

URANTIA 2000

International URANTIA
Association Conference

*Living the
Will of
Our
Father*

August 4 - 7, 2000
Wagner College
Staten Island
New York USA

Sponsored by
United States
URANTIA Association

Hosted by:
URANTIA Association of
Greater New York &
URANTIA Association of
New England

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Cathy Jones - At the Heart of IUA

In 1998 Cathy Jones was selected to fill a newly created position: Administrator of the International Urantia Association. As a member of Southwest Urantia Readers Family, Cathy attended a recent business meeting hosted by Joe and Alice McCoy at their home near Fresno, California. **Messenger** Editor James Woodward and our capable Administrator sat in the front yard surrounded by acres of raisin grape vineyards and had the following conversation.

JW: *What are the duties of the IUA Administrator?*

CJ: My primary duty is the work of starting new associations and nurturing existing ones; to do whatever I can to promote harmony and better working relationships between associations. Right now I'm putting together a manual to answer questions regarding the administration of an association. Our associations are envisioned as training grounds for producing leaders. The structure we have of officers holding two-year terms a maximum of twice provides for turnover of people so we're developing leaders. We have to capitalize on our strengths.

I'm also available to work in the Foundation in any way that I can. One of my current projects is that of referring new readers (who would like to be contacted) to the various worldwide associations - personally welcoming them into the Urantia family of readers.

JW: *Are you living in Chicago?*

CJ: I'm still living in Phoenix with one room of our home designated as an office for Urantia work. Much of my phoning is done early morning, to adjust for time zones, or at night when people are home - it demands flexibility. I commute in and out of Chicago as the need arises.

JW: *I understand you've studied yoga. Could you tell us a little about it?*

CJ: I first became interested in Hatha Yoga, which is the physical yoga, as a way to better health. I taught myself the asanas, or positions, from a book and then discovered a class at the "Y." From there I became an instructor, being certified under Indra Devi at Rancho Cachuma in Tecate, Mexico.



After reading *The Autobiography of A Yogi* I became connected with the Self-Realization Fellowship, studied three years and in 1975 was initiated into Kriya yoga. This is the breathing/meditation style of yoga that quiets the mind and prepares one for worship. It's a technique I still use today. *The Urantia Book* tells us that we don't have to be a mystic - I would promote and encourage whatever works for a person to bring him closer to God. If it means just taking a walk or sitting down by yourself, or whatever you can do to promote that kind of tranquility. Just opening up and making space to get an answer. Sometimes I write letters to the Father before meditating -

FROM OUR PRESIDENT'S DESK



An important issue discussed at the annual USUA meeting in April was the challenges facing young adults among the readership. If we are to maintain a task oriented organization into the future, it is essential that we all join hands and work together toward mutual goals. The future of this organization is in the hands of the next generation.

The formation of the Young Adults ad hoc Committee consisting of young adults was approved at this meeting. We will all benefit by age diversification in all aspects of this organization. For example, we would like to see regular articles in the **Messenger** written by young adults.

There have always been dedicated young adults who have continued to work with the Urantia community over the years, but now we have a unique opportunity to reach out to the many who have been patiently reading and making progress in preparation for the work ahead. Many have been quietly following Jesus' admonition when he said, "*Be patient, Simon. Make progress. We shall be none too ready when the Father calls.*" 1534.3

I urge each of you to reach out to the young adults in your association, and particularly to your own children and others who are readers but have not been actively involved. You may be able to assist them with dues and other expenses that will enable them to participate more fully. They will likely have different needs which will make your association more interesting and viable, and certainly more youthful in its outlook. We need their energy and enthusiasm.

URANTIA 2000 should be a great experience and should not be missed by young adults because of monetary constraints. Please help them on an individual level or contribute to those who are collecting funds for their transportation.

Both older experienced and younger enthusiastic readers will benefit from working together in this exciting task of learning, living and sharing the marvelous truths contained in *The Urantia Book*.

Fraternally,
Betty Zehr

An Open Appeal to Harry McMullan

The recent publication of *Jesus, A New Revelation* by Harry McMullan and his Michael Foundation has created a fresh episode of controversy for the Urantia community. The book contains Part IV of *The Urantia Book* minus Paper 120. Mr. McMullan has plainly stated his twin goals: increased dissemination of the religion of Jesus and the desire to wrest the copyright from Urantia Foundation. Initial reaction to the publication saw a range of opinion regarding the wisdom of fragmenting the revelation. Supporters of the Foundation were dismayed that a prominent figure in our family would disregard the law and ignore the many entreaties to not proceed with the project. Some of Harry's supporters have exploited the opportunity to revive critical rhetoric attempting to cast the Foundation as somehow determined to squelch personal religious freedom. This subtle fracture in our growing sense of unity is the first casualty of this provocative action. If allowed to persist, the future integrity of the revelation is at stake.

