



SECOND YEAR ANNIVERSARY!!

Tidings

from Associations around Urantia

URANTIA ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL ■ [HTTP://URANTIA-UAI.ORG](http://URANTIA-UAI.ORG)

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"The threshing floor" painting by Demetrio Gomez (Madrid, Spain)



<i>Gaétan G. Charland</i>	2	President's message
<i>Rick Lyon</i>	3	Newly elected ISB Officers
<i>Verner Verass</i>	4	Newly elected ISB Officers
<i>Tamila Ragimova</i>	4	IV National Congress of Urantia (Colombia)
<i>Tamila Ragimova</i>	5	How <i>The Urantia Book</i> found me
<i>Mark Kurtz</i>	6	UAI registered in Illinois as not-for-profit
<i>Gary Rawlings</i>	7	UAI UK-Ireland meeting in June
<i>Seppo Kanerva</i>	7	Associate Trustees, 2007
<i>Olga Lopez</i>	8	Annual meeting of readers in Spain
<i>Toby Fox</i>	8	UA of Arizona April meeting



President's message

Dear Friends of UAI,

SOON SUMMER WILL BE HERE and conferences will be happening at many places in many different countries. It will be an opportunity to extend our friendship while expanding our awareness of the growing brotherhood. It will also be a time for rejoicing and gathering new strength and energy for the coming year. When we go to conferences, most of the time we all come back with a lot of enthusiasm and determination. But beware of the "conference blues," it lies there a few weeks after our return home and unless we channel that new-found energy in worthwhile actions, we suffer withdrawal symptoms. Conferences generate emotional highs in some of us, and one way to use that effectively is to engage ourselves in creative activities as soon as possible after our return home.

In the years to come, when the strategic plan is well in place, conferences will be more focused on our mission and should provide ample opportunities to channel new emerging energies in worthwhile projects and workshops coherent with our mission. It should provide the organizers with new challenges and many opportunities to increase their skills in leadership while providing the attendees with workshops and activities focused on dissemination, education and personal growth. It will also leave plenty of room for creativity, autonomy and improvement.

During the last weekend of July, the team for the strategic plan will have met for the third time in Chicago. Thanks to the individual work of each member, the plan is now in its final phase of construction. It was a very inspiring and rewarding exercise to work with all those devoted people. After the final revision, which should be in the weeks to come, the strategic plan will be sent to the Representative Council for approval. This plan is designed for the International Service Board and needs the cooperation of all of us to succeed. Every association is strongly encouraged to build their own plan and the ISB will provide them with a model.



To enlighten some of you who are not familiar with a strategic plan – here is a good explanation of its structure and use. Whether we realize it or not, everyone to one degree

or another operates with a tactical plan. Very few of us have a strategic plan. What is the difference? A tactical plan is very short term. It is a statement or thought of what you plan to do in the next few hours, days or months to achieve something. A strategic plan is a statement of what one plans to do in the next five years or more; a road map that details the steps to take to achieve one or more goals. The ISB has been working for some months to formulate a five-year strategic plan for each committee and officer in the ISB.

Such a plan is necessary for several reasons. First, it sets definitive goals for each committee and officer. Second, it provides a structured sequence of activities that will be taken to achieve those goals. Third, it sets a reasonable time frame to complete each task. Strategic plans are not static. They must be dynamic because the world is ever changing. Humans are not able to anticipate every change that will affect their desired outcome. Thus, fourth, the plan is a codified path that allows each committee chair and officer to know what they must deviate from as circumstances change. The ISB will review its strategic plan at least yearly to access and adjust it as necessary.

