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CELEBRATE

BY KATHY PRICE

At first glance this may look like prose. I do not write in prose. Poetry is my key to interpretation. It is also a good way to rationalize not following the rules...

As a young child I was told not to follow...yet I was led by the hand. As an older child I was told not to follow...yet I found myself being pushed and pulled by my peers. Pushed to conform to the image of their liking, an image that was easy to contend with, and file away. Stereo-type. Carbon copy. Run-of-the-mill. Same. I tried to be accepted.. tried harder...to look alike...talk alike... --think alike--NO!!!

Alienated. Misfit. I wandered alone. I found my only friend in the form of blank paper. The warm pen--and the cold wind in my face to make me feel cynical...and bitter. Writing was my life...my friend to share my secrets. My outlet...in the moments of sunlight, of darkness, of confusion, of pain. Disenchanted...I never knew myself to stay in one place too long. I...celebrated? --searched for life's meaning in the bottom of a bottle, in the flame of a joint, in the splotch of blood from a razor-sliced wrist. Embarrassed...I woke...with a healed surface wound and a stained bedspread to remind me of my failed attempt. Suicide note crumpled and tossed...I cried.

Confused and scared. I drifted. Much instability...I became an actor. Changeling. Improvising and changing with the scenery, trying on and then discarding cliques like so many workout costumes. I celebrated my confusion...my lack of direction...the self-parody...

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PERSONALS

People Soup, Vol. VIII, Issue I.
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Staff for this issue: Julienne Farman, Editor/Amy Shapiro/Nan Warshaw Bekah James/Kent Davis/Kathy Price/Richard Rule.

Art Credits: Rachael Bunker/Amy Shapiro/Mike Dean.

Photography: Kathy Price, Ed Inman, Tom Bier.

Cover: Julienne LePunque Farman/Amy LePunque Shapiro/Kathy LePunque Price/Tom Bier.

Thanks to Michelle, Ginger, Lissy and Ed.

MICON Committee: You might examine for yourselves the value of any sense of community which can't deal with outside influences. SOW

John: Katy says they break! Watch yourself! It's too expensive being a father unless she's wealthy. Give my love to Diana. Or Lori. Whoever. Love, Guru

To my pen friends, You are a wild and crazy group, Lynn, Nathan, Linda, Sally...! Love ya, Val

Laurel-Thanx for playing with the books with me. I'm quite indebted to you. I mean it from the bottom of my budget. We'll have to embezzle some brownies again, or throw ourselves out the office window. Love, Amy

Tammy De...I'm sorry you must leave us. I cry for you at night when I wish I could have said good-bye one more time. I'll miss you. Don't forget Myrna Loy when visiting my favorite Hicks... Love and tears, Guru

Susan: You said you never got anything in the way of personals. Well here's one for you!! Leila N.M.

Julienne, well hello there you sneaky little dwarf person (in spirit). You think that I can't write you a personal just 'cause you type them. HA! Well, here I am - and you can't stop me. Do blondes really have more fun? Love, love, love always, Michelle.

Dickdickdickdicky Doodleoodle, What is this shit? You haven't been to Beantown in six months...Come back, perhaps we can check out a hot punk band at Harvard. But let's not take Gediman. He always makes a scene. Yours truly, Julienne.

If there is anyone out there, this crazy girl would like to hear from you! Anything will be accepted; letters (love, poison-penned, or just friendly), bombs, report cards, anything! I promise to write back. Leila Marie Mohajerin, 568 Sherwood Dr., Auburn, AL 36830.



Gordie--Where'd your "in a sense" go? One of your advisees

YOU PEOPLES who never showed up at Joe Taco's housewarming celebration all should know that it was your loss, we didn't miss you a bit, but we were extremely insulted by your absence. Therefore we will never again think fondly of you again unless you rush your formal apology to us before midnight tonight.

And for the dear sweet person who relieved us of our wallets in Knoxville, I, for one, would appreciate getting my ID back.

Snuggles and fuzzles for everyone who went to Rainbow or Con. Con. '80! I really had an excellent time. Share the warmth, pass on the rainbow, and spread the word of anarchy. Jennifer

Paranaught-"In the velvet darkness of the blackest night, burning bright, there's a shining star, no matter what or who you are, there's a light..." Can we still be friends?

Jaykins--I LOVE YOU!! In case you'd forgotten. Your lil sis, Lizzie baby

'Hay gang, here we go again, lane's back at Simon's Cosmos, Great Barrington, MA 01230. Warm Fuzzies, and genial correspondence gleefully accepted and usually answered.



Julie, It's been a long time, I use to see you every day. I think I'm going to dieeeeeeee. Love Bekah

Has anyone seen either my respectability or my M-16? I seem to have misplaced them somewhere during the War of the Warm Fuzzies. If you have any knowledge of their whereabouts, please contact me. Jennifer.

Carla, my love, it has been one year, three weeks and two days since I last saw or heard from you. I'm sorry I woke you up that morning--but I'd like to know if you are healthy. happy and into anything. Greyhaven never gave me your address so please write. I miss you. Love you always, Nell

To Nada Velimirovic and all the other Nadas: Did you know that in Slavic "Nada" means HOPE? It comes from the word "nadesz". That is what I always tell anyone who tells me my name means nothing. And I am always hopeful. Nada Bevic.

