



The Servant

A Vital Link for Readers of *The URANTIA Book* in Arizona

As evidenced in Paula Thompson's own personal experience

A miracle is an "Act of Love"

By Guy Hévey

It was during a "healing meditation" with a few other women who also suffered different illnesses, Paula revealed, that: "We specifically asked the Master to come."

"I simply told Him: 'You know, Master, I'm not afraid to die, but there is no place in the Universe greater than this planet where I am now to do my work, so, I want to stay here...' And He heard me."

"I surrendered my personal sovereignty to God and, from then on, the Father opened doors for me."

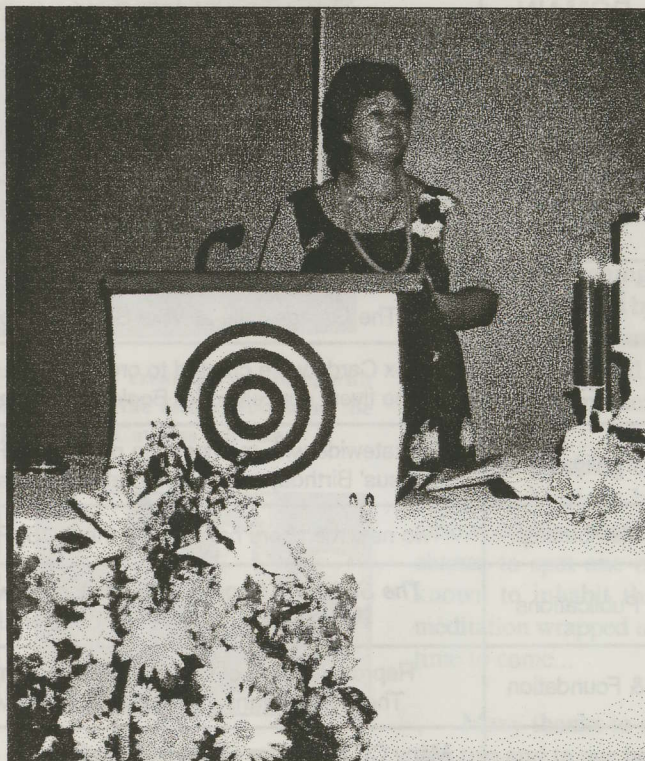
AN ACT OF LOVE

Paula spoke to us at the Annual Banquet of the Grand Canyon Society, in Casa Grande, on May 20, with the same simplicity, spontaneity and total frankness that are the hallmark of her character.

Although *URANTIA Book* Readers are not generally inclined to pay a lot of attention to miracles, Paula made us understand that what happened to her in this case was first and foremost an "act of love"...

In 1990, Paula Thompson "almost died". Overcome with ovarian cancer, a cyst exploded and she suffered internal bleeding. She had 3 major abdominal surgeries over 15 months, and the doctors were very pessimistic about her future...

That's when she had "a very intimate talk" with the Master: "He smiled at me, says Paula, the sweetest smile I've ever seen... He touched my head... The cancer was completely gone..."



She made everyone present at this Banquet realize one more time that: "When the Creator himself was on earth, incarnated in the likeness of mortal flesh, it was inevitable that some extraordinary things should happen. But you should never approach Jesus through these so-called miraculous occurrences. Learn to approach the miracle through Jesus, but do not make the mistake of approaching Jesus through the miracle. And this admonition is warranted, notwithstanding that Jesus of Nazareth is the only founder of a religion who performed supermaterial acts on earth." (*The URANTIA Book*, page 1671).

A NEW BEGINNING

She also brought to light the fact that for her: "This event confirmed that we can live with the assurance that the Father will grant us our petition, that Jesus is the Greatest Teacher who ever lived, and that my lifelong search for Jesus helped me appreciate what a privilege it is to be able to help my fellow human beings to find God."

