

**March 2008**



A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

**HARVEY JOANNING, Ph.D.: “A lzheimer’s and the F am ily”**

**Mar. 2** *Harvey Joanning, Ph.D. is Professor Emeritus at Iowa State University and former Director of the Marriage and Family Therapy Graduate Program. A professional volunteer for the Alzheimer’s Association, he has been an Alzheimer’s caregiver as well a consultant to health care professionals and Alzheimer’s families for twenty years. Dr. Joanning will briefly summarize his personal experience as a caregiver. He will then describe the disease process and its effects on the brain. He will also review how the progress of the disease affects the patient and family members. Some guidelines for caring for an Alzheimer’s patient will be provided.*

Introduction: Ed Lawrence

**Mar. 9 LEONARD SMITH: “The V iability of H istorical B lack C olleges and U niversities (H B C U )”**

*One of the major changes that has occurred in HBCUs is the acceptance of Black students into predominantly White colleges, creating a decrease in Black enrollment of HBCUs. Does this mean that a better opportunity to succeed exists and thus, why keep the HBCUs? Leonard Smith will share his views. A graduate of Talladega College, he is presently national alumni financial secretary of Talladega’s Alumni Association. He is also a retired school administrator, teacher and coach.*

Introduction: Gail Gardner

**Mar. 16 PATRICIA FOWLER KEOUGHAN, JUDITH FOWLER EMDE, & KATHRYN FOWLER MILLER: “C reativity in the F am ily”**

*In tribute to their mother, three sisters will discuss how family is often a contributor to individual creativity. Their mother introduced them to the Penny Poppy Show, a simple example of creativity that became one of their favorite childhood pastimes.*

Introduction: Harvey Joanning, Ph.D.

**Mar. 23 ELAINE SNYDER-CONN: “T he S tate of the W orld’s 0 ceans: A nother Inconven ient T ru th”**

*Fellowship member and environmental contaminant specialist Elaine Snyder-Conn shares an area of international concern with us.*

Introduction: Bert Brun

**Mar. 30 KEN SIZEMORE: “T he Songs of John D enver”**

*Folksinger Ken Sizemore returns to our Fellowship to share more of our favorite music. He will include pieces that honor the annual UU Justice Sunday.*

Introduction: Ruth Geraci

**Everyone is invited to attend the Last Sunday of the Month potluck following the March 30 program. Please bring a dish to share and join us for fellowship and conversation.**



## Documentaries to be Shown on First and Third Saturdays

On Saturday, March 1, the documentary **Perversion of Justice** (2007, 30 min.) will be shown starting at 7 p.m. at the Fellowship.

In this poignant documentary, we meet Hamedah Hasan and her three daughters, a family caught in the web of our nation's federal sentencing guidelines and drug conspiracy laws. Hamedah fled from an abusive relationship and sought refuge at the home of her cousin, who was selling drugs. When her cousin was arrested, prosecutors also charged Hamedah as a conspirator in the drug-selling operation. What happened next shocked Hamedah, her attorney and outraged even the Bush-appointed Federal judge who

her, calling this the "most grotesque perversion of justice I can think of."

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On Saturday, March 15, starting at 7 p.m., the second documentary of the month will be

**The Myths of Biofuels** (2007, 89 min.)

This is a presentation by David Fridley, sponsored by Post Carbon Santa Clara Valley, in which he discusses common misinformation in the media about biofuels. He also focuses on the energy, environmental and ecological science of Biofuels.

If there is a documentary you want to recommend, or a suggestion of one you would like repeated, contact Ed Lawrence at [edfairhope@bellsouth.net](mailto:edfairhope@bellsouth.net).

## EYES WIDE OPEN Exhibit to be in Fairhope March 15

The American Friends Society exhibit, EYES WIDE OPEN, which has traveled to a number of U.S. cities to increase awareness of the cost of war, will come to Mobile on March 14 and will be in Fairhope near the pier on March 15 at the time of the Spring Art Festival. There will be solemn and reverent approach to the material – not a demonstration, not a political approach.

Several FUF members have volunteered to assist with this exhibit. A planning meeting is scheduled at The Friends Meeting House, March 6 at 7 p.m.

