



Sedona Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
P.O. Box 1670
Sedona, Arizona 86339
www.SedonaUU.org



FEBRUARY • 2010

*Masthead Photo of "Snoopy Rock"
by Mariana Warner*

WELCOME TO OUR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!



Our services are held at 1 p.m. at the Sedona Elks Lodge, 110 Airport Rd. in West Sedona, usually on the first, second, third and fifth Sundays of the month. Some months deviate from this schedule, so be sure to check our website for current information regarding our activities.

Once a month, usually on the fourth Sunday of the month, we meet at the Red Rock Café at 9:30 a.m. in the IGA Weber's Plaza (Village of Oak Creek) for good food and casual conversation.

All are heartily welcome for any of our activities. If you need help getting to services or breakfast gatherings, please call Liz Danbury at 282-5061 and she will try to arrange for someone to pick you up and bring you safely home.

FEBRUARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

February 7— Service with Beth Kingsley Hawkins
"Valuing the Quest: A UU Core Value"

Coffee Hour Hosts: Rae and Ron Steinke

February 14— Service with Dan Spencer, Pastor of Granite Peak UU
Congregation in Prescott
Continuing his series on **"Sources of Our Faith"**

Music with Patricia LaLiberte

Coffee Hour Hostess: Jan Oswald

February 21— Service with Dan Spencer, Pastor of Granite Peak UU
Congregation in Prescott
Continuing his series on **"Sources of Our Faith"**
Music with Patricia LaLiberte

Coffee Hour Hosts: Marianne Catterton and Helen Black

Please Note: The Budget Meeting to approve our SUUF Budget for 2010 will be held on this Sunday, February 21st, following the Service and Coffee Hour.

February 28— Breakfast Gathering at 9:30 a.m. at the Red Rock Cafe in the Weber's IGA Plaza in the Village of Oak Creek. Come for good and reasonably priced food, good conversation and giggles in a casual atmosphere.

MEETING OF THE SUUF BOARD: 8:30 a.m. Red Rock Cafe.

THE CALENDAR FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR APPEARS AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER

FRIENDLY FEASTS

It's time for a new signup for our SUUF "Friendly Feasts." Groups this past fall had several options and decided for themselves to do dinners or soup/dessert events. For this winter and spring, we'll sign up for new groups to have some rotation of group members for an opportunity to enjoy good food and conversation with a different group. You will continue with the same group for February through May, meeting as often as each group wishes. We will do the sign up at the January 24 breakfast and the January 31 service. Or you can let Barbara Warren know of your interest at 928-646-7364 or bwhighdesert@gmail.com. When you sign up, please indicate your interest in either a dinner group or a soup/dessert group and note if you can host a gathering. Hosts will be responsible for getting the group started. A list of the new groups will then be sent out via email, a posting at the February 7 service, and phone calls if needed. Contact Barbara if you have questions or need more information.

WOMEN'S LUNCH BUNCHES

Mariana Warner has volunteered to hostess the first Women's Lunch Bunch of the year on Tuesday, February 16, at Tara Thai in Bell Rock Plaza, in the Village of Oak Creek, at noon. A lunch bunch is a casual gathering for conversation and good food. Mariana requests that folks email her at mwarner@esedona.net or phone 284-5468 before Valentine's Day (Sunday, Feb. 14) if you would like to come. *Hope to see you all there!*

Monthly women's lunch bunches are a lovely way for women in the Fellowship to connect for stimulating conversation and good food. If you would like to hostess a Lunch Bunch, please let Liz Danbury know at ldanbury@esedona.net or 282-5061. You get to pick the date, time and restaurant that pique your fancy!!

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

We need coffee hour hosts for the first 3 Sundays of March, April and May. If you would like to host, please see Helen Black or contact her at 282-1760 or hn1401b@aol.com.

SUUF SCREENS

Thank you to those who have been contributing to the white screens. The screens you see next to the snack table are your place to express yourself. Please bring in art, poetry, writings, photos or anything that is meaningful to you. Remember to take a photo with your yellow traveling UU hat for the screen! If you don't have a hat, please see Liz Danbury.

CALLING ALL HELPERS!!

TREASURER NEEDED IMMEDIATELY!!: Effective immediately, the Board is seeking a new Treasurer due to Clay Moore and Jean Capalbo moving out to the area. If you are interested, please contact Liz Danbury. Clay Moore will provide training.

