



# UAUS Messenger

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The Monk, painting by Salvador Mazon



<i>Jesus of Nazareth</i>	<b>2</b>	UB Focus—Ordination of the Twelve
<i>Patricia Snyder</i>	<b>2</b>	Urantia Creature Feature—Painter, Salvador Moran
<i>Kathleen Swadling</i>	<b>3</b>	UAI Member Discussions Forum
<i>Will Sherwood</i>	<b>4</b>	Incoming UAUS President
<i>Philip Calabrese</i>	<b>4</b>	Some Illumination for Human Cosmology
<i>Bill Martin, Aspiring Pedestrian, Ed Owen</i>	<b>5</b>	The Art of Dissemination
<i>Patricia Snyder</i>	<b>6</b>	UBIS Teachers of Note—Mary Steigerwald and Marta Elders
<i>Rich Keeler, Michael Berry, Judy VanCleve, Patricia Snyder</i>	<b>7</b>	Honors Graduates—Bert Cobb, Daryl Berry, Jan Bernard, Victoria Clark
<i>Patricia Snyder</i>	<b>8</b>	The Physical U—The Temples of God

## UB Focus

# Ordination of the Twelve

## 3. The Ordination Sermon



JESUS OF NAZARETH

**T**HEN JESUS SPOKE SAYING: “Now that you are ambassadors of my Father’s kingdom, you have thereby become a class of men separate and distinct from all other men on earth. You are not now as men among men but as the enlightened citizens of another and heavenly country among the ignorant creatures of this dark world. Of the teacher more is expected than of the pupil; of the master more is required than of the servant. Of the citizens of the heavenly kingdom more is required than of the citizens of the earthly rule. Some of the things which I am about to say to you may seem hard, but you have elected to represent me in the world even as I now represent the Father; and as my agents on earth you will be obligated to abide by those teachings and practices which are reflective of my ideals of mortal living on the worlds of space, and which I exemplify in my earth life of revealing the Father who is in heaven.

“I send you forth to proclaim liberty to the spiritual captives, joy to those in the bondage of fear, and to heal the sick with the will of my Father who is in heaven. When you find my children in distress, speak encouragingly to them. . .

“You are the light of the world. A city set upon a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and be led to glorify your Father who is in heaven. . . .

“I warn you against false prophets who will come to you in sheep’s clothing, while on the inside they are as ravening wolves. By their fruits you shall know them. Do men gather grapes from thorns or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree brings forth good fruit, but the corrupt tree bears evil fruit. . . . In gaining an entrance into the kingdom of heaven, it is the motive that counts. My Father looks into the hearts of men and judges by their inner longings and their sincere intentions.

“In the great day of the kingdom judgment, many will say to me, ‘Did we not prophesy in your name and

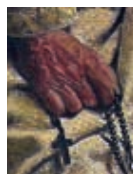


Tying the knot of dedicated service

by your name do many wonderful works?’ But I will be compelled to say to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me you who are false teachers.’ But every one who hears this charge and sincerely executes his commission to represent me before men even as I have represented my Father to you, shall find an abundant entrance into my service and into the kingdom of the heavenly Father. ■

## Urantia Creature Feature

*“Neighborhoods and cultures create artists, but God creates painters.”*



PATRICIA SNYDER

**M**ASTER PAINTER, SALVADOR MARON, a native of the Canary Islands, has been painting creations of beauty for nearly 50 years. Presently based in Los Angeles, Sal, as he is affectionately called, is the painter of an astounding array of magnificent work that includes landscapes and gardens that beckon your footsteps, live flowers and blossoms captured in perpetual freshness, interiors and objects of such intricate detail that even upon close inspection you think they are photographs, portraits and oil sketches that convey the essence of personality targeted in a fleeting moment of time, and mysteries of draped canvases and unfathomable knots that symbolize and engage



Madrid House, by Salvador Maron

the untying of destiny.

Born to a family of very modest circumstances, Sal, who dropped out of school at age 15 to spend his days on white-sand beaches with his fellows, remembers faded red bathing trunks, one pair of pants and a shirt comprising his entire wardrobe. In unbelievably horrid circumstances, Sal encountered a Argentinean man named Juan Pratt Gay, who happened to be an artist as well as an elegant member of the Argentinean upper class. Juan came to Sal’s aid one night as he wretched from a drinking binge with his friends. After, Sal and his friends being invited to lunch—the next day—a friendship ensued during which Juan prompted Sal to do pencil sketches and discovered that Sal had talent. By age 17 Sal had an exhibition in New York City, due to his talent and Juan’s societal connections with the upper echelon of the artistic world. It was during this time that Sal painted the now-famous portrait of a de Rothschild.

Sal considered it God’s work that he became a painter, because for him, painting was not a family tradition, unlike Picasso for example, whose father was a painter. He is certain that all of the unseen beings that attend to us were especially guiding his way through all

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## Creature Feature cont.

the impossible situations which he never could have navigated on his own.