As of this writing, a final appeal for a non-legal solution between the parties has developed, with an "Open Letter to Harry" being circulated through the various lists of the electronic medium. The letter offers many reasons why this renegade publication should cease and is signed by some of our most respected leaders, including Fellowship members and some previously antagonistic to the Foundation. This "appeal to the congregation" follows previous one-on-one Jesusonian attempts and aims to persuade Mr. McMullan to listen to the wishes of a wide spectrum of concerned readers before legal action will commence. All readers are encouraged to add their name to this letter, which may be accessed through the Foundation's website under "News" at www.urantia.org. A phone call (1-888-URANTIA) or postcard would also suffice. In addition, prayers for a just resolution to this unfortunate, but hopefully educating situation are the best we can offer. ♦

New USUA Web Site

Created and Maintained by Morris Kaplowitz

The USUA Web Site is available again as a resource for USUA and its affiliated Local Associations to use as a tool to get out the word about their existence, activities, and creative efforts. As it stands, the site is not much more than an empty room waiting to be filled with wonderful things. Only the locals and their constituencies can provide the content that will justify the site's existence and make it more than just an Internet address. The next step in site development is to begin working on pages for the Local Associations.

ABOUT THE SITE:

1. The USUA Site Address is: <http://mokap.home.mindspring.com/usua/>
*Please note that this address does NOT use the "www" prefix.
2. The site is hosted on my personal Mindspring Internet account. Mindspring

is one of the top Internet access providers and has a very good record of reliability and service excellence. This arrangement will probably suffice in the near term, but if the site becomes very large and activity becomes particularly heavy, USUA will need to consider supporting a more robust site hosting account. The hosting account includes access to site usage statistics. I'll keep you posted on site activity.

3. As can be seen on the page devoted to Local Associations, the intent is to have a page or pages for each association. The USUA site will eventually have at least one local page devoted to basic information about each association (name, officers, location, etc.). Any other content submitted by an association will be posted, as will a link to a site maintained by an association itself. Guidelines for submitting content follows this message.

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Cathy Jones

-continued from front

remembering the things I'm thankful for and listing those for whom I'm praying to be blessed. I also ask for enlightenment and patience for myself, praying for a constant awareness of His presence.

Here's a little prayer technique that can even be taught to children. First you set an appointment, designating the time and place, inviting this person to visit with you, sitting down and telling him everything in your heart. Then being very quiet and letting him talk to you. You close by setting an appointment for the next talk. It can be simple.

JW: *What do you do for recreation, hobbies?*

CJ: Well, my husband and I love to dance. I think he's the world's greatest ballroom dancer! When we married twenty-one years ago I had just got *The Urantia Book* and I said to him, "This is your wedding gift. You take me, you take my book." We enjoy swimming, walking a couple of miles daily, watching the History and Nature Channels on TV, and try to keep up on local and national politics. I also enjoy cooking and gardening.

JW: *Tell us what you've been up to lately.*

CJ: I've been to Russia and Estonia. Last year at the Estonian Conference we laid the groundwork for an IUA. We met with the leaders there and we talked about the principles that we were striving for, along with what they believed. So they started working and it took them a year to get through all the paperwork. Their bylaws were designed to fit within the laws of Estonia. These are incredible people. Some of our members participated in the Singing War, which freed Estonia from the Russian domination in 1988. During the occupation they were allowed to meet in study groups because they were not involved in an organized church. This year we went back and chartered them and it was a truly joyous occasion.

Then I went on to Russia and had the most memorable experience. It broadened my horizons so much and it made all the little problems we have in America seem so trivial. I found these Russian *Urantia Book* readers so exuberant and thrilled to

suddenly discover the God within them. All their lives they've had atheism preached to them, and now they have this "new birth." It's amazing to walk through the streets and see the faces of those people who have endured cold winters, economic and political hardships - they have maintained their dignity and have gotten stronger. Seeing them renewed my faith in mankind and God. It really did. It was just overpowering. It led me to a further understanding that if our hearts and intent are right - if we build the scaffolding and "be there" - God will do the rest.

JW: *You seem very fulfilled with your work. What motivates you?*

CJ: I'm one of the most privileged people in the world to be given this revelation and I feel so challenged to do something with it; to make my life count for something bigger than me. And I would note that as far as age goes, it doesn't matter because when I walk out this door I'm going right into another life. I know that God is going to give me the strength as long as He has a job for me to do.

JW: *Do you have a favorite inspirational quote?*

CJ: *The Urantia Book* is filled with endless jewels, "Thought Gems," but when I was a little girl my mother gave me a quote that I've always had with me: "What time I'm afraid, I'll put my trust in God." It's kind of like a part of me... You see, fear is one of our worst enemies and we fear things that usually never happen. I've searched a long time and have learned some truths - the Mormon Church certainly has a lot, the eastern religion has a lot. The ultimate is to have these *Urantia Book* teachings! How could I not be so filled with joy?

JW: *Any thoughts on unity?*

CJ: If you mean in regard to the Fellowship, I think that is an individual matter. We need to work on it personally, it's something that cannot be legislated or forced. We have to increase our love for our fellow man, and spiritual unity is a by-product. These other things will have to evolve. It's like what happened in Canada recently. Quebec did not want to participate in the national organization, as they were not yet ready. So we had to wait. And now we are licensing them up there with Quebec on board. They have a

wonderful teamwork in their organization, it's just wonderful. It evolved, because people wanted it.

