

# UU Fellowship of Chautauqua Newsletter Winter 2010

## *HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS*

The Board of Trustees of UUFC Inc wishes all of you a very happy new year and invites you to join us in preparing for the coming season at Chautauqua from Sunday, June 26 through Sunday, August 28, 2011.

### **Season's Greetings from Karen Gottovi**

I hope this newsletter finds you in the midst of whatever is your meaningful tradition for celebration at this holiday season. Chautauqua is covered with snow, and the sparkling lights give out a wonderful glow. Dan and I will be there over New Year's weekend this year – and hope for enough snow that the grandchildren can sled down University hill. But not too much!

New officers and board members were elected at the August UUFC meeting. Bob Hopper retired as President, and I am now installed in that office. Nancy Bechtolt and Jane Kirsch remain as VP and Secretary respectively, and Jill Wooldridge is our new but experienced Treasurer, with Ted Raab as Assistant Treasurer. For a list of all officers and board members and their contact information, see the website at [www.uufchautauqua.org](http://www.uufchautauqua.org). Bob Adams continues to manage our database. If you have changes in your email or snail mail address, please send them to Bob at RADAMS95@aol.com. We are looking for volunteers to help Bob with the Store next summer (cds and paper copies of sermons) as well as data base management.

You may have heard that our Sunday Service hostess, Betty Scolnick, passed away last July. She was such a marvelous fixture at our coffee bar, offering hugs as well as refreshments. There will be a service for Betty next summer at Chautauqua. A memorial fund was set up in her name. If you would like to contribute to our memorial to Betty, please send checks to UUFC, PO Box 622, Chautauqua, NY, 14722. Make them out to the UUFC, with Scolnick memorial in the "for" line.

We are looking forward to a great summer at Chautauqua in 2011. The weekly themes are on the [www.ciweb.org](http://www.ciweb.org) and speakers and performers are being added every day. Jo Ann Deblinger has provided a full report about the UU Denomination House's summer and suggestions for your help next summer.

Nancy Bechtolt is working on the Ethics series, and Roger Doebke is beginning to plan for a World Café weekly session.

Stay tuned...make your plans - it will be summer before you know it, and we hope to see you at Chautauqua!

## **UU Denominational House News from Jo Ann Deblinger**

The UU Denominational House at Chautauqua continues to get raves from residents and visitors alike. The house was full at the beginning of the 2010 season, and a few last-minute cancellations opened space for people on the wait list.

Right now, the house is fully booked for the 2011 season. People who want to take their chances on the wait list for summer 2011, please go to the website ([www.uufchautauqua.org](http://www.uufchautauqua.org)) and fill out an application to be included. **NO PAYMENT** is necessary **UNLESS** an opening has occurred and you have been accepted. Past experience says openings do not occur until just before the season begins **OR** during the season. Flexibility is important.

In the 6 Bliss house's two years of operation, guests, members, and friends have offered in-house programs in contra dance, drumming, the history behind the 3 weavings in the house, and a dream circle. Others are invited to share their interests and talents. Sessions are usually held between 5 and 6 PM on Wednesdays.

As many know, our wonderful hosts Brigitte and Vic Popelars are returning for 2011. Guests report that the Popelars' warmth and hospitality are among the best parts of their Chautauqua experience.

Also now available: whole-house spring and fall off-season rentals for religious affiliated (weddings included) OR Chautauqua Institution-related activities. The price is \$2,000 a week or \$400 a night, with a minimum of three (3) nights. Spring dates available are April 29 – May 14. Fall dates will be announced in the spring newsletter. Contact Sandi Stupiansky at [swaite@edinboro.edu](mailto:swaite@edinboro.edu) for more information.

### **Volunteers Needed**

Are you available to lend a hand for at least half of the season? Please contact Jo Ann Deblinger ([jadcc@frontiernet.net](mailto:jadcc@frontiernet.net)). There are two main needs:

(1) House Tour Guides. Many donors, potential residents, and general visitors are eager to see the house. Tours have been offered between 2:00 and 3:00 on Saturday afternoons and on Sundays between 12:15 and 2:00 PM.