Most of the artists Sal knew were sensitive, gay, and artistic, while he, by comparison, was troglodyte—like most men—goggling after beautiful women. Consequently, Sal never had confidence in his talent, and since talent does not necessarily bring money in the world of painters, after leaving Juan's circle, Sal lived from pillar to post and ended up in Marbella, Spain. There he lived with wealthy friends, who he helped by doing errands, secretarial chores and the like. One of the chores involved closing the house and bringing a beautiful Afghan dog by train to the new house in Marrakesh.

Helmut Newton, the photographer, was in Marrakesh for a shoot and happened to see Sal getting off the train with the Afghan dog and asked him to be a model. It was on the set with Helmut Newton that Sal met the beautiful, talented, Dutch super-model, Willy van Rooy.

Sal and Willy have been together ever since. They have two children: (Alejandro of Madrid, Spain and Alegria Moron-Gaines of Los Angeles) and three grandchildren. With a gleam in both eyes, Sal relates the importance of the timing in his life that brought him to Marrakech on that particular day, when an impoverished school dropout turned artist met a Dutch super model and fell in love.

In all of their adventure-filled lives, throughout Northern Africa, Europe, India, Canada, America and all, Sal feels that Willy has been the major facilitator of his ability to use his God given talent to paint. Willy and Sal each have a significant internet presence that exhibits their daunting history and their exquisite talents.

Both Willy and Sal are readers of the *Urantia Book*. Sal remembers reading a French translation of the Book which was spiral bound in two volumes in Canada in the 1980's. Sal, who spent a few years in Morocco as a youth speaks French, Spanish and English and reads the UB in each language. Willy also reads the UB in French, Spanish and English, but she was especially thrilled when, about a year ago, she received the UB in Dutch.

*The Urantia Book* expanded Salvador's knowledge of Jesus and thereby enhanced his perspective of life and of art. Notwithstanding that he ended his formal education at age 15, Sal is a prolific writer--currently working on his autobiography--and is widely read in French and Spanish literature, philosophy and religion. His basic Catholic upbringing has been a major influence in his life and especially in his painting.

A range of religious themes are prevalent in Sal's work. Among my favorites is, "The Monk," which accompanies the "UB Feature" (Page 1) for this month and symbolizes the awesome, perplexing challenge of being an apostle living for the Kingdom.

A more recent favorite is "The Dilemma" an especially poignant picture in black and white, which is an experiment. Sal uses an embroidery mesh over canvas to achieve a textured effect that adds an additional dimension of depth to the amazingly detailed painting of a monk doing a portrait of a drooling cardinal, who has fallen asleep presumably from wine—we see the cask—and has dropped the book he was holding on the floor of the elaborate set which the monk has created for



The Dilemma by Salvador Maron

this portrait, and who is obviously in a dilemma: between the idealistic portrait on the canvas that he started and the reality of the stupored cardinal that we see. Salvador copied the painting from a color picture he saw on a friend's wall, including the immense detail visible in inch by inch of the painting: a couple just behind the chair, King George in armor in a tapestry, the Virgin Mary in a wall sconce, grapes, the wine cask, fallen book, and more.

The other paintings depicted here are the detailed "Interior of an amazing Apartment" in which Sal and Willy lived for a while, "Two Roses in a Painted Vase," sitting on a table in front of an open door through which in the background, you can see an Amsterdam canal and the golden sky with the setting sun, and one of his many creations of a severely tied detailed fabric covering a mysterious canvas of destiny. ■

If you are not "signed up" in on the UAI Social Network, use the link above and click the "Sign Up Now" button to register.

**Instructions:** If have an account in the social-network and you checked the box for 'UAI Member' in the registration form, you can begin to start a new discussion at "Post a New Thread".

If you do not have an account, click on "Sign Up Now" and check "NO - Create an account now!" Click the "Sign-Up" button and follow the prompts to create your new account.

Once you create a new account, within less than 24 hours you should be able to access the "UAI Member Discussions," a sub-forum in the UAI-Zone of the social network page.

**Tips:** You can also use the "Watch Forum" and "Watch Thread" commands. These buttons appear to the right just above the box containing the posted threads. When you click on either of these buttons a box will appear offering you options for when and how you will be notified when new messages appear. You may choose to receive an email notification, an "Alert", or both.

If you visit the social network often you may want to choose the "Alert" option under "Watch Forum" or "Watch Thread" which will notify you of new postings in your "Alert" box which is in the upper right corner of the Forum section to the right of your name. If a red box appears to the left of your "Alert" box, simply hold your mouse over "Alert" and a box with a link to the new message will appear.

When you log in, next to the "Log In" button is an option you can enable to "Stay Logged In." The system will remember you. Future logins are automatic until you choose "log out".

In addition, if you stay logged-in and you receive an email notification that new content has appeared in the "UAI Member Discussions" you will see within the email a link you can click which will take you straight to the new post/discussion topic.

