

# THE CHALICE

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP  
OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK (UUFRA-VA)

P.O. Box 1266  
White Stone, VA 22578

September 2013

## Fellowship Services

Fellowship services are held each **Sunday** at **10:30 A.M.** at 366 James Wharf Road, White Stone, VA.  
Meditation is held each Sunday from 9:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. in the sanctuary.  
All are welcome. Coffee and conversation follow the service.

## Sunday Programs

### September 1

**Shirley Kinney:** “Talk to the Animals  
— and Listen to Them Talk to You”

Do animals have emotions? Do they plan and plot? Do they suffer loss? Do they mourn? Shirley, one of the originators of the Fellowship and a regular speaker, will look at some scientific tests, as well as anecdotal incidents, and see what the animals have to tell us.

**\* UU For Kids \***

### September 8

**September 8 - Rev. Alane Cameron Miles:** “The Art of Meaningful Conversation as Spiritual Discipline”

Rev. Cameron Miles, a regular visitor known for her great sense of humor, will provide a contemplative examination of chattiness, a light discourse on the deep, and a reminder of our transcendental foreparents making history through gab.

### September 15

**David Dustin:** “Doubt”

An active member of the UUFRA-VA, David states: “We live our lives based on a framework of ‘truisms.’” However, occasionally, we may find something that shakes the foundation of our beliefs. Or, a new opportunity may present itself but doubts about our capabilities may make us apprehensive about accepting this new challenge. Some people ignore these challenges to their beliefs in order to minimize conflict in their lives while others see them as opportunities for growth.

### September 22

**Terri Watson:** “How Dogs Help Humans to Heal”

A member of UUFRA-VA, Terri will bring her certified (TDI) therapy dog, Denali (beagle), with her and talk about the human-dog bond. She will discuss what some of the research shows and share some of her personal experiences in this area, among other things.

## September 29

### **Roger and Sue Donaldson: “The Food Panty”**

The Donaldsons, co-directors of the White Stone Baptist Food Pantry, will speak and answer questions about operating a food pantry with specific information about WSBFP. This pantry has been in operation for over five years and has a recipient enrollment of around 200. They will also address the difference between food pantries and the Northern Neck Food Bank.

### **Annual UUFR-VA Picnic**

Our Annual Picnic will be held at Roger and Liz Failmezger’s home on the Rappahannock River in Morratico on **Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**, immediately after the Sunday service. Please bring a chair and something to drink, along with one of your delicious dishes to share. Everyone is invited to join in the fellowship and fun.

### **Phood Phree September?**

In September, picnic planning seems to have overtaken Phood and Philosophy, our monthly get-together and discussion group. As of press time, Phood and Philosophy will be on hiatus during September, but check your email for updates.

## *President’s Corner*

by **Bob Weekley**

What are Unitarian Universalists trying to do (or be) on Sunday morning? Many UU folks ask that question from time to time.

Rev. Kenn Hurto, Congregational Life Consultant for the Southern Region of the UUA, asks: “Is there anything beyond ‘intellectual stimulation’ and the sharing of joys and sorrows?” Our UU services, “not as simple as a Quaker meeting and not as formulaic as a Rotary Club meeting, nonetheless, . . . often run the risk of being little more than a hymn sandwich with announcements, passing the plate, and a sermon in between.”

Members of our own UUFR-VA congregation bring a variety of perspectives to what they expect and want from their Sunday morning experience. Some are looking to deepen their spiritual connection and some to intentionally share with like-minded people reflections on their sense of awe and reverence for life. Others are looking to deepen the human connection with fellow seekers of truth. Some appreciate the intellectual stimulation of exposure to other religious traditions and points of view. And some just love the experience of a joyful time with their UU friends, a welcome break from the cares of the week, a time to sing, to read inspired verse, and to hear thoughtful commentary. I think that it is a combination of all of these perspectives that I look forward to.

Rev. Hurto goes on to ask: “Without aspiring to be ‘high church,’ such as the Greek Orthodox liturgy, nor an incense-soaked chant, can we make worship more exciting? More appealing to all our senses? Intellectually coherent and passionate? Relevant to our daily lives?”

That is our goal at this Fellowship – to appeal to a range of interests. Some of our services are more solemn, more deeply spiritual; some

are more humorous and fun; some more intellectually stimulating. The menu is shaped by the interests and comments that members of the congregation express to our Program Committee and board members. If there is something you would like that we are missing, feel free to let someone know. You can even lead a service to fill that need.

-*Bob*

## Prepping for the Yard Sale

Paula Greenwood will be at the church from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, September 16 to 20, to collect, sort, and price yard sale items. Please make sure everything is clean and in working order. No clothes, but pretty much anything else is welcome.