To Anyone, My dad said yes!!! I am going to school in New Hampshire, and am very happy about it. My new address is: Karen Gore, Baker River School, Wentworth, NH 03282. I am busy but have time to read and write letters. Please write. Love, Karen

Sam, I'm sorry I didn't send you anything for your birthday. I just could not think of anything quite vile enough. Hope it was happy anyway. Sort of. Julienne

Liisa: "But shit is a product of life!" Keep in touch. I love you, Michelle

Julie, I LOVE YOU! Good luck in whatever toil, trouble, and bubble that life may bring. Always, Michelle

Sharon Goodwin: Please contact me, I have your and Allens T-Shirts but have lost your address. Sorry. Love Karen

Christine: Pleez write and sorry I missed you at the bi-fed. Your purple sis, Elizabeth

2

Sydney Sandoz lives!!!

J.M. is alive and well and living in France!

To whoever picked up my green down jacket at Con-Con '80: it devours the wearer on the full moon. To avoid, return to Jimmy Riley, 2918 Bellaire St., Denver, CO 80207. P.S. Hi Kate! How's the banjo?

Tommy J. - Grrr, Grrr! Your lil teddy bear, Michal Ann Bekah, Can't wait till we tuna fish together again. Hot Dog! Michal Ann P.S. Let's peanut butter and jam.

Marc Pucci--What is your address/phone? I can't find you anywhere!! Lane

Janet, Party harty and may there be warm fuzzies in your heart forever. Love, Michelle *Human sexual response*

CMF: You helped put me here. I miss you... Luv, Nan

Tow transplanted barnacles: Steve Woodbridge, 3005 E. Euclid, Boulder, CO 80303, and Shalimar Ward 1141 11th St., Boulder, 80302.

Gretchen!! Help! I have to do this page by my onesies!! OH NOOOOOOOO!! I miss miss miss miss miss you.



To everyone I have ever met: Howdy!! Hugs and kisses all around. If you've had some trouble keeping on top of my aimless trekings up and down the East Coast, my current address is: Jennifer Brett, Eckerd College, Box 72, St. Pete, FL 33733

It's the ... CMF!! (danannaana) I love and miss you! (Yes, I disappeared for awhile). I'm in Boston now: C/O LRY Love and Telekinetic Baking. Kathy

Michelle, Why do I feel as if I've been framed?

3 ...and more...

Amy--We miss ya! Come on and see us sometime. Good luck as an Exec. The S.M. local. P.S. What'll your buddies at the pizza joint do without ya?

Prince: Dreadfully long time since I've showered with you, though I anticipate it happening again. I have letters written for you but what's your address? I Love you, you trickster...Michal Ann, 641 No. Humphrey, Oak Park, IL 60302

Ruthie my-dear, I will do my best to get Nabasco on its feet, into the swing, along the groove, so it'll go real smooth. Love, Michelle

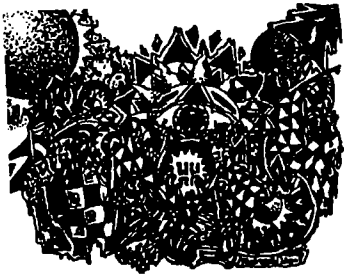
Dear Debbie: I'm so glad you were at Con-Con--now I know you better, I like you more. And thank you for your advice in the tourbus, it helped me alot. IRFly, love and friendship, Matthias.

Note: Ohio no longer exists in the continental United States, due to overplayed controversy. As of October 1, 1980, Ohio has been nuked and is now pleasantly glowing in the land of Oz. Therefore Be It Resolved: Ohio is no longer, nor was it ever, in the Midwest.

Bill, I'll tie you to the roof rack and beat you with bungie cords. Can't you tell I love you?! Nan

Dick P.- I'm once again in exile in Yellow Springs. Please write, visit, or send word of your continued existence. Hope you're still tall and thin as I'm still short and soft. Love and dark hair. Nell P.S. Yes, kids: here's my address: N. Veeder, Antioch College, Yellow Springs, OH 45387 (513)-767-7331.

Will someone please tell me when Morris-town is having a conference? A Misplaced conferee.



Lisa, I miss ya so much. Beah

Did anyone go to the Stebbins conference at Asilomar? If so speak up! I love ya all. Thanx, write. Valerie Hard, 20948 Bandera St., Woodland Hills, CA 91364

High-I feel unable to deal with things the way they are, and I'm sorry for blowing off plans previously made with other people...but you have to do what you have to do. Until I get a permanent address, poison pen letters, porno mail, threats of violence, love letters and demands for payment may be sent to: Flight Comm. Keri, c/o Chris Schild, 4602 Lincoln Dr., Concord, CA 94521. (415)-686-3222. My head's being real crazy, but I love you all...talk to me sometime. Keri

FRIENDS OF LRY

LRY
25 Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Friends,

Liberal Religious Youth receives funding from various sources. In the upcoming year we will be requesting donations from your local LRY group and from LRYers as individual members of the organization. This is necessary because there never seems to be enough money in our extremely tight budget to have all of the programs which we feel are important to the youth of the denomination. The most supportive force in LRY should be the individual members and the local groups who care about the value of LRY and its place in the denomination. If as a friend of LRY you make a donation to our organization, then LRY has gained more than money, we have gained the love and concern of a friend.

Please give your support to a friend in need; LRY.

Thank You.

Amy Shapiro
 Amy Shapiro, Director of
 Finance and Assemblies

Anything you can contribute will be immensely appreciated. Please send your donation with the coupon below to the above address.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

thank you

interns, huh?

How would you like to be an intern? No, not the kind that works in a hospital--the LRY kind. Being an intern involves a month in which you would come to Boston, and live and work with the LRY Executive Committee. Work in the office involves typing, filing, correspondence, working on People Soup, and being silly. At Taco Villa, the LRY apartment you would have your own room and be expected to help out around the house. LRY will pay for your food, and provide you with a T-Pass, which will get you around the city. Being an intern is certainly a learning experience, and can be a lot of fun! If you would like more information on the Intern Program, write to Interns, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108.

international religious fellowship 4

This past summer, International Religious Fellowship (IRF) held its annual conference at Mt. Tremper, in New York, the first time in several years in the United States. The theme was "Communities", and some thirty-five attendees from member groups from the US, England, Holland, Switzerland and Germany participated in building a truly international community. Activities included a visit to the Sri Oro Bindo Monastery, and workshops on ethnic communities, the IRF Community, communities in space and many more. The conference community was strengthened through the use of care groups, and through the folk music that seemed to be happening all the time.