It is recommended that you "Stay Logged In." It's your choice if you wish to use the "Watch Forum" command to receive email alerts. If you don't choose this feature you will need to check the forum at your convenience as you won't receive notification emails.

The UAI Website Management Committee ■

## UAI Member Discussions Forum



KATHLEEN SWADLING

**F**OR THOSE OF YOU who may not have checked out the new UAI Member Discussions Forum on the new website, here is a tutorial that gives instructions to find and use it.

The "UAI Member Discussions" is a thoughtfully designed private area for UAI Members only and is free to any UAI member who signs up in the UAI Community social network.

**If you have already signed up in the Social Network Section of the website** and checked the UAI Member box on the registration form, this is how to find the "UAI Member Discussions" Forum: 1) Go to the Community section from the front page; 2) Choose Social Network; 3) Click on 'Forums,' 4) Go to UAI Zone and scroll down to "UAI Member Discussions". [Or you can use this link: [www.urantia-uai.org/social/view/uai-members](http://www.urantia-uai.org/social/view/uai-members)]

# Introducing Your UAUS President



WILL SHERWOOD

**W**ILL HAS SERVED UAI for many years and now has stepped forward to steer UAUS into the next phase of growth for the Urantia community. For those of you who may be interested, here is some information about him:

The Urantia Book literally dropped in Will's lap in 1969. Since those days, over 40 years ago, Will has almost continuously hosted a study group in his home. In January 1994 he became the organizer of and founding President of SURF, the original UAI chapter for Southern California and Arizona, and the 2nd chapter to be installed behind HULA, the Hawaii Urantia Local Association. The SURF inauguration in his home in Santa Clarita, California occurred just one day before the big earthquake in Northridge, California. About which he quips, "If everyone had left one day later, we would have hosted the world's largest Urantia slumber party!"

Will recently help found UALA, the Los Angeles local association of UAUS, has served a term as ISB Communication Chair, as past President of the School of Meanings and Values and designed both the original UAI and Urantia Foundation websites along with a previous Urantia book cover and other outreach materials for Urantia Foundation while Tonia Baney was Executive Director of the Foundation.

In addition to his Urantia activities, Will is currently serving as a volunteer faculty member in the graduate degree program in spiritual psychology at the University of Santa Monica and as a volunteer counselor for the Freedom to Choose Foundation. He has served on several non-profit boards: past president of American Advertising Federation, Los Angeles chapter and as a board member for the Santa Clarita Symphony. Will served as a Cubmaster and as a Scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts of America, as a volunteer art instructor for special needs children at the The Accelerated Learning Academy in Palmdale, CA, and as a board member with the National Association for Child Development helping special needs children throughout North America.

Will is the father of 2 boys, Brandon and Devin and though their mother, Corlin Renn Sherwood, a 3rd generation student of *The Urantia Book*, died of cancer when the boys were 12 and 10, Will has mostly enjoyed the joys and challenges of parenting with the help and guidance of our Heavenly Father and his wonderful new partner/wife and *Urantia Book* reader, Margo.

Professionally, Will is an accomplished graphic designer with over 350 design awards to his credit. He loves helping entrepreneurs and companies to grow their businesses by providing advertising, brochures and other printed materials and websites. His work is in the Library of Congress permanent collection. Will was selected for

a federal Design Excellence Award, the highest award given by the National Endowment for the Arts. The American Advertising Federation (AAF) has awarded him with several gold medals in national competition, their "Best In The West" design awards, and the Silver Medal for service to AAF.

Will has a bachelor's degree in Communication from Cal State Bakersfield and a Masters in Spiritual Psychology from the University of Santa Monica.

## WILL'S GOALS FOR UAUS:

1. Seek to implement a country-wide **FREE** *Urantia Book* postcard program such as the one that has been so successful in Los Angeles through UALA with over 250 books distributed this past year.
2. Seek a telephone solution whereby every area code in the United States has a local listing for UAUS. This could be a voice mail system that transcribes and forwards an email to the outreach or other appropriate committee members.
3. Revitalize *The Messenger* as a communication tool for UAUS and its members.
4. Work with and support existing committee chairs to help them realize their goals for UAUS. ■

## Some illumination for Human Cosmology



PHILIP CALABRESE

...While **statements with reference to cosmology** are never inspired, such revelations are of immense value in that they at least transiently clarify knowledge by:

1. The reduction of confusion by the authoritative elimination of error... [Paper 101:4.5, page 1109:6, emphasis added]

### Some Authoritative Elimination of Error

15:6.13 ... **A comet's tail points away from the attracting body or sun because of the electrical reaction of its highly expanded gases and because of the actual pressure of light and other energies emanating from the sun. This phenomenon constitutes one of the positive proofs of the reality of light and its associated energies; it demonstrates that light has weight. Light is a real substance, not simply waves of hypothetical ether.** [Paper 15:6.13, page 173:3, emphasis added]

**Comment:** To this day, the standard theory of electromagnetic radiation in the form of quantum photons of light assumes that they have zero mass (and therefore

zero weight in any gravitational field). *The Planets. These are the larger aggregations of matter which follow an orbit around a sun or some other space body; they range in size from planetesimals to enormous gaseous, liquid, or solid spheres. The cold worlds which have been built up by the assemblage of floating space material, when they happen to be in proper relation to a near-by sun, are the more ideal planets to harbor intelligent inhabitants...* [Paper 15:6.14, page 173:4, emphasis added]

**Comments:** But ours is not a cold world as is evidenced by our still very hot center. Our world is not so ideal as a cold world made from the aggregation of cold material. We suffer earthquakes instead of calm continents.