Here is what is happening at the ISB - we are still struggling to get every new member comfortable with their new-found responsibilities, there is still some progress to be made. Meeting without the benefits of a face-to-face interaction has its own drawback and the ISB is always adjusting to this reality. The ISB members are looking to find a replacement for a member of the Judicial Commission, once a person is found, an election will be held at the RC to elect new members to this commission. If you know of any one that could be interested in such a position, please let us know. We are also looking to finish the strategic plan and have also started discussions on the possible

TIDINGS

From Associations
Around Urantia

Tidings is a monthly publication of Urantia Association International, whose mission is to foster study of *The Urantia Book* and to disseminate its teachings.

The Urantia Book online:

<http://www.urantia.org/papers/>

You may submit articles about *The Urantia Book*, news about your association, stories, photos and poems to the editor. All articles are subject to revision.

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Tidings archives:

<http://urantia-uai.org/tidings/>

Submissions limited to 700 words (one page) or 1400 words (1½ page) plus one or two photos. Deadline by the 15th of every month.



modifications of the UAI List Guidelines, to reflect more and more a true coherence and transparency to our mission. One note, any changes in the UAI List Guidelines have to be approved by the RC. If you wish to see any of those guidelines changed, please confer with your national representatives.

We are also in the final process of turning everything over from the Urantia Brotherhood Association to the UAI Administration. I, for one, never thought the process of registering UAI as a charitable and non-profit association would be such tedious and demanding work. Thanks go to the dedication and hard work of Mark Kurtz our Chief Financial Officer, James Woodward, our Executive Administrator, Shirley Pelland and Judy Van Cleave our Secretaries. Without their efforts, UAI would still be under the administration of the Urantia Brotherhood Association and would not enjoy its well deserved

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Newly elected International Service Board (ISB) officers

NOTE: First batch of new ISB officers introductions were published in the April 2007 Tidings.

Rick Lyon

Study Group Committee Chair
rlicklyon@tctc.com

FIRST I WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU for your support and confidence in re-electing me as Study Group Committee Chair. I would also like to introduce two people who have joined this committee during the past year: Barbara Newsom and Nick Scalzo.

I believe that any position of leadership or management should provide guidance, assistance, and encouragement to the people who do the actual work of any organization whether it is in our jobs, professions, or the UAI. As study group chair of the ISB Study Group Committee, I cannot go out worldwide and create study groups. It is up to you as an individual who is part of this team effort to do that. It is not up to you to create thousands of study groups worldwide, only to create one or two in your local community. Only you know the culture and lifestyle of those people in your area. The ISB Study Group Committee is here to guide, assist, and encourage the national and local organizations and the UAI members locally to do the work that our members have said we should be doing.

By preparing the Strategic Plan for the ISB, this committee and the other ISB committees, now have a well defined job description



Rick and daughter Katherine, 2005

of what we are to accomplish and how we are to accomplish it. We have specific goals and objectives; a real sense of purpose and mission for our small part of this organized effort to facilitate the discovery and study of the Urantia teachings by our fellow mortals of this planet.

I think the purpose of study groups is to create an atmosphere of study that promotes individual self-discovery of the truths contained within *The Urantia Book* with the benefit of group wisdom and interaction. A study group helps students to discover the teachings, learn how to apply the teachings to their own life, and how to share these truths with other people around them. The ultimate purpose of a study group, I believe, is to bring the individual closer to God and create spiritual joy among the group attendees.

President's message

continued from page 2

autonomy. The new status should be fully effective at the beginning of June.

Regarding the work of the RC, a resolution to adopt a Motto consistent with the strategic plan has been proposed by the ISB and approved by the RC. This motto is only to reflect the spirit in which we approach the goals and strategies included in the strategic plan and does not presume to change anything in the Charter, or add something to our website, letter head or business cards. There is also a second resolution that will be brought soon and will address the issue of membership fees. Another resolution was submitted by the

Canadian Association to modify the Charter as regards the requirements for membership, more to follow on this.

As regards to our efforts to be more and more transparent, the minutes of the ISB will be forwarded to every national association representative, to be passed down to their members. Any effort of any kind is always accompanied by more work and we are all willing, simple volunteers.