**THE SERVANT'S
STAFF**

Guy Hévey Chairman
Lois Rockafellow-Assistant
Mary Lou Sliman-Assistant
Lee Maxton Assistant
Peggy Johnson Assistant

**CONTRIBUTORS
TO THIS ISSUE**

Mike Bertola (Photos)
Bob Dominski (Text)
Martha Iverson (Text)
Dick Johnson (Photos)
JJJ (Interview in *AZ Rep.*)

TO CONTRIBUTE

Send your text, photos or other materials to:

The Servant

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

Phone: (602) 678-4642

GCS WEB SITE AT

www.azurantia.org

Beth Wenger Creator

You like Your Newsletter, *The Servant*?

Please donate for it!

The quarterly publication of *The Servant* involves numerous costly operations, such as: photocopying and collation of all pages, stamps necessary to send the newsletters, and many "extras" (e.g. -- thicker paper for photos or a larger number of pages) that make it an overall "better issue". Any financial contribution on your part can help and will be appreciated. To do so, you can simply send a check with the amount of your choice to: *The Servant*, P.O. Box 2621, Scottsdale, AZ 85252-2621. And mention on your check that your donation is specifically for *The Servant*. **THANK YOU!**

BUMPER-STICKER ALERT!

We currently have a supply of bumper-stickers that are free for the asking. We have 2 styles to choose from: *The URANTIA Book -- You've got to read it!* and *The URANTIA Book -- The world's best kept secret!* We also have "mustard seed" notes to distribute. To get them, contact Martha Iverson at: (480) 838-1208.

**Our Web Site
is always
online!**

www.azurantia.org

NEWS SUMMARY* OF THE LAST MEETINGS: MARCH 3 & MAY 12

**C
O
O
R
D
I
N
A
T
I
O
N
o
f
G
C
S**

IN CHARGE	DOMAIN	WHAT'S HAPPENING...
J.J. Johnson	President	Was interviewed by <i>The Arizona Republic</i> under "Religion, Profile".
Sue Smith	Vice-President	Bookstore Outreach on the first Saturday of every month. Sold 1 Book and got 2 people interested at one of them in April.
Crystal Harris	Secretary	Takes care with Sue of each Bookstore Outreach. *Contact Crystal for more complete reports on CC meetings.
Dick Johnson	Treasurer	The GCS is "right now" in a very good financial situation. The Garage Sale at Mike Bertola's proved to be "the best ever".
Martha Iverson	Education	Index Cards were created to organize all Library Placement information. The flyers conceived for Bookstore Outreach were very appreciated.
Hal Archambeau	Navigation	Statewide with membership meeting at Rosie Lieske's, on June 24. Jesus' Birthday will be celebrated in Payson on Saturday, August 19.
Millie Maxton	Membership	Two new members have joined the GCS: Rosie Lieske and Blake Atyeo.
Guy Hévey	Publications	<i>The Servant</i> 's frequency of publication will remain at 4 times a year. Wide variety of articles and materials for the Spring Issue.
News of the Fellowship & Foundation		Representatives of the Foundation will meet us on Friday, June 16. The Korean translation of <i>The URANTIA Book</i> is now completed.
Other Special News		Many CC members showed concern about getting "new blood" in the CC. Peggy wants to go to a baseball game with a group of us. Contact her!

Kartchner Caverns worth the wait...

A world of wonders!

Text by Bob Dominski / Photos by Mike Bertola

The blue men were hunters, fishers, and food gatherers; they were expert boatbuilders. They made stone axes, cut down trees, erected log huts, partly below ground and roofed with hides. And there are peoples who still build similar huts in Siberia. The southern Cro-Magnons generally lived in caves and grottoes. (*The URANTIA Book, page 891.*)

Spring is always a time for rejoicing and enjoying nature in the desert. The 20 people who gathered for a retreat in southern Arizona in April had ample opportunity to socialize while experiencing the great outdoors.

The small mining town of Bisbee lent its charms as the jumping off point for the weekend activities. A charming, turn-of-the-century Bed & Breakfast inn located in the downtown historical district provided a unique setting for fellowship as well as being within convenient walking distance to dining, shopping and entertainment. After checking in Friday evening and getting some rest, all awoke Saturday morning for a trip to Arizona State Parks' new crown jewel, Kartchner Caverns.

The project was a long time in the making, but the general consensus was that it was worth the wait! The tour of the caves transported all into a rarely viewed world of wonders. Afterwards, the fine Visitors' Center was the gathering place for a picnic lunch and thoughtful reflection led by Sue Smith.

