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The Newsletter of the  
Buckman Bridge Unitarian  
Universalist Church  
August 2011

## UUA General Assembly 2011

UUA World contributor Michelle Bates Deakin described the work of this year's GA, including the adoption of a statement on ethical eating for UUs. She wrote:

The Statement of Conscience, "[Ethical Eating: Food & Environmental Justice](#)," which has been in the works ever since it was proposed at GA 2008 in Fort Lauderdale, passed overwhelmingly. The four-page statement calls on UUs to "eat ethically by becoming aware of the ways that food choice affects one's health and the health of the planet."

It makes reference to industrial farming, condemns mistreatment of animals and workers in food production, encourages a diet based more on plants than animals, and invites people to seek out and advocate for food that is raised responsibly. The statement also urges congregations to work for "food justice" so that everyone can have "adequate, nutritious food."



### NEW R.E. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Parents, please register your children for RE classes in the 2011-2012 church year by completing the registration form posted online at BBUUC yahoogroups or by contacting DRE Brenda Patterson by email to request that a form be emailed to you directly. All registration forms should be complete and returned to Brenda by Aug.1 as we try to create class rosters and include this information on our data base. Thank you for your cooperation!

Brenda's email is [bthomaspatterson@yahoo.com](mailto:bthomaspatterson@yahoo.com).

There is also a form to complete if you would like for your children to be included in the new BBUUC Kids' Directory.

## The ARTISTS' CORNER



## BBUUC Mini Mixers

The Aesthetics Task Force is pleased to announce "The Artists' Corner," exhibition space for BBUUC artists. Located across the lobby from the main entrance, a different artist will be featured every two months. Depending on size, up to 10 works of art may be accommodated. Once all the details have been ironed out, an artist's form will be published, as well as criteria and guidelines for showing and selling art.

Our inaugural artist will be Kris Kines. Kris has been a BBUUC member for ten years, painting for the last four. She began studying watercolor in 2008 by taking lessons from fellow member Bob Williamson. Since that time, Kris' work has expanded from watercolor to include collage. Please stop by the The Artists' Corner and enjoy her work.

We look forward to show-casing our talented members!

### ***The Aesthetics Task Force***



If you are a member and would like a chance to *really* get to know more of the wonderful people you share coffee with on Sunday mornings - **come to a Mini Mixer!**

A "Mini Mixer" is a special party held at a member's home. It is limited to about 15 guests and includes activities to help us to get to know every person attending at a deeper level than we otherwise might. *Spouses and partners of members are included as well.*

Mini Mixers originated at the Arlington UU Church and have been a huge success there. We are hoping to have one every couple of months.

If you are a BBUUC member and would like to host a party, be a guest, or simply find out more about Mini Mixers, contact Lynn Wadley at 268-1771, email [Lwadley@comcast.com](mailto:Lwadley@comcast.com) or see her at church.



## OUR YOUNG PEOPLE NEED YOU!

***Fabulous, thought provoking, energetic, challenging, loving Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist young people*** ages 4-18 are seeking equally fabulous adult guides for their religious journeys. Enthusiasm, commitment to learning, willingness to see things in a new way all a must. Actual teaching time is approximately 45 minutes once a month (from when the children leave the service until the beginning of coffee hour). Curriculum, training, and support provided for each 4-person teaching team. Teachers, help-

ers, and special project leaders are all needed. Begins in September. Please contact Brenda Patterson ([bthomaspatterson@yahoo.com](mailto:bthomaspatterson@yahoo.com)) or Marilyn Smart ([mssmart@bellsouth.net](mailto:mssmart@bellsouth.net)) with your questions and to volunteer.

(Specifically we need, 1 Elementary teacher, 1 Spirit Play teacher, 1 Spirit Play doorkeeper (helper), and 1 advisor for the teen program.

*\* All new volunteers will receive a new car!)*



### JOYS AND CONCERNS



\*Congratulations to **Brittany Benefield** on earning her Doctorate in her Physical Therapy! Good luck to you in the future work that you will do in this field!

\***Brenda Patterson**, our Director of Religious Education, is recovering from suffering a broken heel. Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Brenda!

\*Our love and condolences are extended to the Glassman family. **Jen Glassman's** mother passed away in July. A service will be held at the

Unitarian Congregation at Shelter Rock in Long Island in September. In lieu of flowers the Glassman family would prefer a donation to Community Hospice.

