

The Servant

Grand Canyon Society for Readers of The Urantia Book

Volume 6 Number 1

August 1992

GRAND CANYON SOCIETY Takes Bold Steps

In the three years that we've been a Society, our family of *Urantia Book* readers has grown. Many projects have been developed and are in the making. We are developing more skill in inspiring each other to share our *Urantia Book* in many ways; and, we are finding more ways to encourage each other to learn how to live the teachings of Jesus more each day.

Let us all pray that we can all, in positive ways, continue to encourage, inspire, and motivate one another.

Since our inception, we've had struggles to contend with, and opportunities for personal growth. Now, three years later, we have regrouped and re-motivated ourselves to focus on the tasks at hand.

On June 6, 1992 at the annual membership meeting, two important decisions were made regarding the current situation of the availability of *The Urantia Book* and related study aids.

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**The FLOWERS
Program**
*Fellowship's Local Outreach,
Work, Effort, and
Resources Support Program*

FLOWERS is a new **FELLOWSHIP** program being offered to encourage and support local groups in their co-operative efforts to bring *The Urantia Book* and its teachings to the attention of the peoples of our world.

This program is based on **FELLOWSHIP'S** philosophy that "we need to use our

organization as a tool, as scaffolding to build a spiritually fragrant social community of religionists reflective of the integrity and value of personality relationships and based upon and contributory to the transforming quality of individual soul growth."

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Bookstore Update



Last February at a day workshop at the Dobson Ranch Library, we began an "Adopt-a-Bookstore" program. We were all very enthused, ready to head to our nearest bookstore to place a book.

Since that day, Society members have volunteered to contact 38 bookstores. Here are the results as of August 1, 1992:

☺ Have Books!	9
☹ not interested	11
out of business	4
☹ Not contacted yet	14

From the original bookstore list that Peggy Johnson kindly typed up, there are 43 bookstores yet to be selected.

Also, this list is not a complete listing of all bookstores in the Phoenix valley.

Then, of course, there is the Tucson area, rural areas, libraries...

So, as you may notice, there is much work yet to be done!

If you have already made a contact with a bookstore and would like to try and get another *Urantia Book* on a bookstore shelf, please contact either Beth Wenger (971-8247) or Clint Carlson (964-2737).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Long time, no *Servant*

Yes, it's been awhile since the last issue of *The Servant*, but we're still here. Much has happened in the past two years; sorry we haven't been timely reporters.

There is a lot of work involved with putting a newsletter together. If you would like to assist us as a staff member, please let Beth Wenger (971-8247) or Carol King (224-0787) know.

Also, we welcome your contributions. If you would like to submit an article, poem, song, drawing... to be considered for publication in the next issue, please send by November 15, 1992 to the address below.

We try our best to keep an up to date and accurate mailing list. If you know someone who would like to receive THE SERVANT, please have them write to the address below, or call Beth Wenger (971-8247). If you are receiving THE SERVANT, but do not want it, please let us know.

The Servant
P.O. Box 2621
Scottsdale, AZ 85252-2621

See you in December.

STAFF: Beth Wenger
Carol King

CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE:

Bruce Wenger

Sue Smith

Lee Lieske

Rosie Caldwell (*thanks for the wonderful illustrations!*)

Jack Dale (*thank you Jean*)

AUGUST

Statewide Meeting
Saturday, Aug 8th, 6:30 PM
Don Risk (Prescott Group)
1730 Forest Meadows, Prescott
445-6460

Coordinating Committee Meeting
Thursday, Aug 13, 7:30 PM

Jesus Birthday Celebration
Saturday, Aug 22
May camp out Friday to Sunday
Peppersauce campground

SEPTEMBER

Frontier Conference
Fri the 4th thru Mon the 7th
Boulder, Colorado

Coordinating Committee Meeting
Thursday, Sep 10, 7:30 PM

Statewide Meeting
Saturday, Sep 12, 6:30 PM
JJ & Geri Johnson
2702 E. Cortez, Phoenix
482-3157

Workshop
Sunday, Sep 27, 9:00 AM
Dobson Ranch Library, Mesa

Membership Meeting
Sunday, Sep 27, 3:30 PM
Dobson Ranch Library, Mesa

OCTOBER

Coordinating Committee Meeting
Thursday, Oct 8, 7:30 PM

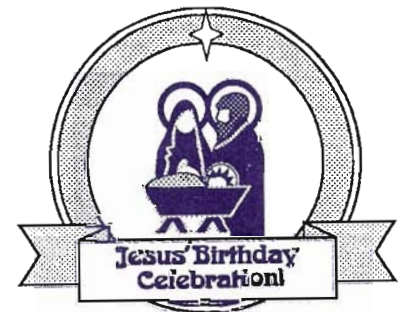
Statewide Meeting
Saturday, Oct 10, 6:30 PM
Bruce & Beth Wenger
2825 E. Danbury Rd., Phoenix
971-8247

