



Tidings

from Associations around Urantia

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

Nº 50 ■ MAR—JUN 2011



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President's message

Dear Friends of UAI and readers of Tidings,

THE SUMMER IS FAST approaching and so is the Leadership Symposium. The organizers are very excited to welcome leaders of the Urantia movement from all around the world to that historical event. So far we have registered people who hail from more than 20 different countries. We are now in the fine-tuning process of this momentous event that should gather at least 150 of the most dedicated people working to further the mission of *The Urantia Book* on this planet.

When we call this an historical event it is not an overstatement, as never before in the history of the Urantia movement was there such an opportunity to bring together so many leaders and historians of this Revelation. It will be a golden opportunity for many to be in contact with some of the people who knew Dr. William Sadler and many of the contact commissioners. Our scheduled guests were members of the Forum. This is a timely occasion for those present to learn from those who were there — the history, origin and destiny of our movement and its mission.

We strongly believe that for our mission to succeed, the leaders need to come together and discover, share and explore ways to enhance their effort in their country. It is important to learn and endorse fully the responsibility that comes from this amazing privilege to participate in such a spiritual adventure. Not only will the symposium focus on the material aspect of our mission but also on the spiritual requirement to achieve it. While day one of the symposium will focus on the origin, history and destiny of the Urantia Revelation, day two will focus on the personal spiritual path leaders must strive to follow in order to become more effective ambassadors.

While we will be much enthused by days one and two, day three will explore how through our decisions and cooperation we can coordinate our efforts to improve our service to the growing community of study groups. People who are experienced with study groups will share with the rest of us their



opportunities for service to this group at the international, national and local levels. Study groups are not only a vital element of our work, they offer the best means by which leaders and teachers will naturally evolve.

The symposium is full of activities. What a great opportunity to mingle with our brothers and sisters from around the world. You will be part of that historical moment of time and learn with the rest of us how to become a more effective leader. Simultaneous translation will be provided in French and Spanish for the plenary sessions and UAI translators will be used in workshops and during other activities to enhance the participation of other cultures. In his book "The Soul of Leadership" Deepak Chopra says: "Becoming a leader is the most crucial choice one can make — it is the decision to step out of darkness into the light." Will you make that choice and join us in Chicago this summer? I pray and hope you will for the Revelation needs you more than ever.

As you might guess, many members of the ISB have been busy organizing the symposium. While most of us were occupied with this, the affairs of UAI had to go on. The process for the nomination of the next ISB elections was completed and the results forwarded to the election committee, which was recently formed on the Representatives Council. The elections were moved to a later date due to the unprecedented amount of business at the RC level. We are very pleased to welcome to UAI's Service Board: Bernie Belarsky of Australia as Dissemination Chair, and Caio Donega of Brazil as the Study Groups Chair. The International Service Board also made its choice for the location of the next International Conference and I am happy to inform you that the city of Medellin, Colombia was the city and country of choice.

The ISB strongly believes that Colombia is a driving force for the expansion of the Revelation in South America. The rapid growth of the Urantia movement in this part of the world makes this location a judicious choice for our next international conference.

TIDINGS

From Associations
Around Urantia

Tidings is a bi-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/en/urantia-book/read>

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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You may submit images for possible use on the cover to:

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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 2nd month.



Be assured that the safety of our members was a very important criterion in determining our choice of a location. Having traveled to Colombia many times on behalf of UAI, I can assure everyone that Medellin is a very safe place to visit. Everything will be done to make your stay in Colombia a pleasurable and memorable experience.

Since the last edition of *Tidings*, much new business was resolved by the RC. One item being the voting of a resolution to allow UAI to participate in a joint project to promote study groups. The Study Group Portal is now operational on the Internet. The UAI will participate in a joint study group survey with the Foundation and the Fellowship. And most notably, the RC voted positively on a resolution to prevent the practice of channelling in connection with Urantia study groups.

Good reading.

In the spirit of brotherhood

Gaétan G. Charland

President UAI

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Response to “Where are these women?”



RITA SCHAAD
ANZURA, Australia
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Dear Line and Johanne

AFTER READING YOUR ARTICLE IN *Tidings* I wanted to go and write a message straight away — but what happened is exactly the reason you don't 'see' women more involved 'on stage' in the Urantia Movement — I did not get to sit and think till now — more than a week down the track!!

You ask where are the women ?

Well, I feel that I speak for many — even yourself — when I say: they are out and about responding to opportunities to serve the needs of those calling out. Very well made plans are getting altered constantly as the day unfolds and because each of the opportunities presented is meditated upon — in a split second — the way to follow becomes clear and very much in tune with what we perceive our role to be.