Have a good summer and good reading.

Gaétan G. Charland □
 President UAI
gaetan.charland3721@videotron.ca

For our committee to achieve its goals and objectives, we have defined what a study group is. We have established criteria for study groups that we as an organization will follow when recommending groups to new readers or someone who is seeking a group to study with. We are collecting information about existing study groups and adding their contact information to the UAI database for the purpose of helping individuals find groups and groups to find members.

Most importantly, we want to encourage and assist all local and national associations to become actively involved in the creation and maintenance of study groups in their area. UAI at the local level will be a gateway for individuals to find study groups or information about starting a study group. We want to be the best resource for information about methods, problem solving, or activities that a group might do. One tool we created for this is the Study Group Starter Kit that is distributed by the International Study Group Committee. Another tool is the UAI database that is built, maintained, and used by the local organizations to serve readers in their area.

We invite study groups to create articles about their group and their members to submit to Tidings. Success breeds success and the more people see what others are successfully doing, the more they will want to become part of that success. By sharing information and the excitement of attending a study group, the easier it will be for an individual to take on the challenge of starting another study group. We will establish forms of communication among all study groups through newsletters, conference workshops, and events to create the feeling of a worldwide community of readers of *The Urantia Book*. One of our goals is to create a "Sister" study group program to encourage study groups from different areas to join together to encourage each other and to share ideas, methods, and activities.

This committee wants to hear about your group methods and activities. We want to hear about how you solved problems that arise in your group. We can then share that information with other groups and together we can create thousands of study groups, one group at a time. If you would like to join us in this effort, please contact me at rlicklyon@tctc.com or call me in the USA at 765-366-7203. □

Newly elected International Service Board (ISB) officers

Verner Verass

Communications Chair
vern@designnd.com.au

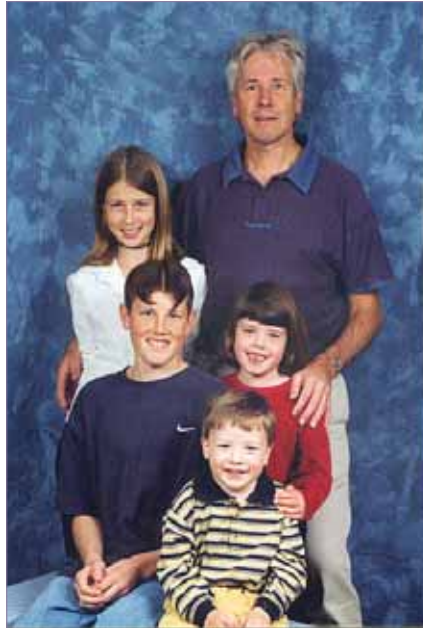
EUROPE WAS IN DISARRAY AT THE CLOSE of the World War II in 1946 and my parents found themselves stateless as their homeland Latvia, was absorbed into the Soviet Union. They chose Australia, a land far from conflict to start a new life. Australia, the land of my birth (1949), has provided every opportunity for personal growth and development in a free and democratic society. I believe my parents chose wisely.

I was born and raised in Sydney, the only son of a migrant family speaking Latvian at home and English at school, becoming Australian through the friends I made and the groups I joined, Boy Scouts, a major influence. A love for the outdoors and adventure stems from these times.

My parents believed education is the key to success in life and were often exasperated at my slow realisation of the truth of this fact. Being an average student, I was unable to meet their expectations in learning subjects I had no natural ability for. An unfortunate consequence was a diminished interest in anything mathematical.

Fortunately, my tertiary studies were in harmony with my talent which was seeking artistic expression. I gained a scholarship to the Industrial Design course at the Institute of Technology and graduated with a Credit Diploma after 4 years study in 1973.

