



UAUS Messenger

The Newsletter of the Urantia Association of the United States

Summer 2004

Principal Object

"PRINCIPAL OBJECT: The object for which this Foundation is created is the promotion, improvement, and expansion among the peoples of the world of the comprehension and understanding of Cosmology and the relation of the planet on which we live to the Universe, of the genesis and destiny of Man and his relation to God, and of the true teachings of Jesus Christ; and for the inculcation and encouragement of the realization and appreciation of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man—in order to increase and enhance the comfort, happiness, and well being of Man, as an individual and as a member of society, through the fostering of a religion, a philosophy, and a cosmology which are commensurate with Man's intellectual and cultural development." [Declaration of Trust, Article II: 2.1]

There has been much commentary on the IUAList about supporting the DoT as if supporting or being loyal to that document meant the same as supporting or being loyal to IUA. It is my conviction also that our purpose in the IUA, as the social arm of the Foundation, is to carry out the Principal Object of the DoT. Yet when I analyze the Principal Object of the DoT, I find its meaning very different than that being discussed on the IUAList. When I analyze the DoT I find:

The Principal Object of the Foundation is: "To increase and enhance the comfort, happiness,

and well being of man." It seems safe to assume that this includes all humans, regardless of race, age, gender, or political affiliation.

We are to do this: "through fostering a religion, philosophy, and cosmology."

This cosmology is to be: "commensurate with Man's intellectual and cultural development."

Our educational focus is specified as: Man's cosmology, origin, and destiny; his realization and appreciation of God as a Father, of mankind as brothers, and of the true teachings of Jesus. The UB tells us that these ideals might be manifested through service; not self-service, but service to all of humanity.

Jesus taught that service to one's fellows is the highest concept of the brotherhood of spirit believers [2017:4]. The religions of revelation allure men to seek for a God of love because they crave to become like him. But religion is not merely a passive feeling of "absolute dependence" and "surety of survival"; it is a living and dynamic experience of divinity attainment predicated on humanity service [66:5].

While we are congratulating ourselves for supporting or being loyal to the DoT, perhaps we should ask ourselves if we are missing some of the important points in the Principal Object. Are we fostering a religion, a cosmology, and a philosophy? If so, how are these defined? How are they fostered? Is the cosmology we foster commensurate with man's intellectual development? We are told in the book that the truths

presented there are to serve us for a thousand years. How then are we to make these truths commensurate with the intellectual and cultural development of today? Surely just presenting and promoting and studying the book does not meet this requirement. What can we learn about this from how the Dalmatians, Adam and Eve, and Jesus went about uplifting mankind? In our efforts to enhance man's comfort, happiness, and well being, is our focus on cosmology, origin, and destiny? Are we promoting the appreciation of God as Father of all mankind, our brothers?

The vast majority of the world's people cannot or will not, in this generation and for many generations to come, read *The Urantia Book*. The majority of people, even in the United States and other developed countries, do not read publications of this kind, if they read at all. If we are to reach these people with the truths that this book has to offer, we cannot do it by studying the book, selling the book, and giving conferences. While these are inspiring and educational activities for readers, they do little to reach the majority of the world's people. Look around at the people in your study group. How many are laborers or blue collar workers? How many are under 35 years of age—from any class? We may tell ourselves that we are the elite, the teachers and leaders, but unless there are many "ordinary people" for each of us to teach and lead, we are fooling ourselves. On the neighboring planet that we are told about (no doubt for a very good reason) we find that: *In their philosophy, religion is the striving to know God and to manifest love for*

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one's fellows through service for them...[811:5]. To me this indicates that they reach out with practical acts of service, not just the promoting of spiritual and philosophical truths. And of Jesus himself we are told:

Jesus of Nazareth. Christ Michael presented for the fourth time to Urantia the concept of God as the Universal Father, and this teaching has generally persisted ever since. The essence of his teaching was love and service, the loving worship which a creature son voluntarily gives in recognition of, and response to, the loving ministry of God his Father; the freewill service which such creature sons bestow upon their brethren in the joyous realization that in this service they are likewise serving God the Father. [1008:14].

Who deserves this loving service? Everyone? If so, we must find other ways of providing this service so that everyone has an opportunity to benefit from it. How can we do this? How can we reach out in ways that are consistent with the teachings of *The Urantia Book* and with the culture and capabilities of the IUA?