EYES WIDE OPEN started out as a display of loss of life nationally but, because of escalating numbers, is now a display of each state's losses – as well as of Iraqi losses. The death of each of 70 Alabama soldiers lost in

this war will be represented by a soldier's boot to which a name is attached; losses of Iraqi civilians will be represented by a display of 200 shoes. The names of fallen Alabamans and Iraqis will be read. There will also be posters giving the financial cost of each day of this war to Alabama and volunteers to speak with visitors.

– *Social Action Committee*

### Donations Welcome

The Fellowship's Music Committee has determined that a new piano bench is needed. Members or friends might like to take this opportunity to donate toward the cost (\$217.50). Make checks payable to Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship and indicate piano bench in the note section.

**Sunday Service 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](http://www.fairhopeuu.org).

## Upcoming Activities at the Fellowship

### Authors Discussion Group

The Authors Discussion Group, which meets the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m., in the Fellowship Library/Office, has selected authors for the next three months:

Mar. 13: Kurt Vonnegut, discussion led by Pam Perkins

April 10: Margaret Atwood, discussion led by Dorothy Dowell

May 8: Cormac McCarthy, discussion led by Katherine Thompson

– 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. Bring your favorite work of non-fiction to discuss.

### Dramatic Reading of Play Scheduled for March 2

Yalta, a play written by Fellowship member Bert Brun, will be presented on Sunday afternoon, March 2, at 3 p.m in the Fellowship auditorium. This event is open to all.

The play deals with the historic conference at Yalta, in the Soviet Union, in early February, 1945, just as World War II in Europe was drawing to a close. Some have assailed decisions made at the conference by the USSR, Britain and the U.S. as being overly generous to Stalin and his nation. In particular, the relationships between Josef Stalin, Winston Churchill, and Franklin D. Roosevelt are described.

Edith Hinrichs is directing the play, which will be presented as a reading. Members of the FUF congregation will read the parts designated in the play.

### Folk Concert Mar. 29

Ever-popular folk singer Ken Sizemore, the old folkie, returns to our Fellowship by popular demand to perform more music from the fifties and sixties era.

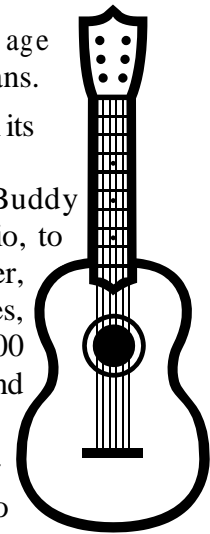
An authentic troubadour with a vast repertoire, Ken has honed his craft over the past 40 years in Nashville and traveling and performing all over the country. Along the way he has worked with some of the greats, such as Peter, Paul and Mary, BJ Thomas, and The Association. His resonant voice and sensitive guitar work evoke

memories of music's golden age to the delight of his many fans.

Ken's repertoire, including hits from artists such as Woody Guthrie, Bob Dylan, Buddy Holly, and the Kingston Trio, to Jimmy Buffet, John Denver, Neil Diamond and the Eagles, stretches to more than 500 songs – the classic folk and pop of the 50s, 60s, 70s.

Don't miss this opportunity to sing along with Ken to some of your favorite tunes.

The concert will be held at the Fellowship Saturday, March 29, starting at 7 p.m. Donations will be taken at the door. Bring your family and friends to this evening of



### Game Night March 8 and 22

Game Night is held at the Fellowship on the second and fourth Saturdays each month, from 6:30-9 p.m.

Games regularly available include poker, bridge, mah jongg, Scrabble, Quiddler, and cribbage. Other games are welcome as well. Bring your favorite! This is a great way to meet Fellow UUs, and friends are welcome as well.

## Recommended Reading From the Chairman of the Board

-- Edward Lawrence, Chairman of the Board, Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship

*Past surveys of our Fellowship have indicated that Humanism is one of the major religious and spiritual belief categories among Fellowship members. It also ranks high in response to the question: "In which discussion group would you consider participating?" Because of this popularity, I thought it would be of interest to reproduce here the text of the Humanist Manifesto III, revised in 2003 by the American Humanist Association. Additional information is available from [www.americanhumanist.org](http://www.americanhumanist.org).*

Humanism is a progressive philosophy of life that, without supernaturalism, affirms our ability and responsibility to lead ethical lives of personal fulfillment that aspire to the greater good of humanity.

The lifescape of Humanism—guided by reason, inspired by compassion, and informed by experience—encourages us to live life well and fully. It evolved through the ages and continues to develop through the efforts of thoughtful people who recognize that values and ideals, however carefully wrought, are subject to change as our knowledge and understandings advance.

