

THE MESSENGER



URANTIA.

NEWS FOR STUDENTS OF THE URANTIA BOOK | SUMMER 2015

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A PERSPECTIVE ON THE GROWTH OF THE URANTIA MOVEMENT

Will Sherwood, President, Urantia Association of The United States

"The Urantia movement doesn't seem to be growing!" "We need to interest more young people in the book!" And the classic: "No one has heard of it!" You probably still hear these sorts of comments (or maybe you've heard yourself say one of more of these...).

Recently, I enjoyed an "Ah ha!" moment that changed my perspective on these questions.

First, a little background: When I bought my copy of *The Urantia Book* in 1969, there was only one bookstore in town that had one (I was living in Albuquerque at the time). It was also *only* available in English. Today the book has been translated into 17 languages (with more translations in the works), and we're approaching sales of 2,000,000 copies of the book! That's quite a difference and a great deal of progress from the early days.

My "Ah ha!" came about this way. I realized that we sometimes become frustrated because of a thwarted burning desire to see something change in our lifetimes (We've all been there, right?). Among those people I've turned on to the Book over the years, there are very few folks (that I'm aware of) who are still studying and reading the Book. In fact, *there are only 2* that I know of *for sure* who are fully invested, devoted to the teachings, and hosting a study group. (Though I still occasionally hear about someone raving on and on about how thankful they are that I turned them on to the Book. As you can imagine, it's *very* gratifying.)

To get a little perspective on how this impacts the growth of the Urantia Movement, let's review a popular story. It's about a king's birthday gift to his son that was coming of age. The king offered his son the choice of a single grain of rice or a single penny which would be doubled every day over the following 30 days. The choice was his. The final result of the gift would be over either 500 million grains of rice or over \$5,000,000.00.

Since I recall reading somewhere that *The Urantia Book* has a 1,000 year mission. And, if that's the case, having turned 2 (or more) people successfully on to the Book, I have personally duplicated myself during my one generation on the planet.

The king offered his son the choice of a single grain of rice or a single penny which would be doubled every day over the following 30 days.

What if each of us who are devoted to the Book does the same? Could we reach The Publication Mandate's goal of "thousands of study groups" in about 12 (or so) generations? Of course this is just speculation, but think about it. If each of us set an intention to introduce a sufficient number of people to *The Urantia Book* so that a minimum of 2 of them became devoted students of the revelation to the point where they started their own study groups, we'd all be well on our way to fulfilling The Publication Mandate's mission and bringing the life and teachings of Jesus to our world!

So here are my suggestions to you:

- 1) **Set an intention** to introduce enough people to the teachings of the Book during your lifetime so that a minimum of 2 of them become devoted students of the revelation, and...
- 2) **Start and/or host a regular weekly study group.** In my opinion, meeting in person in a home or other cozy location is most effective, but if you live in a remote area, an online group via <http://Skype.com> or <http://zoom.us> will work as an acceptable substitute. Remember: it only takes 2 people who are willing to meet regularly to get things started. Your group will grow from there.

Light ahead for ease and grace as you move forward sharing the teachings of our true, beautiful and good Book...

Will Sherwood
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You who have dedicated your lives to the service of the Book can little realize the import of your doings. You will doubtless live and die without fully realizing that you are participating in the birth of a new age of religion on this world.... You must learn to possess your souls in patience. You are in association with a revelation of truth, which is a part of the natural evolution of religion on this world.... Thousands of study groups must be brought into existence.... Thus will the book be in readiness when the battle for man's liberty is finally won and the world is once more made safe for the religion of Jesus and the freedom of mankind. [The Publication Mandate]

Life is but a day's work — do it well. The act is ours; the consequences God's. [Urantia Book: 48:7.13 – 556.13]

CROSSING INTERNATIONAL BORDERS

Chris Wood, President, Urantia Association International

It is getting harder to cross oceans. The problem is not one of technology or economics but of nationalism. Airline travel is connecting distant spots on the globe, and ticket prices are increasingly affordable; yet, it is increasingly difficult to cross national borders.

More than half of visa applications were being denied, often without specific reason.

The organizers of the 2014 Study Group Symposium found that more than half of visa applications were being denied, often without specific reason. One year later, our Canadian friends are having the same problem trying to help people attend the International Conference in Quebec. In Europe we see the rise of the European Union making it easier for those citizens to cross borders, but greater scrutiny is placed on those from outside countries.

This rise in nationalism is part of the evolutionary progress of our world. As individual countries give way to continental unions, we may see increased tensions with those outside the union but greater peace within membership, increased economic and social benefits, and a closer realization of the worldwide Brotherhood of Man.

In the meantime, how do we as a readership community react to these roadblocks? If worldwide conferences are more difficult to produce, the solution must be to hold more regional, national, and continental conferences to serve our growing and multinational community.

I am pleased to announce our 2016 slate of conferences:

- **In Europe**, Urantia Budapest will host a continental conference under the guidance of the Blue Club. The Blue Club is a multinational Urantia group which has been hosting conferences in central Europe for the last 10 years. With the support of the Association, we hope the Budapest conference will be the largest one yet!
- **In North America**, the Urantia Association of the United States will host their National Conference in Texas. Lone Star Urantia Association will organize the event, which will be the first national conference ever in Texas.
- **In Latin America**, the Urantia Association of Bogota will host a Latin American Conference in October. The first of what I hope is many such events to follow, the Latin American Conference will aim to serve the fastest growing Urantia community on the planet.

In addition, these three conferences will be working toward the same shared theme: Teacher Training and *The Urantia Book*. Each will be taking a different view of what the revelation teaches us about being good teachers and good students.

This theme will first be explored this summer at the International Conference in Quebec, from July 30th through August 2nd. "Progressing from Human to Divine" will focus on the education of family and society. Registration is now open, and I encourage you all to attend.

As nations throw up roadblocks, Urantia Association International will continue to find routes to unite! I hope to meet you all at a conference in the near future.

2015 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN QUEBEC

Gaetan Charland, Montreal, Canada

Time is running out to reserve your place for the Quebec conference: 30 July to 2 August. You have only a couple of weeks before Urantia Association's International Conference in Quebec Canada. (For details Click here)

Why should you attend this conference? Because international conferences are unique experiences that foster personal spiritual growth and brotherhood while tremendously enhancing your perception and appreciation of *The Urantia Book* and its teachings. International conferences have been life-changing experiences for students, triggering insights into our deep potential – the present and profound meaning of God's plan for us, and the eternal value we may claim in universe service.