Hayride
Saturday, Oct 31 (or Sun the 1st)
more details forthcoming

NOVEMBER

Coordinating Committee Meeting
Thursday, Nov 12, 7:30 PM

Statewide Meeting
Saturday, Nov 14, 6:30 PM
Larry Bowman
4132 N. 78th Pl., Scottsdale
947-8507



There will be a celebration of Jesus' birthday August 22 (Saturday) at the Pepper Sauce campground, 15 miles SE of Oracle (just north of Tucson).

There will be camping the night of the 21st and 22nd, a potluck dinner, and an after dinner service on the 22nd.

Notices with a map will be mailed. Please call Bruce Wenger (971-8247) if you would like to help facilitate this outing, if you don't receive a notice, or just need more information.

Please plan on coming!

The Servant

"The human tongue," said Jesus, "is a member which few men can tame, but the spirit within can transform this unruly member into a kindly voice of tolerance and an inspiring minister of mercy."

The Urantia Book, p. 16410

Bumper Stickers Available

The URANTIA BOOK
You've Got To Read It

Geri Johnson, Marc Neubauer and Lyn worked together to make available the bumper sticker above.

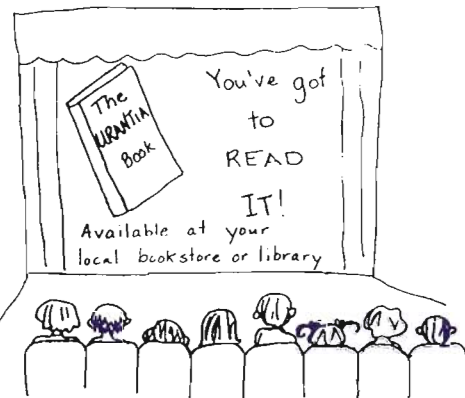
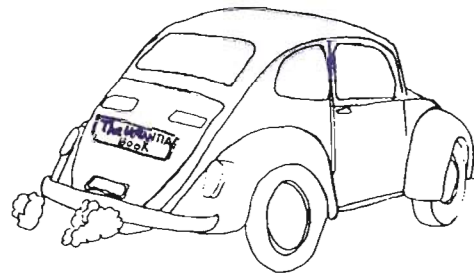
The cost is \$1⁵⁰ each. 50¢ covers printing costs so more bumper stickers can be made, and \$1 goes toward the purchase of *Urantia Books* for bookstore and library placement.

Since the stickers were first available in May, we've heard many comments and questions from people. They seem to be a success!

The first set of 300 stickers are already sold, but more will be available soon. If you would like to purchase one, send \$1⁵⁰ for each one to:

Geri Johnson
2702 E. Cortez
Phoenix, AZ 85028
(602) 482-3157

THANK YOU GERI,
MARC AND LYN!



On the Big Screen

JJ Johnson has done it again. First there was the BIG sign on his delivery truck that reads "The Urantia Book, You've Got To Read It".

Now, there is a movie theatre screen that reads "*The Urantia Book, You've Got To Read It --Available at your local bookstore and library*", and with a picture of *The Urantia Book*.

JJ had a slide made that can be shown in between movies at movie theatres. It first played for a week at a local Phoenix movie theatre. Since then, it has been shown in Tucson, and other Phoenix locations.

JJ has now handed over this project to GCS. The plan is to have this slide shown for one week per month at a different movie theatre.

THANK YOU JJ!

As you grow older in years and more experienced in the affairs of the kingdom, are you becoming more tactful in dealing with troublesome mortals and more tolerant in living with stubborn associates? Tact is the fulcrum of social leverage, and tolerance is the earmark of a great soul. If you possess these rare and charming gifts, as the days pass you will become more alert and expert in your worthy efforts to avoid all unnecessary social misunderstandings. Such wise souls are able to avoid much of the trouble which is certain to be the portion of all who suffer from lack of emotional adjustment, those who refuse to grow up, and those who refuse to grow old gracefully.

The Urantia Book, p. 1740



Since the last **Servant**, our friend and brother Jack Dale graduated to the Mansion Worlds. His wife, Jean, has kindly given us permission to print these poems that are part of a wealth of creative prose and poetry inspired by *The Urantia Book*, and spoken with the wit and grace that Jack shared with friends. Cheers to you, Jack!

