

# PERVADED SPACE

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## MIDWEST

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## INAUGURATE REFERRAL SERVICE

A new cooperative effort of the four Chicago area URANTIA societies will commence this fall with the inaugural mailing of the Chicago Area Referral Service. The group's purpose will be to assist readers of The URANTIA Book new to the area or to the book to make contact more easily with area groups and societies.

Until now, all referrals have been handled by Brotherhood Headquarters staff. The Referral Service will follow up initial mail with a phone call, to offer (not force) opportunity for study group affiliation.

David Kulieke, Lake Bluff, IL, of First URANTIA Society, is the originator of the idea and will coordinate its activities at its beginnings. He said, "We felt that, despite all the fine work the office staff has done in the past in helping new people find a group, we should not depend on the international headquarters of the URANTIA movement to develop a local area simply because those headquarters happen to coincidentally exist in our area. It's up to area societies to do the outreach work."

David explained that First Society felt the need to seek cooperation from the other three societies, URANTIA Society of Glenview, Orvonton URANTIA Society of Chicago, and First URANTIA Society of Western Springs, before attempting such a project. "We didn't feel that we should presumptuously consider the area our 'turf' with three other groups." The Referral Service is composed of one representative of each of the four societies.



The Central Wisconsin readers enjoyed a surprise visit from two seraphic-type guests at a recent meeting whose topic was angels. Although their order was unidentifiable, all present were very grateful for their appearance and their constant efforts to keep the humor and good will flowing.

(Photo courtesy of Sherry Zopel)

The first act of the groups will be a mailing this fall to all readers in an area which extends to Milwaukee on the north, Rockford on the west, Kankakee on the south, and into northwest Indiana on the east. (This area roughly corresponds to Zone 100 designated by Domestic Extension Committee of URANTIA Brotherhood.) The mailing will offer the help of the Referral Service to readers already on the mailing list before focussing its attention in the future upon new readers. Included will be a brochure that describes the activities of each of the study groups in the region.

David sees the Referral Service as a cooperative effort of the four societies which could lay the groundwork for other projects as well.

## ■ from the editors ■

"I didn't know that." This is one of the more common comments heard around the URANTIA movement when news of important events or decisions is discussed.

That's why we support the resolution introduced at the 1985 Triennial Delegate Assembly and passed on to the Executive Committee by the General Council which was titled the "Improved Communication Resolution." It called for a more thorough accounting through the URANTIA Brotherhood Bulletin and to societies and General Councilors through a revived letter from the president after each meeting of the Executive Committee. It also called for better informing of committee members through each chairman of Brotherhood committees.

Whatever the methods, improved valid communication is one of the most important goals in the movement, as it has been for years. This doesn't mean that everyone needs to know everything; however, over and over again we run into people who didn't know about an important issue until the letters about it had flown around the movement among those in the know who decide the issue before most people are aware of it. This process, more than any other, creates a feeling of alienation and the sense that there are different levels of involvement in the Brotherhood—one of the very things which some of those insiders claim to be trying to avoid.

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MIDWEST

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## Swamy Cool by G. Thorsander



Obviously this is a major concern to such as we, editors of a newsletter whose purpose is to inform individuals of a very specific area, nine states in the Midwest, of what's going on. We try to add a little about what's happening on the headquarters level, too, so our readers catch the things they might have missed elsewhere.

However, we can't do this without subscribers. More than a third of our meager subscription list lives outside the Midwest. We're glad to serve these people, but they are not our major focus. We don't generally actively solicit subscribers outside of the states of Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio,

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## ■ letters ■

Keep up the good work. Your newsletter provides the kind of information about the URANTIA movement doings that I'm interested in. We have a group here in Cleveland and I am trying to keep them apprised of important events. I am greatly encouraged by the recent selection of Mo Siegel and Helena Sprague to positions in the Brotherhood and the Foundation. Mo Siegel's concerns about the price of The URANTIA Book are shared by me. Helena Sprague's selection tells me that the Foundation is opening up to perspectives from outside of Chicago.

Tom Connors  
Cleveland Heights, OH

## people

Geraldine Kulieke Hahn began life as Geraldine Phyllis Edwards, a direct, though distant, descendant of the Puritan minister Jonathan Edwards. She was born in 1924, one of ten children, in Zion, Illinois, located north of Waukegan. The families of her parents had been brought together, lured by the founding of the religious community of Zion by Dr. Alexander Dowie, who created the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church of Zion around the turn of the century.

