

February 2009



Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Feb. 1 JEREMY FRIEDMAN: "Introduction to Green Building"

Jeremy Friedman, owner and founder of Kaloosa Builders, has made the commitment to building homes with improved energy efficiency, sustainability, water conservation, and indoor air quality. He is a licensed Alabama homebuilder and has achieved the NAHB's Green Building Professional designation. Jeremy currently sits on the boards of the Baldwin County Home Builders Association and The Gulf Coast Branch of the U.S. Green Building Council. He is the builder of Baldwin County's first certified green home and has a second under construction.

Introduction: Harvey Joanning

Feb. 8 MARK BERTE: "A Thick Book: Why Should I Care About Our Loaded State Constitution?"

Mark Berte, the Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform (ACCR) Foundation's Grassroots Education Director, will show excerpts from the entertaining and educational "A Thick Book" documentary. He will help answer questions about our sixth state governing document and let people know how they can get involved in the Alabama Constitutional Reform Movement.

Introduction: Helen Earl

Feb. 15 ABU KHALIYL JADD SYLVESTER: "Justice in Islam"

Today's speaker is an American of Italian descent, originally from Philadelphia. He became a Muslim in the mid 1980's and has been very active in translating Arabic books into English. He has worked for a number of years with the Quran and Sunnah Society of North America, is the founder of Dar al-Kitab wal-Hikmah in Mobile. He will be discussing the meaning of justice, the founding guidelines for determining justice and the difference between justice and equality.

Introduction: Dorothy Dowell

Feb. 22 DR. RALPH BUCKLEY: "A round the Heart in 30 Minutes"

William Harvey was the first to demonstrate the circulation of blood in the 1600s, in a book titled "Exercitatio anatomica de motu cordis et sanguinis in animalibus". Dr. Buckley will take us from the 1600s, and highlight a few of the major accomplishments that brought us to today's understanding of the heart, and tell us where treatment and research is headed to help reduce mortality and suffering of the most common cause of death in this country: cardiovascular disease.

Introduction: Julienne Roach

Everyone is invited to attend the Last Sunday of the Month potluck following the February 22 program. Please bring a dish to share and join us for fellowship and conversation.

Sunday Service 11 a.m., 1150 Fairhope Ave.

Adult discussion group meets each Sunday at 10 a.m.

Children's Fellowship each Sunday 11 a.m. -12 noon. Come join us!

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

www.fairhopeuu.org.

fairhopeunitarian@att.net

A LETTER TO OUR CHAIRMAN

Michael-

I'm writing you as Chairman of the Board of FUF to thank you and all involved for helping make Mary Ellen's memorial so memorable. Please pass along my thanks to some individuals who helped make it happen: Bud Gardner, Ed Lawrence, Aaron Hinrichs, and of course, Joyce Burkhart and her crew.

I feel really blessed to have the friends I have at the Fellowship.

Thanks again,

Summary Financial Statement

December, 2008

	Dec	YTD Thru 12/31	Budgeted Thru 12/31	Overage/ (Deficit)
RECEIPTS				
Contributions	3,626	37,845	40,000	(2,155)
Other Receipts	272	4,789	6,000	(1,211)
Interest on CD's & MM	664	3,382	0	3,382
TOTAL RECEIPTS	4,562	46,016	46,000	16
EXPENDITURES				
Building	2,460	23,573	25,300	1,727
Committees	1,209	9,778	14,200	4,422
Donations	1,027	4,841	6,500	1,659
Special Projects	847	6,399		(6,399)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	5,543	44,591	46,000	1,409
NET INFLOW/ (OUTFLOW)	(981)	1,425	0	1,425

- Submitted by Kay Seymour, Treasurer

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS LYNNE AND HARVEY SWITZKY

Lynne and Harvey describe as “complicated” their decision to retire on Mobile Bay’s Eastern Shore. “It started with retirement guides,” Harvey revealed, “and continued as we talked with friends and former students who live here.”

Harvey thought the Eastern Shore was a good idea, but Lynne had spent time in Florida and disliked the hot, humid summer climate. Lynne thought a July trip to the Eastern Shore would persuade Harvey to agree with her. But Mobile Bay’s cool summer breezes that July foiled the plan; they moved to Daphne in 2005.

Harvey grew up in Brooklyn, New York. His father died when Harvey was seven but he recalls a close-knit family of aunts and uncles who lived close by and visited often. He graduated from local Brooklyn College with an undergraduate degree in chemistry and psychology.

Lynne grew up in Providence, Rhode Island, the youngest of six children and met Harvey at Brown University where both were students. Lynne graduated with an undergraduate degree in anthropology and Harvey a master’s degree in psychology.