(2) Child Care/Religious Education on Sunday mornings during the service. One or two people, preferably with an educational or religious educational background, to work with Diana Bower who will organize and run the program. Besides the obvious benefit to parents and grandparents who want to attend the UU service, there is the larger benefit of building a new generation of UU's at

**Chautauqua. YOUNG FAMILIES WANTED, so lend a hand in growing Unitarian Universalism!**

**In the past we have offered childcare for children 4-11 years old. We are now able to offer a religious educational component, as the program is conducted in our own denominational house. Karen LoBracco of the St. Lawrence District has offered to help with the organization. If you are interested, contact Diana Bower ([dbower16@aol.com](mailto:dbower16@aol.com)) as soon as possible.**

### **Fund-Raising Message from Dave Bower and Roger Doebke**

As we celebrate the success of the re-establishment of a Unitarian House at Chautauqua it is only appropriate to thank all of the donors, large and small, who made it possible. As each of us come to see how important this "center" is for members, visitors and guests alike, we can delight in every moment of joy that comes from this accomplishment.

Because the House is physical in nature, we can all see, touch and experience events in its gathering rooms and on its wonderfully spiritual patio. We have a tangible representation of our giving.

But perhaps the House can be something more. Perhaps it can be a beacon of hope and caring that reminds us that beyond the tangible is the intangible; beyond the hope and caring is the pragmatic. Now that our donations have established the House, we have devised a long-term program to assure that the beacon does not go out.

Our major effort for long term security of the Fellowship and the House is focused on the development of the Edward Everett Hale Legacy Society. As adopted by the Fellowship during the 2010 season, our long term fund raising effort gives each of us an opportunity to provide for the Fellowship by naming it in our wills, trusts or other vehicles of giving that will perpetuate our legacy long after we can give no more.

For more information on how you can be part of this program please contact Dave Bower at [dbower16@ol.com](mailto:dbower16@ol.com) or Roger Doebke at [rogerdoebke@me.com](mailto:rogerdoebke@me.com) or drop a note to PO Box 622, Chautauqua, NY 14722.

## An End-of-Term Message from Bob Hopper

It was a wonderful experience to preside over the UUFC Board of Trustees during our recent years of growth and accomplishment. We are in a good place as we enter a new year. We will continue to build on the solid foundation provided by our denominational house, our excellent programs and our supportive base of members and friends.

The UUA recognized the importance of our influence at Chautauqua when it gave our Fellowship its largest grant to help us fund our house. #6 Bliss serves as a welcoming place to introduce and demonstrate the principles of Unitarian Universalism to all visitors.

In all our efforts we members and friends of UUFC are serving Chautauqua as venture catalysts. Our goal is to make Chautauqua an ever more dynamic engine for change and social justice. We are creating space for fundamentally sound values while encouraging tolerant non-fundamentalist practices.

During my term serving as President of the Board, I was heartened by the Fellowship's timely generosity and participation. But we have enough experience to know that creative ventures require skilled innovators investing their talents and energies. And we need a steady predictable cash flow.

We ask our members and friends to make a Contribution of Record each year even as we understand that we all also support our home congregations and have differing financial situations.

So what should our fair share Contribution of Record to UUFC Inc be? We resist trying to designate a set formula for our generosity, but I would suggest that one benchmark might be to consider giving to UUFC about ten percent of what we donate to our home congregations.

If you can help now and would like to increase your gift or make an end of year contribution please send a check to UUFC Inc, PO Box 622, Chautauqua NY 14722. Write "COR 2010" on the memo line of your check.

Then be generous again as you consider your Contribution of Record for 2011.

As we head into a new year and the 2011 season please **imagine** what a healthy UU fellowship at a healthy Chautauqua can do for the future of our children, grandchildren and the world.

Hale and be Thee Fair and Well.            Bob (and Carol) Hopper