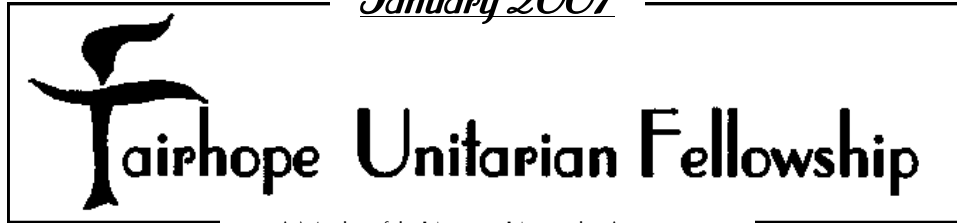


January 2007



A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

DEBBIE HICKS: “Who or What is a Native American?”

Jan. 7

Fellowship member Debbie Hicks will introduce a discussion about the myths and the realities of American Indian life within the segregated South. Portraits of Native persons will help to illustrate the continuation of Native identity into the 21st century.

Introduction: Charles Earl

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: “Celebrating our Talented Youth”

Jan. 14

The children of the Fellowship along with a select group of Suzuki string students from Bayside Academy will be hosting the entire service. The service will be a tribute to the talents and contributions of children of the UU Fellowship as well as a celebration of the talents each child has to offer. The program will offer music, both instrumental and singing, dancing, comedy, and other talent venues. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know the children of the UU. This is also a good opportunity to invite outside families with children to come and see what our kids are all about.

Introduction: Julienne Roach

J.D. CROWE: “Finding Hope Among Pigs, Strippers and Politics”

Jan. 21

J.D. Crowe of the Mobile Press Register will talk about life as a political cartoonist. Originally from Kentucky, he has also worked at daily newspapers in Fort Worth, Texas, and San Diego, California. His cartoons have appeared in hundreds of publications, including The New York Times, USA Today, The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, and various places on the internet, including his web site, crowetoons.com. His book, "Dark Side of the MoonPie" is a collection of his work with the Register published in 2002. His latest book, "2005 Hurricane Season: A Graphic Documentary Featuring the Katrina Cartoons" has almost sold out. Profits from the hurricane book will be donated to the Salvation Army's Neediest Families Campaign.

Introduction: to be announced

KEN SIZEMORE: “Songs of Protest and Change: The Sixties Revisited”

Jan. 28

Folksinger and activist Ken Sizemore will ask the Fellowship to travel back with him in time to the 60s and will share with us some wonderful experiences he had. We'll "drop in" on three actual concerts that occurred during that decade, each in support of one of the major causes of the era. This presentation will be a follow-up to Ken's concert January 27 at the Fellowship.

Introduction: to be announced

Everyone is invited to attend the Fourth Sunday potluck following the program. Please bring a dish to share and join us for fellowship and good conversations.

Sunday Service, Youth Fellowship and Toddler Care, 11 a.m., 1150 Fairhope Ave.

Adult discussion group meets each Sunday at 10 a.m. Come join us!

Write 1150 Fairhope Ave., Fairhope, AL 36532. Tel. 251-929-3207. Visit our website at

www.fairhopeuu.org

Notes from the Fellowship's December Board of Directors Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 by Ed Lawrence, President. Other Board members present were Jon Leff, Ruth Geraci, Diane Ehlers, E.J. Campfield, Pam Perkins, and Wilma Albers. Also present were Bayne Snyder and Terry Lindquist.

Minutes for the last meeting were approved as amended.

Bayne Snyder presented plans for the proposed Annabelle Snyder Memory Garden, for which we have over \$1,000 in funds to date. Phil and Gwen Strniste will take care of the water supply to the garden.

Jon Leff presented the financial report. Income year exceeds projected amounts, due to memorials and yard sales.

Social Action Committee to send \$150 to the Free Clinic in Bay Minette. Future charitable requests should be submitted in writing to the Board.

