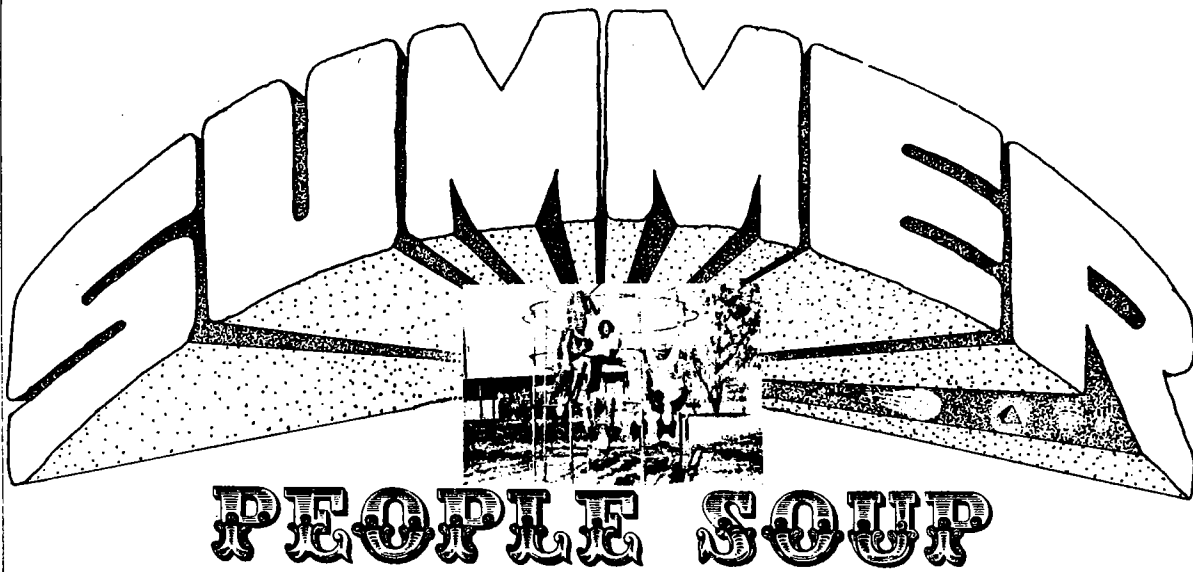


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# Self-Determination

An overview of the youth programming issue by an individual LRYer.

by Shelley Cantril

At the April meeting of the UUA Board of Trustees the decision was made to continue funding of youth programs through the auspices of the Continental Youth Adult Committee. The Board's decision was contingent upon a greater emphasis on dialogue concerning youth programming and attempts by the Continental Youth Adult Committee to further the development of YACs across the continent. The Board was also responding to the indication of the LRY Executive Committee that evaluation was happening within the LRY organization, and to an attitude of cooperation among LRYers.

Further dialogue, more extensive funding, and formation of more YACs will be of no avail unless there is a more distinct sense of direction for dialogue and a willingness towards understanding within the denomination as a whole.

A denomination based on the free and questing mind often entails more transiency and less commitment. The liberal religious movement is a small one, and the existence of an autonomous youth group is even more rare. At a time when the future of the denomination is questionable, it is natural that the UUA would look to its' youth group and question whether it operates in the most effective way possible. Questioning is a very important process which must be continual to promote communication, certainty, and support.

It is time that every Unitarian Universalist and/or LRYer examine his/her personal faith, thereby expressing a faith that is a "flaming chalice" that cannot be squelched by societal shifts. All factions of the denomination must clarify their common purpose(s) based on individual beliefs and determine whether the present structures are in alliance with these beliefs and purposes. The denomination is not in a position where it can afford to be divided.

To be part of the liberal religious movement assumes that the members will be liberal, religious, and active. One's spiritual lib-

eration must be examined regularly to be a living personal faith. Some suggested stimulators of spiritual thought Emerson, Thoreau, Parker, Channing, Gandhi, Jesus, and Buddha. The following questions may also stimulate individual consideration. Challenge others with these questions and questions of your own.

- 1) Do you believe you have a spirit?
- 2) Do you believe that everyone has a spirit?
- 3) What happens when you live or act in a way that is contradictory to your spirit?
- 4) Does your lifestyle align with your spirit?
- 5) What changes could you make in your lifestyle to respect your spiritual needs?
- 6) What environment would be most supportive and stimulating to your spiritual liberation?
- 7) How can you support and stimulate spiritual liberation in others?

To be a unified spiritual community we must share a common belief about people, the earth, and the universe. It is not coincidental that the Unitarian Universalist denomination has a self-managed youth group. It is important that we clarify why we have such an unusual structure within the denomination in order to support and include its unique needs. By determining why LRY is youth-run we may identify an individual and communal purpose for its existence. Regular examination of our beliefs and purposes will encourage us in approaching the problems inherent in such a uniquely structured group.

- 1) Do we believe in an intrinsic human right to self-determination?

- 2) Do we believe that all persons, given support and stimulation) have the power to be self-determining?
- 3) Is it our purpose to support and stimulate self-determination in all people?
- 4) Is there a need for and means of supporting and stimulating self-determination beyond our group?
- 5) Where and how can we as a group encourage a liberated and self-determined spirit?

A structure is much more likely to answer a groups' needs if it receives regular evaluation. Some questions which may be helpful in determining the most effective structure for a group (be it local, federation, or continental) are as follows:

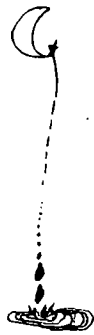
- 1) What are the beliefs about people and purposes for the group that all of the members unanimously agree on?
- 2) What personal and financial resources are available to the group?
- 3) What kinds of things does the group want to do?
- 4) What structure would encompass our beliefs, purposes, and resources most effectively?

The society-at-large has always taught young people and rarely encouraged young persons to teach themselves or each other. Youth have not been trained or prepared to be leaders. Youth leadership not only requires self-confidence and self-determination but presently entails the risk of being criticized or ignored by the denomination. It is a very tall order to ask for commitment from youth without the support of persons who are experienced. The purpose of a youth-run organization is to insure respect for the youth as persons; this does not mean that support

«CONT. ON PAGE 4»

People and Vol. ...
All those/each those/each vol. ...
I'll miss you ...
I'll miss you ...
I'll miss you ...

PERSONALS



Lost- one mysterious back rubber with talented hands. ...

Diane- I'm here! Boston's doing fine and I'm recuperating from a cold. ...

Colleen- Of course I know what my name means! ...

To everyone; Warm snuggles to you. I'm fed up with fuzzies. ...

Lanora- Tell you silly goose, why haven't you written? ...

Looking out our wild lot: ...

Chuck, may the wind always blow wild through your hair, ...

A Special Hug, Kiss, Wrestle, and Hello to all of us who keep persevering for lives that are self-justifying. ...

Jen St.- How's Cowhampshire? When are we gonna see you, ...

Steve Tillieux- Where are you? I enjoyed the Rosslyn escalator all year long because I lived in Arlington this year with my mother. ...

Kelly Green, when do you want book 2

Andy Wheat, It's been a long time. I was at G.A. this year, I was hoping to see you, but you didn't make it. ...

Love Karen W. (JACK)

Zbee- I love you. Tigger

Anyone for a game of Soccer? Pioloano.

Bruce- It's the paprika

Jirbo: Man in there. There's not much longer to go. I'm waiting for the day that we'll be rich together and indulge in I.R.C.'s in our penthouse. ...

Anyone at Pgh. S. Hills Conference finding a blue checked C.P.O. coat or a small leather pouch please send or call Pan Vogl, 324 Overlook Rd., ...

Tom- with every little feet beat I hear, my heart jumps a foot. ...

Bean- May your skeletons remain dust free- Trinca

Debbie- sliding down the hill was much fun. Do you still have Arpie's scarf? ...

Jen N.- How's it going kid? I miss you. Hope things are working out. Write soon. Love and hugs, Lisa

Debbie- Here's what I did while in Boston. Miss you, Trink

Myrna Loy- Do you read my Soups? Love from your dearest little Chutney Hecker

Do people really write if you put your address in the Soup? Lane gets ...

Greg- Watch out for lightposts- they tend to jump out at you when you're not looking. Heh, heh... Nada

To All: The Tour is on- Magical Mystery Tour- Starting in Berkeley on Grey Rabbit August 31 till September 4 to go through parts of Northern CA ...

Jenny Ebenfield: I missed you at GA! See you in Texas, right? Love, Abbe

Chuckie- I hope the summer's going well- Stravinsky, F.D.S., work, crew! and all that. Say hi to Commander Goober P. Deer, Lori and anyone else who's around for me. ...

SO LUCY, What do you think of New Jersey?

gail I miss your nose love, Eugene

Greg D. Since I'm helping with the Soup, I decided to write you a note to let you know I love you and since I will have already been at your house by the time you get this I will say Thanks for the hospitality. See you at Con Con. Love Karen W.

To Genesee-Nanna eat some clams! Love ya, Rhawn

Willfred, My twin kn- how's your head? You better watch yourself 'cause you scare me sometimes. ...

Dania- So far yet, I feel so close. We can do it. ME

Kate Patena- Wild woman from the north- what are you up to? I want to hear from you! Nada

Kevin- write me: 805 Riverside Ave, Santa Cruz, CA 95062- Rhawn Taucer

Dear Jay, How are you and where are you? We're in the middle of nowhere and wondering if you were too? ...

Joe Keasler, why didn't you come down? I'd like to see you. ...

To Ann that gave me the ramos at training camp- hi. I'm back in Florida.

I love you all- Phil T- bone Kaufman

Eric, baby! Alright- get psyched for Star '78. What's the story on life anyway- or don't you know? ...

To Anybody- If you need a place to stay in Santa Cruz, CA for a couple of days or longer call (408) 426-8380 or write Art Home, 805 Riverside Ave Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Well Yankee- I'm waiting to hear from you- Southern Hick

I can offer overnight accomodation to anyone passing through Pa. (or life); beautiful scenery, swimming and hiking, theatre, library facilities, friendly student population, etc. ...

Sue, I need you know you're alive. Please write. Pambird

Danny: I miss Huntspatch. Hope all is well. Give my regards to Randy & everyone See you very soon. Kick

Adam & Jamie: Watch out! The Boscoe Brothers & Humphrey will soon be headed your way. This is fair warning. Take care of yourselves.

EDITOR'S NOTE An illustration in the Vol. V Issue 4 of People Soup was incorrectly attributed to Keith Larson. My apologies to Matt Sohn, the correct graphic artist.



To every one in PSIRV, Keep your spirits high and don't let the churchs bring you down. Love to you all. Karen W.

Willly, betcha can't guess! I love you.

Val J.- It was great to see you at GA. I wish you strength this summer- Harwood is real important and irreplaceable but you've got to move on down the road. Love, Nada

I have a religious experience: For-skip a structure.

To everyone at the JPD Conference- He love you. Thanks for such a wonderful sleepless night. ...

Hermes- Will you be at Continental- at? You can write to me here at LRV. Lots of love, Nina

Sandra Elaine; When this is printed it'll be all over. The house will be a thing of the past. ...

Folks- the T-bone (me) will be transplanted to Hartmouth College this fall. I suspect that the north country will be relatively devoid of IRV's. ...

Cathy Mahren- How's Aug.? Write to me please. Are you going to run for a third term? Just kidding. Nina

Joan Steve Center: I miss you. What's been happening with you? Ann

To Crunchy Granola- alias Chris A. Granada- I wish I didn't have to say goodbye- Please write to me. I love your nat... Sue.

SOUL



HUNGER

# BIO-FEEDBACK MONITOR



Howdy!

I am so excited that LRY is getting involved with the disarmament movement. We have to get groups together and involved if we truly do expect a change.

I moved to Boulder, Colorado in January. Boulder is located just 8 miles from the nuclear crossroads of this country, Rocky Flats, the bomb facility that produces at least three nuclear triggers a day. This plant works directly with the Savannah River Plant, which is located less than an hour from Augusta, Georgia.

I have become very active in the attempt to close Rocky Flats as well as all nuclear plants in this country. The Boulder Mobilization and World Citizens for Survival plus many concerned citizens planned a large non-violent demonstration for disarmament at Rocky Flats April 29. This was the first of many demonstrations to occur at other plants throughout the country. Our demonstration was the largest one ever, but we hope there will be many more much larger in the near future--in fact there already have been. Since that demonstration there was one in Barnwell, S.C. at the Savannah River Plant, one in Bangor, Washington at the Trident nuclear submarine base, one in San Francisco & New York City on May 27 giving support to the disarmament conference which was then in progress at the United Nations, and most recently, one at Seabrook, New Hampshire June 24/25. There have been smaller demonstrations and rallies too.

After the demonstration at Boulder, 150 people, out of the 6000 that had attended, participated in civil disobedience. These people had been previously trained in non-violent procedure. They camped on the railroad tracks that lead into the plant to symbolically represent the blocking of the trains that go to and from the plant carrying highly radioactive material. They ran into difficult weather which reduced the number of protesters from 150 to 30 strong, but they would camp on the tracks until they actually did stop a train. Through the non-stop rain, hail, sleet, and finally three feet of snow, these people remained on the tracks until a train actually did come. Then they sat on the tracks and held hands and sang "We Shall Overcome" while they were peacefully taken off to jail one-by-one. Since then, five more groups of determined people have re-occupied the tracks. Each group is eventually taken off and arrested. At present, there is a group on the tracks--unless they have been arrested since I left Boulder. But we plan to keep the tracks occupied throughout the summer--perhaps longer.

We are also planning some kind of larger demonstration for August 667: Hiroshima Day. Perhaps there would be an interested group that would want to go to Boulder before Continental Conference and represent LRY on the tracks. (It is on the way to Texas!) Or maybe there are individuals who are willing to occupy and willing to join this group: Rocky Flats Truth Force. The Rocky Flats Truth Force welcomes all interested groups and/or individuals.

I was happy to know that when I was sitting on the tracks I met three other people who were old LRYers. It was a neat feeling. We must remember that LRY is a strong group of individuals with the potential of helping convert the world to a peaceful, non-nuclear planet. We showed our concern for the world in our strong support of the anti-war demonstrations. If we can get LRY groups to pull together and ignore apathy, this is a perfect opportunity for LRY to help save the world; it's also an opportunity to help pull LRY into a tighter, stronger, unified group. We need LRY's support--we need everybody's support.

