

February 2012



Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Feb. 5 HARVEY JOANNING -- *“Military Families: Stresses of Deployment and Returning Home”*

Harvey Joanning, Ph.D. is an Emeritus Professor at Iowa State University, an Adjunct Professor at the University of Iowa and an Instructor at the University of South Alabama. He has worked with active military personnel and veterans during his career. His talk will focus on difficulties faced by members of the military and their families before, during, and following deployment including the tremendous stresses on marriage and both positive and negative developmental differences between military and civilian children. Joanning's talk will raise awareness of and sensitivity to the sacrifices of military families.

Introduction: Carl Couret

Feb. 12 LEW TOULMIN -- *“Crimes Against History and Genealogy”*

Dr. Lew Toulmin will cover items such as the destruction of the Great Library at Alexandria, Egypt, the burning of southern courthouses by General Sherman, the US Army and the Confederate Army, the destruction of the genealogy of Ireland, the theft of the Baldwin County Courthouse, and the greatest genealogical criminal of all time. Lew, an FUF member, lives in Maryland and Fairhope. He is the head of the Families of the Presidents and First Ladies of America, a lineage organization, is an officer in several other genealogical societies, and is a member of over 40 societies. He is the direct descendant of Judge Harry Toulmin (1766-1823), a Unitarian minister who fled England in 1793 due to persecution of him and other Unitarians, and became one of the founders of Alabama.

Introduction: Jule Moon

Feb. 19 FRANK LARAWAY -- *“Defense of Thomas Jefferson”*

Frank Laraway will share more than you ever imagined about Jefferson's talents, achievements and rich life. He may clear up some misinformation you may have heard about Jefferson. Frank graduated from the Organic School in Fairhope, and went on to receive degrees in philosophy and science. He was a member of the Taliesin Fellowship, apprenticing under Frank Lloyd Wright, then went on to get a degree in architecture at the University of Michigan. He is an avid thinker about religion, Friends (Quakers) and Unitarians, politics, science, economics, and environmentalism.

Introduction: Helen Earl

Feb. 26 GAYE LINDSEY -- *“Polar Opposites: the Arctic and Antarctica”*

Gaye Lindsey was raised in Bay Minette. After college and graduate school she worked as a high school math teacher in the Washington, DC area and at an International School in Amsterdam, Netherlands. She took a job at the World Bank where she managed the financial aspects of the Bank's loans to Southeast Asia countries. After retirement, she moved to Fairhope and currently enjoys volunteering, birding, and working with clay.

"Polar Opposites" is a travelogue about her trips to the Arctic and Antarctica. It explores the similarities and differences between the two poles, in terms of geography as well as wildlife. The history of exploration of both areas will be discussed and the stark beauty of both places will be shown in slides.

Introduction: Diana Gardiner

LAST SUNDAY POTLUCK

*Everyone is invited to attend following the February 26th program.
Please bring a dish to share and join us for fellowship and conversation.*

SUNDAY SERVICE 11 A.M., 1150 FAIRHOPE AVE.

TED discussion group meets at 9:45 a.m. and Current Events discussion group meets at 10 a.m. each Sunday

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

Write 1150 Fairhope Ave., Fairhope, AL 36532. Tel. 251-929-3207.

www.fairhopeuu.org

fairhopeunitarian@att.net

JANUARY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

At the January Board meeting, your Board:

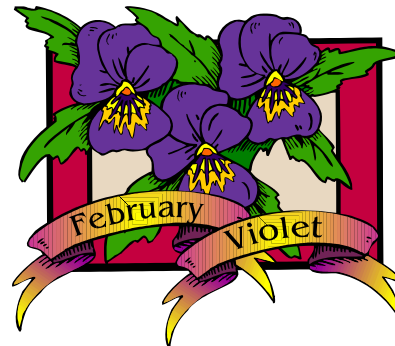
- Noted that FUF's overall financial loss in 2011 was \$6,000, for all budgeted categories. Despite this loss, FUF remains in sound shape financially because of reserves built during "good" years.
- Decided that future use of the FUF desktop computer is limited to those who do Treasurer work, to the person who maintains the website, and to the person who maintains the membership list.
- Decided to purchase three additional round tables to use during Potluck Sunday and holiday events.

—Submitted by Juanie Noland

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

The monthly FUF Board of Directors Meeting will be held at the FUF on Friday, February 3rd at 10am. Please contact Michael Patrick or Robin Fabel regarding inclusion on the agenda.

