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**HEED**

Newsletter of the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

## President's Welcome

*Dr. Malcolm Smith, DUUF president*

As we begin our Fall 2014 gatherings and activities at the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, I am so excited/thankful/blessed that I had to make a list!

I am looking forward to:

- Our profound and often personally enriching Sunday programs
- The music that Carmen and so many others in our congregation share
- The great friendships that I want to renew with our incredible fellowship members
- Our Saturday nights in the Sanctuary listening to the great musicians who will be performing in the Oyster River Folk sessions who are coming from all over the world to play for us!
- The opportunities that our members provide to do good in the world
- Some awesome food at our world class potlucks now and then
- The Fall Harvest festival and our Christmas fair
- Finding moments to be at peace in this crazy world
- Meeting new people who will enter our doors and enrich our lives
- And, mostly, just getting to hang with a whole bunch of thoughtful adults, beautiful and caring kids, and building together a community based on principals of making our area and our community a better place

I can't wait to see you, friend, both old and new. I can't wait to sit with you and talk about the world. I can't wait to hear about your summer, your dreams and plans, and to work side by side with you to build our community of caring.

Bring it on!

Malcolm

### First Services of the year:

**Sept. 7 -- Rejoining: The Water Ceremony.** *Speaker, Susan Bullivant*

**Sept. 14 – Striving for Justice: Deconstructing the Jihad.** *Speaker, Robert Azzi*

*For a more complete list of upcoming programs, see page 2*

# Final Financial Report of the Operating Fund for Fiscal Year 2013-14 Ending June 30

*James H. Zembruski, DUUF treasurer*

There was an operating **deficit** of **(\$12,778.01)** for the fiscal year.

- The primary reason for the deficit was the unplanned pay-off of the White Memorial Fund Loan balance of \$15,574.86.
- Without this one-off payment, the operating fund would have incurred a surplus balance of \$2,796.85.
- Donations of \$20,885.00 exceeded the annual Budget; however, they were less than last year despite a higher membership count.
- The Operating Fund Balance as of June 30 was **(\$3,856.00)** due to the pay-off of the White Memorial Fund Loan balance.
- Without the pay-off, the cumulative Fund Balance would have been \$11,718.86.
- Operating Fund Cash Balance as of June 30 was \$18,689.38 as \$22,545.38 from other DUUF Funds were deposited in the same bank account.

Fund Balances as of June 30 of Fiscal Year 2013-14:

- Operating Fund as of June had a negative balance of **(\$3,856.00)**.
- The remaining four other active Fund Balances totaled \$32,545.38, bringing the total of all Fund Balances including the Operating Fund to \$28,689.38.
- \$10,000 from the Nest Egg Fund was on loan to the New Hampshire Community Loan Fund.
- The remaining cash for all five Fellowship Funds totaling \$18,689.38 was held in the Operating Fund's Advantage Checking Account, earning interest at the rate of ~.10% per annum.

White Memorial Fund Loan Status:

The DUUF negotiated a loan in the amount of \$25,000 with the UUA on February 1, 2010 to help fund the building cost of the new sanctuary. The term of the loan is ten years with an interest rate of 4 percent. The DUUF made 18 quarterly payments (representing 4½ years). The Board approved paying the balance of the loan in order to avoid further interest charges. The loan was paid in full in April 24, 2014.

## September Services

**Sept. 7 – Rejoining: The Water Ceremony.**     *Speaker, Susan Bullivant*

**Sept. 14 – Striving for Justice: Deconstructing the Jihad.**     *Speaker, Robert Azzi*

**Sept. 21 – The Courage to Care.**     *Speaker, Malcolm Smith*

**Sept. 28 – Curiosity Didn't Kill the Cat – But What are the Questions?**     *Speaker, The Rev. Ed Lynn*

## Caring News

*Compiled by Chris Rodgers, Membership Committee*

**Steve H.** continues to live in his home, supported by a good supply of oxygen, a beautiful cat, an excellent carer, regular contact with his closest Fellowship friends and occasional visits from others. He has moved his car on, but his carer is usually able to drive him to his doctor appointments. If you are thinking of visiting him, it's best to put a call into him first, allowing a day or two for him to respond to your message.