For more information about Rocky Flats and how you can help in Boulder write: Rocky Flats Truth Force 876 14th Avenue Boulder, Colorado 80420 (303) 443-0887

Or just write to say you're in support of their actions; they love to hear from people. I will have a house as of the first of August that anyone is welcome to stay at if they come to Boulder, anytime!

Again, I am so happy for your support. I love all you guys. Thanks for your support of a non-nuclear future.

All my love to my favorite group: LRY,

Deborah Reichard

P.S. Until August my address is in limbo, so please send any letters to:

1122 John's Road Augusta, Georgia 30904

The following message was sent to the LRY office with a reference to Volume IV, issue 5, page 14 of People Soup. The article referred to is one entitled "Mental Illness", written by Eric Ellerson who wrote of the inhumane treatment he had observed in working with patients of a mental hospital. To receive a free copy of the Social Actions issue containing this article contact the Continental LRY office.

BIU ERIC TO US  
CON GROUP '78  
ASK OTHERS  
GET US LAW  
BUYER WRITE CONTRACT  
TO-USE-SHOW PERSON TO DO  
OR LAW CORP. ACTS  
GET US LAW-TITLE PERSON  
SELF NO LAW CORP.  
GIVE US CORP. QUARTER TO PERSON  
TO BIU CONTRACT  
OWN HUMAN BRAIN  
HUMAN SOUNDS  
HUMAN MUSCLE  
ACTS  
GET US LAW  
PERSON OWNS OWN BODY  
GET US LAW  
NO PRACTICE ON ONE'S BODY  
NO CAN GIVE  
LESS BODY USE  
DESTROY PARTS  
END LIFE

-Anonymous

### SEXUAL POLITICS FROM A MALE PERSPECTIVE

BY ED INMAN

"Sexual norms in this society (as in most, if not all) are male-centered and phallus oriented." That's the lead sentence in "The Sexual Politics of Intercourse" by Susan Goodstein published earlier this year in People Soup. Susan later goes on to say "It is sobering to realize it took scientific study to begin to convince us of what women, at least, should have known centuries ago, if it weren't for society's denial and distortion of female sexuality--that intercourse, on a purely physical level, is the least satisfying form of sexual activity for women. To put it more scientifically, Masters and Johnson's research has shown that intercourse has the lowest intensity of orgasm in comparison to masturbation by self or partner." She later adds "Men have a vested interest in continuing to confuse female sexual and reproductive anatomy in their work as marriage counselors, doctors, psychiatrists and writers. The vagina is relevant to male sexuality."

My purpose in writing this is not to attack that particular article. It is, for the most part, well documented, well thought out, and I can honestly say it taught me alot. I do find it, however, to be only one side of the story and I would like to comment along these same lines from a different perspective. While it is undeniably true that sexual "norms" in this society are inexcusably repressive to women, it is my firm belief that these norms are equally repressive to men.

It is a myth in this society that intercourse is the only "real" type of sexual encounter. This myth is still rampant among a large segment of our population, both men and women. Furthermore, it is perpetuated by the mass media. The article, however, makes it quite clear that sexual intercourse, in the traditional sense of that phrase, is a less than desirable method of clitoral stimulation for women. Well, maybe I can't speak for all men, but as for myself, insertion of the penis into the vagina is not exactly the ideal method of penile stimulation either. Certainly it is not the only way

for men to achieve a climax, nor is it the only "real" or the "best" way of achieving it. Far more men (and women) need to realize this.

Therefore, I feel safe in saying that the vagina is NOT necessarily relevant to male sexuality as Susan asserted in her article. Nor do men have any vested interest of any validity in continuing to confuse female sexual and reproductive anatomy.

Sexism, sex roles, and sexual myths repress men as well as women--outside of the bedroom also. These are some of the ways in which I have personally felt repressed as a man:

Society has denied my right to emotions, my ability to be vulnerable, my ability to cry. I've been told I must remain "strong" in all situations.

Society has denied my right to be passive. (When I am passive, I am considered "abnormal" or stupid.)

Society has denied my right to show affection physically to other men. Even kissing and hugging between men is considered "wrong".

Society has denied my right to dance with other men.

Society has denied my right to sexual encounters with other men.

Society has denied my right to relate to women and men in the same manner.

Society has denied my right to live with women who are not lovers, sexual partners, or marriage partners.

Society has, until recently, made me eligible to be forced to kill my brothers and sisters in the military.

Society has denied my right to sleep with someone without implying sexual contact.

Society has denied my right to touch someone without implying sexual interest.

Society has denied my right to have close relationships with more than one woman at one time.

Society has told me that my love for other men is somehow less "real" than my love for women.

Society has denied my right to express my sexual desires openly, without pressure, without having to play a game, without embarrassment and guilt.

Society has denied my right to be proud of my body and think of it as a beautiful thing. Rather it is obscene to the public eye.

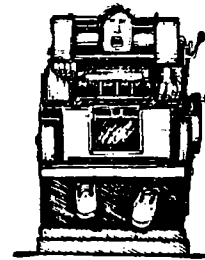
Society expects me to grow up and make one lifelong commitment (marriage) to one woman.

Society has placed me in stereotypes and written all sorts of generalizations about me because of my sex.

This is by no means a complete list of the hangups I have had to deal with. It's just a sampling. I guess all I'm really trying to say is that sexism can and does work both ways. Men do not have the free ride that Susan implied in her lead sentence. At least this is one man who hasn't.

I sincerely believe that if there's anything we don't need right now it's further polarization of the sexes. In order to defeat sexism, we must continue to come together on an equal level. We must throw down our prejudices and fears. Then, maybe, we can truly relate to one another, not males and females, but rather as human beings.

Comments anyone? Ed Inman, 1450 Meadowbrook Road, Jackson, Mississippi 39211.



LWS

This letter is in response to Jennifer Nicolet's article in the last issue of *People Soup*:

Jennifer,  
You are right: the discipline of your school is contradictory to human nature and if all the students aren't aware of what is being put down on them, I think they must be pretty ignorant of their rights as humans. I think you should join your student congress (which sounds like a farce), and make your voice heard in your school. It sounds like you are imprisoned by the R.O.T.C. and you should complain to the school board, the principal or whoever will listen to you. I think that the R.O.T.C. patrolling the halls is not needed. It would save them money to put bars on the windows and doors.

Searching lockers is unconstitutional. That would come under the fourth amendment as an "unreasonable" search.

The five minute passing period should be lengthened a couple of minutes so that more people would make it to class on time. About wearing your coat at lunch only, I think that you should at least ask the reason for having the rule. Also talk to the people of the school and tell them that their opinion does count if they are the ones being "educated".

If you want to get rid of the attendance rule, write letters to your state legislators against it. I also agree that school does not meet the needs of adolescents; in fact it probably destroys the needs of them. As to what the school should change to: 7-10 minute passing periods, a little leniency of the teachers if a student is tardy, the student should bring a note from her or his previous teacher (keeping a student after school doesn't teach her or him to be on time if s/he can't avoid it), students should be able to wear their coats whenever they want, the R.O.T.C. should be thrown out of the halls, etc. As for the Star Spangled Banner trip- it should be totally forgotten (after all, I think you know it).

The school committee should be run by ordinary people who know what goes on in the school not by a bunch of politicians who want to save money. CHIN UP!

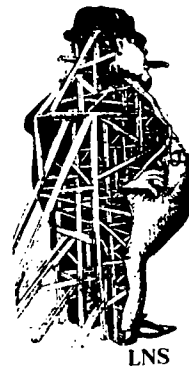
Bill Stryk, South Minneapolis, Local NSF

cont. from pg 1

from persons outside of LRY would be unappreciated in such a difficult task.

Self-management of youth groups is relatively untried and difficult. The responsibilities it entails would be more appealing to youth within a supportive community. This means LRY must be a supportive community. This also means that a cutback in funding for LRY should not even be thought of without consideration of the total picture: our individual beliefs, denominational purposes, and unique situation within society.

A year lies ahead to strengthen LRY. LRY, working more closely within the denomination with an attitude of mutual understanding and respect, will enliven the denomination as a whole. It is essential that a dynamic and living Unitarian Universalist denomination and/or LRY examine individual beliefs, group purpose(s), and the structure being used, on a regular basis, to bear the passage of time as an active faith.



LNS

## Glamour! Excitement! Romance!

Now that we have your attention- the LRY is offering several INTERNSHIP positions for next year. These are primarily for those people interested in running for the executive committee. Internships last one month, and while room and board are provided, money should be brought for transportation and luxuries.

If you are interested, contact LRY for further information.

Internship Program  
c/o LRY  
25 Beacon St.  
Boston, Mass. 02108

## fed ups & downs

DVF is surviving, having pulled off successful(?) conferences this year in Princeton and Germantown. Another Germantown conference is in the works as is a Newark-Deleware exchange of some sort. DVF's numbers seem to be dwindling but those of us who are left remain undaunted. Elections are scheduled for the next Germantown Conference.

GWAF is being revived by a group elected at the Fairfax Conference, May 12-14. Contact Jenny Ebenfield, 11332 Vale Rd., Oakton, VA 22124.

MVP had a May 12-14 conference in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on "Dealing with Authority". We came up with some interesting alternatives. We had a worship service on "Wonder" by Brock Dale, federation advisor. We also had elections, a party, and (believe it or not) a dance!

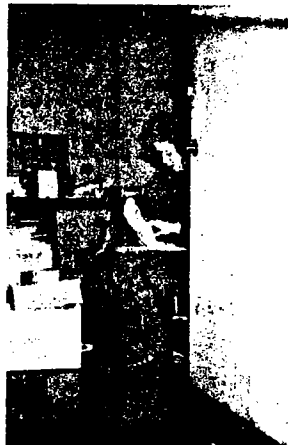
PSLRY held a leadership conference Easter week and elected a new executive committee.

Starr King had a "Self Expressions" conference at the Mount Diablo Unitarian Church.

Seafoam had a June conference with TOAKtm in Mexia June 11-15. We elected a new executive committee. A Seafoam/Synergy conference is coming...

TOAKtm has changed its name to SYNERGY. We just had a June conference with Seafoam. Another Synergy/Seafoam conference is coming up August 6-10. Anyone interested should contact: Leslie Loe, 1844 Kipling, Houston, TX 77098 (713)524-2682

MBF had a "Love" conference in Andover, MA June 12-14. Elections will be held at the first fall conference in September. A MBP District Youth Adult committee is forming.



friend



LRY & Friend buttons are available from LRY  
25 Beacon st  
Boston, MA 02108  
Prices are:  
25¢ ea., 5/\$1.00  
100/\$15.00

Buy Some!



L.R.Y.



# RESULTS OF SCOYP QUESTIONNAIRE 5

REPORT OF THE YOUTH ADULT COMMITTEE TO THE UUA BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT THEIR APRIL, 1978 MEETING REGARDING RESPONSES TO THE S.C.O.Y.P. RELATED MATERIALS

Idiosyncratic and personal and others reflected the views of group discussions- small and large. VERY FEW of the responses offered concrete suggestions with budget proposals. Those that did are summarized in the appendix.

29 out of 52 churches and fellowships (70%) indicated that youth had participated in the discussions. 43 out of 127 responses (34%) reflect youth participation.

### INTRODUCTION

Following the decision of the UUA Board of Trustees to circulate the SCOYP Report and related documents throughout the denomination for further discussion and response, the Administration asked the Youth Adult Committee to receive the responses and to compile a report for the use of the Board for its April meeting.

The SCOYP Report, the Administration proposal, the condensed LRY response and the Minority report were distributed to all member societies, to active ministers and D.R.E.'s, Board and staff members, LRY Federations and District Presidents along with a cover letter from the Moderator and a RESPONSE form to be returned to YAC by March 30. The Youth Adult Committee held a special meeting on March 31 and April 1 to read the responses and to compile a report for the Board.

The following report is a survey of the responses received and because of the time limitations should not be considered a full analysis. The Youth Adult Committee commends the Board for delaying action on the Administration proposal and for seeking the responses which form the basis of this report.

### CHARACTER OF THE RESPONSES

Despite something less than six weeks for analysis and discussion of the materials, 127 responses were received from individuals, churches, fellowships, district boards, LRY groups, and miscellaneous groups of interested persons.

The Response Form sought reactions to each of the four documents (SCOYP Report, Administration proposal, LRY response, Minority Report) sent in the mailing. In addition, it asked for any further suggestions of a concrete nature. The name of the person filling out the form and the number of youth and adults participating were also asked for.

The responses varied in character and quality- some showing considerable thought and energy and others failing to show a grasp of the issues at stake. Some responses were highly

The Responses reflect a broad range of opinion and intense interest in the topic of youth programming and the UUA's responsibility. The respondents included:  
37 churches-29%  
5 Directors of Religious Education-4%  
5 District Boards-4%  
5 Fellowships-4%  
22 Individuals other than ministers and DRE's -17%

13 LRY Groups-10%  
33 Ministers-26%  
7 Miscellaneous groups-6% (Starr King community; 1 UUMA Chapter; 1 Youth Conclave; 3 District R.E. Committees; Ex-LRY Executive Committee members-a group of 15).  
127 Total

(NOTE: It was not always clear if individuals filling out forms spoke for their society or only for themselves.)

Detailed statistical analysis was not possible in the short time allowed. However, the Committee did review the responses to gauge the overall reactions to documents. This survey shows:

	SCOYP REPORT	ADMINISTRATION PROPOSAL	LRY RESPONSE	MINORITY REPORT
STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF (+)	70 55%	33 26%	44 35%	23 18%
STRONGLY OPPOSED TO (-)	26 20%	42 33%	29 23%	15 12%
TOTALS:	96 75%	75 59%	73 58%	38 30%

(NOTE: There was a tendency for those opposed to the LRY response to favor the Administration proposal and vice versa, but this does not correlate as directly as the numbers a above might suggest.)

The Youth Adult Committee did not have time to analyze the kinds of responses (+ or -) made by each group to each document. Nor, did the committee try to "weigh" the responses according to the number of persons being represented by each response.

The Committee felt that the character of responses of each group would be of interest, but decided our time would best be spent determining the kinds of suggestions being offered.

