

CUUCSA NEWSLETTER/ VOL. 57, October 2008 Editor: Steven Botts,  
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. WE COVENANT TO PROMOTE:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person;  
Justice, equality, and compassion in human relations;  
Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth,  
A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;  
The right to conscience and the use of the democratic process;  
The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all,  
Respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part.

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Notice to Contributors

Be advised that the newsletter deadline is the first Sunday after the CUUC board meeting on the second Wednesday.

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#1

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sep 21: Relaxation with Francine, 9am  
Sep 21: "Religious Freedom and Native Americans," Milo Colton  
Sep 21: Yoga with Kitty Bevis, 1:30 pm  
Sep 21: Remarkable Films, "Cat Ballou" 5:00 pm  
Sep 28: Relaxation with Francine, 9:00 am  
Sep 28: Enemy Images, Rev Phil Schulman  
Sep 28: Yoga with Kitty Bevis, 1:30 pm  
Sep 28: Men's Group, 6:30 pm  
Sep 29: Women's Group 7:00 pm  
Oct 05: Relaxation with Francine, 9:00 am  
Oct 05: "A Spiritual History of Food," Henry Halff  
Oct 05: Yoga with Kitty Bevis, 1:30 pm  
Oct 08: CUUC Board meets, 7:00 pm  
Oct 12: Relaxation with Francine, 9:00 am  
Oct12: "It Takes an Association to Raise a Congregation," Rev. Phil Schulman  
Oct 12: Yoga with Kitty Bevis, 1:30 pm  
Oct12: Men's Group, 6:30 pm  
Oct 13: Women's Group, 7:00pm  
Oct 16 Theosophical Society, 7:30  
Oct19: Relaxation with Francine, 9:00 am  
Oct19: Guest Speaker. TBA  
Oct19: Yoga with Kitty Bevis, 1:30 pm

Oct 23: Theosophical Society, 7:30  
Oct 26: Relaxation With Francine, 9:00 am  
Oct 26: "A Positive, Courageous Approach to Overcoming Racism," Rev. Phil Schulman  
Oct 26: Yoga with Kitty Bevis, 1:30 pm  
Oct 26: Men's Group, 6:30 pm  
Oct 27: Women's Group, 7:00 pm  
Oct 30: Theosophical Society, 7:30

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#2

Announcements

Non-violent communication classes

Rev. Phil Schulman

WHEN: Tuesday nights 7pm-9pm WHERE: Community UU Church, 4818 E. Beverly Mae Dr. 78229 What's needed: 1- a desire to learn the mechanics of this process, to further develop a consciousness of nonviolence, to create a quality of being and relating that is not dependent upon what any one else is doing. 2- a willingness to challenge well worn habits of communication 3- a willingness to try new methods of speaking and listening 4- text: "Nonviolent Communication; a language of Life" By Marshal Rosenberg" (\$18) What's not required: 1- that you treat this book as "the truth" or me as guru. Instead, experiment and try it out for yourself! 2- money (there will be no fee in 2008, but donations will be accepted). Beginning right away there will be "NVC Nights at CUUC" (Tuesdays). These will be drop-in. No need to commit to a longer time frame. PLEASE RSVP each week. NVC nights will be open to all regardless of experience or skill. I will be offering my support both in and outside of class. Some nights it may be one person, others it might be 8. Some nights it might be mostly new people, some mostly experienced. Rather than just "attending" "NVC nights," it is my hope that you will be a student of NVC. Please read the book, try exercises etc. and work at your own pace. If you stay in touch, I will do my best to support you as you "PRACTICE"! The real classroom for your learning will be your life! ALWAYS call or check the schedule to make sure there will be a gathering. RSVPs will be appreciated! If interested, please request a flyer. I will email you one or give it in person. ps. if you want me to offer an introduction or teach a class to your organization, please let me know. Thank you for your seeing the value of this work. I treasure companionship, support and community with others who want to learn to create compassion inside ourselves, to become more skilled at hearing people's values, and to bring the consciousness of nonviolence more fully into our lives. -----

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UU. HOUSING ASSISTANCE CORPORATION COULD USE A HAND --

June Kachtik

To repaint the exterior of a small home and clean the back yard

On Saturday, September 20, 2008, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Come when you can, we'll be there all day.

