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ADVISOR'S NEWSLETTER

An intergenerational editorial committee is recognizing those special people: our advisors.

Advisors have a unique role which often requires re-evaluation on everyone's part. This committee is compiling a newsletter where advisors can have a place to share their thoughts, concerns, and experiences with each other.

Persons with a pertinent article or requesting a subscription to the Advisor's Newsletter should fill out the following form:

Names:

Address

Advisor _____ **Interested Adult** _____

Send to Jean Starr Williams

25 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108

Liberal Religious Youth
25 Beacon Street
Boston, MA. 02108
(617) 742-2105 ext. 370



→ Look for the PARISH POLT

The Massachusetts Bay District has submitted a "Business Resolution in Support of Youth Programs" which will be on the Parish Poll. The Parish Poll is circulated to all Unitarian Universalist societies annually in the spring in order for members of the societies to vote to establish which resolutions will be on the final agenda of the UU General Assembly (G.A.).

Each June the UU C.A. votes on business resolutions that establish policy, programs, and priorities for the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). In order that this important resolution make it to the final agenda, it must be voted as one of the top eight business resolutions on the Parish Poll.

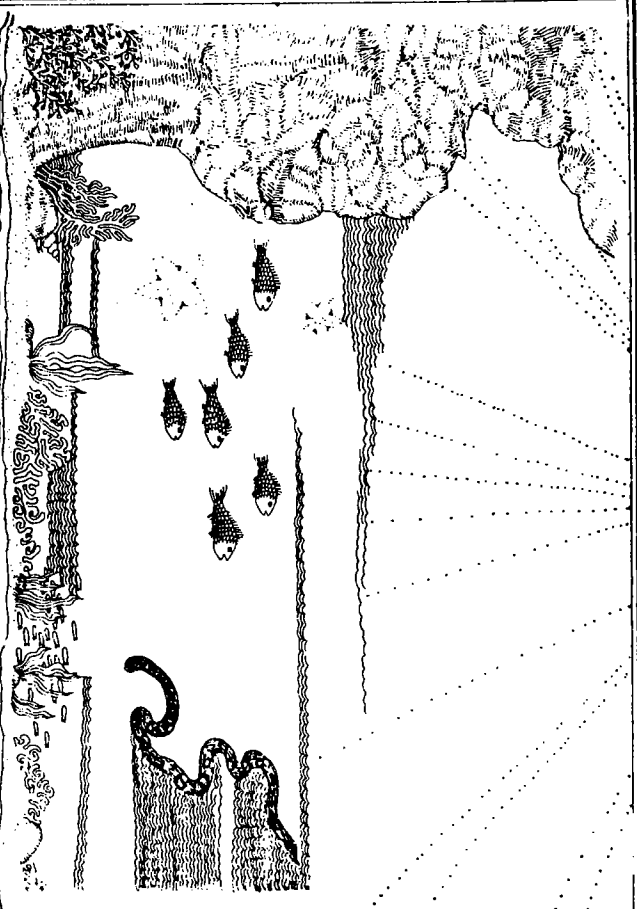
The list of the "Business Resolution in Support of Youth Programs" is urging for greater knowledge and support for Liberal Religious Youth (LRY) and the continental Youth Adult Committee (YAC) programs from the UUA staff, UUA Interdistrict Representatives, Ministers, Directors of Religious Education, and UUs in general. It also asks for the funding of specific programs such as: regional Youth Leadership Development Conferences and district YAC Conclaves.

When the parish roll comes to your church or fellowship, you can make a difference by advocating the "Business Resolution in Support of Youth Programs" to members of your society. And vote for it yourself, of course!



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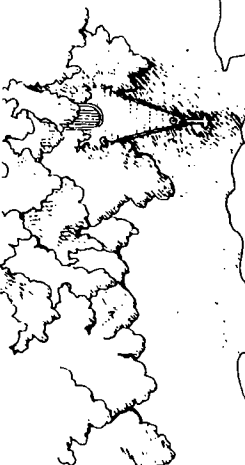
ADDRESS CORRECTIONS REQUESTED



*PEOPLE SOUP*PEOPLE SOUP*PEOPLE SOUP*PEOPLE SOUP*PEOPLE SOUP*

environment

PEOPLE SOUP PEOPLE SOUP* PEOPLE SOUP* PEOPLE SOUP* PEOPLE SOUP*
Look inside for articles on: Greengrocers • Bottle Energy • Offshores • Economics • Winter Boards • Alternative



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GREENPEACE

by Cheryl Markoff

"Rainbow people" represent every race, every species, every living creature. They are the patriots of the entire earth. Stimulating practical, intelligent, non-violent actions towards achieving a green peace on earth for all. These are the Greenpeace Foundation people. This can be you.

Greenpeace shares a Quaker philosophy called "bearing witness." This is the concept of viewing an injustice and accepting the responsibility for being aware of that injustice. One may choose to intervene, or to stand by, but may not turn away in ignorance. It is up to one's own conscience. Greenpeace bears witness to atrocities against life by subverting and presenting them to the world through direct, non-violent, dramatic actions. Obstructing a wrong without condemning the guilty party is the only way Greenpeace sees as being efficient and correct. The greatest strength of living is life itself, and the commitment to protect all other lives.

Greenpeace follows the revolutionary, spiritual, and scientific path to the roots of ecology. These roots signify the tremendous beauty in understanding and appreciating all of life.

With this philosophy, Greenpeace believes we must feel for all forms of life --the whales, the seals, the forests, the seas, as we feel for ourselves. Ecology teaches us that humans are not the center of life on this planet, rather, the whole earth is a part of our "body".

Being dedicated to the responsibility of protecting our fragile world, Greenpeace volunteers have committed themselves to put their bodies on the line anywhere in the world for these beliefs. The original Greenpeace people started this in 1970 with the first established Greenpeace Foundation in Vancouver, British Columbia. They gave a better focus on public concerns such as nuclear tests being conducted underground in Alaska. "We've had our people in some very flaky situations. It's a small miracle that no one has gotten killed," says Bob Hunter, Chairman of Greenpeace. Over the years, Greenpeace volunteers have sailed to the French nuclear testing zone in the South Pacific, to be harassed and eventually rammed by a French military vessel. They have inspired the New Zealand government to supervise renewed nuclear tests, and have been beaten savagely by French Commandos, causing Dave McTaggart, owner/skipper to lose vision in one eye. Around 1975, Greenpeace started directing more attention and energy towards ending the slaughter of the declining population of great whales throughout the world. This new interest led

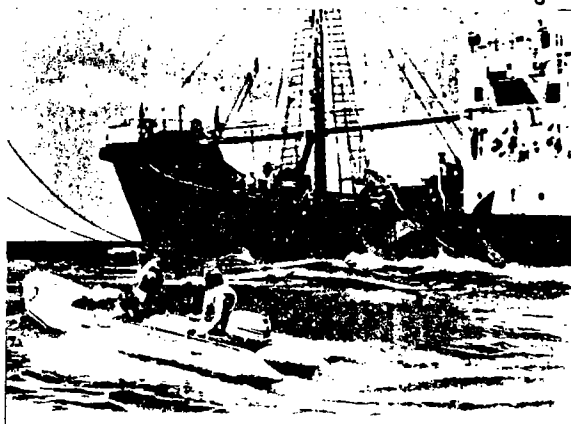
them 11,000 miles and 84 days away from Vancouver on an excursion to the Soviet Whaling fleet operating off the coast of California. This caused the International Whaling Commission meeting in Tokyo this past December to pledge that as a "gesture towards pressure from conservationists", the Soviet Union would "dismantle" one of its whaling fleets. Sixty miles off the CA coast, Greenpeace volunteers placed themselves in two-person rubber boats called Zodiacs, powered with outboard motors (motors similar to those used in small motor boats) between Soviet killer-ships and their victims, the whales. This human-shield technique, which saved eight whales in the Pacific last summer, presented one Greenpeace crew with having to narrowly escape being hit by an explosive-tipped harpoon. It hit the whale who's life they were trying to save, and they were splattered with the dying creature's blood and bits of intestine. Another crew also escaped an explosive-tipped harpoon while protecting a fleeing sperm whale. The Greenpeace Zodiacs began to fly American flags; perhaps this new practice has saved their lives, due to the other countries not wanting "bad press". "International accidents" are not smiled upon. For the fourth year, Greenpeace has tracked down whalers (killer ships and vessels) confronting their murderous actions. Greenpeace's goal of publicizing social concerns and obtaining zero-quota for killing whales led them into a Soviet whaler to hand out

t-shirts, and talk with the crew.

In 1977, at least half of the seal pups born, were killed. Protesting these killings and the given reasons, Greenpeace has put out fact sheets and distributed these to the people of New Foundland. They stated the large and horrendous differences between killing seals for food, and killing seals for fashion. The seal pelts are used, as with whales, for fashion, cosmetics, soap, pet food, wax, toys, (even toy seal pups!), and other things that have very reasonable alternatives. Greenpeace also points out that tax payers of these places pay for this "slaughter house on ice", as late-Congressman Leo J. Ryan said after accompanying Greenpeace on an expedition in March of 1978.

Greenpeace wants citizens to realize that approximately 14% of all pups killed do not die instantaneously after being maliciously clubbed and illegally gaffed (by means of fish hooks) at 3 weeks of age. Other non-violent actions include an attempt at spraying the seal furs with an organic green dye, so as to make them worthless, but when the Canadian government heard of this, a law was created to prohibit this type of action. They have also pitched tents on the breeding ground islands, ready to frighten the seals into the water at the approach of the hunters. Greenpeace pressured Soviet Whalers into breaking a 30 year tradition of sailing within 700 miles of the American west coast.

(continued on Page 8)



Greenpeace crew members confronting Russian whalers. In the background are three dead sperm whales (a killer boat).
Photo by William Moser

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Your contributions for this paper
are welcomed. It is made possible
through your energies, both spirit-
ual and physical. Any contributions
of news items, short stories, poems,
editorials, or artwork are welcome
and will be considered. Some can be
returned. Drawings or other artwork
must be black and white. No money
pay for contributions; the old buds
get just couldn't stand the pain.

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dear abby (quack)- find nessie and
her child(ren), hop on a plane and
get out here!!! I'm going crazy,
and miss you both! I'm happy
.....I love you, Laurie

moira- remember that melting makes
puddles...I love you!!-Laurie

arpie- thank you! someday we'll have
more time than just the few minutes
we've had. I miss you -Laurie

Jim's brother (you said it, not me)
-send me a poem, I'll send you a smile
-Laurie

Kevin & danny- thanx for your help
in gathering myself together again,
I really appreciate the effort!!
Kevin- hop on your bike and head
east soon, please? much love.....
-Laurie

to the k.c. local: i would be ever so
grateful if you would all do me the
tremendous honor of searching the
lry room (oh no! gasp!!) for my tiny
silver unicorn earring...PLEASE??
love you all-Laurie

HEY LOOK!