So now you know a little bit about the IRF Conference. But what exactly is IRF? And how can you get involved? IRF is an organization made out of various member groups around the world, such as LRY in North America, and the Fellowship of Youth in Great Britain. Its basic purpose is to bring together liberal religious young people (teenage to age 35) from all over the world during a one week conference each summer. During the rest of the year, IRF serves through its publication, *Forward Together*, as a communications service to let people

know what each of the other groups are up to. This may sound very technical and dull to you, but IRF is far from that. For myself, IRF helped me to develop international friendships, understand the world a bit better, and has made me feel a little bit less alone in the world by showing me that there are people with beliefs similar to mine all over the world.

North American Friends of IRF is a new organization, created to help people become aware of IRF--who we are and what we are doing. In addition to publishing a regular newsletter and *Forward Together*, to all interested persons in the US and Canada, NAIRF will also be sending out publicity for the next IRF Conference, to be held in Holland, and trying to secure scholarship funds for people with low finances who might wish to come. NAIRF is still in the developmental stages, so if you'd like to help us get it off the ground or would simply like to be on the mailing list, contact Dave Williams, 2420 Westchester Ct, South San Francisco, CA 94080. If you were already on LRY's IRF Mailing list, you have been automatically included in this list.

SUMMER BOARDS

The LRY Board of Directors met this summer for the 1980 Annual Meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee. Many important issues were discussed, including the upcoming 1981 Youth Assembly, "Common Ground."

Eight federations were represented at the meeting, including Massachusetts Bay Federation, represented by Laurie Roth, Greater Washington Area Federation, represented by Janet Rosado, Delaware Valley Federation, represented by Mike Davis, Connecticut River Valley Federation, represented by Jana Willett, Southern Appalachian Mountain Federation, represented by Chip Bultman, Barney, represented by Jay ten Hove, Sunco, represented by Steve Baughman (well, sort of), Starr-King, represented by Hillevi Wyman, Central Midwest Federation, represented by Nan Warsaw, Pacific Southwest LRY, represented by Tony James. Also present was the then LRY Executive Committee, Gretchen Jones, David Williams, Nina Martin, and Julienne Farman, and the LRY Judiciary Committee, Amy Shapiro, Rachael Stearns. The Continental Conference Committee also held meetings during the Board Meeting, and delivered a report to the Board. There were about fifteen observers present. The meeting was moderated by Gretchen Jones, with Tim Gates and Jennifer Robinson acting as Parliamentarian and Recording Secretary, respectively.

The agenda for this meeting included LRY's Budget, Fundraising, *People Soup*, and financial change. Perhaps the most productive day was spawned by a visit from the 1981 Youth Assembly Planning Committee, when the Committee and the Board discussed ideas about the assembly. Later that day, the LRY Board of Directors voted unanimously to accept the outcome of the Youth Assembly as the successor organization to LRY, and to receive all of LRY's assets.

Elections were held for two positions on the LRY Executive Committee. Nan Warsaw was elected to fill the position of Director of Denominational Communications, and Amy Shapiro elected as the Director of Finance and Assemblies. Also held were elections for the 1980-81 Judiciary Committee. New members of that committee are: Hillevi Wyman, Jan Willett, Michal

Ann Sammons, Julie-Anne Silberman, and Jennifer Robinson.

Not all of the meeting was work, however. The entire Board was able to take a day off and escape the incredible heat at a nearby lake. Other activities included nightly sojourns to the Pickle-U-Pub, Baskin-Robbins, the Rocky Horror Picture Show (a Boards tradition), and to many of the nearby parks and museums.

Of course, the food was marvelous. By the end of the ten-day meeting, each board member was a connoisseur of oatmeal...

The Winter Board Meeting will be held this year in Princeton, New Jersey from December 26, 1980, to January 1, 1981. Observers are welcome to attend, but must participate in the meetings. If you would like information concerning Winter Boards, write to Boards, c/o LRY, 25 Beacon St, Boston, MA 02108, or call (617)-742-2105 extension 370.



5 CONTINENTAL CONFERENCE

Continental Conference 1980 was held this year in Highlands, North Carolina, at the Highlands Camp and Conference Center--"The Mountain". All tolled, there were about 125 people present, coming from as far as Germany or as near as Charlotte, North Carolina. The theme, "Community Consciousness" was well developed through many excellent workshops and activities.

The highlights of the week-long conference included the annual "Mr. Ugly" contest, where the highest honor was awarded to sensuous Bunny Bushwack a/k/a Rick Knowlton. A first-rate coffeehouse allowed conferees to show off thier talents, from a variety of musicians (both real and imagined) to skits, juggling, a slightly amusing monologue, and basic silliness. Uue to a dispute as to whether "The Retardos" should remain as LRY's official punk band, a "Battle of the Bands" was held. A seven-member band performing under the name of "Ratchil Harmonee and the Beat Me Silly Band" performed several vulgar original tunes, while "The Retardos" performed some of their disgusting old favorites. The contest ended in a proposed merger--"The Beat Me til I'm a Retardo Band."