*Cards and calls can be sent to:*

Jen and Drew Glassman, Anna and Nicholas  
8251 Ashworth Court  
Jacksonville, FL 32256



## ***Notes from the Board***

**Happy New Year!** Yes, I know is really isn't a new calendar year, but July was the beginning of the fiscal new year for Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church. Everyone on your new Council & Board have been working this past month on the changes and challenges that this new year will bring to our congregation.

The biggest change from previous years is that this is our first full fiscal year in our building. Many thanks to all the people that have gotten us to this monumental point. Moving to a new home can be one of the most stressful times in a family's life. The hard part of planning, building, moving & setting up has been down. Now we get to the work of learning how to live in our new home and neighborhood. How we use our building to the best benefit of the entire congregation is first and foremost on our minds. As such, one focus of this year's Board and Council is developing a program of mid-week activities.

The surveys that were posted on the Yahoo groups and in the Order of Service the past couple of weeks are being compiled, and we will do our best to begin programming that meets the needs and wants requested by you. If you did not get a chance to respond to the survey yet,

please send me your comments at [gina@configmd.com](mailto:gina@configmd.com).

I am thrilled to be a part of a dynamic congregation that was able to come together to complete such a monumental task as building a new home. I am equally thrilled to be part of the leadership team that continues that same energy to move ahead into the new year.

***Gina***





## From Your Director of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Does this look like a Christmas present right here in August? Well, you're right! It is. And it's a present **FROM** you, **TO** you.



If you open it up, you'll find a weekend of rest and relaxation for you, your family, and your BBUUC friends. And it comes at the time when you'll need it the most – right after the holidays. Forget shopping and duties, rushing and stressing. Relax in a beautiful setting where you don't have to lift a finger, where you can get to know BBUUC members in a more personal environment, where playtime and laughter abounds, and where energy and spirits can be revived for the year ahead.

If you're an adult, you might be envious of the kids at this weekend All-Church Retreat because Dani Slader is putting together the children's programming. Dani's degree in English, experience as a former UU kid, and work at the Y combine to make her an expert at kids and fun!

But the adults have a treat in store, too. Bruce Knotts, Director of the UUA's United Nations Office in New York, will be leading our discussion times together. Bruce's experience is broad and deep. Here is only a sample: he spent three years in Ethiopia in the Peace Corps; he had a long and distinguished U.S. diplomatic career

serving in Greece, Sudan, Kenya, India, Pakistan, Ivory Coast, Zambia, and the Gambia; he served on the UN High Commission on Refugees; he was given citations for heroism and meritorious service by the US State Department for his work in Nairobi after surviving the bombing of the US Embassy there; and he is strongly committed to human rights issues and the effects of small groups in creating peace.

And just like other All-Church UU Retreats, this one will not lack for fun! From late night poker parties to dances to talent shows to music around a campfire to star-gazing and friend-making, you can expect to find strength and good times together in this special time of community.

It's been years since BBUUC has had an All-Church Retreat. In fact, this will be a first-time event for many in the congregation. More details will be announced soon (site details, cost, specific events), but go ahead and mark your calendar now for the weekend of **Jan 6, 7, and 8** and plan to gift yourself with this post-holiday treat.

See you in church,

**Brenda**

PS: Thanks to all of you who have contacted me in a variety of ways to express your concern about my recent injury. I'm hoping for restorative surgery before I go back to school on Aug. 8, and appreciate all your warm wishes, prayers, jokes about people who fall off of tables, and many forms of support.

# Getting to Know *Don DeStephano*

Don DeStephano joined BBUUC on May 8, 2011, following a spiritual exploration by way of [beliefnet.com](http://www.beliefnet.com). He was raised Southern Baptist via his mother, a native of South Georgia. Even though his father was a Catholic son of Sicilian immigrants, he really didn't know what a Catholic was until he met his wife Patty, who is an active practicing Catholic and one of the most charitable persons he has ever met. Don was never intellectually comfortable as a Baptist, nor did Catholicism fit. While he had heard of Unitarianism, he didn't know what it was until his son sent him the "Beliefomatic" quiz on the internet:

<http://www.beliefnet.com/Entertainment/Quizzes/BeliefOMatic.aspx>

Don took the quiz and matched 100%. On researching it further, he discovered he had been a Unitarian all along but just didn't know it. He was pleased to find the new BBUU church had just opened on his side of town and attended the first service there. After a few more services, meeting the members, and going to the introductory classes, it was clear that the quiz was spot on. The quiz also confirmed that Patty was a true Catholic.