After their marriage in 1965, Harvey completed his doctorate in Developmental Psychology at Brown, specializing in the study of mental

Johnson’s War on Poverty in 1965, and wrote Head Start grants.

After leaving Brown, Harvey’s postdoctoral work and professorship at Vanderbilt’s George Peabody College kept them for four years in Nashville, where Lynne completed a master’s degree in developmental psychology and worked in a Unitarian-sponsored cooperative nursery school.

In 1974 the family moved to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, for two years where Harvey was chief psychologist at Northern Wisconsin Developmental Center and Lynne worked in a mental health program for the Wisconsin State Department of Health. After two years, Harvey’s new appointment at Northern Illinois University took them to DeKalb. Lynne directed a multicultural daycare program for children of migrant workers there that eventually served 200 children. She retired in 2007. Harvey “graduated,” as he says, in 2004 from Northern Illinois University; he continues to research, write, and consult in the field of mental retardation.

The Switzkys have two children, a daughter in San Francisco, a son in Austin, Texas, and one granddaughter. They collect Tibetan Buddhist artifacts and like to attend local festivals, collect books, and train their much-loved pets, Toby and Daniel.

-Submitted by Juanie Noland



THURSDAY EVENING COLLOQUIUM

A new series of videos will be presented at the Thursday Evening Colloquium 2009. The topic will be “Letting Go of God.” Each meeting will begin with a video presentation and will conclude with a discussion. Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship Members and Friends are invited. Colloquia will be held at the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship each Thursday Evening 7:00 to 8:30. The first meeting will be February 5th. If you have questions, contact Bud Gardner.

- Submitted by Bud Gardner

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Q: How are Goldilocks and the Social Action Committee alike?

A: They both have three chairs.

It's not every committee that has three chairs, but SAC does! After a year trying out a rotating chairmanship, we've settled on three people pooling their strengths to benefit a cause we consider of prime importance! They are: Jeanine Normand, Bert Brun and Ann Chapman: Jeanine from 1/01/08 through April 30, 2009; Bert from May 1 through August 31, 2009, and Ann Chapman September 1 through December 31, 2009. We have enthusiasm, experience, and we NEED others to either join us as members (with voting rights) or as volunteers (without voting rights) for short periods or special projects.

Guaranteed: As in all outreach work, you will feel good about doing your share! Regular committee meeting times are the second Sunday of each month, 12:15p.m. in

We're set to go on publicity for the Nursing Scholarship FUF made to Faulkner State Nursing Program. The recipient has been chosen, and there's a planning meeting scheduled between Jean Graham (Director, Faulkner's Nursing Program) and Ann Chapman for this cooperative venture. This is a program which will benefit students, school and FUF, so we need planning advice about money-raising – that's where our membership comes in. Leave us notes, call, attend a meeting & drown us in suggestions!

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE: YOU DID IT! Despite the economy, despite the state of the world – or perhaps because of it – and because you wanted to do something about this home-world of ours – you donated just over \$900 with \$300 qualifying for matching grants. This maintains our \$1,000+ record of the past two years. The sale of Christmas cards totaled \$320. Humbly, we thank you.

– Submitted by Ann Chapman

LAWN CARE WORK DAY SCHEDULED

Wear work gloves and bring trimmers! Friday, February 27, is weed and trim day at the Fellowship. Try to show up by 9:00 and we'll quit before noon. A light lunch will be served.

We have to pay outside help for mowing and for a few other chores at the Fellowship but let's keep the budget in check by doing as much lawn care as we can without breaking backs or banks. Pine straw is needed so if you have any to spare let me know.

Mary Ellen Hoffman frequently worked alone pulling weeds and trimming shrubs. Perhaps new member Lynne Switsky has replaced Mary Ellen for Lynne spent a morning pulling weeds all by herself. Al Carl was not available for the last work day so he came later and trimmed shrubs.

If weeding is not your forte and you would like to help with lunch call Joyce Burkhart to offer your assistance.

– Submitted by Celeste Hinds



WHOOPS!

Inadvertently, the cash that came in Guest At Your Table boxes was comingled and counted together so we are unable to send the names of persons qualifying for UUSC one-year membership unless you call Ann Chapman at 251-929-0894 and let her know you have contributed in one of the following categories:

Full Couple Membership - \$75.00
 Full Single Membership - 40.00
 Senior Couple Membership - 40.00
 Senior Single Membership - 20.00
 Child, Teen, Student " - 10.00

My apologies; I'll be glad to get your calls!