After extensive travels and experiences, I made a career change while living in Singapore with my first wife, Kim, where I worked for a design company, Form and Function, whose core business was graphic design. I enjoyed applying design to publications and corporate image products. At the time, there was more demand for graphic design than for designing furniture, light fittings and white goods. On return to Australia in 1985 for the birth of our first child, Lincoln, I decided to accept a position with a design firm, The Artworks, in Canberra, the nation's capital. During this time, computer technology arrived and the communications era exploded with the arrival of the Personal Computer and soon after, the Internet made its global impact. A couple of life changes occurred, my daughter Sophie was born my first marriage ended, and I lost my job. In 1987, I launched my own business,



Vern and children, 1998

Design Direction and have been running it ever since.

For 7 years I had a business partner who brought his advertising business into the mix, this dynamic worked well till 1994 when he chose to move on. In this time I built staff, client base, honed my business skills, met Fran, re-married and started a new family. Fran and I have two children Hannah (13) and Alex (10). Lincoln is now 21, at Melbourne University in his graduate year of an Arts degree with a psychology major, Sophie (18) has finished high school and is in a gap year before furthering her studies. She is working at a local Chemist store saving money to travel to the USA.

The Urantia Book has been my spiritual mainstay and font of wisdom through all these experiences since 1974 and has augmented my Lutheran upbringing beautifully.

As Communications Chair I plan to work with my committee to address the following issues:

1. Logo for UAI.
2. Research the security aspect of database in order that it conforms to international law, conforms to Safe harbor protocol. International associations need to be satisfied regarding confidentiality.
3. The Web site needs upgrading, at this time M. Caoile is trying to do this work all by himself without guidelines or directives.

IV National Congress of Urantia (Colombia)

August 18, 19, 20, 2007
 Medellín, Colombia

EVERY TWO YEARS THE NATIONAL Congress of Urantia in Colombia is organized in the month of August and celebrating the birthday of Michael of Nebadon in Urantia.

This year the Congress will be in the city of Medellín, in the Social Club of Medellín.

We invite sincerely all the Urantians of different countries, readers of *Tidings*, to participate in this Congress. All the information of the event can be solicited by E-mail: urantiamedellincolombia@yahoo.es.

TAMILA RAGIMOVA
 President, Assoc. Urantia Medellín
 Tel. (574) 4116134 | (574) 4166030
 Medellín - Colombia

4. Brochure that represents what UAI is all about so we can attract new service oriented and dedicated members.

5. UAI letterhead paper, envelopes and business card with our logo.

6. Clear policy on how to use our logo and the concentric circle in building website. In sort, a style guide.

7. A publicity policy so members know how far they can go when they want to advertise UAI activities or *The Urantia Book* in newspaper, radio or other public media.

8. Establish a way to produce, print and publish study aids for study groups.

9. Build an intranet where every association has access, can archive their documents, reports, minutes of meeting and so on.

10. A dedicated server for all of our internet base activities whether we own it or rent it.

I agree with Gaetan's vision that we need to achieve autonomy without chaos and confusion. As we grow there is a need to simplify the process of coordination. My role will be to communicate and supply the means to achieve outcomes in the most simple and harmonious way that benefits our members. □

How *THE URANTIA BOOK* found me

TAMILA RAGIMOVA

urantiamedellincolombia@yahoo.es

President, Association Urantia Medellín

MY NAME IS TAMILA RAGIMOVA, I WAS born in the ex-Soviet Union, in the city of Baku, capital of Azerbaijan. Baku is in the peninsula of the Caspian Sea separated of Russia by mountains of the Caucasus. Now Azerbaijan is an independent country and has borders with Iran, Armenia and Georgia.

Azerbaijan historically is an Islamic country, but in the Soviet Union after the revolution of year 1917 they prohibited all class of religions, therefore I did not have any religious education. In my family we only celebrated the Islamic and also Christian celebrations, because my father was Azerbaijani and my mother was Russian.