### INITIAL CONCLUSION

The initial conclusion of the Youth Adult Committee after surveying the responses is that additional time is desirable for further conversations and in depth discussions about the future of youth programs in the denomination. Over 30% (39 of 127) of the responses indicated that important decisions about the future of youth programs were going to be made too hastily. This is a significant percentage, and it is doubtful that substantial support for a major change in the direction of denominational programs for youth can be successfully implemented with this many persons seeking further conversations.

It is true that nearly 26% of the responses indicate strong support of the Administration proposal. On the other hand, that leaves 74% who either are opposed (33%) or have reservations about the Administration proposal (41%).



THEREFORE, THE YOUTH ADULT COMMITTEE STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES POSTPONE MAKING MAJOR CHANGES IN THE DIRECTION OF YOUTH PROGRAMS AT THIS TIME. Admittedly, the problem remains for the Board of Trustees to devise ways to continue the discussions and dialogue process which the SCOYP Report has begun. The Youth Adult Committee offers to assist the Board in whatever way the Board may wish.

The process of intergenerational dialogue and careful thought about youth programs which the SCOYP report recommends are more beneficial than immediately hiring a new staff person, drastically reducing funding for LRY and abolishing the Youth Adult Committee.

## LRy's IDEAS ON YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Liberal Religious Youth's Ideas on Youth Programming as Reported to the U.U.A. at their April 1978 Meeting

Because we ordinarily do our budget at this time of year, and because we must make plans for the coming year, we thought it would be helpful to the Board of Trustees to have a clear idea of our program plans and budget for 1978-79. We want to express our willingness to contribute to and participate in programming for Unitarian Universalist youth. We are planning to offer the following proposals to the L.R.Y. Board of Directors and the U.U. Youth/Adult Committee, assuming that they will be funded in 1978-79. Our proposals are centered around these concerns:

- 1) to facilitate a dialogue between youth and adults about youth programming
- 2) to put more emphasis in action at the district and society level
- 3) to increase participation in and development of programs for U.U. youth.
- 4) to increase intergenerational interaction  
Fundraising and Endowment

We have moved our endowment to a higher-interest term account. We are in consultation with the Office of Corporate Responsibility and Bob Lemire of the U.U.A. Finance staff, concerning investments.

We are developing a fundraising plan to present to our Board this summer, to strive towards better financial self-sufficiency, in consultation with Bill Chapin.

### Recommendations to the U.U. Youth/Adult Committee:

LRy proposes that: the U.U. YAC compile a questionnaire annually, to be sent to all church/fellowship and district YACs. The proposed questionnaire should be designed to assist local and district YACs to assess and evaluate youth programming in their respective areas. These questionnaires should be returned to the U.U. YAC. Their data, compiled and summarized, and the resulting information should be included in YAC's annual presentation to the U.U.A. Board of Trustees. This information should also be relayed to the L.R.Y. Board of Directors and People Soup.

L.R.Y. proposes that: the U.U. YAC assess and evaluate the performance of the Continental L.R.Y. Executive Committee, and if possible, the L.R.Y. Board of Directors, in order to assist them in fulfilling their roles.

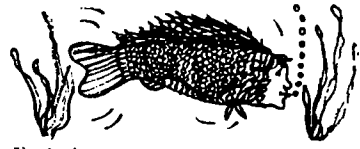
L.R.Y. proposes that: the U.U. YAC act in an advisory and resource capacity to local and district YAC's, in particular, through use of the data provided from the proposed questionnaires.

This would be one communications network that could be set up between local, district, and continental levels.

### What the U.U.A. Can Do

The Continental level of the U.U.A. can:  
1) Educate youth and adults about youth programs through articles and advertisements in the U.U. World (see SCOYP recommendation VII-G).

2) Provide the L.R.Y. Executive Committee staff liaison with sufficient time to commit to fulfilling a more adequate liaison and advisor function.



3) Active promotion from U.U.A. Board of Trustees and I.D.R.s of of District and local ideas listed below:

- The Districts can-
  - form District Youth Adult Committees, with the final approval of the youth
  - include I.D.R.s in district Youth Adult Committee meetings
  - include youth representatives on district boards-may or may not be voting member
- Local Societies can-
  - form local Youth Adult Committees
  - include Religious Education and youth representation on local society YACs
  - encourage the formation of youth groups, utilizing L.R.Y. program materials
  - choose youth advisors through local YACs, with final approval from youth
  - ministerial expression of U.U. philosophy to youth, possibly through R.E.
  - include youth representatives on local society boards-may or may not be voting member.

It is our hope that People Soup, a newspaper free of charge to U.U. youth and adults can expand its readership at the district and local level. We want increased youth input into the paper, and welcome any constructive criticisms.



# Proposals for LRY Summer Boards



Written Continuity Proposed By-law Change:

Whereas: a main organizational problem that LRY faces is a lack of continuity when leadership changes, and  
Whereas: competent leadership is a necessity to the survival of LRY, and  
Whereas: written continuity reports from committees of the board could aid in the transition of competent leadership,  
Therefore be it resolved: under Article VI, Section 6 be added  
F. Every Board committee must submit or up-date written continuity reports to aid in the smooth transition of new leadership into that particular committee structure.

### Proposal on Executive Committee Field-Tripping

Whereas: the LRY Continental office has programs and experience helpful to LRYers in the field, and  
Whereas: these resources are not being utilized to their fullest capacity, and  
Whereas: fieldwork by the LRY Executive Committee could facilitate more accurate representation of LRY concerns, and  
Whereas: fieldwork by the LRY Executive Committee could encourage active participation on the continental level of LRY, and  
Whereas: fieldwork by the LRY Executive Committee could spread more continental programs and experience to the local level of LRY,  
Therefore be it resolved: that each member of the 1978-79 Executive Committee shall alternate in spending two months of their elected term in the Northwest, Southwest, Northeast, and Southeast continental areas.

Submitted by Shelley Cantril

### LRY's IDEAS cont'd.

**Youth Program Field Work Teams**  
We recommend that a resource bank of people, both youth and adults, with demonstrated skill in working with youth be appointed. These people would be appointed by the Continental Youth Adult Committee with the assistance of L.R.Y. Regional Committees and I.D.R.s, and would have the support and resource skills of the Inter-district Council, the I.D.R.s, local societies, Continental L.R.Y., L.R.Y. federations and locals, available to them.

- These teams would help facilitate the dialogue concerning youth programming
- 1) intergenerational activity
  - 2) dissemination of materials from continental to local level
  - 3) sharing of programs, resources, and feedback between continental and local levels

#### A. Functions:

1. To train people interested in making a serious commitment to youth activities within our denomination. Areas of investigation could include:
  - a. leadership skills
  - b. youth/adult relations
  - c. essentials of adolescent growth and development
  - d. basics of counseling and advising teenagers
  - e. adolescent sexuality
  - f. communications skills
  - g. goal setting and problem solving
  - h. values clarification
  - i. successful group programmingEmphasis should be placed on youth and adults learning with and from each other.
2. To provide an intensive training workshop at an interdistrict level for youth and adults from each district. These people could then return to their districts/federations and act as resources for local youth

Staggering Executive Committees-Proposed By-law Change

Whereas: continuity between executive committees is vital to the administration of LRY, and  
Whereas: the present continuity structure is not working very well, and  
Whereas: staggering the terms of the executive committee members would provide longer and more efficient continuity, and  
Whereas: having staggered terms would bring new energy and ideas into the office and take some pressure off the living situation,  
Therefore be it resolved: that Article V, Section 3 be amended to read "The Executive Committee members shall serve in voting capacity on the Board during their term in office, and  
Be it further resolved: that Article VIII, Section 2 be amended to read "Nominations for Executive Committee members may be made by petition filed with the Corporation two months before the election. Such a petition shall be in writing, signed by at least twenty-five members of LRY, no more than fifteen of whom shall be from the same federation; or from the floor of the board meeting by direct nomination with at least two seconds from the floor."  
Be it further resolved: that Article VIII, Section 3 be amended to read "Two members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the annual meeting and shall take office on the following Sept. 1 and two members shall be elected at the winter meeting and shall take office the following March 1. Which directors are elected when shall be decided at the annual meeting."

Submitted by Susan Ruis

groups, societies, federation executive committees, and area councils.

3. To be available to districts and federations for workshops focused on youth concerns and the needs of adults working with youth, at the request of the District Board of Trustees and federation executive committees.

a. To provide opportunity for youth and adults to experience learning and working in a process-focused setting.

b. To introduce youth and adults to the various programs within our denomination that are available to youth:

1. youth service projects and summer camps
2. U.U. Service Committee projects
3. Department of Education multi-media kits
4. L.R.Y. programming materials and resources

#### B. Membership of "Resource Bank"

1. Team members must be people skilled in areas relating to youth as well as to group organization.
2. Members should have experience in relating to U.U. youth within a group setting.
3. Members should have credibility with the adults and the youth.
4. The training of the field work teams would be facilitated by the Youth/Adult Committee in coordination with the L.R.Y. Executive Committee and the U.U.A. staff.

#### Budget

It is expected that the services of the Youth Program Field Work Team would be volunteer. Transportation, housing, childcare, training, or any other expenses incurred by their participation on the Field Work Teams would be paid by the Continental Youth Adult Committee fees of workshop participants, or their district or local society.

### Proposal to Change Federation Borders

Whereas: Liberal Religious Youth wishes to promote better communications between its federations and their corresponding UUA districts, and  
Whereas: LRY Federation representatives wish to more accurately represent their geographical area to their UUA districts,  
Therefore be it resolved: that the 1978 LRY Summer Board of Directors recommends for its federations that North Star Federation and Missouri Valley Federation be contained within Prairie Star District; that Central Midwest Federation's borders correspond with Central Midwest District's; and that Godard/OVF's borders correspond with those of Ohio Valley and Ohio Meadville Districts.

Note: Other Federation borders correspond to UUA Districts as follows:

- Rocky Mountain Federation=Rocky Mountain District
- Sahili Federation=Pacific NW District
- Starr King Federation=Central District
- Pacific Southwest LRY Federation=Pacific SW District
- Sam Newt-Western Canadian District
- Seafoam & Synergy= Southwest District
- Sunco Federation=Florida District
- Lower Southern District Federation=Mid-South District
- Southern Appalachian Mountain Federation=Thomas Jefferson District
- Jersey Area Fed. & Delaware Valley Fed. (Creator Washington Area Fed.=Joseph Priestly District
- Metropolitan New York Federation=Metropolitan NY District
- Connecticut River Valley Federation=Connecticut Valley District
- Central Massachusetts Federation=Central Massachusetts District
- Bay Shore Fed. & Narragansett Fed.=Ballou Channing District
- Massachusetts Bay Federation=Massachusetts Bay District
- Vermont & New Hampshire Federation=Vermont & NH District
- Downeast Federation & T'utatoem Federation=Northeast District
- Granola Federation=St. Lawrence District & Michigan District

### Proposal on Social Actions Director in the Field

Whereas: Social Action projects are an important facet in the life of LRY, and  
Whereas: social concerns could be dealt with by a person outside of the continental office, and  
Whereas: the continental office could have time to be a more adequate liaison to their constituency if relieved of the social concerns responsibility

Therefore be it resolved: that for the year 1978-79 there shall be a Social Actions Director in the field. This directorship would include:

- 1) Liason to the LRY Coalition Against Nuclear Proliferation
- 2) Corresponding and filing actions of the UU Washington Office for Social Concerns, UU Service Committee, Office on Aging and Gay Concerns, UU Women's Federation, Black Affairs Council, Black and White Action, Gay Caucus, Youth Caucus, SRL, UU Ministry to Migrant Workers.
- 3) Regular correspondence with the LRY Executive Committee
- 4) Writing an article for each issue of People Soup on projects
- 5) Corresponding with and filing of social actions groups outside of the denomination of interest to LRYers
- 6) Reporting at the Summer and Winter LRY Board of Directors meetings
- 7) Providing written continuity for the successive Social Actions Director
- 8) Corresponding with Canada
- 9) Forming a current Social Actions File.

# YOUTH ADVISORS' NEWSLETTER

The UU Department of Ministerial and Congregational Services and the Youth-Adult Committee have authorized the creation of a Youth Advisors' Newsletter. It is hoped that this publication will provide support, information, and program ideas for youth advisors, improve communications among them, and serve as a forum for sharing ideas, experiences, and issues. As such, the Newsletter is one way of making good of the UUA's commitment to youth services.

We would very much appreciate your input in this initial stage of planning. Will you please give us your opinions and reactions on the following:

Which of these do you consider important to include in the Youth Advisors' Newsletter? (Please check the appropriate column for each item.)

	very important	moderately important	not important
The Youth Advisor's Role			
with youth directly			
with families			
within churches			
in districts and the denomination			
Ideas for Youth Programming			
Creating Youth Groups: purposes, structures, meetings, times and places, age ranges, etc.			
Youth Advisor Education: books, workshops, personal philosophy			
Information Forum: sharing opinions, problems, experiences, ideas			

Please add any additional comments, insights, or suggestions here: \_\_\_\_\_

On another sheet, please give us the names and addresses of youth advisors you know, so we can send them copies.

RETURN THIS FORM TO: Jean Starr Williams  
Unitarian Universalist Association  
25 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108



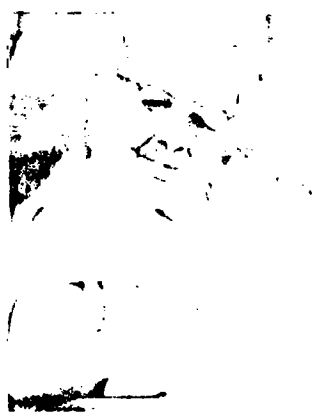
ADVISORS' TRAINING WORKSHOP-Abbe Bjorklund

On May 5 & 6, 1978 I attended an Advisors' Training workshop organized by Tom Greenspon, an ex-LRY advisor. The workshop was held in Washington, D.C., and sponsored by the Joseph Priestly UU District, who requested that Mr. Greenspon do the workshop. The attendees were mostly DREs, interested adults, and advisors from the area. The content was mostly lecture. There was also a panel discussion with local youth and small group discussions.

Mr. Greenspon lectured about adolescent needs and how advisors can function to help facilitate youth leadership and activity within a group, without exercising leadership themselves.