This document is part of an ongoing effort to manifest in clear and positive terms the conceptual boundaries of Humanism, not what we must believe but a consensus of what we do believe. It is in this sense that we affirm the following:

**Knowledge of the world is derived by observation, experimentation, and rational analysis.** Humanists find that science is the best method for determining this knowledge as well as for solving problems and developing beneficial technologies. We also recognize the value of new departures in thought, the arts, and inner experience—each subject to analysis by critical intelligence.

**Humans are an integral part of nature, the result of unguided evolutionary change.** Humanists recognize nature as self-existing. We accept our life as all and enough, distinguishing things as they are from things as we might wish or imagine them to be. We welcome the challenges of the future, and are drawn to and undaunted by the yet to be known.

**Ethical values are derived from human need and interest as tested by experience.** Humanists ground values in human welfare shaped by human circumstances, interests, and concerns and extended to the global ecosystem and beyond. We are committed to treating each person as having inherent worth and dignity, and to making informed choices in a context of freedom consonant with responsibility.

**Life's fulfillment emerges from individual participation in the service of humane ideals.** We aim for our fullest possible development and animate

and awe in the joys and beauties of human existence, its challenges and tragedies, and even in the inevitability and finality of death.

Humanists rely on the rich heritage of human culture and the lifescape of Humanism to provide comfort in times of want and encouragement in times of plenty.

**Humans are social by nature and find meaning in relationships.** Humanists long for and strive toward a world of mutual care and concern, free of cruelty and its consequences, where differences are resolved cooperatively without resorting to violence. The joining of individuality with interdependence enriches our lives, encourages us to enrich the lives of others, and inspires hope of attaining peace, justice, and opportunity for all.

**Working to benefit society maximizes individual happiness.** Progressive cultures have worked to free humanity from the brutalities of mere survival and to reduce suffering, improve society, and develop global community. We seek to minimize the inequities of circumstance and ability, and we support a just distribution of nature's resources and the fruits of human effort so that as many as possible can enjoy a good life.

Humanists are concerned for the well being of all, are committed to diversity, and respect those of differing yet humane views. We work to uphold the equal enjoyment of human rights and civil liberties in an open, secular society and maintain it is a civic duty to participate in the democratic process and a planetary duty to protect nature's integrity, diversity, and beauty in a secure, sustainable manner.

Thus engaged in the flow of life, we aspire to this vision with the informed conviction that humanity has the ability to progress toward its highest ideals. The responsibility for our lives and the kind of world in which we live is ours and ours alone.

*\* Humanist Manifesto is a trademark of the American Humanist Association— © 2003 American Humanist*

## **Reception March 15**

### **Maureen Ursery to Show Art at Fellowship in March & April**

Maureen Reilly Ursery will be exhibiting her paintings and mixed media works at the Fellowship beginning on March 15th and continuing throughout April. A native Chicagoan, Maureen received a BA in French from Loyola University and studied at the Art Institute of Chicago. She also was part of an artists group in Saudi Arabia for four years while her husband, Durwin, was teaching architecture there.

Maureen and Durwin were selected to be participants in Paducah, Kentucky's Artist Relocation Program, which has attracted artists from all over the country to live and work there. The artists were offered finance and loan incentives to purchase, renovate, or build in the area. Many artists have opened galleries or have their studios opened to the public, as does Maureen. Durwin designed their home and

studio, and does wood sculpture as well as architectural work.

Maureen's works are vibrantly colored and could be called abstractly figurative. She paints in acrylic, and often adds other media to her framed and loose canvases. She has exhibited in Chicago, Arkansas, and Saudi Arabia, as well as in Paducah and Louisville, where she's currently exhibiting.

The reception for the artist will be held on Saturday, March 15, from 3-5 p.m. The Unitarian String Quartet will perform, and, of course, a variety of foods and beverages will be served. All are invited to attend, and to meet the artist. Bring your friends and family, and enjoy another Saturday afternoon of the arts at the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship.

– *Jean Lawrence*

## **Interested in Becoming a Member or Friend of Our Fellowship?**

Have you attended the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship Sunday morning gatherings several times and/or attended other Unitarian Universalist Fellowships in the past? Are you familiar with the Seven Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association, and with the Mission Statement of the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship? (Our brochure is available with both the Mission and the Principles, as well as our history and activities. You can find it in the literature rack in the lobby.) Perhaps you are now interested in becoming a Fellowship Member or Friend?