Being a spiritual woman at this time is surely the same as it has been for all ages. Women are the dreamers and the sower of seeds - while their day to day life is taken up with the constant preparation and nurturing of 'the soil'.

I feel like we cannot — should not — go past any minute or insignificant thing — as tiresome as this might be. It's like when work-



Mother and daughter, share a light moment.

ing on the 'supreme tapestry' — every stitch needs to be in its place for the creative work to grow in an orderly manner.

May it be as Mother and Homemaker and within her professional occupation, certainly the spiritual woman is feeling akin to the Universe mother spirit — she who nurtures and creates within her sphere, she who bestows her mind upon whatever she touches, she who trusts in the timely unfolding of everything, she who is not rushed and has the complete overview.

This has as a consequence that we are held back somewhat and often cannot rush forward to immerse ourselves in our favourite *grand design*, and things like putting our thoughts down in words at the end of the day — to share with likeminded students of *The Urantia Book* for instance — become a non-event.

I've gradually gotten used to that I think, and can laugh at myself making all these

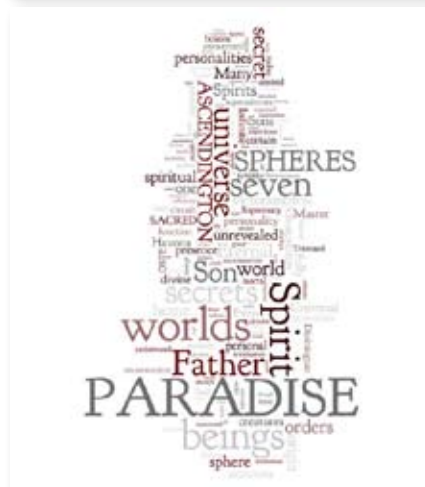
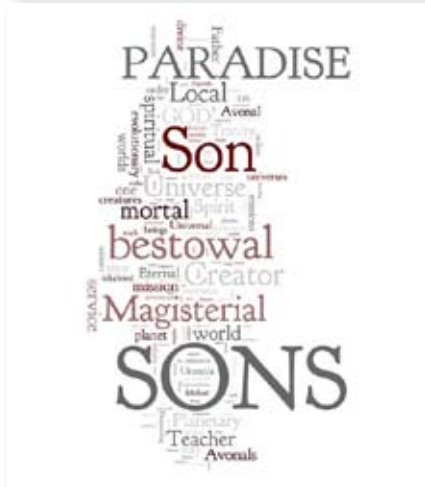
grandiose plans about all sorts of worthy deeds only to be led in other directions.

But oddly enough, when it counts — a special family occasion, a study group event or the like — every worthy idea finds its ground and I end up just marvelling at the perfect outworking of it all. I feel held and guided by unseen friends, feel a part of a coordinate effort, feel to be in the right spot.

I very much appreciate your concern and what you are trying to do here. Please be quietly assured, that spiritual women — as those in the Urantia movement — are working tirelessly in whatever role they perceive themselves in. And as such are rarely making any waves but keep the undercurrent steady and strong .

In friendship with the universal sisterhood

Rita Schaad, Australia □



Urantia word clouds

CONCEPTS FROM *THE URANTIA BOOK* have been artfully typeset into “word clouds” by Russ McClay who uses a program that produces interesting formations of words in a text, with word frequency determining the size of each word.

You can see his word clouds and other contributed artwork at www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1850455618785&set=o.160724300626735&type=1&theater. □



Response to “Spiritual woman — Association Project”



CHERYL GLICKER
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International
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Bonjour, Line!

JUST READ YOUR ARTICLE IN *TIDINGS*. Well, here I am! When I met you and Gaetan at the conference in Nashville, you encouraged me to host a study group. Because of your suggestion, my husband and I have been hosting a monthly study group in our home for the past 4 years. I have also recently joined the GLMUA and been appointed to complete Tamara Strumfeld’s term as Treasurer. I have volunteered to assist Rick Lyon with registration, etc. at the Leadership Symposium this summer, and I submitted a book review of Deepak Chopra’s book on leadership, *The Soul of Leadership*. I thought it was to have been posted on the Leadership Symposium website, but have not yet seen it there. Rick Lyon has a copy of my review, and I have provided a copy for you also.

I look forward to seeing & serving with you this summer @ Techny Towers!

In service & friendship,
Cheryl Glicker □





Leadership 2011 Symposium Program



MERINDI BELARSKI
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JUST A SHORT MONTH TILL UAI Leadership 2011 and the program is in place for you all to experience a dynamic leadership growth experience. So make sure you have registered.

