

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Yellow Springs

Newsletter

June, 2013



Calendar of Programs

Sunday, June 2

10:00—UUFYS Annual General Meeting

On Sunday, June 2, the meeting will be election of officers for the Board and Leadership Development committee and presentation of the budget for next year.

All voting members are encouraged to attend.

General Meeting Information

Information sheets for the Annual General Meeting are reproduced in this newsletter

Meeting Agenda..... Page 3

Notes on Budget Page 4

Budgeting Guidelines; Budget Facts & Assumptions..... Page 5

2013-14 Proposed Budget Page 6

11:45—Potluck Luncheon

Please bring food to share and your own table setting.

Sunday, June 9

10:00—Cast Out of Eden

Eric W., fellowship member, will lead an exploration of the relationship between Humans and Nature. Together we will explore how our communities can do more to protect, cherish, and love the environment we live in. Small group discussions included.

Sunday, June 16

10:00—Transforming Our World Through Public Education

Mario B., Superintendent of Yellow Springs Schools, will speak about Yellow Springs Schools' plan to reenergize student learning

Public schools are in crisis throughout our country. Challenged by severe revenue cuts, rapid changes in technology, and increased personalization; public schools must evolve quickly or risk becoming extinct.

This program will focus on Yellow Springs Schools' response to this crisis and the opportunity to transform public education through authentic Project Based Learning, student agency, and increased community connection.

Sunday, June 23

10:00—The Search for Meaning: Universal...and Personal

Al D., resident scholar, philosopher, mentor, and professor emeritus of philosophy of law and religion, Antioch College, will lead this discussion.

11:45—Salad Sunday

Salad prepared by various members.

Please bring food to share and your own table setting.

Sunday, June 30

10:00—Transitions of Faith

Lathe S., Yellow Springs resident, former Catholic Priest, and now a Unitarian Universalist and a Buddhist, will speak about making the choice—and challenges—of moving from one religion to another.

You are invited to a potluck picnic to celebrate the independence of this great nation at the home of Louis and Mary Sims!



See page 8 for details.

Interested in Joining?

Are you a frequent visitor, new to UUism but interested in knowing more about this denomination or membership in the UUF? Or perhaps a previous UU who is new to this area? We have two programs for you.

- Monthly drop-in question and answer sessions during the potluck lunch on the first Sunday of each month. Look for the special table for an informal talk about UUism and this congregation.
- More structured information sessions about joining this Fellowship as a formal member.

Please contact Mary S., Chair of the Member Services Committee, at:

767-1603

or

shbuzz2001@sbcglobal.net.

She is happy to answer your questions.

This newsletter is published monthly. Please submit contributions no later than ***the next-to-the-last Sunday of each month***, to Peg P. at:

petefine@woh.rr.com

UUFYS Executive Board

Officers Elected June 2012

President—

Secretary—Joann H.

Treasurer—Mary S.

Members at Large:

Bobbi T.

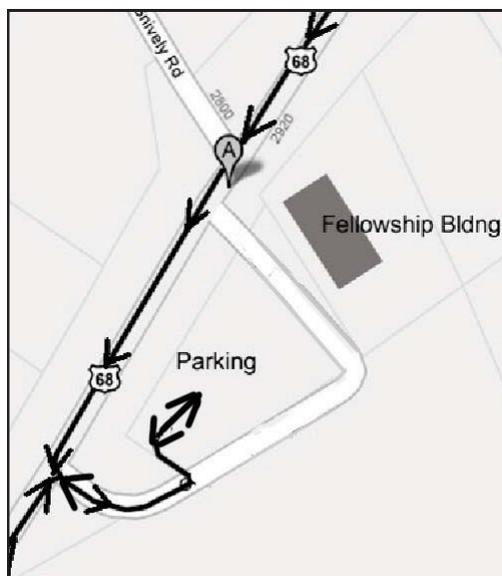
James O.

Veronica D.

Christina P.

Drive Safely!

Please always enter and leave the parking lot by the southern (toward Xenia) end. That way you won't be in danger of squashing pedestrians at the north end and it will be easier to see Rte 68 traffic coming from either direction!



Committee Meeting Times

Here are the committee meeting times. All committees encourage new members; you may sit in on a session without committing to it.

Executive Board—Meets the 2nd Sunday of every month.