The Board approved the budget for 2007.

The building usage contract/proposal is still in editing.

Current outdoor lighting is insufficient; seeking alternatives.

The annual meeting is set for December 10.

The list of Board officers and duties was reviewed and revised. Several committee chairs are still vacant; we need volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55.

Pam Perkins, Recording Secretary

Message from Your Fellowship President

You may have seen catch-phrases such as

O u r G r o _ p D o e s n ' t W o r k W i t h o u t U .
Tired as that slogan may be, it's still true. Many people are needed to make our Fellowship successful. Specifically, we need **you!**

So, where might you fit in?

We desperately need a Building Usage Coordinator. This person, who could have a committee of helpers, would get the word out about the availability of our facility for use by other groups and individuals, and coordinate its usage. This volunteer position needs whatever time someone can give it, even just a few hours a month. Celeste Hinds and I would be happy to take that potential someone to lunch to discuss details of the position.

We are also looking for a Building Maintenance Coordinator to replace George

Talk to George about what the Building Maintenance Coordinator position entails.

Do you have organizational skills and a few ideas for raising money? Consider working on the Fund Raising Committee. Talk with Celeste Hinds about what's needed.

To contact Celeste or George Hinds: e-mail

hindsite5@bellsouth.net, or call **928-6526**.

Like to write? The newsletter needs someone to interview/collect information about new members for the Meet our New Members column. For more information, e-mail

ruthdow@gulftel.com.

Please consider one of these positions. You could even draft a friend to share a position. I hope by next month's newsletter to announce our new volunteers for these positions!

- Ruth Geraci

Things to Do at Our Fellowship

January Documentary Examines the Dominant Institution of Our Time

The movie *The Corporation* will be shown at the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship at 7 p.m. Saturday, January 6 and again on Sunday, January 7 at 3 p.m.. Everyone is welcome; admission is free, but contributions will be accepted.

The movie explores the nature and spectacular rise of the dominant institution of our time. Footage from pop culture, advertising, TV news, and corporate propaganda illuminates the corporation's grip on our lives. Taking its legal status as a "person" to its logical conclusion, the film puts the corporation on the psychiatrist's couch to ask "What kind of person is it?" It looks at the inner workings, curious history, controversial impacts and possible futures of the modern global conglomerate.

Provocative, witty, sweepingly informative, *The Corporation* includes forty interviews with corporate insiders and critics, including Milton Friedman, Noam Chomsky, Naomi Kline, and Michael Moore, plus true confessions, case studies and strategies for change.

The film is based on the book, **The Corporation: The Pathological Pursuit of Profit and Power**, by Joel Bakan.

Note: Because of the length of the movie, almost two and a half hours, there will be a break midway through the movie. Sandwiches and soft drinks will be available.

The movie will be shown again Sunday, January 7 starting at 3 p.m. Those who wish may watch the first part on Saturday evening and the second part on Sunday, the second part starting at approximately 4:15 p.m.

Folk Concert January 27 at UU

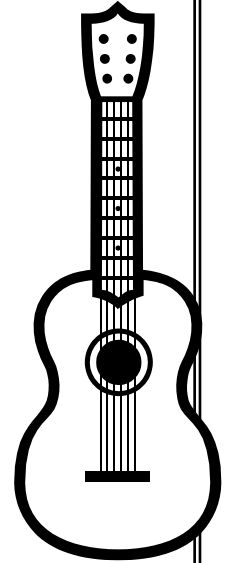
Ken Sizemore, *the Old Folkie* from Panama City, Florida, will be performing in concert at the Fellowship Saturday, January 27, starting at 7 p.m. A free-will offering will be collected.

Music lovers of all ages will enjoy this concert, which is open to the public.