Saturday evening activities back in Bisbee included a dinner out, followed by guitar music and sing-a-longs back at the inn. Crystal and Sue hosted their Urantian version of Pictionary mixed with charades that had everyone enjoying the comradery and merriment late into the night.

After checking out Sunday morning, we drove west along the Mexican border to Ramsey Canyon, a world renowned bird sanctuary. A nature trail offered all a chance to spot one of the many dozens of bird species known to inhabit the area. A creekside reading and meditation wrapped up a journey to be savored for a long time to come...

Many thanks to all who prepared for and organized this trip and to our hosts at the inn!



Imagine being in a magnificent "cathedral" created by nature, with totally natural "candelabras" coming from the ceiling and from the floor. That's what being inside Kartchner Caverns felt like...



Happy about the trip? You bet!



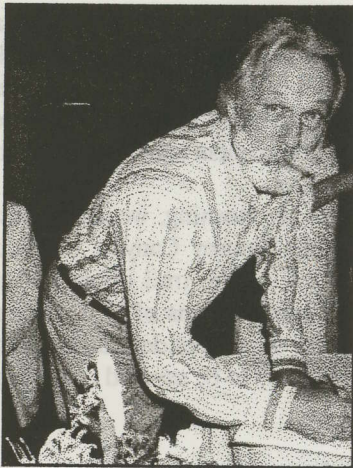
Other "Happy Caverners"...

We are Family!

Photos taken at the Annual Banquet by Dick and Peggy Johnson



It is enough of a reach of the material mind of the children of time to conceive of the Father in eternity. We know that any child can best relate himself to reality by first mastering the relationships of the child-parent situation and then by enlarging this concept to embrace the family as a whole. Subsequently the growing mind of the child will be able to adjust to the concept of family relations, to relationships of the community, the race, and the world, and then to those of the universe, the superuniverse, even the universe of universes. (*The URANTIA Book*, page 92.)



Blake: "I'm grateful to be here!"



They look like 2 sisters... Don't they?



Rosie: "I just love you, guys!"

**INTERVIEW
WITH J.J.J. IN :
THE AZ REPUBLIC,
FEBRUARY 5, 2000.**

J.J. Johnson

City: Phoenix.

Occupation: Self-employed.

Family: Two sons, Michael and David, and a grandson.

Affiliation: I have been a wholehearted believer in and student of The Urantia Book since 1975. I've been a member of The Urantia Book Fellowship for more than 20 years.

Basic tenets of my faith: We are all sons and daughters of God, and through faith we can actually realize, and experience daily this ennobling truth. When all is said and done, the father idea is still the highest human concept of God we have. The Urantia Papers are a religious revelation of epochal significance to our planet. They coordinate science and religion with the truth of reality. They provide a coordinated and unbroken explanation of both science and religion.

Part IV of The Urantia Book is a restatement of the life and teachings of Jesus — every single year of his life.

How I serve my faith community: I am a founding member of the Grand Canyon Society for Readers of The Urantia Book.

After serving as chairman of several committees and a four-year assignment in the Middle East, I am currently serving as the president of the GCS. I attend two study groups a week and participate in outreach programs.

Faith, to me, means: Experiencing the tranquility of supreme and unquestioned trust in God and feeling the tremendous thrill of living, by faith, in the very presence of the Heavenly Father. Jesus so magnificently and humanly demonstrated this new and higher type of living faith in God.



J.J. Johnson

Precept of my faith that I appreciate now but haven't always: To experience the fact of the Father's presence and discover that a fragment of God dwells in each of us is spiritually uplifting. Although God has superhuman qualities, such as omnipotence, omnipresence, omniscience and other divine attributes, it does not lessen the fact he is a personal loving father to each and every one of us.

The turning point in my faith journey was: I had a religious experience so personal and so sublime that it could be realized and expressed only by "feelings that lie too deep for words." This was a spiritual birthday and it transformed my life. I was in my early 20s, and six years later I discovered The Urantia Book, which confirmed what I knew to be spiritually true and revealed much, much more.

Words I live by: It is my desire to wholeheartedly do the Father's will.