At this time, despite growing evidence to the contrary, the standard human scientific theory of the origin of our world assumes that it was one of aggregation of cold matter left over from the sun's birth.

But instead of cold interiors, scientists are finding that even small asteroids were once very hot. (So now the pure aggregation theory has postulated an intermediary stage of planetoids that first became hot before they aggregated. An accepted theory does not give up before repeatedly ignoring dissonant evidence!)

At least the very elongated orbits of some solar system objects are now generally acknowledged as due to some "passing star". There is no other way to account for them.

The retrograde orbits of some objects show that foreign bodies have been introduced into solar system. There is no other way to account for retrograde orbits. The irregular orbits of the planets themselves show that they have been greatly disturbed.

...In your solar system only three planets are at present suited to harbor life. [Paper 15:6.15, page 173:5]

...If intelligent creatures should exist on a planet with an atmosphere similar to that of your near neighbor, Venus, they would belong to the superbreather group, while those inhabiting a planet with an atmosphere as thin as that of your outer neighbor, Mars, would be denominated subbreathers. [Paper 49:2.13, page 561:12]

If mortals should inhabit a planet devoid of air, like your moon, they would belong to the separate order of nonbreathers. [Paper 49:2.14, page 561:13]

You would be more than interested in the planetary conduct of this type of mortal because such a race of beings inhabits a sphere in close proximity to Urantia. [Paper 49:3.6, page 564:2]

**Comment:** Besides Earth, if only Venus and Mars in our solar system are now suitable planets for life, then the non-breather type of world "in close proximity" to our world must be outside our solar system. But if the nonbreather world is inside our solar system, then either Venus or Mars must not be suitable to harbor life even though their atmospheres are. Some people even think it is possible that we are overlooking non-breather humanoid life on the moon. Hmmm. ■

# The Art of Dissemination



BILL MARTIN

*It is exceedingly difficult to present enlarged concepts and advanced truth, in our endeavor to expand cosmic consciousness and enhance spiritual perception,...* [Paper 0:0.2, page 1:2] when we are in possession of such a vast and wonderful portrayal of universe reality. We truly suffer an "embarrassment of riches" with a world in default the "author and finisher of our faith" has seen fit to gift this troubled world, The Urantia Book. The reflective study of revelation transforms personality. You must be transformed to do the work of the Kingdom, to share the Gospel and spread the Good News.

*... God is not a doctrine in their minds; he has become a living presence in their souls.* [Paper 194:4.2, page 2066:2] Before we begin any ministry to our fellows, it behooves the sincere and faithful to momentarily enter the "Mind Arena of Choice," return to Center, and link your will to the Divine, consciously reaffirm "it is my will that your will be done." The whole universe is on your side when you seek to do the Father's Will. Since a "job well-begun is half-done," your starting point needs to be you. You need to be at your best. "Create in me a clean heart." Wrap yourself in the love of God as armored defense against all evil and go forth "doing good."

Divine Providence has seen fit to literally bathe this planet in helpful and powerful spiritual circuits. If we provide a consecrated mind with "an eye single" to service all we need add to sincerity is a "mustard seed" of faith, and the spiritual drawing power of the Son, the "reality response" of the Cosmic Mind, the truth recognition of the Spirit of Truth and all other power in heaven and on earth is allied behind your effort.

Transformed persons will create a transformed world. It is good to mentally address others by thinking "the divinity within me salutes the divinity within you." Speak with humility and respect directly to the Thought Adjuster resident within those to whom you are speaking. Open your being to the universe and let light in that it might shine forth. Freely receive that you may freely give.

*Jesus, by the power of his personal love for men, could break the hold of sin and evil. He thereby set men free to choose better ways of living.* [Paper 188:5.3, page 2018:2] Shamelessly copy the Master in the Way of His teaching and living.

**Develop tact**—Tact is the fulcrum of social leverage, and tolerance is the earmark of a great soul.

**Charm**—you can hardly expect success unless you are equipped with that wisdom of mind and charm of personality which enable you to win the hearty support and co-operation of your fellows. You cannot hope for a large measure of success in either secular

or religious work unless you can learn how to persuade your fellows, to prevail with men. You simply must have tact and tolerance.

**Patience**—Maintain a "long-distance" view of your destiny. Remember that we act and God takes care of the consequences. Patience is exercised by those mortals whose time units are short; true maturity transcends patience by a forbearance born of real understanding.