Our Earthly Future

What do you think will happen
When proof is finally found
That Christ was born in August
And not with Christmas sound?
When Easter's message changes
From "Jesus died for me"
To "Love others as I've loved you,"
As Heavenly entrance fee.

Commercial interests will erupt
And fight with all their power;
While ritual churches will revolt
And papal leaders glower.
Religious groups are firmly set
In many distant lands
To help the rulers and the rich
Keep power in their hands.

Now this can't be in future years
When all men will be equal
And world wide government will control
The business cycle sequel.
So let's put on our "thinking caps"
And plan for future years
When Jesus Brotherhood comes true
And saves the World from tears.

Jack K. Dale, Ph.D.

A "New" Religion?

Do we need a new religion?
Can we answer "yes" or "no"?
Do we really love our fellow man
As far as love can go?
Exactly what did Jesus teach
When he was here on Earth?
He taught a Heavenly Kingdom
And a future Spirit birth.
He taught us of our Father's love
That we are Brothers all,
In one extended family
With start from God's own call

What happened to his teachings?
Was it fear of fearful Kings,
Mistakes by early leaders,
E'en sin and other things?
We emphasize Christ's sacrifice
And death upon the Cross
To save us all from earthly sin-
There seems a message loss!
It's time for Jesus Brotherhood
When we will love and serve
And teach by our example well
Devotion with his fervor.

We need no "new" religion
We have the best there is!
We simply need to follow Him
And show the Heavens we're His.

Jack K. Dale, Ph.D.

*"Only a poet can discern poetry in the common
place prose of human existence." (page 557)*

Only Human?

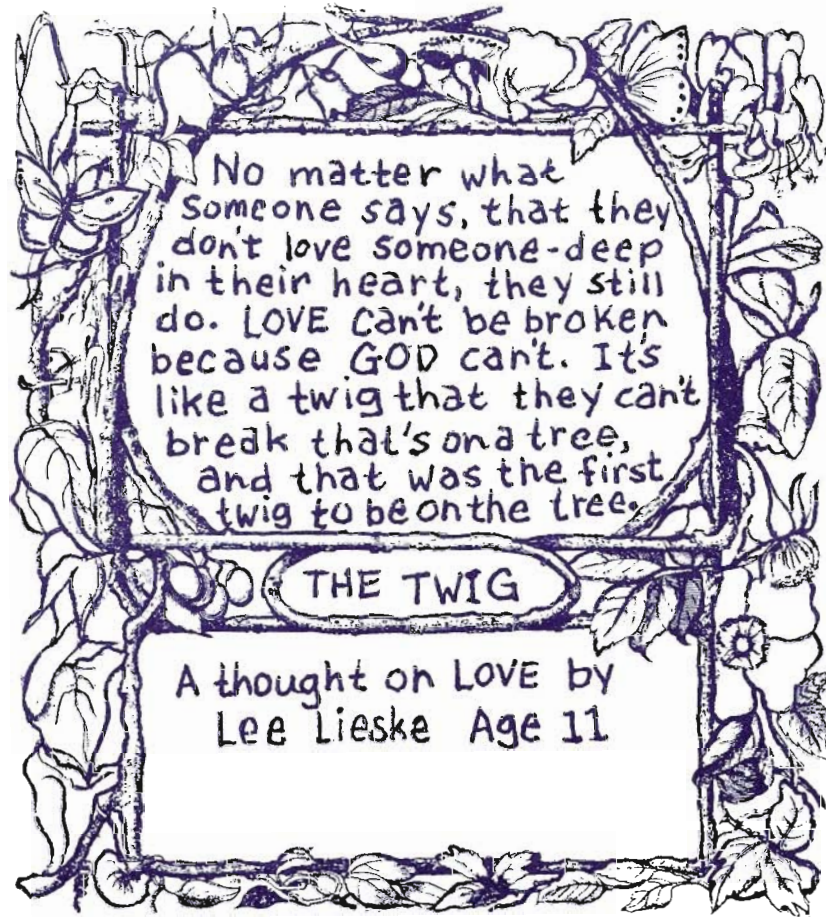


by Bruce Wenger

We are not "only human"! *The Urantia Book* instructs us that the entity we call a "human being" is made up of some rather illustrious component parts. We start with our *material self*, essentially a high level animal mechanism. Then, an actual fragment of the infinite Creator is added: our *Thought Adjuster*, which lives within us and constantly tries to lead us forward spiritually. Then we have our semi-spiritual *soul*, the potentially eternal child of our human mind and our Thought Adjuster. We have the option of actually allowing our soul to function in our daily life to a greater or lesser degree. In addition to these primary "superhuman" factors, we learn that an almost endless array of celestial and creative entities and influences impinge upon us, ever striving to help us be more than "only human".