"HEY LOOK! It's a bird, it's a plane, it's
a NERDID!! That's right, the North East Re-
gional Organization of LRY, the last of the
functioning regionals, is alive and prosper-
ous. We held a leadership development confer-
ence in December with an attendance of 30 or
so. Another is planned for late May. We have
two fieldtrippers who are revitalizing the locals
and updating the communications network in
New England. A newsletter will be printed soon,
those who are interested in receiving a copy
who are not in the NERO feds (CRV, MBF, BSF,
Narry, NW-Vt, F, DownEast), or on the People Soup
mailing list can write to Cindy to get one.

We would like to make ourselves available
to you for fieldtripping, information, or any-
thing we can help you with. We are:
Cindy Hunter 33 Village St. Medway, MA. 02053
617-533-6202
Dave Brown N.E.C. Box 132 Henniker, N.H.
03242 603-428-7709
Abbe Bjorkland 10 Carmel Cir. Lexington, Ma.
02173 617-862-1623
Ted Altenberg 2668 Albany Ave. W. Htfd., Ct.
06117 203-233-2892
Our advisors are real fine, they are:
Larry Lennel 1824 Beacon St. Brookline, MA
02116 617-277-0156
Iran Moulton 17 Eldora St. Roxbury Cross-
ing, Ma. 02120 617-734-0221



Personals



To The Filing Squad:
Thanks for your loyal ser-
vice in the cause of LRY. May you
wear your tee-shirts with pride!
Love,
Abbe & Adam.

Mrs. Howard Martin- Of course we
won't remove your name from our mail-
ing list! Katrinca

Chuckie! Me, oh, my... Things are get-
ting frothy and furious here. Not to
mention the big fat snow that is bash-
ing down all around us right now. Keep
in touch... Now are plans for Califor-
nia shaping up? Love to Sessie, Cy-
neth, Lori, Goob, Shannon, Lloyd, et
all & especially to you! * Mudzi

Murrie: send a care package quick! My
taste buds are waiting... Do you read
these? You better! See you in March!
-- Whiz kid #1 --

Barb Meyers and Bill Kates: Whats up?
I miss you both-Aaron.
65 Atlantic, Bklyn, N.Y. 11201

Ginzo Pennessi,
Your white haired mother waits
for your footsteps on the stairs,
call home.
-Pappa-

To all those who attended Winter
Tri-Fed: Well I was wondering if any
one found a plaid, rust colored, wool
jacket, and/or a red down vent. If
so, PLEASE! return them to me as
it's a CASHLY 10 degrees here in
Boston. I'll promptly reimburse the
amount it cost... Also, can those on
the planning committee send me some
info on Summer Tri-Fed; i.e. where,
when, a mailing list etc. so I can
put out publicity in the next soup,
and begin layouts for future publi-
cations... thanks... One last thing.
I'm an avid letter writer so all
you folks write me!!! WOTAT??

Love and good vibes,
W. D'Arcy Valerye
75 Willow Ave
Somerville, Mass. 02144.

Tom and Jane,
Are these evil rumors we hear true?
Stop! Look both ways before you cross
the street!
Love,
Denise, Val, & Shell

To EVERYONE up on Billy T. Mountain,
Thanks for your hospitality, I had
a fine time!
Love,
Valerye
P.S. I'll return your book soon
Richard, it was a relief to have
for the long ride.

To Greg, Thanks for your creative
contribution to the filing squad.
I Love you!
-Abbe

To the Steeple People-
You're all very special friends.
Lets have a reunion you know-where.
Love,
Abbe.

Laurie Prager, mah luv, I'm glad to
hear you're doing well. I totally
miss you! Come out to CA soon. Okay?
There's a shortage of LRYers in So.
CA. Keep writing because it feels
like you're just around the corner when
you do! All my love, Pam, allies; Pro-
fessor Pamela Irving Munchkin Schwartz
Delight! P.S. Yes, Laurie, that's the
whole thing!

ted, Where are you? Did you get my
Christmas card? Are you still living
at Albany Ave? Please write or call.
You drift through my mind every now
and then. All my love, still. Pam
557 So. Wrightwood
Orange, CA 92669

Mark, Sorry I couldn't make it down
to Alabama over the vacation. My sur-
plus of money ran low, seel'n' at it
was Christmas. But I still have plenty
of postcards and I'll keep 'em coming!!
Love across the miles, Pam

Dallas, Houston, and Little Rock!
I AM NOT DEAD!!! I did not die
after high school. Yes I am alive
and getting extremely pissed at my
empty mailbox! I know you saw me at
June and August Conf's, and when I
was down in Texas running around like
I was crazy (am I ?) Please write
'cuz I miss each and every one of you
bunches and bunches!!
Love and Kisses,
Beth W.
Box H-93
Conway, Ark. 72012

P.S. You remember--that weird chick
who writes letters like there's no
tomorrow... I'm back!!

P.P.S. Anyone I don't know who likes
to write and/or meet people, write,
and I promise you a letter in the
mailbox before you can say super-
califragilisticexpialidocious!

Ed: Thanks 2 million and 3 million
times over for the pants and letter!!
I thank you muchly and dearly!
Love♥Cheryl

To: SRL FRF in GENERAL. HELP! I've
lost ALL MY ADDRESSES etc. How was
the SUMMER GATHERING? Am alive,
active, and working in Montreal,
Canada. Please note a new address:
Eric Billington
6376 A Fielding
Montreal, Que. Canada.
H4V 1W6

Solar Home has been built in North
Ontario. Alfalfa, Thanks for the
nice note, but I have not been able
to get back, since no noos., Eric.

Kim & Snail this third is doing
fine... tired, but fine. I love you
both VERY much.
Love, barre11111111

Tutenkhamen: τοσικε υπε ον την υμω/ε
εξεν αυη προφορικωσ υπηκουσ + ηαδ
υοδς χριστιαν οδς ποτνρη γοδ α υιβε
+ ασοδμε ηαη υοδ ερ ορνηδου τοο
βδου το οδε υε Εξην το υιβε τοδ το
υιβε ανυδου Εε υοδ υατδσ αωλιντοδ
Suzy Creamcheese and Mrs. Joseph Q.
Taco Εετ τοδσ υοδς υεινυ οδινυ/

Jon- I love you. take care of my
scarf. ely

laurel- i love you & the glass uni-
corn -Laurie

To: the roller From: the boiler
Why don't you come out and see me
sometime? we're having a reunion
sometime in March. (hint hint)

Anyone with information concerning
the whereabouts of Katrinca please
contact me. -Licia

Anyone who knows the whereabouts
of Kathy Gwa, please contact me
with an address or phone#.

Kathy, if you're reading this I
am now living back in Indiana, at
home. Am now a tennis jock straight
type, but still have my flair to
party.
David Kaplan
formerly of CNF and OVF

1971-75
P.S. Any LRYer who knows of me and
would like to drop a card of cheer
feel free, I'd like to hear from
some of my old peers.

David T. Kaplan.

ATTENTION!! NATHAN HULL AND BROTHER...
Last summer Gail Wolkoff met one of
you on some mountain in Colorado, and
has lost your address. Excuse my
getting this mixed up. Please write
to her though. Gail (the snail) Wolkoff
322 Copeland Hall, Grand Valley State
College, Allendale, Mich. 49401
right, Gail?

fed's ups and downs

BARNEY- We are the recent reorganization
of JAF which happened at a Ridgewood, NJ
conference in Dec. We have a new Exec. Comm.
and constitution. Oh yeah, we had a con-
ference in Summit, NJ too.
GNAF- Hear Ye, Hear Ye- Meeting coming up
in January to plan for a spring conference.
PHEONIX- We are a born again fed.
GODARFUL- is alive and struggling. The God-
arful Board gave a very successful workshop
on "How to start a Youth Group", and another
on "Peer Counseling" at a very successful
YAC conference in Cleveland in early Dec.
Next issue of the newsletter is expected
in mid-Feb. the long-awaited fall confer-
ence will happen in late March in Columbus,
OH.
Starr King- held a conference in late Dec.
and is anticipating a feb. conference for
NEW LOCALS, dig it.
KARRAGANSETT- held a conference on "Faith".
Now that we have it, we can use it at the
next conference which will be soon.
DVE- Intergenerational Conference, sounds
good? We think so, we're hoping for spring.
RMF- We're e x p a n d i n g. There is
more to Colorado than Denver!
BSF- had an overnight in Brockton, are plan-
ning for a spring conference. We are in
transit.
MBF- had a conference in Winchester- Dec. 1-5,
even made a few bucks. Have a newsletter en
route to the press. Spring conference in
the making.
NERO- held a very successful LDC in Lexing-
ton. We're currently fieldtripping our
brains out.
Note: It's never too soon, but it will soon
be too late to send in your Fed's Ups and
Downs for the next issue.

The end, the very, very end of this article.
I like Ted, but, I don't want to see another
one of his LONG LONG LONG articles in
front of me in a typewriter for a LONG time.
after 24 hours of typing....

SPRING THOUGHTS

Yes folks, NERO's annual conference and
member's meeting, Springthink, is now in the
planning stages. This year's theme is rather
appropriate for 1979, the year designated as
the year of the child, it is TODAY'S YOUTH,
TOMORROW'S WORLD. This announcement is to
give you an opportunity to have a direct part
in the planning and curriculum of the confer-
ence. It will be held in mid April, probably
in Connecticut. If you are interested in
helping with cooking, recreation activities,
worships and meditation, or if you have an
idea for relative workshops, contact one of
us. More info later.....
Ellen Brewer 266 Girard Ave. #4
Hartford, Ct. 06105
203-236-3812
Ted Altenberg 2668 Albany Ave.
W. Hartford, Ct.
06117 233-2892

WOULD YOU BUY A YOUTH PROGRAM FROM THESE PEOPLE?!

Denise

...That's me there on the right with the exhilarated look on the face. They call me Denise, Director of Finance and Extension. I keep track of all my, I mean LRY's money. Besides writing checks, hanging out at the bank, and playing with a calculator; I'm working on a major fundraising campaign, getting foundation grants, and finding an investment for the LRY endowment.

As for extending, I keep track of what's going on in your federations and locals, send materials, advice, information, and encouragement, and come to see you for myself when I can. That's where you can help me out. Let me know what's happening in your area, tell me what Continental LRY can do for you and your kind—I want to be your pen pal. Call me up if you just get a little lonely. Soon our new fieldwork plan will be in action; there will be a representative of Continental LRY in your vicinity to share programs, organizational ideas, and leadership skills with you. Take 'em for all they've got.

Now to share a little bit about myself with you— I'm 18 years old, come from Kansas City, Missouri— that's M.V.F., been in LRY for over four years and a Unitarian for quite a bit longer than that. Enough is enough. For more information write c/o the LRY Office, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108. This offer expires September 1, 1979.

Shelley

The LRY community is very important to me because it's a place where all kinds of exciting questions and changes occur. An open space to think about our lives and relationships. I am very interested in alternatives available in religion and alternatives in the expression of our beliefs. I've always thought young people are very capable and that such an open space is particularly important to us.

I love to think up and expand on ideas that might help empower people. But, in order for this office and I to serve LRY, we need your thoughts. I enjoy LRY alot and want to help keep it together.