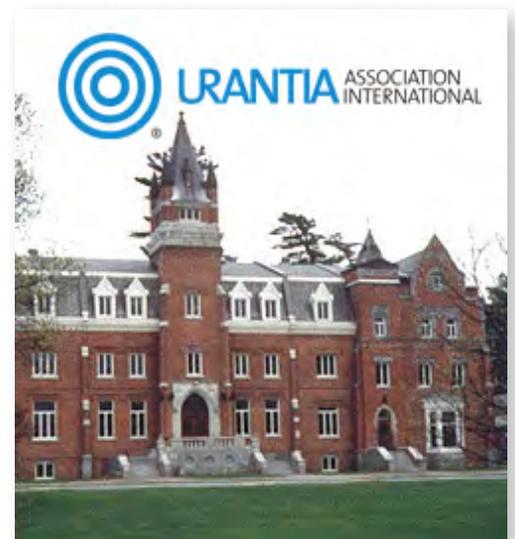
This event is focused on spiritual education at many levels, starting in the family as a child and on to a mature adult. There is strong emphasis in *The Urantia Book* regarding the importance of education; without learning there is no spiritual, social or intellectual progress in the individual and/or society. We all want to play a significant and meaningful part in our own evolution and of the world. This conference could help you do that... so why wait for the next one?

The present is where we live and can act, the future is not open to our mind – this is why you should register now. Time is running out to have the best prices!

For those of you who are coming or planning to come to the 2015 Urantia International Conference this summer in Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada, here is the program: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7VPWKd43MgpNjVhODRsNnUzN1E/view>

Do not forget to register NOW at:

<https://www.regonline.ca/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1643032>.



REFLECTIONS ON THE LONE STAR URANTIA CONFERENCE.

Katrina Glaven-Heise, San Antonio, Texas

The March LSUA-sponsored conference was all about traversing the Local Universe. We had great speakers and the site was beautiful. We were blessed to have a most devoted group of attendees and as they are all my new friends, I look forward to seeing them at future LSUA events.

After the fantastic conference we sponsored in March, the LSUA board took a bit of a well-deserved vacation. I am thankful and I send thanks to the Most Highs! I am also thankful for the fantastic LSUA board members who are my partners in creating the conferences we've created and the email communications we've sent.

Let's give a round of applause to:

- Sia Ahmadzadeh - Vice President and our technical geek extraordinaire
- Suzanne Kelly - Secretary and skit writer
- Debra Guevara - Treasurer and body mechanics aligner
- David Glass - Membership Chair, musician, poet, and muse
- Randall Wood - Communications Editor, our monthly newsletter publisher

This team, who I am honored to work with, has and will continue to bring you *The Urantia Book* news from Texas. Thank you, team!

I am thankful for the fantastic LSUA board members who are my partners in creating the conferences we've created and the email communications we've sent.

Lastly, as you make your plans to celebrate Jesus' birthday, please share them with us. We'd like to capture as many celebrations as we can in the upcoming months. Send us your plans, your pictures and your stories.

I am so blessed to be able to serve as the LSUA local association president. Thank you for your support. Continue to stay tuned in to find out what's next in this exciting world of *The Urantia Book*. Until we meet in person ...

[131:1:8] *At all times call upon his name, and as you believe in his name, so shall your prayer be heard. What a great honor it is to worship the Most High! All the worlds and the universes worship the Most High. And with all your prayers give thanks – ascend to worship. Prayerful worship shuns evil and forbids sin. At all times let us praise the name of the Most High.*

God bless,
Katrina Glavan-Heise
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WOMEN'S RETREAT

September 10-13, 2015 – Urantia Foundation, Chicago

The Urantia Book tells us that as we are led by the Spirit of God we are Daughters (Sons) of God.

Have you ever acted upon an inspiration of value that brought you great (spiritual) joy? In their next retreat, "Dancing with God," four Daughters of God have put together a program in which the participants will explore questions such as:

- How do we understand and experience the fact that women are the moral and spiritual torchbearers?
- What is our next evolutionary step as women in upholding and expanding this responsibility?
- How have we come to know and experience God's gifts and wisdom expressed by women?
- How do we become aware of the sacredness of our gifts of body, consciousness and personality?

If you wish to join us, please contact Line St-Pierre: line.stpierre@gmail.com for further information.

WEBSITE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Kathleen Swadling, Australia New Zealand Urantia Assn.

A major project is well underway to translate Urantia Association International's website into multiple languages.

Right now we have translators working on the French, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Ukrainian languages. Page by page, article by article, this hard working group is gradually producing enough material for us to be able to view the website in these languages.

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Already you can view some of the pages that have been uploaded. If you see any page on the website that has a pull down menu of languages, you can view those translated pages on the site. (If you see a box like the one circled in red on the screen print below, you know there are pages in other languages available. Simply use the pull down menu to choose the language.)

Once we have enough translated material available, the Website team will start building the other language mirror sites so you will be able to choose a language from the Home page and navigate through the site in that language.

It is truly inspiring to see the level of dedication these translators have in assisting us in this mammoth task. If you would like to help us with this project, please do not hesitate to submit a volunteer request via the online Volunteer Application form.

Apart from translators, we need people who can help us upload the translated pages. If you have WordPress knowledge (which is the website software we use) or would like to learn how to update content, please let us know. The website is very user friendly and easy to use once you know how.

NEW ON URANTIAFILM

Richard Jernigan

This latest video on UrantiaFilm is the result of recording testimonials at 5 different Urantia Book reader gatherings over the past two years. 75 readers from 20 countries are represented. Many thanks to all who participated.



<https://youtu.be/-f1tfr0bt0>

UAI JOURNAL – MARCH 2015 ISSUE NOW AVAILABLE

Suzanne Kelly, UAI Journal Editor

Urantia Association International's latest Journal is now available on the website. The Journal is a quarterly publication of articles and study aids by readers and for readers of *The Urantia Book*. [CLICK HERE AND CHOOSE 2015 NO.1 TO VIEW AND DOWNLOAD.](#)

In our second issue of the Journal for 2015, there are two excellent and provocative articles guaranteed to make you think. Each one is nicely timed to help shed a little light and put into perspective who we are, and where we are – spiritually and physically. In these tumultuous and trying times of 2015 – the age of instant information – it is almost euphoric to get a snapshot of both. (Cautionary note here: They will both require a good bit of your time and intellect, and may result in a new point of reference.)

Our first article, *The Kingdom of Heaven in the 21st Century*, by Olga Lopez, was presented in the chat room of the Urantia Association of Brazil on Easter Sunday last year. As important as it was then, it seems more important now that we rediscover where the Kingdom of Heaven has gone. Olga skillfully leads us through “the origin, history, and destiny of this concept. That is, what the origin of the concept of kingdom was, how it evolved during Jesus’ public life and the later Christianity, and what the future of its realization might be, under the light of *The Urantia Book* teachings.” One thing, however, has not lost its meaning through time or the mores of questionably progressing civilization, and that is the definition given by Jesus himself:

The Master made it clear that the kingdom of heaven must begin with, and be centered in, the dual concept of the truth of the fatherhood of God and the correlated fact of the brotherhood of man. . . [Paper 170:2.1, page 1859:11]

What has been lost is the understanding of the brotherhood of man, and Olga helps us map our way back to this knowledge – by reminding us . . . we all have the keys to enter the kingdom; “The unconditional faith of a little child who accepts to do the Father’s will with no conditions, no ‘buts’, no prejudices, no questions, resting assured that, if we give ourselves to the Father, then we are in the best hands. And, what is the act of God accepting our faith as the price of admission in the kingdom? It’s forgiveness.” And as for the return of Jesus, when we ALL ask him – he will return. . .