**Ibby Lourie** is still in the assisted living unit at Riverwoods. Due to her decreased mobility, she only leaves Riverwoods for doctor appointments in a wheelchair van. She is usually pretty optimistic, even though her memory is gradually diminishing. She appreciates any visits and if you'd like to visit her, it may be easier to call Rachel first at 659-7836. She will make sure she does not have a doctor appointment and suggest best times to catch her in her room or for a Riverwoods meal. *(This report on Ibby was submitted by her daughter Rachel.)*

**Michael O'S.** unfortunately had a relapse of his leukemia over the summer. He is now on a very promising medication and has been spending a good deal of time at home just resting.

Finally, this from **Betty C.:** Greetings from the bionic woman! Last week Arjava, an order member at Aryaloka and I had an amusing conversation about joint replacements. He is anticipating a hip replacement in the near future. At the moment, in the joint replacement contest, I am one ahead of him, and that is not counting my cataract surgery last year! I am very happy to report that I am almost back to what passes for "normal"! My hip replacement in May was uneventful until a hip dislocation in June followed by gastrointestinal problems in the beginning of July. All has been resolved. Thankfully! This year has been a time to remember to be grateful for excellent health care, excellent health insurance coverage, the

## SOCIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

### Potluck will follow service on Sept. 7

*Deborah Johnson and Edna O'Sullivan, Socials Committee co-chairs*

Our first water ceremony ingathering service on Sept. 7 will be followed by a potluck luncheon, so we can commune more informally about the happenings of our summer lives. Hopefully the weather will permit an al fresco seating option, especially for hungry children who prefer to eat outdoors and/or on the run.

A second potluck luncheon is scheduled for Sept. 28 when Ed Lynn is our speaker

Our first circle dinner is being organized for Saturday evening, Nov. 8.

A third potluck luncheon will honor Erika Hewitt on Nov. 19.

Our last potluck luncheon for 2014 will be on Dec. 7, following Mary Edes' sermon.

Socials Committee members will host coffee hour during the month of September, and then all members are encouraged to sign up for a Sunday to provide refreshments for adults and children alike. The variety of offerings from week-to-week is predictably awe inspiring.

Mark your calendars with these dates and watch for the sign-up sheet to declare your availability to host a Sunday social hour.

## From your Music Director

Greetings, and welcome to another year of music at the Fellowship. I am so happy that I was able to attend the UU Musicians Network Conference in July in San Diego, while I was in California visiting family. There were well over 200 musicians from the US, Canada, and other countries, and we all had a great time. It was truly great to be surrounded by fellow musicians, and we "talked shop" a lot. The San Diego UU Church looked like a small college campus, with a large "meeting house" (a sanctuary that seated about 500), a chapel, an additional auditorium, a common room, over 23 meeting rooms, and a separate building with several rooms. There was also a large patio area between the buildings, with outdoor seating, tables, and umbrellas.

We "talked shop" a lot, and I learned much about what other churches and fellowships do in their music ministries. Some use both organ and piano (the San Diego church has a large pipe organ, plus a small portable pipe organ (I don't think I had ever seen one before), and a concert grand piano. Some churches had several choirs, including both children's and youth choirs, and many had bell choirs (one church had two bell choirs). Many churches had additional instrumentalists and ensembles, including drummers. I believe that at least one church had a jazz ensemble. Our Fellowship sanctuary, with its marvelous acoustics, would be ideal for a small bell choir, which I hope we will be able to have in the not-too-distant future. The workshops were wonderful; I was just sorry that I couldn't attend them all!

I met other Oberlinians who had graduated from the Conservatory, which was great fun, and also met a couple of musicians with whom I had conversed over our UUMN internet site. I brought back a lot of music, for both choirs. So expect to hear some new music in the 2014-2015 Fellowship year. About 30 of us performed during the after-lunch recitals on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. I performed on Saturday, and it was really gratifying to have other pianists complement me on my performance and ask what other composers I played. It was the first time that I had ever played before an audience composed almost entirely of professional musicians, and I look forward to next year's conference, which will be in Boston. I may also do a workshop then on the Negro Spiritual.

Seven of us were honored for completing the UU Tenured Music Credential, three through the Portfolio method. I was sort of a minor celebrity, because I was the only person to have completed the Credential without ever attending a UUMN conference. The program usually takes three years, including special classes at the UUMN conferences, but seasoned musicians - with ten years or more as church musicians - are allowed to go the portfolio route, so I had both a First Time Attendee and a Tenured Music Credential ribbon, which confused other attendees. I was familiar with portfolio programs, because I received 16 undergraduate units that way when I returned to college after 23 years away, allowing me to graduate in two years with honors in a double major. So going the portfolio route was familiar to me. I have been asked by the Music Credentialing Committee to turn my writings on the subject into a memoir, which I may do.

