

CUUCSA NEWSLETTER/ VOL. 49, January 2008  
Editor: Steven Botts, [stbotts@texas.net](mailto:stbotts@texas.net) <<mailto:stbotts@texas.net>>  
Web site: <<<http://www.cuucsa.org/>>>

.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.

\*\*\*\*\*  
In this Issue

1. Schedule of Events
2. Announcements
- 3 Upcoming Services
- 4.Articles and Reports
- 5.Affinity Groups
- 6.Directory

\*\*\*\*\*

**Notice to Contributors:**

**The most reliable way to send text material for the newsletter is to copy and paste to an e-mail. The ability of my computer to open attachments is highly uncertain even when they are sent in two different types of files.**

**Also be advised that no matter what the monthly calendar reminder may say, the newsletter deadline henceforth will be the first Sunday after the CUUC board meeting on the second Wednesday.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**#1**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Jan 15: Non-Violent Communication class, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Jan 19: Last day for Service Auction offerings  
Jan 20: Service Auction bids begin  
Jan 20: "Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Person," Phil Rev Schulman  
Jan 20: Remarkable Film Group:"Cabaret," 6:30 pm  
Jan 27:"Capital Punishment and Suffering in the Land," Rev Phil Schulman  
Jan.27: Men's Group, 6:30 pm  
Jan 28: Women's Group, 7 pm  
Feb 02: Service Auction ends  
Feb 03:."Does it Matter what Candidates Believe?" Steven Botts  
Feb10: "Justice, What's Religious About That?" Rev. Phil Schulman  
Feb 10: Men's Group, 6:30 pm  
Feb 11: Women's Group, 7 pm  
Feb 17: "Darwin and the Divine," Rev. Phil Schulman  
Feb 17: Remarkable Film Group:"Moulin Rouge," 6:30 pm  
Feb 24: Twentieth Anniversary Celebration, Susan Smith  
Feb 24: Men's Group, 6:30 pm  
Feb 24: Women's Group, 7 pm

\*\*\*\*\*

**#2.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Remarkable Film Group

Clem Chow

From the Remarkable Film Group:

The theme selected for the next series of Remarkable Films is “films set in a night club”.

The second film in this series will be “Cabaret”. This 1972 film based on the highly successful Broadway musical was one of the most successful transference of stage to film production. It won eight Oscars including best acting awards for Liza Minnelli and Joey Grey as well as directing award for Bob Fosse. This film will be shown at church at 6:30 PM on Sunday, January 20, 2008.

The Remarkable Film Group selected “Moulin Rouge” as the third film in the night club film series. The 2001 film was nominated for eight Oscars and won two. The film starred Nicole Kidman and Ewan McGregor and cemented the reputation of the Australian director, Baz Luhrmann. It also features the familiar music of the 20th Century. This film will be shown at church at 6:30 PM on Sunday, February 17, 2008.

To complete the night club film series, the group will be showing “Chicago”. This 2002 film also successfully transferred the Broadway hit musical to the screen. The film was nominated for 13 Oscars and won six including that of best actress in a supporting role for Catherine Zeta-Jones. The film also featured regular actors in dancing roles and

reaffirmed the reputation of its director-choreographer, Bob Marshall. This film will be shown at church at 6:30 PM on Sunday, March 16, 2008.

---

June Kachtik, Coordinator  
Stewardship Committee

**SOUP LUNCH - WORKING LUNCH FOR YOUR ENLIGHTENMENT AND INPUT**  
During the Soup Lunch on January 27, 2008, the Stewardship Committee and the key committee persons want to let you know the results of the small-group meetings held in November or December and to get your input. Their purpose will be to enrich their sense of what you as a member or friend of CUUC want and need from the church. Then, it will be their job to translate that into programming and budget for the next fiscal year. Please stay for lunch. We want to know what you have to say.

---

June Kachtik  
UUHAC

#### Second Call for Volunteers

U. U. Housing Assistance Corporation has bought a house and needs to prepare it for sale. CUUC volunteers will be working on Saturday, 1/19/08. If you have the time and some energy, we could use you to help

- \* tidy up the interior (bring some large trash bags, rags, bucket and soap)
- \* spruce up the yard (bring your own lawn tools)
- \* fill in any nail holes (I'll bring the caulk)

For more information, contact June Kachtik at 342-0135 or [junekac@aol.com](mailto:junekac@aol.com)  
<<mailto:junekac@aol.com>>

---

June Kachtik  
UUHAC

January is Social Justice month at CUUC. It is also the month to join/rejoin U. U. Housing Assistance Corporation. There is literature in the coffee room with more detail - but the short version is:

UU HAC was started by UU's from both churches.