Don was born and grew up in Moultrie, Georgia, and attended the University of Georgia where he earned a

PhD in Entomology. He also received his MD at the Medical College of Georgia, received his pathology training at the University of Michigan, and practices pathology at St. Vincent's Health System. He has been married to Patty for 32 years. and they have three children: Chris 28, Leanna 23, and Dave 16. They are also proud grandparents of one granddaughter. In his free time, Don enjoys travel, spending time with family, hunting, remote-control airplanes, shotgun sports (skeet and sporting clays), and is learning Spanish. Don is a man of many talents and interests, and we are happy he has joined our church family at BBUUC.



***Getting to Know... will be a regular feature of our monthly Journey and will allow us to get to know our new (and not-so-new) members better. Watch for it each month.***

## Getting to Know *Peggy Mullins*

Peggy Mullins was born and raised in Columbia, Mississippi, where her spiritual life began as a Baptist. By the age of 24 she became disenchanted with the Baptist Church and began researching other denominations, finally becoming Episcopalian and raising her daughter in the Episcopal Church. She followed a four-year course called Education for Ministry (E.F.M.) as an Episcopalian, but expressed doubts during the last year of her course about the Church being truly the Church that Jesus founded. By this time, Peggy had read many of the manuscripts which had been discovered from biblical times, including the Gospel of Thomas, and they raised too many issues for her to be able to adhere to creeds and rote statements of the Church. Her mentor suggested that she visit with a group of Unitarian/Universalists who met near the University of Southern Mississippi, which she did, and was immediately taken by their intellectual and thoughtful approach to spirituality.

Peggy went to Oxford, England, for a two-week follow up to E.F.M. When she returned, a friend had discovered a small UU Church in Ellisville, Mississippi, called Our Home Unitarian/Universalist Church, which celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary while she was there. Peggy started attending with her friend and very quickly decided this would be her home church, and she was a member there until moving here last fall.

Before and after going to Oxford, Peggy read voraciously and studied theology from Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, pagan worship, to every denomination she could unravel, and she still studies and reads anything she thinks may have a bearing on her spirituality. Oddly enough, she found that Buddhism helped her to understand Christianity more, and still follows the dharma as she does the Ten Commandments. Her studies opened up for her the one overwhelming idea that spiritu-

ality is based in love and compassion, for all mankind, and all living things.

Peggy is a true intellectual, graduating as valedictorian in her high school class and attending college at Mississippi State College for Women, Millsaps College, and the University of Southern Mississippi. She was one of the first women to study law under the preceptorship program and, after passing the Bar, worked as an Associate at a law firm and a Law Editor. She also worked at the Mississippi Research and Development Center, a “think tank” for the economic and industrial development of Mississippi, writing the first statewide housing study and numerous other studies. Peggy spent several years as an independent oil landman in Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas, but finally retired in 1998 as the Board Attorney to the Board of Supervisors in Jackson County, Mississippi, and then moved back to Columbia to care for her ailing mother.

In 2010 Peggy moved to Middleburg, Florida, where her daughter and three grandchildren live. Her daughter and son-in-law opened The Supply Bunker, a military surplus store on Blanding Blvd. in 2011, and her grandchildren include a pre-med student, a licensed farrier, and a computer technology student/business owner. Peggy joined BBUUS in October of 2010, and we are honored to be her church family.