One area in which there is a great need, and that is consistent with the teachings of the book and the goals of the IUA, is public education. We are told that the universe is one vast school. We are given example after example of how education has been used to serve and uplift mankind, in Dalmatia, in the Garden, by the works of the apostles and by Jesus himself, both before and after his baptism. Education is one of the essential connections between our origin and our destiny. It is through education that more and more of the world's people will be enabled to read *The Urantia Book*. It is through education, both direct and indirect, that we must "foster a religion, philosophy, and cosmology". Should we then not fo-

cus IUA service directly on education? Remember, "*Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of my brethren, you did it to me.*" [1727:4]

You might ask, are we not already providing an uplifting and educational service? And the answer is yes, in a very limited way. You might ask, how can we do better?

In every community in which there is a study group or an IUA member, there is a service need in the corresponding education community which that member or association can help to fill. Please understand, I am not advocating a direct teaching of *The Urantia Book*, but rather that we directly serve the needs of the local public educational community. There are literacy programs, ESL programs; libraries welcome reading programs for children; schools need teacher's aids and tutors; there is a shortage of art, dance, and music programs. Gardening projects, office help, and playground help are all in demand. Before- and after-school programs, summer theater programs, nature programs, and daycare are all ways to serve the education community. Many schools need repair and maintenance, beautification, and landscaping. Everyone, every association is capable of serving in one or more of these ways.

Ways in which these service activities would benefit the schools and their students can be left to your imagination. But how would the IUA and the local associations benefit? First, we all are at least to some extent aware of the spiritual fruits derived from unselfish service. We all have felt the joy and spiritual growth that comes of unselfish giving. This is one of the immediate benefits. But there are other less personal, more altruistic, and perhaps more practical benefits. One of the reasons we don't attract service-minded youth is that we have no service activities for them to get involved in. And this does not apply only to young people. There are also mature, long-term readers of the book that would become involved if we only "did something." Other people

who may never read the book would also support these service activities and at the same time have the opportunity to see and share our spiritual fruits.

There are other benefits as well. A company such as Abercrombie & Fitch has a "look" by which they are known. Many other corporations attempt to acquire something similar by which they can be identified. It may be a certain look, color, (brown and UPS), or just a level of quality. This is known as "branding." When people see that *look*, that *color*, that *quality*, in everyday life, they are reminded of that product, of what that corporation stands for. If, in time, IUA became "branded" as the organization that supports education, and further, this service became associated with service-minded, balanced, and wise individuals and groups—IUA members and associations—our outreach goals and probably our financial needs would be met. Without ever mentioning *The Urantia Book*, we would have generated worldwide interest and support, all the while enhancing education and enhancing the public's ability, once interested in doing so, to benefit from reading *The Urantia Book*.

Truth is coherent, beauty attractive, goodness stabilizing. And when these values of that which is real are co-ordinated in personality experience, the result is a high order of love conditioned by wisdom and qualified by loyalty. The real purpose of all universe education is to effect the better co-ordination of the isolated child of the worlds with the larger realities of his expanding experience. Reality is finite on the human level, infinite and eternal on the higher and divine levels [43:5].

School maintenance, beautification, and landscape programs could be coordinated by someone with appropriate experience and

knowledge, and manned by young people. Not only would the school benefit, but the young people would have the opportunity to learn a practical trade, and this in addition to experiencing the joy of unselfish giving.

Then the Master discoursed at some length on the earthly family as an illustration of the heavenly family, restating the two fundamental laws of living: the first commandment of love for the father, the head of the family, and the second commandment of mutual love among the children, to love your brother as yourself. And then he explained that such a quality of brotherly affection would invariably manifest itself in unselfish and loving social service [1603:5].

It is by personal contact with people bearing spiritual fruits that others become interested in the sources of those fruits. It is by service that those fruits are developed and made manifest. Consequently, any educational program can subtly pave the way for later understanding of these profound values and truths—these fruits. Any service work: reading to children in a library, volunteering as a teacher's aid, or painting the hall in a school, if done well and with dignity, promotes the truths presented in *The Urantia Book* and will promote these truths to brothers and sisters that may otherwise be denied access to these teachings. If we are to claim support of and loyalty to the Principal Object of the Declaration of Trust, let's adopt the whole thing. Let's make the teachings of *The Urantia Book* available to everyone we can, if not in word, in loving service—the only visible fruits of the truths we espouse.