The conference site itself was beautiful--nestled high in the Smokey Mountains. Each cabin housed ten people, each with an incredible view of the surrounding mountains. At any given time during the week, you could hear upon walking around the camp, strange music emanating from the Rec Hall, or the odd grumblings of the Dungeons and Dragons crowd reverberating from the Dining Hall.

A Dream Workshop was held two consecutive nights, led by Wayne Arnason. The workshop consisted of six groups of seven to ten people, each group sleeping together. Before going to sleep, each group participated in a meditation. In the morning, we discussed our dreams and helped one another understand and interpret our dreams.

Two week-long workshops were held, one on Self-Image, and the other on Women's Self-Defense. Other workshops included Rafting, Sliding and Other Fun Things to do in the River, Horseback Riding, New Games, Silk Screening, Women's Anatomy, Silliness, Music, Photography (this group built their own darkroom!) and, of course, Dungeons and Dragons.

This year's Con-Con committee, Julie Ann Silberman, from New Jersey, Lane Betz, from Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and

UU-UN HOLDS SEMINAR

"There is a greater than 50% chance that the world will blow up in your lifetime." This was one of the many facts we discussed at the UU United Nations Youth Seminar on Disarmament. Attending were 21 UU Youth from across the country. We listened to many interesting speakers, watched a few films, went on a tour of the United Nations, and sat in on a special session on Disarmament of the first committee of the UN. The facts scared us, but we also found out what we could do to cause a change. We also learned many other alarming facts: The U.S. is #1 in military power, #8 in doctor/patient ratio, #15 in literacy and infant mortality, and #26 in life expectancy. By the end of the four day seminar we had become thoroughly motivated--looking forward to working on disarmament issues within our churches and communities. If you would like information on future UU-UN Seminars, on the theme of disarmament, contact Nan Warshaw, Director of Denominational Communications, c/o 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108.



Jennifer Brett, also from New Jersey, did a superb job on all aspects of the conference--certainly not an easy job! Next year's Continental Conference Committee was elected. The members of that committee are: James Bohem, from Wayne, PA, Phil Rodgers, from Texas, Chris Chichester, from Denver, Chris Paine, from San Francisco, Hillevi Wyman, from San Francisco, and Amy Shapiro, the LRY Liaison. They are looking for a site in the Northern Midwest.

If you would like information on next year's Continental Conference, please write to Con-Con, c/o LRY, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108.

(Incidentally, Ratchil Harmonee and the Beat Me Silly Band was much better than the Retardos...)

BUNNY BUSHWACK

FOCUS:



This issue, we are pleased to present to you the winner of the 1980 LRY Mr. Ugly Contest, B.B.B. Bushwack.

Bunny Bartholomew Barfus Bushwack was born in a small strip mining community outside Richmond, VA. As a small child, Bunny recalls "playing in the dirt" and "the funny trucks..." "We had a silly little dog, 'Fugi'...one day I hid a big chunk of coal in his Kal-Kan. He chipped his big doggie teeth and ran around like a crazy horse until one of those big yellow tractors rooled over him...It was funny."

Tragically, on Bunny's eighth birthday, both her parents were killed in a "funny" mining accident. Bunny hitch-hiked to Denver Colorado where she became a religious fanatic. Fortunately, the D.D.D. (Determined Deprogrammer of Denver) caught up with her and caused her to undergo painful shock therapy. "That's all I remember," Bunny declares. "All the rest is just a bunch of lies I made up for the National Enquirer. I hate those people." Bunny refuses to comment on the declining value of the American dollar.

1981 Youth Assembly

6

Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota has been announced as the site for the 1981 UUA Youth Assembly, "Common Ground." The assembly will be held August 10-15, 1981. Announcement of the site and theme for the assembly was made by the planning committee as they completed their second three day meeting held within one month.

UUA President Eugene Pickett and the continental leadership of LRY jointly proposed the idea of a delegate assembly of all UU Youth to be held in the summer of 1981. The UUA Board approved funding for the proposed assembly in April, and the LRY Board of Directors unanimously endorsed the assembly in August. Denominational and youth leaders see the assembly as a way past the polarized politics that have stalled the effectiveness of the UUA's services to youth in recent years. LRY has agreed to be bound by the democratically reached decisions made by the assembly.

At the 1980 General Assembly in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the UUA Board appointed a planning committee of youth and adults to take responsibility for the structure and arrangements of the youth assembly. Committee members include: The Rev. Anne Heller, Charles Wyatt, Oren Peterson, Gretchen Jones, Justin Alcorn, Kevin Clark, and Wayne Arnason.

Meeting in Boston this September, the planning committee announced plans for the purpose and shape of the youth assembly. The theme suggests the purpose. The task is the seeking of common ground for L.R.Y. and non-LRY youth, for youth and adults, common ground upon which an approach to youth programming supported by the whole denomination can be built. The task for the delegate body of both youth and adults at the assembly will be to reach a consensus on the direction and structure for the UUA's youth programs for the next generation.

The planning committee expressed a strong desire for district involvement and ownership of the process leading up to the assembly. With this in mind, each district will be asked to take responsibility for setting up a delegate selection process suitable to its own needs. The planning committee has encouraged each district to sponsor a well-planned inclusive district youth assembly as part of their preparations for delegate selection and education.

The delegates to the assembly will number 275. Twenty-five will be at-large delegates appointed by the planning committee to represent important UUA constituencies that are not included within the usual UUA district structures. District delegates will number 250. Each district has been allotted a number of delegates based on their population. The median number of delegates per district is eleven.

The planning committee for the assembly is committed to seeking a sizeable scholarship fund to assist delegates in travelling to the youth assembly. LRY has announced plans for Continental Conference and Summer Board Meeting to be held in the northern Midwest, easing some of the financial burden for LRY-involved delegates.