The discussion panel of youth was set up so that the advisors asked questions and panel members were available for response. Questions were mostly concerned with the youth situation in individual churches in the area and what the needs and desires of the youth are.

The small group discussions were centered on what changes need to be made in the JPD area in youth work. The Greater Washington Area Federation and advisors in the area, with assistance from Continental LRY, are now planning a Leadership Development Conference for youth in the fall.



### DESIGNING AN INTERGENERATIONAL WORKSHOP

There is a packet containing materials for a workshop on intergenerational communications available from the UU Women's Federation. It was developed by leaders and participants at an Intergenerational Conference in 1972 that was co-sponsored by the UUW and LRY. The packet is made up of exercises to form a day-long event for youth and adults. To receive it send \$2.00 to UUW, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108.





# LRV FUNDING by Susan Buis

The youth movement in the Unitarian and Universalist denominations began in the late nineteenth century with a general increase in programming for young people. The type of programming depended on the church, but the dominant model was that of self-governing youth groups. At this time, youth meant 35 and under, so the phrase "youth run" had a somewhat different meaning than it does now. But the spirit is the same. At first, individual churches had their own groups and there was little communication between them. Later, the idea of regional and continental organizations became popular. By the middle 1940's, both the Unitarians and Universalists had continental youth organizations, the American Unitarian Youth (AUJ) and the Universalist Youth Fellowship (UYF). In 1954, the UYF and the AUJ merged to form Liberal Religious Youth, Inc. (LRY).

LRY was set up with a youth board, youth trustees, and a hired adult staff. Over the past 24 years, the age range has gone from 14-24 to 14-19. The position of the adult Executive Director was discontinued in 1969 and since then, LRY's continental office has been staffed by youth directors. As you can see, the Unitarian Universalist youth movement has moved increasingly toward youth management, both in age range and structure.

The LRY of today is youth run in almost every way. The structure is set up so no one over the age of 20 can hold office or vote at the business meetings. The continental office is staffed by people 20 years

old or younger and the programs are designed and implemented by young people. Local groups often play an important role as peer support groups to their members. LRY conferences and camps are planned and run by LRYers. The adult role in LRY is limited to that of an advisor, not an authority figure. The only way in which LRY is not self-sufficient is financially.

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has been funding LRY since its Incorporation. Each year, the UUA gives its Youth Adult Committee (YAC) money. The YAC in turn allots this money as it sees fit. Last year the UUA gave the YAC \$30,000, and YAC gave LRY \$28,739.

There are two major drawbacks to an organization getting its funding from another organization. One is that funding can be cut off at any time. This almost happened at the January and April Board meetings of the UUA when the administration of the UUA proposed such a plan. The proposal was defeated but the threat is still there. The other drawback is that LRY has to answer to the YAC as to how the money is spent. If LRY was financially self-sufficient, they would have to answer only to themselves. But as long as LRY is funded by the UUA and YAC, it must answer to them. If the UUA and/or YAC does not like what LRY is doing, they can stop funding and put their money into some other form of youth programming.

It is time for LRY to re-examine who we are, what we are doing and where we are go-

ing. If we decide to continue our present structure, we must increase our support for it, mentally, emotionally, and financially. If we decide to change our structure and/or direction, that is fine too. Any change must come from the inside, from LRYers, or it will be neither meaningful nor lasting. We must support any change or it won't mean a thing. LRY is our organization and we need to support it completely.

How much are you willing to give to LRY? How much does it mean to you? The LRY Executive Committee is going to make some fundraising proposals to the LRY Board of Directors at their annual meeting in August. You will be hearing about these plans through your federation representative. Until then, there are fundraising ideas in the "How To...Leadership Packet" and in the "Fundraising Handbook" that your local and/or federation can work on. It is time that LRYers started taking greater responsibility for their own organization. If every LRYer would give \$10 a year to the Continental LRY program, there would be enough money to run the Continental Office and its programs at a much expanded level from where they are now.

A continental organization such as LRY needs money in order to function. A self-managed group means that a degree of responsibility is inherent in the freedom. To believe in individual freedom also involves individual responsibility. What monetary significance does LRY have to the individuals involved?



## New From LRY

### The Local Group and Conference Planning Handbook

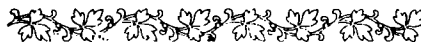
This handbook is dedicated in memory of William C. Steinbrenner.

Bill Steinbrenner was a member of Liberal Religious Youth (LRY) group when he was in junior high school. LRY was important to him because it gave him a place to belong and to be himself. When the Steinbrenners moved to Ohio, there was no LRY group. Bill was disappointed for he missed the support he had gotten from his LRY local. Last December, at the age of twenty-two, Bill was killed in a sky-diving accident. Bill had once requested that memorial contributions be made to LRY when he died. These memorial gifts from Bill's family and friends have made the publishing of this handbook possible. We hope that the information in this handbook will inspire the establishment and growth of LRY local groups, so they will be there for young people like Bill. "Because he was, he will always be."

#### Table of Contents:

- Purposes of LRY
- Youth Leadership
- LRY Structure
- Starting From Scratch
- Programs
- Doing a Youth Sunday
- Creative Worship
- Advisors
- Organization
- Youth/Adult Relations
- General Assembly/Youth Caucus
- Money
- Why a Conference?
- The Week Long Conference
- The Theme
- Workshops
- Recreation
- Worship & Site
- Publicity
- Treasurer
- Rules & Family Groups
- First Night Programs
- Feel Wheel
- Last Night Programs
- Weekend Conferences
- Food

This packet is available for \$1.00 from the LRY office. LRY, 25 Beacon St. Boston, Mass. 02108



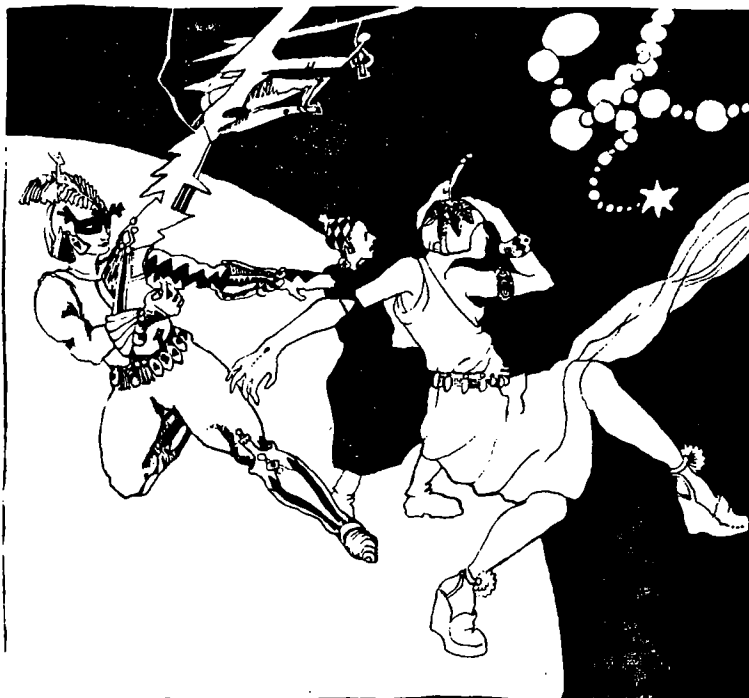
If you will be traveling in the Pacific North West District (Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana) and are interested in staying with some friendly UU's, check out the Pacific NW District UU Hostel Directory.

#### IN CANADA CONTACT:

PNWD Office  
675-21st St.  
W. Vancouver, BC  
V7V 4A7 CANADA

#### IN USA CONTACT:

Lillian Rachele  
PNWD Hostel Coordinator  
2151 NW Lewisburg Rd.  
Corvallis, OR 97330





# YOUTH ADULT COMMITTEES

Youth Adult Committees are being started by concerned LRYers and other Unitarian Universalists in many districts and societies. They serve to integrate adult and youth resources. YACs facilitate better communications and give youth and adults a chance to coordinate some programs together, thus better serving everyone's needs.

When the UUA Board of Trustees voted in April, 1978 to continue allowing the Continental YAC to allocate youth funding, it was with the understanding that the Continental YAC would work to help each district without one to form a YAC. It is very important that youth are involved in the planning and formation of district YACs so that they will be responsive to our needs.

The Unitarian Universalist denomination and LRY share ideals and purposes. A unique youth/adult relationship is possible when there is mutual respect, concern, and understanding. There is no need for anyone to be defensive if you believe in what you are saying. Continual interaction between LRY and the denomination may be invigorating and supportive to both parties. YACs are a way to facilitate intergenerational communion and a united liberal religious movement.

The following describes possible functions of a Youth Adult Committee and how it may be organized:

**ROLE**

Youth Adult Committees may...

1. Articulate the goals for the district or local youth program by evaluating the youth/adult relations and activities
  2. Attend to the concerns of the district or society in the area of youth work
  3. Help select adult advisors to work with youth
  4. Help interpret to the adults the programs and activities of the youth
  5. Have adult representation at all local groups and LRY federation meetings and conferences, functioning in an advisory capacity and insuring continuous and direct contact with the leadership and organization of the youth
  6. Encourage youth involvement in meetings and church programs. The YAC should not take the place of direct communications between all youth and adults
  7. Introduce the resources of the LRY Continental office, personnel and materials, to the districts and societies
  8. Help resolve the differences which might occur between the youth groups and adults locally, in districts, and federations
  9. Advise the district or society's business Board of the needs of the youth and how the district or society can help. Advise the youth of the ways that they may assist the district or society
  10. Assist the youth with encouraging participation in the many facets of the Continental program of LRY. Assist adults in understanding the value of youth-led youth groups such as LRY (which do value the role of adult advisors)
  11. Serve as one portion of the total Religious Education picture
  12. Help the district or society deal with ageism by encouraging intergenerational understanding and respect. Plan and encourage intergenerational activities such as outings, retreats, dinners, worship events, educational projects, social actions, etc....
  13. Give advice to those outside the committee, both youth and adults, on how they can further the goal of better youth/adult relations.
- District YACs (specifically) may...
1. Assist the federation and Continental LRY in sponsoring leadership training sessions for district youth
  2. Sponsor advisors' training programs for adults
  3. Report to the district Board and Continental Youth Adult Committee (25 Beacon should be on the mailing list for all materials)
  4. Assist churches and fellowships with organizing local YACs

**Meetings:**

1. Six to eight minimum within a local society per year
2. A minimum of three within a district per year.
3. First meeting in early fall
4. Place should be determined by committee
5. Should not be held at same time as other youth or district meetings. District YAC meetings could be in conjunction with district Board meetings.

**Budget:**

The major financial support for district and society YACs, their programs, travel, and other expenses, should come from the district or from society funds. The YAC should be listed as a line-item in the budget.

by **ABBE BJORKLUND**



**Suggested Membership:**

1. Between five and nine members inclusive with approximately equal representation of youth and adults
2. A member of the district or church Board, who will serve as liaison
3. Terms should be two years in length for adults with a rotating membership. There should be at least one youth carry-over member each year
4. The chairperson should be chosen by the whole committee

**District YAC (specifically) membership:**

1. At least one youth member from each LRY federation (if active) in the district, appointed by the federation
2. At least one adult from each federation area (if active), preferably not the federation advisor, to be appointed by the district Board. Federation advisors may be invited to the meetings



## AVAILABLE FROM LRY

Please make checks or money order payable to Liberal Religious Youth and send it to LRY, 25 Beacon St., Boston MA, 02108. We thank you for writing us and we hope to continue communications with you in the future. We would appreciate hearing from you about your reactions to these packets.

NUMBER	PRICE PER ITEM	NAME	TOTAL
_____	\$1.00	Local Group and Conference Planning Handbook	_____
_____	\$ .50	The How To...Leadership Packet	_____
_____	\$ .50	A Packet of LRY Programs	_____
_____	\$ .25	Fundraising	_____
_____	\$ .25	Theatre Packet	_____
_____	\$ .50	The New Community	_____
_____	\$ .25	Bad Fruit/Social Actions Packet	_____
_____	\$ .50	The Advisor's Handbook	_____
_____	\$ .25	The Denomination Game	_____
_____	\$ .25	The Duadic Encounter	_____
_____	\$ .25	LRY and Friend Button	_____
_____	\$ .50	1978 Continental Conference Yearbook	_____
_____	\$1.00	1978 Continental Conference Photo	_____
_____	free	People Soup	_____
_____	\$ .25	Youth Caucus Buttons	_____
_____	free	Old Issues of People Soup (Please Specify)	_____
_____	free	LRY Pamphlet	_____
_____	free	LRY Inc. Bylaws	_____
_____	free	Forward Together (IRF Newsletter)	_____
_____	free	Advisor's Newsletter	_____

**ONGOING PROGRAMS OF LRY**

**REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFO.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Youth Caucus:** is a caucus at the Unitarian Universalist Association's General Assembly. The caucus meets daily to discuss and participate in the business and activities of the GA. Youth Caucus is open to all UU Youth ages 12-20.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **UU-United Nations Youth Seminar:** Conducted by the UU-UN office, the Seminar is an annual event where UU youth explore world issues. In the past, the seminar themes have been: Political Prisoners Around the World, the Politics of Sharing the World's Resources, the Balance of Power, the World Energy Crisis, and Disarmament.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **LRY Coalition Against Nuclear Proliferation:** The Coalition was formed at the 1978 UU-UN Youth Seminar on Disarmament. We are a coalition of LRY and other UU youth concerned with the nuclear proliferation through arms and power plants. The purpose of the coalition is to spread information and encourage action on nuclear proliferation to UU youth groups, societies, and their communities.

TOTAL BILL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

LRYer \_\_\_\_\_ NON-LRY YOUTH \_\_\_\_\_ INTERESTED ADULT \_\_\_\_\_ ADVISOR \_\_\_\_\_ ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL THIS TO: LRY\*25 BEACON STREET\*BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS\*02108

# UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Liberal Religious Youth sponsored a number of successful events at the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly this year that greatly improved our visibility, fellowship, and influence within the denomination.

On Tuesday, the LRY Coalition Against Nuclear Proliferation sponsored a "Nuclear Proliferation" workshop. A speaker from the Clamshell Alliance, a New England "no nukes" group, came and talked about nuclear power plants. Different aspects of the plants and the dangers associated with them were touched on. The participants ranged from environmental activists to nuclear physicists.