JW: *Any closing comments?*

CJ: Just that I feel a spiritual awakening - the Midwayers assure us that the material age is coming to an end. I think it's right ahead of us and we have to be ready. We must have an organization of people who have determined to take these teachings seriously enough to live them. When people are clamoring for peace they can look at us and see someone quietly living these advanced teachings. That's our challenge today. ♦

Welcome Our Newest Associations

In August, The Estonia Urantia Association joined the IUA family.

Their officers are:

President, Peep Sober - peep@stv.ee
Vice President, Ruth Kask
Secretary, Juri Vatter
Treasurer, Arvi Pikner

The Urantia Association of Canada was then licensed in October.

The officers are:

President, Gaetan Charland - gcharland@sympatico.ca
Vice President, Nathen Jansen
Secretary, Sue Tennant
Treasurer, Brian King

In November, in Santiago, Chile, The Asociacion Urantia del Cono Sur was born.

Their officers are:

President, Mario Casassus Buines - mcasbul@ctcinternet.cl
Vice President, Carlos Lubinsky
Secretary/Treasurer, Nadine Loubet

Congratulations to these hard-working kingdom builders and welcome to the organizational family. May your efforts bear continuing fruit in the expansion of the spiritual family of God the Father. ♦

Cornerview - Pausing at the Portal

Here we are - at the threshold of much more than a new millennium, actually standing in the vestibule of a new universe age - Michael's age, which he inaugurated on our world less than two thousand years ago.

Not only did he complete his seventh and final bestowal - forever settling the status of his sovereignty of Nebadon, but he also began the process of retrieving the rebellion worlds, using our own little planet as his starting point and pattern sphere. Michael imparted the healing balm of the Spirit of Truth and the Thought Adjusters just as a physician administers a life-saving drug. Then he has wisely stepped back to allow the cure to take effect. Like all competent physicians, he has promised to return to check on the welfare of his patients.

Sixty-odd years ago, our planet was given a "booster shot" in the form of the Urantia Papers. The Forum members were told Urantia was "quivering on the brink" of its most thrilling era. In 1950 - the Revelators mandated the creation of Urantia Foundation. - charging its officers with overseeing publishing, disseminating and protecting the text of the revelation. Forty-four years ago this fall, the first printing of *The Urantia Book* was made available to the public. Since then, over 450,000 books have been distributed globally, including translations in several languages. Copies of *The Urantia Book* have turned up in the farthest reaches of the globe, transported to hungry truthseekers by modern-day Nathaniels. Undoubtedly they were facilitated by the elegant out-workings of the Spirit of Truth and unstinting efforts of our unseen friends.

The past decade has been marked by creativity, confusion, conflict and emerging consensus among Urantia Book readers. Fall of 1989, a majority of members of Urantia Brotherhood - the licensed readership service group, voted to negate most of the terms of its licensing agreement with Urantia Foundation. Urantia Foundation accepted this decision in a formal delicensing announcement to a confused and upset readership. Some former Urantia Brotherhood members maintained their support of Urantia Foundation, but the majority opposed

Foundation policies and began the Fifth Epochal Fellowship, now known as The Urantia Book Fellowship. Soon, readers from around the world came to realize that the entire responsibility for the publishing, printing, disseminating, responding to reader queries and financing was being shouldered by a couple of dedicated Trustees and a couple more devoted office volunteers who needed and deserved support. In response to this need, a small band of loyal and dedicated readers formed Friends of Urantia Foundation, which in 1993 became the International Urantia Association, the licensed service organization of readers working interdependently with Urantia Foundation.

Since then, the multinational and rapidly increasing membership of IUA has stood by Urantia Foundation throughout the incredible array of challenges that have been hurled its way this decade - mostly copyright infringements by sincere, very enthusiastic readers. The grace, reasonableness and creativity of the Trustees and staff of Urantia Foundation continue to merit our loyalty. As members of IUA and now USUA we continue to support Urantia Foundation in meeting the increasing demand for expensive translations in at least 60 languages, its forging of dynamic policies to enhance harmony among reader groups, and all other aspects of its vital responsibilities.

Each of us this past decade has seen events we never expected to see - the fall of the Soviet Union, Nelson Mandela as President of South Africa, the crumbling of the Berlin Wall, the spread of the Internet, agonizing but ongoing MidEast peace negotiations, and just recently, a few Fellowship leaders actually urging support of Urantia Foundation! No longer are we quivering on the brink, revving our engines in neutral, now we seem to be actually in gear, foot on the accelerator, hand on the wheel. With *The Urantia Book* by our side and our hard-won lessons in loyalty and discernment of the last decades still fresh in our minds, we should have the guides we need in the uncharted territory ahead.

Truly, as we pause at this threshold, there are signs that our little world IS quickly recovering, aided by the "benign virus of love" each time one of us chooses understanding instead of anger. At this rate, we'll soon be ready for a visit from our Divine Physician, who will pronounce us well enough to attend the Nebadon-wide festivities - the celebration of the age of Michael -the Supreme Party of all time! ♦

Janet Quinn Nilsen
Publications Committee Chair

PASSING THOUGHT

To look at the future with knowledge and truth
Would be no problem at all
If the one who was looking would see where he's at
Yet feel where others may fall
For we all are each other at one point in life
We must all take fate by the hand
Then move gently forward to the light ahead
And learn the same difference in man
Then when we reach life's highest plateau
And stand with the wisest of men
We'll learn that fortune does not change our souls
It will merely take and unmask them
With this thought centuries will pass
And many a tear will be shed
For those who climbed up with their eyes closed to life
And saw only themselves instead

Suzanne Kelly-Ward

USUA Web Site

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4. I have purposely kept the design of the site simple, dignified, and free of gimmicks. The idea is to make the pages easy to read, relatively quick to download, and available to a wide variety of computers and web browsers, both old and new. I have taken my cue for the look and feel of the site from *The Urantia Book* itself.