The Islamic customs in Azerbaijan, were not as strong as in Iran, but the freedom of the women was very restricted, many things and customs of city of Baku did not please me; for that reason I had very deep desire to leave Baku and to live in another city, but it was not easy to make this, being a girl in a Muslim country.

On the part of my father we are descending of the kings of Iran, of the Qajar dynasty of Persia, but I did not know this until I was 30 years old.

In my family we are three sisters and I am the oldest one. My mother became ill of the nervous system in the age of 42; the disease lasted 5 years, slowly taking her to her death. At this time I finished the school, with an award for academic achievements and entered the university to study Physics.

Since the early years of my life I was more of a spiritual person rather than materialist, and with certain talent in humanities, such as literature, poetry, art, geography, history, but all at once I "decided" to study physics which is a very complex science. When I was 18 years old, also was interested to know the secret of the formation of the universe, I wanted to find out who we are and what the reason of our existence is.

I read many scientific books on these subjects, thought that the physics of relativity

could respond to these questions. Now I understand, that my decision to study physics, was guided by my adjuster and other celestial beings, who took me to this way of study for my progress and integral development, because studying physics and mathematics develops the mind and the logic of thinking.

From very early years I was very sensible and always there was a thought in my head: "I must develop my power of will and the inner strength." I trained my will permanently, thinking: "I can not be enslaved by my desires; I must handle my attitudes with the mind." It is as if I had a feeling that soon I would learn, that "the self-control is the measurement of the moral nature of the man and the indicator of its spiritual development." 1609

Now I understand that my guardians took care of me a lot and they guided me to the way of integral development of human personality. In youth I had a very rigorous discipline; I practiced rhythmical gymnastics like professional sportswoman, studied physics in the university, took care of my ill mother and educated my younger sisters.

In 1970s I finished my studies in physics with the specialization in semiconductors and finally I could find a reason to leave Baku. At this time "appeared" a possibility of studying a doctorate in the Academy of Sciences in Moscow.

The experience of the life in Moscow was extraordinary, because during 10 years of studies, I lived in a residence of doctorate students, where people lived from all parts of the world; I learned the customs and the cultures of the people from Europe, Africa, Asia, America and almost all the nationalities of the Soviet Union.

I understood that all the human beings are equal, that many good people exist and this quality does not depend on the country of birth. Also I learned that everywhere, there are

many primary people, who are only concerned about material things, the power and to feel superior to the others. Although these people have intelligence to hide these defects, one can feel this egoism with frequency.

After making Ph. D. in physics and mathematics of semiconductors, I tried to remain and live in Moscow, but I could not because I did not have my own house in Moscow, this was the situation of that time, but in any condition I did not want to return and live in Baku, really there was no solution.

Once again the solution arrived from the sky, "appeared" my marriage with a Colombian who lived in the same residence in Moscow and I had to come to live in Colombia, in the city of Medellín.

The marriage lasted a very short time, because there was a total mutual incompatibility, but I liked a lot the life in Colombia, the people, the treatment of one to another, the climate and everything.

Quickly I found an educational job as physics teacher in University of Antioquia, and began to dictate lections even though spoke very little Spanish.

In the university I founded a laboratory in physics of semiconductors and began to work hard in the investigations the growth of semiconductors and their physical properties. I used to travel frequently to the national and international congresses, had joint works with different universities of Colombia, America and Europe.

Up to 1996 I was a normal person, that is to say, "a normal" physicist, who knew all the concepts of energies that the physics handles, the other terms like Bio Energy and Spiritualism made me laugh because the physics does not handle this class of concepts, that is to say, thought like all "the normal" physicists; those energies the physics does not know do not



Tamila and Hector Chaparro are getting married June 8, 2007

How *The Urantia Book* found me

continued from page 5

exist, neither exist “parallel worlds”, “celestial beings”, etc.

Then, in 1996 the divine providence touched me again and in a very particular form, that changed all my life. “Appeared” very strong headaches and I felt a deep cold within my head, had to dictate lections with a knitted cap, when the temperature in Medellin was 30°C.