In 1975 the UUA Board appointed a Special Committee on Youth Programs to evaluate the status of denominational youth programming and to make recommendations for its improvement. The S.C.O.Y.P. was set up in response to a request from Liberal Religious Youth, and because of widespread concern in the denomination that the LRY program was not adequately meeting the needs of the majority of UU youth.

After two years of studies and meetings, the committee submitted its report in the fall of 1977. In summary the report identified

two major reasons for a decline in the size and quality of UU youth programs:

- *the inadequacy of the present LRY structure and organization to do the necessary tasks

- *a massive abdication of responsibility on the part of adult UU's, lay and professional, for youth programs, arising out of feelings of fear, frustration and apathy

S.C.O.Y.P was divided as to its programmatic recommendations to remedy this situation. The report was written in sections by different members of the committee, and the variety of solutions they suggested involved a budgetary commitment far beyond the willingness of the UUA Board to fulfill.

One of the major recommendations was that the full-time youth staff of LRY be replaced by a full-time adult consultant on youth programs. This was the recommendation that UUA President Paul Carnes and the UUA Board decided to act on, setting aside other suggestions in the report for future consideration.

One year of debate about the S.C.O.Y.P. report ensued, on all levels of the UUA. In the spring of 1979, a majority of voting members (most of them youth) sitting on the UUA Youth Adult Committee passed a resolution suggesting that the full-time hired LRY staff and funding be retained and a half-time staff person be hired to supplement their work. A strong minority report supporting the original S.C.O.Y.P. recommendation was issued by UUA YAC chair Bruce Southworth. The UUA Board supported the S.C.O.Y.P.-Southworth position and voted to replace funding for the LRY Executive Committee with a full-time adult staff position.

Politicizing and a floor fight at the 1979 General Assembly resulted in a mandate for UUA President Gene Pickett to negotiate a compromise solution with LRY. A package proposal involving UUA funding, LRY fundraising, and a full-time youth consultant on programming was submitted to the UUA Board and approved.

The Rev. Wayne Arnason was hired to fill the consultant's position, and began work in January of 1980. The UUA Board voted at that time to continue funding for LRY through the 1980-81 fiscal year, to allow the consultant and the LRY leadership to work out a relationship between them, and to offer suggestions for a resolution to the stalemate that had plagued UU youth programming since the submission of the S.C.O.Y.P. report.

In February of 1980, the LRY Executive Committee and the Youth Consultant began informal discussions about the possibility of a representative democratic youth assembly in the summer of 1982, which would be charged with considering alternatives for and ratifying arrangements to create a new approach to UUA youth programming. With no guarantee as to how the process would work out, the leadership of LRY agreed to recommend to the LRY Board that LRY agree to be succeeded by whatever form of UU youth program was approved by this proposed youth assembly.

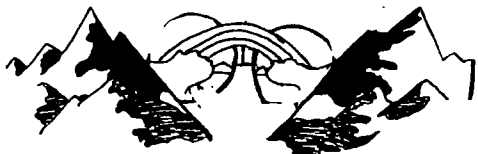
The UUA administration endorsed the idea, and it was brought before the UUA Board's Finance Committee to discuss possible funding. Some new money had recently been made available to the UUA through settlement of some lawsuits having to do with a private trust fund, the Holdeen trust. A small foundation, the Liberal Religious Charitable Society (LRCS) was the recipient

CONT. ON P. 10

7 FOR RC

----i'll catch the sun
and tie it on a string
that we might play together
some kinder moments
but if you wish
for more than the sunset
on a string
i shall give you some
stars that sing
to cheer you up
when you find life
barren and without
meaning----

-Shirley L. Cahayon
Saudi Arabia



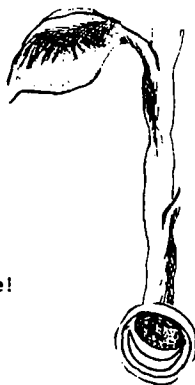
Moon Mother

She meets you at the edge of the sea's mountain
You are engulfed by a huge round powdery loop
It's comfortable
You rest
as you rest you travel far and high
Past the constellations and galaxies
Into the moon dust.
She feeds you bland moonpuffs of sparkling blue color.
The stars and the glow of the huge sunken body
make you bounce
your face and body grow with jubilation
your teeth are all stars
She has brought along a companion for you
all at once you notice him
You gaze and melt together
The loop is around us, she leaves for the night
the stars and the glow send their beams of
love through our bodies,-we make more.

-Virginia Irwin
The duck mother of
Freeport LRY

...a group of young boys clustered a-
round the zoo steps. Extremely interested
in something on the cement--
hopping and scrambling wildly to and
fro was a mouse-so skittish-rushing madly...
Why? Why should it be so?
Because it was slowly being enclosed in a
fence of fingers
insensitive clumsy tentacles--inept--as they
strived like wooden pegs to attach themselves
to mouse's delicate body
shaking-fragile, miniature
it is hoisted
on a skyscraper of air
and lost
mercifully they give chase
to rescue mouse from a plight still worse
blood leaks
tears leak
tiny filaments, tendons, bones shattered
microscopic capillaries severed
hobbling away
pain oozing--shuddering--wobbling
the damaged frame machine
has given it's warning--screaming--too late!
too late!
Mouse is ready for the mouldy heap, the
musky earth-all draped in shadow
curiosity?
Will they remember the silent scream?

-Rachel Bunker

P
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UNTITLED

independence day breaking around us
we are free we are free
the americans shout
but they shout it all together
and billy graham in the name of our lord
urges them on
and bob hope boosts them
we are the greatest in the world
america shouts as one
in their flagworshipping togetherness
and jerry rubin on the crowd's fringes
offers heroin to little children.