Our next essay by Israel Dix Urantia, *606 of Satania*, is a well stated and dazzling endeavor at numbering the stars. Buckle up, and let Israel be your tour guide as you are about to take “a journey over some steep, rocky terrain, number-crunching math, and, out of

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necessity, I'm afraid, plenty of interesting quotes. Lots of them. However, there is the added energy boost in knowing that, staying the course, there is at the end of our trek a beautiful picture, a surprisingly organized structure—the Satania System of worlds. So bear with me up this hill we are about to climb.”

Starting with the decimal planet status we enjoy on Urantia, his clarification of 606 vs. 610 had me in orbit briefly – but when I realized also that one in ten is different than “about one in ten” – it all made sense. For all you astronomers and mathematicians reading this excellent foray into formulas, you will be giddy with the philosophy of it all. For all you other readers, you will be dizzy with the philosophy of it all, so either way it is a wonderful and fun roller-coaster of intellectual hints, clues, and discoveries, and at every turn, he makes macros out of micros and micros out of us all . . . whew! What a spatial outing that was!

Happy and enlightened reading!
Suzanne Kelly
Journal Editor

MINISTER PATO BANTON'S SPIRITUAL GATHERING 2015

Ben Adam

Pato Banton is a Grammy Nominated, International Recording Artist, who has been entered into the Music Hall of Fame for his contribution to the British Music Industry; and who has been awarded with the prestigious BBC Lifetime Achievement Award for his commitment to serving the needs of underprivileged youth in his local community and reducing the level of gun crime across his entire city of Birmingham, England.

From that point forward Pato has dedicated his entire life to defending and spreading the teachings contained within the Fifth Epochal Revelation.

After many years of studying the “Religions of the World,” Pato was introduced to *The Urantia Book* in 1990 and from that point forward has dedicated his entire life to defending and spreading the teachings contained within the Fifth Epochal Revelation. In the year 2006, Pato packed his bags and relocated to the USA to begin a New Era of Musical Ministry, performing weddings, baptisms, christenings and prayer circles, while touring all 50 States and spreading the Good News through his Positive Reggae Music.

In 2010, and after 20 years of a mutually respectful friendship, Pato and Antoinette “Roots Dawtah” Hall (an accomplished musician and activist in her own right) became a couple, and with a shared love and appreciation for *The Urantia Book*, they joined forces on a musical and spiritual mission to broaden the socialization of the Truth that had set them free. Their joint efforts have touched the lives of many people all over the world as they spread the teachings of The UB through their music, concerts, home and online study groups, social media sites, educational and music videos and the lives they live!

Their “Triennial” Spiritual Gathering that was held at the Embassy Suites in Los Angeles, CA on Memorial Weekend is an indication and clear demonstration that their Musical Ministry and Outreach Efforts are successfully creating a Growing Family of Truth Seekers who are being drawn together, not just by a belief in

The Urantia Book, but on the common ground of mutual friendship and LOVE!

The whole event was truly an expression of Friendship, Fraternity & Fantastic Fun!! Amazing presentations were delivered by Tom Vasile, Byron Beltsos, Antoinette Hall, Marvin Garwin, Pamela Chaddock, The YaYA Committee, Gard Jameson, Marie Vasile, Frieda Friendentia and Fred Harris.

Entertainment and Musical Performances were provided by Irie McBride, Cindy Burns, Rashita Kelley, Robert Burns, Andy Kushner, Derrick McDonald, Michelle McBride, Melvis NotElvis, Errol & Rochelle Strider, Jonathon Johnson, Robert Aponte, James Woodward, Justin Michael, Cristina Seaborn, Ione Angeles & Brian, and Antoinette “Roots Dawtah” Hall.

The culmination of this awesome event was the many beautiful Baptisms & Consecrations at the hotel swimming pool, and the uplifting prayer circle and communion at the Family Picnic on Santa Monica Beach, where Pato and Antoinette were married last year and celebrated their first anniversary.

In a recent conversation with Minister Pato Banton he stated; “The entire experience has exceeded our expectations. It gives me so much joy to see the full spectrum of races and ages in attendance and to witness so many new bonds of friendship being made. We are already planning our gathering for next year in partnership with The United Urantia Family Festival (TUUFF) and Urantia Sacred Arts (USA) in a Trinity of Unity!”

It will be interesting to see what the future holds for this Dynamic Duo as Pato & Antoinette continue on their Spiritual Mission, spreading positive vibrations, sharing The Good News, and the Revelatory Teachings that have inspired them to be on their journey of Loving Service.

WHERE IS KATRINA GLAVAN-HEISE?

By Katrina Glavan-Heise, President, Lone Star Urantia Association

Her Mission: After attending the Urantia Association International event on Study Groups in Madison, WI, 11–14 June, 2014, Katrina was so inspired by the presenters and the purpose of the conference, she set a goal to visit every study in the Lone Star area over a 2-year period. She finished that conference with several points to share:

- The Publication Mandate states, “Thousands of study groups must be brought into existence ...”.
- According to Chris Wood, UAI President:
 - The Bogota Standard: 1 study group per 500,000 people
 - Texas population: 26,000,000
- Using the Bogota Standard, Texas should have 52 study groups – We currently have about 16 study groups
- We need 20% more students participating in each study group each year just to maintain population of the current study group

Bottom Line: We need more study groups!

Study Group Database: In order to reach the goal of 1 study group per every 500,000 people, we need to know how many and where the current study groups are located. The Urantia Foundation, Urantia Fellowship, and Urantia Association International have combined their efforts to consolidate all known study groups into one database location. The site is: <http://urantiastudygroup.org>. It is a great way to locate a study group wherever you might chance to be. If you have a study group and it is NOT registered in the database, we ask you to load your information. Or if you want to create a study group, the database is a great way to market your availability. If you build it, they will come.

The database managers will contact you twice per year to verify the data is still correct. Your assistance is greatly appreciated in maintaining this great database.

Katrina is visiting study groups and hopes to visit yours soon!

In order to reach the goal of 1 study group per every 500,000 people, we need to know how many and where the current study groups are located.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT 2015

By Ministers Pato Banton & Antoinette “Roots Dawtah” Hall

1. Through the vehicle of Positive Reggae Music, tour across the USA & other countries spreading the Good News about the Fatherhood of God & the Brotherhood of Man, while planting the seeds of Advanced Truth on stage, and through all available media channels, like Facebook, Youtube, Reverbnation, iTunes, etc.
2. Gather, commune, and worship with Fellow Urantians and other Religious/Spiritual People, at Spiritual Centers and places of worship to establish a broader community circle of like- minded people who are motivated to grow spiritually and be of Loving Service.
3. Through prayer circles (before or after our concerts) bring our fans and people of diverse beliefs together in spiritual unity, while at the same time encouraging and enabling spiritual motivation and regeneration. Openly (public service) and discretely (secret service) minister to the real needs of our brothers and sisters through Loving Service whenever and wherever the opportunity presents itself.
4. Make the Urantia Book and The Words Of Christ visible & available at our concerts and Spiritual Gatherings. As well as introducing them to a new generation of sincere Truth Seekers, encouraging them to create study groups and new circles of fraternity in their local communities.
5. Establish a Global Network of Ordained Ministers for Christ Michael with the hope of inspiring a new generation of Teachers who will continue the work our Master originally desired to implement 2000 years ago, while at the same time establishing a support network of Ministry designed to provide the ministerial needs and services of the people within our local communities.
6. Progressive Youth: Design and implement a 12-month learning experience for young people and their parents in the hopes of nurturing a new generation of Truth Seekers and inspiring more Spirituality in the home life of interested families.
7. Education:
 - A) School Outreach to inspire young people and children of all ages through music and motivational speaking.