**Meekness**—look in an English dictionary from the 1930's (we have one at our study group at 533) and you will find a definition that has nothing to do with the current meaning of spinelessness. It is defined, in a secondary or tertiary definition as "the ability to work together well with others." An example would be the chariot races in ancient Rome. The outside or fourth horse had to work around the curves with a bit longer stride to harmonize with the pace of the other three horses. Thus a well-trained team was termed MEEK.

**Humility**—Humility becomes all truth taught and faith led children of God in sincere recognition of the source of your salvation and the destiny of your spirit-born souls. Likewise did the Master possess a "sublime self-respect," allied to His selflessness so that He could really mean it when He asked, "You call me good?"

Now you are ready to go beyond the "comfort zone" of your study groups and families and carry the Gospel to those who are ready. Some are not and even Jesus "passed them by." When asked why, He said,

*"Ganid, the man was not hungry for the truth. He was not dissatisfied with himself. He was not ready to ask for help, and the eyes of his mind were not open to receive light for the soul."* [Paper 132:7.2, page 1466:2] Many, many more ARE ready. Said Jesus, *"This woman has, in dead earnest, started out on the long and eventful search for God and her path toward Heaven is not blocked by spiritual pride and moral self-satisfaction."* [Paper 147:5.8, page 1653:2]

Walk down any street, in any country, and you will find a myriad of service opportunities. Those persons in need of spiritual assistance who you pass by today will, in a coming age, be actively sought out in keen competition by those service minded souls of a more enlightened and cosmically conscious time.

There is an upper limit to the revelation, a "speed limit" if you will, and that is man's capacity of receptivity. "The call to the adventure of building a new and transformed human society by means of the spiritual rebirth of Jesus' Brotherhood of the Kingdom" begins with "doing the next right thing" and looking people right in the soul with love and kindness.

We can "sort and censor" the evolutionary religions by taking a hearty interest and **listening** to those we would enlighten with advanced truths. Find something truthful they share with you and expand the truth within to effectively crowd out any associated error. Take nothing away from them and for heaven's sakes, don't contend with those you would bring into the kingdom. Take no heed of what you will say but trust in the Good Spirit of the Comforter to lead you into all truth. Put your lamp "on a stand" that all might behold.

[To] "the miller he taught about grinding up the grains of truth in the mill of living experience so as to render the difficult things of divine life readily receivable by even the weak and feeble among one's fellow mortals.

Said Jesus, "give the milk of truth to those who are babes in spiritual perception. In your living and loving ministry serve spiritual food in attractive form and suited to the capacity of receptivity of each of your inquirers."

Thus "to exalt and up step" the religions of evolution, then must such divine visitations portray teachings which are not too far removed from the thought and reactions of the age in which they are presented."



ASPIRING PEDESTRIAN

*... Self is man's invincible foe, and self is manifested as man's four greatest passions: anger, pride, deceit and greed. Man's greatest victory is the conquest of himself...* [Paper 131:6.2, page 1451:0], Paper 131: 6:2)

Looking at the above quote as a poster in my office, a visitor asked me from where did I get it. I pointed to *The Urantia Book* on my desk. He picked it up and started randomly reading through it. He then asked to borrow it.

I gave him *The Urantia Book* and asked him to return it in two weeks. He returned it in one week, and said that he had ordered his own.

He is now a devout reader/believer and a follower of the Gospel of Jesus. And, that's how it works...

If you write "Anger, Deceit, Greed" in big blocks; you can then subdivide it into lesser blocks of other manifestations. Most of our actions/passions fall into these blocks.



ED OWEN

As a part of my volunteer work, giving away food to the needy three days per week, we have a service on Thursdays, which includes Gospel readings, music and discussion on what was read. When we started, there was no discussion so people would just sit there, listen to the reading and a couple of songs and leave. I felt this needed to change, so I asked if I could deliver a small talk/sermon that would be opened for discussion afterwards. It was agreed.

My first choice was the "Sermon on the Mount." I further decided to take a different beatitude each week and glean parts of the same beatitude from the Urantia Book. This really changed the dynamics of our small congregation; everyone was asking questions and participating in our round table church.

About four months ago, the leader of our outreach center casually said to me, "I sure >>

## Art of Dissemination *cont.*

would like to know about Jesus' missing years. " I mentioned that I was reading a book which sited great detail about those years and numerous other aspects of Jesus' life. The leader looked at me with a strange look—that I was used to—and our conversation was over, at least for a little while. About a month later he asked about the book I had mentioned. I think he was interested because of the questions and answers during our gospel readings.