On Wednesday, LRY sponsored a "How to Start an LRY Local" workshop. This workshop was a discussion period talking about different aspects involved in starting an LRY local. Relations with the church or fellowship, the purposes of an LRY group, programs, and the role of advisors, were included in the workshop. The new LRY packet, "The Local Group and Conference Planning Handbook", was introduced at this workshop. Participants ranged from young people to ministers and other interested adults.

Later on Wednesday was an AUU-YUF-LRY Reunion. AUU(American Unitarian Youth) and YUF(Universalist Youth Fellowship) were merged to form LRY. There were appetizers, a live band, and a movie made by a Starr King local, called "The Box People". Everyone gathered in a circle for singing of LRY songs and other past UU youth songs. Older UU youth group members shared with everyone their involvement in the past.

On Thursday the Continental Youth Adult Committee sponsored an open discussion for youth and adults concerning youth programming within the denomination. The workshop consisted of dividing into small groups and discussing the purposes, goals, and methods with which Youth Adult Committees should be run. YACs are now being looked at as a possible means of enhancing youth/adult communications on all levels: local, district, and continental.



On Friday LRY sponsored a Youth Leadership workshop. The format for this workshop was of an intergenerational discussion group. We dealt with six different aspects of leadership including motives, alienation, and intergenerational relations. The group shared experiences and learned alternative responses to common problems that arise in youth leadership.

On Saturday LRY held a worship service. The theme was "Uncertainty". Inspired by the music and readings prepared by LRYers, the participants in the service expressed some of their uncertainties about life and some of the ways they deal with their uncertainties. The sharing of common feelings developed a sense of fellowship among the group.

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

*Unitarian Universalism is a fierce belief in the way of freedom and reverence for the sacred dignity of each individual. With Jefferson we "have sworn eternal hostility against every tyranny over the mind."*

*Unitarian Universalism is cooperation with a universe that created us; it is a celebration of life; it is being in love with goodness and justice; it is a sense of humor about absolutes.*

*Unitarian Universalism is faith in people, hope for tomorrow's child, confidence in a continuity that spans all time. It looks not to a perfect heaven, but toward a good earth. It is respectful of the past, but not limited to it. It is trust in growing and conspiracy with change. It is spiritual responsibility for a moral tomorrow.*

-LJ Schenpp

### UU General Assembly Action

At the business meetings of the 1978 General Assembly, the Unitarian Universalist denomination pledged itself to further such causes as:

- 1) aiding center city churches and fellowships from the urban blight caused by the suburban withdrawal of years past
- 2) holding UUA meetings in only those states which have ratified the E.R.A.
- 3) observing the 25th anniversary of the "Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka" Supreme Court decision (thereby deciding the theme of the 1979 GA)
- 4) Ministry of Religious Education (C-By-law Amendment)
- 5) legality of living wills
- 6) right to choose in regards to abortion
- 7) ending the subsidy program sponsored by the U.S. government of tobacco growers
- 8) aiding agricultural development in poor countries to improve the world hunger situation
- 9) development of hospices
- 10) development of correctional programs within communities as opposed to merely prisons
- 11) youth(!)



## bio-feedback (cont'd.)

This letter was sent in to address the issue of sexism.

In the summer of 1976 I was raped. Since then, by opening this topic to my classmates and friends, I have discovered that rape is not at all an unusual or new phenomenon. I suggest to anyone that they open it up to common discussion. Even if women and men are unwilling to reveal their personal victimization, you're likely to have relieved some of the stigma around this taboo subject by speaking of it in a reasonable and compassionate voice.

I am still ashamed that I ever got myself into a situation where I could not defend myself. Nonetheless, I try to make the experience as open to public consideration as any other experience I have had. "Public education" can mean such a different thing than the crap I got at Princeton High. Speak up-always speak up.

Perhaps what disturbed me most was that after the brutalizing experience itself, after the tequila that washed it away, and after the madness that lingered in the hangover, I could not hate the man. During my half day's involuntary stay I got to know several winos, one prostitute, some hungry people who'd spent time in our jails, and a second man who tried to rape me. He'd been raised in a part of Boston known as the "Battle Zone". The point is that they were all human and sparked the natural human feeling of compassion in me. Each had their very human stories to tell and I could see where their violence came from. This vision does not excuse their actions, but it does make hate an impossibility for me. They will remain as real people in my memory.

I cannot say that I dealt with the experience itself in such a reasonable fashion. At first it resulted in an acute awareness of the sexist tendencies harboured by the people around me. At college, I tried my best to speak from this awareness, but because of most people's lack of sup-

port and their unwillingness to respond, my efforts became minimal. This withdrawal, aggravated by an unhappy living situation, began to manifest itself in the form of frequent violent fantasies. My rape had first clarified what was going on around me but, in the end, because of a non-supportive, non-responsive environment and because of my weakness in dealing with this, my situation became unbearable: the stench of the corpses in my living room became too much. In quietness and anger, sick to the brim, I moved to a house with better ventilation. Thank god for spring and new friends. The fantasies left me.

I know how easy it is to internalize my most unfair experiences. The anger is necessary and unavoidable. It's what naturally happens when we're hurt. What I have seen in myself and in others who work for a mere sane existence, has been that this anger gets in our way when we retain it and, even worse, when we make our suffering a romantic one.

Anger is not only unhealthy for us, but it also serves to alienate people from our life-work, particularly with the type of aid we get from our mass media. On television the angry women's libber is a screaming and comic character used to dismiss a global human rights movement, just as the black, militant, white-hater is popularly used to frighten people away from another global human rights movement.

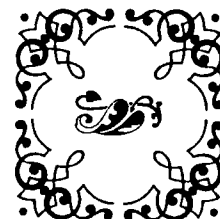
By spewing out anger at inappropriate times, we let ourselves endorse these negative images and damage what we've set out to do. Consciousness, compassion, and criticism are called for whenever speaking of people and politics in the same breath: a consciousness that the enemy is a system of oppression common to us all, a compassion that forgives our stupidities and mistakes so we can surpass this point, and criticism because it is the heart of self-determination.

Meanwhile, we'd better do our homework. I partially attribute my rape to the confusion of a naive political enthusiasm, much inspired by my experiences in LRY. I

was trying to bridge a gap between me and this guy from a totally different background. Little did I know how much consciousness raising I needed for myself. I never realized how ingrained the politeness and passivity of my childhood indoctrination were and how damaging they would be when I decided to outgrow myself. It's all fine and dandy to talk about how nice it would be to put an end to racism, but first we have to take a serious look at what we're fighting.

Studying the capitalist system and the class system without studying our own heads will never be enough. Unfortunately, we are the system. Criticize, criticize. It's a hard rain that's gonna fall.

Finally, I want to add for the people who know me, (I miss you all right now) I was not raped while hitchhiking. In fact, in the thousands of miles I have travelled alone, I have never been physically threatened. Really, it's the racism that puts me off. I just don't know how to address myself to the problem. This will change. Meanwhile, I keep trucking, trying consistently to explain why I'm unwilling to pay my dues to good old Detroit Steel. Remember what our forefathers said: Life, Liberty and the pursuit of white male property rights. Anyway, away. Response is more than welcome! Barb Hayes, 128 Broadmead, Princeton, N.J. 08540.



# Youth Caucus



## DISTRICT YOUTH CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVES

Nearly one hundred Unitarian Universalist youth gathered at the UU General Assembly at Boston University, June 19-24, to form the Youth Caucus. The caucus met every day of GA to discuss issues concerning youth. After its first meeting, which was used for organization, the caucus got down to the business of writing a Youth Resolution.

The Youth Caucus discussed which other business and resolutions of the General Assembly that they would take a stand on. No position was taken by the Youth Caucus unless it was unanimously agreed on by all those present for the vote. Youth Caucus voted to support the resolution which "affirms and defends the right of each person to sign a legally binding Living Will..." (euthenasia) as well as the resolution which "affirms the 1973 decision of the Supreme Court of the U.S. on abortion and urges the Association and the member societies to continue and to intensify efforts to insure that every woman, whatever her financial means, shall have the right to choose to terminate a pregnancy legally and with all possible safeguards..." Both of these resolutions were passed by the General Assembly.

On Saturday, the final day of the Assembly, the Youth Resolution was placed on the agenda as a late admitted item. After the resolution was explained by Abbe Bjorklund and a pro speech by Mike Scott, the question was called and the resolution passed.

The Youth Caucus met after the business session to evaluate the groups' process, set up rules, and a structure for next year's Youth Caucus. The caucus also appointed district Youth Caucus Representatives for 1978-79. They are responsible to:

- a) Represent Youth Caucus to their district through attending district meetings, contacting district officers, and/or any other means possible.
- b) Communicate to the district the meaning and passage of the 1978 GA Youth Business Resolution, and encourage its implementation.
- c) Request that the district budget monies for the 1979 Youth Caucus Scholarship Fund.
- d) Communicate to "25 Beacon" progress and anything of interest to YC.

St. Lawrence District:  
Jim Link  
1303 Ocala Rd. #236  
Tallahassee, FL 32304

Pacific SW District:  
Karen White  
5520 W. Monterosa St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85031

Florida District:  
Patricia Abbott  
27 Dolphin Dr.  
Treasure Island, FL 33706

Mid-South District:  
Laura McKown  
1208 Jenkins Dr.  
Auburn, AL 36830

Ohio Meadville & Ohio Valley Districts:  
J. Hughes  
570 Glenridge Pl.  
Columbus, Ohio 43214

Mt. Desert District:  
Lisa Mallott  
855 S. Estes  
Lakewood, CO 80226

South West District:  
Nina Martin  
1503 Montclair  
Arlington, TX 76015

Michigan District:  
Dave Halsted  
2300 Montmorency Lane  
Traverse City, MI 49684

Prarie Star District:  
Peter Leley  
2340 Fox St.  
Long Lake, MN 55356

Pacific Central District:  
Julie Blattman  
94 Montell St.  
Oakland, CA 94611

Massachusetts Bay District:  
David Smith  
32 Lancaster Dr.  
Framingham, MA 01701

MI-VT District:  
Wendy Coe  
52 North Winooski Ave.  
Burlington, VT 05401

Joseph Priestly District:  
Wendy Lucas      Julie Koestler  
340 Hendrickson Ave. 640 Trephenny Lane  
Woodbury, NJ 08096      Wayne, PA 19087

Metropolitan NY District:  
Beth Grower      Marc Pinsonneault  
10 Bourndale Rd. N 20 Ardsleigh Dr.  
Manhasset, NY 11030      Madison, NJ 07940

Central Midwest District:  
Sarah Snow      Val Jencks  
5643 S. Harper      4506 Cornell  
Chicago, IL 60637      Downers Grove, IL 60515

Ballou Channing District:  
Don Seaman  
79 Spring Ln.  
Canton, MA 02021

CONTACTS ARE NEEDED FOR NORTHEAST, CONNECTICUT VALLEY, CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS, NORTHWEST, THOMAS JEFFERSON, WESTERN CANADA DISTRICTS.  
If you would like to be on the Youth Caucus mailing list write: Youth Caucus, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108. Contact your YC rep if you would like to be involved in Youth Caucus work in your area.

# YOUTH RESOLUTION

## Business Resolution on Youth

WHEREAS, young people not only constitute a significant proportion of the Unitarian Universalist Association at the present time, but also hold the promise of providing the mature men and women needed to maintain the Unitarian Universalist faith in the years ahead; and WHEREAS, these young people are at a stage of their lives crucial to the development of their religious values and beliefs, and WHEREAS, meaningful youth programs run with the help of adult resource people can be beneficial to all involved; and

WHEREAS, there is considerable uncertainty at the present time concerning the future of denominational programs designed to involve and benefit youth:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the 1978 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association recognizes the crucial importance of youth programs and the need for developing leadership skills and self-reliance through youth administration of these programs; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the General Assembly

1. urges all Unitarian Universalists to become more knowledgeable about the nature of existing youth programs and to re-examine the stereotypes about youth,
2. calls on the members of individual churches and fellowships to promote greater involvement of young people in their societies and districts through Youth Adult Committees and other forms of intergenerational activities and dialogue,
3. calls on the Administration of the Unitarian Universalist Association to work cooperatively with Liberal Religious Youth in developing energetic youth programs at the denominational level, and
4. urges that these programs be given a high priority in the formulation of UUA budgets in the immediate future so that they may receive funds sufficient to meet their legitimate needs and in fair proportion to the importance of young people to the denomination.

Submitted by unanimous vote of the UU Youth Caucus, passed by the UU General Assembly, June 24, 1978.

## -ABBE BJORKLUND

This resolution was submitted as a late-admitted item to the UUGA by a unanimous vote of the UU Youth Caucus. After a brief presentation by Y.C. members on the floor of the GA Plenary (business) session, the question was called, and the resolution passed by the GA.

Like any other GA resolution, the Youth resolution means nothing unless UU's in every church and fellowship are aware of it. And we need to see that they are.

The purpose of this resolution is to foster a spirit among the UU's in our societies, districts, and at the denominational level to consider youth as an intrinsic part of the UU movement and to include us in all decision-making, especially when decisions concern our own programs. The alienation that exists in many cases between youth and their societies needs attention and effort from every UU - so that we may foster the intergenerational participation necessary for a dynamic denomination.

Here are some ways that you can help see that the 1978 Youth Resolution is implemented.

1. Form a local society and district Youth Adult Committee.
2. Get a youth rep. on your district and society board.
3. Organize intergenerational activities in your society and district.
4. Try to educate UU's about youth by sharing yourself.
5. Change ageist limitations on membership in your society (the UU bylaws say that the UUA promotes the full participation of persons in all UU activities without regard to age).
6. Participate actively in your society and district and encourage other youth to get involved.



twelve

# Youth Leadership

LRY is a group that ideally believes the opinions and feelings of every person are valid and deserve recognition. In this way, the contributions of every member give the group as a whole its meaning. The people in LRY are capable of making sound decisions and reaching effective solutions through good group process. The best way the group can realize this potential is by freeing itself from dependence on a formal leader or authority. I would term LRY's structural process of government "group leadership". This means that leadership is not the property or sole function of any one person, but is conferred by the group on the person or people who can best meet the leadership needs- facilitating progress in the group towards goals desirable to them. This definition leads to some qualifications which must be made on the role of an LRY leader.