Ken has been performing folk and early pop music all over the country for more than 40 years. As a folk singer and guitarist, Ken plays the classic folk music of the 50s, 60s and 70s, songs by such artists as Peter, Paul and Mary, the Kingston Trio, Pete Seeger, Bob Dylan, Woody Guthrie, John Denver, and many others. Some of the pop artists that Ken includes in his repertoire are the Everly Brothers, Buddy Holly, Neil Diamond, Jim Croce, James Taylor, Harry Belafonte and even Elvis Presley. He also pays tribute to country greats by including songs by Johnny Cash, Johnny Horton, Roger Miller, and more.

While based in Nashville for almost 30 years, Ken performed as a solo artist, as part of the folk duo Judith and Ken, and with the folk trio The Folk Revival. He currently has two CDs available.

In addition to playing concerts and coffee houses, Ken has developed a number of programs that he presents to church and civic groups and clubs. He will present his program, *Songs of Protest and Change: the 60s Revisited* at the Fellowship Sunday morning, January 28, as our regular service.



More Things to Do at Our Fellowship

Fellowship Game Night

Come play with us! In December we added the game Sequence to our evening, and a member also generously donated a game of Trivia for Book Lovers. Participants continue to enjoy poker, Scrabble, and bridge as well. New players and new games are always welcome.

Bring your own beverage, and a snack if you wish. A voluntary collection is taken, in the form of a 50/50 raffle. Half the proceeds go to the Fellowship, the other half to a lucky ticket holder. Join us starting at 6:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. on Saturday, January 13.

We had planned to have a second game night on the fourth Saturday this month, but due to a scheduling conflict (the Ken Sizemore concert!), we will wait, and start having two game nights per month in February.

– Ruth Geraci

Health Discussion Group Meets Jan. 17

The new Health Discussion Group will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 17, at the Fellowship building. Everyone is invited to attend.

At this meeting Jack Cameron will lead a discussion on *ubiquinone* (also called Coenzyme Q10 or CoQ10), a vitamin-like substance that is synthesized in every cell of the body that is of vital importance to heart and immune system function. The discussion will focus on the effect of CoQ10 deficiency on heart function, and on use of CoQ10 for treatment of heart disease.

The Health Discussion group discusses health issues and encourages participants to pursue health of mind and body. All are welcome.

– Jack Cameron



Author Discussion Group

The Author Discussion Group selects one author whose works are read and discussed on the second Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join us for stimulating conversations. Upcoming authors:

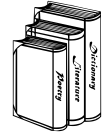
January 11: Bill Bryson

February 8: John Steinbeck

March 8: Amy Tan

– Diane Ehlers

Nonfiction Book Review Group



The Nonfiction Book Review Group meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Office.

All are welcome to join in the lively discussions and share favorite nonfiction books.

Birding Trip January 16

Unless a blizzard hits (unlikely in Lower Alabama), we will do a nature field trip Tuesday, January 16. The trip will include hiking about 3 miles at the Bayfront Park/Jackson Oak area looking for birds, with a little botany and history thrown in.



Assemble at the Unitarian parking lot by 7:50 so we can carpool. Or meet us in Daphne behind the Nautilus Restaurant about 8:30 to look for shorebirds and waders before going to Bayfront. The trip should finish up about 11:00 and those who wish may lunch together at a Daphne restaurant. Call Celeste Hinds for details: 928-6526.

– Celeste Hinds

Year-End Roundup from Your Social Action Committee

Contributions from the committee's 2006 budget are: \$150 to the Alabama Free Clinic, as described recently by our own Dr. Ralph Buckley, and \$100 to the Southern Poverty Law Center specifically for security purposes, given the threats that continue to be made against this worthy organization.

Our Fellowship donated some 45 bags of groceries to the Ecumenical Ministries this holiday season. Congratulations to all of you!

Kudos to Pat Smith of this committee for providing a contact with Pastor Henry Crawford of the Samaritan Church on Twin Beech Road. Pastor Crawford was very gracious in showing us his growing church building that has some wonderful artistry from Ghana and a well-appointed sanctuary. Samaritan Church also houses a day care center; there was a large group of children there the day we visited with impressive movable partitions to separate age groups, partitions that also held changes of clothing for the children, partitions built and donated by a church member.