Member Services—Meets the 4th Sunday of month.

New Members—Meets last Sunday of the month.

Program—Meets first Sunday of the month.

Social Justice—Meets 3rd Sunday of the month [except July and August]

**AGENDA FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF YELLOW SPRINGS
ON JUNE 2, 2013**

An official business meeting of UUFYS is held each year for the purpose of electing new board members and new members of the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) and to present and vote on the next year's budget. We ask everyone to come who can, so that all viewpoints can be represented and so that we will have a quorum (30% of membership) for voting.

I. The Leadership Development Committee, consisting of Joan Chappelle, Debbie D., and Greg T. will present the below list of candidates for new Board Members. They will serve two-year terms:

Donna C., Member at large

Polly M., Secretary

Ron S., Member at Large

Peter W., Member at Large

The LDC recommends that this new board function as a collective, without a president, as the current board has done during this fiscal year.

II. Recommended for the Leadership Development Committee for 2013-14 are the following individuals:

Debbie D.

Veronica D.

Paul V.

III. The proposed Budget for the 2013-14 Fiscal Year will be presented by the Treasurer and Finance Committee, questions from the congregation will be answered, and then all members may vote to accept the budget or not.

IV. After the business meeting is finished, the Social Justice Committee will present their Service awards, and a Child Dedication Ceremony may also occur.

Notes on the Budget

Budget development is a two-step process. First, the committees are consulted about their needs and plans for the coming year. Their responses are consolidated, with minimal editing, into a single spreadsheet for the Stewardship team to use as the basis for the campaign for member support. After the total of the member commitments (money pledged) is known, the final budget is developed by FinCom, reviewed by the Board, and distributed to the membership for their consideration and approval at the Annual Meeting.

Budget planning assumes that we will operate, to the extent possible, on a pay-as-you-go basis. Each year's expenses are expected to be covered by that year's income. If there is a shortfall, adjustments must be made by increasing income (from pledge payments, future pledges, or fundraising), or reducing non-fixed expenses. During a time of program expansion, this may not be possible; in that case, a temporary allocation from reserves can be recommended to the membership.

The annual budget recommended by the Finance Committee and reviewed by the Board is subject to the approval of the membership at the Annual Meeting. The annual meeting can decide to use reserves to increase the budget for the coming year beyond what the anticipated income would support. The use of reserves should be tied to a specific purpose (e.g., new staff, major purchase), a specific period of time (e.g., six months, one year), and a specific strategy for increasing income to replace the use of reserves for ongoing expenses at the end of the "bridging" period.

Our reserves are our seed corn and our family silver – our protection from financial jeopardy – assets built up slowly over many years of frugal management. Reserves keep us on a sustainable course, able to withstand financial threats -- *and to take advantage of opportunities* when they emerge.

The bottom line for fiscal 2012-13 is difficult to predict because of uncertainty about the extent to which current outstanding pledges will be paid and some substantial pending expenses which have not yet cleared the books. Updated 11-month actuals will be available for review at the Annual Meeting. The biggest variables are:

- The amount of additional pledge payments which will come in before the end of June
- The amount of unspent funds remaining in several committee accounts at fiscal year end.

For fiscal 2013-14, we have not received enough pledged money to support the requests from the committees. If more outstanding pledges for this year are paid and some budget expense accounts are underspent, we could have a surplus from the current year's operation to apply against the large deficit for 2013-14. However, the main unknown quantity remains the amount of additional pledges which will be made for 2013-14.

The source of the next year's budget deficit is the salary expense related to two part-time RE staff and increased RE expenses caused by the very welcome addition of LOTS of new children. This will be a continuing expense. We want young families with kids, we want a viable RE program for them, we need both paid staff and volunteers to provide the programming, and we need at least a year to grow our income to accommodate this.

In addition, budgets for the next two years will require increased resources to convert the large basement room to classroom space, to provide for youth conferences that connect our kids to the larger UU world, and to support large numbers of Fellowship adults and youth in attending the 2015 General Assembly in Columbus.

BUDGETING GUIDELINES

- Operating expenses incurred during the budget year will be covered by income received during the budget year.
- Operating income shortfalls will be addressed by income-producing strategies rather than reliance on dwindling reserves.

Exception: A short-term special event or a bridging period for program expansion can be funded from reserves.