Ask to be introduced to any Fellowship Officer. They will answer your questions and guide you to the Membership Book. You will receive a Membership Form to fill out and return to the Membership Chair or Officer.

Book, indicating whether you wish to join as a Member or Friend.

Friends are associate members with all rights except voting and holding office. That is, we have two categories for those who wish to commit to a more formal relationship with FUF: Member and Friend/Associate Member.

### **Fellowship Officers for 2008**

**President: Ruth Geraci**  
**Chairman of the Board: Ed Lawrence**  
**Vice President: Terry Lindquist**  
**Vice President for Programs:**  
**Elaine Snyder-Conn**  
**Recording Secretary: Bert Brun**  
**Corresponding Secretary: Pam Perkins**  
**Treasurer: Kay Seymour**  
**Board Members at-Large: Joyce Burkhardt, Stuart Chapman, and Robin Fabel.**

**W e H ave "S tu ff"!**



**Mark Your Calendar**

We do have stuff, and it might be the right stuff for you!

Our resale shop has many interesting items you might need or want. For instance, there is a HP computer printer, like new and less than a year old (complete with extra ink) available for whatever you would like to donate! (This item is currently not in the Garden House, as the weather is not conducive to its being there. But it is on FUF premises.) Say the word and it's yours.

We also have a very nice recliner for sale. Come try it out in the Resale Shop.

Other items in our shop, according to our able resale manager Pam Perkins, include a large quantity of dishware, books, lots of men's and women's clothing in a variety of sizes, and Christmas items.

The Resale Shop is open each Sunday after the program, around 12:10, for as long as customers are available. The only exception is the fourth Sunday of each month, when our pot luck lunch is held. Also, watch the UU Weekender (e-mail) for Saturday openings, weather permitting.

#### **NEWSLETTER**

Submit calendar events or articles specific to the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship for publication one week prior to the last Sunday of each month. 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 in the newsletter as space allows.

Provide written copy or email to editor at:

**uuruthg@gulftel.com**

EDITOR/PUBLISHER: Ruth Geraci

DISTRIBUTION: Diane Ehlers and Ruth Allbritton

**Sat., Mar. 1:** Documentary: Perversion of Justice, 7 p.m.

**Sun., Mar. 2:** Dramatic reading of play *Yalta*, 3 p.m.

**Tue., Mar. 4:** Fellowship Choir rehearsal, 3 p.m.

**Wed., Mar. 5:** Back Porch Folk Singers, 3-4:30 p.m.

**Thur., Mar. 6:** Nonfiction Book Group, 9:30 a.m.

**Thur., Mar. 6:** Men's Harmony Chorus, 4 p.m.

**Sat., Mar. 8:** Game Night, 6:30-9p.m.

**Tue., Mar. 11:** Knitters' Group, 1-3 p.m.

**Tue., Mar. 11:** FUF Choir rehearsal, 3-4 p.m.

**Wed., Mar. 12:** Back Porch Folk Singers, 3-4:30 p.m.

**Thur., Mar. 13:** Authors Discussion Group, 9:30 a.m.

**Thur., Mar. 13:** Men's Harmony Chorus, 4 p.m.

**Sat., Mar. 15:** Eyes Wide Open Exhibit

**Sat., Mar. 15:** Art Reception, 3-5 p.m.

**Sat., Mar. 15:** Documentary: The Myths of Biofuels, 7 p.m.

**Tue., Mar. 18:** Knitters' Group, 1-3 p.m.

**Tue., Mar. 18:** FUF Choir rehearsal, 3-4 p.m.

**Wed., Mar. 19:** Back Porch Folk Singers, 3-4:30 p.m.

**Thur., Mar. 20:** Nonfiction Book Group, 9:30 a.m.

**Thur., Mar. 20:** Men's Harmony Chorus, 4 p.m.

**Sat., Mar. 22:** Game Night, 6:30-9 p.m.

**Tue., Mar. 25:** Knitters' Group, 1-3 p.m.

**Tue., Mar. 25:** Fellowship Choir rehearsal, 3 p.m.

**Wed., Mar. 26:** Back Porch Folk Singers, 3-4:30 p.m.

**Thur., Mar. 27:** Men's Harmony Chorus, 4 p.m.

**Sat., Mar. 29:** Ken Sizemore in Concert, 7-9 p.m.