## Clean-up and Catch-up Crews for August

August 7, 2011

Laura Allen, Debbie Atkins,  
Chris Bak, Nikki Bak, Michael  
Bernos, Annabelle Gallois-  
Bernos, Rich Toupin, Robert  
Wright, Mark Yount [Leader:  
Rich Toupin]

August 14, 2011

Cheryl Frost, Candace Gerding,  
Martha Gilliland, Jennifer  
Glassman, Sandy Goldman,  
Nina Hemmelgarn, Chris Jarman  
[Leader: Nina Hemmel-

August 21, 2011

Peter Grogan, Deborah Hansen,  
Phyllis K. Higginbotham,  
Joyce Irene Johnson, Deborah  
Jones, Frances Kennicutt, Kris  
Kines, Linda Mowers [Leader: Linda Mowers]

August 28, 2011

Myrna Kissinger, Melinda  
Kluding, Paul Kluding, Grace  
Lindewirth, Shirley (Jonnie)  
Long, Christopher Lynch, Lisa  
Lynch, Catharine Mallard,  
Carlos Marina, Linda Gillespie  
Marina [Leader: Grace  
Lindewirth]

# Dates in UU History

by Dr. Frank Schulman

[http://www.harvardsquarelibrary.org/365\\_this\\_day/?month=8&day=4](http://www.harvardsquarelibrary.org/365_this_day/?month=8&day=4)



## 1 August 1819

The great American author **Herman Melville** was born in New York City. He left home at age 17 and served on the whaler *Acushnet*, deserted in the Pacific, and lived briefly with a cannibal tribe. His works include *Typee*, *Omoo*, and *Mardi*, but he is most famous for his 1851 novel *Moby Dick*. He was a member of the Unitarian Church of All Souls in New York City.



## 4 August 1875

The famous Universalist storyteller **Hans Christian Andersen** died at Rolighed, Denmark, at the age of 70. A successful novelist and poet, Andersen is best known for fairy tales such as "The Little Match Girl," "The Ugly Duckling," and "The Snow Queen." In 1842 he wrote *The True Story of My Life*. Andersen's poetry won him the patronage of King Frederick VI of Denmark.



## 18 August 1831

The Massachusetts Association of Universal Restorationists was formed. Its profession of faith included belief in retribution beyond death before reconciliation with God. It caused a schism in the Universalist movement. The terms Restorationist and Universalist were sometimes used interchangeably. The Restorationists included Adin Ballou.



## August Schedule of Services

Services are held Sundays at 10:30 a.m. at  
8447 Manresa Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32073  
Church Phone: (904) 276-3739 • Website: [www.BBUUC.org](http://www.BBUUC.org)

**August 7 10:30 a.m.:** Rev. Jack Ford will present *"Raising the Ceiling: The Economics of Interdependence"*

"Discussing economics is a scary proposition, especially for me," says Jack. "But now, it's not just politics, it's personal. Unitarian Minister John Haynes Holmes preached a sermon in 1936 entitled, "What Shall I Do if I Lose My Money?" The question is as pertinent now, in the wake of the Great Recession, as it was following the Great Depression of his time. Where do faith and finance meet?"

Led by Linda Mowers Gary Smart Accompanist

**August 14 10:30 a.m.:** Jeff Nall will present *"Men and Feminism"*

Jeff will discuss the relationship between men and feminism. Feminist thinkers contend that the traditional view of masculinity perpetuates a selfish and divided society. But feminist insights can change men's self-image, so that can they work towards a peaceful and just society.

Lay Leader: Ron Rothberg Accompanist: Marilyn Smart

**August 21: 10:30 a.m.:** Sarah Clarke Stuart will present: *"Meaning, Information and Our Consumer Culture (Huxley Was Right!)"*

Drawing from literary works like the "The Library of Babel" by Jorge Luis Borges, Sarah will discuss the dangers of a hyper-mediatized consumer culture. Continuous streams of information and images can easily draw us away from lives of fulfillment and meaning. Long before the age of the internet, Huxley feared the truth would be drowned in a sea of irrelevance.

Lay Leader: Eric Cravey Accompanist: Gary Smart

**Aug 28: 10:30 a.m.:** Rev. Archie Wainright will present *"The Essence of Liberal Religion"*

Apart from wanting a more open and useful religious education for our children, to enjoy fellowship and good food - what are some of the reasons why we and others found our way to Unitarian Universal churches and fellowships? And why do we stay? Is it the opportunity for a free and responsible search for truth? Is that all there is to it? And why is it so important? Is this the essence of a liberal religion?