It is of great value that we can add substance to the bible without saying where this substance originates. We all know that the Christian Church is the " cocoon" where the teachings of Jesus will emerge. "Mistake not! there is in the teachings of Jesus an eternal nature which will not permit them forever to remain unfruitful in the hearts of thinking men. The kingdom as Jesus conceived it has to a large extent failed on earth; for the time being, an outward church has taken its place; but you should comprehend that this church is only the larval stage of the thwarted spiritual kingdom, which will carry it through this material age and over into a more spiritual dispensation where the Master's teachings may enjoy a fuller opportunity for development. Thus does the so-called Christian church become the cocoon in which the kingdom of Jesus' concept now slumbers. The kingdom of the divine brotherhood is still alive and will eventually and certainly come forth from this long submergence, just as surely as the butterfly eventually emerges as the beautiful unfolding of its less attractive creature of metamorphic development."

Not long ago the leader asked again about "the missing years." Saying that wanted to know more, he asked me to come to his office with the "Papers." Our meeting began with introducing him to "the Urantia Papers." Usually, I use "papers" rather than "book" because it seems to soften the conversation. As we approached the Papers concepts, I used name s and phrases from the Bible that were familiar to him, such as Tad, Nod, and Van from the Old Testament.

We read sections from Paper 196, "The Faith of Jesus," which discusses the character of Jesus of Nazareth. Generally speaking, this Paper gives a view of Jesus that very few Christians see depicted, so when our discussion shifted to his original question about Jesus' missing years, it was beautiful to see him realize that if Jesus, the man, truly is as he is depicted in "The Faith of Jesus," the missing years must show the early childhood of the man who grew into that description of his character, which it does.

The experience—which is to be continued—is exciting for the leader and for me.

These conversations require quite a bit of patience, but I might add that I have had many other successes introducing the Papers. It might prove rewarding to become involved with some present day Christians. ■



Two Roses, by Salvador Maron

## UBIS Teachers of Note

### The Urantia Book Internet School



PATRICIA SNYDER

**T**HE URANTIA BOOK INTERNET School, fondly known as "UBIS," has been influential in bringing understanding, fellowship and exposition to many, many *Urantia Book* readers over the years. Regarded by many as a source of inspiration and deeper comprehension through self study based on the guidance of fellow Urantia Book Readers as Teacher/Facilitators, UBIS has quietly marched through the years attracting new and moderate readers, as well as seasoned long-time readers of extensive knowledge and experience.

For each group on the many different levels of experience and understanding of *The Urantia Book*, UBIS has afforded all a venue to express their grasp of the meanings and values of the revered texts, guided by insightful propositions and individually formulated questions. The UBIS Teacher/Facilitators are individuals who give of their time and their caring, to assist the ever enlarging realization of truths of the Fifth Epochal Revelation.

Why do these giving individuals take on the responsibilities of guides through the uncharted courses of self revelation and study? Only they themselves know. In an effort to bring their reasoning, their rationale, their enjoyment—of a realm where the parameters are imposed by love and word count—closer to our understanding, two distinguished Teacher/Facilitators were asked to share their thoughts on UBIS. One of them is recently inducted to the Teacher/Facilitator role,

having taught two courses, while the other has diligently taught numerous courses. Both are impressive, as one easily gleams among their thoughtful comments, the fact of their own learning and joy in experiencing, the growth of truth in students and themselves.

**Mary Steigerwald:** has taught "six or seven" courses, "sorry, I've lost track."

When asked what inspired her to teach UBIS courses, she replied: "I had often prayed the prayer I had read in *The Urantia Book*, 'Here am I, send me' I wanted to share the happiness and inspiration that the book had given me since the first day I picked it up. So when I read the call for volunteers on the www.Urantia.org website, it felt to me like a perfect way for me to serve." The most recent course Mary taught was Sermons and Discourses of Jesus.

What was your opinion of UBIS classes before deciding to teach? "I loved them. Again, because I had no other readers in my life, it was fantastic to connect with others who value the teachings and seek to further their understanding through sharing with other readers, all over the world. The spirit connection is palpable, almost feels magical at times."

How would you rate the quality of training given to teachers before teaching at UBIS?

"I am forever grateful for the training I received from Dorothy Elder. She inspired confidence in me, and showed me how to best interact with the students and encourage them to participate by assuring them that the thoughts of each one are important to all of the participants.

I want students to be inspired, to want to continue studying for the rest of their lives and to know that they are infinitely loved and cared for and that their lives matter in the deepest sense.

What would you say are the advantages and/or disadvantages of studying at UBIS? "I see only advantages, particularly for people who have no local study group or fellow readers. To be in the comfort of your own home and connect with people all over the planet is truly remarkable. I've seen enduring friendships formed by way of UBIS. I'd also like to add that one big thing I love about being a teacher/facilitator is how much I've learned from the students in every class I've conducted. There are so many brilliant minds, I am constantly in awe.

My goals as a teacher at UBIS are ". . . to inspire people to understand fully that we have nothing to fear, that *"the circumstances of life constitute a divine dispensation working along with the children of God"* and that life is never ending, a fabulous gift and a thrilling adventure, forever.