SPONSORSHIP to UAI Leadership Symposium

Dear friends

I am excited to give you an update on the Sponsorship program for our upcoming Leadership Symposium. Thanks to your generous donations, we have been able to approve the financing of 42 leaders from around the globe.

Thesededicated readers come from: Argentina; Australia; Bolivia; Brazil; Cameroun; Chile; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; Estonia; Malawi; Mexico; Nigeria; Pakistan; Peru; Senegal; Sweden; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States; and Zambia. 20-countries!

Thank you so much to those who have generously given to the symposium – it is going to be a wonderful, enriching experience for our leaders around the world.

Join us on July 13th – 17, 2011 at UAI Leadership 2011 in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

For more information please go to www.uaileadership.com or email us at uaileadership@gmail.com □



Leadership website homepage

Arrival Day — Wed, July 13 th	
2pm – 5.30pm	Check-in
5:30pm – 7pm	Dinner
7:30pm – 10pm	Welcoming event
Day One — Thurs, July 14 th	
The Origin, History and Destiny of the Revelation	
7am	Early morning worship
7am – 8:45am	Breakfast
9am – 10am	Plenary: Gaetan Charland, President UAI
	Break
10:15am – 10:45am	Video Presentation
10:45am – 11:15am	Urantia Foundation
11:15am – 11:45am	UAI Charter purpose and the Publication Mandate
12pm – 1pm	Lunch
1pm – 3pm	Group Dynamics: Epochal revelations
	Break
3:30pm – 4:30pm	Group Dynamics wrap-up
4:30pm – 5:30pm	Informal Discussion Groups [or Free Time]
5:30pm – 7pm	Dinner (those not going on tour) and Urantia Foundation tour (dinner-box)
7pm – 7:30pm	Evening entertainment
7:30pm – 10pm	Entertainment and social activities
Day Two — Fri, July 15 th	
True Leadership—The Art of Self-Mastery	
7am	Early morning worship
7am – 8:45am	Breakfast
9am – 9:30am	A Bridge from Day One to Day Two—James Woodward
9:30am – 11:am	The Art of Self-Mastery—Sheila Keene-Lund
	Break
11:15am – 12:30pm	Four speakers on how TUB influenced their spiritual development
12:30pm – 1:30pm	Lunch & UAI Committee kiosk
1:30pm – 2:30pm	Reflection on morning session and intro to group activity—James Woodward and Sheila Keene-Lund
2:30pm – 5pm	Group activity
5pm – 5:30pm	Group meditation
5:30pm – 7pm	Dinner (those not going on tour) and Urantia Foundation tour (dinner-box)
7pm – 7:30pm	Evening entertainment
7:30pm – 10pm	Entertainment and social activities
Day Three — Sat, July 16 th	
Models of Leadership, Groups and Organization	
7am	Early morning worship
7am – 8.45am	Breakfast
9am – 9:30am	Introduction, summary of days 1 & 2
9:30am – 10:30am	Panel discussion
	Break
10:30am – 11:30am	Panel discussion (continued)
11:30am – 12pm	Group photo
12pm – 1pm	Lunch & UAI Committee kiosk
1pm – 4pm	Group dynamics (includes break)
4pm – 5pm	Group dynamic wrap-up
5:30pm – 7pm	Dinner & UAI Committee kiosk
7:30pm – 10pm	Evening entertainment
Closing Day — Sun, July 17 th	
An original worship service, closing remarks, farewell	
7am	Early morning worship
7am – 8.45am	Breakfast
9am – 10am	Closing remarks, summary, questions

Faith and Beliefs



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OUR HISTORY Urantia Association of Finland

THIS INVITATION FROM THE URANTIA Association of Québec was the second one of the year to gather readers for this one day conference.

How fascinating it is to see and hear different personalities speak on the same theme, but all the while in a unique way in which multiple facets are being exposed. This is what Louise Renaud, Guy Breton and Robert Ezri did on Saturday May 15 in Québec City. The subject was on faith and beliefs.

The research work and the power of speech of each of these presenters were magnifying. Even after having read and studied on faith after many years, we manage to find something which either wasn't part of our comprehension or which had just escaped us. Their divine wisdom shone and my soul was filled with joy.

Some thirty readers gathered in the afternoon and discussed on practical questions which uplifted us, either in terms of knowledge or in terms of fraternity.

Thanks to all who have accepted this invitation and have made of this day a testimony of your dynamic and living faith.