All medical examinations, the TAC, magnetic Resonance and others, demonstrated that I did not have any disease, but the pains continued.

The general medicine could not heal me, so I began to look for another way of treatment, therefore visited several Bio Energetic doctors and people who cured with other methods, the disease lasted a year.

At this time I discovered a surprising spiritual world that I did not know before, I began to read books of Elena Blavatskaya, the Bible, the Koran, Alan Kardec, Mayas and many others, I practiced regressions, but none of these new knowledge could satisfy my desire to know the true cosmic reality.

One day “appeared” *The Urantia Book*, lent to me and I began to study it strongly, discovered a world totally different from everything what physics had taught me and of everything I learned in this last year of my headaches.

The Book had a big impact on me by the information that contained and the scientific form of explanation of the appearance and administration of the Universe of the Universes. Like many people, the first part seemed to me very complicated but now it is not like this any more and it is natural since “The revelation must always be limited by the man’s capacity of receptivity” 1007.

I think that during a year which I had headaches, they were preparing me for a crucial discovery in my life that is *The Urantia Book*.

The information and the lessons that this book contains is the greatest progress the human being has had in the human knowledge, much greater than all the scientific and technological progress that had the planet earth in twentieth century.

Much of the information that is in documents of *The Urantia Book*, had arrived to the Earth before and is compiled in the Torah, the Bible, the Koran, writings of the Dead Sea, written Egyptian, Gnostics knowledge and many others, but *The Urantia Book* presents

UAI registered in State of Illinois as not-for-profit

MARK KUTZ

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Chief Financial Officer, UAI

THE LONG AWAITED UAI OPERATING autonomy is now at hand. UAI released from Urantia Brotherhood Association, Inc, allowed us to form a new corporation. UAI is registered in the USA, State of Illinois, as not-for-profit. After many discussions about our name, we have now submitted application to United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for recognition of tax exemption. Preparation involved answering many questions and writing responses. An application package was submitted on May 8, 2007. IRS staff is busy and therefore we may not receive a final ruling for many months.

Tax exemption status is beneficial for USA citizens and others who file a USA tax return and who wish to deduct charitable donations from personal and/or corporate tax filings. Other UAI national associations are encouraged to research their laws and rules for possible benefit within their nations. Although UAI release occurred in 2005, the delay was due to many name change discussions and the complex paperwork.

Chicago attorney Quin Frazer assisted us in preparing the Illinois corporation registra-

tion and the tax application. The process involved researching Illinois and USA Federal laws and instructions, ISB members writing a narrative of activities for each committee, a long application form that includes a certification of no ethical conflicts with ISB members, staff, and vendors, and submitting all financial data. Shirley Pelland, James Woodward, Mark Kurtz, Judy Van Cleave, and Merindi Swadling reviewed the application.

IRS acknowledged receipt of our application. Deductible donations are allowed during their review period. It is expected IRS will issue a favorable determination and this would mean permanent exemption status. This status is attractive to donors and greatly enhances income potential for UAI.

A new PayPal account was opened with email name uaicfo@juno.com for members and friends in any nation where this service is offered. This account may also be identified with our international office phone number 773-572-1180. Credit card donations are accepted by calling the office or by email instruction to James Woodward at

exec-admin@urantia-uai.org. □

the same information, but for people more outpost, the people of the XXI century.

