

April 2010



Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Apr. 4 PAUL MCAULIFFE: *“Flutes of the World”*

Paul believes that music is truly the language of the soul, and the flute is an instrument of the heart. He'll bring a dozen flutes from various cultures that he will demonstrate and discuss as time allows. They will range from Native American style flutes he has made, to a replica of an 1100-year-old Anasazi flute, Japanese shakuhachi, South American zampona, Eastern European dvoynka, Scandinavian overtone flute, and a host of others.

Introduction: Jeanine Normand

Apr. 11 JIM BODMAN: *“The Michael Donald - Klan Hanging Case”*

Retired FBI Special Agent Bodman will present the case of the lynching of Michael Donald by the Klan which is America's last recorded hanging. Details of the FBI's investigation will be provided including Klan interviews and the eventual confession and cooperation of one of the killers which led to a life sentence in federal custody and a state execution in the state of Alabama

Introduction: Bert Brun

Apr. 18 KATHERINE BARNES: *“From Italy to South Alabama: Experiences in Organic Farming and Environmentalism”*

In the fall of 2007, Ms. Barnes moved to Italy to work and learn on an organic farm. What began as an internship in the Tuscan hillside took her on an incredible ride through the country, exploring different regions, organic farms, and the rich details of Italian life and culture. Upon returning home, she sought a way to share with others the importance of not only organic farming, but also sustainable living. Last year, she began an AmeriCorps position with the Alabama Coastal Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping educate others about our valuable resources here in South Alabama.

Introduction: Elaine Snyder-Conn

Apr. 25 JOYCE CAUTHEN: *“Folk Customs at the Dinner Table”*

Food traditions are among the most enduring forms of folklore. Because preparation and eating of food is central to our family life, our richest customs, sayings and stories are created and passed on at the dinner table--be it at home, at a church supper or at McDonald's. Cauthen discusses food folklore and its importance as a means of preserving family, community and regional identity and gives examples of dining traditions she has collected across the state in previous AHF presentations. She talks about holiday foods, unique names for foods coined by children, table graces, superstitions associated with eating and cleaning up after meals, and foods associated with funerals as well as food traditions unique to various towns and counties in Alabama.

Introduction: Ruth Geraci

Everyone is invited to attend the Last Sunday of the Month potluck following the April 25th 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

MARCH BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

At the March 5 meeting your Board:

- Approved the minutes and Treasurer's report.
- Directed the Treasurer to add the Merrill Lynch account to the financial report.
- Established a New Building Fund.
- Decided to retain our current lawn care provider.
- Reiterated that Faulkner would make the decisions as to awarding of the SAC scholarship.
- Approved a bake sale to be held in conjunction with the April 17 yard sale.
- Was informed that Justice Sunday is March 28; an announcement will be made from the podium.
- Was informed a certificate has been received from UUSC, which will be framed and hung in a suitable location.
- Approved a liability release form to be used with outside contractors.
- Discussed alternatives to paving the parking lot.
- Discussed pest control options.
- Directed that the doorstops be replaced.
- Tabled discussions of problems with the security system.
- Approved purchase of touch up paint for main hall.
- Re-directed that the keypad on the kitchen door be disabled.

- Partnered with the Mobile Fellowship to sponsor a series of programs on WHIL.
- Approved a receipt form for in-kind contributions modeled on other organizations.
- Discussed slate of upcoming speakers and the need for more talks from our own members.

—Submitted by Pam Perkins

APRIL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

- I. Approval of the minutes from the March meeting.
- II. Treasurer's Report (Pat Smith)
- III. Old Business
 1. SAC report (Jeanine Normand)
 2. Gravel for the Parking Lot (Stu Chapman)
 3. Alarm System (Stu Chapman)
 4. Door Keys (Stu Chapman)
- IV. New Business
 1. Increasing the Program Committee budget for the remainder of 2010. (Bert Brun)
 2. Contract for lawn care (Frank Laraway)

If you have any other items for the Board meeting, please notify Michael Patrick or any Board member. FUF members are always welcome to attend all Board meetings.

—Submitted by Michael Patrick

Summary Financial Statement February 2010

Submitted by Pat Smith

	Feb	Actual YTD	Budgeted YTD	Surplus/ (Deficit)
<u>Support and Revenue</u>				
Contributions	2,507	7,108	7,000	108
Other Revenue	0	61	833	(772)
Total Support and Revenue	2,507	7,169	7,833	(665)
<u>Expenses</u>				
Building	1,571	4,032	5,223	1,191
Committees	1,306	2,515	1,977	(538)
Donations	100	100	633	533
Total Expenses	2,977	6,647	7,833	1,187
Net Operating Increase/(Decrease)	(471)	522	0	522

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jim & Diana Gardiner

Jim and Diana had two main requirements for their retirement home: it must be at least 150 feet above sea level, and reasonably close to their children. After years of searching, they noticed they'd begun to compare every place they looked at to Fairhope. They've lived here since 2007.

Jim and his family moved from Washington, D.C., where Jim was born, to Mobile when he was four so his father could coach basketball at Springhill College. When Jim was a high school sophomore, the family moved to New Orleans where his dad coached at Loyola.