Our communal household (Taco Villa) and the LRY office function on a bare-bones budget from the UUA. All our office equipment and furniture has been donated.

A candidate for the executive committee never knows what to expect when s/he is elected into her/his total environment for a year. As you may have noticed, we're all women from all different places. We work an average of 60 hours a week. We're simply young people with a concern for others, a challenging purpose, and a highly challenging workload.



Nada

NAME: Nada I. Velimirovic
LOCATION IN PICTURE: Semi-standing behind Katrina
BIRTHDATE: April 5, 1961
OCCUPATION: Director of Denominational Communications.

DUTIES: Relations between LRY and the Unitarian Universalist Association-U.U.A. (meetings, conversations, etc. See diagram), member of the Continental Youth Adult Committee, coordinator of Youth Caucus at UU General Assembly, LRY contact for International Religious Fellowship (IRF), contact for Youth Day (April 29, 1979), correspondence with ministers, Directors of Religious Education, and everyone else.

GOAL FOR 1979: To confront, work through, talk out, and demolish the "LRY stigma" whenever possible.

DESCRIPTION: Dedicated, clear headed, stubborn, blue/green eyed, Serbian-nosed, big-mouthed, sparky, clean as a whistle, high school graduate, seeker of alternatives, one heck of a charming debutante, founder of "J. Alfred Prufrock Social Outcast Club", active in a menagerie of UU churches for seventeen years, and a fifth generation Universalist.

FAVORITE QUOTATION: "I dare say you're wondering why I don't put my arm 'round your waist," the Duchess said, after a pause: "The reason is, that I'm doubtful about the temper of you flamingo."
—Lewis Carroll, *Alice in Wonderland*

FAVORITE DRINK: Grape Kool-Aid

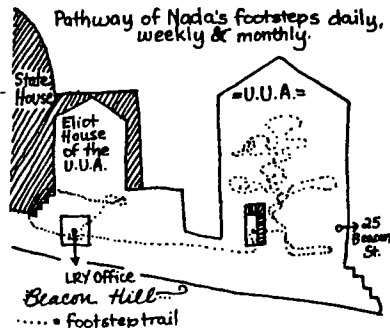
Katrinca

Hello. I'm Katrinca (the one in the center), 18 years old, native Californian, pancake-maker, environmentalist, avid fan of Winnie-the-Pooh, ex-officio to the Continental Conference Committee, and Soup editor.

As Soup editor it is my job to: coordinate the editing, typing, correcting, and layout of each issue, send the layout sheets to the printers, address and bundle the returned papers, then transport 6,000 copies down the hill to the UUA mailroom (at least it's not uphill).

As ex-officio to the Con Con Comm., I have been involved in the planning of this year's conference—Options and Alternatives.

I welcome any contributions for People Soup (articles, bio-feedback, graphics, photos, etc.), questions about Continental Conference, and fan mail.



Continental Conference '79

Options and alternatives has been chosen as the theme for Con-Con '79. The conference will be held August 16-24 at Point Bonita in Sausalito, CA. Each day will have a special focus—Expression, balance, exploration, commitment, transition, and unity.

Con-Con is an Annual event open to all youth generally of high school age.

The price has not been set but will most likely be between \$85 & \$95. Partial scholarships will be offered on a reverse seniority basis—People who have never attended a Continental Conference will have first priority.

A bus may be chartered from Boston to the site, near San Francisco, via New York, Chicago, Kansas City, and Denver.

For more information contact Katrinca c/o LRY
25 Beacon St.
Boston, MA
02108

INTERNS COME OUT OF THE CLOSET

For this extra busy month of January, there are two interns at the Continental Office instead of the usual one. We are Cheryl Markoff and Licia Peterson, (we just wanted to get our names in).

Being an intern is being a person interested in how LRY affects the continental, federation, local, district, regional, and personal levels of LRYers and other UU youth and adults. Being interested is not enough of a qualification. One must want to get INVOLVED with LRY: involved with the long hours required to correspond with every person interested in programs, ideas, structures; and help develop, print, and mail program packets, local group mailings, People Soup, and other projects being worked on by the LRY Executive Committee. There is no possible way to get the true feeling of the Continental LRY Office and the importance of the work produced by the Exec. Comm. in their (our) undersized, basement office space behind the UUA building. The importance of good, youth-run, youth programming is a fact that will not slip by any intelligent person after working in this office.

The hours worked at the office are long and home is more of a place to take showers, sleep, and catch a few moments of calm and quiet (the intern bedroom, AKA Katrinca's closet) isn't anything to shout about. Meals are cooked (usually at the office) by the process of signing up at house meetings for a particular day or two, along with the other household chores such as keeping the bathroom, kitchen, or living room clean, going shopping, or taking the trash out.

An intern has that special once-in-a-life-time chance to experience living, working, and breathing the same air, work, problems, joy, ice cream cones, pizzas, vegetarian meals, program packets, and life of the LRY Executive Committee and members of the UUA staff. Internship allows time to experience enough of LRY's structures, goals, and activities to think about running in elections for future Exec. Coms.

It's exciting, educational, eventful, and quite an experience!!

4 BIO-FEEDBACK MONITOR SYSTEM

I am the person who sends out the publicity, buys the food, cooks the meals, washes the dishes, drags you to workshops, runs the business meetings, cleans the building, and deals with the church about the broken furniture and the disheveled rooms that were not supposed to be used.

In becoming a conference professional, I felt I could do my share for the LRY "community". As I developed my skills, I enjoyed the pragmatic image of being the one who "always knows what's going on". In the autumn of my career, I answered to those who labeled me a martyr by asking that responsibilities be delegated: still doing the same work, but waiting until it would obviously be left undone.

Look for me at your next conference. I am often incognito. Many times I am on the Executive Committee of your federation (or other such prestigious status). In the ultimate of cases, I am in the disguise of an advisor.

Most of the time I am that person who is getting tired of LRY, who doesn't add to the mirth and "good karma" of a conference like I used to.

I commonly work in a small group. This sort of bureaucracy is a dangerous centralization of power. We have undisputed control over how long to cook your spaghetti, just how clean your dishes will be, and whether workshops will start in half an hour or three hours late.

I'm beginning to question my own motives. I am not passing on my knowledge of what needs to be done and the easiest way to do it, to provide for a successful conference. (Let alone giving anyone the opportunity to have practical experience.) My worst fear is that subconsciously I am determined to develop your dependence on me to a point where I can undermine the LRY conference system by simply leaving LRY. I have a vision of conferences wreaking havoc when I am gone.

You must stop my maniac drive to run conferences single-handedly.

I'm not your mother...



How much do you know about your future? Have you ever thought of how the U.S. Government effects you? No? Well you should. The amount of stockpiled nuclear weapons in this country today is equivalent to 30,000 pounds of TNT per person. The Global Arsenal now includes over 12,000 strategic weapons (those designed to hit the U.S.S.R. from the U.S. and vice versa) and 22,000 tactical weapons for use at relatively close ranges. Most of these weapons have an explosive power of 20 megatons with the capacity to destroy an area 100 times larger than the original nuclear bomb. Scientists now feel there are more than enough nuclear weapons to bring about the total destruction of the earth many times over.

There are over 25 countries who spend over a billion dollars a year on arms. Last year, the U.S. Gov't spent 116.4 billion dollars on arms expenditures. The U.S. government had to borrow 14 billion dollars last year to pay for the Defense Department deficit. The U.S. spends three times more money on arms than on health care.

So, you say, "How does this affect me?" Well, I'll tell you. The production of nuclear weapons hurts the economy. Your tax dollars go toward making an unstable economy. When a product is made it gives people work and creates a flow of money by placing the product in circulation. Both the producer and the economy benefit. Stockpiled weapons go nowhere. They usually become obsolete with advancing technology. They create an inflationary effect on the economy because the materials used are usually scarce resources. Arsenal production is a highly skilled industry that employs relatively few people.

What stockpiled weapons do to our foreign affairs also has a devastating effect. Nuclear buildups occur when a mood develops to scare one country into preparing for war. The U.S. and U.S.S.R. are leading the arms race, but their stockpiling only increases the threat to other countries. If one country has a nuclear arsenal, it is not surprising that they all do. It's a form of defense that is made secure by the rationale that everyone has one. The security is FALSE. One nuclear bomb can level part of a country with the radiation killing everything else. How can thousands be, in any way, safe or secure?

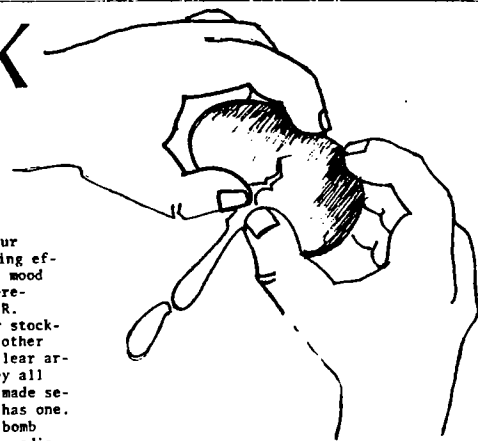
So, still you ask, "How does this effect me?" Well, with the increase in the numbers of weapons and the advanced technology of production, we must also consider the threat of weapons getting into the wrong hands. Nuclear weapons are made by the waste products of nuclear reactors ("nuclear lemons", as the Wall Street Journal labeled them). The Breeder reactors that turn on America's t.v.s and keep our all electric homes running, produce enough radioactive waste to make one weapon a week. It takes plutonium half a million years to lose its killing power. Basic chemistry courses teach the basic technological skills needed to make a nuclear bomb. With the availability of this much material, the opportunity of terrorists and organized crime obtaining these materials grows. This is a threat to our existence.

The preamble to the constitution: "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

I only wrote this down to remind you that this country was founded on the rights to provide for the common defense, and the general welfare of the people. I personally do not feel that having my tax dollars going towards stockpiling weapons (there are too many in the first place) and having the needs of people all around me ignored, is providing a very healthy defense, or promoting the general welfare of the citizens of the United States of America.

There are enough nuclear weapons to kill us off a million times over. One particle of plutonium the size of a grain of pollen can cause lung cancer if inhaled. The typical reactor produces several hundred pounds of plutonium per year. The reactor safety systems are unproven, and plutonium and radiation leaks DO occur. No effective way has been developed for the disposal of waste material. All of this doesn't make me half as mad as thinking that the U.S. citizens weren't consulted when the government decided to build nuclear reactors. We were not warned that by the year 2000 there will be more than one hundred inactive, but highly radioactive power plants in the world. The U.S. government did not adequately test the emergency core cooling systems used in every nuclear power plant for defects, which has become apparent with the increasing number of atomic accidents. We are not asked by politicians who supposedly represent us, whether we want more than half of the fiscal budget spent on arms rather than on human needs, education, health care, and employment. The needs of people are being overlooked for the benefit of the militia. The very existence of America, as we like to think of it, "Land of the free", "Home of the brave", is being threatened by our own government. Every day our of our lives are in the balance— one accident, one stolen arsenal weapon or plan, one miscalculation and half of the continental United States could be killed! I resent this threat and I demand a future for us all!