Many people have difficulty to understand its content. It is necessary to have a prepared mind and soul, to have the investigating mind and the soul without egoism to be able to discern its education, for that reason Jesus said to us: “Ponder well these words in your hearts while each of you finds out their true meaning.” 1876

The Urantia Book is the most important event that has appeared in my life, it took me a long time to understand this, the celestial beings took care of me and they guided me with patience helping to develop me little by little, the will, the logic of thought, the

strength of the soul, the capacity to teach others, pedagogic, taking me to the aim to understand correctly all the information that contains *The Urantia Book*, because “The coming of kingdom in the hearts of men as a gradual development.” 1860

I have been thankful with my Adjuster, my celestial Father Michael of Nebadon and with all his collaborators, that took me with much love and patience to learn to surpass the problems of this world and to acquire a mind that now only aspires to take advantage of this life to gain the eternal surviving. What is the advantage of gaining the entire world and in the end losing the soul? □

UAI UK–Ireland meeting in June

GARY RAWLINGS
President, UAI UK-Ireland
garyurantia@aol.com

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE venue for the UAI - UK & Ireland readers' Summer Meeting for 2007, and the venue is a rather special hotel and conference centre in the Southwest of England, namely Gaunts House, at Wimborne, Dorset. The date for your diaries is Friday 15th to Sunday 17th June, and the expected cost for the weekend, on a full board basis is £100 per person. We hope for a good attendance this year, as we have a rather special treat in store, a music workshop with Rebecca Oswald. The booking has already been made and a deposit paid, so as soon as you are ready to commit yourself to that weekend with other UB readers, please contact us by e-mail, the addresses are

Garyurantia@aol.com
chrismooley50@yahoo.com or
info@urantia.org.uk

The theme for the meeting is to be: Cosmic Harmony.

Gaunts House will I am sure be a suitable venue for a weekend like ours. It is no ordinary hotel, but a residential centre operated by the Richard Glyn Foundation with a preference for spiritually oriented activities. Courses, events, and workshops are held there throughout the year. It is a Georgian/Victorian redbrick mansion with a unique north tower, set in extensive grounds with several spacious workshop rooms. It can accommodate 110 guests in large bedrooms in the main house, plus en-suite rooms in the stable block, the house is comfortable but not luxurious. Meals are delicious and entirely vegetarian. Please do not forget to bring your own towels and indoor shoes, also there is an outdoor swimming pool and if you want a dip it would be also advisable to bring with you a bathing costume.

The management of Gaunts House has asked us not to book with them directly, but rather through Gary, who will then make the booking on your behalf, so book as early as you can for what promises to be a memorable weekend with Urantia Book readers and UAI

Associate Trustees, 2007



From left to right: Claire Mylanus - France, Judy Van Cleave - USA, Jorgan Andrews - USA, Irmeli Ivalo Sjolje - Brazil, Sue Tennant - Canada, and Marilynn Kulieke - USA.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF URANTIA Foundation invited two individuals, Kathleen Swadling and Seppo Kanerva, to become the first Associate Trustees of the Board.

Associate Trustees are highly valued advisors to the Board. They are invited to be present at all face-to-face meetings. They do not have the right to vote, but they do participate in almost all deliberations of the Board. They have been granted the rights to speak, to submit motions and to second motions. They are kept informed about

practically all matters that the Board is to decide and determine.

The Board of Trustees has decided that Associate Trustees are appointed for a calendar year, with two possible reappointments. The maximum period of service thus is three consecutive years. The Board has also decided that in principle the number of Associate Trustees should not exceed the number of Trustees themselves. □

—*Seppo Kanerva*
President, Urantia Foundation

members, you can view the hotel facilities on the <http://gauntshouse.com/>.

The planned schedule for the summer meeting which will be held in the Main Ballroom is as follows:

Friday 15th June: 16.00 onwards for arrival, and welcome.

18.30 – 19.30 dinner, and the evening free to socialize with other Urantia Book readers.