- Submitted by Ann Chapman

AUTHORS DISCUSSION GROUP

Upcoming authors for the Authors Discussion Group are:

Feb. 12: Oliver Sacks (suggested by Ruth Geraci)

March 12: Caleb Carr (suggested by Dorothy Dowell)

April: 9: Anne Perry (suggested by Helen Earl)

The group meets the second Thursday of each month, at 9:30. Newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

- Submitted by Diane Ehlers

A Thought for February...

*Love is much nicer to be in
than an automobile
accident, a tight girdle, a
higher tax bracket, or a
holding pattern over
Philadelphia.*

- Judith Viorst

A MUSICAL EVENING WITH ANDREW MCKNIGHT

Andrew McKnight will present a concert at the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship on Wednesday night, February 4, at 7:00. McKnight is a songwriter, guitarist and story teller from Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. His concerts include a mix of folk, blues, and bluegrass music, plus humor and history.

Since permanently leaving his environmental engineering career in 1996, McKnight's musical journey has traced nearly half a million miles of blue highways nationwide, and earned him critical acclaim for his captivating performances, and five CDs on the Falling Mountain label.

He often shares his talents for worthy causes such as an at-risk youth mentoring program and the Sierra Club's Inner City Outings program. His belief that these little things add up is embodied in his song "Good Things Matter," winner of the Great American Song Contest.

The public is invited to attend. A \$5.00 contribution is requested.

- Submitted by Diane Ehlers

NON-FICTION TWICE A MONTH

New participants are always welcome at the Non-Fiction Book Discussion, which meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month starting at 9:30 a.m.

FIRST SATURDAY DOCUMENTARY MOVIE

7pm, Saturday, February 7: Money as Debt (2006, 47 min.)

Government, corporate and household debt has reached astronomical proportions. Where did all this money come from? How could there be that much money to lend? The answer is...there isn't. Today, money is debt. If there were no debt there would be no money. If this is puzzling to you, you are not alone. This fast-paced and highly entertaining animated feature explains today's magically perverse debt-money system in terms that are easy to understand.

Free admission, contributions gladly accepted.

- Submitted by Ed Lawrence

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

At the January 9th meeting, your Board of Directors:

Approved the minutes from November and the financial report for December.

Authorized new signatories to our bank accounts to reflect the new Board.

Requested update on status of reciprocal parking arrangement with County.

Voted on three at-large members to the Board.

Heard a presentation from a representative of the East Side Citizens for Fairhope regarding usage of our building.

Discussed remuneration from groups using our building.

Whether to count membership as individuals or as family groups when reporting to UUA.

Determined that amendments to the by-laws must be presented to the Fellowship two weeks before balloting.

Decided all fundraising activities must be approved by the Board.

Considered using permeable concrete on our parking areas.

Discussed honoraria for visiting UU ministers and other speakers.

Set time and place for future Board meetings: 9:30 a.m. first Friday of the month.

A copy of the complete minutes can be found in the FUF library. Board meetings are open to all.

– Submitted by Pam Perkins

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

The monthly FUF Board meeting will be Friday, Feb. 6th at 930am. Anyone desiring to submit an agenda item may do so by contacting any board member.

– Submitted by Michael Patrick

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Tue. Feb. 3 Knitters Group 1-330pm
Tue., Feb. 3: Choir rehearsal 330pm
Wed., Feb. 4 Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm
Wed., Feb. 4 Andrew McKnight concert 7pm
Thu., Feb. 5 Non-fiction Book Group 930am
Fri., Feb. 6 FUF Board meeting 930am
Sat., Feb 7: First Saturday Movie 7pm
Tue., Feb. 10: Knitters' Group 1-330pm
Tue., Feb. 10: Choir rehearsal 330pm
Wed., Feb. 11: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm
Thu., Feb. 12: Authors Discussion Group 930am
Sat., Feb 14: Game Night 630-9pm
Tue., Feb. 17: Knitters' Group 1-330pm
Tue., Feb. 17: Choir rehearsal 330pm
Wed., Feb. 18: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm
Thu., Feb., 19: Non-fiction Book Group 930am
Sun., Feb. 22: Last Sunday Potluck 12pm
Sun., Feb. 22: March newsletter deadline 5pm
Tue., Feb 24: Knitters' Group 1-330pm
Tue., Feb. 24: Choir rehearsal 330pm
Wed., Feb. 25: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm
Sat., Feb. 28: Game Night 630-9pm

*Happy
Valentine's
Day!*

NEWSLETTER

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

Provide written copy or email to editor at:

nanpie@juno.com

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