So, now what do you think? Do you also resent this unpublishized threat? Do you care about your future? WELL YOU SHOULD! It's not like voting or not voting, it's not like democratic or republican, it's NOT TOTALLY POLITICAL! It's a matter of life or death, whether you care about living or letting someone else decide for you.



The purpose for all this is to make you think. Make you aware. Action can begin anytime after you decide this situation has to change. The LRY Coalition Against Nuclear Proliferation was formed last February when about 40 people got together and decided that the arms race was wrong, and that the only way to effect a change would be to make everyone aware and join in one united effort--to beat swords into plowshares.

Now what you must do since you are aware is to spread your knowledge. TALK! TALK! TALK! Tell your friends, show people that we are no longer in control of our lives! The hazardous nuclear reactor could at any time fail, and emit deadly amounts of radioactive waste into OUR atmosphere. Get angry, and get other people angry, become aware and take action. But do it right now! For every minute you go showing no concern, you deny yourself and the ones you love, the freedom we are all born with...all because you are letting someone else, something else, decide your future for you!

Moiria Doyle

Dear LRYers and other interested persons, Hi, I'm on the planning committee for OPIK this year. (an LRY summer camp) OPIK is a learning experience for all that attend. We have camp at the end of August. It consists of workshops, warm and friendly people, people willing and wanting to share, make and have new experiences. It is a time of growth, emotionally and mentally, with concerned people to help. We have had this camp for the past thirteen years and up till now, we have met in Tar Hollow State Park in Ohio. This year we ran into some problems; a few people were caught skinny dipping in our privately rented section of the park. Due to this, we were kicked out of the park. After being kicked out, (the 2nd day), we decided to stay together anyway. We all packed up Tuesday morning. By noon that day, seventy of us were on the road to the Cincinnati Unitarian Church where we spent 3 days. The last 2 days were spent in Kentucky, camping on private property of a friends.

We are now in the process of trying to find a new place to have camp. We have a good prospect: Circle Pines in Michigan. Through all of this traveling and trying to find a place to go, our budget got wiped out. If we are to go to Circle Pines, we need more money. (Hint, hint!!)

This year's camp committee is full of energy and ideas to put camp on again this year in August. We are in such a delicate state; either grow strong or die young. We would be grateful if you would be willing to donate either financially, or in any other way that you can (fundraising, advising at the camp, new ideas, workshops, etc...).

This year's theme is "what is your expiration date?", dealing with life and death. Please help if you can!

Thanks for your time and energy,
Gail Wolkoff

For more information...
Gail Wolkoff
322 Copeland Hall
GVSC
Allendale, MI
49401



bio-feedback con.

Sex, drugs, and rock'n'roll all provide immediate satisfaction or pleasure to some people if they are seeking an escape from frustration and boredom. It is an illusion that any of these routes in themselves will provide one with anything other than a temporary relief.

For a long time, life seemed to me to be why not, so what, a thrill here, a thrill there. I've come to realize some very sad things about these thrills. I am stagnant while I experience them. They foster a negative community or a total lack of community. They are distracting to my pursuit of goals.

I understand why people enjoy these things but few people realize that more constructive alternatives exist. When I feel impatient or hopeless about my life and the world, I want to escape or to be shaken. It is very important to develop patience and friendships. There is nothing inherently wrong with sex, drugs, and rock and roll other than their ability to "blind" a person from something more satisfying. Even if you think you can handle them, they do not make you or anyone else happy. Punk, junk, jive, grooviness, cussing, inappropriate behavior, cigarettes, coffee, sugar, gum, fingernail chewing, giggling, glamour, the arts, chic, macho, intellectualism, emotionalism, liberalism, wealth, government, technology, marriage, heterosexuality, homosexuality, prejudice, regionalism, nationalism, and the educational system all fall short of providing true satisfaction.

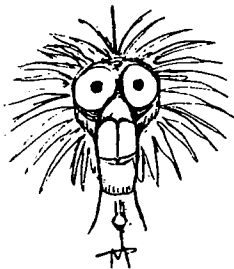
There was an old European religious sect called the Shakers. They were the left-wing of the Church of England because they decided to live by their spirits rather than by rules. They lived simple lives. Their simple, celibate, abstinent, communal lifestyle helped them realize the leading of their spirits.

The Shakers had a dance during their meetings where they would tremble under the power of the spirit. Physical trembling releases the tension of locked up fears. Once our fears have been settled, we can begin to seek and find. Till your soil, pull your weeds, plant a seed, and nurture the development of the human soil.

In LRY we have rules about no:sex, drugs, firearms, or firewater at our conferences. Many people see these rules as a legal restriction. It seems destructive to me to be restricted without any understanding of why. I know that by selectively purifying our approach, we open the possibility for a truly meaningful liberal religious community.

Namaste,
Shelley

(definition of Namaste: I salute that in you which is divine)



GET OFF YOUR CAN

by licia peterson

Have you heard such phrases as "ban the can", "bottle bills", or "mandatory deposits"?

Have you been to Oregon recently and wondered why it had much less litter than other states? The reason is that Oregon has mandatory deposit legislation on the books. "What's mandatory deposit legislation?" you might ask. It is a law putting a minimum deposit on all soft drink and beer bottles and cans whether they are reusable or not. Deposit legislation means that all beverage containers are returned for reuse or recycling.

The first bottle bill was passed in Vermont in 1953. Before then, deposit legislation was not an issue because 90% of all beverage containers were refillable. As late as 1960, 50% of all beer and 95% of all soft drinks were sold in reusable bottles. Deposit legislation was not needed until the mid-sixties, when the beverage industry developed more convenient, glamorous containers and promoted the use of aluminum and steel cans. They began extensive advertising campaigns to sell their new products.

Throwaways are "easier" because when you are through drinking what's in them, you just throw the container in the trash (or on the ground if you are a litter-bug). Deposit bottles have to be dragged all the way back to the store. One direct result of our throwaway society is that we have a dramatic increase in the amount of litter on our earth.

The Keep America Beautiful campaign became a very active, powerful anti-litter lobby. It had many member organizations, a \$600 million a year budget, and trumpet such slogans as "People start pollution, people can stop it."

In the early 1970's, Keep America Beautiful was asked to take a position on bottle bills. When it took a position, it was against them, it soon became known that Keep America Beautiful is a front for the beverage and bottling industries. More than 100 member organizations, like the Environmental Protection Agency, Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Garden Clubs of America, League of Women Voters and National Wildlife Federation dropped out due to this.

Because of highpowered lobbying and extensive campaigns against it, deposit legislation is hard to pass. Conservationists, environmentalists, and citizen's groups are working to get container regulation legislation passed on the local, state, and federal levels.

President Carter has referred the bottle issue to a committee on Resource Conservation to make recommendations on deposit legislation and possible alternatives. President Carter probably will not act on this issue until the committee makes its recommendations.

A total of seven states have succeeded in passing deposit legislation (Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Maine, Oregon, and Vermont). The other 43 states all have pending bottle bills.

Container regulation has become an important environmental concern. More than 70 billion beverage containers were thrown away in the United States last year. Studies have shown that bottle bills reduce litter, save energy and reduce air pollution.

In states that have deposit legislation, when reusable bottles are returned to the store, they are sent back to the bottler, washed in a caustic solution to sterilize them. They are then refilled with a beverage and sent back to the stores. Non-refillable bottles which are returned for deposit are crushed and recycled into new bottles.

Making glass from raw materials involves melting a mixture of sand, limestone, and borax, lead, and other stuff at temperatures between 1,400° and 1,500° C. (between 2,520° and 2,700° F.). Crushed glass is often added to speed the melting process.

Aluminum cans are crushed and recycled also.

Pen Power

by Jennifer Brett

Now, everyone knows how to write a letter, but do you know how to write one that will influence Senators and Representatives? First think about exactly what it is you want to say: your position on the subject, what parts you want to emphasize, what information you have to back up your opinion, and how this is going to effect you and your community. Then, decide who you are going to write to: the President, a Senator from your state, a Representative from your district, a state official, or an official outside of your area (this is really a formality to figure out whether or not you can threaten her/him with your vote). Finally, write that letter!

As to the actual components of the letter, there are a few hints I can give you, but most of it is common sense. Here is a list I got from talking to my Congressperson (Andy McGuire) who said that if he got just FIVE letters in which people did most of these things, he would probably reconsider his vote.

- 1) Make the letter personal. Ask extremely specific questions, and write it out by hand if possible. That way it won't be thought of as a form letter and won't be answered with one. It may possibly even make it to a top aide's desk.
- 2) Put as much information into it still keeping it brief. The more you can support your opinion, the more impact your letter will have.
- 3) Use political pressure if you can. Tell her/him that if s/he does not give a satisfactory answer, you will print both the letter and its response in your largest area newspaper (newspapers will print them by the way), or say that your disappointment in his/her vote will force you not to support her/him in the next election.
- 4) And most of all, act as if you know what you are talking about (DO know what you are talking about!), and get to the point! Little drawings and ten page reports will not impress her/him as much as a concise letter written by someone who obviously has done some research and thinking on the matter.

That's all there is to it. Keep these guidelines in mind, and you will begin to put our democratic system to work.

One more thing: DO NOT make up names so you can write more than one letter. All that does is invalidate any good you might have done up until then.

Remember: letting your opinion be known gives you power and influence, so... KEEP WRITING!!!

One bottle-making factory in Connecticut was told to meet Environmental Protection Agency's factory emissions control standards. It was given the choice between cleaning up its act or making bottles from crushed recycled glass. The people who managed the factory decided to make their bottles from recycled glass, and they found that their factory sent much less pollution into the atmosphere.

Large energy savings are a direct result of bottle bills because remelting glass does not require the high temperatures used to make glass from raw materials. According to a report the Governor of Oregon released in February 1977, that state saved 1.4 trillion BTUs per year--enough energy to supply the heating needs of 50,000 Oregonians.

A study done by the Federal Energy Administration claims that if every state passed a bottle bill, the U.S. could save up to 81 thousand barrels of oil per day (that's about 8% of the output of the Alaska pipeline) plus conserve material resources of 5.2 million tons of glass, 1.5 million tons of steel and 500,000 tons of aluminum per year. Changing the system could create between 80,000 and 118,000 jobs and reduce litter by 40-60%.

Deposit legislation may not be as dramatic as nuclear proliferation or saving the whales, but it's just as important. Many things are involved in making an environment good or bad. We need to put energy into all facets of our environment.

BIO-ECONOMICS

by Ted Altenberg

When examining humankind's influence on the natural world around us, there are two areas of study we must consider. The first is bio-economics, the ecological laws that dictate biological growth and regulate how resources are distributed and utilized by the populations of various organisms. The second consideration is the historical development of humankind's role in shaping and re-shaping the eco-systems.