- B) Create curriculum and specific educational courses for new readers to enable and assist them in demonstrating their growing understanding of *The Urantia Book*.

Course 1. Ambassadors for Our Father's Kingdom ~ Completed

Course 2. Followers Of Christ Michael 2015 ~ Completed

Course 3. Followers Of Christ Michael 2016

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Urantia101/>

ILOILO URANTIA BOOK READERS IN THE PHILIPPINES

Ed Armonio, Jalandoni Jaro, Philippines



This is a recent picture taken at Misono restaurant in Jalandoni Jaro, near SM City Mall, Philippines, with Iloilo Urantia Book readers. Some were not able to attend due to some very important activities (graduations) but promised to attend the next time.

We met that afternoon and – as with any first meeting – we shared our own personal experiences with *The Urantia Book* until we parted. They are all looking forward to another meeting this time with other potential, interested readers of *The Urantia Book* (we received many inquiries when we posted the picture on Facebook). I hope before I go back to the United States, I can have one or two more meetings until I form a Study Group as I had before.

In the picture (from L-R): Ed Armonio, Rey Daguman, an acquaintance whom I introduced to *The Urantia Book* so many years ago and who was very glad to have a personal copy; Rodel Suriaga, a new reader; Dr. David Deza, a dentist who requested I bring him *The Urantia Book* from my next visit to the United States; and Ma Lisa Montero, a long time Truth Seeker (a Theosophist) who was looking forward to having her own personal copy of *The Urantia Book* and her dreams came true.

Some of their expressions upon receiving *The Urantia Book*:

My deepest gratitude for giving me the chance to open again The Urantia Book.

I truly know the will of the Father is very alive in each one of us.

Looking forward to deepening [our understanding] of The Urantia Book.

All I had been searching for was found!

Thank you, Jesus, for your Holy Spirit!

Ed Armonio, e_armonio@yahoo.com

LIBRARY BOOK PLACEMENT

Katrina Glavan-Heise, Lone Star Urantia Assn., San Antonio, Texas

Don't you wish every library had a copy of *The Urantia Book*? I do. Yet, so often when I check, it isn't there. Don Higgins has done quite a bit of investigation in this area and we'd like to share his learning with you.

1. If you donate a Urantia Book to the library, it will most likely end up in their sales area and not on the shelves.
2. If you ask to have one placed on the shelves, the librarian who "selects book placement on the shelves" will likely deny it. Reasoning is often that the book is cultish and not acceptable reading.
3. If you request an interlibrary loan, you might get it. It will depend on whether or not another library in their "group" has a copy or not.
4. Or you could request it. The conversation would go something like this. "I'd like to check out The Urantia Book, but I can't find." "Oh, that would be because we don't have it." "How soon can you get me a copy?" "uh, mm, er..."

The last option is the best option according to Don Higgins. Ask your library to get the book for you, either through interlibrary loan, or they buy one, doesn't matter how they get it. Then you must check it out. Even if only for a day.

Mary Anne King, of Little Rock AR, also has quite a bit of experience in this area. She and I talked at length about getting *The Urantia Book* into the libraries. She also reported that many donated Urantia Books end up in the sales area. Which may not be

Many donated Urantia Books end up in the sales area, which may not be all that bad.

all bad. If a person buys *The Urantia Book*, even for \$1, that person is likely on the pathway to finding God. We all know stories of strange ways *The Urantia Book* has come into people's lives. This might be another way.

King reported that there is one Urantia Book in a Little Rock library filed under "Religion" and "Non-fiction." Pretty good.

LIBRARY BOOK PLACEMENT INFORMATION

Mary Anne King, Little Rock, Arkansas

There is a particular library form that needs to be filled out to request a book. Each library system will have their own version but it will include book title, author, ISBN number, etc. I gathered for the San Antonio Library System based on their requirements. Feel free to contact me for additional information.

If in your efforts to place *The Urantia Book*, you find it difficult to get placement, you need to be prepared to address their reluctance.

Katrina Glavan-Heise and I talked about checking out *The Urantia Book* once it has been placed on the library shelves. We think this would be a good activity for a study group. First one person checks out *The Urantia Book* from the library. After some period time, another member of the study group requests and then checks it out. After another period of time, a third member of the study group requests it, and checks it out. When the library sees "enough" (however they define that) interest, the library will make sure to put a Urantia Book on the shelves. But don't stop there. Make sure there is activity on the book. this is called "traveling". With activity, with traveling, with interest, the book remains in the library. Lack of interest means the book goes away. So periodically, someone needs to check it out again.

If you live in a city with many libraries, you'll want to do the same process for each library. King cautioned that if the library sees a flurry of interest to get *The Urantia Book* on the shelves but then no activity on the book, the book comes off the shelves.

If in your efforts to place a Urantia Book, you find it difficult to get placement, you need to be prepared to address their reluctance. King reported one library placed a book in opposition to *The Urantia Book* on the shelves, yet did not have *The Urantia Book*. She pointed out to the librarian that if she was going to place on the shelves the opposing position, she should at least place on the shelves the source material—*The Urantia Book*.

Higgins has also used the argument that Freedom of Speech ensures we have the right to have *The Urantia Book* placed on the library shelves. Whatever means you use to get *The Urantia Book* on the shelves, you must ensure it gets checked out regularly! Good luck in placing *The Urantia Book* on your library's shelves.

INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR IN BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA

Andrés Ramírez, Bogotá, Colombia

In April 2014 and 2015, the Bogotá Urantia Association had a booth at the International Book Fair of Bogotá. This annual event is for 15 days and typically has around 500,000 visitors. The Bogotá Association had the support of the Urantia Association International, which provided 167 Urantia Books in 2014 and 100 copies in 2015. This article describes our experience and lessons learned that may be useful for other associations around the globe, wishing to engage in these types of events.

This was not the first time that we have participated in the International Book Fair of Bogotá. In past years we rented a small space from a bookstore that owned the booth and who set the selling price of the books. While this arrangement was not ideal, we were able to meet many people and made useful contacts. An added benefit is that our volunteers learned how to talk about *The Urantia Book* with strangers, and gained experience that prepared us for the 2014 and 2015 events. Our ultimate goal was to have our own booth, and that was made possible in 2014 thanks to a combined effort between the Bogotá Association and the International Association.