--Unknown



BEAUTY

Show them the beauty
the life.
Give them the irony,
the romance, the tragedy.
Understand, and believe,
in yourself
and they will follow.
Give them the life.

Listen, and believe.
Each of us holds the key,
the quest is in the turning.

Love, on the other side.
Knowledge inevitably comes,
the sharing is not so easy.

When you show them the
beauty, the life,
you show yourself.

Show them the beauty.
And give freely.

--Andrea Price



UNTITLED

as life comes dripping down my cheeks
as i have been tortured in dreams of triumph
through webs of wonder crushed
my spirit at rediscovery awakes
and smiles of hours in passing spent

with dooms of days my hand did tremble
and crushed my flower of feeling
though my despair did ache my every bone
my body in flourish does reunite
with laughings of idiot walkings alone

along the gulch of sad i walked
as mourning illusions of dreams come untrue
though nightmares of niceness vanished from me
my sleep untroubled became in glad
and honesties of infinity came to greet

my age in delusions of hope i saw bred
and i reeled in shock as wall hit my face
though i thought it had moved it was i
and my spirit in rediscovery awakens
to crouched days of desire in loving

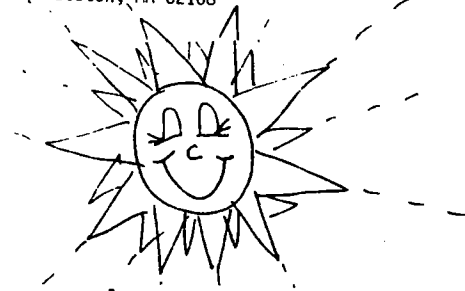
--Unknown

YOUTH DAY

On Sunday, April 26, 1981, Unitarian Universalist youth groups will celebrate continental Youth Day. This celebration can consist of a Worship Service, a coffeehouse, or any other intergenerational activity.

This year, LRY has a packet available to help you plan for your Youth Day. This packet contains ideas for planning and execution of a Worship Service, as well as alternate ideas. It is available for one dollar, to cover printing and postage charges, from LRY. Write:

Youth Day
c/o LRY
25 Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02108



april 26, 1981

OF MAJOR 8 IMPORTANCE

You may have noticed that this issue of People Soup looks slightly different from the issues of the past few years. We have instituted this format change as a money-saving device. In the past, the type has been reduced by 64%, to allow for more space. Unfortunately, this reduction is financially no longer possible.

We have made many changes so that we will be able to spend our money more efficiently. One is to raise the advertising rates, to \$200.00 per page, and another is to install a nominal charge for personals, of fifty cents. This may seem strange, but one whole page, at least, is taken up by personals, and if we can make a small amount of money for that page, then future issues can be expanded.

The next issue of People Soup will be published in February. The theme of this issue will be "Social Actions", and your contributions are welcome--both financial and creative.

Thanks,
Julianne
Amot

Is no news REALLY good news?

Massachusetts Bay Federation: Anne Lynneworth is working on a conference, on the theme of "New Sensations", to take place on January 9-11 somewhere in Boston suburbia. For information, write Anne Lynneworth, Simon's Rock College, Great Barrington, MA. A newsletter was recently sent out. Massachusetts Bay District Youth Adult Committee is busily planning for MBD Pre-Assemblies. For further information, write Laurie Roth, 45 Thackeray Rd, Wellesley, MA 02181.

Connecticut River Valley Federation: A conference was held in October in Hartford. The

CRVF Executive Committee is planning for future conferences and a coffeehouse.

SUNCO: A conference was held right before Thanksgiving in Miami.

Pacific Southwest LRY: PSLRY is holding a Christmas Camp from Dec. 19th through 24 at DeBenniville Pines. PS's YAC held a very successful Leadership Development Conference in early December also at DeBenniville Pines.

Deaf Eskimo Area Federation: Deaf is getting the federation together at this point. A conference is being planned.



FED'S UPS AND DOWNS



9 HELP!

People Soup is a creation of Liberal Religious Youth. Supposedly, a creation of the constituency. We have room for your articles, poetry, graphics, personals, and opinions. Over the past few months, reader contributions have been steadily declining. We need you! We really do! Your contributions are ecstatically welcomed and enthusiastically received! Please, please send your contributions to People Soup, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108.

Because of a small budget, and time pressures, the next issue of People Soup will be published March 1, 1980. This will be a thirty-two page issue, on the theme of social actions. We are especially interested in accounts of social actions related activities of local LRY groups and individual LRYers. If you wish to submit something, please send it by January 15, 1981. Thank you thank you thank you.

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Biofeedback Monitor System

I read with great interest Dave Williams' article on draft registration (People Soup, Volume VII, Issue V), and although I greatly appreciate his intent, there are definitely some important points which should be clarified to those who are considering non-compliance with the military complex.

Noncompliance, although unquestionably a serious offense, is not treated quite so harshly as the article suggests. During the Vietnam war, fifteen million people did not cooperate with the Selective Service System. Of these, 12 percent were discovered and Federal Prosecution Forms were made out for these individuals. Out of this 12 percent, the Federal government decided it only had a strong enough case to try 10 percent of the non-registrants caught. Of those found guilty, 50 percent were given probation and/or a civil service job, and most of those who spent time in prison were there for eight to nine months. Less than two percent spent eighteen months or more in jail. They do not (I repeat, DO NOT) prosecute individuals for failing to register after they have spent time in jail.

The Federal government presently has very little prison space (one wonders why) and very little money. During the Vietnam war, most non-registrants were given a second chance to register if caught...there is little question that this will happen again. Only flagrant violators were not given a second chance. It now costs the government \$10,000.00 per year per prisoner, an expense it can do without. Most non-registrants were not caught by CIA, or FBI "intelligence" methods, but were discovered as a result of committing another crime, such as speeding.