**Marta Elders** recently taught: The Soul—Offspring of Divine Spirit and Material Mind.

It was her second UBIS teaching experience. "I've always valued teaching/learning and of course, for me, *The Urantia Book*, is a divine gift so the coming together was exciting and inspirational. I think one of the significant pieces for me is that UBIS truly values the experiences, insights, and opinions of the students. The idea is not necessarily to just answer a question "correctly" rather it is to search deeper and deeper into the material. And of course this varies from student to student.

Before deciding to teach, "I had taken three different courses and was really impressed by the >>

**UBIS Teachers of Note cont.**

quality of the teaching/facilitating and the richness of each course." I think "the quality of training given to teachers before teaching at UBIS is quite good. We must take two or three (can't remember which it is now, I think three) courses, be recommended by our teacher/facilitator and then take a teacher training course.

I want to impress upon students "the value of their own thinking and" to follow "the wisdom and guidance that lives within each of them"

What would you say are the advantages and/or disadvantages of studying at UBIS? "I believe any online course has certain drawbacks. Personally, I think person to person, face to face [student interaction] is the ideal. That said, the nature of UBIS encourages people from all over the planet to participate in courses together and share their wisdom and their questions. And, that's terrific. There are the periodic human frustrations with the mechanics of the process but continues to improve. It is a work in progress and a marvelous work at that."

My goals are "to enhance students' appreciation for and understanding of: this epochal revelation, to support them in continuing their study of the Father, Christ Michael and the Creative Mother Spirit, God the Supreme; Urantia history, our nature, and our destiny. To see them realizing greater light and truth is a great privilege. ■

# Urantia Graduation with Honors



**Eulogy to Bert Cobb**

by Richard Keeler

When we are young, we are dependent on our parents. When we are adolescents, we crave to strike out for independence.

And when we are mature, we learn to be inter-dependent. Bert was mature. He was a practitioner of interdependence. Such interdependent folks are more like planets in contradistinction to comets.

Like planets, they are regular, steady, responsible, reliable, and dependable.

They are realists...[See UAUS Graduation Pages for complete document]

**An Earth Boy from Urantia**

by Bert Cobb

*He was an earth boy from Urantia.  
This planet was his home,  
But the open range of the universe  
Is where he's off to roam.*

*Mother earth was his base camp  
but not for a long ol' stay,  
For he lived not to a ripe old age  
And too soon was on his way.*

*He was searchin' for our Father.  
He simply wanted to do right.  
His face was turned toward heaven,  
And his soul up toward the light.*

*His roots were in the soil of Urantia.  
Mother earth did birth a son.  
The Divine Spirit sent down her blessing.  
An eternal adventure'd begun.*

*He loved his temporal livin',  
But one day he did die.  
His body went back to mother earth,  
And his spirit soared to the sky.*

So t'day we have the dusty trails of our and Bert's homeland But not much time to kill, For, like Bert, before long we'll be travelin' stardust trails And be livin' the Father's will.

**Eulogy to Daryl Berry**

by Michael Berry

Daryl's life touched the lives of countless people throughout the world. A few words spoken wherever he was, and whoever he was with, changed the life of many- all for the better. Daryl was an optimist and gentle soul and was always ready to help and share his vision of truth, beauty, and goodness. Daryl tried in everything he did to be constructive with people. He tried to get everyone with whom he came in contact with to use what God had given them to the utmost. Of those he loved the most, Daryl demanded the most, and with him as an example, it is not impossible to rise to what he asked for.

Daryl's greatest aim in this life was to seek the truth and "to know"—to know about God, about man, about the world. He was a man of the Renaissance living in the 21st Century. He was quick to smile, quick to grin, quick to devote serious thinking where it was called for, but quick to laugh at even difficult situations because he felt as does the Bible: "A Merry Heart doeth good, like a medicine".

Those of us who are left here behind have lost a dear friend, but it was Daryl's belief that this loss is temporal only. Underlying everything he did and said was the rock-like belief that this life was a basic-training camp for what lies ahead - something more exciting, intriguing and wonderful than any of us dream. We have only to sincerely want what lies ahead and it will be given to us. We who knew Daryl know that he went before us and that some day we will all meet again. He would say, as he did so often to his loved ones, "be of good cheer"... "Life is Good". I assure you Daryl that this life will be abundantly cheerful and good as you would want, but not as cheerful and good as it could be with you not here. The wonderful life that you lived here will be a hard life to live without.

[See: UAUS Grad. Pages]

**Eulogy to Victoria Clark**

by Patricia Snyder

Victoria's herculean dedication to preserving the history of the Urantia revelation and movement will always

serve us well. She achieved much with her single-minded determination.

I will never forget the first time I met Victoria: statuesque, blond beauty, full of good vibes and warmth with an open welcoming smile. She brightened my day and then I discovered her dedication to the tedious undertaking of assembling an archive of the UB community. I was immeasurably impressed and grew to love her as a sincere and wonderful friend. I miss hearing her voice and seeing her smile, but I know she is very busy in her new digs, still working for us all.

