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Sunday Program and Service Leader Schedule

1 March

9:15—Adult Religious Education: Building Your Own Theology
 10:40—Rabbi Max Roth from Shearith Israel Synagogue will be speaking on, “Bringing People Together”.
 Service Leader—Ed Wilson
 Opener—Janet & Norm Horofker, Closer—Chris Nix, Greeters—Marge Hall and Nancy Awtrey

8 March

9:15—Adult Religious Education: Building Your Own Theology
 10:40—Chris Newland, Director of the Roosevelt Wilderness Camp will be presenting, “Troubled Youth: Raising Our Future”.
 Service Leader—Pat Hart
 Opener—Chris Nix, Closer—Paul Lee, Greeters—Mona Crawford and Huguette May

15 March

9:15—Adult Religious Education: Building Your Own Theology
 10:40—Ron Anderson, Associate Artistic Director, and Director of the Springer Children’s Academy will be presenting, “Children’s Theater and the Spirit”.
 Service Leader—Paul Lee
 Opener—Paul lee, Closer—Barry White, Greeters—John Studstill and Bob Gross

22 March

9:15—Adult Religious Education: Building Your Own Theology
 10:40—Dee Armstrong, financial planner, and former WTVM news anchor will be speaking on “The Influence of Religion and Broadcast Journalism”.
 Service Leader—Barry White
 Opener—Barry White, Closer—Rick Spradlin, Greeters—Mark Berger and Shirley Gray

29 March

9:15—Adult Religious Education: Building Your Own Theology
 10:40—Jeanne Dugas, retired psychology professor from CSU will be speaking on, “The Psychology of Religion”.
 Service Leader—Mona Crawford
 Opener—Rick Spradlin, Closer—Pat Hart, Greeters—Don Nahley and Tanya Davis

Happy Birthday

4 March	John Studstill	16 March	Lois Atkins
6 March	Harry Clyde Jr.	25 March	Norm Horofker
6 March	Alia Spradlin	30 March	Carolyn Searcy



President's Notes from Board Meeting on February 16, 2009 by John Nix

Our former president, John Studstill, regularly provided notes on the last board meeting for the newsletter. The idea is to provide you timely information about the Board's activities which may be of general interest. I think that is a useful practice, and I will try to follow suit. (The official record of the Board's actions will be the minutes prepared by our secretary Mona Crawford. You may obtain a copy of the complete minutes from our administrator Brenda Stevens.) My personal notes indicate the Board dealt with the following matters:

1. UUA Materials - The Unitarian Universalist Association provides some very useful materials for helping congregations improve and grow. Board members are in the process of reviewing videos for "Breakthrough Congregations" for the years 2005 through 2008. (If you are interested in viewing these materials, let me know.)
2. Revised Budget for 2009 - Pat Hart presented the revised budget for 2009. (A copy is included with this newsletter.)
3. Programs - Bill Edwards reported that the next program committee meeting will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2009, at 8:00 AM in the "Railroad" Burger King. Dick McMichael has arranged programs for the month of March. Other volunteers include Pat Hart for April, John Nix for May, and Ed Wilson for July. Bill needs volunteers for other months. Our general plan is to ask different members to assume responsibility for arranging programs for one month each. (See Bill if you are willing to volunteer.)
4. Long Range Planning - Norm Horofker announced plans to try to have quarterly meetings. The next date is Saturday, April 18.
5. New Sign for Fellowship - The old sign has been removed. The Board has approved a design for a new sign. The total cost for the new sign will be about \$775.00. We raised \$624 from our last yard sale for this purpose. Don Nahley has indicated he will contribute \$100.00 toward the cost of the new sign. Ed Wilson and Rick Spradlin are seeking clarification on the city rules about size and placement before we order the sign's construction.
6. End of Month Friday Night Movie - On Friday, February 29, 2009, we will show "Jesus Camp." We expect to have popcorn and soft drinks for attendees. After the showing, those who are interested are invited to discuss the film. Bill Edwards will get the movie for March, "Religulous." Tanya Davis* has volunteered to find a film for April. We need volunteers for other months. Although the first two films have religious themes, there is no requirement that the films be religious.
7. Tree cutting - We have two large pine trees in the backyard which are diseased and must be cut down. John Studstill will find a tree cutter to take them down; John has volunteered to use his chain saw to cut them up and haul them off.
8. Heating issues - A new thermostat has been installed. Upon entering the building, one simply sets the temperature at the desired level. It is no longer possible to program the heating system for future dates, but the Board generally agreed that future programming probably caused more problems than it solved. Members have to remember, however, to lower the thermostat when they leave the building.
9. Web address for Fellowship -
Our current web address, <http://bellsouthpwp2.net/u/u/uucolga/>, is rather awkward. Brenda Stevens will determine if we can obtain a shorter address by paying a small yearly fee.
10. "My Space" web site - Kayla Spradlin is interested in setting up a web site for the membership. She thinks it would be helpful to provide another way for members to communicate with each other. The current generation is very computer savvy, and such a site might have special appeal to young people. The Board authorized Kayla to try this out for a period of three months.
11. UP! Retreat, March 6-8, 2009 - Norm Horofker reported that the District will conduct a conference at Camp McDonald, Alabama. The conference will concentrate on how to increase membership in smaller congregations who do not have regular ministers. Norm plans to attend and invites other members to ride with him. See Norm for details.
12. Microphone - The Board agreed to reimburse Norm Horofker for the amount of \$128.21, the cost of upgrading our clip-on microphone.
13. Printed Program - Ed Wilson will update our printed program (This is the standard program provided to members and visitors to show the order of service and basic information about the Fellowship.)