At Pastor Crawford's invitation, eight of our Fellowship members attended an evening of gospel music Dec. 9 at the Church of God in Christ on Young St. It was a momentous evening, full of energy and renditions by groups from various area churches. It is one thing to hear gospel music on radio or TV, another to be there in the experience. What promise there is for a world where people appreciate each other!

The Guest At Your Table initiative ends at our Sun., Jan. 7 meeting, at which time our boxes, envelopes, checks will be collected by the children. If you have the energy to count what's in your boxes and convert it to checks, bills or large coins, our counting committee will appreciate it. Or bring it as is; we appreciate whatever you can do. You need not put personal information on GAYT containers

(Boston) to receive their mailings, action alerts and newsletter on human rights issues, in which case the giving levels are \$40 per person, \$75 for couples, \$10 for youth and students, and \$20 for seniors as young as 65; 2) your gift is in the \$75 category and you want to avail yourself of the matching funds available from the Shelter Rock UU Fellowship in Manhasset, N.Y. We heartily endorse such growth potential!

Happy New Year from Us, and remember, there's always an invitation for You to become one of Us. SAC meets the first Sunday every month at 12:15 p.m. in the FUF office.

Art Exhibit and Reception Planned

Fellowship Art Committee members will be exhibiting their own art in our building during January and February, with a reception to be held on Saturday, January 13, from 3-5 pm. Six artists will be participating in their first group show at the Fellowship: Pinky Bass, Brad Davis, Diane Davis, Pat Keoughan, Pat Laraway, and Jean Lawrence.

The works to be presented will be diverse. Pinky Bass will show her works in alternative photography processes, as well as some unusual lamps. Brad Davis will exhibit his watercolor paintings on mylar, and Diane Davis her prints and oil paintings. Pat Keoughan will show photographic works on handmade paper and watercolor paintings. Pat Laraway will exhibit ceramics as well as jewelry, which will be worn by the other artists.

Jean Lawrence will exhibit abstract and landscape oil paintings.

All of the artists are currently working at their art, and provide inspiration and support for each other.

Plan to attend the reception January 13. As always, this will be a festive event. Please come, and bring your family and friends.

Sustainability Forum: Man Vs. Machine

There are, I'm sure, people who still believe the earth is flat, though no one pays attention anymore. Well, here at good ole rational Fairhope UU, there are still folks who don't believe in machines. No, I don't mean philosophically, I mean technologically.

These skeptics, who are legion here and elsewhere, think dishes must be washed before they are placed in the machine designed to wash dishes. Otherwise bits of dried food will remain on dishes or be caught in an inaccessible trap in the bowels of the machine where they fester and become fetid, or so I am told.

So let's move on to the nitty-grit of this issue: can one actually count on one of the best laborsaving machines ever invented to do the job it was made to do? First of all, we'll reach to the origin of all this skepticism. Older machines did need a little manual assistance; neither they nor detergents had reached maturity. New machines, as you know, are equipped with so many nozzles spraying detergent-laden water that not an inch of pot or crockery can be missed—unless items are placed literally on top of each other.

So, as a sustainability freak who also likes creature comforts, here's what I suggest: Scrape loose food into the wastebasket, disposer, or recycle bin, as you choose. Soak stuck-on pans in warm, soapy water, using this same water to rinse or soak smaller pans and utensils, but only if they contain peanut butter or similar sticky gunk. After an hour or so (or over night) loosen the remaining food debris, dump the gray water in the sink (or on the posies) and load the pots or whatever into the machine.

Of course this is *all* about sustainability. The only way to justify use of a dishwasher in an environmentally sensitive home is to put everything except plastic glasses (which scratch) and other sensitive items like old cut glass or gold-trimmed anything, into the

more who eat most meals at home. Single folks probably find it easier and more sensible to wash dishes by hand, saving the machine for a party.

