thanks to *Truthbook.com* for the wonderful choices of UB quotes for our Spiritual Vitamins, and also to Chic for donating copies of his poster. We also gave out 490 bottles of Living Waters, with quotes from The Urantia Book and a blessing on the inside of the label:

© 2006 Conscious Life Expo



*Father bless this water with your love,
light, energy, truth, beauty and goodness.
This living water shall become in me a well
of refreshment springing up to eternal life.
I love this living water and am so grateful
Father for the blessings it bestows upon me.
Out of me shall flow rivers of living waters.
I love you Father. Thank you for indwelling me.*

UBLA sold four copies of *El Libro de Urantia*, eight English-version books, and gave or sold fifteen copies of the *Life After Death* booklet. We distributed over a thousand copies of Paper #1, *The Universal Father* (in both English and Spanish), plus 250 *Table of Contents of The Urantia Book*. We also gave out other Urantia Book items provided to us by the Fellowship Outreach Committee. Thank you Fellowship members for your support!

Our gratitude to all of the people who helped in the booth, you are my heroes: Robert Burns, Paula Thompson, Elisabeth & John Callahan, Dianne Bishop, Rob Estrada, Fred Smith, Richard Omura, Dean Greenwalt and especially my wife, Donna Whelan. Special thanks to the Fellowship Outreach Committee for underwriting the cost of the booth and providing the background display and handouts.

I would be happy to email copies of the materials we used - quotes from *Truthbook.com* and those on the Living Waters bottle labels, the Table of Contents and Paper #1, etc. - to anyone who might be interested. Please contact me at lwhelan@sbcglobal.net.

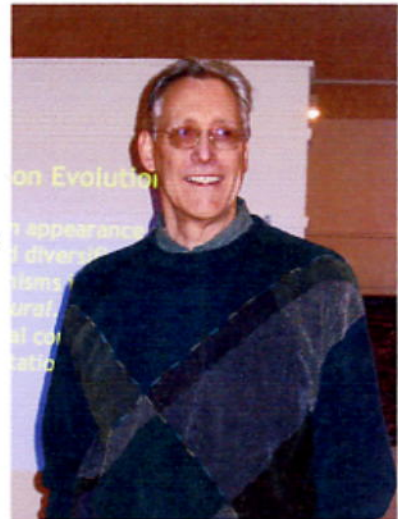
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Intelligent Design: Integrating Science, Religion ... And Politics?

On Saturday, March 11, UBLA members gathered at the Whittier Art Gallery to hear local UB reader Kermit Andersen speak on Intelligent Design and Evolution. As Director of Genetic Screening for Kaiser Permanente, the concept of Intelligent Design (ID) intrigued him, and his interest increased after he first saw the Illustra Media video, "Unlocking The Mystery Of Life."

The concept of ID is simple: certain features of the universe are best explained by postulating a Divine Designer. The intricate features of cell functioning, for example, seem impossible to account for by chance. But the current status of the ID movement is anything but simple. Further research by Andersen has revealed that ID has traveled far beyond the field of science, crossing over into sociology, religion, and especially, politics.

The roots of the Intelligent Design movement are grounded in the context of the Creationism vs. Evolution debate that began in 1859 with the publication of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection*. The idea that man was a product of natural selection - descended from apes - was antithetical to certain religious groups, who maintained that Urantia and *Homo Sapiens* were created by God a few thousand years ago exactly as we appear today, as chronicled in *Genesis*.



Current advocates, including several fundamental Christian groups such as the Discovery Institute in Seattle, maintain that Intelligent Design is a scientific theory on par with evolution and should be given equal time in the science classroom, despite the fact that ID is impossible to prove by the scientific method. The conflict has become a political issue, with attempts made to shape public policy and change American culture to reflect conservative Christian values. (See the *Wikipedia* entry under "Wedge Strategy.")

The concept of a Divine Designer is compatible with Urantia Book teachings, and many other religious organizations accept the symbolic nature of Biblical writings and are comfortable with the idea that God placed the spark of life on this planet and then allowed it to evolve according to His own natural laws. Unfortunately, for certain ID proponents it appears that there is no integration of science, religion and philosophy, the three basic factors in reflective thinking. These factors seem have become "disproportionate and virtually unrelated in their respective functions" (UB Paper 16, §6).

The authors of the Urantia Book write that true religion does not conflict with science. As UB readers, we can agree with the concept of Intelligent Design without trying to force it into the science classroom. Science, philosophy and religion all have their place, and when they are unified in personality development, "they produce a strong character consisting in the correlation of a factual science, a moral philosophy, and a genuine religious experience" (UB Paper 16, §6).