One quick note: One should not decide to non-comply because of the likelihood of being caught, one should draw the line with one's beliefs and stick by them, even if it means prison. The power of non-compliance lies with personal conviction, not sheer numbers. Seriously. If you plan on registering when caught, you may as well save yourself the trouble and register now.

What about conscientious objection? Fine, if you decide that it is the government's right to pick who is morally opposed to war and who isn't. Do you trust the war makers to pick fairly and honestly those who are tru-

ly CO's? You should look through some sample cases during Vietnam and see just how eagerly the draft boards handed out CO status to draftees. Are you articulate enough to write three essays on your beliefs? What about the draftees who can't, have very little education, what do they do? What about inherent racist attitudes, do you think that a black can get CO status as easily as a white in the most violent/racist organization in the country/world? Think--S.S.S. expects 50% of registrants to apply for CO. What are they going to do with all these people? You may be the type who believes the CO system is messed up enough to not bother complying with it.

In my experience as a draft counselor, (which, I admit, is rather recent), I have found that many registrants feel leaving the country is an option when drafted. Dave Williams spoke rather accurately on how willing countries (especially Canada) will be to take in Draft Dodgers. One has only ten days to uproot ones life, say goodbye to home, and make way to the closest border. That's not much time, just as it's not much time to document a CO Claim.

Finally, there has been much interest in medical deferments. I personally counsel people to pursue their convictions and not to dodge the system, and try to deal with it through intellectual games...however, for those of you with double vision or asthma or recurrent headaches, you should realize that your claim must be documented, and the only physical exam you get is right before you're inducted. If they say you're OK, you must appeal from within the military, cause you're in. Maybe you'll be lucky, but I doubt it. If you choose to non-cooperate from within the military, be aware that military prison is a pit, and sentences are, as a rule, extremely severe.

To all of us who face registration, the best of luck in a frightening time.

Sincerely,
Philip Goodman
Old Summit (NJ) LRYer

Antioch =
theory + practice.

10

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CONT. FROM P. 6

of some of these trust monies and in a position to give grants to liberal religious programs and institutions not directly part of the UUA. The Finance Committee was willing to support the idea of the Youth Assembly, but for financial and political reasons wanted it to be in 1981 instead of 1982. If the LRCS would pick up the funding for LRY in 1980-81, that would allow the UUA budget to fund a planning committee for this youth assembly with \$15,000.00. The UUA Board would then project a budget equal to the current grant for LRY in the next fiscal year, 1981-81, intended for whatever future youth program comes out of the assembly.

The UUA Board and the Board of the LRCS approved this plan, and the funding for the

event is all set up. The final step in this process was completed this past summer when the LRY Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve the plan.

Plans for the Youth Assembly were announced at the 1980 GA at Albuquerque and there has been much discussion already. After the LRY Board approved the proposal, publicity and district level organizing for the youth assembly began in earnest.

If you would like to be included on a mailing list to receive information on the 1981 Youth Assembly, "Common Ground", please fill in the coupon below, and mail it to Wayne Arnason, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

I am (please check): Youth _____ Interested Adult _____ DRE _____

Non-LRY Youth _____ Advisor _____ Minister _____

11 hit the road! By Nan Warshaw

"Truckin', got my chips cashed in,
Keep truckin', like the doodah man.
Together, more or less in line,
Just keep truckin' on."

For the past year, I have been traveling. For me, each journey is a celebration of life, of freedom. The spiritual lift I receive when traveling are complimented by a sense of accomplishment: I develop my self-confidence, my trust.

"Well, I left my happy home to see what I could find out.
I left my folk and friends with the aim to clear my mind out.
Well, I hit the rowdy road many kinds I met there..."

I knew that I could always go home if anything went wrong, yet I found I could take care of myself, even when I was ill. As I grew to be completely responsible for myself, my confidence increased.

I began to trust myself more and to follow my own intuition. There was a time when I had little money, no place to stay, not even a tent or a sleeping bag. I had one friend in town and I could not find him. I stayed and waited, talking to people, knowing that things would work out. I asked a man if he knew my friend. Even though he didn't, we continued talking. It turned out that he was an LRYer on his way home from a camping trip. He offered to share his tent with me for the night at a nearby campground.

"The first small town on the southern side of the mountains. Here the true life of wandering begins, the life of a vagabond wholly free. I am much inclined to live my life from a rucksack, and let my trousers fray as they like."

The feeling of limitless freedom I experienced standing in the flat plains of Nevada, being able to see for miles in all directions; high in the Rockies, seeing endless mountains and valleys; even on the highway watching the interminable white lines.

"This is Major Tom to ground control.

I'm stepping through the door,
and I'm floating in the most peculiar way
and the stars look very different today.
Och, I've crossed one hundred thousand miles,
and I'm feeling very scared,
and I think my spaceship knows which way to go.
Tell my wife I love her very much,
she knows
Ground control to Major Tom,
can you hear me?
can you hear me?
can you hear me?
can you hear me Major Tom?
And I'm floating on my tin can,
far above the world,
planet earth is blue
and there's nothing I can do..."

Throughout my travels, I have gained self-confidence through increased responsibility and the need to take care of myself; I learned to trust my own intuition and realized that problems can be worked out in the end...I enjoyed the feeling of freedom.

"Truckin',
I'm a goin' home,
yeah, yeah, yeah baby
that's where I belong,
Back home, sit down and rest my bones,
and get back truckin' on."

CONT. FROM P. 1

--Time passes...the clock turns...the calendar pages die. Then fall. Then blow away forever like dead leaves.