- Operating surpluses will be available to support the next year's requirements of the overall budget. Committee budget accounts will re-set to zero each new budget year as usual.

2013-14 BUDGET FACTS AND ASSUMPTIONS AS OF MAY 16, 2013

- **2013-14– Budget for NEXT Fiscal Year.** Based on pledges received for the next fiscal year (\$38,500), the budget has a shortfall of about **\$10,500**. We are hoping to receive about \$4,000 in pledges from people who have not yet responded; if we are successful, this would reduce the deficit to about **\$6,500**.
- **2012-13– Experience and Projections for THIS Fiscal Year.** Based on current income and expenditures for 10 months, we have an apparent surplus of **\$8,800** at this point in time. That is misleading, however, because we have some heavy expenses* during the final two months. The surplus will shrink, even if some of our committees do not spend all of their budgets. Also, to be realistic, some portion of the unpaid pledges will not materialize.
- **Contingency Plan.** If we end the year in the black, we will apply the surplus to next year's anticipated deficit. If the surplus is not sufficient to support the RE staff expansion currently underway, we will take additional funds from our existing reserves in the form of "bridging" support for RE salaries in 2013-14, for one year.
- **Ongoing vs One-Time Expenses.** After the bridging year, we will budget ongoing expenses from current income and use reserves only for one-time expenses that exceed our income prospects for the year.
- **Requests to Support Future Planned Growth.** Committees are encouraged to plan for future initiatives beyond the upcoming budget year. In the current budget cycle we will acknowledge the need to fund activities and projects in future years, based on recommendations presented by the sponsoring committees. At this time we have had requests from both RE and Social Justice to consider and approve, in concept, funding for classroom renovations and for subsidizing member and youth registrations at the 2015 UUA General Assembly, which will be held, conveniently for us, in Columbus.

*RE staff and classroom expansion, parking lot, mowing, internet connection, major maintenance funding

A		B	C	D	E	F
		2012 Budget Old	2013 Budget Current	2014 Budget Proposed	Increase or (Decrease)	
1		2013-14 PROPOSED BUDGET (REVISED May 8, 2013)				
2	ACCOUNTS					NOTES
3						(will be revised as appropriate for the congregation)
4						
5	CONTRIBUTIONS					
6	Pledge Support	38,000	41,900	42,500	600	\$38,489 pledged as of May 6; \$34,770 paid so far this year to date; \$37k total paid last year
7	Donations to UUFYS	1,400	1,000	750	(250)	YTD = only \$629
8	OTHER INCOME					
9	Fund Raising	2,000	2,000	2,000	-	Yard Sale
10	Building Rental	300	500	600	100	Bahar's and Wisdom Quest
11						
12	Income Totals	41,700	45,400	45,850	450	assume \$4,000 if we continue to ask
13						
14	PROGRAM	8,600	7,570	9,445	1,875	Music director, speakers, program incidentals
15	RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	1,441	1,550	10,800	9,250	Coordinator-teacher, teacher, teen nursery assistants, training, books, supplies, field trips
16	SOCIAL JUSTICE	1,100	600	870	270	Plus set aside from reserves to attend 2015 UUA General Assembly in Columbus
17	COMMUNICATIONS	360	400	400	-	Website, directory, newsletter
18	MEMBER SERVICES	740	1,200	1,200	-	Outreach publicity, membership materials, Help One Another support (flowers, food trays, etc.)
19	LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	200	1,800	300	(1,500)	Webinar materials, workshops for new Board and committee leaders
20	UUA SUPPORT	6,399	6,160	5,893	(267)	Per member payment to UUA (\$60) and District (\$23) for denominational support
21	ADMINISTRATION	11,030	7,500	6,200	(1,300)	Data entry, bookkeeping, workers' comp, software support, postage box, supplies & equipment
22	BUILDING & GROUNDS	11,830	13,100	12,200	(900)	Custodian, insurance, electricity, mowing & plowing, trash, phones, repairs, building & garden supplies
23	Capital Items Current Year	-	3,000	2,000	(1,000)	New carpet for two RE rooms, copier, printer, monitor
24	Major Buildings Maint Set-aside	-	2,500	3,000	500	Transfer to reserve account restricted for major property maintenance requirements
25	Expense Totals	41,700	45,380	52,308	6,928	
26	Difference	-	20	(6,458)	(6,478)	
27						
28	TRANSFER FROM RESERVES			6,458		The RE program will be subsidized from reserves in an amount of up to \$6,000 for fiscal 2013-14 to enable the hiring of staff. If needed, support to the level of \$3,000 can be provided for a second year. It is assumed that income will rise in 2013-14 and thereafter to support this level of RE.
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Tar Hollow 2013

By Corrie Van A.