Our booth was 3 x 4 meters in size and displayed a poster of the Master Universe and one of *The Urantia Book*, a TV with video introductions playing, a showcase, a table with chairs and many copies of *The Urantia Book* in hard- and soft- cover editions. Plenty of flyers were available with the description of the book and with selected quotes and our contact info. Most importantly, 30 volunteers worked throughout the 15 days of the book fair.

Talking and interacting with so many different people about *The Urantia Book* is an indescribable experience. Taking the fifth revelation to so many avid minds and hearts was amazing for us. Very often there were many of us talking with people at the same time, and occasionally we became short of volunteers because of the amount of interest. During the times when an honest truth seeker was captivated by our description of *The Urantia Book* and decided to buy their own copy, there was pure happiness in the heart of our volunteers. In 2014, we made 90 personal sales and approximately 100 to wholesalers. We expect to sell many more copies in the near future as a result of the contacts we made and the information that we shared. There is much that could be said about the amazing stories involving the people who approached the booth. They were amazed, touched in their hearts, grateful, and

many other feelings were expressed. We discovered that the world is more ready than we thought for *The Urantia Book* teachings, and young people, in particular, are very interested.

Many of us had some experience talking to people about *The Urantia Book*, mostly from past book fairs; others were first timers. In any case, we all gained a lot of new experience. Words began to flow more easily, we learned to know people better, how to gain their attention, and touch their souls. We know for a fact now that you really need this kind of intensive experience to improve your “speech” when approaching someone to talk about *The Urantia Book*. It takes that training in order to learn to avoid common mistakes many of us make when talking about *The Urantia Book*. For example: how not to seem a fanatic, how to give the best message in two or less minutes, what are the central points you could focus on, what is the best answer for many common questions, etc. One of the results of this great experience is that a couple of us created a 7-minute introductory video, entitled “El asombroso Libro de Urantia” (“The Amazing Urantia Book”).

Carlos Rincón met us 4 years ago at the fair (and surprised us with his tattoo, look closely). Today he is one of the most active volunteers in the Fair and a member of the Bogota Association.

The people we met at the fair were very diverse—some had already read the book; others had not heard of it at all. Of course, there were people who were not interested in the subject. Many people are afraid to get involved with some sect of religion, so it is good to make it clear as soon as possible that *The Urantia Book* is of a spiritual nature, but not a sect or a religion. Let people know that it is about developing a personal relationship with God. Many of our volunteers learned about our Association at a book fair. During the fair, we announced a free introductory talk that we organized to occur about two weeks afterward.

We are planning to come back every year for the International Book Fair of Bogotá, again, with our own booth.

Talking and interacting with so many different people about *The Urantia Book* is an indescribable experience.

The results derived from the 2015 Book Fair are:

- We interacted with around 1500 people—the time of the conversation varying between 20 seconds with some people to 30 minutes for others. We had around 30 volunteers involved.
- We distributed 8500 flyers and encouraged people to download the book from our webpage.
- We collected 240 emails from people interested in receiving news from the Association.
- As participants, we had the opportunity to give three talks to a total of around 100 people, most of whom did not know about *The Urantia Book*.
- We met many devoted readers who were feeling isolated and so were very excited about our Association and who could be potential future members or leaders.
- We made new contacts with bookstores willing to buy boxes of books.
- We sold 140 books distributed as follows: 60 books on a person to person basis (unfortunately we didn't have a credit card reader and lost around 40 sales) and 80 copies to bookstores.
- We gained experience in talking with people, in organization, and in service.

We strongly recommend national and local Urantia Associations to participate in events and to enjoy the amazing experience of talking to people about a personal God within them, an organized creation, a new and unknown history of the planet, and about an unknown and astonishing Jesus. We are very grateful to the International Urantia Association for their support and we are ready to share more of our experience with readers willing to start those projects. Feel free to contact us at info@urantiabogota.com, if you have any questions.

DOES YOUR URANTIA BOOK NEED BINDING?

Katrina Glavan-Heise, San Antonio, Texas

I got my Urantia Book on May 1, 1985 anyway that's what it says on the inside cover. I've read it A LOT since then and during the past 3 or 4 years, the binding began to fail. Sure the corners were dinged--I'd dropped it numerous times since 1985. Sure the edges were beginning to fray--but a string here and a string there is not to be worried about, until now. Never had the cover begun to separate from “the book” until now. Now, “my book” was in serious trouble.

A year ago, I'd spoken to a friend who has a book bindery business and he said, “Sure, we can bind that back together. Easy. We can even save the lettering on the front cover and the end cover.” “That is awesome!” I thought. So how long would it take to do that work? My friend said about 3 or 4 weeks. Ye Gads! To be without my book for 3 or 4 weeks???? I don't think I'd be able to survive. This book has been with me EVERYWHERE! Even overseas to Korea, Mongolia, Philippines and Saudi Arabia. I couldn't just give it up. Not for 3 or 4 weeks. I don't know if this is going to work.

“How much is it going to cost to rebind the book?” I wanted to know. My friend said, “\$200 to \$300-depending.” Oh no!! “My book” out of my hands for 3 or 4 weeks and it would cost a couple hundred dollars. “That’s okay. I’ll call you if I decide to have you rebind my Urantia Book.”

Over the next year (or was it a year and a half by now?) I considered how I would function without “my book.” Yes, I could use one of my spares that are for guest readers. Yes, I could use my tablet and read it from there as I did when I went to London. I could even listen to it. I did have some options.

But over this year (or year and a half), the binding became more frail and I thought I would lose the cover altogether. So I made the plunge. I took my Urantia Book to Universal Book Bindery, Inc. located at 1200 N. Colorado in San Antonio TX 78207. Marcella Davies became my point of contact, and she introduced me to the man who would bind my book, Jeff. I wanted to keep the lettering from the front cover and side binding; Jeff said that it would not be a problem at all. He said the book itself was bound extremely well and they had used excellent materials. They confirmed it would take 2 or 3 weeks to do the job, but in fact it only 10 days.

Jeff kept the front cover--all the way to the edges and included some of the fraying when he glued it to the new cover. He was also able to keep the side binding--all the way to the fraying edges. He did a great job of matching the colors inside and out. Marcella said the new binding material would last another 50 or 60 years.

I did not get a photo of the before binding as it didn’t occur to me at all. But you can see from the photos that the binding came out quite well.



The cost came to \$216.50 which was less than the \$300 I had feared. Still it wasn’t cheap. I have WAY TOO MUCH emotional attachment to my Urantia Book, and I was willing to pay just about anything to keep it intact.

If getting your Urantia Book rebound is something you want to do, I recommend Marcella and her team at Universal Bookbindery, Inc. She can be reached at 210-734-9502 or FREE800-594-2015.

NEW NATIONAL ASSOCIATION IN THE NETHERLANDS

Stichting Urantia Nederlandstalig

On August 21, 2014, a group of twelve long time students of *The Urantia Book* met in Amsterdam to celebrate Jesus’ Birthday and to charter a new Local Association of Urantia Association International. It was a gorgeous and exciting day to launch a new organization. The chartering ceremony was solemn and beautiful with speeches of welcome; grateful acceptances; the lighting of a commemorative Urantia candle by the Urantia Association International President, Chris Wood; and the signing of the Chartering and Licensing Agreements. The new governing board was formalized with Jaap Terra as President and Treasurer, Samantha Nior as Vice President and Secretary, and Marcel Peereboom as Communications Chair.