—Submitted by Robin Fabel



December 2011 Financial Summary as submitted by Kay Seymour

	Dec	Actual YTD	Budgeted YTD	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Support and Revenue				
Contributions	6,261	37,908	42,000	(4,092)
Other Revenue	332	4,037	5,000	(963)
Total Support and Revenue	6,593	41,945	47,000	(5,055)
Expenses				
Building	2,557	34,480	31,340	3,140
Committees	777	9,975	11,860	(1,885)
Donations	150	3,525	3,800	(275)
Total Expenses	3,484	47,981	47,000	(981)
Net Operating Increase/(Decrease)	3,109	(6,036)	0	(6,036)

Valentine's Day Humor - Perfectly Paired Puns

As Valentine's Day approached, I tried to think of an unusual gift for my husband. When I discovered that his favorite red-plaid pants had a broken zipper, I thought I had the "perfect Valentine." I had the pants repaired, and gift-wrapped them. On the package I put a huge red heart on which I printed: "My Heart Pants for You." I was the surprised one, however, when I saw the same heart taped to our formerly empty, but now overflowing, wood box. On it he had written: "Wood You Be My Valentine?"

– Contributed by Mary Lou Pittman (Reader's Digest)

UPDATE FROM THE CHILDREN'S FELLOWSHIP

SUBMITTED BY RAY ABLES

In recent lessons, we have been reading books that relate to the FOURTH UU Principle that: *Each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life.*

The children made the masks shown in the photo below to illustrate what they want to try to do in life. Here we can see a future teacher, veterinarian and dentist. This was part of an activity we did in the Children's Fellowship after reading *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman, in which Grace is a young black girl who wants to be Peter Pan in her class play. We read about how Grace's classmates tell her she can't play the part of a white boy, but her mother and grandmother encourage her to try anyway. As it turns out she was the best Peter Pan anyone had ever seen, and we were reminded that "It is never okay to treat someone unfairly because they are different, most of all when it is a difference that cannot be changed by anyone or anything. People don't have a choice about their race, what gender they are, how they learn best, or where their families come from. But people DO have choices about what they decide to try to do." So the children were asked what they imagined they could do if they really tried.

Well, speaking of being free to search for what is true and right in life, as promised, I asked the children to write their own book report this time. Linda chose a different book to share, and wrote the report all by herself, which I share with you below. She is currently in 3rd Grade at Fairhope Elementary.

Book Report: Sheila Rae the Brave

Author: Kevin Henkes

Book Report by: Linda Ables

I'm reading this book because it's funny, cute, good, and has great pictures. The book is funny because Sheila Rae the brave gets scared and her little sister is brave in one part. The book is cute because everybody are mice in the book.

The book is good because the pictures are great and the words are nice and funny. The book has great pictures because they're cute and tell a story.

The Book is about Sheila Rae the brave and her little sister, Louise. Sheila Rae didn't care if monsters were under her bed or in her closet, she wasn't afraid of anything.

At dinner she imagined that her food was body parts of dead animals. If somebody did something mean to her, like call her an ugly name, she would teach them a lesson, like leaving them tied up somewhere. She wasn't afraid. Sheila Rae the Brave tried to step on every crack in the sidewalk, she didn't care.

Sheila Rae the Brave didn't fall when she rode on a bicycle with her eyes closed and no arms. Sheila Rae the Brave walked home a new way one day. Sheila Rae the Brave told her little sister "You are such a scaredycat!"

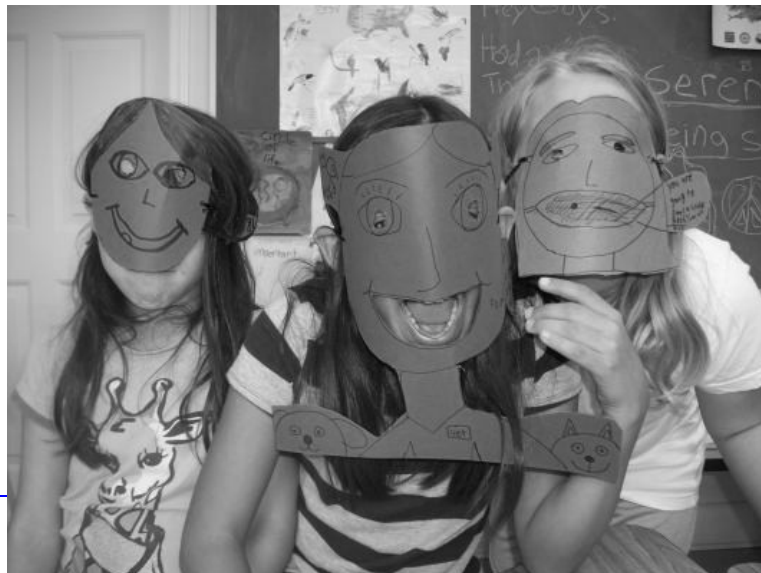
"No I'm not" said her little sister.