5. The USUA web site includes an ad for SURF's "Thought Gems" calendar, and a page for Janet Nilsen's TriCentric Designs jewelry.

Here's how to submit content to the USUA On-line web site:

Editorial guidelines:

All material should be related to USUA Local Association, International Association, and IUA organizational information and news. Remember that this web site is primarily dedicated to providing a service to Associations affiliated with USUA. Creative articles relating to *The Urantia Book* and its study are also welcome and encouraged.

All submissions will be subject to editorial evaluation as to appropriateness. In general, the bias will be toward accepting submissions rather than rejecting them. However, material which seeks to discredit individuals and organizations, or is obviously intended to inflame passions will not be accepted and is not invited.

Submitting material (E-mail):

This is the preferred method of submitting text and graphics. Text can be included in the body of an e-mail message or as a PC-compatible word processing file attached to the message (no Macintosh, please). Graphics files can be sent as an attachment to an e-mail message. Neither type of file should exceed about 1 Mb in size. Zipped files are welcome. Send submissions to: mokap@mindspring.com.

Disk:

Files can be sent by mail on 3.5" floppy disks or on CD-ROM disks. I cannot accommodate Zip disks at this time. Mail submissions to: Morris Kaplowitz, 2114 Salt Kettle Way, Reston, VA 20191.

Fax:

Text material can be faxed to my web-hosted fax number at 17032343950, ext. 6507. Here's how to do it: If your fax machine has a Pause button...

1. On fax machine, dial the area code and phone number (1-703-234-3950).
2. Press the Pause button.
3. Dial the 4-digit extension (6507).
4. Press Start or Send on the fax machine.

If the fax machine does not have a Pause button...

1. Pick up the phone on your fax machine.
2. Dial the area code and phone number.
3. Wait for the prompt, and then dial the extension.
4. Press 2 on the phone keypad.
5. Press Start or Send on the fax machine.

To send a computer-based (software) fax:

1. Type in the area code, phone number, two commas and the four-digit extension (17032343950,,6507).
2. Click Send.

Hardcopy:

Typewritten text and photo originals may be submitted by mail for scanning. This is a labor-intensive process and should only be used if no other method is available.

Now, let's have some fun with this thing! ♦

Urantia Book Internet School Update

The first semester of the Urantia Book Internet School will conclude on December 6, having presented eight courses to English speaking readers from numerous countries around the world. The courses were well attended, and this new project continues to receive inquiries almost daily from interested readers. Among the comments we received from teacher/facilitators are: from Al Lockett, "The UBIS presents a real opportunity for a focused topical study of *The Urantia Book* beyond the accustomed study group setting. I tried to create questions that would challenge the students to provide responses that were not just words in a book but which required a deeper thought process and the ability to express that thought process in their own words. The idea was to create a meaningful and enriching learning experience of living and sharing this wonderful revelation. I am so thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this endeavor. I have learned so much and look forward to improving upon the "Thought Adjuster" course and designing other courses in the future."

From Jerry Prentice, "Informal reports and comments made by the students along the way and at the end of the Personality course labeled it challenging and thought provoking, and even enlightening. Other responses that were expressed were amazement at the extent of the reading and depth of thought required. I found the experience of teaching the course enjoyable,

rewarding, educational, inspirational, and it was much easier and less time consuming than I expected. I had already compiled a detailed outline of the course and references so assignments were easily communicated to the students. I look forward to facilitating other courses in the future."

Plans are now underway to establish the Finnish, French and Spanish versions of the UBIS with the Administrators in Finland, France and Chile. We plan to offer six courses in English for the Winter/Spring semester: three in February/March and three in April/May. An Advisory Board has been established, and these members will help with evaluations, inquiries, surveys, scheduling, planning and curriculum selection. The Board is made up of teacher/facilitators, students, and others with related skills or experience.

KEY TO THE PROJECT:

The development of a Teacher/Facilitator Pool

We need to begin Fall 2000 with a core of 16 teachers who will each pledge to give one course during the next two-year period, eight courses per year. This will give the UBIS a reliable, solid base to build on. In addition during this period, many students who complete three courses will have been trained in the pedagogy and format, and they will provide an additional, ongoing and growing teacher pool. The Socratic method will slowly begin to develop, and this will infuse our whole community with more gracious effective teacher/readers. The Socratic method best preserves the way of the Master, and a future worldwide dissemination of these teachings will best be aided by those who gain experience in this method. Our UBIS project can be a first step in the direction toward that future time.