"Eco-system" refers to the complex network of energy/resource cycles, involving all biotic (living) and non-biotic parts of a particular environment. Everything is a resource: energy is the non-material resource that is employed in moving, changing, and using all material resources. Nothing is ever created or destroyed: it simply changes form. When we burn a log, or a cell ingests food, the material is broken down to smaller parts, and the energy held by the resource is released. This energy is either utilized or dispersed as free energy.

In any eco-system, the energy that is readily available for utilization is the one factor limiting biological expansion. As an eco-system matures, through the process of evolution (natural selection of those best suited to survive and grow in the environment), living organisms progressively arrange themselves in more energy-efficient relationships to all the resource/nutrient cycles. A lower energy output on the part of the organisms yields a larger amount of available survival energy (food).

Where does the energy come from and how much is there? There are only two sources: the earth itself, geo-thermal energy which is virtually unused in biological processes, and the sun which is the source of all energy for the biosphere. One might equate the energy as follows: wind + hydropower + solar + biomass energy = available + potential energy.

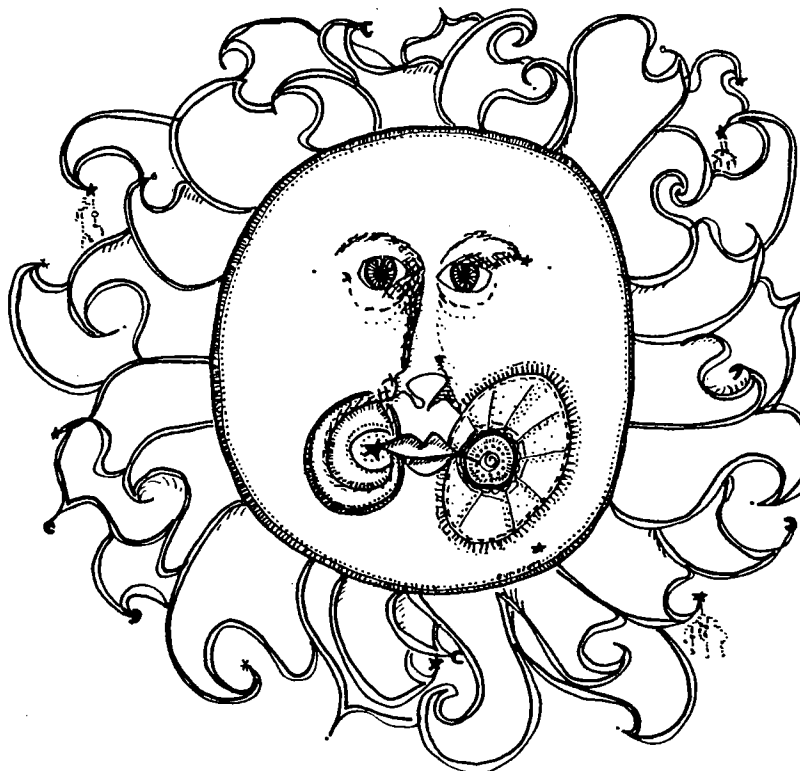
When an organism has reached the point where it is intercepting the nutrient/resource/energy cycles as effectively as possible; this is known as its "climax ecology". The population will stabilize, and major evolutionary changes will slow down or cease. A fully mature forest or lake eco-system exemplifies this. Very little free energy is dispersed: organisms utilize all resources and energy available with the greatest possible yield. These stabilizations are the natural limits to growth that keep nature in such harmonious balance.

And what of this species Homo Sapien? How have we placed ourselves within the eco-system? How have we arranged, relocated, and distributed the resources in our struggle for survival?

Paleolithic creatures such as Australopithecus, Neanderthal, or Homo Habilis who lived approximately two to three hundred thousand years ago, were nomadic hunter/gathers. Before the advent of fire and tool making (100,000 years ago) they were primarily vegetarian, and did virtually no construction. These nomads, around 9-12,000 years ago, began to deliberately plant the seeds of known food plants. The central areas of origin of the agricultural revolution are 1) Tigris-Euphrates area (Garden of Eden), 2) Nile-Nigeria area, and 3) Yellow-Yang Tze area (near east), made it possible for the two legged nomads to settle. The fertile river banks and savannahs now could be counted on to be an endless food source.

Unaware of the environmental and genetic intricacies of our actions, our evolutionary predecessors were restructuring the energy cycles between humans and plants (friends). Improved nutritional conditions and more shelter from the elements reduced mortality and death rates, which began a marked upswing in the rate of population growth. This was at the expense of other species' populations.

Rapid growth of our towns and settlements created a pressure to further restructure the environment to obtain more food. More food, more people... more people, more environmental manipulation. A symbiosis was created where the plants were dependent upon us for harvesting and seed dispersal, and we were dependent on the plants for feeding our large and expanding population.



By 3,000 B.C. we had developed irrigation methods, domesticated animals and plants, extensive craftmaking and construction abilities. Mere survival was no longer the sole life task; it had evolved and expanded to include cultural, society and civility.

By the time of the Industrial revolution, all the "new lands" of the world had been discovered and colonized. Our technologies were still rapidly advancing. A handful of plants and animals were sustaining millions of people. The Industrial Revolution was the most drastic, to the point of catastrophic restructuring of the environment's energy cycles.

By introducing fossil fuels such as coal, we are using energy that is not otherwise a part of the ecosystem. The real problem in this is not the added energy per se, or even the pollutants from very inefficient combustion processes, but the essential mistake is that these energy sources take millions of years to be produced; they are non-renewable. Supporting a population on a finite source of energy is running a course toward social genocide, or collapse at least.

Major technological advancements of this period that promoted further population increases were: improved sanitation and personal hygiene (soap), refrigeration and food storage, and advancement of medical knowledge and procedures.

Today, widespread environmental deterioration, inequality of distribution, mass over-consumption of resources and energy, the arms race and nuclear fission threaten the quality and sheer existence of life on Earth as we know it. With the splitting of the atom in 1945, and with the increasing water, air, and soil pollution, the notion of worldwide destruction has only recently become a reality.

In our techno-cultural search for Utopia, we have created a mega-powered bomb of overconsumption, pollution, and nuclear jeopardy. Our understanding and comprehension of the world around us is now very vast, and sufficient to create any sort of world we desire. We know by example that a Hell on Earth is technically possible. What of Utopia? Can we create an Eco-topia?

To rejoin all our energy/resource uses with the cycles of our living ecosystem, to accept the limitations that life is regulated by, to make our socio-economic

and political structures cohesive with the bioeconomics of the Earth; these are our tasks in order to move toward Eco-topia.

There are two facets of the task at hand. The first is by far the easier one—the technical aspect. How do we conduct our agricultural and social practices on solar-biological energy? What are the technical applications of our present technology to the new technologies? How large a population can we support in this manner?

The obstacle to such social change is within our social structure itself. Socio-economic patterns based on personal motives such as greed and the concept of constant and seemingly limitless growth have dominated our social progress for thousands of years. The decadence and overconsumption of the first world is a lifestyle that this Earth can no longer support. The exploitation of the third world, of those without resources, of the working class, have allowed a small fraction of our population to consume the resources that belong to everyone. (They are not even ours, really!)

Futurists and activists of all kinds are working to alter these patterns. The task, as Alvin Toffler (author of *Future Shock*) explains it, is it is not to avoid the future, but to shape the future by realizing that it is now. Now is the time to work for the future. Social change does not begin in the White House or the Kremlin, or even in the picket lines, and non-violent civil disobedient acts; social change begins with you. Within every soul, values must change for the social-values as a whole to change.

Youth of the world, WE ARE THE FUTURE! What sort of future are you living toward?

Recommended reading list:

- Frances Moore Lappe-Diet for a Small Planet, 10 Myths About World Hunger
- E.F. Schumacher-Small is Beautiful (*a must!)
- R. Buckminster Fuller-has innumerable books on the human condition, global communities, etc.
- Pete Dulos-The Torch of Life
- For alternative energy, check any bookstore or the Whole Earth Catalogue, or try NASA Energy Research and Development Agency. (NASA has been conducting extensive research on wind, solar, and bio-gas energy potentials and applications for the last five years.)

The Alcan Two-Step **OR** ⁷ You Can Get There From Here

JOHN REIER CENTER

The sun stalled over the mountains as Duke and I settled the last log of the day on the growing cabin. We hammered home the spikes and prepared to head back to the café; a feeling of work-worn calm and accomplishment settled over us. I allowed myself a quick look out at Steam Boat Mountain and the Lodge.

The Lodge consisted mainly of old army buildings built for the highway construction crews in 1948. Added onto these were a newer garage, gas pumps, and a café, the latter serving as home for the owners, Rob and Sherilee, and their hounds appropriately named Steamer, Boat, and Mountain. Situated next to the quarter acre dirt lot known as 'the campground' was a complete junkyard. Its newest arrival, a banana yellow Cadillac circa '66, provided what's known as 'local color'.

Steam Boat Mountain Lodge is not particularly pretty (rustic is a more appropriate adjective...) yet it had taken on a special quality for Mark Anthony, Duke, and me as, more and more, we felt at home on the Alaskan Highway. Through an agreement with Rob and Sherilee, we were staying at Steamboat building a log cabin and generally helping out. Convinced that life on the Alcan doing carpentry would be simple and basic, we were a little unprepared for the surprises the highway had in store for us.

But it was a calm dusk. Looking out from the cabin, I could see Mark pumping gas. Behind him, Rob was explaining to a tourist that a lack of air in one's tire generally signifies a flat. Smells of frying moose from the kitchen told of Sherilee's efforts as she fought the continuous battle to feed us all. With omnivorous mouth watering, I headed for the café.

It was then that I spotted the elephants at the gas pumps.

"Elephants?" I queried.

"Elephants!" said Duke.

The elephants were then joined by a lioness.

"A lion," I reasoned.

"Jesus," said Duke.

The fact that a circus had come to Steamboat hit us at about the same time and we headed for the visitors at a dead run.

Just why it was there was an item not so easily dealt with. Perhaps Hannibal took a wrong turn a few thousand miles down the road...? Well, this was food for thought.

Actually, the more I thought on it, the less strange it seemed. Since we had arrived at Steamboat and had been in one place long enough to observe the traffic, we found that between the Winnebagoes (pronounced winter-bagels) there existed perhaps the most diverse group of people ever strung out over 1500 miles.

Aside from the circus (which was to lay over for an hour and eat all the half-gone potatoes in the café), there were several arrivals which we considered noteworthy. The appearance of Herman and Herman, the two Detroit bikers who rode with the "Fourth Reich", was one of these.

"Big Herman" parked his 350 lbs. (not including the Harley) and iron crosses and chains jangling, strode toward the café. My reaction might have been measured by how quickly I pulled myself and the shotgun (for use during a timely counter-attack) under the kitchen counter, had I been able to move.

However, when "Little Herman", a paltry 200 lbs., arrived, his dentist appearance showing through despite his leathers, we settled down and spent a long evening discussing Big Herman's bathing habits. ("Walter's for ice cubes, man...")

Then, of course, there were the two 1938 Czechoslovakian something-or-others, with Czechs to match, who were driving around the world at 32 m.p.h.. Not much for conversation, but they inspired a great smiling-and-nodding contest which they eventually won.