I am really looking forward to the coming Fellowship year, and hope that I, and the choirs and other instrumentalists can provide music that will enrich the souls and spirits of all who hear it.

Blessings,

*Carmen Buford-Paige*

## Summer UU Experiences

*Q: Why don't UU congregations meet in the summer?*

*A. God trusts us.*

Most of us have heard this chestnut. It is cute but does not accurately reflect Unitarian Universalism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. First of all, many congregations do meet throughout the summer. Secondly, there are a number of UU activities that occur over the summer. Finally, I suspect that whether God trusts us or not is not a major concern for most UUs.

This summer I was privileged to attend the General Assembly of Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, otherwise known as GA, in Providence, RI, as a delegate from our Fellowship. Carmen Buford-Paige was also a delegate and we will be presenting a program in October to share our experiences at GA with you. From the business meetings (delegates only can vote here), to workshops, to professional programs, to social engagement, there is a lot going on during these four days. I want to highlight here the worship programs that are offered during this gathering. The morning program typically begins with a worship service, offered by various individuals and groups. Late evening worship is provided by youth and young adults groups. In between are a variety of worship activities sponsored by such groups as the Church of the Larger Fellowship. For those who seek a more quiet, personal setting, there is a morning yoga worship and a mediation room that is available throughout the day and evening. In the bustle of activities surrounding GA it is good to remember our roots and take time to appreciate a spiritual component to our lives. Worship services at GA are a highlight for me.

South Church, the UU congregation in Portsmouth, maintains a full summer schedule. I attended several programs last spring and, over the summer, quite a few more. Lauren Smith and Chris Holton Jablonski, the co-ministers at South Church, are excellent. No one tells a story for all ages like Chris and Lauren's sermons are always provocative, yet comforting. I will miss their Sunday morning programs as our Fellowship begins services in September.

Some years ago Dale Rice told me that, whenever he was traveling on business that included a Sunday, he would look for a nearby UU church or fellowship and attend services there. I have done this on occasion. I encourage others to consider a similar visit. One of the goals set by the UUA Board of Trustees in their revisioning process is to find ways for greater communication between and among congregations. Sometimes your experience may be one that you want to bring back to our Fellowship. Other times you may silently express gratitude for how we do things in Durham. Regardless, it is worth your while.

In faith,

*Thomas Pistole*

## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE REPORT

*Dawn Meredith, Social Action Committee co-chair*

The Social Action Committee had two projects: Food Insecurity Issues and Multiculturalism and White Privilege.

Carmen will lead the White Privilege/Multiculturalism strand, beginning with a book group in the fall. We hope that the book group will then take one or two Sundays to share what they've learned and thought about with the rest of the fellowship, and lead us in discussion.

There are several opportunities to help ease Food Insecurity. Cornucopia Food Pantry in Durham needs help with food rescue at various places (Trader Joes, Hannaford, Durham Market Place), and with staffing the pantry Tuesdays 4-5:30 or Friday 12-2 p.m.

Email [Waysmeet@comcast.net](mailto:Waysmeet@comcast.net) to ask about specific food rescue needs, and/or talk to Dawn about what these involve. (Food rescue is usually

once a week; if you cannot commit to every week, consider teaming up with someone else and cover all weeks between you.)

Seacoast Family Promise, which helps families experiencing homelessness, needs help with making dinners, being evening hosts (5-8 p.m.) or night time hosts (8 p.m. - 8 a.m.). We are scheduled to help the week of Oct. 26 to Nov. 2 at Stratham Community Church (other weeks are hosted by other churches).

There are two other opportunities with SFP: Stratham Community Church Will host a volunteer training Sunday, Sept. 28, 11:30-1:00. Lunch will be served RSVP-ASAP to Pati at [sihnnh@comcast.net](mailto:sihnnh@comcast.net). The training will give insight into how homelessness comes to be. SFP has a fundraising event: Promises to Keep 10th Annual Fall Fundraising Auction Friday, Nov. 7, at the Jarvis Center, Portsmouth 6-9:30 p.m. (doors open at 5:30) Tickets: \$40 in advance - \$50 at the door – limited to 200. Heavy hors d'oeuvres, cash bar.