For someone who knows these facts to profess to be "only human" would appear to be rejecting our divine endowment and the plan to develop an eternal being from a base human.

We know that this is not what people generally mean by that altogether too common expression "but I'm only human", but I have identified the concept of that statement, in



my personal experience, to be a subtle spiritual cop-out. "Man tends to crystalize science, formulate philosophy and dogmatize truth because he is mentally lazy in adjusting to the progressive struggles of living, while he is also terribly afraid of the unknown. Natural man is slow to initiate changes in his habits of thinking and in his techniques of living." (page 1459).

We have been clearly and repetitively instructed that we have the opportunity to, as it were, reach up and take the hand of God and never let go. We have the opportunity to utilize an endless array of superhuman assistance. We

have the opportunity to actually realize and daily experience our divine inheritance, and the divine inheritance of all the other people on our planet (even those whom we sometimes rather embarrassingly consider or treat as sub-divine). Think of how different our experiences are in those moments when we genuinely get in touch spiritually. We feel great about ourselves and others. It is a feeling of **being in love**, romance in the first degree!

I have thought long and hard about this intriguing metamorphosis from material to

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Bold Steps

(continued from page 1)

1. In view of the current lack of *Urantia Book* availability, GCS is committed to loving, personal ministries and to **aggressive, bold** approaches to book distribution. In support of this viewpoint, GCS passed a resolution at the annual membership meeting on June 6, 1992, stating:

Be it resolved the Grand Canyon Society for Readers of *The Urantia Book* will devote our energies to making *The Urantia Book* known and available to all.

2. Our Society members view the Urantia Foundation vs. Maaherra lawsuit as the most crucial event affecting our beloved Book and the whole readership today. The decisions that will be made in court will not just impact upon the Foundation and Kristen but upon **everyone's** right to study and interpret *The Urantia Book*, to create art or study aids inspired by the Book, and to simply buy the Book.

We openly support Kristen Maaherra spiritually, morally and financially. The Society pledged \$606.00, wishing only that our coffers could have afforded more. A check was written [dated 6-06-92] and mailed to the Agondonter Fund, with stipulation that these funds be forwarded to Kristen's attorneys. We have also lovingly, but seriously, **CHALLENGED** all Societies to match our pledge.

Flowers

(Continued from page 1)

What does this mean? If a society, or study group, or other common interest group has a conference, program, or project, **FELLOWSHIP**, if able, will provide any resources needed.

Examples are materials, mailing services, speakers, information, or funding of some kind (loans, grants, matching funds).

The materials that are available include *How to Start a Group*, *Glossary and Pronunciation Reference*, Study Group Program, *Study Group Herald*, *Study Group Directory*, *Resources Guide*, and *Summary of Book Changes Reference*.

For more information about the **FLOWERS Program**, and for an application, write to:

**FELLOWSHIP,
529 Wrightwood Avenue,
Chicago, IL 60614**



Agondonter Fund

In response to the financial pain inflicted upon our beloved brother, JJ Johnson, by the Foundation's lawsuit against him, THE AGONDONTER FUND was born.

It was conceived as a legal assistance fund for those who were sued by the Foundation.

The focus soon shifted from JJ to the support of Kristen Maaherra's counter-suit

Only Human?

(Continued from page 5)

spiritual levels. A clear understanding seems to be somewhat illusive, but I have come to see this subtle mistake of denying my spiritual heritage as an ominous and impeding error.

Please help me constantly remind myself, you, and everyone else, that ***we are not only human.*** Human beings are children of Infinity! That "only human" statement is a denial of the Gospel message. It reminds me of Peter in the courtyard of Annus, denying his association with Jesus. We come face to face with a situation we are ill prepared for – one which we are not poised to react in a dignified manner to – and what do we do? Do we sacrifice our ego? Seldom. More often we deny our spiritual heritage and as likely as not, that of those around us. Come on, we can do better than that.

How long will we continue to deny the truth of our spiritual nature just because we are too lazy to change our habits of thinking and our techniques of living?

to the Foundation's lawsuit against her. This counter-suit is based on first amendment rights of freedom of religion.

The Foundation is so fearful of this that they have had their lawyers state, under oath, that *The Urantia Book* is not a religious book!

This counter-suit is being handled by a law firm that specializes in copyright law

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The Servant



Romancing a Unique Conference

from an article by Sue Smith

Easter week of 1992 *The Grand Canyon Society* sponsored a one of a kind conference aboard house boats on Lake Powell Arizona/Utah.