The arrival of "The Hell Drivers" (a renowned car stunt driver team) was announced ahead of time over the C.B. unit in the café when "Dirty Dog" called in to have us start his eggs. But still we were ill prepared for the stream-of-cruisers which pulled in, the lead one resplendent with a pair of fresh dripping moose horns. "Dirty Dog" hopped out with his shotgun. Right. Time for the Alcan Zen lesson: smile, be at peace, & let the buckshot pass around you.

But not so, for they too proved to

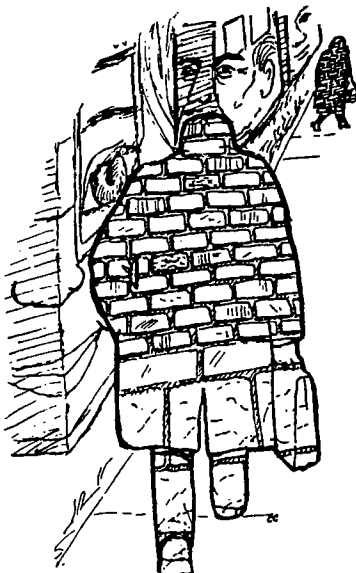
be friendly. After a quick lesson on firearms (shotgun to derringer), we received invites to watch their show in town that evening, which we, of course, attended. After the show, we drank day old wedding punch with them and got a run down on how they acquired their new prison record during their tour through Alaska. The best was how the boss' wife was charged with assault with intent, due to her running over the boss. When asked why she employed her vehicle in such an unusual manner, she spoke of a need for singularity.

Of course, the day 50 Winnebagoes pulled in can't go without mention. As the "wagon master" directed the parking (wagon master? "Roll those campers in a circle!") and Sherilee worried about the surplus hamburger on hand, we admired this rolling old-age-home and return to pioneering. Imagine fighting your way through traffic, jumping from one gas station to the next as you wound your way west.

Yes folks, all this and much, much more was Steamboat Mountain on the Alaskan Highway. The "much, much more" was generally less rowdy and therefore at least as interesting and fulfilling, but would require volumes to recount here. Besides, I have a tendency to recount that which sticks in the mind (and stomach...).

But there is a cloud that hangs over that scene where elephants once stood in the driveway. In three years, they expect to have the highway paved in order to accommodate a new gas line and the 100 odd villages that will be necessary to maintain it. Sherilee, who escaped from Denver greeted this news as stoically as any native: "Maybe Australia?"

So if you're planning a visit north, do it soon! If you're into ecology, you have your work cut out for you. And if you do go, stop at the Steamboat Mountain Lodge, mile 351 on the Alaskan highway: view the world's largest free standing 'burl', the world's largest license plate collection, and taste the best apple pie for 600 miles. As you go, look closely at the land and talk with the people for they are, indeed, vanishing commodities. Once you're there, you never really leave.



GEORGES BANK

In the past several years oil spills have increased in both number and seriousness. Many individuals and organizations have a growing concern for the damaged marine environment from these spills. In Mass., this concern resulted in the postponement of the sale of leases to drill for oil in Georges Bank.

Georges Bank is one of the most important fisheries: producing one eighth of the world's catch. A question in many minds is, "would the amount of oil taken from Georges Bank justify the danger which drilling presents to a healthy ecology and to the fishing industry that depends on it?"

The immediate affects of oil are much more visible than long term pollutants, yet the effects of oil on ocean ecology last long after the slick has been contained. Phytoplankton and Zooplankton (one celled plants and animals at the bottom of the ocean food chain) ingest oil hydrocarbons but are not able to break them down for release. Fortunately, fish who feed on plankton are able to release oil, but the breakdown may effect how they taste. After being ingested and released, oil settles into the ocean floor where it can persist for up to seven years; affecting several generations of fish.

Even without large spills, offshore drilling can be dangerous to ocean life. The waters around a drilling platform become heavy with discharged Petroleum and metals. Cancer may develop in the larvae of organisms throughout the area.

Because of these and other dangers, petitions were sent to the President and all New England Governors; urging that no lease

sales be made until more could be done to protect the ocean environment. The Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts issued a complaint against the sales. U.S. District Judge W. Arthur Garrity issued an injunction to postpone the sales shortly before they were to take place.

In September of 1978, the Outer Continental Shells Land Acts amendment was passed through congress, and signed by President Carter. The amendments call for, among other things, that the authority cancel any lease in the case of a large spill, and improved environmental studies to be made. The Mass. Department of Interior, and the oil companies feel the injunction was called as a delay until these amendments could be passed, and therefore, should now be lifted. Environmentalists are not satisfied. Many feel the injunction should not be lifted until further studies can be made and more stringent regulations imposed.

Georges Bank is not the only area whose future is in doubt. Pollution from offshore drilling and large tankers threaten many coastal areas of both the Atlantic and the Pacific.

Oil companies continue to push for the speedy development of offshore drilling cites. As old oil reserves decrease and our energy consumption rises, this push will become even stronger.

For further information on offshore drilling and the problems created by it, contact The Sierra Club in your area, or at the national office 530 Bush Street, San Francisco, California 94108

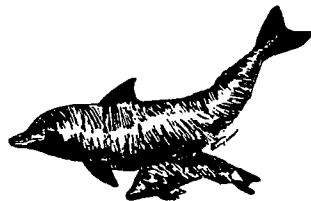
8 everything's up to date... by denise lewis

January 1, 1979: The snow was up to our knees, the stinging winter wind biting our faces, but we had made it through. Maybe I should start at the beginning...

It was December 26, 1978. We began arriving in the early afternoon and gradually through the evening became an assembly of more than 40. At approximately 10:00 a.m. December 27, 1978, the LRY Winter Board of Directors Meeting was called to order.

We had all the necessities--12 Federation Representatives, the Judiciary Committee, the Continental Conference Committee, the Executive Committee, a Moderator, a Parliamentarian, and a Secretary. What could possibly motivate these people to spend the week between Christmas and New Year's on the mid-western prairie? Dedicated is the only word to describe these people who came from as far away as Alaska and Ontario to spend up to ten hours a day meeting in the All Soul's Unitarian Church in Kansas City, MO, to conduct the business of Liberal Religious Youth, Inc.

Though the issues (social actions, fundraising, extension, youth day, and youth programming in the UU denomination) were taken seriously, we did retain the creativity and spontaneity that LRYers are famous for. As our Moderator, Abbe Bjorklund, would call the meeting to order, she was invariably deluged with cries of, "Swiss cheese on rye!" or, "Is that for here or to go?" A pretty price was paid by those who dared to jest. Throughout the meetings, as Board members were overcome with wit, they were charged for each pun. The amount was in direct proportion to the taste (or lack thereof) of the remark as judged by the Board Secretary, Jody Hildebrandt. The "grand price" was awarded to Bob Pomeroy of RMF who blatantly displayed his impulsive drollery.



In March of 1978, late-Congressman Leo J. Ryan (D-CA) and James Jeffords (R-VT) accompanied an expedition to the March hunt in New Foundland. Also attending were Attorney Peter Ballem, whom was arrested for conspiracy after getting permits to attend to the hunt, and Dr. Patrick Moore, also arrested for trying to protect a baby harp seal by placing himself between the hunter and the seal pup. Ballem was acquitted and Moore was charged with a \$200 fine. Another arrest came out of this excursion when late-Ryan was speaking with a hunter who bragged of killing many seals that day. This was a mistake on the hunters part, as it was a Sunday. Hunting seals is strictly prohibited on Sundays, no matter what. This was taken to court and is pending trial in New Foundland. If the case goes to trial before March 10, 1979 (opening of hunting season)

Chinese Firedrills and the network of notes passed around the Board table were other methods used to break the pragmatic monotony. These breaks of frivolity were well deserved, as the accomplishments and decisions of the Board are substantial and many. These are the results-

(For a more explicit explanation, contact your federation's Continental Liaison, or the LRY Office, we'll even send you a copy of the minutes if you want.)

Fundraising- A proposal was passed whereby the Director of Finance and Extension will develop a campaign to solicit contributions from individual LRYers for Continental LRY. **Extension-** A specific fieldwork plan was developed which will send a representative of Continental LRY to share program resources, organizational ideas, and leadership skills in every area of the U.S. and parts of Canada.

Youth Day- A packet of ideas and resources will be sent to local group contacts and federation executive committees to aid in the planning of Youth Day celebrations, April 29, 1979, in local societies.

Elections- Cheryl Markoff, was elected as Director of Leadership and Program Development, and Laurel Prager was elected as Director of Publications, for year long terms beginning March 1, 1979.

Social Actions- A Social Actions newsletter is being designed. Board members will be receiving additional resources from the Social Actions Director, Jennifer Brett.

It is recommended that each fed. elect a Social Actions Coordinator to be in contact with the Social Actions Director. The LRY Coalition Against Nuclear Proliferation Committee- Abbe Bjorklund, Steve Woodbridge, Mike Dean, Bill Stryke, Jennifer Brett, Shelley Cantrill, Cheryl Markoff, and Moira Doyle, was formed. **Intergenerational Advisory Committee-** will be formed with the purpose of investigating the

past and present roles of high school-aged youth in the UU denomination, and making recommendations to the LRY Board.

Youth Programming- The LRY Board does not support the YAC and Finance Committee (of the UUA Board) recommendations to the UUA Board of Trustees regarding next years budget for youth programming. The LRY Board endorses a \$50,000 recommendation submitted by the Executive Committee. All members of LRY and adults concerned with youth programming are encouraged to contact their district's representative on the UUA Board to voice support of the LRY position. **YACs-** The LRY Board is obligated to actively encourage the formation of Youth Adult Committees in districts and societies where none exist, and to support the continuation of those already existing.

Leadership Development Conferences- Regional committees will be formed to develop LDCs in each region for the fall of 1979. These LDCs will be attended by youth from every UU society, and include resources developed from the LRY Office.

Continental Conference- will be held Aug. 16-23, at Point Bonita, CA. Some scholarships will be available. The possibility of chartered cross-country bus transportation is being investigated.

Annual Summer Board Meeting- will be held the 10 days preceding Continental Conference at one of the UU churches in the San Francisco Bay area.

As the Board contemplated and concentrated, 12 inches of snow fell and blew in the ferocious wind.

And so, we came from all parts of the country, many sacrificed their vacations and most lost several hours of sleep, but the gains far outweighed the losses, for the Board members- a sense of accomplishment, new friends, and a new experience. For LRY- dedication, a display of intense concern, and responsible decisions for the future. What more could a corporation ask for?



GREENPEACE

cont.

it could possibly keep two sealing vessels away from New Foundland for two years. Unfortunately, it is doubtful that this case will be tried before then.

In the summer of 1978, Greenpeace London launched a massive whaling campaign against a whaling fleet in the North Atlantic and to protest nuclear power plants in Europe. Plans are being made now to launch the ship "RAINBOW WARRIOR" from the London dock, where it is resting after its past expeditions. Greenpeace is researching possible alternatives for persons that would be jobless if all sealing and whaling were to be discontinued. These results will be released as they are found.

