



**Council of Local Presidents Annual Meeting via Zoom
Saturday, September 29, 2018**

MINUTES

Attending

1. Pio Park, UAUS President
2. Rick Lyon, UAUS Vice-President
3. Joanne Strobel, UAUS Secretary

CLP members:

1. Will Sherwood, VP, Virginia/Carolina Readers (VCR)
2. Will Sherwood as proxy for president Sherry Layton of VCR
3. Bob Solone, VP, GLMUA
4. Danny Casco, President, GLMUA
5. Sia Ahmadzadeh, proxy for Lone Star Urantia Association president
6. Jeff Wattles, VP, Ohio Students of the Urantia Book
7. Marian Hughes, President, HULA
8. Marian Hughes as proxy for Greg MacIsaac of HULA
9. Tom Vasile, President, UALA
10. Marie Vasile, VP, UALA
11. Janiece Hoggatt, President, WSUA

Absent: Janie Whinery, UAUS Treasurer

The meeting was called to order by Pio at 1:13 pm Central time.

An invocation was given by Rick Lyon.

Roll call was taken by Joanne and a quorum declared, with 11 out of a possible 28 voting members present.

2017 Annual Meeting Minutes and Q2 2018 Meeting Minutes

After noting two minor edits, Will Sherwood moved to accept both sets of minutes; the motion was seconded by Marian Hughes. Hearing no objections or discussion, the minutes were adopted. Joanne will ask Scott to post them on the UAUS website.

Treasurer's Report

Pio gave the report in Janie's absence.

June 30, 2018 Balance: \$35,923.67

September 30, 2018 Balance: \$36,161.87 of which \$25K is restricted to Conference Funding.

2018 YTD Donations: \$2565.27

Governing Board Reports (President, VP)

Pio stated that the governing board set out to become reestablished as a legal entity and has achieved that. Rick displayed the official IRS letter on the screen. Pio thanked Rick for all his hard work.

UAUS is now duly incorporated as Urantia Association of the United States (aka UAUS) in the State of Illinois, with a permanent address at 533 W Diversey Parkway, Chicago, IL 60614. Note: we had to attest to the amended bylaws (next agenda item)

Joanne showed the Illinois Sales Tax Exemption certificate, dated 9/21/18.

Pio explained that he also got a QuickBooks bookkeeping system set up for UAUS with the help of his personal accountant. Acknowledgements will be sent to all donors.

Pio said that he has been hearing rumblings of the Urantia Book Fellowship becoming an association of the United States if they get licensed. He asked for feedback. Rick clarified that it is a dead issue and that there is nothing on the table at this time.

Pio said that Joanne will be representing UAUS on the UAI Charter and Bylaws Revision Committee. A call to meeting has been emailed but no date set.

Rick Lyon spoke briefly of his visit to a UK conference in Wales.

Ratify UAUS Bylaws

Will Sherwood made a motion to accept the UAUS bylaws and Rick Lyon seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the bylaws were ratified by a vote of 11 of 11.

Website Migration

Webmaster Scott Brooks is continuing to work on the migration. Once it is completed, the UAUS EarthLink fees will cease

Study Group Directory and UAUS SG list

Study Group Chair Marian Hughes has been updating the UAUS Study Group listing. (The PDF was displayed on screen.) Please continue to send all changes to Marian so she can keep the list updated. She and Matt called all of the members to verify listings and will continue to do so. Pio thanked Marian for her help. Marian clarified that she does not have direct access to the UAUS but sends the information to Scott.

Marian would like to suggest that Scott post a notice on the SG page to have people let us know if their information changes.

Will Sherwood asked how this data relates to the online Study Group Directory. It was explained that they are separate listings; changes do not flow automatically between the two.

2020 Regional Conference update

An update was presented by Marian Hughes. The national park has reopened but is still in bad shape. The volcano has calmed down and the air is clearing. The venue they selected because of its amenities has since been closed down due to plumbing problems related to recent earthquakes. She does anticipate that it will reopen. But if it doesn't, the cost of an alternative venue may be prohibitive. As a result, they are in a holding pattern. Marian suggested that if someone else wants to take over and host a regional or national conference on the mainland, she would understand.

Pio proposed that Seattle might be a good alternative. He suggested combining three regions – Washington, Oregon, and Hawaii. There is still a year and half left to plan.

Janiece suggested finding a date at the end of 2019.

Will recommends that the conference begin on either Wednesday or Thursday, and continue through Sunday in order to make it worthwhile and a proper vacation for attendees. It should not be held in 2020, when it could interfere with Vancouver. He agreed that we are long overdue for a national conference.

Local Association updates on 2019 planned activities

GLMUA: Danny stated that they haven't done much except a picnic at Jesus' birthday. A new member joined. The annual holiday party at Urantia Foundation has been cancelled this year.