Hopefully, we will be able to finish in one day. If not, we will go back on 9/27/08. Or, if it rains on 9/20/08, plan on coming on 9/27/08.

Please bring your good cheer, your energy, and your yard tools (to cut down brush especially). We will have the painting supplies. Although, if one or more of you have

sanders, we could sure use them. If they are electric, we will be able to connect. And, if you have a ladder, that would be useful too.

Where? # 5 Loop Street. A couple of blocks south of San Pedro Park, on the west side of N. Flores Street, just before Fredericksburg Road.

Please contact June Kachtik if you will be able to help: [junekac@aol.com](mailto:junekac@aol.com)  
<<mailto:junekac@aol.com>>

I'd especially like to know if you will be bringing a ladder or a lawnmower.

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Theosophical Society

Jean Halff

We will now be meeting each Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. The first Thursday of each month will be an open meeting for non-members. For further information, please call Cynthia Talboys, President, at 210 771-2004

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#3

UPCOMING SERVICES

9/21

Religious Freedom and Native Americans

Milo Colton .

Milo Colton, a civil rights lawyer shares his heart and his work in this service. The right to free religious expression has been denied Native American rights, and Milo Colton will tell us what he has done about it. One of Milo's students at St. Mary's Law School started a nonprofit organization "Civil Rights Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc" Since then Milo has represented some stirring cases. This presentation will address the intellectual mind as well as the compassionate heart.

----- 9/28

Enemy Images

Rev. Phil Schulman

Long before a country goes to war, they usually begin creating dehumanizing images of those deemed as enemies. The same dynamic applies to personal consciousness and daily life. What would we do without enemy images? Are you ready for a real challenge?

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10/05 A Spiritual History of Food.

Henry Halff

Religion has been concerned with food ever since there has been religion. What does your religion have to say about food? Do you eat like a Puritan or a Transcendentalist? Henry Halff will take us on a spiritual tour of our own eating habits and beliefs about food.

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10/12 "It Takes an Association to raise a Congregation"

Rev. Phil Schulman

Every living thing grows as part of something larger. Let's take a look at our living tradition and how we participate in it. Phil will share his experience of being "a part from" and then "a part of" the beautiful UU phenomena of religious freedom, exploration and expression.

10/19

Positive and Courageous Approach to Overcoming Racism

Rev. Phil Schulman

Somewhere between the poles of denial and self-flagellation lies the power to accept who we are, and to dare to become something more. Our brutal past and even the flawed culture that exists now need not exercise destructive power over us, if we can take responsibility for our beliefs, attitudes and actions. The values of forgiveness, integrity and courage will be highlighted today. Join us.

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#4

ARTICLES AND REPORTS

From Our Pastor

Rev. Phil Schulman

Change Association Sunday Date

A recent "Association Sunday" letter from the UUA gave contact information to be used by anyone who believed that the date of Association Sunday should be moved. I sent the following letter in response: In several weeks our church will once again participate in Association Sunday. I am happy to participate in this tradition to "Grow our Spirit!"

However, I am writing to request that future Association Sundays not be set on or days before 10/12. In 1992, on the 500th anniversary of the arrival on our continent of Columbus and his crew, I had an editorial published in the Shreveport Journal (LA) requesting that we celebrate Native American Awareness on 10/12 rather than as "Columbus Day." I have been delighted in years since then, that there has been great support for this idea in our association of UU congregations. Recently there has been encouragement from Boston, for exploring our family or city's history in slavery. The World published an article by Rev. David Petee titled "Claim Our Roots Warts and All." As the title suggests Petee encouraged us to understand our history and reflect upon our inheritance. I am confident that his concern extends not only to Africans but also Native Americans. Celebrating Association Sunday on 10/12 is not likely to encourage us to realistically face our history. It seems more likely that it would encourage a glossing over historical or entrenched racism. On 10/12, let us honor the people of the First Nations. Doing so will help our movement continue to "grow its spirit!" With gratitude and full respect for our NE roots in Protestantism and aristocracy, I want to see us continue to grow beyond that particular culture and the prejudices that remain from it. Toward that end we must continue to embrace our warts and move forward in our anti-racism work. It is of utmost importance that we not stick the flag of "Association Sunday" over a racist holiday. Historically on 10/12 the people of the USA have continue a racist tradition of proclaiming the anniversary of the discovery of America. This tradition is racist because it denies the existance (or humanity) of the people who lived here when the Europeans arrived. We must not continue or ignore a tradition that is part of an attempted and nearly successful genocide. Neither can we ignore this tradition/ holiday. We can acknowledge that day as the beginning of European conquest of American soil and native people. We can honor and celebrate the cultures and traditions of the great people of the First Nations and their influence to all of us. We can acknowledge the reality that there are Native Americans alive today whose ancestors lived here long