My hope for the future: That believers of all faiths acknowledge that the will of our Heavenly Father must become dominant and transcendent in our hearts.

Who would you most like to meet and why: The apostle, Nathaniel. He was both honest and sincere. In many respects Nathaniel was the odd genius of the 12. He was the apostolic philosopher and dreamer, but he

was a very practical sort of dreamer. He alternated between seasons of profound philosophy and periods of rare and droll humor. Jesus greatly enjoyed hearing Nathaniel discourse on things both serious and frivolous.

Last book read: *The Garden of Ediacara*, by Dr. Mark A. S. McMenamin

Hobbies/Leisure Reflecting upon things of a spiritual nature and experiencing the inherent joy in freewill existence, independent of extraneous influences. Sharing the love of our Heavenly Father with my spiritual brothers and sisters is where it's at for me.

What is the most important thing parents can do to pass on their beliefs to their children? Children are permanently impressed only by the loyalties of their adult associates; precept or even example is not lastingly influential. Loyal persons are growing persons, and growth is an impressive and inspiring reality. As parents, religion should be looked upon as an integral part of home life.

My favorite Scripture verse: My favorite line in The Urantia Book, "Love is the desire to do good to others."

To submit a faith profile, contact Bryan Bennett at (602) 444-7948 or at bryan.bennett@arizonarepublic.com.

Feb. 29: Ed Pavese
(There you are, Ed!)
Apr. 5: Sally Culwell
Apr. 6: Barbara Carlson
Apr. 6: Clint Carlson
Apr. 16: J.J. Johnson
Apr. 24: Rhonda Grubb
Apr. 25: Joseph McNeil
Apr. 25: Nancy Bondi
May 6: Paul Christofanelli
May 7: Arley Grubb



May 7: Martha Iverson
May 19: GCS Anniversary
May 20: Gard Jameson
May 26: Carol King
June 1: Jean Lahargoue
June 8: Estelle Bertola
June 8: Grant Curry
June 14: Larry Bowman
June 18: Father's Day
June 24: Mike Knoll
June 25: Roger Thomas

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

DATE	EVENT
Fri. June 16, 6:30 PM	Meeting with Urantia Foundation
Sat. June 24	Statewide at Rosie Lieske's
Sat. August 19	Jesus' Birthday in Payson (at Dick and Peggy's)

Marriott close to I-17 & Dunlap,
East Side. Tel: (602) 944-7373.

19654 North, 35th Place, Phoenix. (602) 765-4870.
Membership Meeting at 2 PM. Potluck at 6 PM.



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST!

Here is Lee Maxton with his favorite "Urantian Spornagia", based on the definition that: "Spornagia are neither spirits nor persons; they are an animal order of existence, but if you could see them, you would agree that they seem to be perfect animals." (*The URANTIA Book*, page 416.) They will both appear as themselves in a new movie version of *Beauty and The Beast*.

STUDY GROUPS IN ARIZONA

IN	CITY	TIME	CONTACT	PHONE
P H O E N I X	Central	Tue @ 8 PM	Dick/Peggy	(602) 944-4766
	North	Wed @ 7:30	Sue	(602) 993-1325
	Scottsdale	Thu @ 8 PM	Larry	(480) 947-8507
	Chandler	Tue @ 8 PM	Pam/Frank	(480) 820-8178
	Mesa	Tue @ 7:30	Wanda	(480) 380-1535
	Sun Lakes	Wed @ 10AM	Marcia	(480) 895-9192
	Sun City	Mon @ 7:00	Pat/Don	(623) 972-7598
S T A T E	Tucson	Tue @ 7:00	Earl/Carol	(520) 743-3868
	Verde Valley	Sat @ 4 PM	Chris/Nancy	(520) 567-7166
	Sedona	Mon @ 7:00	Joseph	(520) 282-0125
	Montezuma	Sat @ 2 PM	Nancy	(520) 567-7166
	Prescott	Sun @ 10:30	Arley/Rhonda	(520) 899-5597



The Servant

Grand Canyon Society
for Readers of *The URANTIA Book* in Arizona
 P.O. Box 2621
 Scottsdale, AZ 85252-2621