Gerry experienced poverty arising from the Depression throughout her childhood. Zion in those days was composed almost entirely of fundamentalists and Gerry had a strict religious upbringing. She did enjoy being in the choir.

Gerry's life underwent a major turn at age 17 when she began to date her former eighth grade school teacher, Warren Kulieke, who lived in Chicago. Gerry and Warren went through courtship for a year under the shadow of World War II. Almost immediately upon their marriage in September, 1942, Warren went into the army along with his three brothers. Gerry was able to follow him to several training posts around the U.S. before he was shipped to England in 1943. Their daughter Lynne was born later that year while Warren was overseas. He did not see her until his return late in 1945.

While Warren was pursuing a Master's degree and when he experienced a lengthy illness, Gerry obtained work at Illinois Bell Telephone Company. Their son Mark was born in 1948. Circumstances eventually conspired to turn Gerry's work at the phone company into a career from which she retired just a few years ago.

Of course, Gerry's relationship with Warren brought her face to face with the URANTIA teachings. She began reading the papers in the late 1940's and joined the Forum at about that time. Belief in the papers came gradually as doubt in the church grew. When interviewed by Dr. Sadler, she told him she was a doubting Thomas. He said, "We love doubting Thomases, too."



GERALDINE HAHN

Now one of Gerry's fond memories is of a weekend she spent at Dr. Sadler's estate at Beverly Shores, where she had a lengthy opportunity to talk with the doctor.

Gerry subsequently became a charter member of First URANTIA Society in 1956. In 1962, her husband Warren died while serving as president of URANTIA Brotherhood. Gerry was remarried several years later to a fellow telephone company employee, John Hahn. Both Gerry and Jack have retired and have busied themselves with various part-time jobs, long-term projects and vacations in Wisconsin and the South.

Gerry served for approximately 15 years on the Domestic Extension Committee of URANTIA Brotherhood. She also has served in positions in First URANTIA Society and presented papers at Society meetings. She has been active in conferences and workshops since the first Summer Study Session in 1963. Her ongoing objective is to put the URANTIA teachings into practice daily.

Some of her favorite sections of The URANTIA Book are the last paper on the prayer life of Jesus; pages 1739-40, consisting of Jesus's talks with his apostles; and the passage on page 383, "in every dark hour...the Spirit of Truth will always speak, saying 'This is the way.'"<sup>\*</sup>

<sup>\*</sup> The URANTIA Book, (c) 1955 URANTIA Foundation. All Rights Reserved.

## ■ Commentaries ■

The topic for these commentaries is: "What methods has your study group found effective for keeping its members active and bringing in new readers?"

\* \* \* \* \*

The biggest thing that holds our group together is making an effort to stay in close contact. I usually make a reminder call to ask people if they are coming. It is very important for the leader to be really dedicated. We are always here for the group.



Ila Hall  
Kansas City, MO

We feel that the key to introducing people to the book is to maintain consistent, friendly relationships with them. Genuine concern, not merely "laying one more trip" on them, is what impresses people. With guarded individuals, care must be taken to select teachings which are fairly close to their current attitudes and values. People need to feel comfortable. Also, our group feels that it's important to have contact with each other outside the group setting.

It takes some candidates years before realizing that what we are studying isn't going to be a passing interest. By patient, gentle leading some finally get into the book years after their first introduction. If the book is the seed, then our friendships are surely the soil in which interest may grow. By focussing on the friendship model, we are emulating the creature-creator relationship which Jesus glorified and--God as a personal friend.



David Burleson  
Chicago, IL

Given the flux of a university town, our group has begun and vanished twice, though the present small group looks quite certain for some longevity. We've met for less than a year with only a couple of visitors, who had little previous feel for the Book and have not returned. Others who are regular readers lead overly busy lives and regret not being able to attend.

Insofar as I have any wisdom about keeping groups together, I draw from my experience with Charismatic Renewal and as a Quaker. The family that plays together stays together, which the Kuliekes know harmonically well.

The current success of Renewal in the churches hinges heavily on living in community--multifamily associations in which lives are shared regularly with meals, play and prayer together, all apart from the major weekly prayer meetings. This mutual association of families and individuals is recognized as essential social glue. Where Charismatic Renewal was seen to be widespread in a given church but did not endure (for example, the Episcopal Church in the fifties), a missing element was the establishment of communities of believers with much social interdependence.

The importance of this for our movement lingers with me perpetually. The strength of our current group, though small, is likely the result of the core of friendship beneath it all.

I certainly see the value of a group name, providing a larger sense of identity and belonging, and therefore feel it is worthy of perhaps quite a bit of prayer and reflection. It is always too easy to choose a cute URANTIA Book-type name on a lark that later could appear silly or presumptuous to someone new.