The theme was *Moving the Camp to Pella Powell*. There were several outstanding events that will remain memorable in the hearts of attenders.

During the weekend, there was a temple bell call for morning meditation, an inspirational talk on the teachings of Jesus from Pella, a wedding under "Rainbow Bridge", bonfires, singing under a full moon, feet washings, and a "glorious" sunrise Easter morning.

Many who attended said it was nothing short of wonderful. Fellow Students of *The Urantia Book* left this conference with the thought in mind that *truth* had been taught, *beauty* had been seen, and *goodness* had been experienced through kindred spirits.

Agondonter

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and it appears as if it is being handled in an expert and efficient manner.

This may well be a major victory for us all. For more information, or to offer donations, contact:

AGONDONTER FUND
HCR Box 93
Payson, AZ 85541

Anniversary Dinner

We welcomed to our family of *Urantia Book* readers eleven new members on May 16, 1992 at the Holiday Inn in Phoenix. What a night!

The evening included prayerful music, a joyful welcoming ceremony, a quiet remembrance supper, and good food. Also, there were interesting talks and personal sharing, warm and friendly personal fellowship, and a very meaningful "Group Prayer and Worship Experience".

More than forty people came together and enjoyed the spirit of brotherhood that pervaded the evening.

Elections Held

At the annual membership meeting on June 6, 1992, new officers for the Grand Canyon Society were held. The new Coordinating Committee for this next year (beginning July 1992) is:

Officers:

President: *Peggy Johnson*
Vice President: *Rhonda Grubb*
Secretary: *Geri Johnson*
Treasurer: *J.J. Johnson*

Committee Chairpersons:

Membership: *Eve McMahon*
Education: *Clint Carlson*
Navigation: *Bruce Wenger*
Publications: *Carol King*

Congratulations!

News from the Publications Committee

As of September 1st a calendar of various *Urantia Study Group* and *GCS* events in the state will be available for \$3.

The calendar will for the months of August 1992 thru August 1993, and is a large format (11 x 17). It is a lavishly illustrated calendar listing all *Urantia* related activities statewide for the next year, plus a number of

quotations/affirmations taken from the big blue book.

If you are interested in purchasing one of these unique and helpful calendars, please fill out the order form below.

Also, if you would like to add any information to our calendar by way of stickers which can be added as new events are scheduled, please contact Carol King at 224-0787.

Please send me a calendar. Enclosed is \$3.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ zip code _____

CALENDAR

Send to:

Grand Canyon Society
P.O. Box 2621
Scottsdale, AZ 85252-2621

Urantia Book Study Groups in Arizona

PHOENIX AREA:

ANGELS OF THE DESERT - Phoenix
Tuesday 8:00 PM
FORMAT: Sequential
Dick & Peggy Johnson
302 E. Wagon Wheel Dr.
944-4766

DESERT ROSE - Tempe
Thursday 7:30 PM → BEGINNING SEPT 10 ←
FORMAT: Varies
Gloria & Hal Archambeau
2114 E. Watson
839-2599

MOON VALLEY STUDY GROUP - Phoenix
Tuesday 7:30 PM
FORMAT: Varies
Sue Smith
856 E. Village Circle South
993-1325

SCOTTSDALE STUDY GROUP - Scottsdale
Thursday 8:00 PM
FORMAT: Varies
Larry Bowman
4132 N. 78th Place
947-8507

WEST PHOENIX STUDY GROUP - Glendale
Wednesday 8:00 PM
FORMAT: Sequential
Arley & Rhonda Grubb
3132 W. Flynn Lane
841-7649

TUCSON AREA:

SECOND MILERS - Tucson
Tuesday 7:30 PM
FORMAT: Varies
Earl & Carol Yarborough
5125 N. Camino de Oeste
743-3868

TUCSON AGONDONTERS - Tucson
Wednesday 7:30 PM
FORMAT: Varies
Byron Weeks
10411 E. Boundry Dr.
885-8320

OTHER STATE LOCATIONS

PRESCOTT STUDY GROUP - Prescott
Wednesday 7:00 PM
FORMAT: Sequential
Don Risk
1730 Forest Meadows
445-6560

RED ROCK READERS - Sedona
Every other Monday 7:00 PM
FORMAT: Sequential
Joseph McNeil
282-0125

STATE WIDE MEETING - Statewide
2nd Saturday, monthly 6:30/7:30 PM
FORMAT: potluck & Topical Study
Arley Grubb (Coordinator)
Location varies monthly
841-7649



Grand Canyon Society
for Readers of
The Urantia Book

P.O. Box 2621
Scottsdale, AZ 85252-2621



Julio Edwards
2351 Ogden St.
Denver, CO 80205