Jerry Prentice
Missouri



HorseWork

Still those stampeding horses running loose in your brain!
Put a pen around them or drive them off a cliff into the ocean.
Build a fence behind you!
Corral them!
Take away their food, their water.
Let not their neighing and braying distract you!
By what authority speaks the outrageous leader?
The one neighing and braying the loudest,
The one snorting and stamping, blowing and pawing,
And those lesser ones nipping at its withers,
Nipping at its flanks, braying, and vying for authority,
Vying for recognition, vying for all the mares?
Let not their vying and whining disturb your course!
Dare you go in among them where they are?
Hoofing and stomping and kicking up such a cloud of dust
Into the stratosphere seen from space?
Seen from the center of the universe?
Seen by God whose very eyes see all, read all?
Go there, then, into that confusion and anxiety.
Go there with a rope and shield, if you must.
Capture their leader whose name is fear.
Hobble its legs and muzzle it.
Take away its range.
Neutralize its lead.
Subdue it behind an extra fence.
Make it submissive as a pet trained to stay put.
Yet, even wild horses are a part of the universe economy.
When domesticated they are useful and intelligent.
They are companions and assistants in the labors of man.
Yet, they require grooming,
A clean environment, pasturage,
Proper food and water, exercise,
And training.
And mostly training.
It's horse work.

Meredith Van Woert

April 11, 2004

A Vision of IUA 2004

International Urantia Association (IUA) is defined as a non-profit service organization formed to foster the in-depth study of the complete text of *The Urantia Book* and to disseminate its teachings. Within and among the network of local and national IUA associations on this world, like-minded Urantia Book readers join to carry out the many social and service tasks related to study and dissemination of the book. Teamwork and service are the watchwords of IUA.

IUA as a service organization is given the crucial responsibility of representing to the public the name "URANTIA," "Urantian," and the Concentric-Circles Symbol—the registered trademarks, service marks, and collective membership marks of URANTIA Foundation. IUA, under license, is authorized to use the registered marks in its various service activities. Those who serve in IUA do everything possible to promote the goodwill of URANTIA Foundation and do nothing to detract from the goodwill of the organization upon which the copyrights of the book and its associated marks depend. IUA is not a church or an organized religion.

IUA is a worldwide service community where friendship bonds and service bonds are ends in themselves. The secret of the success of IUA is in the people. An organization does not do service, but people affiliated with one another on a project do. Our assignment is to DO something, acting in this planetary stage as a group: To foster the in-depth study and dissemination of the teachings. There are very few tasks in the universe for the lone server (312). As a group, IUA raises the banner of the Concentric-Circles Symbol which signifies the original and present publisher of the complete text of *The Urantia Book*.

The enlarging IUA community augments the service work of local associations by its well established network of online communications worldwide. Online conversations offer encouragement

and fraternity to readers and leaders in their native languages, as well as study opportunities. Leaders committed to group work find ways to stay in touch with readers and members who do not have access to the Internet or to a phone service. Excellent leaders foster enthusiasm and friendship within their groups and share information and news about IUA, Urantia Foundation, and their many activities worldwide, and plan and carry out group get-togethers for social contacts, meetings, and study.

The mission of IUA is dual: The in-depth study of the book and the dissemination of its teachings. The manner of executing this mission is through service work. Members and leaders are volunteers. Volunteers give in many ways in the IUA commun-ity, through commitments of monetary donations on a regular basis, through commitments of time doing service work projects, through commitments of spiritual devotion to the IUA mission, and through many unseen and unrecognized labors of commitment to bearing the fruits of the spirit in every personal human contact.

While there are many service trails and endeavors across this world, I would like to express my view that the mission of IUA is necessarily focused on study and dissemination, and therefore precludes service activities associated with other service organizations. Three types of service projects can be identified: 1) Service within the IUA community itself; 2) Service to the UB readership community at large, and 3) Service to community populations in general.

1) Service within the IUA community. Offer service to individual members or families in need, such as those who are ill, disabled, aging, or who have fallen on hard times. Award scholarships to youth or needy members who want to attend a conference. Establish Sister-To-Sister relationships with another Urantia Association, either national or international. Partner with another association to execute a particular project. Become a pen-pal with other IUA members. Sponsor stu-

dent exchange for cultural cross-fertilization in the IUA community. Publish newsletters; write articles. Volunteer to be a leader, an office holder in your local association, serve on a committee, or serve on a national IUA board.

2) Service to the readership community at large. Foster study groups. Foster other study venues such as monthly topical discussion get-togethers, workshops, lectures, retreats, regional conferences, and national and international conferences. Plan social get-togethers such as camp-outs, picnics, star parties, BBQs, or sightseeing tours, in conjunction with an element of UB study. Create a product, such as "Thought Gems." Do IUA Outreach.