To love is to serve
Line St-Pierre
Ste-Sophie, Canada □



Finland Urantia Association picnic 2009

A LEGEND HAS IT THAT *THE URANTIA Book* was first introduced in Finland in 1965, ten years after it had been published in Chicago. The book received a warm welcome right from the beginning, and the circle of interested readers was enlarging rapidly. A small number of regular study groups was formed in various parts of the country, north and south. It was very soon realised that the language of the revelation was, in part, so difficult that a Finnish translation was felt to be an indispensable necessity. An incipient organisation took shape under the guise of a translator group. The group not only translated but also sponsored occasional meetings, attended by dozens of people.

Some forty people were involved in the first translation undertaking, but the

quality of their work was very uneven and simply poor, calling for revisions and much editing. A small group of revisors was formed, and they worked at the project during many years, translating actually the entire book from scratch for the second time. Finally in 1981 this group considered their job done, and the work was submitted to the scrutiny of three independent assessors. The assessors were not happy with the quality and faithfulness of the second Finnish rendering; consequently a third translation effort was launched in 1984, with one of the second-draft assessors working as the translator. The third translation was finally printed in 1993 under the name of *Urantia-kirja*.

Gradually an idea of a more organised effort matured, and a pressing need for a specific Urantia organisation was felt widely among the many people who used to >>

Urantia Association of Finland cont.

attend study groups and public meetings on themes of the revelation, even if there was also some opposition to the idea. Upon some years of ardent discussions on the pros and cons of a Urantia organisation, also those who had been sceptical were finally won over to accepting the idea. On 6 December 1988, the necessary documents pending the formal formation of a Urantia Society were signed by the required number of people, and an interim Urantia organisation was thus a working reality. On 10 June 1989, a year and a half later, these efforts culminated in the installment ceremonies of Suomen Urantia-seura, the Finnish Urantia Society, which was the first Urantia Society outside the United States. The installment was witnessed by more than a hundred Finnish readers, along with the leaderships of both Urantia Brotherhood and Urantia Foundation, and a high number of American and European readers.

Our Society was formed and installed to be one of the constituent societies of Urantia Brotherhood. A few weeks after the installment, however, the well-known organisational rift happened. Finnish Urantia Society decided to remain loyal to Urantia Foundation and was a year later “abandoned” by Urantia Brotherhood, which was called the Fifth Epochal Fellowship at that time, later to be called *The Urantia Book Fellowship*. Finnish Urantia Society was for many years an independent social organisation, allied and co-operating with Urantia Foundation, and entitled to use the symbol and the marks. In 1994 our Society became one of the founding member organisations of International Urantia Association, IUA, which is known as Urantia Association International (UAI) to-day. Our Society has never changed its Finnish name, but in English contexts it is currently known as “Finnish Urantia Association”, rather than a Society.

Finnish Urantia Association is a service organisation serving Urantia Book readers and disseminating the revelatory teachings. The Association sponsors a summer and a winter conference every year and organises public meetings eight times annually, with discourses given on topics of the revelation. All conferences and meetings are open to the public. Study groups are fully independent, but the Association helps them financially if needed. The Association publishes a quarterly journal, *Heijaste*, in which articles authored by readers are published and which is mailed to members and subscribers alike. *Heijaste* and a Finnish translation of the *UAI Journal* are made public also on the Association’s website. The Association attends two or three book fairs yearly, in cooperation with the Foundation’s office in Finland. The website www.urantia.fi is where you will find Urantia Association of Finland. □

Public Speaking, An Essential Leadership Skill



SHEILA KEENE-LUND
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International, Education Chair
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PUBLIC SPEAKING IS ONE OF THE MOST common fears of people worldwide, yet, public speaking is one of the great traits of the modern leader. Leaders who take the time to refine their communicative and persuasive skills are rewarded with higher confidence, influencing every area of their lives.

Fifteen years ago on a beautiful Spring day I was asked to give a presentation at a conference that Fall. Having never given a speech before I was typically overcome with panic, but I also knew that it was a challenge I had to conquer. I agreed to the engagement and quickly joined the Toastmasters Club closest to me, committing to give a speech each week. It was a lot of work but it paid off. The butterflies in my stomach never left me, but on D-Day I was able to get them to fly in formation!!!