The first goal of this new board was to become a National Association before the end of 2014. And this they accomplished with 31 enthusiastic full members. The Representative Council has voted to confirm this association as a National Urantia Association with full voting privileges. This will be an exciting time for this new team of leaders as they set their goals and register their non-profit organization. We hope you will join with us in welcoming Stichting Urantia Nederlandstalig to the Association.



THANK YOU TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

Margaret Slater-Thompson, Executive Director, Urantia Association International

We would like to acknowledge and thank our outgoing members of the International Service

Board whose terms expired March 31, 2015. Their great work and dedication to Urantia Association International's mission and goals over the last few years has helped us to keep moving forward in our work for the Urantia revelation.

Merindi Belarski took office April 1, 2007 and served for two full, four-year terms as Vice President. She also served as the Chair of the Association's Representative Council during those same eight years. Merindi proved to be an outstanding Board member, not only doing her assigned duties with efficiency, diplomacy and grace, but also volunteering for several other responsibilities. She served on the project teams for the 2011 Leadership Symposium, the 2014 Study Group Symposium, and the 2015 International Conference. She was the team leader for the coordination of financial aid and visa applications for attendees of all three events. During her tenure Merindi, went from being a single woman to becoming a wife, a mother of one, then a mother of two, while holding down a full-time job for much of that time. We are grateful for the wisdom and intelligence that Merindi brought to the Board and wish her well in her future endeavors.

Vern Verass took office April 1, 2007 and served for two full, four-year terms as the Communications Chair. Vern is a professional graphic designer and was a powerhouse of creativity. During his tenure he led and directed the editorial boards of our three main publications: Tidings, Journal, and the Annual Report, redesigning their appearance and layout. He was at the forefront of the re-creation of the Association's website and served on the subsequent revision team. Vern designed a new logo for the Association and developed a Logo Usage Policy as well as a Style Guide, which insures consistent visual branding across the entire Association. Vern was always eager to serve, create, and participate wherever and whenever he could. We will miss his bubbly personality and his positive outlook on life, and the good news is that he has agreed to be a member of the Communications Committee and will continue to use his expertise in the production of our publications.

Bernie Belarski served for one, four-year term from 2011 to 2015, serving as the Dissemination Chair. Bernie is a great ideas man and was responsible for coordinating many international efforts of outreach and dissemination of *The Urantia Book*. He provided information about *The Urantia Book* and Urantia Association to the general public, responded to reader and non-reader inquiries, helped associations to get involved in book fairs, and assisted study groups in some of the developing countries to insure they had sufficient books for their members. Bernie is a devoted and dedicated student of *The Urantia Book* and intends to continue to serve the revelation in whatever way he can.

Bill Beasley took over from James Woodward as the Study Group Chair in October 2012 and dedicated much of his time as Urantia Association's representative in the development of the Study Group Directory, which was a combined team effort of the three prominent Urantia organizations: Urantia Foundation, Urantia Association International, and *The Urantia Book* Fellowship. He also contributed to the planning and organization of the 2014 Study Group Symposium planning team. Bill's experience and business background proved valuable to the board and his wise advice was always appreciated. Bill will never stop serving the revelation; we know he has a passion for study groups and will continue to foster them for as long as he possibly can.

NEW INTERNATIONAL SERVICE BOARD MEMBERS

Margaret Slater-Thompson, Executive Director, Urantia Association International

The Representative Council of Urantia Association International has just completed an election cycle for members of the International Service Board (ISB). Following are the positions that were due for election along with the successful candidates:

Vice President – Andres Ramirez (Colombia)
Secretary – Susan Owen (United States – re-elected)
Communications Chair – Kathleen Swadling (Australia)
Conference Chair – Antonio Schefer (The Netherlands)
Dissemination Chair – David Linthicum (United States)
Membership Chair – Anton Miroshnichenko (Ukraine)
Study Group Chair – Gaetan Charland (Quebec, Canada)

Those remaining members whose positions were not due for election are:

President – Chris Wood (United States)
Treasurer – Bradly Tharp (United States)
Education Chair – Sheila Keen Lund (United States)
Translations Chair – Chris Moseley (United Kingdom)

Here are the positions that were due for election along with the successful candidates.

URANTIA FOUNDATION TRUSTEES' MEETING OVERVIEW

Mo Siegel, President, Urantia Foundation

Greetings to the 533 Diversey Team, Office Managers, Volunteers, Donors, Friends of Urantia Foundation, and Friends of the Urantia Revelation.

As always, we want to keep you current with recent decisions and progress. Your feedback is always appreciated and needed.

A regular meeting of the Expanded Board of Trustees of Urantia Foundation was held on April 17 and 18 at 533 W. Diversey Parkway in Chicago, Illinois. As always, we want to keep you current with recent decisions and progress. Your feedback is always appreciated and needed.

Our love, appreciation, and soul-felt gratitude go out to all of you who are of service to the Urantia Revelation and Urantia Foundation. You are the human hands working for a vast array of unseen celestial beings whose job it is to upstep the evolutionary process on Urantia. These beings have the responsibility to move humanity into lock step with the sure and grand purposes of the Supreme.

As we look toward the future, exciting yet challenging conditions face humanity in the next fifty years. While you and I will probably not alter the course of human events during this time, we can make a significant contribution to the success of the revelation. This requires that we wisely and safely pass this revelation and the human institutions involved with it onto future generations. The fruit of this work shall blossom in ages to come when men and women realize that no matter the color of their skin, the religion of their ancestors, or their gender, all people are the sons and daughters of a loving God. The work we do today lays some of the groundwork for that eventuality. We can trust that the work we do today will yield fruit in the future. The Most Highs rule in the kingdoms of men!

Your prayers, financial support, teamwork, and service make a significant difference to the work of Urantia Foundation. We need your help and are grateful for your generosity. Thank you.

Be of good cheer,
Mo Siegel

On behalf of Urantia Foundation's Expanded Board and Staff:

Trustees: Gard Jameson, Richard Keeler, Marilynn Kulieke, Georges Michelson-Dupont, Henk Mylanus, Mo Siegel, and Judy Van Cleave.

Associate Trustees: Sandra Burga-Cisneros Pizarro, Marta Elders, Víctor García-Bory, Richard Jernigan, Line St-Pierre, Angela Thurston, Ralph Zehr, and Carolyn Kendall (history advisor).

Staff: Tamara Strumfeld, Joanne Strobel, and Connie Gutierrez

Information reviewed and decisions made during the meeting.

1. President and Committee Reports

The board received 1) a report from the president, 2) a report on financials from accounting, 3) a report on investments from the treasurer, 4) staff reports, and 5) reports from the following committees: Book, Finance, Fundraising, Governance, Public Relations, and Translations. The reports prompted the decisions described below.