## Official Roster of DUUF Leadership for the 2014-15 Year

### **Officers:**

Malcolm Smith, President  
Raelene Shippee-Rice, Vice President  
Jim Zembruski, Treasurer  
Karen Smith, Secretary

### **Committees:**

#### *Program:*

Susan Bullivant – Chair  
Tom Schram  
Carmen Buford-Paige  
Betty Crepeau  
Malcolm Smith  
Larry Vogelmann  
Dottie Oliver

#### *Religious Education:*

Stefanie Griffin – Co-Chair  
Jen Pavlik -- Co-Chair  
Brad Kinsey  
Bob Pavlik  
Shirley Zembruski

*House and Grounds:*  
Sarge Legard – Chair

Michael O'Sullivan – Grounds  
Edna O'Sullivan – Rentals and Cleaning  
Rachel Legard

#### *Social Action:*

Dawn Meredith – Co-Chair  
Kim Nute – Co-Chair  
Betty Crepeau  
Michelle Martin

#### *Socials:*

Edna O'Sullivan -- Co-Chair  
Deb Johnson -- Co-Chair  
Joyce Sheffield  
Cindy Schram  
Dottie Oliver

#### *Denominational Affairs:*

Raelene Shippee-Rice - Chair

#### *Membership:*

Frank Rodgers – Chair  
Mike Fleming

*Caring Subcommittee:*  
Chris Rodgers – Chair

Michelle Martin  
Michael O'Sullivan  
Marjorie Wolfson

#### *Nominations:*

Jim Nute– Chair  
Bob Pavlik

#### *Music Task Force:*

Carmen Buford-Paige – Chair  
Malcolm Smith  
Thomas Pistole  
Maria Isaak

#### *Green Sanctuary:*

Mike Fleming – Chair  
Bob Pavlik

#### *Webmaster:*

Brett Gibson

#### *HEED Editor:*

Bob Pavlik

## RE COMMITTEE REPORT

*Jen Pavlik, RE Committee co-chair*

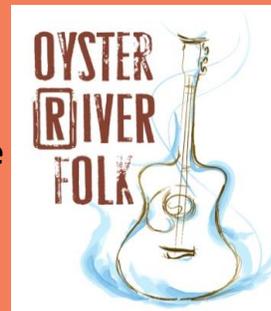
The RE committee is gearing up for another exciting year, and we need your help! If you have an interest in teaching, leading or participating in a community service activity, or otherwise sharing your talents with our young people, we'd love to talk to you.

Our middle/high school group will be spending the year exploring other faith traditions, so if you have a background in another religion that you'd like to share with us, it would definitely help enrich our program. Please contact one of the RE co-chairs, Jen Pavlik or Stefanie Griffin.

## OYSTER RIVER FOLK IS BACK

The DUUF's own Milne Sanctuary will host another series of musical occasions this fall. The kickoff event for Oyster River Folk will feature Niamh Dunne: Fiddling and Song from County Limerick, Ireland.

**Sat, Sept. 13,  
7:00 p.m.  
Tickets available  
at the door,  
kids under 12  
FREE!**



## CARING NEWS, CONTINUED

technology that makes joint replacement surgery almost routine, and the support of Rod and my daughters. I am also very grateful for the support of many of you who provided meals, visits, rides, cards, and phone calls. A special thanks to Chris

Rodgers and the Caring Committee who organized this support. All of the sophisticated health care in the world cannot compete with your caring and concern.

Gratefully, your bionic woman,  
*Betty Crepeau*

## Our Mission Statement

The real test of our religion is the way we live our lives. The Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship affirms the seven principles of Unitarian Universalism. We seek to be a place in which each person's unique worth and beliefs are acknowledged and respected and where each person's voice may be heard – a place in which each may freely explore his or her own spiritual path. We join with others in reaching out to make the world more just, and commit ourselves to caring for the earth and all that makes up the web of life. We strive to be a source of inspiration, a forum for intellectual exchange, a wellspring of comfort to those in need and a nurturing, supportive community for each other and our children.



**Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

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30 Madbury Road Road • Durham, New Hampshire 03824 • [www.uudurham.com](http://www.uudurham.com)