A CALL TO SERVICE:

The UBIS is a service project dedicated solely to the study of *The Urantia Book*. We invite you to read about its purpose and philosophy on the Urantia Foundation web site, and we hope that many of you will want to join us. Plans are now being made for the next semester, so please let us hear from you soon. If you are a longtime reader with teaching experience (formal or informal), have available time and good internet skills, contact Dorothy Elder: delder03@sprynet.com if you would like to apply to serve as a teacher/facilitator. We welcome you and look forward to hearing from you. ♦

Dorothy Elder
UBIS Administrator

What? Me Worry?

By: Michael Mason

As the secular date for the century change approaches, let us remind ourselves that it is already "the new millennium." Many of our planetary brothers and sisters in the Christian world are anxious about the near future and what it might bring. There are also many readers of *The Urantia Book* that have voiced like concerns. With an atmosphere of anticipation, and the prospect of some global calamity, we can see people of faith, as well as some without, spending much time and trouble holding to this atmosphere of alarm. Be it the Y2K upset or some other secular or environmental cataclysm, or an expectation for contact of a heavenly nature, the general uproar is reaching a crescendo. Fear of the unknown is our natural state. Many of us have been taught by our culture to "be prepared." The latter fortifies us for the former. But our true brother, our teacher and Master, Jesus, taught us to "fear not," to not "build our house on a bridge." Jesus also asked what it meant to a kingdom believer if all earthly



things crashed around us. Having these things said to us by the Master should fortify our minds, if we have faith in what Jesus said. We should be able to look toward any situation as an opportunity for growth. This can be both personal growth as well as affording an opening for us to show our faith in Jesus and support growth in our fellows.

Regarding the Y2K problem, this is something that has not happened as of yet. Our leaders have downplayed the potential for disruption of our way of life and many voices indicate that the problem will be less than advertised. We may find out that it is just one more component adding to the "Millennium furor" which is captivating so may these days.

Let us ask ourselves what Jesus really meant when He asked "...what does it matter if all things earthly crash." Was He not speaking about our "profound surety of faith" as "God-knowing mortals?" Where does our faith take us? Are we concerned about our personal well being? Or do we worry about finding ourselves in a state of suffering? We CAN be prepared for the worst life has to deal out to us in our daily lives, if we use some foresight. But are we not really concerned about the material things of our lives? Our comfort and peace of mind, our leisure and convenience?

Does it not boil down to our avoidance of change?

As we read *The Urantia Book's* history of this planet, we see that there has been a parade of change down through the ages. Jesus himself came to be an agent of change. When we look back and reflect on our lives here, we will witness the profound changes that we all go through. But as we live our lives out here, riding the moving moment of the "now," we tend to be uneasy whenever change confronts us. This trait is also part of our natures. As we stand here as mortals of the realm, we should project forward to those "times" when we will be growing through the spirit stages of our existence. With this understanding, we can more fully cement our faith in the messages Jesus brought us. It takes a leap of will to hold that faith which allows us to not be afraid. If we trust Jesus, we can use all opportunities to help our fellows grow and share the sublime faith we know in our hearts. To stand as example to all those others who cower in fear and darkness, by our very actions we can uplift our fellows from the bondage of ignorance. Let us not be afraid. Let us not be infected by the fears of our fellows. Let us lead our fellows through any discontinuity using the beacon of our faith as a guiding light through all darkness we may encounter here on Urantia. ♦

I wake up
with my heart full of gratitude,
with a sense of purpose
with a love and kindness,
with eyes to see beauty
and seek the Creator,

to seek my brother
and to extend my hand
to seek mankind
and wisdom find -

to hear the voice
and do what's right
in silence soothed
the heavy heart,

to feel the murmur
beneath my feet
and hear the children, -
their praises sing

to look above the heavens bright
and catch a glimpse of a falling star -

to hear the winds, the birds, the rain,
to feel a part of the Master's hand.

Teresa Doolittle

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Focus on The Father . . .

By James Woodward

"Thoughts"

To ponder the creation of thought is an intriguing mental exercise, but one leans into the realm of religious mystery when reflecting on the fact that thought can create. *The Original and Eternal Son is the offspring-person of the "first" completed and infinite thought of the Universal Father. 88:01*

In everyday life we often treat thoughts like sports paraphernalia in the playing field of our mind. We toss them around in our consciousness, generally oblivious to their awesome and divine power. Sometimes these thoughts bounce into others and gather themselves up into ideas. But what is a thought? Physically speaking we know it involves nerve cells, dendrites, axons, neurons and chemical neurotransmitters. Such neuron systems are directed networks, receiving and broadcasting signals that form systems and then bundles of systems. These clusters have been identified as sensory relay stations, integrative centers, memory modules and emotional control centers. Santiago Ramón y Cajal, a Spanish histologist, won the 1906 Nobel Prize for his research and commented: "Like the entomologist in pursuit of brightly colored butterflies, my attention hunted, in the flower garden of the gray matter, cells

with delicate and elegant forms, the mysterious butterflies of the soul, the beatings of whose wings may some day - who knows? - clarify the secret of mental life."