2. Appreciation for Our Terrific Team

Between January and April, the staff and outside associates accomplished a great deal of work. Thank goodness for the hard work of Tamara Strumfeld, Joanne Strobel, and Connie Gutierrez at our headquarters. For the exceptional work of our partners during this last quarter, special thanks go to Rogério da Silva, Larry Watkins, Cece Forester, Jim Zigarelli and Monica Ortiz, Angie Thurston, Paul Anderson, Tim Kenny, Teuvo Orjala, MaryJo Garascia, and Jennifer Siegel.

Special thanks also go to translators/revisors Susana Huttner Palaia and the Portuguese revision team; Víctor García Bory, Carmelo Martínez, and the Spanish revision team; Richard Zhu (Chinese translation); Gabriel Rymberg and the Hebrew translation team; Nugroho Widi (Indonesian translation); Emilia Lukanova Manolova (Bulgarian translation); and Michael Hanian (Russian revision).

3. Finance Committee

Tim Kenny, CPA, distributed and reviewed the financials with the board. Gard Jameson reported on the upcoming audit.

4. Fundraising

The fundraising committee described its plans to launch the "Revelation Bridge," a new planned, giving- fund aimed at generating 25 million dollars to safeguard the Urantia Revelation from 2015-2050. Today, almost all donations come from older North Americans. We are entering a time when the largest transfer of wealth in the history of the world is taking place as the North

American baby boomers pass their wealth on. In general, the next generation of readers are not financially prepared to take on the growing expenses of education, outreach, translations, and book distribution, so the aging baby boomers need to build the “Revelation Bridge” from this generation to the next. This is exactly what the early founders did for future generations, and now the baby boomers must do the same. We are very happy to help anyone who wants to donate to the “Revelation Bridge.” Please call Joanne Strobel at 1-773-525-3319 or visit urantia.plannedgiving.org.

5. Translation Committee

- A. Trustee and Manager of Translations Georges Michelson-Dupont reported on the progress of each translation and revision now being worked on. Even though a translation or revision might take a decade or two to produce, in the foreseeable future, the vast majority of people on earth will be able to read *The Urantia Book* in their native tongue. We are truly blessed by the service of each translator and revisor. We are especially thankful to Georges for volunteering his time and resources and coordinating this noble endeavor. Special thanks also go to Marilyn Kulieke, Jay Peregrine, Henk Mylanus, and Tamara Strumfeld for their excellent work on the Translation Committee.
- B. Larry Watkins demonstrated “The Vault” to the board. The Vault is a secure electronic location which stores the “Golden Files” of *The Urantia Book* and the most updated version of each translation. Rogério da Silva and Larry have been creating what we fondly call the “Golden Files” and securing these files in the Vault. It will safeguard and preserve the master files of the text in all translations for decades to come. Anytime a translation is improved, new Golden Files will be generated and stored there.
- C. Every board meeting is comprised of two parts; one is the general session with the full board. The other is the executive session that is only attended by Trustees and invited presenters. This executive session was spent mostly discussing the need for outside professionals to evaluate the translations and revisions.

Most translations and revisions are done by volunteers as a labor of love. We are so thankful for the tens of thousands of volunteer hours it takes to make a translation or a revision of a translation. Through experience we have now learned that having professional outside evaluators check the quality of a translation or revision dramatically improves the quality and shortens the time of creating translations and revisions. As time goes on, we will need more services from professional evaluators. We view it as our duty to create the most beautiful and “true to the original” translations possible.

6. Education Committee

Georges Michelson-Dupont and Ralph Zehr reported that attendance at *The Urantia Book* Internet School is exploding. Since its inception, over one thousand and fifty students have taken classes. Attendees have come from over 176 countries, spanning five continents. Classes are offered in English, Spanish, and French, with Portuguese coming soon.

Gard Jameson, chair of the Education Committee, reported on two upcoming events. The first is a seminar at the end of May at Urantia Foundation that explores the socialization of religion. The second is the Parliament of World Religions in Salt Lake City, Utah, this October.

7. Book Committee

Tamara Strumfeld and Henk Mylanus reported on final sales numbers for 2014. *Urantia Book* sales were up 7% with the biggest increases from sales in Latin America.

Early this summer 27,000 *Urantia Books* in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and German will be printed. Long-time English readers should enjoy this new printing because we are adding an elegant, limited edition British Tan Leather-Soft book. These books will come in an attractive gift box that makes it a perfect present for a loved one or even for your favorite new reader.

Urantia Foundation will be participating in two book fairs during May and June.

8. Public Relations

Richard Jernigan presented the beginning of a new style guide that Urantia Foundation will use for organizational identification. The purpose of the style guide is to help Urantia Foundation ensure a dependable degree of dignity, professionalism, and graphic consistency in its work, programs, and dissemination activities. Our desire is for Urantia Foundation to present an image that is consistent with the dignity and values of the Fifth Epochal Revelation.

9. Future Use of the Basement at 533

Gard Jameson presented architectural designs for the Foundation’s basement to be converted into a library and learning center. A cost and feasibility study is being conducted to determine the possibilities, timing, and expenses associated with the idea.

10. Imprint Label Policy and Process

The board voted in favor of establishing the first imprint label of Urantia Foundation, Urantia Press. Imprint labels are tools used by organizations to distinguish specially published materials from its normal publications. The imprint label can be used for all books,

We are so thankful for the tens of thousands of volunteer hours it takes to make a translation or a revision of a translation.

videos, and audios other than *The Urantia Book* and its translations.

11. Post Cards with Topical Quotes—First Use of Imprint Label

The board resolved to print oversized postcards for outreach purposes under the imprint label of Urantia Press. The first set of postcards will be available for book fairs this summer.

12. Five Year Organizational and Financial Plan

The board approved Urantia Foundation developing a five-year organizational and financial plan. With the help of an outside executive resource, we will set five-year goals with plans for who will do what, by when, and for how much. This planning process is important in making sure that we are prepared for the generational handoff. When finished, the plan will also answer important staffing questions.

13. The Standard Reference Text Committee Recommendations

Some years back under the wise leadership of Seppo Kanerva, a group of foremost scholars of the Urantia Revelation from *The Urantia Book* Fellowship and Urantia Foundation formed what has become known as the Standard Reference Text Committee. After years of work, study, and debate, the committee reviewed every change to the book since the first publication as well as other suggested changes that have been submitted to Urantia Foundation. The result of this review was a recommended Standard Reference Text (SRT). This text is to serve as the inviolate text of *The Urantia Book* for future generations. All publishers agreed to only print the SRT.

Recently the committee found six more minor errors of grammar and punctuation in the text and recommended they be corrected. After review, the Board of Trustees approved these changes. Future printings of the English text will use the recently updated SRT.

14. Future Meeting Dates

The meeting schedule for 2015 -2016 is as follows:

Q3 Meeting 2015: July 17-18, 2015, in Chicago.

Q4 Meeting 2015: October 23-24, 2015, in Chicago.

Q1 Meeting 2016: January 21-23, 2016, location to be determined.

Q2 Meeting 2016: April 21-23, 2016, in Chicago.