It is a non-profit housing corporation with a staff and a 1.3 M annual budget.

Some of the board members are from both churches.

Since 1989, UU HAC has repaired 200 homes of low-income persons in San Antonio.

It's a record to be proud of - AND ITS YOURS! Support it by your membership dues of \$25. Please send your checks to the address on the form below:

Please enroll me as a member of UU Housing Assistance Corporation at

\$25 individual level

\$150 organization or corporate level

I would like to make an additional tax deductible contribution of:

President's Circle \$250

Advocate \$100

Family \$ 50

Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

UU Housing Assistance Corporation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_(zip)

Telephone: Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive updates and news through my email address.

You have my permission to list my name as a donor/ member.

Return to U U Housing Assistance Corporation, 221 W. Poplar, San Antonio, Texas 78212.

\*\*\*\*\*

**#3**

**UPCOMING SERVICES**

Jan 20 Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Person  
Rev. Phil Schulman

As tribute to MLK, lets look at our most controversial principal. We say it, but do we mean it? How do we put this principal to practice in our lives?

-----

Jan 27  
Capital Punishment & Suffering in the Land  
Rev. Phil Schulman

Our opinion of the death penalty likely expresses our view of what we call "right and wrong." Perhaps we can move away from "Crossfire" type debates and speak of this issue in a way that fosters understanding of our deeper beliefs and values? Can we gain insight as to what we are creating? Can we gain a realistic understanding of how capital punishment affects us?

-----

Feb 3

Does it Matter what Candidates Believe?  
Steven Botts

UUs generally know better than to judge political candidates by the mere fact of their religious affiliation, but how about what they do and say in the name of their beliefs? And how do their expressed beliefs match up with UU principles?

---

Feb10  
Rev. Phil Schulman

"Justice: What's Religious about that?"  
"Why is the promotion of justice a religious principle? How does our UU movement influence our lives on this subject?"

---

2/17  
(Evolution Sunday) "Darwin and the Divine"  
Evolution is a way to approach the divine. UUs embrace evolution's influence of our spirituality, theology and our cosmology.

---

Feb 24  
Susan Smith  
20th Anniversary Celebration

The speaker will be our present district executive, and former CUUC minister, Susan Smith. Join us in celebration of our 20th anniversary.

\*\*\*\*\*

**#4**  
**ARTICLES AND REPORTS**

From Our Pastor  
Phil Schulman

I wish to issue a cautionary statement regarding volunteering and participation in our congregation. Getting involved in church is not a guarantee for enjoyment, health or fulfillment. Saying "yes" to church is not always good for you or for the church.

Sure there are healthy reasons to participate in church. Church can help us to fulfill some of our greatest human needs. It can help us to contribute to the quality of life of others, to experience meaning and purpose in living, to experience fellowship and a connection to the divine.

But you can get too much of a good thing! It may sound like a joke, but I honestly want you to limit yourself to doing only those things that you really want to do.

Can you believe it? We are looking forward to a busy season of events. We need leaders and volunteers to ensure success, and the Minister is cautioning against over extending ourselves?! Okay this may be another example of "take my advice, I'm not using it." I know I need to hear my own words, but I may not be alone.

Can a church survive without pressuring, coercing or guilt-tripping individuals to volunteer? Am I naive to think that we can create something outstandingly beautiful with only efforts given freely and joyfully? Do we fear that without a sense of guilt or obligation, that there wouldn't be enough support for the survival of our church?

It's all about energy. When people give freely and joyfully, it's a powerful thing. I've been lovin' the energy in and around our church lately, and I believe that a great new chapter in our history is within our reach. I've experienced enthusiasm. I've heard positive attitudes about what we are creating together. People sense this energy, and they intuitively know that good will come from it. Of course people want to be a part of the good that is coming out of CUUC.

If we trusted that there would be abundance rather than scarcity, how would we participate? Perhaps we would participate in ways that were fun, fulfilling, sometimes challenging, but definitely feeding of our souls! And the good vibrations will continue to flow. And more of us will experience the beauty, the healing and sacred power of creation running through us and through our congregation.

Blessed be the power of creation! Let's see what good we can create.  
PS. in this column, I assumed that you have felt and experienced "good vibrations lately."  
If you ever experience something less than wonderful ... and want help to overcome an obstacle to your enjoyment and participation in congregational life, please contact the Committee on Ministry (Charley Pond, Jeff Ketner, Jean Halff and ME)!