Man's mind can be truly comprehended only by recognizing the reality of higher orders of thought and purposive will. 53:01 Do we give recognition to the reality of this higher order of thought? Can we acknowledge that this duo of thought and will manifests as creation? In the moment after Jesus "unintentionally" turned the water into wine, we are told: *But Jesus said nothing. He now realized that he had already said - or rather desirefully thought - too much. 1530:01*

James Allen in his classic tome, *As A man Thinketh*, nicely states this miraculous truth: "Thought allied fearlessly to purpose becomes creative force: he who *knows* this is ready to become something higher and stronger than a mere bundle of wavering thoughts and fluctuating sensations; he who *does* this has become the conscious and intelligent wielder of his mental powers." He offers a poignant reminder of this reality: "All that a man achieves and all that he fails to achieve is the direct result of his own thoughts."

The creator thought invariably precedes creative action. 42:06 Our revelational reference book describes the Trinity as Thought, Word and Action - a nod to the ranking of thought in cosmic reality. The loving consignment of a Thought Adjuster is from the Father and of our Creator. He *adjusts the creation* of our thoughts, if we sincerely request, but cannot adjust them after they have been created. That would violate our free will and bend our reality. Instead, we must pray, listen and *ask* to have *new* and increasingly spiritual thought; God's will can be found in the gift of His thoughts.

If it is true, as the sages have said, that the body is a temple and our eyes a window to the soul, then our thoughts may be the choir of God himself, a heavenly hymn of unique composition echoing through our cranial tabernacle; an opus of spiritual accord conducted by our personal Accompanist who begs our harmony. Sound too metaphoric? *Melody of thought - the thinking of spiritual thoughts can be so perfected as to burst forth in the melodies of Havona. 499:10* Let the performance begin. ♦

National Associations' Project Profiles

In order to promote unity and cohesiveness among local associations, The Board of USUA requests that each US association president compile a brief listing of their group's activities, projects, and any other pertinent information to be compiled into a publication and also posted on the USUA Web Site. Please send to: Janet Quinn Nilsen, P.O. Box 833, Cascadia, OR 97329.

Pennsylvania/New York Urantia Association Projects

Sister to Sister Relationship between New York/Pennsylvania and Estonia Urantia Associations - Our special relationship began in August 1998. We have attended and participated in their two international conferences and their chartering August 1999. We were pleased that their president was able to attend our USUA licensing in April 1999. We are developing plans to assist and host their members at URANTIA 2000. Ralph Zehr: rbzehr@clarityconnect.com.

University Library Placement - We are in the process of again contacting all of the colleges and universities in Pennsylvania and New York for placement of *The Urantia Book* for general circulation in their primary libraries. Ralph or Betty Zehr: rbzehr@clarityconnect.com.

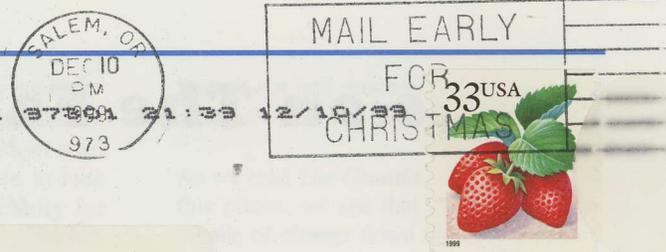
Military Base Libraries - We are pursuing placement of *The Urantia Book* in military base libraries starting with Air Force libraries. David Anderson, retired US Air Force officer, is making the contacts. David Anderson 518-783-1930.

Bookstore On-line - *The Urantia Book* is being offered on line. It has been effective in attracting new participants to their study group. Sharon Drake. Sharon7@gisco.net. ♦

USUA Messenger
3570 NW Tanager Dr.,
Corvallis, OR 97330

Send your articles and/or comments to:
Janet Quinn Nilsen, P.O. Box 833, Cascadia,
 OR 97329 (e-mail jqnagog@peak.org) or
James Woodward, 41900 Ivy Street, #6,
 Murrieta, CA 92562 - fax # (909) 696-5030
 (e-mail: james@murrieta.net) or **Jeanette**
Schafer, 3570 NW Tanager Dr., Corvallis, OR
 97330 (e-mail: jeanetts@proaxis.com).

Janet Quinn Nilsen Editor in Chief
 James Woodward Editor
 Jeanette Schafer Publisher



Jay Peregrine
 390 Paage Street
 San Francisco CA 94102

Upcoming Events



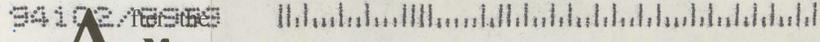
* **Please Note:** The date previously published for the International Urantia Conference was a tentative date - the actual conference date is:

- ◆ * August 4 - 7, 2000: **Second Millennium International Urantia Association Conference** at Wagner College, Staten Island, New York, NY.