Saturday 16TH June 08.00 – 09.00 breakfast

9.30 – 10.30 Paper on Cosmic Citizenship

10.50-12.00 Paper on Cosmic Disharmony

12.00-13.00 free time

13.00-14.00 lunch

14.00-17.00 Workshop: Music and the Urantia Book

17.00-18.30 free time

18.30-19.30 dinner

Concert in the evening; Come and listen to the one and only Rebecca Oswald who will be coming all the way from the USA to perform her latest recordings which can be purchased from her including (Pray, Tell me How)

Sunday 17th June: 08.00-9.00 breakfast

09.30-10.30 Paper on Cosmic Insight

10.50-12.00 Paper on the Art of Living

12.00-1.00 free time

13.00. – lunch, you will the have some free time afterwards until departure time at 16.00 hours. □

Annual meeting of readers in Spain

OLGA LOPEZ

President, Urantia Association of Spain
olopez65@gmail.com

THE 7TH ANNUAL MEETING OF READERS was held at Hotel Vistamar, placed in Benalmadena Costa (Malaga, Southern Spain). Thirty-nine people coming from Barcelona, Tarragona, Gerona, Mallorca, Burgos, Vizcaya, Seville, Castellon, Madrid and Malaga attended this meeting. People from Malaga were not hosted at the hotel, but they were at the discussions and shared with us the atmosphere of fellowship that we lived during those days.

This time we discussed about present and future of our planet, according what is said in the book on this respect. Our Secretary, Santiago Rodriguez, gave a speech about present of our planet, and so did Carmelo Martinez -member of our Association- about future. In connection with future and the role that readers of the book have to play in it, Mariano Perez, a reader from Madrid and member of our Association as well, introduced his project EDEN (Escuela de Desarrollo Espiritual Natural, School of Natural Spiritual Development), a project to create a school (either virtual or real) where truth seekers

can learn the teachings of the book; we know that seekers are out there and we want to reach them somehow.

There were some optional out-of-program activities too, as the presentation of some diagrams about the different kinds of personalities from Uversa, made by Eduardo Altuzarra, as well as the showing of two documentaries about the Milky Way and the Super chords Theory. But the best thing, as regular attendees well know, are spontaneous formation of small groups where topics arise spontaneously and where we have the opportunity of being with kindred spirits and we can talk about the things that we like most. These moments, when we enjoy the spiritual fellowship, are really magic and they make us wish the next Meeting comes to get together once more.

As part of our program activities, as usual, we held an assembly of our Association, when we informed our members about international and national projects. Our



Group picture. More photos at <http://www.urantia-uai.org/photos/index.html>

Meeting ended officially with an informal closing ceremony, where we give voice to all the people that had attended a meeting of readers for the first time. We wanted them to share with us their feelings about what they lived during those days. We also collected very valuable suggestions for our next Meeting. General evaluation was very positive. Not only there were more attendees than the year before, but human quality and depth of the discussions was bigger; this is a good symptom about the excellent health of the Urantia movement in our country. □

UA of Arizona April meeting

TOBY FOX

UBAA Secretary, tobyfox1@netzero.com

URANTIA BROTHERHOOD ASSOCIATION of Arizona (UBAA) held its first tri-annual meeting of 2007 on April 1st. We are continuing with our multi-year drive to donate Urantia Books to libraries throughout Arizona.

Plans were initiated for a special meeting/event for August, to celebrate Jesus birthday with special presentations, a BBQ potluck/communion dinner, and a late night Star Party. If you are in the Prescott, AZ area on August 18th and would like to join us, email tobyfox1@netzero.com.

Cathy Jones led us into a thought provoking study of paper 160, *RODAN OF*

ALEXANDRIA. Her Q&A format was especially effective in drawing us into many discussions. Here are a couple of her questions for you to chew upon: "What does the religion of Jesus demand?" and "What is true religion?"

Toby Fox did a presentation titled, "The Mastery of Communion," a how-to guide to removing the roadblocks to direct Adjuster communion. A foundation for mastery was built around achieving a mind of perfect poise, housed in a body of clean habits, stabilized



Arizona group photo

neural energies, and balanced chemical function. Final emphasis was placed on improving our techniques of prayer and worship not only within this short lifetime, but on our journey all the way to Paradise, a journey to the mastery of communion. □