---

Comments from the Board and President

Joan Bradshaw

What I enjoy most about our Board meetings is the positive exchange within the reports that demonstrate how forward thinking our Community is. The actions taken by our standing committees reflect this mind-set. While looking at a full calendar of events and rentals for this church for the upcoming months I am reminded of so much energy that it takes to make things happen. Vicki distributed flyers about our events and those of other groups meeting here, Phil's contacts throughout the community, the discussions in the coffee room that follow the services, dialog between FUUC and CUUC and, finally, the smiles that our children bring to us older folks.

Arising from these and other events is an awareness of the possibility of expanding our contacts, experiences and joys with many people beyond our immediate membership. It is toward this end that in this New Year we are looking toward ways for us better connect with each other and those around us by being aware of this value and of finding additional ways for this connection to happen. In so doing we will be enriching our lives and the life of this church.

---

RE News

Glenna Jones-Kachtik

The RE committee met and decided that we would do stepping stones again for the service auction. These will be a silent bided auction item. They make an excellent addition to a garden, patio, back yard or front yard. So bid, and bid high - not just the parents either! This year I'd like to see some of these go home with congregation members.

As always, RE will accept special orders for the amount of supplies (approximately \$7.00) and labor - \$8.00 and any extra that you would like to expend for our RE program funding. Buy a memory stone for your family to put into the meditation garden or on the grounds. We will be doing a special stepping stone on Sunday (1/20) in memory of Allan Lawrence to go into the meditation garden. We will also hold a special commemoration and 'laying' of the stone at a date to be set later.

We started a study today (1/13) in RE of the coded songs of the slaves. We covered Follow the Drinking Gourd and talked about it being code for following the Big dipper to freedom. Next we listened to Wade In The Water and we talked about the fact that the water covered their scent and threw the dogs and the searchers off. We listened to Michelle Williams from Destiny's Child sing "Steal Away" and a recording of the legendary Paul Robeson singing Swing Low, Sweet Chariot and learned that Swing Low was Harriet Tubman's favorite song. In the coming week and next month, we will explore more Black History and talk about Martin Luther King, Jr. (some of his speeches are on YouTube) - as well as some of the more popular "Freedom Songs and Civil Rights songs.

In today's service, I was struck by the story that Ron Clarke told about his friend Teddy. He was 10 when that story took place - the same age as some of our children. I, myself, grew up in a town devoid of African Americans but I can truthfully say that the kids my age (at 10) did not discriminate against the Hispanics in our midst. Being from a small town - you depend upon everyone - you never know when that person is in front of you in the grocery store or that you might need their help. I still am in touch with some of my high school chums - the Anglos as well as the Hispanics and we get together every so often here in San Antonio.

The thing that struck me about Ron's story is that our children have never known what it was like to see the discrimination of black people. It is hard for them to fathom that at

one time Blacks could not drink from the same fountain, nor use the same bathrooms or be served in the same restaurants. This is just not in their realm of experience! (One of them remarked that they didn't see what the fuss was about with regard to setting in the back of the bus - because the back of the bus is a favored spot - haggled over and won with pride - by kids today. Black kids as well as white kids want to sit in the back of the bus!) This is a good thing in a way. - the fact that they do not know or actively discriminate. We have an African American who might be President in 2008 - an event that would never have been thought of in ages past. If Barrak Obama is elected, we might be closer to realizing Dr. Martin Luther King's dream of judging a person by the content of their character - rather than the color of their skin.

America still has a long way to go, though. I would hope in my lifetime to see that judgment only include character and not fall into the judgment of race, gender, religion or sexual preference. One thing that I am trying to get our children to realize is that history is made by real people; and that sometimes it is easy to fall prey to fear about someone without ever knowing who they really are. That is one reason that I am excited that we are going back to World Religions next year. If we can learn about a person's religion, their culture, their foods, festivals and their beliefs - it is hard to believe that they are not just like us. This Makes it hard not to see that other's who are different from us have the same desires and needs that we do is the first step to creating peace. So in the next few weeks, we will be talking about the civil rights era - and that ties in pretty well with a social justice curriculum! Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me...with us

---

Social Justice Brief  
Glenna Jones-Kachtik

Mary Beth needs answers to a few questions for the UUA - so get with her to give her your opinion!

Guest At Your Table Boxes are due on 1/27. We will be making a final plea on 1/20 and you should receive 2 e-mails during the week before that and 1 final one on the week after to remind you where the money goes!