SEEKING NEW PRESIDENT: Liz Danbury's term as President ends in May. A wonderful opportunity will be opening up for anyone interested subject to approval by the Board. This position provides an opportunity to steer the Fellowship and learn new leadership skills. If you are interested, please contact Liz Danbury. She will provide ongoing support.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Greets visitors after services. Follows up with visitors with a phone call and post card and answers any questions they may have. Plans ways to encourage growth of the Fellowship. Facilitates use of several copies of a videotape, "Voices", to educate potential members about what UUism is.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY COMMITTEE: Want the Fellowship to be more social? Plan an activity! Many of you have expressed enthusiasm about activities in which you would like to see the Fellowship participate. A chair(s) is needed to coordinate these ideas, or an individual could take charge of planning one activity. Fun suggestions include covenant groups, movie nights, potlucks, a book group and group trips to cultural events. Whatever you would enjoy, others would be grateful for your planning!

Please contact Liz Danbury at 282-5061 or ldanbury@esedona.net to assist with any of these committees or to offer ideas or suggestions.

***The growth of our Fellowship depends on us!
Besides, working on a committee provides
an opportunity to get to know your fellow UUs
in a more casual setting – plus it's lots of fun!***

***There's also a genuine sense
of accomplishment that you have
helped SUUF grow and prosper!***

NOTES FROM THE BOARD:

The next Board Meeting will be February 28 at the Red Rock Café at 8:30 a.m. immediately preceding the breakfast meeting. *All are welcome.*

Please contact Liz Danbury at 282-5061 if you would like to attend.

UUSC and UUA Launch Joint Relief Effort for Haiti

January 13, 2010

In the wake of devastation wrought by the earthquake which struck the island of Haiti on January 12, 2010, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) and the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) are launching a joint relief effort to bring aid to the impoverished island nation.

The Haitian Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA) estimates 2.2 million people are immediately affected in this nation of 9 million people.

What UUSC is doing

Right now, the first responders in Haiti are the survivors themselves. These people badly need support. They are digging people and bodies out of the rubble, setting up makeshift shelters, and seeking water and food. UUSC is working on providing support to these impromptu community groups as they continue to organize search-and-rescue teams and respond to the urgent needs of survivors in Haiti. The best way for us to get emergency assistance to these groups is through organizations on the ground that have long-standing relationships with grassroots groups.

UUSC's Programs Director is training medical teams already on the ground in Haiti over the phone. She is helping these teams convert clinical work into emergency medical response units, i.e., mobile clinics that will help reduce the second wave of casualties from wounds and contamination.

We are working with national peasant organizations to see how they can provide aid to groups in the city. These organizations have a national infrastructure outside of Port-au-Prince. Supporting these groups to provide aid in the country ensures that much-needed aid funds remain in Haiti rather than flow outside to external suppliers. Importing massive amounts of aid food often pushes food prices to the bottom and bankrupts small farmers after natural disasters.

Logistics and the lack of infrastructure are presently a huge challenge in Haiti. The limited aid and supplies available in Haiti at this time need to be used for survivors and essential first responders. UUSC will send an assessment mission as soon as possible without burdening current on-the-ground aid efforts. Our mission will include a colleague who can speak Creole and has many years of experience working in the country.

UUSC's assessment will guide our response over the mid- and long-term. We will help grassroots groups get back on their feet to work with the marginalized. Along with them, we will focus on reaching out to survivors who are on the margins of the relief and recovery efforts. Our initial research shows that those groups include child domestic workers (restaviks) and women who work in the informal economy.

UU Fellowship of North Bay: WINE COUNTRY HOLIDAY

"Napa was as delightful as I had expected. What was equally important and somewhat unexpected was the profound connections I felt with my hosts and hostesses."

Carol Lim, Los Angeles

The UU's of Napa, California proudly announce the sixth season of our Wine Country Excursions. Again, we offer a variety of options for an inside look at one of America's most beautiful areas, internationally known for fine wines, gourmet dining and spectacular vistas.

There is much to see and do in the Napa and Sonoma Valleys: e.g. wine tasting at renowned and boutique wineries; visits to art galleries and museums; exploring the natural beauty of our hills and valleys on miles of hiking and bike trails or by car on our highways and back country roads.