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- ◆ *Cathy Jones, IUA Administrator*
- ◆ *From Our President*
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- ◆ *An Open Appeal*
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- ◆ *Cornerview: Pausing At the Portal*
- ◆ *Passing Thought*
- ◆ *UB Internet School Update*
- ◆ *What? Me Worry?*
- ◆ *Gratitude*
- ◆ *Focus On The Father*
"Thoughts"
- ◆ *PA/NY Association Projects*

An Important Message: To USUA Local Association



A Mess
 USUA's bank account will be virtually empty. As Treasurer, I know whereof I speak on this subject. Obviously, there is a need for donations from those of you who care to support the organization and it's projects, of which the web site is one. Few people apparently really enjoy giving away money, and even less enjoy asking for it. But without your donations, very little of a tangible nature can happen. Talk is cheap. Action costs both effort and - at least on this planet - money. ◆

Just a reminder to send a current list of your membership rosters to USUA Membership Chair:

Richard Brinkman
 3817 Gatewood Dr.
 Sarasota, FL 34232

Please include: mailing address, e-mail address and phone number. ◆

Send your check made out to USUA to:

Morris Kaplowitz
 USUA Treasurer
 2114 Salt Kettle Way
 Reston, Virginia 20191-4124

"In the affairs of men's hearts the Universal Father may not always have his way; but in the conduct and destiny of a planet the divine plan prevails; the eternal purpose of wisdom and love triumphs." (51:02)

The Urantia Book



URANTIA FOUNDATION
533 WEST DIVERSEY PARKWAY CHICAGO, IL 60614 U.S.A.
TELEPHONE: (773) 525-3319 FAX: (773) 525-7739
WEB SITE: <http://www.urantia.org>

E n d o f Y e a r R e p o r t

1 9 9 9

Dear Readers of *The Urantia Book*:

As this year and this century draw to a close, we are hopeful and enthusiastic about the opportunities and challenges related to the dissemination of the teachings of *The Urantia Book* in the 21st century. We feel grateful, and we thank all of you who have supported Urantia Foundation this year with your prayers, time, and money. We would like to share with you some of the activities that have occupied Urantia Foundation and its related Urantia Associations around the world this year, as well as some of our goals for the future.

We published the Korean translation, attended many book fairs, started several new translations, enlisted more Foundation Representatives (all outside the United States), opened more non-U.S. offices, fostered and supported the IUA as it inaugurated new associations, preserved and protected the text of *The Urantia Book*, and visited with readers and reader groups worldwide. Urantia Foundation printed 25,000 English *Urantia Books*, 15,000 Spanish books, and 5,000 Korean books. Sales in English, Spanish, and Russian have been steady. There is much evidence that the teachings of *The Urantia Book* are spreading to the peoples of the world.

Book Fairs

Book fairs increase the visibility of *The Urantia Book* in the book trade and help us to establish and improve relationships with distributors in order to make *The Urantia Book* accessible around the world. This year the Foundation attended book fairs in Buenos Aires, Melbourne, Santo Domingo, London, Los Angeles, St. Petersburg, Moscow, Delhi, San Juan (Puerto Rico), Guadalajara, Helsinki, Paris, and Seoul. The new Korean translation was displayed at the Seoul Book Fair.

Library Placement

Thanks to our library placement program, *The Urantia Book* is becoming available to more and more people around the globe. There are organized library placement programs for public libraries, college and university libraries, and prisons throughout New Zealand, Australia, Britain, India, Latin America, and the U.S.A. In addition, the Prison Library Placement Project for the United States is now complete making *The Urantia Book* available in the majority of prison libraries.

Translations

There continues to be significant progress in making *The Urantia Book* available to the peoples of the world in their own languages. Eleven translations are in progress. These include German, Estonian, Portuguese, Romanian, Arabic, Lithuanian, Swedish, Italian, Chinese, Farsi, Indonesian, and Polish. Revision of the Spanish translation continues (with Part IV revised and corrected and included in the recent 4th printing of *El libro de Urantia*). The revised Russian translation has been proofed and is ready for print. We applaud the tireless efforts of the many teams of translators working on these translations.

Foundation Representatives

Urantia Foundation now has representatives in Uruguay, Chile, Brazil, Belgium, Norway, Lithuania, Russia, Senegal, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Argentina, Mexico, Estonia, New Zealand, and Indonesia. We have also enlisted the services of a representative who will be traveling to underdeveloped countries and assisting with book fairs, library placement, and book distribution. For more information about the Representative in your area, contact our Web site or the Foundation's office in Chicago.

Worldwide Offices

To better serve Canadian readers, Urantia Foundation has opened two new offices in Canada: one in Québec City and another in Vancouver. The Vancouver office will service the English-speaking provinces and will be a distribution and information center for the English edition of *The Urantia Book*. The Québec office will serve French-speaking readers and be an information center for *Le Livre d'Urantia* in Québec and throughout Canada.

In addition, we are in the process of opening Foundation offices in Santiago, Chile and Dakar, Senegal as well as considering the possibility of an office in Mexico City in the near future.

International Urantia Association

The family of IUA members continues to grow as new associations are being formed around the world. In August, a new association of IUA was chartered in Estonia where there are over one hundred known readers.

In October a national association of IUA was chartered in Canada, uniting the three existing local associations (British Columbia, Ontario, and Québec). At a meeting of readers held in November in Chile, the Urantia Association of the Southern Cone was chartered, which includes members from Chile, Argentina, and Bolivia.

Talks are underway to form a multinational association of the IUA to serve Norway, Denmark, and Sweden. In addition, new local associations of the United States Urantia Association (USUA) were formed this year in Utah, Kansas, Missouri, and Puerto Rico.

Meetings with Readers

During 1999 Foundation Trustees, staff, and other representatives enjoyed the pleasure of meeting readers in Orlando, Dallas, Montréal, Dakar, Tel Aviv, Santiago (Chile), Tallinn, St. Petersburg, Guadalajara, London, Buenos Aires, Vancouver, and Seoul. These meetings afforded us the opportunity to answer questions and to share hopes, dreams, and the Foundation's vision and goals for the worldwide dissemination of the teachings of *The Urantia Book*.