Greenpeace has vowed to continue action until all slaughter is stopped.

Everyone can get involved with Greenpeace in one way or another. They are a non-profit, primarily volunteer organization. For survival, they depend upon contributions



of time and energy in their offices and expeditions, fundraising, advertisements, and money. First, we must educate ourselves with the purposes, goals, and activities of Greenpeace.

Let us all work toward our future together!!

for more information write to

Greenpeace New England, 3 Joy Street, Boston, MA 1 02108 (617) 367-8088

The Greenpeace Foundation, 240 Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123 (415) 474-6767

Listed here are some of the Greenpeace suggested readings,

The Whale-Mighty Monarch of the Sea
J. Cousteau, P. Dirole

The Whale (A Comprehensive Review of Whales, Whaling, and Whale Research)
L. H. Matthews

Mind in the Waters J. McIntyre

A Whale for the Killing F. Mowat

Lilly on Dolphins: Humans of the Sea
J. C. Lilly

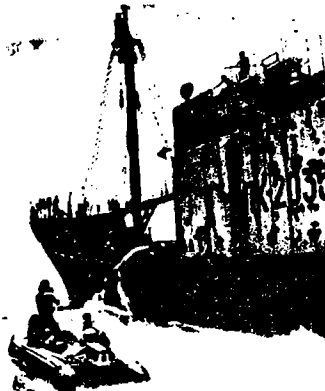
Rays of Hope Denis Hayes

Non-Nuclear Future
Amory Lovins

World Energy Strategies Amory Lovins

Energy, Economics and Ecology
T. Howard Odum

For further information on Jojoba, write to: Products from Jojoba, Office of Chemistry & Technology, National Research Council 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C. 20418



A GLIMPSE OF GERMANY

Scanning the misty horizon with curious eyes,
I gazed as the patchwork quilt unfolded.

Slowly, it revealed to me a playground whose gates
had always been locked when I had tried to enter.

Before now, I had to be satisfied with the fantasy
of wandering beyond the locked bars of cold steel.

At this time, though, the gates were open.
Life appeared warm and welcoming beyond them.

Lightly covering this foreign atmosphere
was a soft blanket of silvery mist.

Upon entering, I could see the waves of sea-green mountains
rolling gently in the distance.

Trees of jade lined those mountain bases
as candles on a cake.

Closer in, the patches of quilt made brilliant patterns
across the sloping meadows.

Amber and spruce colored grasses
danced lazily in the cool breeze.

Next I noticed the tiny houses.
Each of them stood stoutly on the quilt

like matchbox toys with which children play.
these minute doll houses were carefully trimmed.

Their fragile walls were white.
Pointing sharply upward,

rust colored roofs
topped each one.

Surrounded by all of these lively colors,
a burnished steeple stood proudly.

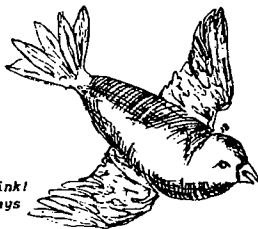
It towered above all else near me.
Old and poetic,

it seemed able to chime out tales
of events I had never seen.



SCHOOL & CONFERENCES

when i look around the place i'm in
i get an urge to yell
no one feels! no one loves!
they're all robots
programmed to do
what society says
they should
they all dress like
"they should"
they all walk like
"they should"
they all talk like
"they should"
but how many think like
"they should"
how many think the things
society shuns...
i wonder?
so why doesn't someone speak
what they feel?
it's only one out of every few people
i meet
who are like me
in that they
show what they feel
except once in a while
i find that
i'm in a group
of people
who feel
and love
and think
and speak what they think!
but then after a few days
with them
i return
to the place i was in before
with an even stronger urge to yell!!!
laurie yonis



poetry

"Cycles"

Like the slow morning sun
rising higher and higher
showering the dark sky with brilliance
So time pushes people.

Like the lazy drone of the bee hive
parasitically living
vicariously thrilling
So we exist between our premiere and finale.

Like the midnight mist on a marsh
crawling, expanding
laying layer upon layer on the thick muddy water
So old age carves craters into the once smooth skin.

Like the beach at low tide
revealing traces of what once was
So is death.
Gwen Masterman



farewell

an orange moon
hovers over the horizon
while calm water reflects stars-so close
a loon's call echoes in the distance.
silence sinks in.
leaves rustle
as a cool breeze whispers through the air
the freeing of thoughts
brings about a slate of tranquility.
the sun brings warmth
shining rays gently upon my back
an eagle soars high
dancing with the wind...
depression takes over
wanting to give love
while instead i hear machines coming closer.
-cathy

Once again my eyes were back on the road ahead.
It wound quickly

and in short spurts,
as does life,

yet, it went on forever,
as does time.

I have learned and
grown much today,
and tomorrow I will do the same
before time wanders too far

for me to wander with it.

Renee Baird

Dancelings

If it were only to dance upon an alabaster floor,
To slide steadily on tip toe
We would reach heaven's door.
And how we do try to balance on our
topmost points
Only to falter or fall.
All saddened,
we retreat to our banal lives,
Leaving the ballroom bereft of movement,
endowed with silence.
-Gwenn Masterman



To Sail Away
I set my sail:
I have to flee

To go to worlds
where I can be

To think it out
and learn of me;

I set my sail
across the sea.

-Denise Kramer

there

there across the fields i see
a farm house
with parents singing
and children laughing
while i walk along
and listen.

there inside the room i see
a party
with people dancing
and others talking
while i stand outside
and watch.

there across the world i see
a war
with nations yelling
and soldiers fighting
while i hide away
and hope.

there inside my mind i see
a person
with people ignoring
and love disappearing
while i am there

Jon Fabian

i come silently in the night
and leave gently, like a summer breeze
in the morning.
i am a butterfly.

with my heart racing
i soar quickly and surely far away.
i breathe deeply, enjoying the freedom i feel.
then slowly, i ease my way back
down to earth,
but there is a difference.

i can feel it
but at first, i can't name it.
when i see others
with care-worn or blank faces
i know,
i have retained some of that freedom of flight
in my soul
to call forth at will during the day.

when i feel the freedom and exhilaration diminish some
then once again
i come silently in the night...
-the desperado

only edges

She, the spirited one
awoke to smooth scents of lavender
It filled her body,
And down to the river went she.
moving freely in the
out turned vines.

At waters edge swelled with downy-ups,
aquamarine leaflets,
and drying dew.

Mixing and dipping.
her toe rang the still water.

Then she,
dripping soft droplets
was cleansed.

-always in simple mornings-



ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

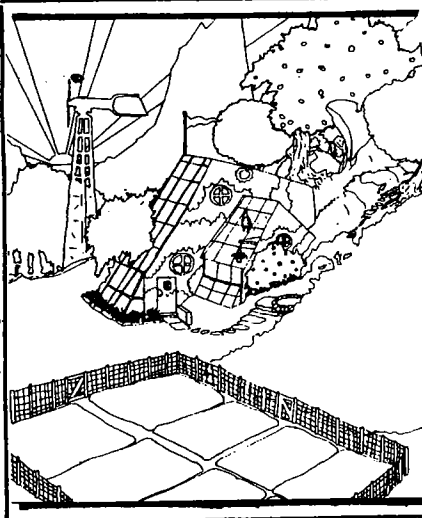
by TED ALTENBERG

The term "solar energy" has only in the last few years become newsworthy, yet in reality the sun is the energy source that all of life on earth depends on. All human creatures—agriculture, civilization, and industry have directly or indirectly relied on solar energy for existence.

The difference between fossil fuels, plant products decomposed and fossilized over millions of years, and other forms of solar energy is that more direct solar energy is within the ecosystem. All the nutrient, life, air, and water cycles are regulated by the solar energy radiated to us every day. Supporting a population on a finite, non-renewable source of energy, such as fossil fuels, sets the stage for an inevitable crisis: a social/industrial power failure, if you will. When discussing the application of solar energy in our society, or more appropriately, the realignment of our society's energy processes within the eco-system, there are two points to consider. First, is the technical question of "How do we utilize this vast energy source?" The second is far trickier, "How can a society addicted to decadence and overconsumption accept such drastic changes as this would imply, and how do we facilitate these changes?" I will deal now with the technical applications only, for lack of space. But in a word or two, social change does not begin in the government structure, or in techno-industrial corporations, social change begins within individual people.

Most people think of solar panels or solar-electric conversion cells when they hear "solar energy". This is only a part of the story. Radiant energy, experienced as heat and light, is how we first receive solar energy. In December, 1972, the National Science Foundation/NASA released their report on extensive solar energy potential studies. They concluded that by 2020 solar energy could economically supply 35% of the nation's heating and cooling needs, 30% of our gaseous oil needs (that's bio-gas, we'll get to that), 10% of our liquid fuel, and 20% of our electrical needs.

Solar-electric conversion cells are like little chemical alloyed wafers that convert the photo energy into electricity. Presently they are very expensive and relatively inefficient. The thought of huge (50 sq. km.) solar panels orbiting the earth has been conjectured, but the energy and economic inputs would outweigh their outputs. Plus, satellites are difficult to keep in orbit for more than a few years.



Passive solar panels work on heat absorption, commonly known as the greenhouse effect. There are two kinds of panels. Copper pipes may circulate water through the panel, into a large storage tank, then back to the panel. A solar panel has double glazed glass or plastic fronts, with a dull black back. The other kind is air-to-rock, when air is circulated through the panel, then through a large bin full of small pebbles. The rock or water absorbs heat all day, then slowly radiates the heat back out all night. Even in the northern areas of the world, a passive solar system can supply up to 55% of the space and water heating needs of any properly designed building. Nearer the equator, all heating and cooling needs can be met.

Hydro and wind power are also forms of solar energy, as it is the heat from the sun that creates the movement. Almost all electricity is generated by rotating magnets around each other. Power companies use huge turbines propelled by steam. The steam is produced by combustion of wood, coal, or oil, or (HEAVEN FORBID) nuclear fission. Before the Rural Electrification Act of 1933, wind

generators were an integral part of rural America. The typical Dutch-type windmill was actually French/English in origin, dating back to the 12th century. During both the 1930's and the 1950's, German, Russian, and French scientists were experimenting with large scale (150-300 kwatts) wind turbines. The Energy Research Development Administration of NASA has been conducting extensive tests on all facets of wind energy.

Hydro power used to supply 40% of the nation's electricity; now it barely supplies 20%. This nation's rivers could supply up to 60% of our electrical needs, a potential gross energy source of 80 million horsepower. Where twenty feet or more of headwater (height between water level at dam and water level at turbines) can be obtained or a relatively short conduct (less than 100 feet) can be built into a small river to lead the water to the turbines. Hydro-electric power can be economically feasible. Mechanical use of water wheels can be used to mill grains, turn latches, pump air or water (like in your solar system), or anything else you desire a relatively slow rotary action for.