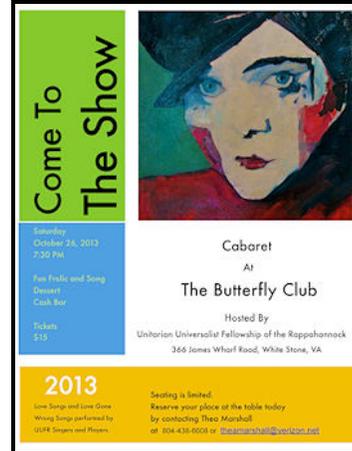
## Amazing Grace Community Conversations at UFR-VA

by Bob Weekley

*Amazing Grace*, a community ministry, holds monthly programs that rotate among various churches in our area. UFR-VA will host the September program on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

*Amazing Grace* is open to all in the community and is sponsored by St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. This is a wonderful chance for the UFR-VA congregation to welcome the wider community.

The September program will feature classic and popular music by pianist Randy Estreet, and our own Cliff Schelling will present his talk: "Why We Can't Talk About Sex, Politics, and Religion." All are welcome.



## Butterfly Club News

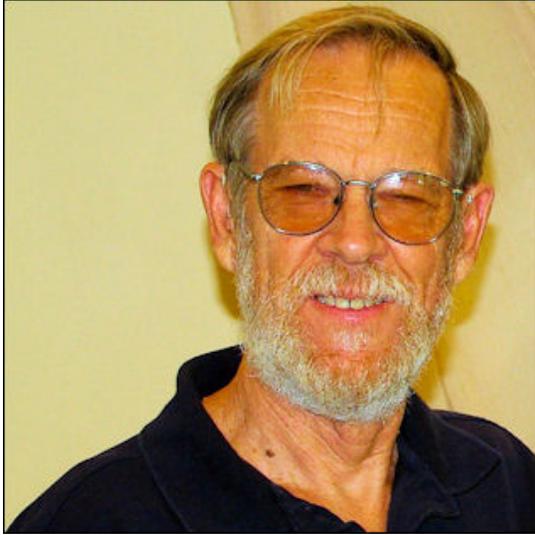
by Diana Jamison

Thea tells me we have about 40 reservations for **The Show!** The performers are practicing their songs and routines. The food committee is planning their menu. The stage is being reserved. The wine and jelly beans are being ordered. Well, forget I said anything about the jelly beans. (Shirley warned me — don't spill all the beans!)

Yes, the UFR Singers and Players will perform Love and Love Gone Wrong Songs at **The Butterfly Club** on Saturday evening, October 26<sup>th</sup>. The doors will open at 7:30 P.M. The performance starts at 8:00 P.M. Wine, beer, soda, and coffee will be served at the cash bar in the lobby. After-dinner noshes will be served at your table. We are offering ticket sales early to fund the event. Any additional funds collected will be given to UFR-VA and used for the work of the congregation.

Really now, what good is sitting alone in your room? Come to *The Cabaret*. Seating at The Butterfly Club, located at UFR-VA, will be limited to 55. Make your reservations now by contacting Thea Marshall. Ticket cost is \$15.

Ladies — reach deep into your closets or visit the local thrift shop to find your glitzy, blingy, cabaret, night club dress to wear to The Show. Men — please wear black.



## Who's Who in UU: Tom Kinney

by Eve Jordan

Tom Kinney has been on a fast track all of his life. He began designing cars when he was ten years old. At age twelve, he won the “young kid class” Soap Box Derby, but was bummed out because he did not beat the “older kid class” winner. By thirteen, he knew he wanted to become an engineer and design cars. Before that, he had picked Charley (aka Shirley) as his potential wife. At fourteen, they had designed a house together, foretelling their future residential design and construction business. They built a model boat together, another hint of what was to come. Always a worker, Tom earned money summers crewing a race car and clearing fields of rocks for lawns. Not all fun with design and building!

Tom's Michigan Tech scholarships didn't provide enough money for college. Not to be thwarted in his goal, he took his father's suggestion and called the personnel office at the local Chevy factory every Friday, hoping for an opening. The factory's criteria was one year of college, and there was the pesky state law that required he be 18 years old to be hired. This, of course, did not stop Tom. He told the Chevy personnel department he needed a job to go to college. With his

knowledge and can-do attitude, he so impressed the personnel department that they and the state made an exception for him. He was hired to do layout and time study to make machines and workers more efficient and productive! This kid!

From there, he spent one summer at the plant and was on a roll. After that, he worked in the summers at the GM Technical Center designing cars which would lead eventually to managing all new car programs, ranging from urban cars to experimental safety vehicles, from Corvettes to the Geo Storm. Tom's Master's Degree from Purdue University was funded by working in their research lab on acoustics and vibrations.

Going to school in the fall through spring semesters, he focused on academics, but he lived at home in the summer and dated Charley. She, a student teacher, was getting paid, and they worked as a team — sharing their incomes to complete their educations. He scoured the woods around Michigan Tech looking for antique cars, fixing them up and selling them 600 miles away in Detroit ... anything to get by. He and Charley have key chains that say: “If it is out of reach — stretch.” Tom loves creating cars, boats, and houses. He does not believe in reincarnation, so do it all now. Life is to be enjoyed. Happiness is critical and everyone is responsible for their own happiness — except in marriage, where partners should be devoted to the happiness of their spouse. So success was not a surprise, but rather it was accepted with a great deal of gratitude. This was always where they were headed, their goal was always visible. They have fewer goals now because so much has been accomplished.