After dental school at Loyola, Jim spent three years in the army. He later received a Master of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins. After a residency at the University of Florida, Jim accepted a teaching position at the LSU School of Dentistry in New Orleans. He retired from there in 2001.

Diana grew up and attended schools in Anniston, Alabama. She completed a B.S. degree in psychology from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, and worked for several years as a staff psychologist at Bryce Hospital. Later, she received master's degrees in educational psychology and in counseling, and a PhD in educational psychology from the University of Alabama. In 1984 she accepted a position at the LSU School of Dentistry, where she and Jim met and where she worked for the next 23 years in various capacities, eventually as Assistant Dean of Educational Services. She retired in 2006.

In August 2005, Katrina waters completely flooded the LSU School of Dentistry. Diana, with other faculty and staff, took on the daunting job of setting up the School in borrowed buildings 80 miles away, on Baton Rouge's LSU campus. Within six weeks, thanks to extraordinary effort by many people, the School welcomed incoming fall freshmen.

Jim's childhood religion was Catholic and Diana's was Southern Baptist. Their interest in the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship came via the birding group led by Celeste Hinds. Diana joined in 2007 and met other birding Unitarians. Jim and Diana attended several Fellowship programs and found they appreciated the openness and tolerance of the Unitarian community.

Diana enjoys reading and gardening and is president of a local garden club. Jim refurbishes computers and donates them to needy individuals and local schools. The Gardiners have two children, both in the health professions, and four grandchildren—all boys.

"If the Eastern Shore gets a Costco and a Whole Foods store," says Jim, "we'll probably never leave."

—Submitted by Juanie Noland



Photo by Juanie Noland

April 26
Happy 225th
Birthday
John James Audubon



NEW BUILDING FUND ESTABLISHED

You may have noticed that on several Sundays recently the volunteers have had to put out all of our chairs because of large crowds. On at least one occasion, we put out all the chairs and still had people standing. We should compliment the Program and the Music Committees for scheduling speakers and music that attract such large crowds.

However, many members also feel we should, because of growing attendance, be thinking of the long range future. Toward that end, the Board has voted to put a line item in the budget for a New Building Fund. We realize that a new building is not an immediate prospect. Still, even if it is five or more years in the future, the Fellowship needs to make plans. This line item will give us not only a planning tool, but give to those who want to contribute toward a new building now an opportunity to do so.

Those of you who, years ago, were involved in the process of raising money for our present building know it was a long term process. We reached the goal without encumbering the Fellowship with a mortgage or requiring members to pledge.

The Board hopes we can plan as carefully for future growth by a similar plan, raising the money over the coming years and avoiding a mortgage. So anyone who wants to contribute to the New Building Fund can rest assured it will be kept in safe investments and used as the contributors wish.

—Submitted by Michael Patrick

A REQUEST FROM THE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Members of the congregation are urged to consider giving a program for future Sunday services. We have many members with fascinating backgrounds, whether with respect to their career interests and achievements or their life experiences. Please contact Bert Brun, current Programs chair, for more information.

—Submitted by Bert Brun

UU MID-SOUTH DISTRICT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

The UU Mid-South District ANNUAL ASSEMBLY is a buffet of inspiring workshops and workshops. This year's theme is "So Our Children Can Fly". The Assembly is scheduled for May 7-9, 2010, in Dahlonega, GA (about 1 hour north of Atlanta).

An extra MSD event just prior to MSDUUA: **Unitarian Universalist History Renaissance Module** on March 5-7th 2010, at UU Metro Atlanta North in Roswell, GA (just north of Atlanta). For details and registration forms go to www.msduua.org/home/

—Submitted by Jeanine Normand

INVITATION TO ANNUAL MEETING

You are cordially invited to attend the Baldwin County Environmental Advisory Board's Annual Meeting. on Friday, April 9th from 830 am – 12 pm in the Blakeley Hall classroom building at Five Rivers Delta Resource Center on the Causeway. Keynote speaker will be Mr. Greg Lein, the assistant director of the State Lands Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. He will present information on conservation lands and the Forever Wild program. Please RSVP by Friday, April 2 to David Villafana (251) 580-1655 x7253.

—Submitted by Jeanine Normand

APRIL'S MOMENTS IN HISTORY

•Nazi Germany began its persecution of Jews with boycott of Jewish-owned businesses, 1933 •World War II invasion of Okinawa began, 1945 •US launched its first weather satellite, 1960 •General Hospital premiered on ABC-TV, 1963 •Juan Ponce de Leon discovered Florida, 1513 •Congress passed the Coinage Act, which authorized establishment of the US Mint, 1792 •Samuel F.B. Morse, telegraph developer, died in New York, 1872

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

UPCOMING EVENTS AND RECENT DONATIONS



BAKE SALE

Saturday, April 17, coordinating with the Fellowship's semi-annual yard sale. This major and yummy SAC event has be-

come a happy time for all participants and is a major source of funds for our \$1,000 per year Faulkner State Community College Nursing Scholarship. We need volunteers to donate home-made items such as cookies, brownies, bread, cakes, muffins or any other tasty baked treat. Items can be dropped off on Friday, April 16, 9am-12 noon or before 7am the day of the sale. NOTE: Please have items labeled and packaged ready to sell. Whip up your favorite treat or go for some new and exciting specialty. Imagine the appreciative smiles of your consumers as well as the smiles from Nursing Scholarship recipients. Contact one of the following to volunteer (listed in the FUF directory): Nancy Martin, Jeanine Normand or Lynn Switzky.