We offer two choices: Both start with comfortable lodging in members' homes with full breakfast (up to 3 nights). You can choose a 2-day "Wine Country Excursion," a guided, personalized tour conducted by one of our members—some with wine industry experience—or lodging and self-guided touring. If desired, we provide guidance, maps, etc.

The program runs from April through October. Our fees are below market rate for similar services and all proceeds go to our small fellowship. For complete details contact: Tom Wilson (707-254-7443) or 2wilsons1dog@comcast.net

We look forward to sharing our lovely "home" with you!

SUCCESS: Victories for Reproductive Justice: 2010

Shortly before the New Year, President Barack Obama signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010, which eliminates funding through the appropriations process for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs and directs funds toward more comprehensive approaches to sex education and teen pregnancy prevention. The new law also increases federal funding for Medicaid family planning services and allows the District of Columbia the option of using locally raised taxes to provide medically necessary abortion care for low-income women. Thanks to all of you for telling your elected officials that you want them to fund programs that will improve the sexual and reproductive health of young people in our country.

We also received 145 applications for the 2010 Sexuality Education Advocacy Training (SEAT)! That's nearly triple the number of applications we had at this time last year. Thank you to everyone who applied and spread the word. SEAT will bring youth, young adults and their allies to Washington, D.C. in March as we continue to advocate for comprehensive sex education programs in schools and communities across the nation.

Beacon Press Publishes First "King Legacy" Titles

Beacon Press, a department of the UUA, has published the first two titles in its new publishing program, "**The King Legacy**", made available through an exclusive agreement with the Estate of Martin Luther King, Jr. "**Stride Toward Freedom**" and "**Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?**" are now available.

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST. . . just a reminder

The Budget Meeting to approve our SUUF Budget for 2010 will be held on Sunday, February 21st, following the Service and Coffee Hour. Members, please plan to attend as we need a quorum to vote on the Budget. *Thank You!!*

SERVICE SCHEDULE  **2010**

All of our services are held at 1 p.m. at the Elks Club, 110 Airport Road in West Sedona. Breakfast Gatherings are held at 9:30 a.m. at the Red Rock Café, off of Rte. 179 and Verde Valley School Road, next to the IGA in the Village of Oak Creek.

We heartily welcome your presence at our services and gatherings!

SERVICE SCHEDULE WILL BE UPDATED AS SPEAKERS FOR OPEN DATES ARE CONFIRMED. PLEASE RETAIN FOR YOUR REFERENCE. THANK YOU!

2010

MARCH

- 3/7 Craig Hartley: "**The Magic of Thoreau**"
Music: Patty Swanson
- 3/14 Dan Spencer/ Music: Patricia LaLiberte
- 3/21 Dan Spencer/ Music: Patricia LaLiberte
- 3/28 BREAKFAST at RED ROCK CAFÉ;
SUUF Board Meeting: 8:30am

APRIL

- 4/4 Dr. Kathy Eastwood "**Astronomy**"
Music: Patty Swanson
- 4/11 Dan Spencer/ Music: Patricia LaLiberte
- 4/18 Dan Spencer/ Music: Patricia LaLiberte
- 4/25 BREAKFAST at RED ROCK CAFÉ;
SUUF Board Meeting: 8:30am

MAY

- 5/2 Dan Spencer/ Music: Patricia LaLiberte
- 5/9 TBD / Music: Patty Swanson
- 5/16 Dan Spencer/ Music: Patricia LaLiberte
- 5/22 **ANNUAL MEETING AND END OF YEAR PARTY at the ELKS'S CLUB AT 1pm -- Note this is a Saturday.**
- 5/30 BEGIN WEEKLY BREAKFAST GATHERINGS FOR THE SUMMER AT RED ROCK CAFÉ

Note that we do not hold services during the Summer Months of June through the end of August. Services begin again in early September. The weekly Breakfast Gatherings are an informal invitation to share time with fellow UUs when in town.



NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 27

Please make this newsletter a vibrant communications tool for all of us by submitting emails or hard copy of your articles, artwork, poetry, photos or any suggestions or comments to Liz Danbury at ldanbury@esedona.net.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Submissions of prose, poetry, photographs and original art are enthusiastically encouraged and welcome for publication in our SUUF Newsletter.

Please send to Liz Danbury: ldanbury@esedona.net