Victoria's archives of photos and print articles truly helped the UB Community to maintain a living connection to its past and the notable involvement of those who helped to pioneer the Revelation on Urantia.

**Eulogy to Jan Bernard**

by Judy VanCleve

Dearest siblings around Urantia,

It is with deep sadness, but also celebration, that I let you know that Jan has graduated. She fought valiantly . . . and in the end, when it was so clear that her mind and heart were willing but her frame too weak, she turned her amazing laser-focus to what she had to look forward to on the mansion worlds. It was beyond a blessing to see. In her last hours of wakefulness, she asked that I read "The First Mansion World" to her and her family. It brought her joy and peace.

She is loved, and will be missed, by her friends and family ~ immensely. What a gift to have known her, and to have loved and been loved by her. One more gift this revelation has brought to me . . . and to so many of you.

I'll always recall with amazement how Cathy Jones insisted to me that Idaho Urantia Association should become sister associations with Nevada . . . because she just knew that their VP (Jan Bernard) and I would hit it off. "You are like sisters," she said to me. From the moment I met Jan in Tennessee in 1999 'twas so true.

"Smooth sailing, sweet sister of my soul. I hope to someday serve again with you . . . for eternity." ■

# The Physical U

# The Temples of God



PATRICIA SNYDER

**T**HE URANTIA BOOK INFORMS US "The physical bodies of mortals are "the temples of God." Notwithstanding that the Sovereign Creator Sons come near the creatures of their inhabited worlds and "draw all me to themselves;" thought they "stand at the door" of consciousness "and knock" and delight to come in to all who will "open the door of their hearts;" although there does exist this intimate personal communion >>

## The Physical U *cont.*

between the Creator Sons and their mortal creatures, nevertheless, mortal men have something from God himself which actually dwells within them; their bodies are the temples thereof."

Searching the spiritual communities with which we are familiar, it is difficult to find one that focuses on the physical being in tempo with the spiritual being. Most churches, synagogues, temples, are dedicated to the spiritual welfare of their human participants. The Urantia Book community is no different.

Our primary concern focuses on the reading and comprehension of the Revelation, notwithstanding that our Father/Brother—the Creator of our physical selves, who lived among us and whose life therefore attests to the fact that he knows and understands us—incorporated a tradition which those who carry on with versions of his message have seemingly ignored: physical exercise.

*"Before he was ten years old, he had become the leader of a group of seven lads who formed themselves into a society for promoting the acquirements of manhood—physical, intellectual, and religious. Among these boys Jesus succeeded in introducing many new games and various improved methods of physical recreation."* [Paper 124:1.13, page 1368:2]

*"It so happened that just at this time the annual competitive games and public demonstrations of physical prowess between the Greek cities of the Decapolis were in progress at the Scythopolis amphitheater, and Jesus was insistent that his father take him to see the games, and he was so insistent that Joseph hesitated to deny him. The boy was thrilled with the games and entered most heartily into the spirit of the demonstrations of physical development and athletic skill. Joseph was inexpressibly shocked to observe his son's enthusiasm as he beheld these exhibitions of*



*"heathen" vaingloriousness. After the games were finished, Joseph received the surprise of his life when he heard Jesus express his approval of them and suggest that it would be good for the young men of Nazareth if they could be thus benefited by wholesome outdoor physical activities. Joseph talked earnestly and long with Jesus concerning the evil nature of such practices, but he well knew that the lad was unconvinced."* [Paper 124:3.7, page 1370:5]

*"Later on, Jesus saw the Greek amphitheater at Jerusalem and learned how hateful such things were from the Jewish point of view. Nevertheless, throughout his life he endeavored to introduce the idea of wholesome recreation into his personal plans and, as far as Jewish practice would permit, into the later program of regular activities for his twelve apostles."* [Paper 124:3.9, page 1371:2]

But most of *The Urantia Book* Community are not children, one might be tempted to say. Yet, we are children; we are God's children. And, we still have physical bodies in a physical world that is even more demanding,

for the most part, that we take it upon ourselves to include wholesome recreation into our lives. Living in an advanced civilization that affords unheard of luxury for many, means that our bodies do less physically demanding tasks. We no longer have to run for our lives—to eat, or be eaten. Our general society is no longer compelled to do back-breaking work to produce food to sustain our lives or to clothe us.

We have the freedom of choice to ruin our bodies with thoughtless nutrition and soft couches and chairs. And, all the while we ignore the physical symptoms that surely effect our choices, decisions, spiritual growth. As humans, we are integrated units of many members, and as is the case in most finely assembled machinery, each part effects the whole, whether we acknowledge it or not. Whereas gross symptoms come to our attention, such as debilitating disease, malfunctioning organs or limited functionality, we tend to assume that other than gross or obvious problems, our spiritual selves continue to accrue value no matter how the physical fares. While this may be true, how well you would function spiritually, if your physical temple were in pristine order? ■



# URANTIA.

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