Lay Leader: Liz Teal Accompanist: Paul Marquardt

# UUA TRUSTEE TIDBITS

*Joan Lund, August,  
2011*

[jlund@uua.org](mailto:jlund@uua.org) or 813-  
931-9727



It was good to see many of you in June at GA. Hope you experienced a rewarding, challenging, and fun time in Charlotte. There is a Trustee-written GA June, 2011 report sent to the District office earlier this week, my reflections of important happenings at GA; and of course much information may be found at UUA.org, linking to GA 2011. I made a pledge to myself, and now to you that I plan to devote Trustee Tidbits columns from now until next March or April to our Justice GA 2012 to be held in Phoenix next year. I think it will be one of our most important gatherings in our over fifty year history. Please make plans to attend.

What I know about GA 2012: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, minister of the UU congregation of Phoenix, has accepted a key leadership role in the Arizona immigration effort. Rev. Harlan Limpert, Vice-President for Ministries and Congregational Support, and Susan, with input from Rev. Ken Brown and others, are in the process of finalizing specific roles, responsibilities of those involved. Rev. Frederick-Gray is widely respected as a minister, and outstanding spokesperson on justice issues and partner with Arizona congregations and other Arizona immigration groups and their leaders, with whom the UUA is already working, and will continue to do so in the coming months.

Many relationships have been formed, maintained, and expanded in recent years between UUA Staff, lay and professional leaders in Arizona congregations, and individuals and organizations in Arizona committed to immigration reform and human rights issues. These relationships are critically important to any work that occurs during the coming year, during GA2012, and in the months and years following Justice GA. Our UUA has committed \$150,000 towards an Arizona immigration for fiscal year 7/1/11 to 6/30/12. There was a collection at the GA in Charlotte specifically for this fund and the GA Planning Committee has contributed to it. There is commitment to ensuring that the 2012 Justice GA impacts the justice work of our UUA for many years to come.

We know numerous other states are contemplating, or have passed, laws as oppressive as those passed in Arizona that have impacted the work and ministry we do together. Training and education throughout the year will be provided; hopefully this will have a big impact on justice work in congregations. The best place to find information valuable to your congregation will be at our UUA website. Bottom line: The very fact that GA will take place in Phoenix in 2012 is positive. It creates opportunity for making a difference in ways seldom seen.



# August 2011

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

Kris Kines in Artists' Corner throughout August	1 RE Registration Forms due	2	3 Identity/ Owl 7 pm	4	5	6
7 10:30 a.m.: Rev. Jack Ford	8	9	10 Identity/ Owl 7pm Council 7pm	11	12	13
14 10:30 a.m.: Jeff Nall	15	16	17 Identity/ Owl 7 pm	18	19	20
21 10:30 a.m.: Sarah Clark Stuart Caring Noon	22 Board 7pm	23	24 Identity/ Owl 7 pm	25	26	27
28 10:30 a.m.: Rev. Archie Wainright	29 Wor- ship 7 pm	30	31 Identity/ Owl 7 pm			

**\*Identity/Owl group will also meet on the 21st and 28th during the Service.**

**The Journey** is published monthly by the Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church and is distributed electronically in PDF format, or by mail to members with no computer access. Subscription: \$20 per year for non-members for a paper copy to be mailed monthly. Electronic Journey sent at no cost. Submissions are required by the deadline shown above, and may be sent to BBUUC Journey at P. O. Box 844, Orange Park, FL 32067; [journey@bbuuc.org](mailto:journey@bbuuc.org).



## Birthdays

08/02	Pat Ray
08/10	Michael Bernos
08/10	Carol Waters
08/17	Patrick Queeney
08/19	Barry Heath
08/21	Candace Gerding
08/25/01	Kaelyn Kluding
08/25/10	Judah Ritzmann
08/26/02	Abby Crisp
08/26/00	Ava Lopez
08/31	Callie Beesley



## Anniversaries

08/07	Cliff & Joani Maskell
08/12	Ken & Karen Christiansen
08/14	Tim & Emily Frazier
08/14	Pete & Martha Morgan
08/17	Gary & Marilyn Smart
08/26	David & Amy Murphy

## Announcement

The first Lifespan Religious Education (LRE) meeting will be held at 12 noon (no longer than an hour) on Sunday, August 7 in the Primary RE classroom. All are welcome! Contact Marilyn Smart or Brenda Patterson for questions or details.

# The Journey

*Newsletter of*

Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church  
P.O. Box 844  
Orange Park, FL 32067