John Causland  
Ann Arbor, MI



Editors' Note: We invite other readers to write to us about their experiences in maintaining study groups and attracting new readers--what works and what doesn't--for possible publication in a future issue.

## First Society Plans Special Events

First URANTIA Society, which meets at URANTIA Brotherhood headquarters at 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, anticipates an event-filled year in 1985-86. Plans include a miniconference, an intensive study series, orientations for potential new members, and a series of classes held before several study group meetings.

Towards the end of the current season (which, like that of many other groups, runs from September to June), will be classes on race migration. These hour to hour-and-a-half sessions will occur before the regular Sunday afternoon study meetings on five consecutive Sundays in April and May. Tom Kendall, of Wheeling, IL, will lead the course.

Another major event scheduled for later in the year is the second miniconference the society has planned (the first, in 1982, attracted about 80 people and helped form several new study groups). The event will tentatively occur on March 1, 1986--a one-day, Saturday conference--in Prospect Heights, IL. The working theme for conference is "Spiritual Influences and Our Responsibilities." Carolyn Kendall, Wheeling, IL, will chair the planning committee. Letters will go out to readers throughout northeastern Illinois, southeastern Wisconsin, and northwestern Indiana.

A series of intensive study sessions will be announced to readers in the same general area. These classes, which will be led by Mark Kulieke of Chicago, are slated to begin in late October in the Wheeling home of the Kendalls. They will occur approximately once a month and will center on the topic

"Evolution: Past and Present." Participants will be expected to do outside reading and preparation between meetings.

These three events, the classes, miniconference, and study sessions, are the projects of the society's Miscellaneous Activities Committee, David Kulieke, chairman, and Carolyn Kendall, Mike Mason, Lillian Wallin, and Annis Warsh, members.

The society's Membership Committee is again planning its orientation sessions, a series of meetings to be held this fall for persons interested in learning about the society, Brotherhood, and Foundation. These sessions are held every few years as a prerequisite for becoming a member of the society, but they are open to any interested individuals. Those who wish more information should contact the committee chairman, Marilyn Kulieke, at (312) 234-6204. Other committee members include Inez Burch, Chuck Burton, Mary Lou Hales, and Lynne Kulieke.



### K.C. Picnic

The Kansas City, MO Study Group held a picnic and beach party on August 18th at Lake Quvira. Sixty-six people attended the event, which featured socializing and a pot luck supper.

### Midwest Conference

The Midwest Conference will be held on October 11-13 at Wallen Place (formerly Crosier Center) in Fort Wayne, IN. Registration forms were sent out in August. Those wishing to attend are encouraged to send in their registrations immediately. If you did not receive one, contact:

Irene Sprunger  
4109 Plaza Drive  
Fort Wayne IN 46806

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Make checks payable to  
David Kulieke.

(Editorial--continued from page 2)

Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Kentucky. But we'd like to reach more people from those nine states.

So we'd ask our readers to mention PERVADED SPACE to their friends who read The URANTIA Book. Remind them that we've provided 34 consecutive issues since our inception in 1977. Tell them that we are the Midwest newsletter, that our clearly defined purpose makes us the choice for any reader from this region. Remember that we're cheap and definitely not for profit (red ink is a way of life). Help us improve communication.

And the more comments we hear from you, the better!

### Midwest Society Officers

#### First URANTIA Society

President	Cece Forrester
Vice President	Bill Martin
Secretary	Nancy Brown
Assistant Secretary	Michael Mason
Treasurer	Helen Carlson
Assistant Treasurer	David Burleson

#### URANTIA Society of Glenview

President	Mary Snider
Vice President	David Renn
Secretary	Lisa Carr Renn
Treasurer	Scott Forsythe

### Trustee Elected

Helena Sprague, of Farmington, CT, was recently elected by the Trustees of URANTIA Foundation to their five-member board. Helena is a current General Councilor, the vice president of URANTIA Society of Central Connecticut, and has served many years as a Field Representative for URANTIA Brotherhood.

#### Orvonton URANTIA Society of Chicago

President	Michael Painter
Vice President	Matthew Block
Secretary	Daniel Love Glazer
Treasurer	Donna Painter

#### First URANTIA Society of Western Springs

President	Marion Oestmann
Vice President	Clarence Schicht
Secretary	Lillian Nicholas
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#### Fort Wayne URANTIA Society

President	Meredith Sprunger
Vice President	Clarence Lange
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Treasurer	Dorothy Sloffer

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