3) Service to community populations in general. Disseminate the book through speaking engagements at a library, bookstore, new age center, or other venue. Disseminate through public library placement, prisons, college and university library placement, bookstores, airport bookstores. Develop a website. Present the book to a home party of selected guests. Set up a booth at a book fair or street fair.

Service work in organizations outside IUA is laudable, and there are many ways to serve and to give of yourself and your energies. Many people give blood, make donations to fight cancer and heart disease and work with other service groups, religious organizations, and non-profit organizations. Individuals are always free to express their call-to-service as they so desire on a personal basis, and may do so as a form of group service, but not to publicize IUA in doing these good works. IUA as a group has no opinions to ex-press on religious, political, econo-mic, or social issues. Its focus is to remain on *The Urantia Book* and its teachings.

Meredith Van Woert
California



Life's Greatest Opportunity

The following is a speech given in Santa Monica to a Matthew Project meeting on April 3, 2004.

Opportunities frequently are time sensitive. They come and they go. William Shakespeare recognized this in his statement, "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune. Omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries." [Julius Caesar, act IV, scene ii]

Matadormus is an example of one who allowed life's greatest opportunity to pass him by. He seemingly had it all. He was a gifted young Pharisee, a member of the Jerusalem Sanhedrin, and very wealthy. He was a devout believer, having been instructed in the gospel of the kingdom by Peter and the other apostles. Matadormus, however, desired to be more than a believer. He wanted to become a messenger of the kingdom. He wanted to participate at the next level and become one of the seventy evangelists (1802:0).

When brought to Jesus by the selection committee, he asked the Master directly what he must do to assure eternal life. After a brief discussion concerning keeping the commandments, Jesus touched on the most sensitive area of his personality, his wealth. Jesus told him, "*If you would be my messenger, go and sell all that you have and, when you have bestowed the proceeds upon the poor or upon your brethren, come follow me, and you shall have treasure in the kingdom of heaven.*" [1802:1] This was not a specific requirement of this wealthy young man, but rather it was a general requirement for all of the seventy. But when Matadormus realized he needed to part with all of his wealth, he turned away in sorrow (1802:1).

He had mistakenly come to believe that his worldly possessions were a token of God's favor. He was in love with material wealth and how it made him feel. He could not bring himself to part with it.

Later, he did exactly what Jesus had asked him to do. In turning his wealth over to the Jerusalem church, he became its treasurer and continued to manage his wealth, which is most likely what he would have done for the seventy evangelists had he been willing to make the decision at that time (1802:3). His tardy decision cost him life's greatest opportunity, the chance to work in close personal contact with the Master of men in proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom. As a result he missed out in becoming great in the kingdom.

By contrast Matthew Levi was at the other end of the respectability spectrum of that day. He was a tax collector. The Pharisees categorized them as "publicans and sinners" implying that they share a common lot. They were without hope as viewed by the Pharisaical mind. This was the reputation of Matthew when Jesus met him (1540:7).

However, Jesus was not deterred by all this social pressure and national pride. That day in early July when Jesus met Matthew for the purpose of asking him to be an apostle, he looked him straight in the eye and said, "Follow me." [1540:4] Jesus foresaw that this publican of moderate wealth and deep dedication would be a great asset to the kingdom. When Matthew received Jesus' invitation-command, "Follow me," there was no hesitation or indecision. He was expecting Jesus' call and had already balanced the books in preparation for turning the business over to his brother. He immediately left the office to join Jesus' small band of apostles (1540:4).

Matthew liked to refer to this new work as *the business of finding God* [1559:8]. In so doing, Matthew was participating in one of the major businesses of the Universe of Universes during the present age. Finding God is the greatest, most rewarding and enthralling of all human experiences. It is the personal goal, the culmination of the entire ascension career. It is at the core of cosmic citizenship. *When men*

search for God, they are searching for everything. When they find God, they have found everything. The search for God is the unstinted bestowal of love attended by amazing discoveries of new and greater love to be bestowed [1289:2].

In making this career change, Matthew did so in a most forthright manner. He wholeheartedly devoted himself to the new cause and he wanted all of his friends and relatives to be aware of this decision. He had arranged to have a large reception banquet that evening for the other apostles and Jesus as guest of honor. Matthew invited many of his business associates (1540:5).