The leader must allow the group to diagnose its own needs. The group as a whole knows its specific needs much more so than any one person. It is the leader's role, however, to facilitate communication in the group during this process. In LRY, a leader should avoid making decisions for the group, except for those which bring the members together initially.

The concept of freedom and responsibility plays a major role in group leadership. This gives the group members more room to be themselves and try out their own leadership ability without the mutations of a formal authority figure. Along with that freedom, LRYers can learn what it means to take control over their lives, i.e. responsibility for their actions. In order to become responsible, conscientious adults, young people need room to experiment with their capabilities, to take control over their own lives.

Good leadership in LRY comes from experience. Experience can help a potential leader to understand how to react in difficult situations. Going through different stages of development in LRY and assuming different roles during the years, can help a potential leader in LRY to understand what different people are going through once he/she becomes a leader. This leads us to conclude that a distinctive task of a leader is to find a way to connect all the members through goals and to keep a unifying goal for all factions of the group.

But how do we find leaders? Well, they don't just fly out of thin air, that's for sure. Many people are scared of taking on leadership; they feel they can't handle it. This often comes from a feeling of inadequacy, not knowing what to do in a "leadership" situation. This is especially true for LRY, in that many times LRY can be the first place a person has ever had a chance to feel what it's like to lead other people in a group situation.

So, we all need to encourage leadership in LRY, particularly in light of the fact that many LRYers are scared of taking on responsibility. Currently, a definite lack of leadership exists within the organization. What can we do? How can we encourage new people to take initiative within the group?

Well, the best way I know is TO HAVE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCES. Leadership development conferences are designed to do exactly what they say: develop leadership. Primarily, these conferences teach people how to perform functions which are necessary in the leadership functions of the group-i.e. putting a federation newsletter together, handling a federation or local treasury, fieldtripping to new and existing local groups, running a conference, etc.

How to do it? Who plans it? It really depends on who will be running the conference, of course. Actually, it would be a good idea for the federation executive committee to run it. The execs, should (ideally) be the people actually running the business of the federation, therefore setting up and designing programs for LRYers in their federation. A regional leadership training conference, run by federation executive committees from one or more of the federations involved might also be good, especially if you feel there won't be enough people at it from a single fed. The executives must work with the local whose church is hosting the conference. It also would be quite possible for a local to run an

LDC- especially if the federation executive committee is apathetic.

It's very important that the committee running the conference be assigned specific duties and titles to hold. Make sure all responsibility is doled out as fairly and comprehensively as possible. It is especially important that this conference is well planned, organized, and carried out, because it is setting an example for future leaders. Some possible positions might be:

**food coordinator-** in charge of planning meals, buying groceries, finding cooks, setting up family groups for preparing meals and cleaning up.

**workshop coordinator(s)-** in charge of scheduling workshops- deciding which workshops are most relevant to the problems and situations in general for the particular area. Finding speakers on such topics as assertiveness training, listening, etc.

(things that professionals can sometimes give better workshops on than LRYers can). Finding workshop leaders, gathering materials needed for workshops. With all this responsibility, you will probably want to ask at least two people to fulfill this capacity.

**registrar-** in charge of finding a suitable location for the conference, overseeing the putting out of publicity, working with the local and church in preparing for the conference, and taking care of the finances.

You can arrange these duties any way you like. Just make sure that the responsibility is taken- it's extremely vital that the conference be comprehensively and well planned.

**Some possible workshops-**

- Local group programs
- Structure of LRY
- The History of LRY
- UUA/LRY Relations
- How to Run Business Meetings
- Constitutions
- Finances
- Decision Making
- Brainstorming
- Rules
- Field Tripping
- Social Actions
- How to Publish a Newsletter
- Problem Solving
- Listening
- Assertiveness in group situations
- Group Empowerment and Motivation
- What is a program?
- How to Run a Workshop
- Conference Planning (and many more...)

**Orientation-**

Friday night, or first night orientation should be an all-encompassing event. It's really important that you balance the "light" and "heavy" activities so that the LRYers don't get really tired of one certain kind of atmosphere. Include some rowdy games, as well as some serious getting-to-know each other games. You might also have a "why people came to the conference" discussion. In this, everyone sits down in a circle and each person clarifies the who, why, and where of their presence at the conference and what they feel is the importance of building community at the conference and in LRY in general. Do some goals and value clarification stuff. Orientation will set the mood for the entire conference, so it's very important to have a very intense one.

One of the first workshops you have (either on the first night or the next morning) could be a discussion of LRY. Here are some of the discussion questions you might want to include:

- ...what is the history of LRY and your federation (this can give a sense of continuity)?
- ...how does LRY relate to the UUA?
- ...how does the federation relate to Continental?
- ...how does the local relate to your federation?
- ...how does the UUA district relate to the federation?
- ...how does the church relate to the local?
- ...WHAT IS LRY? WHAT IS THE FEDERATION?
- ...WHAT IS THE LOCAL?

Much if the information needed to do these workshops can be found in "The How To.. Leadership Packet" and "The Local Group and Conference Planning Handbook", available from LRY

LRY  
25 Beacon St.  
Boston, MA 02108

I will be bringing a proposal before the LRY Board of Directors recommending that all federations put on one LDC a year. The key to having a good LDC is to make sure it is well planned, well publicized, and done with enthusiasm. CARRY ON!!!

-Barbara Dykes, LRY Director of Leadership and Program Development

by

# Barbara Dykes

## Summer Boards

Summer Boards is short for the "LRY Summer Board of Directors Annual Meeting". The LRY Board of Directors is made up of one representative from each federation, the four LRY Executive Committee members, the judiciary committee, the moderator, a recording secretary, and a parliamentarian. Why in the world would these people want to get together for ten days and sit in some UU church or fellowship in board meetings? Because they're crazy? Well, yeah, and there are lots of perfectly valid reasons, too. The LRY Board discusses issues of timely relevance (such as SCOYP), makes decisions that affect LRY as a whole, evaluates the current state of organization in each federation, brainstorms on problems, shares ideas, makes by-law changes, and many other things. In short, LRY Boards can be a very enlightening and educational experience.

Now that we've explained what Summer Boards are, we can tell you where they will be. This year they are located at: First Unitarian Church  
807 Beryl Drive  
San Antonio, Texas 78213

Some of the issues of "timely relevance" include: nuclear proliferation, budget, purposes and directions of LRY, elections for the Executive Committee, alternative structures for LRY, choosing an LRY symbol, trust and sensitivity in LRY, and more!

The dates are August 9-19. Observers are welcome, on the condition they will not do anything to disrupt the meetings. The cost for observers is \$3.00 per person, per day (We CAN'T afford munchkins!).

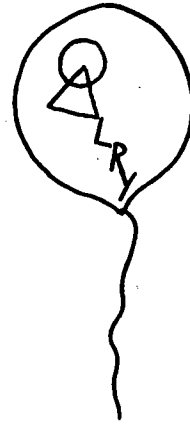
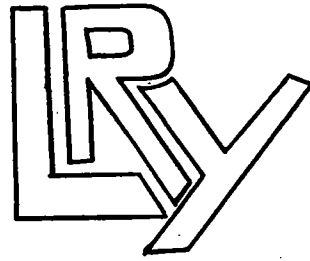
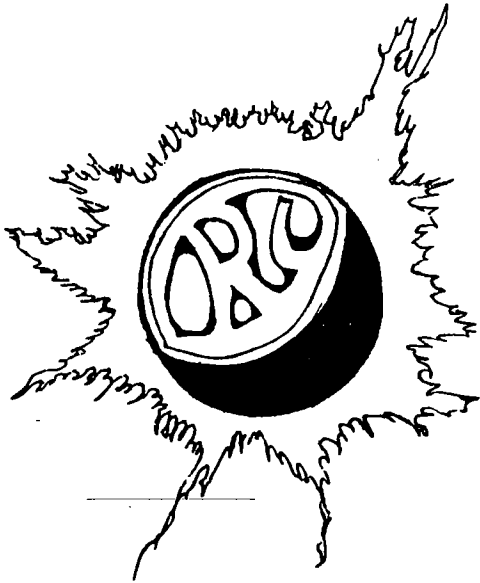
Help your federation representative out by fund raising in your local for transportation money for him or her. LRY is really under-budgeted for this meeting, so you all need to help as much as you can.

That's the scoop on Boards, folks! See you in Texas!

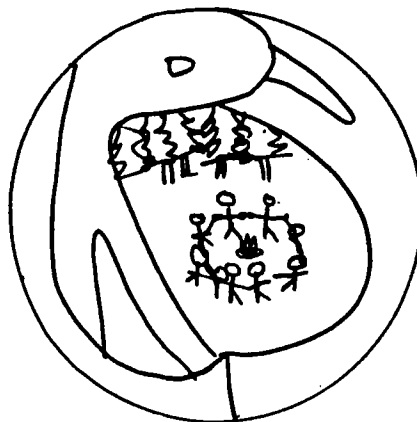
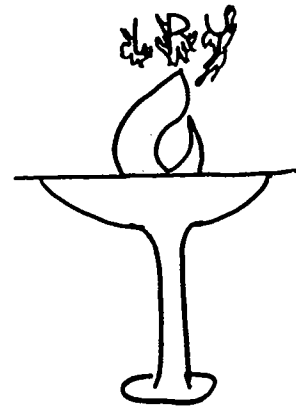
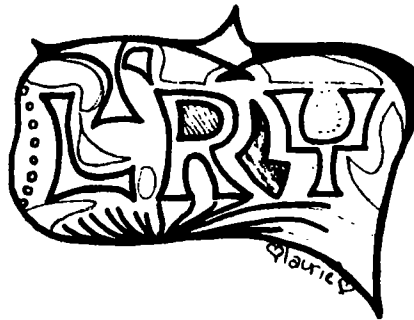
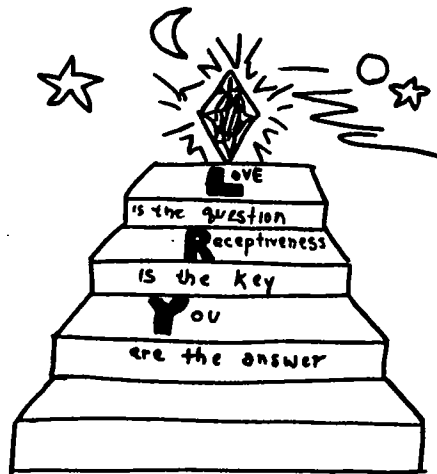
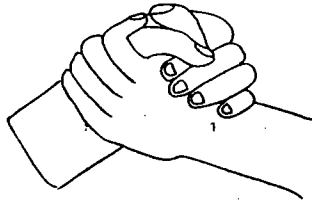


LNS

# SYMBOLIC



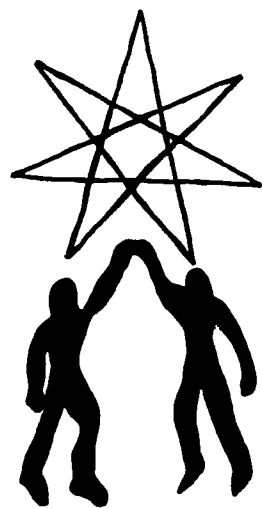
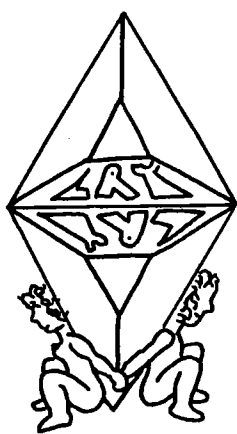
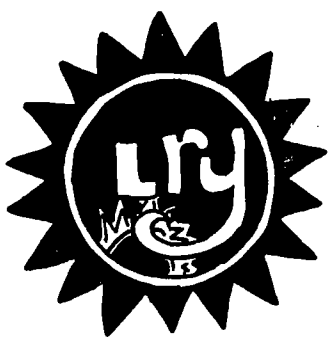
L.R.Y.



Since last summer's LRY Board of Directors meeting, LRY has been trying to replace its old symbol. Unfortunately we haven't been successful (yet), partly because alot of people feel different things about LRY and any one symbol doesn't fit every person, but also because of non-response. This year LRY has tried again and received a variety of symbols to pick from. The choice will be made at Summer Boards.

These symbols are the ones that we've received so far. If you see one in particular that you like or dislike, let your Continental representative know. How can s/he choose one you like if s/he doesn't know your opinions?

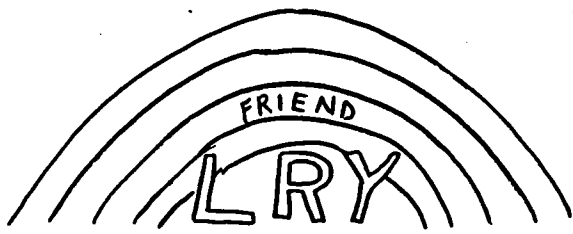
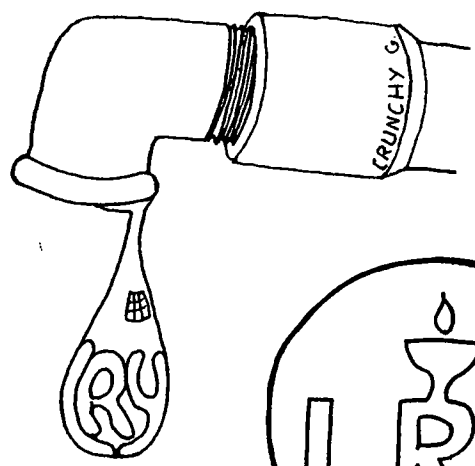
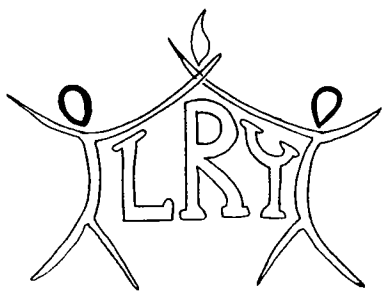
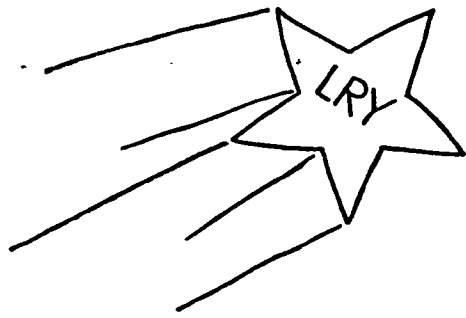
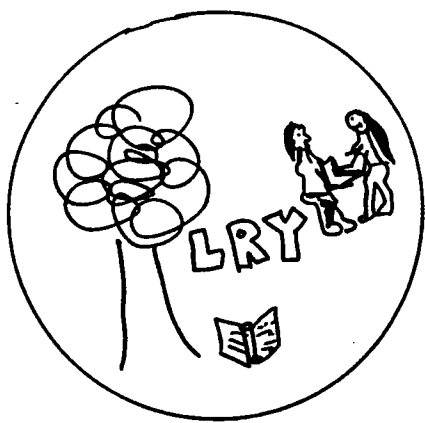
If you don't see any that you like, send in one of your own! The more the merrier. Be sure to get it in by Summer Boards, August 9-19th.