before the colonists and conquistadors. Besides moving away from racism, our UU congregations will benefit by celebrate Native American or "First Nations Awareness Day." This holiday would likely be embraced by the many people who are striving to find and express an Earth based spirituality. The rise in the number of "green sanctuaries" and in people celebrating earth based spirituality owes a true debt of gratitude to the religions and cultures of Native Americans. It will also help us to take another step to unite our spirituality and our social justice emphasis. It will greatly enrich the religious lives of our congregations. I look forward to celebrating "Association Sunday" and "First Nations Awareness Day" on separate Sundays. Thank you for any consideration you can give this matter.

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Religious Education  
Glenna Jones-Kachtik

RE began its first class with a talk about how religion may have come into being and a discussion of symbols. We also talked about religious holidays and celebrations in September. In the coming weeks, we will be discussing Creation Myths, African Tribal stories and Mythology. We will also begin our preparations for the annual Dia de los Muertos celebration on 11/2.

Creation Myths will be taken from Virginia Hamilton's book, In The Beginning. They belong to a series of myths that explain the Creation of the World from many different cultures. Myths are made up stories that try to explain how our world came to be. There are different types of myths and others use Gods or Super Beings to make things happen and they have powers. They are shared by groups of people and become part of the culture. These will be finished in September.

African Tribal Myths will come from several sources - God Images and In The Beginning as well as other books we bring in; and we will be discussing the Holidays in October. We will finish up by preparing for our Dia de los Muertos service.

The other thing that we have done is to combine two curriculums and some sources from the Internet to create lessons for Joseph and any other toddlers that happen to show up. And we are anxiously waiting the arrival of "our" newborn baby (actually Heather & Robert's) in October (or sooner)! Thanks to Stephanie, we now have a teacher schedule for both RE and Toddlers.

At the same time we are excited at the prospect of having 4 new children in RE, when their Moms get married here at CUUC and they join the church. So, our class is growing! The RE Committee plans a meeting/potluck on 9/19 at 7PM. We will be sending out the agenda soon and we invite all parents, as well as anyone interested in the children of our church. Since Social Justice and RE have been kind of dovetailing each other' anyone interested in Social Justice is also invited to attend.

The Water Communion has now come and gone. We had a special moment for those who had lost homes and churches due to Hurricane Ike.

Thanks go to Peter Van Dusen & Stephanie Walls for providing the Prelude, playing for hymns and the Offertory. Thanks to Stephanie Walls, Pastor Phil and our Prez, Ron Clark for providing readings. Thanks to all the people who brought water. Thanks to Clem for

telling me where to find the moon cakes and to Mary Grace for her story of " The Lady in the Moon."

Highlights of the service to me were the number of people who shared their connectedness with the church and what they brought to it. Vicky Mattern shared water in memory of her sister, who died in August. Heather and Robert shared water from the bathtub that she will be giving birth in shortly. Birth, life, death - and the sharing of those seasons of life are what makes this church special. The 7th Principle - the interdependent web of life of which we are all a part.

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#### Social Justice

Glenna Jones-Kachtik

Social Justice has not met yet in September. We will need to meet soon to decide what our focus for the year is going to be. RE has invited members interested in Social Justice to attend their meeting on 9/19 - since the children have many social justice projects planned for the rest of 2008.

In the middle of September, we will be ordering the materials for Guest at Your Table which will be rolled out on 11/16. Plans are for the children/social justice to do a skit @ GAYT but we will have RE that day.