By far, the largest category of solar energy is the bio-mass, all living matter. Plants, by virtue of their chloroplasts, are able to convert radiant photoenergy directly into carbohydrates. All heterotrophs (non-plants) depend on photosynthesis for their energy. Utilization of bio-mass can be burning wood for heat, using fibers for insulation, and for composting and organic gardening. The most promising utilization is in bio-gas production in methane digesters. As aerobic bacteria (non-oxygen breathing) breaks down organic wastes in water, giving off methane gas as a byproduct. With an octane rating of 120 or higher, methane gas burns completely, with virtually no effluents (polluting bi-products). By using waste products from agriculture, and people to produce gas, we would be eliminating two pollution problems in one throw. The digested sludge is a highly nutritive fertilizer too!

At this point, it is self-evident that the ecosystem can supply our society vast energy in various forms. The obstacles are not technological, but socio-economic and political. The age of decadence must end; the computer age must slow to avoid a colossal collapse of our society.

YOUTH
CAUCUS:
1979

Okay folks! It's never too early to start planning ahead: this year's Unitarian Universalist General Assembly (GA) will take place from June 24-30, 1979 in East Lansing, Michigan and YOUTH CAUCUS will be there!

GA includes business sessions, workshops, exhibits, and much, much more. Youth Caucus is an integral part of all activities at GA. For more information and to be put on the Youth Caucus mailing list,

put pen to paper, and send your name and address to:
Nada I. Velimirovic,
25 Beacon Street, Boston,
MA 02108.



Announcing the 1979 IRF JAPAN YOUTH TOUR

DATES: JULY 22 TO AUGUST 12

ITINERARY: TOKYO (Risho Kosei-Kai & The Japanese Association for Religious Freedom) SOJJI ZEN TEMPLE KYOTO (Kameoka City, Itoen, & Historic Temples and Shrines) ISE GRAND SHRINE & TSUBAKI GRAND SHRINE (Suzuka City & Gifu City) NARA (Tenrikyo & Konkoryo & Historic Temples and Shrines) HIROSHIMA & MIEJIMA SHRINE TOKYO (Tomo No Tsudoi)

ELIGIBILITY: To persons between the ages of 18 and 36 who are willing to adapt to Japanese lifestyle and daily food. The tour will visit Japanese families and shrines with sleeping accommodations on the floor. A high degree of commitment and a willingness to study prior to the tour itself, Japanese customs, religion, and language are essential. Tour openings are limited. Applications must be in by March 1st. Acceptance not guaranteed.

COST: Approximately \$1,500.00

WRITE: Reverend Joel E. Scholefield
The Unitarian Church of N.Y.C.
4 West 76th Street
N.Y., N.Y. 10024
(212) 595-8410

Dear Potential Applicant:

If you are interested in finding out more about the 1979 IRF Japan Youth Tour, please send the following form to the *d address. Applications should be processed by March 1st, 1979. Because openings in this tour are limited, filling out this application is not a guarantee of acceptance.

1. Name _____
Address _____

Phone() _____ Age _____

2. Have you ever travelled in other countries? _____
If yes, where? _____

3. How did you learn about this tour? _____

4. Have you been active in a Unitarian Universalist Church or Fellowship? _____
If yes, who could serve as a reference for you? (list at least two references) _____

5. Why do you want to tour Japan on a trip that will focus on shrines, temples, and staying in families homes rather than the normal tourist tours? _____

6. Are you willing to spend some time prior to the trip studying Japanese language, history, and religion? _____

7. Can you cover the cost (approximately \$1,500) without scholarship assistance? _____

8. Include with this application a brief statement of why you desire to study Japanese religions and to have an intensive learning experience in another cultural setting. Include any other relevant information. _____

hey, you youth!

Hi! January 10, 1979
I have been supporting LRY for some time in a small way.

I maintain a bicycle camp for UUs in the Pacific Northwest. I also lease out campsites for tents, teepees, and small campers. If any young UUs would like to spend the summer in Swan Lake you are welcome to stay on my property. There will be no charge. I do not give meals or lodging. I sometimes have as many as 100 young people stop by my place during the summer.

Swan Lake is within the confines of Flathead National Forest. Some of my property borders on National Forest or Montana State land. I have lakes, creeks, forests, meadows, wild game, and birds, birds, birds.

I am a conservationist, old (69), and a liberal. I do alot of work in population & believe in Women's Rights, including abortion on demand.

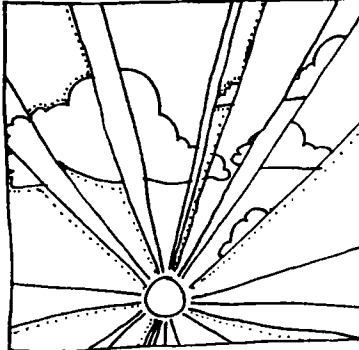
Last summer I had young people from as far away as New York and Florida.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Howard Martin
Swan Lake, Montana 59911



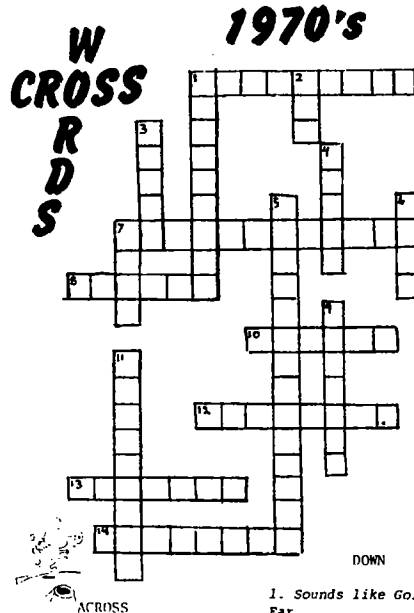
"What's that?" the interviewer asked. Once again I was confronted with explaining Unitarian Universalism to someone clearly interested but honestly confused.

"Well...", I began to stumble and search for words. I hadn't anticipated this conversation during my college interview. "It's a religion that believes in and cares about individuals rather than upholding specific creeds that individuals must adhere to. Questioning yourself and the world around you and searching for truth and beauty are integral parts of Unitarian Universalism." I sat back with finesse, glad to have explored other religions in seventh grade church school class in order to develop my own definitions for my religion.



BROADEN HORIZONS

Not a bad decade, huh? Just think of the people and events that have made the 70's significant.



- ACROSS
1. Civil, Womens', and now _____
 7. 1976 _____
 8. Fictional bigot, famous hill _____
 10. Gave Kool-Aid a bad name _____
 12. New Hampshire's deadliest plant _____
 13. Watches, clocks, and calculators _____
 14. Rhymes with car stores _____

- DOWN
1. Sounds like Gold In My Ear _____
 2. He'd be glad to have you for dinner _____
 3. Smith and Hearst _____
 4. Creating me in my own image _____
 5. Newest form of immaculate conception _____
 6. Right to Death slogan- "Pull the _____"
 7. Cherries and Crosby _____
 9. 11 people commonly found during the evening in living rooms across the U.S. _____
 11. H₂O opening in a fence, syn. _____

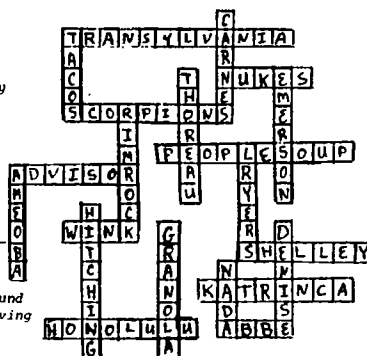
So you think you can do better. You're probably right. Prove it. Send your crossword to People Soup. You think I'm proud of this?

ATTENTION ALL LRYERS! Jeanne Nienwejaer wants to know what you are doing and thinking in your local groups. What kinds of programs are you creating and using? What kinds of books are you reading? What movies are you seeing, and why? How do these relate to Unitarian Universalism?

Jeanne is the new editor of Horizons, the Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) newsletter that is sent to UU teenagers in isolated areas all over the world. These are teenagers who are struggling to learn about and to grow with UUism without the support and stimulation of a UU church or peer group.

She's interested in obtaining personal statements from LRYers about how their UUism makes a difference in their lives. How has it helped you make certain decisions, to chose friends, interests, or lifestyles? How do you feel about what UUism represents, continentally or in your city or town? If you've grown up in a UU Church School, what do you think you've learned from your religious education? How do you explain your religion to questioning friends?

To have your statements considered for publication in Horizons, send them to Jeanne Nienwejaer RFD#2 Melendy Rd. Milford, NH 03055



ANSWERS TO LAST ISSUE'S CROSSWORDS

UNI...WHAT?

11

by NADA I. VELIMIROVIC

The woman still looked perplexed. "Yes, but what makes it a religion?" Now it was my turn for confusion. "I don't understand."

"Everything you've said struck me as philosophy. What's religious about it?" There was a long pause. I tried to launch into several statements but ended up saying, "Um...uh...eh..." I glanced at the wallhanging next to the interviewer. Stylized clouds floated across a blue silkscreened sky. Quickly, I snapped my eyes back to my hands fumbling on my knees. "It depends upon how you define religion," I blurted out finally.

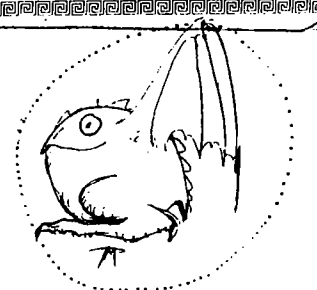
She waited expectantly for my definition. "Just the gathering together... a group of people focusing their energy...there's a special, spiritual quality to that itself. ...other than that, I'm not sure what makes it a religion. I just know that to me it is."

I went over that discussion in my mind on the bus ride back to Boston: What is religion? What is philosophy? How can they be integrated? Are they exclusive of each other? Is Unitarian Universalism a religion?

Several dictionary definitions and ponderings later, I came to the conclusion that whether the Unitarian Universalist religious potential is realized or not depends upon the environment, i.e. the church. I fear that many UUs get caught in intellectual paralysis where every thought and action is analyzed (and sterilized) to the point where it becomes next to impossible to do new things. Hence the image of UUs being philosophers and armchair revolutionaries.

Unitarian Universalism depends upon individuals and groups to act upon their personal beliefs. UU philosophy and religion have to be recognizable separate entities; equally important is that they be incorporated and blended together into every aspect of church life.

So my answer to the woman interviewing me would be more elaborate but essentially the same: "To me Unitarian Universalism is a religion."



INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FELLOWSHIP

Where can high school and college aged youth from around the world join in international joke telling sessions, group discussion, and worship in a liberal religious context? International Religious Fellowship (IRF), the youth group of the International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF), is that kind of place.

LRY is a member organization of IRF as the UUA is a member of IARF. This means that each and every one of you is eligible to attend the annual IRF Conference and Tour.

The 1979 IRF Conference will be held in Switzerland. For more information contact: Renate Bauer Worthstr. 6a 6700 Ludwigshafen West Germany

For further information on North American participation in IRF write to: Roger Smart 1962 Victoria Dayton, OH 45406

To receive "FORWARD TOGETHER" (the IRF Magazine) and to be included on the IRF mailing list, send your name and address to: Nada I. Velimirovic 25 Beacon Street Boston, MA 02108