In 1983, they purchased an unusual boat — a cat-rigged schooner — quite a lovely boat, unusual because there is no jib on the 54-foot mast. They enjoyed the boat until the sun became too much for Charley, so the next boat was a tugboat, named Charley's Tern — and this goes places that the sailboat could

not. Then, there was the RV that Tom reformatted/redesigned with a wind-generator to provide all the comforts of home, and they hit the road, going to places where no one else goes. They were gone for months at a time. This fulfills the inner hermit in both of them.

They retired to Virginia in 1989 and built Coventry, their incredible home in Ottoman, where they intended to maintain their comfortable, self-contained lifestyle, well equipped for their interests and hobbies.

It has been a surprise to both Tom and Charley that they are once again so involved with people. However, when they read the notice in the local newspaper years ago announcing the beginning of a Unitarian Universalist group in the Northern Neck, these UU's since 1975 were hooked. This rekindled in Tom the continuing dedication to helping people identify and then achieve their goals.

The exciting part for Tom and his role as one of the founders of the UUFR-VA is the potential impact of this congregation on subsequent generations in our community. He knows from his history of accomplishments, that great things can be done equal to the capabilities within the UUFR-VA membership. And, with no mortgage to hinder growth, the goal to stop generational poverty in the four counties of the Northern Neck, although a monumental task, is one that Tom believes can be achieved.

His attitude is to place no unnecessary limitations on the UUFR-VA. By acquiring the adjacent property the congregation now has flexibility for the future that is essential to our growth. UUFR-VA can achieve many things. It is a matter of how we look at the future. Tom's attitude is to plan ahead, not worry about resources as they can always be found, get started, and perpetuate the program for the future. Failure always comes to those who talk themselves out of trying.

How to describe Tom: a quietly successful, determined, and skilled visionary. He is a proven leader and a powerful figure to have as part of the UUFR-VA team as we move forward in our community.

## Bay Center Evenings

The monthly "An Evening With ..." series will run from August through November, 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

Each evening will include the presentation with discussion and conclude with refreshments and socializing. The suggested donation is \$10. An RSVP is appreciated but not required.

**September 12** - An Evening With Sue and Rick Johnson: "Grandloving"

**October 10** - An Evening With Cliff Schelling: "Why we can't talk about politics, sex, or religion"

**November 7** - An Evening With Diana Jamison: "My Journey As An Artist"

## River Readers

The book discussion group meets on the **fourth Monday** of each month at **2:30 P.M.** at the Lancaster Community Library. Everyone is welcome. Please read the book and join us. The upcoming selections are:

**September 23:** *Trespass* by Rose Tremain

**October 28:** *The Sense of an Ending* by Julian Barnes

Our annual "Big Book" dinner and discussion will be at 5:45 P.M. on Wednesday, October 9, at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club. We decided to read *The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket* by Edgar Allen Poe and *Pym* by Mat Johnson. Please plan to join us and let Elaine know you're planning to attend.

## Still Time to Sign Up!

by Shirley Kinney

Our 2013 holiday retreat in Virginia Beach — which runs from Sunday, **October 13<sup>th</sup>**, to Tuesday, the **15<sup>th</sup>** — is all set to go and ready for all to have fun. Walking in the sand, eating, picking up shells, reading a book, eating, swimming, talking with good friends, eating, relaxing, even transforming meditations are all on the agenda. Plus, there will be some very intriguing discussions and activities in the atrium, planned by our Retreat Committee. There's also a great Ben and Jerry's to enjoy!

The theme of our retreat this year is “Addressing the last taboo — with a laugh, a wink, and a nod.” Does that make you curious? Come and see what it's all about! That's all we're going to tell you for now.

The venue is the Seaside Motel, right on the sea, in downtown Virginia Beach — handy for walking to restaurants or shops, and certainly

to the beach. It's a family-owned motel — not plush, but cozy. This is our third year enjoying this place, so you can see how much we like it. Cost is \$70 per night for a standard room — efficiency units are available for \$10 more daily. Sorry, no pets.

Please sign up on the poster display in the UUFR-VA foyer and join the group. Then, call the motel (800-348-7263) to make your reservations. Mention that you are with the UUFR-VA group.

See you there!

## Sing Out at UUFR-VA!

by Diana Jamison

Friends, family, and members are encouraged to bring instruments and their favorite songs to the upcoming **September 22<sup>nd</sup>** Sing Out. Everyone is welcome. The Sing Out takes place the fourth Sunday of every month from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. We hope to see you soon.

### Board of Stewards

Bob Weekley, President  
Bill Gimpel, Vice President  
Lynn Langley, Treasurer  
Dave Dustin, Secretary

Caroline Shifflett, Past President  
Shirley Kinney, Program Chair  
Judi Caples, Membership Chair

### Web Site

<http://www.uufrappahannock.org>  
<http://www.uufr-va.org>  
Bob Prescott, Webmaster

### Newsletter

Deadline for articles: 20<sup>th</sup> of the month  
Bob Prescott, Editor (editor@uufrappahannock.org)