That evening, *[a]s the dinner progressed, the joy of the diners mounted to heights of good cheer, and everybody was having such a splendid time that the onlooking Pharisees began, in their hearts, to criticize Jesus for his participation in such a lighthearted and carefree affair* [1540:9]. They even intimated to Peter that anyone who eats with publicans and sinners and thus lends his presence to such scenes of careless pleasure making, [1541:0] could hardly be a righteous person. Jesus indicated in his response that entering the Kingdom of Heaven was a joyous experience, and he concluded with the oft-quoted statement, "*Need I remind you that they who are whole need not a physician, but rather those who are sick? I have come, not to call the righteous, but sinners.*" [1541:0] Thus Matthew announced to his community that he was now in a new business, the business of finding God.

At first Matthew's presence with the apostles caused considerable tension. Simon Zelotes and Judas Iscariot found it particularly hard to welcome a former tax collector and reputed sinner as a fellow apostle. In time he won their respect and they later referred to him as the "money-getter." (1559:6) He gave an excellent account of himself and, as time went on, his associates became proud of the publican's performance. He took seriously his responsibility to maintain adequate funds for their

work. He missed out on many precious teaching sessions of the Master to raise financial support, which he always did through personal contacts. Those times when he chose to stay with the Master, he would make up the deficit from his personal resources. Matthew was their benefactor to such an extent that when the Jerusalem persecutions caused the believers to flee the city, Matthew had given away his modest fortune and was practically penniless. And he achieved this anonymously to such a degree that none of his fellow apostles ever knew that many times their needs were being provided by their publican fellow apostle (1560:4-5).

Matthew journeyed north from Jerusalem preaching the gospel of the kingdom and baptizing believers. He went through Syria, Cappadocia, Galatia, Bithynia, and Thrace. It was in Thrace that unbelieving Jews conspired with the Roman soldiers to bring about his death. Matthew remained faithful to the end, to his calling to the business of finding God and in assisting others in their search for the Father (1560:6).

The great and useful life of Matthew, the businessman and customs collector of Capernaum, has been the means of leading thousands upon thousands of other businessmen, public officials, and politicians, down through the subsequent ages, also to hear that engaging voice of the Master saying, "Follow me." [1560:2]

In our time the Fifth Epochal Revelation has come in the form of a book. We are fast approaching a half-century since publication. During the next 1,000 years, as the truths become widely accepted, the reality of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man will transform society. Loving service will become the hallmark of social acceptance. Interpersonal relationships will greatly improve on all levels. The ability to work together effectively will be enhanced and achievements multiplied as the potential of spiritual unity is realized.

It will set in motion a yearning for cosmic citizenship which will be satisfied only by the actual embrace of the Father himself on the Isle of Paradise, the source and center of all things. It will result in widespread career planning by young people which not only encourages the pursuit of that which will enable the full development of one's aptitude and abilities, but a choice of experience which will also stimulate personal maturation and personality unification providing the impetus for soul development. Such enlightened career planning will eventually help us all to achieve a better balance between earthly and universe goals. It will allow adequate time for soul growth.

These teachings, when widely held, will completely remove the fear of death and replace it with the desire to take up the ascension career with a far more serviceable body on the mansion worlds. The present day attraction of things, luxury, popularity, personal aggrandizement, power, prestige, and privilege will be replaced by a yearning for perfection, personality maturation, and personality unification leading to power personality-synthesis, contributing directly to the growth of the Supreme—the major goal of the present universe age. Decision making will be multiplied and the dead center of indecision will be dispelled.

The lure of the Supreme will heighten as we discover the joy and satisfaction of loving service and soul growth. Personality maturation and unification is progressively augmented by the participation in this great deity adventure. *By such union with divinity man exalts, enriches, and unifies his evolving self to the very threshold of supremacy. [1285.5] His deity nature is the mosaic composite of the total vastness of all creature-Creator nature throughout the evolving universe. [1285.4]*

Recently my grandson and I put a puzzle together. It was moderate in size with 550 pieces. When we finished there was one piece missing. The picture was incomplete. We looked high and low for

the missing piece without success. The Supreme is one gigantic mosaic to which each of us can make a unique contribution by successfully completing the ascension career. Should we decline to go on, there will be a piece missing and the picture will remain incomplete until someone else with just the right shape, color, and brightness is able to fill the vacant spot.

As love is multiplied, first the world and then the universe will take a step closer to those glorious times of light and life. This revelation will provide the impetus to transform society and in so doing will lift all of civilization to a higher level.