**L.R.Y.**

The septagram represents seven major but resounding aspects of our organization:  
HUMANHOOD    OPEN COMMUNICATION  
UNDERSTANDING    CREATIVITY  
INDIVIDUALITY    FUTURISM    CARING

J.C.



# EXECUTRON..

Proposal for L.R.Y. Executive Committee Directorships  
 BE IT RESOLVED that, in accordance with Article VI Section 2 of the L.R.Y. Bylaws, the following directorships are proposed for the 1978-79 L.R.Y. Executive Committee:



A) A Director of Publications who shall be responsible for fostering communication among the general membership through:

1. Gathering articles, news, photographs, graphics, letters, and other People Soup materials; coordinating layout, writers in the field, editing, and anything else necessary for a regular and responsible People Soup.
2. Coordinating efforts to keep the mailing list relevant, efficient and up-to-date.
3. Coordinating the filing of correspondence and maintenance of other records of the Corporation.
4. Writing regular articles for the youth column in the U.U. World. The Director of Publications shall also serve in an ex-officio capacity on the Continental Conference Committee.



B) A Director of Leadership and Program development who shall be responsible for the development of programs, packets, and social concerns projects that will help to perpetuate the goals of and leadership in LRY across the Continent, through:

1. Researching, writing, and coordinating L.R.Y. packets and programs in People Soup and the Total Program Packet, with emphasis on programs relevant to and for use by local groups, including each year, at least two all-local mailings of this nature and one all-society mailing on starting locals.
2. Serving as liaison to an L.R.Y. sponsored social actions field person. Specifically, the Director of Leadership and Program Development shall serve as liaison and coordinator to the chairperson of the L.R.Y. Coalition Against Nuclear Proliferation.
3. Organizing ocurent meetings of the Board of Directors throughout the year, including publication and distribution of the minutes of each meeting.
4. To serve as liaison and aide to the Advisors' Union and on the editorial committee of the Youth Advisors' Newsletter.

The Director of Leadership and Program Development shall, in the eyes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, hold the title of "President".

This writing exemplifies in an analogy the experience of our executive committee in the cause of Liberal Religious Youth.

FROM MY JOURNAL:  
 I want to express the spiritual experience of fall in Vermont. There on the hill-sides arrayed in gold I kissed the lichen and mosses. Embraced Mother Earth in my arms and moved with her. Her beauty destroyed my sarcasm with it's overwhelming glory. Being here in the city is a lifestyle so foreign to the rythms of nature. In the woods the trees go unbrushed, unclipped, unshaven and rape you with their magnificence. They strip you of your anxieties and instill you with a strength and spirit more powerful than the Kotex or Marlboro or Ban Basic monopolies. Mother Earth- she had me on my knees crying with frustration at how impossible it was for me to express her beauty. Feeling so honored to pass through her brushes and lie in her grasses. Feeling anger at my ignorance that is destructive to the land. May I never forget the strength, beauty, wisdom, sincerity, and song of the hills.  
 -Shelley

C) A Director of Denominational Communications who shall be responsible for the initiation and continuance of communication between L.R.Y. and the Unitarian Universalist Association on all levels; between L.R.Y. and the International Religious Fellowship; and for the general fostering of the purposes and objectives of L.R.Y., through:

1. The coordination of business and relations with the U.U.A. Board and its committees (including the Youth/Adult Committee), U.U.A. districts and Interdistrict Representative, the U.U.A. staff, and other functions of interest to positive L.R.Y./U.U.A. relations.
2. The establishment of work with the U.U.A. departments to develop intergenerational material for use at district/ federation and society/local group levels.
3. Serving as a liaison to and assisting the coordination of Youth Caucus, and L.R.Y. programs at the general assembly of the U.U.A.
4. Extension to Unitarian Universalist youth who are generally of high school age and not affiliated with the Corporation, through the U.U. World, and all-society mailings put out by either the L.R.Y. office or U.U.A. headquarters in an effort to extend programs, resources, and the fellowship of L.R.Y.
5. Dealing creatively with topics of personal, spiritual, and religious concern to young people, through L.R.Y. programs and publications, and through personal contacts.



D) A Director of Finance and Extension who shall be responsible for conducting the business of the Corporation, and for outreach to the society/local group level, the district/federation level to aid in the development of a better U.U. youth program through:

1. Balancing and maintaining the bank account and budget; compiling the monthly financial statements; seeking investments for L.R.Y. monies which are in ethical consonance with the feelings of the L.R.Y. Board of Directors; filing and corresponding with the Internal Revenue Service and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
  2. Designing and implementing fund raising programs, revising and publicizing the L.R.Y. fund raising pamphlet, and providing, for publication in People Soup, a general description of how the continental L.R.Y. budget is spent, thus emphasizing the need for funds.
  3. Assisting in coordinating workshops for, and publicizing summer camps and conferences in People Soup, by communicating with and facilitating communications between the organizers of camps and conferences in the United States and Canada which are in the interests of liberal religious youth.
  4. Coordination of outreach work at the society/local group and district/federation levels, keeping up-to-date files of federation officers and local group contacts.
- The Director of Finances and Extension shall serve in an ex-officio capacity on the Judiciary Committee, shall have signatory powers for the Corporation, and, in the eyes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, hold the title of "Treasurer".



Section 2  
 Each Director shall share in the following responsibilities:

- a. The production and mailing of L.R.Y. publications (People Soup and packets).
- b. Maintaining all office functions including the mailing list, and correspondence.
- c. Keeping files in order for respective areas of each directorship.
- d. Maintaining strong and positive public relations through personal contact, especially with the U.U.A.
- e. A general fostering of the purposes and objectives and whatever incidental ministry may present itself in the form of correspondence, writing for People Soup, or personal contact.
- f. Making and updating written continuity reports to aid future L.R.Y. executive Committees.

Section 3  
 Each Director shall further be charged with assisting the other Directors in their specific functions, and if desired, shuffle the individual skills and talents of each Director. Each Director is also charged with working as a member of the Executive Committee, and with any additional tasks that are designated by the L.R.Y. Board of Directors.

Section 4  
 The Committee shall further be charged with answering correspondence, speaking on behalf of L.R.Y., developing programs concerned with fostering and implementing group unity and the L.R.Y. spirit on all levels of L.R.Y., and the faithful implementation of the By-laws and wishes of the Board.



JIVE by Marcia V. Hayfield

Hey Marcial  
Yeah!  
Hey Marcial  
Yeah!  
What's Jive?  
What's Jive?  
I know what Jive is.  
What's that?  
I know what Jive is.  
What's that?

My fun one  
You've taught me  
You've loved me and i know  
that, which gives me a trust in  
you that's rare to me  
We've sprouted a something  
between us that's touched my life  
And i'll not forget...  
Anon

I know no time  
I feel no boundries  
I hear no echoes  
Deeg

Fog bicycles in  
from the ocean  
on the surface  
of the waters.  
Some fisherman  
are  
returning  
-it is time  
for me to go.

Jive is when you offer yourself  
and you get a mess in return,  
With them dudes wanting you, loving you, flaunting you,  
then stabbing you.

Salisbury Beach I  
Amateur, child fishermen  
with their fathers  
and grandfathers  
in knee-length  
Bermuda shorts  
stood in these waters  
by the ocean.  
Most of them are gone now  
so I am  
alone  
on the beach:  
ripples at my feet,  
salt spray on my  
hair and skin,  
sun at my back.  
Seagulls  
howl and squawk  
as they  
dive  
at a passing  
fisherman's boat.

-Brian Bendlin,  
Salisbury Beach, MA  
August 5 & 6, 1977

I know what Jive is.

Jive is adolescent game time,  
Prime time and in color,  
With them playing Let's Hake a Harem and the \$25,000 Pyramids  
and us playing we don't care.

I know what Jive is.

Jive is feeding time for the egos;  
They'll soon get too big for their cages.  
Stuffing themselves - their mouths and their minds,  
but hearts left untouched.

I know what Jive is.

Jive is an insecure struggle  
Others set aside;  
Disregarding feelings in whimsical actions,  
Taking a vulnerable's free ride.

I know what Jive is.  
With their empty hearts.

I know what Jive is.  
When the world is suddenly sugar free.  
Jive is bound to hurt..

Oh moving forest, deep within your branches  
of solitude and protection lies the secret  
of life, of age, of youth, of death! As I  
Cross the barrier that you know so well I  
see the purpose for life and for livine...  
Debra Norvell

Like the delicate wave of wonder  
That sets my thoughts asunder  
Alive, Awake-metamorphosis complete  
I am, at last, free  
Of the bondages of time  
Love encased me in  
Free  
Alone, yet not alone.....

When the wave recedes  
Alone in seaweed  
I stand, reach, search  
Yet painfully fragile I cannot grasp  
The Brass Ring.  
-Love

The Dancer

Free  
Gracefully living a song  
interpreting  
flowing to the tempo  
Dancing.

Alone with the music  
Dressed in a melody  
She comes  
Moving with the beat  
the dancer.

All eyes gaze  
All minds wonder  
The gift in her shines  
Relaxing with the lyrics  
Her motions are words-  
Poetry

-Love

The Artist

She paints a dream  
Creates a scene  
Her gift, it seems  
Is endless.

With every line  
Drawn for all time  
A thought she imagined  
is captured.

Her words become images  
Telling an adage  
Sketched on the page  
Of life.

-Love

Growl softly for me  
Open your eyes and your mind  
Let me kiss your soul.  
Nancy Collins

the idol/the follower

A leader of one,  
Compared to the sun.  
Given adoration  
For exploitation  
The idol.

Alone in a crowd  
Can't talk too loud  
Careful of every word  
Lest he be heard  
The idol.

Should he die  
His words turn to lies  
Another takes his place  
He's just another face  
The idol.  
-Love

You're Moving to Oregon-for Kris Demian

There is a rented  
Ryder trunk  
outside the back door  
of your apartment.  
You weren't home,  
but I snuck inside  
your place  
to take a look...

It was pretty deserted:  
crates, boxes,  
and a little furniture  
remained.  
Your bed  
was gone.

I guess this is it  
-the real thing:  
you're moving to Oregon.  
It's funny-  
no one seems  
to stay in one place  
anywore

-Brian Bendlin, Aug. 14, 1977

In the late hours of the night  
I like to listen to my heart beat  
Its even rhythmic beats comfort  
me.  
Its soothing sound relaxes me.  
In the late hours of the night  
I like to listen to the  
sound of myself breathing.  
My breathing is  
always on time. In and out  
in and out  
combined with the sound  
of my heart  
I fall into a deep slumber  
and my heart and breathing  
continue their relaxing  
music.

-Connie Maschan



The tide is once again rushing in. Let us set the  
sails of our Wooden Ships to the wind so that we can find  
the way to accomplish what we came here for.  
-Love.....





People Soup is a creation of Liberal Religious Youth. We publish editorials, happenings, alternatives in education, artwork and poetry representative of our constituency. People Soup, like LRY, encourages self determination and a spirit of community. Our publication is a refreshing philosophical venture for the young at heart.

To subscribe to People Soup write to: People Soup

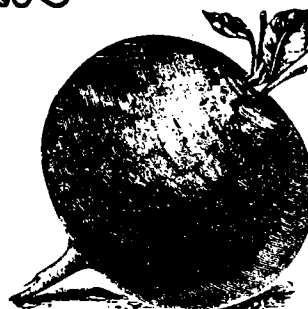
25 Beacon St.

Boston, MA. 02108

It's free! It's free! It's free!



PLEASE POST PROMINENTLY



442  
**Only you can save Alaska!** by Moira Doyle

In June of 1978, I travelled to Alaska. Before I thought of going, I had no idea where Alaska was, what it was like, or anything about it. After some vague research and a few names of nice places to visit, I departed. When I got there I was shocked, stunned, and very much impressed with the magnificent beauty of the land. It is immense in size, and I had the feeling all the time I was there that I was under Mother Nature's thumb. The glaciers, mountains, forests, and shores are all so much larger than anything I have ever seen. It made me feel part of the environment - a primitive feeling that I had a place in the wilderness, not as a human, but as just another mammal trying to survive. To understand what I mean, one must travel there and experience it. I'm not writing this to tell of my adventures, but rather to hopefully make everyone aware that Alaska may be destroyed very soon!

In 1971, when the Alaskan pipeline came into vogue, the Alaskan Native Claims Settlement Act was passed and signed. This settlement provided that 90,000 Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts (55,000 live in Alaska) could receive free title to approximately 44 million acres of land, (including historical and grave sites), and a settlement of \$962.5 million. One section of this act provided for the classification of large areas of federal territory as "national interest" lands. In this section, Congress set a date of December 1978 as a deadline

by which time it will have reviewed the remaining public lands in Alaska and decided which should be added to the national conservation system or to be designated as wilderness. After this selection, remaining public lands will be open to "multiple use". This includes mining, logging, commercial fishing, and other uses.

In January 1977, Congressman Morris Udall and 80 other sponsors proposed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act to the House of Representatives. This bill proposed that 115 million acres of unreserved federal lands be added to the national conservation system and designated as wilderness. Along with the existing 27 million acres of parks and refuges in Alaska, and the 5 million acres in existing national forests, this bill (HR-39), proposes a total of 146.5 million acres of wilderness lands. As it stands now, legislative activities and lobbying by two oil companies have greatly reduced that number. More attempts to further reduce this number are in progress.