Q3 Meeting 2016: July 21-23, 2016, location to be determined.

Q4 Meeting 2016: October 15-17, 2016, in Chicago.

We also receive requests for additional study aids, which we cannot provide. As a solution, we are currently preparing a four-page document that includes a brief description of several study topics and other information to help inmates study alone.

The “study aid” project follows a recently completed, two-page Study Group Guide that we adapted for prisoners. We’ve been able to send the PIRT Study Group Guide to a few long-time readers who are now leading study groups behind bars.

Our primary mission is to place *The Urantia Book* in prisons, which we hope will span to prisons around the world. It is a bonus to provide readers with additional material to enhance their personal study and to foster prison study groups.

We’ve been able to place all those books primarily through donations, as most inmates do not have funds to buy *The Urantia Book*. If you would like to help us out, please send your donations to UAI, and note that it is for the PIRT fund.

Beauty is always triumphant over ugliness in the hearts of all who are illuminated by the love of truth. (Page 1738, Para 4)

2015 PARLIAMENT OF WORLD RELIGIONS

Margaret Slater-Thompson, UAI Executive Director

As we did in 2009, Urantia Association International, Urantia Foundation, and the Fellowship will work together to promote *The Urantia Book* at this prestigious event. If you are interested in being part of the team to plan and man the booth during this event, or just want to attend this amazing event, now is the time to register for five days of listening, sharing, practical insight, training, and networking.

If you are interested in volunteering to be part of our team for this event, please use our [Contact Us Form](#) and tell us how you would like to help and if you are interested in the group rate.



THE PUBLICATION MANDATE:

Gaetan Charland, ISB Study Group Chair, Montreal, Canada

Gaetan Charland finished out the LSUA conference talking about [the Publication Mandate](#) and Study Groups, a subject that's dear to many of us. The bottom line is we need more study groups to accommodate the increased readership of *The Urantia Book*. (Note from editor: the "Publication Mandate" has been adopted as a guiding document for UAUS and a copy is currently available on the [UAUS website](#) and on the [Urantia Canada website](#).)

We regard The Urantia Book as a feature of the progressive evolution of human society. It is not germane to the spectacular episodes of epochal revolution, even though it may apparently be timed to appear in the wake of one such revolution in human society. The book belongs to the era immediately to follow the conclusion of the present ideological struggle. That will be the day when men will be willing to seek truth and righteousness. When the chaos of the present confusion has passed, it will be more readily possible to formulate the cosmos of a new and improved era of human relationships. And it is for this better order of affairs on earth that the book has been made ready.

But the publication of the book has not been postponed to that (possibly) somewhat remote date. An early publication of the book has been provided so that it may be in hand for the training of leaders and teachers. Its presence is also required to engage the attention of persons of means who may be thus led to provide funds for translations into other languages.

(You) who have dedicated (your) lives to the service of the Book and the Brotherhood can little realize the import of (your) doings. (You) will doubtless live and die without fully realizing that (you) are participating in the birth of a new age of religion on this world.

"The future is not open to (your) mortal comprehension, but (you) will do well to diligently study the order, plan, and methods of progression as they were enacted in the earth life of Michael when the Word was made flesh. You are becoming actors in an ensuing episode when the Word is made Book. Great is the difference in these dispensations of religion, but many are the lessons which can be learned from a study of the former age.

(You) must again study the times of Jesus on earth. (You) must carefully take note of how the kingdom of heaven was inaugurated in the world. Did it evolve slowly and unfold naturally? or did it come with sudden show of force and with spectacular exhibition of power? Was it evolutionary or revolutionary?

(You) must learn to possess (your) souls in patience. (You) are in association with a revelation of truth which is a part of the natural evolution of religion on this world. Over-rapid growth would be suicidal. The book is being given to those who are ready for it long before the day of its world-wide mission. Thousands of study groups must be brought into existence and the book must be translated into many tongues. Thus will the book be in readiness when the battle for man's liberty is finally won and the world is once more made safe for the religion of Jesus and the freedom of mankind."

HELPFUL LINKS:

Urantia Association of the United States (UAUS) website. There are photos, UB inspired music, art reviews, and other info germane to UAI members and students of the Book in the United States of America: <http://urantiausa.com/>

Urantia Association USA's Facebook page. If you "Like" the page, news postings will show up in your Facebook news feed: <http://facebook.com/urantiausa/>

For membership in Urantia Association of the United States the application and requirements are available at this link: <http://bit.ly/1J3hXhV>

Urantia Association International's website. Here you will find the Charter and Bylaws, also UAI projects involving study and dissemination, event information, membership requirements, applications, and many, many other items of interest to members: <http://urantia-association.org/>

Membership in Urantia Association International. The application and instructions are at this link: <http://bit.ly/1Is0cAe>

The Urantia Foundation website: <http://urantia.org/>

The Urantia Book online. For the latest news reports from Urantia Foundation, you can also visit Urantia Foundation's News Online: <http://bit.ly/1luKtyN>

The Journal, Urantia Association's "scholarly" publication, is available electronically free of charge at <http://urantia-association.org/publications/uai-journal/journal-archives/>.

To receive hard copies of *The Journal*, you may subscribe to *The Journal* at these rates: Annual \$20 US, \$28 Australian, \$28 Canadian, or 18 (Euros). Single Copies \$5 US, \$7 Australian, \$7 Canadian, or 4.50 (Euros). Other foreign language edition rates will be equal to \$20 US for subscription or \$5 US for a single issue in local currency according to international exchange rates at the time of subscription. Funds should be sent to Urantia Association International (USA) and must be in US dollars.

***Tidings* newsletter, from Associations around Urantia**, is a semi-monthly newsletter published by: Urantia Association International. Your fellow UAI members around the world want to know what is happening in your association. New and seasoned readers are encouraged to send material for publication on any of the following topics: 1. How *The Urantia Book* Found Me, 2. Special projects such as Book Fairs, Library Placement, and Outreach, 3. New or established study groups – How you got started – What keeps you going? 4. Your annual meeting, picnic or just getting together. You can read current and back issues here: <http://urantia-association.org/publications/tidings-newsletter/tidings-archives/>

QUOTE OF THE QUARTER:

191:6.2 (2044.3) *That which my Father sent me into the world to establish belongs not to a race, a nation, nor to a special group of teachers or preachers. This gospel of the kingdom belongs to both Jew and gentile, to rich and poor, to free and bond, to male and female, even to the little children. And you are all to proclaim this gospel of love and truth by the lives which you live in the flesh. You shall love one another with a new and startling affection, even as I have loved you. You will serve mankind with a new and amazing devotion, even as I have served you. And when men see you so love them, and when they behold how fervently you serve them, they will perceive that you have become faith-fellows of the kingdom of heaven, and they will follow after the Spirit of Truth which they see in your lives, to the finding of eternal salvation.*

<http://bit.ly/1110yMT>

ABOUT THE MESSENGER

The Messenger is a quarterly publication of Urantia Association of the United States (UAUS) and is emailed to friends and members of Urantia Association International (UAI) at their request only .

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