This year's Camporee was jam packed with new folks and young families. The kids enjoyed the wriggling tadpoles crowding every inch of the shoreline and mostly managed to stay out of the poison ivy encroaching on the edges of the paths. Boaters might have seen a pair of Canada geese with their seven fuzzy grey goslings, and to anyone who was interested, Dick R. pointed out a pollywog -guzzling heron, swallows, cat-birds and a nest of baby phoebes crammed above (and defecating on) the drinking fountain at the beachside bathroom. Bee expert Dr. Kevin M. identified the ground nesting bees on the far bank of the swimming beach and declared it off limits to foot traffic. He also used his height and expertise to remove the wasp's nest from the entrance to the water slide on Saturday afternoon.

In the lodge, the usual games were played, including many highly intellectual-looking rounds of scrabble and the colonial-capitalistic dominance of the Settlers of Catan. The fire was kept smoldering and the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches never ran out. Al S. brought many delicious jars of his homemade jams and jellies, so we didn't feel as bad about eating white bread. Saturday supper included a moist and delicious marinated chicken and fresh green beans shucked by a group of sun-shy volunteers on Saturday afternoon. Scott A. managed the nighttime snacks with his usual thoroughness, snapping grahams and chocolate bars into perfect s'more-size. The gluten intolerant folks brought their own graham crackers and marshmallows so no one was left out of the blood-sugar-spiking fun.

The weather was ideal, with not-too-cold, not-too-hot nights, the occasional sprinkle of rain and a nice big soaker on Sunday afternoon to let us know it was all coming to an end. With all the new folks, there were some understaffed crews, and others had to do a bit more pitching in, but some organizational tweaks should smooth things over for next year. The Saturday night bonfire was indoors this year, and there were lots of small people staying up late in pajamas. They adored Pepito, of course, and there were so many talents on display that we might need to bring a portable PA system next year.

One more thing! The bus ran at about 60-70% full (a few more on the way home), and it was a wonderful way to travel. The windows opened enough to get a good breeze through the bus and the rumbling engine put everyone to sleep on the way back. The bus driver, Doug R., and his wife Christine stayed for the weekend in one of the lower cabins, and they have already agreed to drive the bus next year. All in all, things went smoothly; friendships were made and deepened; UUs were recharged by the fresh air and green matter; and the teenagers learned to close their cabin doors more quietly on Saturday night than they did on Friday night. There were 152 people registered for Tar Hollow, with probably 35-45 of them children, however, there probably weren't that many at camp at one time, as some were Saturday campers or stayed only one night.

Well done to the planning team of Hardy B., Alice Y., Eden M.
Dick R., Al S., and Corrie V.!

You are invited to a potluck picnic to celebrate the independence of this great nation at the home of Louis and Mary S.!



Come at 6 p.m. and plan to linger late or leave about 9 p.m. for the village fireworks display at Gaunt Park.

Drinks and tableware will be provided. Please bring a picnic food dish to share.

Please respond by email or phone, so we know how many chairs, plates and drinks we need.

Now, to get serious—To organize this picnic, the Simses need the following help:

- We don't own a barbeque grill. Can one or two people bring grills and fuel?
- Can someone with a truck volunteer to bring tables and chairs from the meeting-house to the party and take them back the next day?

Thanks!

Mary S.

937-767-1603



A great opportunity to meet UU's from across the nation, learn a lot, and be inspired. There are special workshops for all kinds of interests. The energy level of these five days is extraordinary!

Registration—The earlier you sign up, the less it costs. (Rates will increase on May 1.) Pre-registration ends June 7.

Let's have a large group attending! We can carpool and share hotel rooms.

(If you register, please also notify Mary Sims so we can figure out rooms and carpooling.)

[Housing Reservations](#)

[General Assembly 2013 Schedule](#)

[General Assembly \(GA\)](#)