

# **TJ CONNECTION**

Thomas Jefferson District  
April 1999

Unitarian Universalist Association  
Vol. 14, No. 7

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**April 2-4** SPECTRUUM Campus Ministry and Young Adult Conference, Wake, VA. Contact Rachel Lawrence, 804-233-7824 or ralawren@pen.k12.va.us .

**April 5-8** SEUUMA, The Mountain

**April 9-10** TJ District Annual Meeting, Williamsburg, VA

**April 17** 10th Biennial Liberal Religious Roundtable, "Fairness Under The Law". UU Fellowship of Hendersonville, NC. Contact: Fred Harris, 828-697-7966, harris@ioa.com

**April 30 - May 2** 1999 Conclave, co-sponsored by Congregational, District and Extension Services and the RE depts. in Boston at the renovated Pickett / Eliot houses. Contact: Rev. Jeannellen Ryan 617-742-2100 x376; jryan@uua.org

**May 14-16** Workshop on Growth for Small Congregations, Greensboro, NC

**May 24-26** RE Retreat

**May 27-31** ACCESS Retreat, The Mountain

**June 24** UUA-sponsored conference on giving: "From the Myth of Scarcity to the Reality of Abundance." Salt Lake City, Utah, For further information: contact Alan Kleinfeld (akleinfeld@uua.org) or Mary Miles (mmiles@uua.org).

**June 24-June 29** UUA General Assembly, Salt Lake City, Utah

**July 25-31** Leadership School, The Mountain;  
♦SUUSI, Radford University, Radford, VA

## ***Comings and Goings...***

The **Greater Nashville UU Congregation** has moved into its new building, purchased from its former owners. It seats 250, providing plenty of room for expansion.

The new building of the **UU Congregation of Hillsborough**, NC will be dedicated on May 2, with UU Moderator, **Dennie Davidoff** as the Keynote Speaker.

Another important event on May 2 will be the installation of the **Rev. Thomas Rhodes** at the **Westside UU Church of Knoxville**, Tennessee.

A new TJ District congregation, in Kilmarnock, Virginia, will be chartered on May 2.

## **TJ DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING TO BE IN WILLIAMSBURG, VA, APRIL 9-11**

Highlight of this year's TJ District Annual Meeting hosted by **Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists**, April 9-11. will be a keynote speech by retiring District Executive **Roger Comstock** and a reception and banquet in his honor. His title is "It's No Small Task -- Healing the World -- But Somebody Has To Do It." Other items on the agenda include a vote on amendments updating the bylaws, presentation of awards, and votes on the proposed long-range plan and the 1999-2000 budget.

The following workshops are planned:  
**Death by Opportunity.** Large congregations face many exciting opportunities and challenges. This discussion, led by **Leslie Takahashi Morris** of the Eno River UU Fellowship will focus on approaches to managing the exciting array of possibilities with as few growing pains as possible. There will be a chance to share successes and troubleshoot together.

**Building Right Relations.** Organizational Systems and right relations among lay leaders and staff. Workshop led by **Kathy Wimett**, organizational and leadership development consultant, and **Rev. Ed Piper**, Extension Minister at UU Fellowship of Waynesboro and former congregational president.

**Working With the UU Service Committee.** **The Rev. Bob Murphy**, TJ District representative for the UUSC and chair of the disaster relief effort in the District will look at

ways that congregations and individuals can work with UUSC in the months ahead.

**It Takes Music, Food, A Chalice and Care to Make YRUU Programs Work.** A requested repeat!! **Peter deFur** of the Community Church of Glen Allen, VA, winner of the Youth Advisor Award at the 1997 GA, will lead a hands-on workshop about YRUU and some of the factors that contribute to a successful program.

**The New Volunteer - How to Deal With the Committed Volunteer Who Has Limited Time.** Here's a chance to learn from a panel of successful practitioners: **Michael Tino**, Coordinator of Shared Ministry at Eno River UU Fellowship, **Christine Gresser**, board member and Campus Ministry Coordinator of the Thomas Jefferson UU Church, and **Elizabeth Swope**, DRE at UU Fellowship of Raleigh and co-chair of the District Extension Committee.

**TJ District and the UUA -What They Do For You - And What You Want Them To Do.** Paul Clipp, of the UU Fellowship of Clemson, TJ District Annual Program Fund Chair, member of the District Finance Committee, and director of the Leadership School at The Mountain, will discuss the current activities of both the TJ District and the UUA in support of our religious movement. We will also look at the support that the District and UUA ask of us and our congregations.

**An Extra: The Roundtable.**

A chance to get answers to questions you might have about several important issues to be addressed at this year's business meeting.

The General Assembly website (<http://www.uua.org/ga>) contains all the useful information you need to start your GA journey.

**FROM THE PRESIDENT  
Linda Lane-Hamilton**

Planning for an annual meeting is an ongoing process, and this year's is especially so in two major ways.

First, our slate of nominees has changed. With Ed Wilde's new role as UUA Trustee beginning this summer, he has resigned as vice-president. Leon Spencer, originally a candidate for a three-year at-large board position, has agreed to serve instead as Vice-President. The Nominating

Committee was able to make this change in time to meet our bylaws regulations stipulating that candidates be announced to delegates a month before the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee could not act in time, however, to fill Leon's empty slot. A current board member, Polly Johnson, has volunteered to take a one-year slot, which is Board-appointed until the next Annual Meeting election, and Board members have enthusiastically approved. Polly has played a major role in creating the Long Range Plan and continues to offer valuable experience on the Board as we make the transition to a new District Executive.

Second, the Board, Long Range Planning Committee, and Finance Committee have continued meeting to refine financial support for the District's next 5-year plan. The Board will propose an ambitious but eminently do-able plan to raise the necessary funds. We are working now at forming a strong committee to design and implement a fund-raising program which will begin at the Annual Meeting 2000. We believe strongly in the importance of the many initiatives in the Long Range Plan, including moving to a paid religious education program consultant and supporting our innovative anti-racism program.

A one-hour special PBS broadcast on May 16 will present a celebration at Harvard University honoring Nelson Mandela, President of the Union of South Africa. Please contact your public station and encourage them to schedule the program, cosponsored by the UUA, Meadville Lombard, Starr King and the UUSC among others.

**TJ Connection** is published 10 times yearly by the District Board, which is responsible for its contents. It is available on-line at <http://www.tjd.uua.org/tjduua>. Other District news is available by e-mail at [listproc@uua.org](mailto:listproc@uua.org) with message: "subscribe TJD-L YourFirst Name Your LastName" (no quotes).  
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