If you have questions or comments about any of the above items, please contact me or other members of the Board.

With unity of spirit, John Nix

Proposed Budget—2009

The following is a proposed budget for 2009 developed

by the Finance Committee:

Expenses—Operating Budget

Corp. fee	30
Insurance	1100
Utilities	2300
Telephone*	1500
Hospitality and Supplies	1200
Bldg., Cleaning & Maintenance, Yard	2000
Equipment Repair	500
Other Operating Expenses	600
Post Office Box	100
Administrative Supplies	1000
Payroll and Taxes	6200
Youth Programs and Childcare**	3000
Ministers and Speakers Travel	5000
Visitor's Packet	150
Newsletter****	600
Advertising	500
Adult Religious Education	500
Pamphlets and Books	200
UUA Dues*****	3900
Bookkeeper	3500

* The telephone expense was reduced due to a new AT&T contract.

** The amount designated for youth programs and childcare was increased in hopes of attracting families.

*** The ministers and speakers budget was increased to improve the quality of programs. The actual amount for the 2007-2008 budget year was \$3,500.

**** The cost of the newsletter has been reduced due to the electronic transmission of the newsletter. The printing costs have been reduced due to in-house printing.

The total of the proposed budget is \$33,880. The goals for 2009 are to increase membership to 50 members, improve the quality of Sunday programs, improve the quality of the children's program, and in the future to move into a larger building.

This year to meet our operating budget we would need an average of \$622 per pledging individual or family unit.

For the current year 17 members or family units have already pledged in excess of \$18,000. If you have not already pledged monetary support for the 2009 fiscal year, you are encouraged to do so. Your support helps to make the Fellowship an inviting place.

Up Retreat

Everyone is invited to attend the UP Retreat that is taking place on March 7 and 8 at Camp McDowell. The cost of the retreat is \$35 per person. The cost covers overnight double occupancy and all meals and materials.

The retreat's focus is enhancing the "quality" of UU services, deepening the understanding of Unitarian Universalism as a religious tradition, and planning ahead for services using a model developed in Athens, GA.

Camp McDowell is a Episcopal retreat center in north Alabama. You can learn more about Camp McDowell by visiting the following website: www.campmcdowell.com.

For more information about the retreat you can contact Norm Horofker by e-mail at nhorofker@aol.com or by phone at 706-577-3130.

This Month in Columbus UU History

In March 2002 Charmette Kendrick from the Columbus Chattahoochee Regional Library System presented a program on censorship within the system and how much of a problem censorship was within the community of Columbus.

On 16 March, 2002 Barry White sponsored a hike to the top of Stone Mountain.

A workshop entitled "Undoing Racism" was held on March 16-17. the workshop was sponsored by the Prison and Jail Project.

Julie Bouchard included interesting facts about the Winter Olympics that was held in Salt Lake City in the newsletter. The following is one of those: The Canadian hockey team won gold 50 years to the day from the last time the Canadian hockey team had won Olympic gold.