– Debbie Jessup

SUSTAINABILITY FORUM is to be just what it says, a **forum**, in which everyone is invited to participate. Our intention is to be provocative, argumentative, contentious, but not insulting. Most of all, we hope the column's useful. The column will appear in the monthly newsletter as space allows, and is sponsored by the Green Sanctuary Committee. – *Debbie Jessup, Chair, Green Sanctuary Committee*

Progress Report on Memorial Garden

Crepe myrtle trees are to be planted east of our Fellowship building this coming spring. The Snyder family, consisting of Annabelle's four daughters, son-in-law Phil Strniste, and Annabelle's husband Bayne, have made preliminary plans. This memorial garden is made possible by over \$1100 in contributions and by the volunteering of Phil and Gwen Strniste to install an irrigation system.

The memorial garden is 129 feet from the Fellowship building and has the shape of an elongated heptagon, 37 feet by 55 feet in size. A tree will be planted in each of six corners. The seventh corner, aligned with the beautiful chalice sculpture, is reserved for a solar bird fountain, provided funds hold out.

We chose this size and shape to accommodate future group meetings, perhaps even weddings and for Youth Fellowship classes. The center of the planting is to be kept clear of permanent development.

Our current project will accommodate future plantings and furnishings. It is staked out for your inspection and comments.

– Bayne Snyder

Meet our Members: Jack & Pat Cameron

Patricia (Pat) Cameron was born in Rome, Georgia, and has lived in Georgia, Alabama and Florida most of her life. After graduating high school Pat moved to Atlanta where she worked and attended Georgia State University.

Jack Cameron was born in Albany, New York. For several years, Jack and his two brothers attended the Saint John's Cathedral boarding school, New York City, where the students comprised the boys' choir that sang two or three times a day six days a week. This experience brought Jack to the Unitarian way of thinking at an early age.

Jack went to high school in Saint Petersburg, Florida, and then went to Georgia Tech in Atlanta where he studied civil engineering. Pat and Jack met in Atlanta and quickly found that they shared similar views on life and religion. They married in Atlanta after Jack graduated and was commissioned in the Navy. They lived in Newport, RI, and Charleston, SC, during three years of Navy duty when Jack was stationed on destroyers.

After Jack got out of the Navy, they moved to Atlanta where Jack worked for a consulting firm designing water and sewer systems. Jack got a commercial pilot license and instrument rating and used the company airplane for pleasure as well as business. Pat revived her interest in art after the children entered high school, and studied art at a local college where she earned an associate degree in art. During this time they also began to attend the Unitarian Fellowship in Atlanta, Ga.

In 1984 they retired and moved to Walton County, FL, where they built a house overlooking three miles of undeveloped beach front. Nearby they restored an old cottage and created Pat's Country Beach Studio where Pat sold her artwork as well as that of other artists. Pat has belonged to art clubs in many communities and has enjoyed entering art exhibits.

They lived in many different communities on the Gulf coast in the following decades, eventually ending up in Fairhope, where they discovered the Unitarian Fellowship of

The Color of

By Rebecca Pober

Blue is the color of a sad little boy,
Pink is the color that brings a girl joy.

Green is the color of a long, grassy plain,
Brown is the color of a galloping horse's mane.

Red is the color of a zooming fire truck,
Gray is the color of a quacking duck.

White is the color of a fluffy cat,
Gold is the color of a king's royal mat.

Orange is the color of a girl's curly hair,
Yellow is the color of a ripe, juicy pair.

All of these colors come down very low,
but all these colors are the colors of the rainbow.

This poem, submitted by Rebecca's mother Elizabeth Citrin, is an example of the talent in our Youth Fellowship. Ten-year-old Rebecca will be playing violin at the January 14 Youth Service.