I was disgusted by what I saw in Alaska as a result of the pipeline. The land is marred forever by that ugly silver snake. Ecosystems are irreplaceable but have still been destroyed. What pisses me off about this is the only ones who profit are the oil corporations. Right now, they are lobbying for less land to be

made public and are buying existing lands for exploration and exploitation purposes. I think that permanent protection of this valuable land for wilderness purposes will be Alaska's only chance to survive. All around, you see signs of expanding population and poor planning of housing, logging, and mineral exploration.

I saw Alaska's beauty but I was also very aware of its impending doom if the U.S. Congress does not wake up and see the immense importance of saving Alaska's wilderness. Nowhere else in the world is there a place like Alaska. If this bill (HR-39) does not pass, the land will go for exploration purposes and it will be like everywhere else in the world. We can not afford anymore land degradation at a time when there is so little land left.

So if you care about Alaska, and you should, you will write to your senators and representatives. Tell them you care about Alaska; ask them if they care, and what they plan to do to protect our last real wilderness. I did. I even had to call the town hall to find out who my representatives are senators were. I care about Alaska and want it to be saved so all of you who haven't experienced it can see and share the magnificent beauty of an untampered land.

For more information, write:  
 The Alaska coalition  
 620 "C" St. S.E.  
 Washington D.C. 20003

The continental LRY office is unable to publish a newly revised edition of the songbook this year because nobody sent in any songs. A significant song is one that plucks your heartstrings. If you have a song in your heart please send it to 25 Beacon St., Boston MA, 02108. Since there is an "LRY Hymn" it is important that LRYers are aware of it. Sorry for the sexism involved.

**THE LRY HYMN**

*We would be one, as now we join in singing  
 Our hymn of youth to pledge ourselves anew  
 To that high cause of greater understanding  
 Of who we are and what in us is true.*

*We would be one, in living for each other  
 To show mankind a new community.  
 We would be one in building for tomorrow  
 A better world than we have known today.*

*We would be one searching for that meaning  
 Which binds our hearts and points us on our way.*

*As one we pledge ourselves to greater service  
 With love and justice strive to make men free.  
 (to the tune of Finlandia)*

THE UU RELIGIOUS ARTS GUILD IS SPONSORING:

**arts awards**

TRY WORKS: PRIZE-\$100 DEADLINE-Feb. 15th

ANNUALLY

Award given for a service celebrating a great occasion in the lives of persons to be shared with a religious community like dedications, adoptions, recognition of personal talent, etc.

POROTHY ROSENBERG POETRY AWARD: PRIZE-\$50  
 DEADLINE-March 31, ANNUALLY

Given for a poem best dealing with "the human spirit". No restrictions on style, length, or number of poems submitted.

ONE-ACT DRAMA COMPETITION: PRIZE-\$200  
 DEADLINE-Jan. 15, 1980

Open to all playwrights. For use by UU societies to perform. Contemporary setting.

FOR MORE INFORMATION WRITE:  
 Religious Arts Guild  
 25 Beacon St.  
 Boston, MA 02108

**uu choir contest**

UU CHOIR ANTHEM CONTEST

Sponsored by the society for the promotion and encouragement of choral singing in Unitarian Universalist societies (SPECUSUUS)

**GUIDELINES:**

"If love is the spirit of our denomination, even ideally; and service is its law, let us sing joyfully of that love and that service."  
 -Dana M. Greeley

GRAND PRIZE: \$500.00 DEADLINE: Feb. 1, 1979

FOR MORE INFORMATION WRITE:

Contest  
 First Parish Church  
 20 Lexington Rd.  
 Concord, MA 01742



# dope games people play...

Reprint from Volume II, Issue 6  
August, 1975

After thinking about it, talking about it, and watching it in LRY for years, I have come to the cautious conclusion that our much discussed "dope problem" has actually got very little to do with dope itself and instead is a problem that stems from all the social attachments that come along with drinking and smoking. For example, I remember when I first outgrew my Junior High School morality and began to notice that most of my friends seemed to spend an awful lot of their time getting drunk or getting high. A friend of mine explained it to me once by telling me that "there's nothing nicer than getting drunk in a roomful of friends." That sounded pretty reasonable to me until I looked around and saw that most of my peers had no roomful or even armful of friends. In fact, everyone seemed caught up in some sort of dog-eat-dog social structure in which drinking and smoking counted pretty high for points. It occurred to me that the nicest part about getting drunk in a roomful of friends is the roomful of friends, and in fact you could leave out the drinking part and not do too badly. Leave out the friends, on the other hand, and all you have left is the getting drunk in a room (sort of depressing, I think). But as I said before, the problem is not the drink or the drugs but rather the dumb social system and the strange idea that smoking dope makes you into something better than you are. Not the experience, in other words, but the mystique.

What hurts is that this game playing goes on in LRY too. Not just sometimes, either. It is rare to go to a conference and not find at least a few people who are trying to score points with dope or sex. Below are a few examples of the dope games people play.

### The "I'M NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR MY ACTIONS" Game

The title of this game is pretty self-explanatory, and the game is pretty common. However, because of the many different ways that people try to pull this one off, it is often hard to spot. "I'm Not Responsible" is the most obvious when people are drinking or smoking. They pretend that it's OK to hurt each other because they are stoned and therefore not "all there". These people smoke or drink not to get high, but to have an excuse for violent, sexist or otherwise anti-social behavior. When stoned, the players of "I'm Not Responsible" have carte blanche to insult their friends or treat others as sex objects. Ask them about it later and they will hand you some line about how "It's not me, it's the dope." Other key phrases in the game include, "I hardly ever get this drunk", "I feel so silly", or of course the classic: "Wow, this stuff really makes me horny."

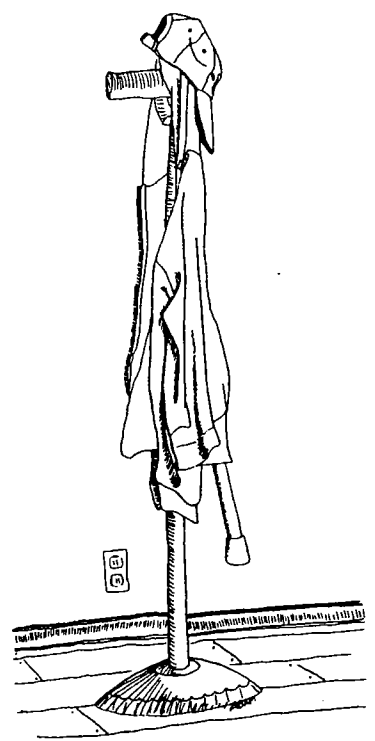
### The "DOPE STATUS SYMBOL" game

This game is probably the most popular one of its kind. In "Dope Status", the purpose of smoking (or drinking) is not to get high, but rather to be socially desirable. Skillful players can become more than just socially desirable; they can, by following the rules to the hilt, become certified grade-A groovy, numero uno Joe and Jane Hips. Almost every kind of person plays "dope status". People who have been smoking for years and people who are getting high for the first time all try to be equally "cool" about dope. Sometimes a non-smoker will be so pressured that s/he will fake it and start playing. Sometimes they even succeed in fooling everyone else because, after all, the essence of the game is not smoking, per se, but talking about it. Telling about past experiences with dope or drink is the best way of amplifying the social aspect of dope, and in fact "Dope Status" players often spend much of their time while stoned bragging about previous highs. This is usually a competitive game that is "won" by the most experienced doper in the group. When, as often happens, this game of "Everybody Must Get Stoned" (or the "Hip vs. Straights Polarization" game) often begins, some common phrases are, "Hey man, I'm really high" (especially when repeated over and over) and, "If you think this stuff is good, last month I..."

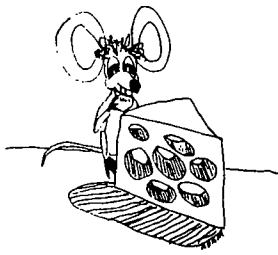
### The "DOPE MAKES ME COSMIC" game

This game is different from the "Dope Status" game in that the people playing this game really and truly believe that smoking dope contributes to everything good about them and helps to get rid of everything bad. Like magic, dope makes the player more creative, more spiritual, more fun to be with and in greater harmony with the deep inner truths of the universe. This sounds so absurd written flat out that almost no one will admit to it, but none the less, a good many people remain secretly convinced that when they are stoned they become much more aware and in tune with reality (as might be expected there is sometimes a lot of conflict between the "Cosmic" players, who claim that dope makes them more sensitive, and the "I'm Not Responsible" players who claim that dope makes them less!). Phrases to watch out for are "Wow, I really need a joint right now" and "you'd have to be stoned to really appreciate it".

These are just a few of the most common games and their variations. There are certainly a good deal more, but what remains clear is that these games are almost the exact opposite of whatever we mean by "community" in LRY. In fact, these games threaten the very life of LRY. It is not enough to recognize these games and understand them; it is also up to each of us to see what we can do to change things.



**NERO Summers End**  
 COST: \$50 pre-reg., \$60 aug. 27  
 «no munchkins»  
 4pm aug 27 - 1pm sept 1  
**NERO ELECTIONS!**  
 Theme: WORLD ISSUES  
 Workshops: Anti-Nazism  
 Anti-Abortion  
 Pro- Abortion  
 Nuclear Disarmament  
 Advisor's Workshop  
 Contact: Ellen Gould  
 141 Warwick Road  
 Melrose, MA 02176  
 (617) 662-9007  
 Where: Deerfield, MA  
 Woolman Hill Conference Center



Once SRL, then CSA,  
 Now ONCE AGAIN--(SRL) **A FREE RELIGIOUS FELLOWSHIP**

*A Gathering created by the participants*

**a summer celebration**

*Talk and friends joining for a week  
 in a participatory community*

**FOR A LITTLE**  
 SUN SOAKING MOON DANCING  
 INFO. SPREADING  
 Hell raising, foot stomping,  
 soul searching, body rubbing, star  
 gazing, tree talking, work and love sharing

**→ Togetherness ←**

**AUG 19-26 '78**

*Mendocino Woodlands, CA*

Generally intended for those who approximate young adult (18-35) UU types in form or substance

\$50.00 if paid in full by June 15  
**\$55.00 pre-registered**  
 \$60.00 at the door  
**INCREDIBLY CHEAP!**

MORE INFO comes forth (with a request and a stamp) from **CAT CARNEY**  
 2739 ELLSWORTH  
 BERKELEY, CA 94704

# OPIK 78

**THEME: What are we fighting for?**

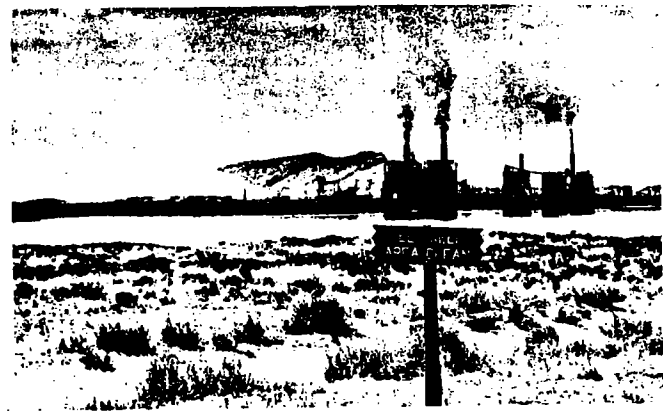
**PRICE: \$50 pre-reg \$65 at the door**

**PLACE: Tar Hollow State Park** 50 miles south of Columbus, Ohio.

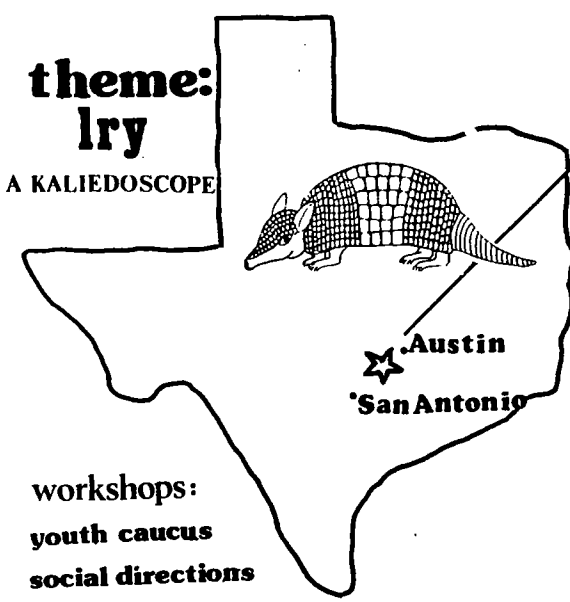
**PERSON: Lisa Tamres** 5652 Phillips Ave. Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217  
(for info. on scholarships etc.)

**DATES: Aug. 20 -27 1978**

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M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N  
**MICON**  
mid-continental conference  
Will be held  
at  
Cap's Lodge  
(Cost: about \$5 dollars)  
When?  
AUGUST 5-12  
Theme:  
Cousins--Relating  
Head Bureaucrat:  
Craig Williamson  
330 16th Street  
Boulder, Colorado  
80302  
(303) 443-4909  
M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N M I C O N



## CONTINENTAL CONFERENCE 1978



**theme:**  
**lry**  
A KALIEDOSCOPE

AUGUST 19-26

rimrock ranch

wimberly, texas

cost: \$65 pre-registered,  
\$75 at the door registrar:

Peter Kelley  
2340 Fox St.  
Long Lake, Minn.  
55356

**RIDE BOARD: northern/midwest**

**other areas:**  
Todd Gatewood  
2103 Garfield Ave. S. Apt. B  
Minneapolis, MN 55404  
612-871-1946  
Shelley Captril  
25 Beacon St.  
Boston, MA 02108  
617-742-2105 ext. 370

workshops:  
youth caucus  
social directions  
nuclear disarmament  
and much more...

**Please-don't hitch! Use the ride board!**  
A WORD OF WARNING! DON'T HITCH!  
It is very easy to get a fine and/or  
jail sentence! We want you there.