Archive Project

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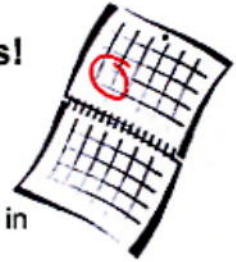
want to study the early history of the Urantia Book and the people involved with it. When computer technology was in its infancy, George Sammis and Tim Young created an archive that was also a lending library, *The Brotherhood of Man Library*, in Mason, Iowa. David Kantor has posted many articles, study aides and letters on the Fellowship website, and Good Cheer Press collected and distributed a variety of works and encouraged the creation of secondary works. Many people have already donated collections, including Patrick McNelly, Chick Montgomery, Meredith Sprunger, Stella Religa, and Paula Thompson.

The Urantia Book Historical Archive is not affiliated with any other Urantia Book organization. These people have come together because of their love of history. Most of them have experience in researching and using catalogs or working with archives. Members have expertise in different eras and with the many organizations that have helped shape the Urantia Book movement. The Archive Project team is still growing, and anticipates having a working retreat during the next year. History buffs are welcome to help with this labor-intensive project. If you are interested in donating materials or volunteering, please contact Victoria Clark at vicgarten@msn.com.

Is loyalty--devotion to highest duty--desirable? Then must man carry on amid the possibilities of betrayal and desertion. The valor of devotion to duty consists in the implied danger of default.

- UB Paper 3, Section 5 (Page 51)

Mark Your Calendars!



July 5-6, 2006 - *The Urantia Book Fellowship* Triennial Delegate Assembly @ Dominican University in River Forest, IL.

July 7-9, 2006 - Summer Study Session '06 @ Dominican University in River Forest, IL.

July 9-10, 2006 - Fellowship General Council Meeting @ Dominican U, visitors are welcome.

July 14-18, 2006 - IUA International Conference in Sydney, Australia (www.urantia.org.au/anzura/)

August 4-21, 2006 - UB retreats at Silver Springs, Ontario, Canada (www.ubretreats.ca)

August 25-27, 2006 - Retreat Network annual retreat @ Kindred Spirits Retreat Center in Eugene, OR. (Jeannette Schafer jeannetts@comcast.net)

August 25-31, 2006 - Advanced seminars by Moussa Ndiaye @ Silver Springs Retreat Center in Ontario

ALL International Conference

The Association for Light & Life (ALL) is pleased to announce the ALL 2006 International Conference entitled:

"Settling Into Light & Life," scheduled to take place from Wednesday, July 19, through Sunday, July 23, 2006, in the lovely California coastal city of Santa Barbara. We will creatively explore how we might develop programs to help usher in Light & Life on Urantia. The conference will be held at the historic Mission Renewal Center founded by the Spanish Franciscans in 1786 and located at 2201 Laguna Street in Santa Barbara. For more information, visit the ALL website at www.associationforlightandlife.org



UBLA EVENTS IN 2006

Saturday, May 20th, 2006 5-9 PM at the Whittier Art Gallery
Program Meeting and Triennial Delegate Election
Speaker: Stella Religa - Apocrypha: The Revelation of John

Saturday, August 19, 2006 6-10 PM in Irvine
UBLA Jesus Birthday Celebration
RSVP Robert Burns @ (949) 222-1053

Saturday, September 30, 2006 6-9 PM at the Whittier Art Gallery
Program Meeting - Speaker: TBA

Saturday, November 18, 2006 6-9 PM at the Whittier Art Gallery
Program Meeting - Speaker: Dolores Nice - Bio-spiritualism

Sunday, November 19th, 2006 10-3 PM in Costa Mesa
Mini-retreat with Dolores Nice

Please call Victoria Clark, Education Committee Chair, for more information on UBLA presentations: (714) 665-8357, or email vicgarten@msn.com

Whittier Art Gallery
8035 S Painter Ave Whittier, CA 90602

UBLA Officers

<i>President</i>	Dianne Bishop
<i>Vice President</i>	Stella Religa
<i>Secretary</i>	Natalia Larson
<i>Treasurer</i>	Robert Burns
<i>Book</i>	Larry Whelan
<i>Education</i>	Victoria Clark
<i>Hospitality</i>	Donna Whelan
<i>Membership</i>	Richard Omura
<i>Website/Newsletter</i>	TBA

Program Meetings usually begin with a potluck at 6 PM. Please bring a salad, vegetable or dessert to share; UBLA provides an entrée and beverages. See you there!



UB Study Groups in Southern California

- Anaheim - Pierre Chicoine (714) 761-0102
- Irvine - Robert Burns (949) 222-1053
- Laguna Hills - Duane/Lucille Faw . (949) 470-9653
- Long Beach - Doug Huntzinger . . (562) 633-2536
- Marina Del Rey - Richard Omura . (310) 306-9789
- Ventura - John/Elisabeth Callahan (805) 933-6650
- Westminster - Kermit Andersen . . (714) 894-5417
- Whittier - Stella Religa. (562) 698-2122

Please Note: UBLA has no official affiliation with any study group, nor does UBLA endorse or have any authority governing their curriculum or practices.