"I'm so brave. I'm so fearless!" said Sheila Rae.

She walked backwards, she screamed at stray dogs, she showed her teeth at cats, and she imagined the trees as evil animals and cut their fingers off, then Sheila Rae the Brave got lost. Sheila got scared, then she said "Mother! Father! Louise! Help!"

"I'm right here!" said Louise. Then Louise became the brave one.

The End



SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE IS SEEKING NEW PARTICIPANTS

The Social Action Committee (or SAC as it is commonly known at the FUF) is currently seeking members who would like to join us. One function of SAC is to review and suggest worthy organizations to the FUF Board as possible recipients of the Fellowship's charitable giving. Another major function is to raise funds through various efforts for the FUF's two Faulkner Nursing Scholarships. SAC also endeavors to keep the membership apprised of a wide range of topics and activities both local and global that support peace, social justice and human rights.

Meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of each month after coffee and last 1 hour. We look forward to seeing you!

-Submitted by Lynne Switzky

SPRING YARD SALE SCHEDULED

Spring cleaning is almost upon us! March 31st is the day! Set-up will be 9am-12pm Thursday and Friday 3/29-30 and the actual sale time is 7am-11am on Saturday as usual.

If you know of any able-bodied, work-minded friends or members who haven't yet participated in this twice-yearly, major fund raising event please encourage them to join the Yard Sale Crew.

Contact Pam Perkins to schedule when you'll be there to help or with any questions.

-Submitted by Pam Perkins

NEWSLETTER

Submit calendar events or articles specific to the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship by the date 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

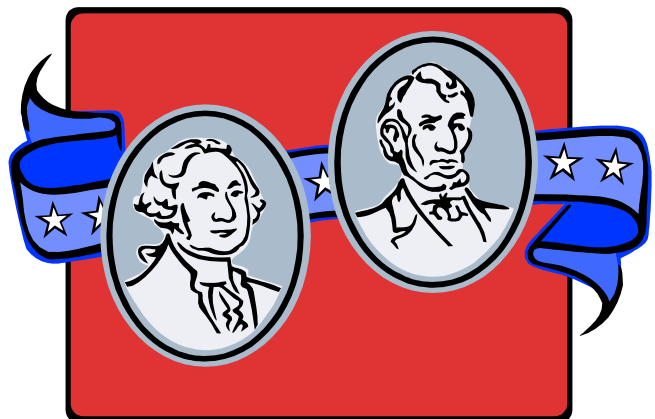
EDITOR/PUBLISHER: Nancy Martin
DISTRIBUTION: Diane Ehlers & Ruth Geraci

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wed., Feb. 1: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm
Fri., Feb. 3: Board Meeting 10am
Sun., Feb. 5: TED Discussion Group 945-1045am
Sun., Feb. 5: Current Events Discussion Group 10am
Tue., Feb. 7: Knitters Group 1-330pm
Tue., Feb. 7: Choir rehearsal 330pm
Wed., Feb. 8: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm
Thu., Feb. 9: Non-fiction Book Group 930am
Sat., Feb. 11: Game Night 630-9pm
Sun., Feb. 12: TED Discussion Group 945-1045am
Sun., Feb. 12: Current Events Discussion Group 10am
Tue., Feb. 14: Knitters' Group 1-330pm
Tue., Feb. 14: Choir rehearsal 330pm
Wed., Feb. 15: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm
Sun., Feb. 19: TED Discussion Group 945-1045am
Sun., Feb. 19: Current Events Discussion Group 10am
Sun., Feb. 19: March newsletter deadline 5pm
Tue., Feb. 21: Knitters' Group 1-330pm
Tue., Feb. 21: Choir rehearsal 330pm
Wed., Feb. 22: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm
Thu., Feb. 23: Non-fiction Book Group 930am
Sat., Feb. 25: Game Night 630-9pm
Sun., Feb. 26: TED Discussion Group 945-1045am
Sun., Feb. 26: Current Events Discussion Group 10am
Sun., Feb. 26: Last Sunday Pot Luck 12p
Tue., Feb. 28: Knitters' Group 1-330pm
Tue., Feb. 28: Choir rehearsal 330pm

Upcoming Early March Events:

Fri., Mar. 2: Board Meeting 10am



PRESIDENTS DAY FEB 20