The children have the Ramadan Bowl out on the back table. We invite everyone to empty their pocket change into the bowl throughout September. At the end of the month, the children will pick a charity for it to go to. If you have any charities you would like to nominate; please give the names to either myself, Glenna Jones-Kachtik or the RE Chair, Stephanie Walls.

Also on the back table are 2 baskets in which to place non-perishable or canned foods throughout this month. At the end of the month, these items will be taken to the San Antonio Food Bank. Would like to have overflow so that we would need more things to carry them to the food bank!

In October, the children will be trick or treating for UNICEF as well as perhaps a reverse candy program rolled out by the UUSC.

If you would like to make suggestions for the Social Justice committee; please contact myself, or co-chair Mary Beth Romeo.

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#### Remarkable Films

Glenn Jones-Kachtik

Remarkable Films met in August and watched Shiloh Richter's wonderful film - The Road to El Paso.

I sent out a message last week and asked what films people would like to see if we continued Westerns. So far, the persons who have responded have chosen the following:

Cat Balou - (last time, in comedies, it got 2-3 votes & Nancy has the VHS)

Shane - Francine

McCabe & Mrs. Miller - Clem

The Magnificent 7 & The Man Who Shot Liberty Vallance - Henry

So, I guess these are the next 5 films.

Other suggestions were:

Chocolat, Like Water For Chocolate, Babette's Feast Films that typify the works of Joseph Campbell, GLBT films, La Vie en Rose, Evening, Freedom Writers, You Kill Me, Once, Sicko, and Evening Star.

If anyone has any other suggestions, please let Shiloh and me know.

9/21 5:00 PM CAT BALLOU (1965)

It's worth it for the 'drunken horse' scenes

Jane Fonda, Lee Marvin, Michael Callan, Dwyane Hickman

The Balladers: Stubby Kaye & Nat King Cole

Academy Award for Lee Marvin who won a bunch of other awards too!

Glenna Jones-Kachtik & Shiloh Richter

Remarkable Films Co-Chairs

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Clarification - and KSTX appeal:

June Kachtik, Treasurer

As a rule, the income that is received from members and friends goes into a general pot and is then used to pay the bills. Example: Various groups agree to host our monthly soup lunches. The amount received is used to pay for a variety of budgeted expenses. The income is not designated for a particular purpose.

There are occasions when the members of the congregation decide to raise additional revenue. The two most common examples are:

1. CUUC contributes \$500 annually to KSTX, and receives publicity through name recognition. Those who wish to contribute to KSTX can do so through CUUC. It is KSTX time again, so if you are interested in making a \$50 (or more) contribution, please send your check, made out to CUUC, to the church. Mark it for KSTX, and I will bundle the amounts together and send KSTX one check on behalf of the church.
2. Social Justice or Denominational Activities: Members can choose to make contributions that are beyond the CUUC budget and for causes that are sponsored by the UUA or one of its affiliates. For example, last year substantial contributions were sent from our congregation for Guest at Your Table and for national outreach programs. Look for announcements of similar activities for this year.

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#### #5 AFFINITY GROUPS

Explorations of Christianity for the Discontent

Stephanie Walls

7:pm Wednesdays

A group which is founded on the 4th Principle "A free and responsible search for truth and meaning". Bring yourself, your Bible, your thoughts, and your questions (especially those questions pushed aside by preachers!). Our meetings are meant to encourage exploration of the Christian life as presented in the New Testament with focus on the differences between Jesus' teaching and those of his followers (such as Paul).

Discussions will include how to live such a life in the present world, and whether or not we find representations of this life to be accurate in modern Christianity. Our main method in accomplishing this is meant to be reading of and discussion of our personal

interpretations of pertinent bible passages. Do you pray? Do you meditate? We can take this opportunity to learn from one another on these topics as well.

The group will be limited to church membership/friends initially until such a time as we see fit to expand to the community at large.

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Relaxation with Francine  
Sunday Mornings, 9:00am  
Francine Richter

We will be meeting in the fireplace room for a deeply spiritual experience that prepares our psyches for the worship service and daily life. The purpose is to reach personal bliss and ecstasy (with practice) and remove us from the distresses of modern life and make us more sensitive to spirituality. Participants don't need to bring anything, especially not cell phones and of course this would not work for children. Remember, after the door is closed at 9:00 a.m. no one can be admitted.