During the months of April and May, we will once again be collecting non-perishable items for EMI (Ecumenical Ministries), i.e. canned or packaged food items plus paper needs such as paper towels, tissues and napkins. During this economic hardship phase, such donations are greatly needed. The donation box is to the right (as you enter the foyer) of the auditorium doors. Beside this box will be a smaller receptacle for year-round donation of eye glasses and old cell phones which will be reprogrammed and recycled. Note: If you have clothing, toiletries or children's items you wish to donate to The Lighthouse or Aid to Inmate Mothers, contact one of our committee (Bert Brun, Ann/Stu Chapman, Kathleen Fendelman, Nancy Martin, Jeanine Normand, Lynn & Harvey Switzky).

With FUF Board approval, \$100 each has been donated to the following organizations recommended to the board by the Social Action Committee: Aid to Inmate Mothers, Alabama Arise, Alabama Free Clinic, Baldwin County Humane Society, Baldwin County League of Women Voters, South Alabama CARES, Ecumenical Ministries Meals On Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, The Lighthouse, and Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). You will note the local nature of these organizations due to SAC's decision to focus on people close to home, with national/international support derived mainly from member holiday donations to the Unitarian Universalist Social Committee (UUSC). We would be glad to get feedback from members about our focus and our selections.

—Submitted by Ann Chapman

SPRING YARD SALE REMINDER!

The yard sale is scheduled for April 17th, 7am-11am. Set-up will be Thursday and Friday, morning, April 15-16. Stop by either of these days to drop off your items. Please keep in mind:

- Winter clothes do not sell well in the spring; please save those for the autumn sale. Summer clothes sell all year around.
- No large furniture! If you can't carry it in (and carry it back out again!), please dispose of it another way. We can always list it on craigslist.com for you.
- Anything considered too grungy to sell will be rejected. That's what those nice men that ride around in the big white trucks twice a week are for.
- No computer-type electronics or obsolete items like electric typewriters.

Thanks for your help and your donations!!

—Submitted by Pam Perkins

AUTHORS DISCUSSION GROUP

The Authors Discussion Group, which meets the second Thursday of each month, has selected authors for the coming three months:

Upcoming authors for the Authors Discussion Group are:

4/15: Toni Morrison (led by Ruth Geraci)

5/13: Eudora Welty (led by Helen Earl)

The group welcomes new members to its discussion, which starts at 9:30 a.m.

—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. Bring your favorite work of non-fiction to share.

—Submitted by Diane Ehlers

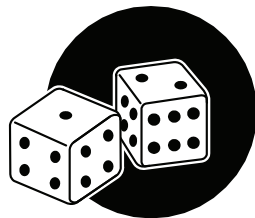
GAME NIGHT TWICE MONTHLY

Game Night is a great way to meet Fellowship members and friends — come join in the fun starting at 6:30 p.m.! We have a variety of board and card games, and new games are always welcome. New players are invited to learn a game or share one they know.

Game Night is held on the second and fourth Saturday nights of each month.

For information contact Ruth Geraci at 251-970-3407 or uuruthg@gulftel.com.

—Submitted by
Ruth Geraci



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Thu., Apr. 1: Show-Tunes Singers 3-4pm

Fri., Apr. 2: Board Meeting 10am

Sun., Apr. 4: Discussion Group 945-1045am

Tue., Apr. 6: Knitters' Group 1-330pm

Tue., Apr. 6: Choir rehearsal 330pm

Wed., Apr. 7: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm

Thu., Apr. 8: Authors Discussion Group

Thu., Apr. 8: Show-Tunes Singers 3-4pm

Sat., Apr. 10: Game Night 630-930pm

Tue., Apr. 13: Knitters Group 1-330pm

Tue., Apr. 13: Choir rehearsal 330pm

Wed., Apr. 14: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm

Thu., Apr. 15: Non-Fiction Book Group 930am

Thu., Apr. 15: Show-Tunes Singers 3-4pm

Sun., Apr. 18: Discussion Group 945-1045am

Tue., Apr. 20: Knitters' Group 1-330pm

Tue., Apr. 20: Choir rehearsal 330pm

Wed., Apr. 21: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm

Thu., Apr. 22: Show-Tunes Singers 3-4pm

Sat., Apr. 24: Game Night 630-930pm

Sun., Apr. 25: Discussion Group 945-1045am

Sun., Apr. 25: Last Sunday Potluck 12pm

Sun., Apr. 25: February newsletter deadline 5pm

Tue., Apr. 27: Knitters Group 1-330pm

Tue., Apr. 27: Choir rehearsal 330pm

Wed., Apr. 28: Back Porch Folk Singers 3-430pm

Thu., Apr. 29: Show-Tunes Singers 3-4pm

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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