HULA: Marian reported that they had a very large and enthusiastic Jesus' birthday celebration at her home. Their group is not very organized due to distances. But a monthly study group of 15 attend when she's in the county. They have several new readers who are greatly enjoying it. As mentioned previously, plans for the 2019 conference are on hold due to the volcano.

Lone Star: Sia reported that in the last couple of meetings they have been focusing on their goals, activities, and their website. They are trying to be more focused and selective regarding what the people of Texas really need. They are directing seekers and students to UAI and UAUS websites. They plan to update the Texas Study Group listings as part of their ongoing effort to promote the study of *The Urantia Book* as individuals and as a group. Most of their members are dealing with family responsibilities but still desire to stay connected.

Ohio Students of The Urantia Book: Jeff celebrated the fact that they have a new study group in his home town of Stowe that meets on Wednesdays. He will invite the host to forward her contact information to Marian.

UALA: Tom reported that they're still hosting Skype study groups. Tom leads the Sunday group, currently on Paper 26. Marie does the Thursday study on the Jesus papers. They find it a delightful experience and enjoy integrating the two studies. They have from 3 to 15 attendees.

As a long term project, Tom is writing a book for nonreaders and readers alike. It is about making career choices and life plans. He taught career and life planning for over 30 years at a local college. This book will be about how to go about setting goals and achieving them. It will also address how a person can attune their personal goals with the Thought Adjuster's goal for their life.

Virginia Carolina Readers: Will reported that the old database had listed about 90 people but he noticed that there were only about 10-12 people on the email contact list. He did some investigating and found a very enthusiastic member in Virginia. He suggested that she hold a Jesus birthday celebration and she did! They had a good turnout. He encourages everyone to check the database for their local association and begin to call people.

VCR will have a local Mini Conference in October at the home of Dr. Perry. The theme is "The Mission of Adversity and the Spiritual Value of Disappointment." The date is Saturday, October 27th from 9:30 am to 4 pm. Address: 12800 Spruce Pine Way, Apt 220 Raleigh, NC. RSVP (919) 559-3982. (Since our last meeting Marion Perry passed away)

WASUA: Janiece reiterated that she will begin efforts to organize a conference for late 2019. They had some small gatherings in Washington earlier in the summer. They too plan to get their study group information together and send it to Marian.

It should be noted that the attending members of the CLP fully supports this new conference initiative.

In response to Meredith's question from the last meeting, Pio reminded everyone that a "Know your clients" signature card should be filled out to assign a local association's bank account assets to UAUS in the event of dissolution.

2019 Election for UAUS President, Treasurer (call for candidates)

At the encouragement of several members, Pio stated that he will consider a second term. The Governing Board is seeking candidates for the position of Treasure.

Committee Chair Positions

Communications is Scott Brooks; Education is Rick Lyon; SG is Marian. Conference Committee would be an ad hoc committee, so it will likely be Janiece with Douglas.

Fundraising for 2019

Pio remonstrated that he has failed miserably at raising his stated goal of \$30,000. UAUS posted a surplus of about \$1600 from the calendar fundraising. He reminded the CLP that fundraising must be active and ongoing. We are frugal. But our money is sitting in a bank not earning any interest.

Janiece, who does fundraising for their local Rotary, says it is vital that there be a stated purpose for all fundraising efforts. What would be the purpose? Pio suggested that it could be for young people to attend local conferences.

Marian asked about Amazon Smile. Rick said it is still on his to do list.

Pio suggested that we all submit fundraising ideas for fiscal year 2019-2020.

UAUS Facebook, UAI Education Committee Webinars

Rick encouraged everyone to go to the UAUS Facebook page. There's not a lot happening there. He encouraged everyone to post comments and stimulate discussions.

Rick reminded everyone to be aware of what UAI is doing with their series of educational Zoom seminars. He'd like to see something on building strong families. He is looking for someone to do a series on leadership. Wilson Leon does leadership training for local associations in Latin America and they have been quite successful.

Other Business

Pio asked if any of the CLPs been incorporated. Some yes, most no. It would cost UAUS \$3000 to apply for an umbrella exemption, which would eliminate the need for local Associations to report every year.

A call to adjourn was moved by Will and seconded by Jeff.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Future UAUS CLP Meeting Dates

NOTE: Unless otherwise announced, all times are 1 pm Central Time.

- Q4 2018 Saturday, December 29
- Q1 2019 Saturday, March 30
- Q2 2019 Saturday, June 29
- Q3 2019 Saturday, September 28
- Q4 2019 Saturday, December 28

Submitted by Joanne Strobel, UAUS Secretary, on September 29, 2018