In May, two Trustees visited Dakar, Senegal, and were warmly received by Senegalese readers of *Le Livre d'Urantia*. They spoke at length with an individual Senegalese man brought up in the Muslim faith who returned from France in the early 1970s with the first *Urantia Book* in Senegal. This man has established a training center for readers of the book and has introduced the book and its teachings to more than a thousand people in Senegal (the most westerly located country in Africa).

Urantia Foundation Trustees and staff attended the Spirit Quest 2000 conference in Vancouver, Canada during which they had the opportunity to reiterate the call for unity and an end to disharmony.

New Products

As Christmas approaches you may want to give some of our new products to your friends and family as Christmas gifts. There are three new editions of *The Urantia Book*—a paperback, hard cover, and a beautiful gift-boxed edition in blue or burgundy bonded leather. Also, *El libro de Urantia* is now available in paperback and hard cover and includes a revised and corrected Part IV.

***The Urantia Book* Internet School (UBIS)**

In July, *The Urantia Book* Internet School held its first series of classes. The Internet School is a means to help students from all over the world study *The Urantia Book* by e-mail, which frees the students from the constraints of distance, timetables, and physical presence. Courses are given in small classes under the guidance of an experienced teacher/facilitator using the Socratic “question and answer” method.

Beginning, intermediate, and advanced courses are planned in all languages into which *The Urantia Book* has been translated. Courses will be offered on subjects such as Morontia Mota, Personality, Mind, Astronomy, and Physics.

The Urantia Book Internet School is dedicated to the study of *The Urantia Book* and is being jointly sponsored by Urantia Foundation and the International Urantia Association. Visit our Web site for current information on classes and registration.

Foundation Web Site

Please visit our new and improved Web site at www.urantia.org, now in multiple languages and designed to be user friendly, informative, and appealing.

Our Goals for the Future

As the new century approaches we are setting our goals for next year to make *The Urantia Book* available to a greater number of people and to move a few steps closer to the realization of the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God. We plan to open more international Urantia Foundation offices, continue the placement of books in libraries, and continue to attend book fairs worldwide. The Foundation's Representatives (now in place in many countries), the international offices, and the many dedicated readers around the world will be of great assistance in accomplishing these tasks.

The Foundation's 50th Anniversary—You Are Invited

January 11, 2000, marks the 50th anniversary of Urantia Foundation. A celebration is planned at the Ambassador West Hotel for the weekend of March 17 - 19. We hope you will join us for a wonderful weekend of worship, dinner, dancing, music, and entertainment, as well as round-table discussions on the future of the Urantia Revelation. Please let us know if you are planning to attend so that we can assist you in obtaining discounted hotel rates for the weekend.

URANTIA 2000, IUA Conference

The International Urantia Association will hold its next international conference at Wagner College on Staten Island, New York, from August 4 - 7, 2000. “Living the Will of Our Father” is the theme of the conference and readers from around the world will be attending. There will also be a children's program organized by the youth group. The conference is being sponsored by the United States Urantia Association (USUA), and will be hosted jointly by the Urantia Association of Greater New York and the Urantia Association of New England.

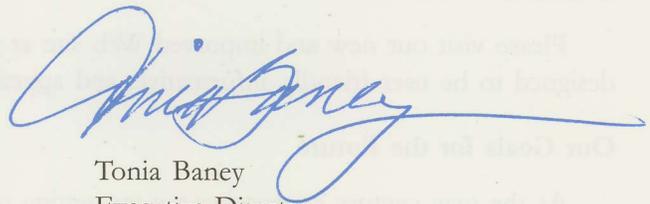
As 1999 draws to a close, we urge you to financially support the activities of Urantia Foundation. Thanks to all of you who have shared your material means with us this year. Every prayer offered, every dollar received, and every service rendered, cheers and comforts us. We think we have accomplished a lot this year and we feel grateful, blessed, and encouraged to know that you share our vision for the dissemination of the teachings of *The Urantia Book* to the peoples of the world. We know how deeply you feel about these teachings. Recall, if you would, Jesus' comment to the apostles about the poor widow:

"Heed well what you have just seen. This poor widow cast in more than all the others, for all these others, from their superfluity, cast in some trifle as a gift, but this poor woman, even though she is in want, gave all that she had, even her living." (*The Urantia Book*, p. 1883, par. 4)

Although we need the material means to support translations, printing, and distribution, we also need and deeply appreciate your prayers and volunteer service. Together, we can accomplish our mission of bringing the supernal teachings of the fifth epochal revelation to all our brothers and sisters in a way that is commensurate with their intellectual and cultural development. We sincerely appreciate all of your help and ask for your continued support. Without your help, we cannot succeed. With His and your help, we cannot fail.

We wish you a joyous holiday season and increasing happiness throughout the New Year.

Sincerely,



Tonia Baney
Executive Director

P.S.: Mark your calendars for the 50th Anniversary Celebration on March 17 - 19, 2000. If you would like more information on this event, please let us know, as we will be sending additional information and invitations out in January 2000.