Joining a Toastmasters Club is undoubtedly one of the best ways to develop and improve the skills that enable us to communicate better. Taking the first step is always the hardest, but once taken, commitment to perseverance will get you through those moments when you feel like giving up. Below are some proven tips that are offered by Toastmasters International to ensure that your experience at the club is fruitful:

1. **Know your material.** Pick a topic you are interested in. Know more about it than you include in your speech. Use humor, personal stories and conversational language – that way you won’t easily forget what to say.
2. **Practice. Practice. Practice!** Rehearse out loud with all equipment you plan to use. Revise as necessary. Work to control filler words; Practice, pause and breathe. Practice with a timer and allow time for the unexpected.
3. **Know the audience.** Greet some of the audience members as they arrive. It’s easier to speak to a group of friends than to strangers.
4. **Know the room.** Arrive early, walk around the speaking area and practice using the microphone and any visual aids.
5. **Relax.** Begin by addressing the audience. It buys you time and calms your nerves. Pause, smile and count to three before saying anything. (“One one-thousand, two one-thousand, three one-thousand. Pause. Begin.) Transform nervous energy into enthusiasm.
6. **Visualize yourself giving your speech.** Imagine yourself speaking, your voice loud, clear and confident. Visualize the audience clapping — it will boost your confidence.
7. **Realize that people want you to succeed.** Audiences want you to be interesting, stimulating, informative and entertaining. They’re rooting for you.
8. **Don’t apologize** for any nervousness or problem – the audience probably never noticed it.
9. **Concentrate on the message — not the medium.** Focus your attention away from your own anxieties and concentrate on your message and your audience.
10. **Gain experience.** Mainly, your speech should represent you — as an authority and as a person. Experience builds confidence, which is the key to effective speaking. >>

Public Speaking, An Essential Leadership Skill cont.

A Toastmasters club is a safe and friendly environment to provide you the experience you need. There are also many other opportunities in the community. Social clubs are always looking for speakers. Such informal public speaking engagements are perfect chances to practice. While it will almost certainly feel uncomfortable at first, these practice opportunities will ensure that you are ready to speak persuasively when you most need it.

Two ways that I have progressed through the years: One is to prepare but don't memorize the speech.

A better approach is to get up to speak with only a simple outline, or ideally, only mental notes. You should be knowledgeable enough to speak about your subject without having to pre-write and memorize your material.

The other is to stand in the open, facing the audience instead of standing behind a desk or podium. Speakers who talk without a podium draw their audience's full attention.

While public speaking may seem like an uncomfortable aspect of your job, some solid experience can transform it into a special advantage for negotiation and communication. A little practice is all it takes to go from being a silent presence at meetings to being the kind of person who can capture and hold the attention of your audience.

Sheila Keene-Lund

UAI Education Committee Chair and author of *Heaven Is Not the Last Stop* □



IN MEMORIAM



**Francis Carter
Newsom**
Wichita, Kansas

FRANCIS CARTER NEWSOM, 92, entered eternal life on Tuesday, April 5, 2011. Mr. Newsom was a second-generation physician after his father having attended the University of Georgia School of Medicine. He served as a Naval physician with the Fleet Marines in the Pacific. During his World War II experiences, including aid to the Japanese in Nagasaki after the war ended, he developed an interest in psychiatry. In 1946, Carter joined the first class of the School of Psychiatry at the Menninger Foundation, Topeka, Kansas, completing his residency under Dr. Karl Menninger. He was called to active duty in the Korean conflict where he served from 1950–51 as Chief of Psychiatry at the U.S. Navy Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. In 1951, Carter established private practice in psychiatry in Wichita, Kansas.

He worked to establish Prairie View Hospital in Newton, Kansas, consulting for Veterans Affairs Hospitals, and serving on the staff of three Wichita regional medical centers with eight years as Chief of

Psychiatry, and one year as President of the Medical Staff at St. Francis. A Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, Carter chaired the Kansas Mental Health Committee that changed the state commitment laws and had extensive experience in forensic psychiatry, retiring in 1998.

Carter Newsom had been a student of *The Urantia Book* since 1965. He was active in the early Urantia Brotherhood and a supporter of Urantia Foundation. He and wife, Betty, hosted study groups in Wichita for many years and attended several conferences and study sessions. His daughter, Barbara Newsom — a member of Greater Lake Michigan Urantia Association, says that her Dad's favorite quote from *The Urantia Book* was:

"Be not discouraged; human evolution is still in progress, and the revelation of God to the world, in and through Jesus, shall not fail." [Paper 196:3, page 2097:1] □

TIDINGS EDITOR WANTED

A wonderful opportunity for service

If you enjoy the content of *Tidings* and would like to work with a small team gathering, editing and proofing articles from our local and International associations please contact UAI Cmmunications Chair, Verner Verass at vern@designd.com.au

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To support the work of UAI please send your contribution to:

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