We are hoping that some of you will attend the MLK Dinner on 1/19 at 1st UU. Take some kind of Southern pot luck dish and attend. Contribute to the MLK scholarship fund and listen to and enjoy the speeches and the talk by Rev. Bret Lortie. We also are hoping that you will participate in the MLK Day festivities on 1/21. Meet at the Park & Ride at Crossroads at 9AM. We will have our banner! Glenna Jones-Kachtik Mary Beth Romeo - Social Justice Co-Chairs

---

SERVICE AUCTION NEWS!  
Henry Halff

Yippee!!!! It's Service Auction Time again. That time of year when we offer our multifarious talents to each other, for absurd fees, which are then donated to the church.

Here's how the service auction works.

Phase I: We each offer services to be sold at auction. This phase starts on January 6 and ends on January 19.

Phase II: Everyone peruses all of the donations and makes bids, big bids. At the end of Phase II, there's a huge party where final bids are taken and a few special items are auctioned off. This phase starts on January 20 and ends with a bang on February 2.

Phase III: Everyone writes a check to the church and collects the services that they bought. This phase starts on February 2 and ends when it ends.

So, start thinking about what you are going to donate this year. (You are going to donate aren't you?) On the off chance that you can't think of something, here are some ideas.

- Serve dinner at your house.
- Pack a picnic lunch.
- Cater, butle, tend bar, ....
- Lead a hike, bike ride, pub crawl, ....
- Paint a portrait.
- Bake, roast, fry ....
- Parents day off--take someone's kids to the zoo, the Witte, ....
- Serenade someone's sweetie.
- Conduct an auto or walking tour of ....
- Write a poem, an essay, ....
- Give someone tickets to the Spurs, a weekend in your vacation home, ....
- Let someone pick a topic that you give a service on.
- Teach someone how to fly a kite, dance the samba, ....
- Consult on computers, antiques, interior decoration ....
- Design invitations, business cards, web pages ....
- Paint a room, hang paintings, arrange flowers, decorate, ....
- Pay someone to fix up the church.

And maybe you can think of something that you would like someone to donate. If so, save the thought. The auction committee will do its level best to make sure that what you want to get donated does get donated.

\*\*\*\*\*

#5

## AFFINITY GROUPS

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

---

Women's Group  
Jean Halff

The Women's Support 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.

---

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. 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.

-----  
Remarkable Film Group  
Clem Chow

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 usually shown at church at 6:30 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 leaders of the group are Clem and Joyce Chow. Any questions about this group may be directed to Clem or Joyce.

\*\*\*\*\*

**#6**

## **DIRECTORY**

Officers

President - Joan Bradshaw, 210-241-8506, [joanbradshaw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joanbradshaw@sbcglobal.net)

Secretary - Daron Sachs, 210-699-0798, [daron.sachs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:daron.sachs@sbcglobal.net)  
<<mailto:daron.sachs@sbcglobal.net>>

Treasurer - June Kachtik, 210-342-0135, [junekac@aol.com](mailto:junekac@aol.com)

At Large - Charley Pond, 210-222-9969

At Large - Mary Beth Romeo, 694-5233, [r5romeo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:r5romeo@sbcglobal.net)

Programs Committee - Henry Halff, 210-493-7501, [henry@quiensabe.com](mailto:henry@quiensabe.com)  
<<mailto:henry@quiensabe.com>>; Patty Gullick, 210-490-1349,  
[pattygullick@hotmail.com](mailto:pattygullick@hotmail.com) <<mailto:pattygullick@hotmail.com>>

Member Services Committee - Clem Chow, 210-495-1798, [CCIMA8@swbell.net](mailto:CCIMA8@swbell.net)  
<<mailto:CCIMA8@swbell.net>>; Jeff Ketner, 210-278-0612, [jeffket@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeffket@sbcglobal.net)  
<<mailto:jeffket@sbcglobal.net>>

Operations Committee - John Bradshaw, 210-341-8506, [JandJBradshaw@webtv.net](mailto:JandJBradshaw@webtv.net)  
<<mailto:JandJBradshaw@webtv.net>>

---

Staff

Minister - Phil Schulman, 210-614-2014, [schulman@satx.rr.com](mailto: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) <<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)  
<<mailto:cuuc-board@yahoogroups.com>>.

Calendar additions and changes should be submitted to Diane Wilson,  
[calendar@cuucsa.org](mailto:calendar@cuucsa.org) <<mailto:calendar@cuucsa.org>>.

Suggestions for and comments on the worship program may be sent to [cuuc-worship@yahoogroups.com](mailto: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)  
<<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) <<mailto:cuuc-ops@yahoogroups.com>>.

Changes of address, other membership information, and newsletter subscription or  
unsubscribe requests may be sent to [cuuc-members@yahoogroups.com](mailto:cuuc-members@yahoogroups.com) <<mailto:cuuc-members@yahoogroups.com>>.