As you consider the opportunities before you, where else can you participate in a project of planetary scope that will continue for a millennium and will penetrate to the very spiritual core of every human being? Where else can you make an investment that will earn interest throughout eternity? Is there another project where one can partner with the absolute sovereign of ten million worlds and work side by side with a thoroughly proven group of faithful super human beings who have been growing in wisdom for many millennia and whose motto is "*What the United Midwayers undertake, the United Midwayers do?*" [866:2] This, my friends, is life's greatest opportunity!

Ralph Zehr
New York

*who have been called
out of darkness
into the light
are expected to believe
with a whole heart;
your faith
shall dominate
the combined attitudes
of body, mind, and spirit.*

[1733:5]

California IUA Outreach 2004

IUA Outreach is a worldwide and ongoing service project of International Urantia Association. This is how it works.

When a UB reader contacts Urantia Foundation for more information and wishes to be on a mailing list, the Foundation mails the person various materials. If the person wants to be contacted by a reader(s) in his or her region, the Foundation sends the person's name, phone, and/or e-mail to trusted and experienced readers doing IUA Outreach. Then a phone call or e-mail goes out to the person. The purpose of such a phone call is to extend a friendly greeting to the individual. The call or e-mail is a courtesy meant to welcome the individual into the enlarging community of Urantia Book readers—nothing more, nothing less. It is not meant to promote membership in IUA, per se.

Referrals are received by phone, mail, and e-mail from all over the world at the Foundation. These referrals are sent to the IUA Membership Committee under the leadership of Cathy Jones, IUA Administrator, and to Rick Warren, IUA Referrals Committee. Referrals are then distributed to designated persons in appropriate national/local associations. The person who makes the phone call or writes the e-mail to a referral is known as a Contact in this communication network. As a Contact and a member of SURF, I have been doing IUA Outreach since 1998 for the state of California.

In the first year of doing IUA Outreach I decided upon a method of approaching UB readers that worked best for me. I wrote a greeting of welcome in longhand on a card which was mailed to the reader.

Then I followed up with a phone call. It was my goal to offer personal contact with every reader. I maintain a small file of cards and letters from readers who responded in kind to this outreach, as well as number of long letters from prisoners. I have a notebook of name and address information which is confidential, as well as notes I have written. A total of 63 referrals were contacted in California during the first year of this program.

The most recent period between June, 2003, and June, 2004, 117 referrals were received and contacted in California. Daniel Foster of SURF has recently stepped up to help with this service work. In March of this year the local association in Northern California was revitalized. This association made a name change from PURE to Northern California Urantia Readers or NCUR. Jim Land, President, and Kent Stanton, Secretary, are now ready to receive reader referrals for the NCUR region of California.

Many people are finding *The Urantia Book* for the first time. I recently talked to a new reader in San Mateo. He said the book saved his life and that it gave him a reason to live. He told me he found it in the new age section of a local bookstore, and he would go there just to read it. He finally gave in and bought his own copy. He's been reading it for two months and he started reading from the Foreword. He, like so many others, appreciated that someone took the time to extend a friendly greeting to him and to share a few minutes of conversation about this fascinating book. That's the outreach trend in California for 2004!

Meredith Van Woert
California

Welcome, Urantia Brotherhood Association of Arizona

The first meeting of Urantia Brotherhood Association of Arizona occurred on April 4, 2004, and was attended by 13 members. It took place at Steve and Carmen Maddocks' home in Mesa. They have a beautiful home and it was a splendid setting to brainstorm and goal set for the coming year.

At the beginning of the meeting it was proposed that we should create a charter and mission statement. Since it was recognized that we should first have permanent officers and also accept the Provisional Operating Procedures and Charter of the IUA and UAUS, these were voted on and passed by the membership present. Pro-Tem officers were duly elected.

We then enjoyed a wonderful buffet lunch provided by BBQ chef Steve!

Two of our first projects will be headed by Toby and Robin Fox. Toby has an extensive background in working with print materials and has graciously accepted the task of creating a Day Planner/Monthly Calendar that will have Urantia Book quotes and will be able to be sold to Urantia Book readers and the public alike, as well as an inspirational bookmark that can also be sold anywhere. We hope to be able to take pre-orders for these at the 2004 IUA Conference in Chicago.

Cathy Jones, Judyth Shamosh, and I volunteered to be speakers for the "Speakers Forum". This will be a UBAA-sponsored event held to give the public a synopsis of *The Urantia Book* and answer questions posed by people interested in learning what *The Urantia Book* is.

Troy Spence and Jorge Vargas volunteered to take on the privilege of book placement.

The watchwords of the IUA are Teamwork and Service, so this is our call to action. As the Spirit works through us and in us, we as a group can accomplish great things, once we put our minds to it.

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