Invitations from Our Members & Friends

Peace Rally – Mary Ellen Hoffman invites those interested to participate in a peace rally at Memorial Park, 1850 Government Street, Mobile, Saturday, January 27, noon – 3 p.m. Contact Lynn Seewer, (251)461-9944 for info. Mary Ellen suggests anyone interested in carpooling meet at the Fellowship building at 11:30 a.m. that day. This rally corresponds with the Washington DC event on the same date.

Creating Better Places – Teko Wiseman announces that the Baldwin County Trailblazers will host presentations by Dan Burden, founder of Walkable Communities, a non-profit consulting firm dedicated to creating better places in which to live, work, and raise families. The free presentations will be held January 17, 7 p.m. at the Daphne Civic Center, and January 18, 7 p.m. at the Foley Civic Center. **Time** Magazine named Burden one of six most important civic innovators in

Informative Unitarianism Classes Scheduled January 11 & 18—Open to All Interested

All you ever wanted to know about being a Unitarian, presented in two evening sessions: January 11 and 18, 2007 at 7 p.m.

New members, friends and long-time members are invited, with a special invitation to prospective members. Prospective members who complete the class will be given a booklet on Unitarianism.

Celeste Hinds will facilitate the classes. Michael Patrick will speak on the history of the Unitarian Universalist movement. Bud Gardner will discuss Unitarian philosophies. Ruth Geraci will talk about the organization of present day UUA and Mid-South District. Ed Lawrence will tell about the organization of our Fellowship. Jonathan Leff will expound on how we budget and why we are one of the few Fellowships/churches that do not require pledges. Jean Lawrence will talk about opportunities and needs of the Fellowship. Doug and Shelly West will give a brief overview of the children's program.

Refreshments and discussion time will be fun for all. No charge – just show up and enjoy the time with others who are curious about the meaning of being a Unitarian.

– Celeste Hinds

NEWSLETTER

Submit calendar events or articles specific to the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship for publication one week prior to the last Sunday of each month. Members and Friends are invited to submit poems, quotations or other brief words of wisdom to be published in the newsletter as space allows.

Provide written copy or email to editor at:

ruthdow@gulftel.com

EDITOR/PUBLISHER: Ruth Geraci

DISTRIBUTION: Diane Ehlers and Ruth

Mark Your Calendar

Thur., Jan 4: Nonfiction Book Group, 9:30 a.m.

Fri., Jan. 5: FUF Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

Sat., Jan. 6: Saturday Night Documentary, "The Corporation," 7 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 7: Emerson Discussion Group begins, 9:30 a.m. in the RE classroom.

(Group is full.)

Sun., Jan. 7: Social Action Committee meets in office, 12:15 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 7: Repeat of documentary movie, "The Corporation," 3 p.m.

Thur., Jan. 11: Author Discussion Group, 9:30 a.m.

Thur., Jan 11: First Unitarianism 102 Class, 7 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 13: Art Reception, 3-5 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 13: Fellowship Game Night, 6:30 p.m.

Sun., Jan 14: Emerson Discussion Group, 9:30 a.m.

Tue., Jan. 16: Birding Trip, 7:50 a.m.

Wed., Jan. 17: Health Discussion Group, 9:30 a.m.

Thur., Jan. 18: Nonfiction Book Group, 9:30 a.m.

Thur., Jan. 18: Second Unitarianism 102 Class, 7 p.m.

Sat., Jan 20: Movie Night, 7 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 21: Emerson Discussion Group, 9:30 a.m.

Sat., Jan 27: Folk Concert with Ken Sizemore, the Old Folkie, 7 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 28: Emerson Discussion Group, 9:30 a.m.

Special Needs Equipment Available

The Fellowship now has a good wheelchair, donated by Stan and Anna Hodgins, available to lend to Members and Friends. Crutches, a walker, and other special needs items are also available in the garden house. Call George or Celeste Hinds 928-6526, to borrow any item.