A Friday afternoon. High school. Waiting for a friend. (*****?) Waited, waited, waiting...expectation leads to let down... He did not show. I'm back in the halls of faces. Feeling so alone.

After school a phone call. Reconciliation. Opportunities. Leaving...now...for the weekend...a conference...LRY...what's a conference...Decisions: the feeling of standing on a wire--to fall back into predictable routine, unchallenged boredom...or to drive forward into a new experience...coming to terms with my insecurities.

Friday night driving. Feeling of transition, of driving out of my past and into the future. A vanful of people. Journeying on into the night...Heading out of state for...the weekend...for...

A church. Such open faces. Warm hugs. New people new...friends. I was taken by the hand and shown--my freedom. With their persuasion I loosened up...we laughed and played like children I felt like a child...with so much room to give...and grow... I had so many inhi-inhi-inhibitions, too afraid to dance or sing or show my face, so afraid of rejection.

After the playtime, after the joy, comes love and more joy...

Standing together--a self-supporting circle we held each other. Balanced motion, swaying compensation, all voices blending. Varying intensities of volume, of motion...

such a beautiful moment...the music died down softly, slowly...hugging you all so close I cried.

I was on a life high. A freedom high. Joyous Celebration. I realized I had never been so full of life--not through drugs, not through anything...my wall of insecurities had been shattered. I felt. I had discovered...myself...how to love myself...and the people around me. I finally began to accept my own creativity, my own spirituality.

That first conference was the beginning of many journeys...every one has been such a new and beautiful experience. I feel now, where ever I go, I have friends. Within the diversity of people who make up LRY I feel that there are enough people who have interests similar to mine that I can always find someone with whom I am on familiar ground and feel at home with...yet at the same time, there are so many people with varying beliefs and backgrounds that I'm constantly learning new things from them.

--I set out with love in my heart and an open mind. I look at people in a new way. Accepting old friends--seeking new ones. I look at life with fresh enthusiasm.

Thinking of the past...the conferences, the virgin phoofs and fuzzies and hugs. All those sleepless nights...free form dancing, singing, the late night poetry readings... many miles of travels. Winding up at Taco Villa at three A.M. Being an unexpected intern. Realizing that it's all of us...friends. Six thousand of us...We are LRY, and our love makes it possible.

CLONES FROM OUTER SPACE TAKE OVER LRY



The LRY Executive Committee: (left to right) Amy Shapiro, of Pittsburgh, PA, Director of Finance and Assemblies, Kimba, from the Streets of Beantown, Director of Sandbox Affairs, Nancy Warshaw, from Evanston, IL, Director of Denominational Communications, and Julienne Farman, of Winchester, MA, Director of Publications.

amy

nan

Salutations. I'm Amy Rembrandt Shapiro, the Director of Finance and Assemblies for 1980-81.

I'll tell you a bit about myself so that if we ever meet we'll be the best of friends. I drink a lot of coffee when I can afford to. I don't shave my legs. My bellybutton is an innie, but it's not so far in that you can't see all the wrinkles in it. I write a lot of letters but nobody ever writes back to me. I like crayons. I rarely make my bed. I don't eat meat, but I like to eat. I'm sometime's cosmic, but never obvious about it. I'm as bright, cute, cheerful and charming as the rest of the Executive Committee.

The LRY office is in the basement of a building behind 25 Beacon St. in downtown Boston. It's full of paper and office supplies and suchlike equipment. There is a bizarre nostalgic feeling to our office which I believe comes from the physical reminders of past Tacos which decorate the yellowish walls and clutter the desks and cabinets. It's peaceful and full of personality. It is the spirit of Joe Taco himself. Working for LRY is a unique experience and I'm learning alot.

When times get rough, which does happen, I threaten to throw myself out the office window. Instead I amuse myself by bitching at my roomates, not washing my dishes, and playing with Kimba, our kitten. I let go and release tension by dancing and listening to music that no one else in the household likes. In the short time that I've lived in Boston, I've settled rather nicely, and in my own cynical way I can say that I'm happy here.

Shut-up, I'm sleeping
Amy

I dedicate my life to you.
You gave me more love than I could hold.
But I need time to be free.
To learn of life,
to learn of you.
It's a feeling of my own,
coming from me, inside.
The love and energy I can give is rare
for me, but it's so real.
I am you and without you I'd be lost.
You may not see it now
-I'm free-
My need for freedom will soon be quenched,
my love for you will then be heard.

I wrote that poem a year ago at Summer Boards. Now I'm sitting here at my desk, at 7:45 on a Monday evening in Boston. I'm working hard and getting silly with Amy and Julie. I am where I want to be, doing what I want to do. LRY started out being an outlet, a place where I could meet people like myself. Now it's my life. It's wonderful to be able to travel around the country (world for that matter) and have friends wherever I go. I'm from Evanston, IL and consider the old Evanston local and Central Midwest Federation my home. LRY has been my total support system for quite a while. Besides working, I like listening to music (the Dead and David Bowie in particular). I write poetry, do yoga, am a Taoist (the Tao Te Ching is my bible), I have fun working up large phone bills, I like dressing up punk, and I also like to play cultured and go to plays. I fast once a week, am a vegetarian and don't eat refined sugar, and I even like Brewer's Yeast. Amy and Julie are constantly telling me how ultra-cosmic and groovy and granola-headed I am. I am a member of the 51st Airborne Division, and Ratchil Harmoniee of Ratchil Harmoniee and the Beat Me Silly Band. I want to be happy, so I am. This year I plan to be totally silly, have fun, accomplish one hell of a lot, and give all I possibly can; I have dedicated this year of my life to you, LRY.

Shut-up, Amy's sleeping, Jan