Socrates Cafe Marilyn DeKing The Brown Bag Socrates Cafe will meet at 12:15 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month at Community Unitarian Universalist Church. Bring your lunch and join us for a satisfying philosophical session.

At the beginning of each session, participants submit and vote on the question to be discussed. Resolution is not the goal of the discussion. We usually end with more questions than we began with. Everyone is welcome to participate in Socrates Cafe or to visit and see what it is about

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Women's Group Jean Halff The Women's Group is open to CUUC women and friends of the church. We meet every 2 weeks, on a Monday night at the church, starting at 7 p.m. and usually finishing before 9 p.m.

Each woman usually talks for about 10 minutes about anything she wishes. However, you don't have to talk if you would rather not. What is divulged is kept confidential unless otherwise stated. It is a great way to get to know the women in the church on a more personal level in a safe environment. We invite you to come and join us and let us get to know you.

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Men's Group Steven Botts The CUUC men's group meets every second and fourth Sunday from 6:30 - 8:30 P.M. All CUUC men or visitors are welcome to join us. Group leadership rotates from meeting to meeting in alphabetical order of the members. The leader for each meeting is also the host, and he is responsible for furnishing snacks and drinks. We usually start off meetings with a clearing, in which each member is allowed to talk about recent events in his life, if he wishes to, for as long as he sees fit. Next, the facilitator introduces the topic for the evening. This may involve a short reading - a poem, an article or other text. The subject could be just about anything that the facilitator would like the group to address: What's going on at CUUC, religion, economics science, health, family, friendship, etc. Around 8:30, we wind things up by deciding who is going to facilitate the next meeting, declare this one finished, clean up, and leave. -----

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Remarkable Film Group Glenna Jones-Kachtik & Shiloh Richter The Remarkable Film Group consists of members and friends of CUUC who gather each month to view one

feature film and discuss it afterward. Everyone is welcome to attend. The films are presently being shown at church at 5:00 PM on the third Sunday of each month. Films are shown in a series. The attendees select the theme, and content of each series normally compose of four films on that theme, whether directed by the same person or featuring a specific actor or actress. Current leader of the group is Glenna-Jones Kachtik Any questions about this group may be directed to her.

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#6

## DIRECTORY

Coordinators: Ron Clarke, 210 - 845 1638 - rclarke2@satx.rr.com  
Secretary - Mary Grace Ketner 210- 271 0628 - mgteller@yahoo.com Treasurer - June Kachtik, 210-342-0135 - junekac@aol.com At Large - Marilyn DeKing, 210- 299 4005  
At Large, Veronica Gard, 210 - 499 4118 - vgardshazam@yahoo.com Programs Committee - Nancy White, 210 - 650 4785 - nancyemerson@gmail.com Member Services - Mark and Stephanie Walls 210 - 681-8188 - ibs\_faerie@yahoo.com  
Operations Committee - John Bradshaw, 210-341-8506, JandJBradshaw@webtv.net <mailto:JandJBradshaw@webtv.net>and Mary Beth Romeo, 210 - 694 5233 - r5romeo@sbcglobal.net ----- Staff Minister - Phil Schulman, 210-614-2014, schulman@satx.rr.com <mailto:schulman@satx.rr.com> Director of Religious Education, Glenna Jones-Kachtik, 956-451-5925, gjkbear@earthlink.net <mailto:gjkbear@earthlink.net>C

----- Email Addresses Messages to the Board of Trustees may be sent to cuuc-board@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cuuc-board@yahoogroups.com>. Calendar additions and changes should be submitted to Glenna Jones-Kachtik calendar@cuuca.org <mailto:calendar@cuuca.org>. Suggestions for and comments on the worship program may be sent to cuuc-worship@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cuuc-worship@yahoogroups.com>. Requests for special assistance and pastoral care may be sent to cuuc-cares@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cuuc-cares@yahoogroups.com>. Requests for use of the church facility and reports of maintenance problems may be sent to cuuc-ops@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cuuc-ops@yahoogroups.com>. Changes of address, other membership information, and newsletter subscription or unsubscription requests may be sent to cuuc-members@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cuuc-members@yahoogroups.com>.